

The Crater Story

There are many craters in volcano riddled Africa, but when someone says the crater, African enthusiasts know that you are talking about the Ngorongoro crater in northern Tanzania, as the worlds' largest intact, unflood caldera, and a world, heritage site. The crater is unique and fascinating ecosystem. The drawing is designed to tell its' story.

The birth of Mt. Kilimanjaro was the death of Ngorongoro as an active volcano. Formed along the same fault line, Kilimanjaro siphoned magma from Ngorongoro, creating a void and older volcano to collapse, and come a 2,000 foot deep bowl. The crater is ten miles across, providing one hundred square miles of an isolated world unto itself, Eden in a bowl.

Although some wildlife does migrate in and out, many animals do live their entire lives within the craters' forested walls. Their portraits decorate the background and the zebra stripes. On the rump of the left hand, is the Ngorongoro volcano as it might have looked before it imploded. In the upper left is a large male elephant with huge tusks. Because it is so well protected from poachers, Ngorongoro crater is one of the few places in Africa where you can still find bull elephants with significant ivory. In this drawing is the oldest and largest of them, called "Babu" by the guides which means "Grandfather" in Swahili. Lions and cubs, a hippo, cheetah, displaying crowned cranes are among the wildlife from the crater to appear in this drawing.