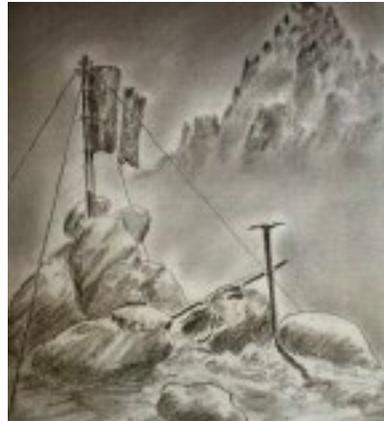


KENYA

Escape to Mount Kenya



©Bruno Zanzottera

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View of the twin peaks Nelion (5,188 m) and Batian (5,199 m) from the top of point Lenana (4,985 m).



“There, among the trees beyond the bridge, suddenly Mount Kenya peeked out, dark and yellow-crowned, not yet touched by the sun, with its notched pinnacles, standing out against the opal sky, in the bright air, a fantastic vision of toughness and strength”.

January 1943. Three Italian war prisoners, led by Felice Benuzzi from Trieste, flee from the prison camp 354 of Nanyuki, on the slopes of Mount Kenya. Their aim is to climb to the summit of the mysterious mountain that stands out beyond the barbed wire, as a mere object of desire and a symbol of freedom for the imprisoned people. They will conquer the peak of Lenana, reaching 4,985 m., failing the attempt to climb to the highest peak, Batian, 5,199 m. high. On the top they will leave “the three-coloured Italian flag, at last, after so many white flags” and a message in a bottle.

After achieving their goal, the mountaineers go back to the prison camp, where they receive the English coronel’s appreciation for their sporting achievement and a punishment for their breakout. Felice Benuzzi wrote the book *Escape on Kenya, 17 days of freedom* where the detailed account of his and his companions’ enterprise sings a hymn to freedom. Once Benuzzi is a prisoner again, the wind seems to whisper into his ears: “over there, from numbers you turned into men again. And that flag on Lanana will be a symbol for you, not only of your country, but also of your will against suffering, your activity against quiescence, freedom against oppression”.

Mount Kenya National Park

Come touch the sky

**YOU ARE NOW CROSSING
THE EQUATOR**

**WELCOME TO THE
SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE**

ALTITUDE 2670M

COORDINATES;

UTM N: 0° 00' 0.00"

E: 37° 15' 6.49"



World Class Parks!

**Twende
Tujivinjari!**

Signpost marking the passage of the Equator during the 1st leg from Sirimon gate entrance to Mt. Kenya National Park, towards Old Moses Camp (3,300 m).



Old Moses Camp, (3,300 m) at the end of the 1° leg from Sirimon gate entrance to Mt. Kenya National Park.



Porters at Old Moses Camp, (3,300 m) at the end of the 1° leg from Sirimon gate entrance to Mt. Kenya National Park.



Mountain cactus grow between 3,000 m and 4,000 m above sea level.



Hikers watching sunset near Old Moses Camp (3,300 m), at the end of the 1^o leg from Sirimon gate entrance to Mt. Kenya National Park.



Old Moses Camp (3,300 m), at the end of the 1° leg from Sirimon gate entrance to Mt. Kenya National Park.



The half-wrecked bivouac of Liki North in the valley with the same name (3,993 m).



Giant lobelias and senecios in the Liki North Valley (3,993 m).



The stretch of forest during the 1^o leg from Sirimon gate entrance to Mt. Kenya National Park, towards Old Moses Camp (3,300 m).



Bivouac in the Liki North Valley (3,993 m).



View of the Northern Naro Moru Valley with the Lewis glacier.



View of the twin peaks Nelion (5,188 m) and Batian (5,199 m) from the top of point Lenana (4,985 m).



View of the ridge underneath Point Lenana (4,985 m). On the right, the Austrian Hut (4,700 m), the starting point for climbing towards the main peaks Nelion and Batian.



Roped party descent from the Nelion peak (5,188 m).



The twin peaks Nelion (5,188 m) and Batián (5,199). In the foreground, the little Curling Pond.



Ascent towards the Nelion peak (5,188 m).



A porter in the half-wrecked bivouac of Liki North in the valley with the same name (3,993 m).



Hyraxes among the rocks near Shipton Camp (4,250 m).



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