

Fact sheet Mount Cameroon National Park

Country	Cameroon
Area size (Hectares)	58.178
Location	It lies on the coast, in the Gulf of Guinea, between 3°57'-4°27' N and 8°58'-9°24'E. It is a huge volcanic mass with its long axis (about 45 km long and 30 km wide) running SW to NE.
Date created	December 2009 (TBC with decree)
Park Management objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of the remnant biodiversity of the fragile ecosystem of the area • Enable the reconstitution of the wildlife of the area • Promote non-consumptive use of the natural resources of the area • Reduce pressure on use of the natural resources by introducing and promoting alternative sources of income to the local population.
Climate	Second wettest place in the world. There is a period of heavy rains occurring between the months of June and October, and a dry period extending from November to May. At lower altitude, the annual rainfall ranges from over 10,000 mm at Cape Debundscha to less than 2,000 mm in the north-east of the massif around Munyenge Metombe. Temperatures range between 4°C at the highest peak and 32°C at lowest point in the town of Limbe
Geology (soil)	Soil in some parts is principally of recent origin, mostly on young volcanic rocks and are fertile. On other parts it is mostly older Tertiary lavaor composed of a mean texture of sandy clay dominated by sand. The north-east flank of the mountain is characterised by metamorphic volcanic formations and deep soils, favourable for growth of gregarious flowering plants.
Flora	2,300 species of plants in more than 800 genera and 210 families, 49 strictly endemic and 50 near endemic plant species. It has a wide range of habitats including lowland evergreen rainforest, mangrove, coastal vegetation, swamp forest, submontane forest, montane forest, grassland
Fauna	<p>The sub-montane and montane habitats are part of the Cameroon Mountains Endemic Bird Area (EBA). Twenty of the 28 restricted-range bird species of the EBA have been recorded on Mount Cameroon, including the two strictly endemic species (<i>Francolinus camerunensis</i> and <i>Speirops melanocephalus</i>)</p> <p>So far a total of 210 species of birds has been recorded. Out of these, eight are threatened. Large mammals include the Forest Elephant (<i>Laxodonta africana</i>). A total of 70 species</p>

	of butterfly (including 3 endemic species) has already been recorded.
Demography	The population is estimated at about 300,000 people of whom two-thirds live in urban and semi-urban areas, while the rest in villages. The settlement pattern forms a closed ring around the foot of the mountain with no permanent settlements on altitudes above 1500 m. Food crop farming is the most important source of livelihood of the population around Mt. Cameroon.
Tourism potential	It is expected that the park will be the second most visited by tourists in Cameroon after Waza Park in the savannah North. Access is fairly very easy as it is about an hour away from the Douala international airport with good roads and by water-way through the Atlantic Ocean.
Threats	These include land clearance for commercial & subsistence agriculture, large scale development projects, unsustainable commercial logging, illegal hunting and trapping, uncontrolled bush burning and fuel wood collection. Due to the active volcanic nature of Mount Cameroon substantial loss of forests and biological diversity occurs during eruptions caused by lava flow.