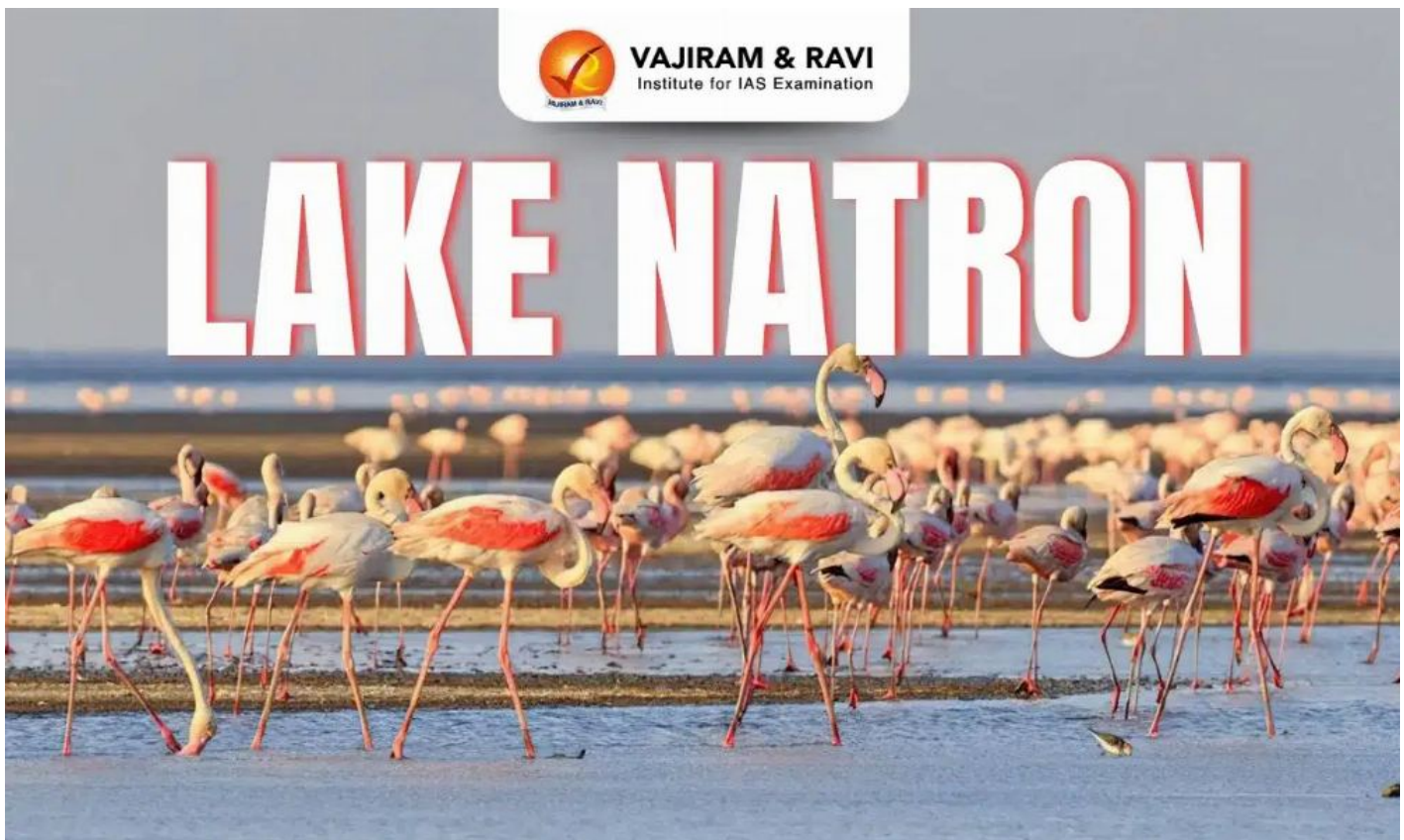


Lake Natron

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Lake Natron Latest News

Lake Natron in Tanzania glows blood-red, forged by volcanoes and extreme chemistry.

About Lake Natron

- It is located in the Arusha region of **Northern Tanzania**.
- It is a **soda and salty water lake** very close to the **Kenyan border** in the **Gregory Rift**, which is the **eastern part of the East African Rift**.
- It was designated as a **Ramsar Site** of International Importance in 2001.
- The **extinct Gelai Volcano**, standing at 2942 m tall, is visible **southeast of the lake**.
- Primarily, the lake is **fed by the Ewaso Ng'iro River**, which originates from the central region of Kenya.
- Natron itself has a maximum width of 22 kilometres and a length of 57 kilometres.
- One of the most striking features of this lake is its **striking red coloration**. The primary reason for its hue lies in its **extreme alkalinity**.

- As **water cannot flow out of the lake, evaporation levels are very high**, and this **leaves behind natron (sodium carbonate decahydrate) and trona (sodium sesquicarbonate dihydrate)**.
- The **high concentration of natron** gives the lake **extreme alkaline levels**, and it is one of the **deadliest lakes** on the planet.
- The saline waters make the lake inhospitable for many plants and animals, yet the **surrounding saltwater marshes** are a **surprising habitat for flamingos**.
- In fact, the lake is home to the **highest concentrations of lesser and greater flamingos in East Africa**, where they feed on spirulina – a green algae with red pigments.

Source: BT

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/lake-natron/>

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