

Unwinding at Rhino River Camp

chillout/ BY HAROLD AYODO



The irresistible appeal of the Rhino River Camp .

[PHOTO: MARTIN MUKANGU/ STANDARD]

The Rhino River Camp is a must visit spot on any tour to the rejuvenated Meru National Park.

Tranquillity reigns as River Kindani gushes barely 50 metres away with assorted birds competing to chirp their best tunes from the leafy treetops. Here, most visitors dangle their binoculars on their torso while others click away at the birds with powerful digital cameras.

Meal times are a treat as the menu is mainly a combination of African and Italian delicacies catering for both foreign and domestic tourists.

I settled for the Italian delicacy and learnt bits of the language from guests who flew in from Milan, Rome, Napoli, Fiorentina and Sicily in Italy. In return, I taught them bits of Swahili that tourists enjoy — *habari*, *jambo* and *hakuna matata* — and tu-

tored them how to eat African meals.

Furthermore, the scorching sun is not a concern at the Rhino River Camp, thanks to the swimming pool.

River Kindani is among the 17 rivers that cross Meru National Park. Unwinding by the poolside is more appealing after a two-hour morning game drive at the adjacent Park.

Rhino River Camp director Andrea Maggi says activities like hiking and fishing are among those that attract visitors. Spending a day at the secluded camp costs Sh9,500 per day full board, meaning breakfast, lunch, dinner and using the pool are included.

The park is also a treat for honeymooners thanks to the secluded and executive tent called Tarzan, which is located between trees.