

# Best of Kenya & Tanzania Safari Tour

13 Days/ 12 Nights



The Wild of Africa... Within Your Reach!



## Tour Highlights:

- Premium accommodations
- Safari game drives in Masai Mara, Lake Nakuru National Park, Amboseli National Park, Lake Manyara National Park, Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro Crater and Tarangire National Park
- Big 5 game-viewing
- Wildebeest Migration viewing (subject to season)
- Visit a Maasai Village
- Boat ride at Lake Naivasha
- Optional Excursions:
  - Serengeti and/or Masai Mara hot air balloon safari

## Information:

- **Destination:** Kenya & Tanzania
- **Departure Location:** Starts in Nairobi- Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [NBO].
- **Return Location:** Ends in Nairobi- Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [NBO]. Optional- depart from Kilimanjaro International Airport [JRO]- To change departure location, please contact us.
- **Price Ranges:** See "Dates & Prices" on website

## Accommodations:

- EKA Hotel
- Keekorok Lodge
- Lake Nakuru Lodge
- Ol Tukai Lodge
- Lake Manyara Serena
- Serengeti Serena Lodge
- Ngorongoro Serena Lodge
- Tarangire Sopa Lodge

## Price Includes:

- ✓ 4x4 Safari vehicle with pop-up roof
- ✓ Airport transfers
- ✓ All accommodation and meals as specified
- ✓ English-speaking and highly educated driver
- ✓ Game drives and crater tour
- ✓ Guaranteed window seat
- ✓ Maasai village visit
- ✓ Meet and greet service

## Price Does Not Include:

- ✗ Airport tax (usually included in the tickets)
- ✗ Drinks and dining rooms tips, portorage, personal travel and baggage insurance
- ✗ Driver guide or local escort gratuities
- ✗ International flights
- ✗ Medical, evacuation or travel insurance
- ✗ Telephone bill, laundry and any items of a personal nature
- ✗ Visa arrangements

## Map:



## Tour Itinerary:

### DAY 1- Nairobi

- Upon arrival into Nairobi, you will be met by a Safari Ventures representative and transferred to the EKA Hotel.
- Your afternoon is at leisure.

#### Eka Hotel

A contemporary style hotel that provides all the comfort, convenience and efficiency to the discerning traveler, Eka Hotel is ideally located along Mombasa road in Nairobi the capital city of Kenya, it is an ideal business cum leisure hotel, close to the International and domestic Airports as well as the city center. The hotel offers tastefully decorated rooms, two restaurants, bar, conference facilities, swimming pool and a host of other facilities.

### DAY 2- Masai Mara

- Leaving Nairobi after breakfast, you'll travel towards Kenya's fertile highlands and head down the Rift Escarpment on a road built by Italian prisoners of war during World War II. Look for the charming chapel they built at the foot of the escarpment.
- You will pass the impressive Longonot earth satellite station as you head across the Valley to Narok, and then travel across acres of wheat and barley, before you reach the Masai Mara and your lodge in time for lunch.
- There will be an afternoon game drive.

- Overnight at Keekorok Lodge
- Full board provided

### Keekorok Lodge

Keekorok Lodge was opened in 1965 and lies at the southern end of Masai Mara National Reserve, approximately 280 kilometers from Nairobi. It is sited in the direct path of the annual migration and was the first lodge to be built in the Mara. At the height of the migration, Keekorok is surrounded by a swarming mass of animals and there is hardly need to go on a game drive. Keekorok's charm lies in the liberal use of local building materials. Sand stone, cedar wood and other indigenous materials are used in all rooms and public areas. In front of the lodge there is a 300m elevated walkway that meanders through a small riverine forest to a small bar at one end. This overlooks a dam where resident hippo and other game are regularly seen. There are no fences around Keekorok and it is not uncommon to see elephant and buffalo on the perimeter of the grounds or even strolling in, though there are watchmen on the constant look out!

## **DAY 3- Masai Mara**

- After an early breakfast, guests will depart for a visit to a Maasai village and a morning game drive, returning to the lodge for lunch and perhaps a siesta before setting off for an afternoon game drive.
- You will return to the lodge as the sun sets.
- *Optional:* It is possible to pre-book a hot air balloon safari on this day.
- Overnight at Keekorok Lodge
- Full board provided

## **DAY 4- Lake Nakuru National Park**

- Leaving the Masai Mara after breakfast, you will travel across the 'breadbasket' of Kenya, where acres of wheat and barley litter the landscape as you head north to Narok, the district headquarters of this part of Maasailand.
- Now travel across the vast plains on the floor of the Rift Valley, keeping an eye out for herds of giraffe and gazelle as you head up the Mahiu Escarpment, before arriving at Lake Nakuru around midday. The waters here are often colored shimmering flamingo pink, from thousands of the beautiful birds lining its shores.
- After lunch, depart for an afternoon game drive in Nakuru National Park.
- Overnight at Lake Nakuru Lodge
- Full board provided

### Lake Nakuru Lodge

Lake Nakuru Lodge is situated in the heart of one of Kenya's most densely populated wetland National Parks, (Ramsar site) only two leisurely hours' drive from Nairobi, through beautiful forested uplands and passing a series of lakes. On the outskirts of the bustling market town of Nakuru lies a truly remarkable national park which has achieved international fame. Both black and white rhino are being given a new lease of life in this 188 sq km, fully fenced park - and they are carefully protected. The present rhino population is over 50 and continuing to multiply. The Rothschild giraffe is another rarity and the park has its fair share of buffalo, leopard, zebra, eland, waterbuck, and lion. Lake Nakuru Lodge is in the southeast ecological niche of the park, with commanding views of the lake and the flamingos for which it

is justly famous. Lush gardens surround the lodge and cottages. There is a good program of activities and evening entertainment.

### **DAY 5- Amboseli National Park**

- After an early breakfast, continue to Lake Naivasha for a boat ride.
- Later, leaving the Rift Valley behind, proceed to Nairobi, collect a picnic lunch and then head south towards Amboseli arriving at your lodge by late afternoon.
- Overnight at Ol Tukai Lodge
- Full board provided

#### Ol Tukai

Ol Tukai lies at the heart of Amboseli National Park and is set at the foot of Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa. The cottage style accommodation spreads out on either side of the main lodge, where the architecture is unobtrusive. Each room is built out of gum trees and other indigenous building materials, with the use of beige and cream slate. Each room has uninterrupted views of either the wetlands or of Mount Kilimanjaro. There is a great swimming pool shaded by acacia trees, library, bars, gift shop and spacious gardens to enjoy.

### **DAY 6- Amboseli National Park**

- Morning and afternoon game drives in Amboseli, returning to the lodge as the sun sets.
- Overnight at Ol Tukai Lodge
- Full board provided

### **DAY 7- Lake Manyara National Park**

- After breakfast, you continue the journey to the Tanzania border post and then on to Arusha for lunch.
- In the afternoon you will be picked up from Arusha Town Center and join your vehicle.
- You depart Arusha and pass through the Masai Steppe filled with many picturesque African villages as well as maize, coffee and banana plantations.
- At the town of Makuyuni you turn North West and continue the journey up through a scenic escarpment that brings you to your lodge, perched on the edge of the Rift Valley with stunning views over the distant Lake Manyara.
- Overnight at Lake Manyara Serena
- Full board provided

Grouped around a central 'vanishing horizon' pool, this highly unusual lodge features a simple timbered reception area, built in traditional African style, which is accessed via a bridge over a small stream. Beyond reception, lies the central dining room, bar and veranda, below which lies the pool. Perched on the very edge of the cliffs, with stunning views over the lake is the pool bar and observation point. Dotted around the grounds, all with views over the lake, are a series of circular two story 'rondavels', which house the rooms.

## DAY 8- Central Serengeti

- After breakfast, there is a game drive in Lake Manyara National Park that returns to the lodge for lunch.
- Leaving Lake Manyara behind, the journey continues North West across the stunning hilly countryside of the highlands which is filled with wheat and coffee plantations, and then into the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.
- From here lie the vast plains of the Serengeti, where you'll hopefully start spotting game well before you get into the park.
- Overnight at Serengeti Serena Lodge
- Full board provided

Centrally located adjacent to the famous Western Corridor and Grumeti River, the lodge has been designed to blend completely into the living landscape. A series of traditional domed 'rondavels' are widely spaced throughout the grounds, which are cooled by groves of acacia trees and watered by sparkling streams. On the very edge of the ridge is a 'vanishing horizon' pool, which looks out over the 'endless plains' after which the Serengeti is named.

## DAY 9- Central Serengeti

- Today, enjoy exhilarating morning and afternoon game drives in Serengeti National Park.
- Overnight at Serengeti Serena Lodge
- Full board provided

## DAY 10- Ngorongoro Crater

- After breakfast you depart for Ngorongoro with a picnic lunch viewing game across the vast Serengeti plains.
- After lunch, you continue to your lodge, set high on the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.
- Overnight at Ngorongoro Serena Lodge
- Full board provided

Hugging the contours of the jagged Crater rim, the lodge takes its inspiration from the so-called 'Cradle of Mankind', the prehistoric site of Olduvai Gorge, which lies close by. Linked by arched stone passages and timbered decks, its walls are decorated with stylized prehistoric cave paintings and lit by flaring torches. At the stone heart of the lodge burns a glowing fire, which is kept constantly alight. Decorated with cave paintings, the rooms are strung around the Crater rim. Each has its own rock- enclosed balcony, and all enjoy completely uninterrupted views of the volcanic amphitheater far below.

## DAY 11- Ngorongoro Crater

- A highlight awaits you this morning as you depart to explore what is commonly referred to as the world's largest wildlife theater.
- After breakfast, you descend with a picnic lunch through the early morning mists and 2,000 feet into the crater. Ngorongoro Crater is the world's largest intact volcanic caldera.

- Due to its size and diversity, the crater floor is comprised of several distinct areas, ranging from forest, swamps, lakes and springs, to open grassland and some sandy dunes. It's an awesome wildlife experience.
- You return to the lodge in the late afternoon.
- Overnight at Ngorongoro Serena Lodge
- Full board provided

### **DAY 12- Tarangire National Park**

- Departing Ngorongoro Crater after breakfast and head south east en route to Lake Manyara, Mto wa Mbu village and Tarangire beyond.
- Through the highlands and the Karatu district, you'll view the scenic wheat plains and coffee plantations here before journeying down the spectacular escarpment where you turn south on to the main Arusha – Dodoma road and into the park.
- From here to the lodge, you'll enjoy a game drive en route.
- After lunch and perhaps a swim, the remainder of the afternoon will be spent on a game drive.
- Overnight at Tarangire Sopa Lodge
- Full board provided

Hidden among the kopjes of Tarangire National Park lies Tarangire Sopa Lodge. The lodge is surrounded by ancient baobab trees. Tarangire National Park is the home of one of the greatest concentration of elephants in Africa, and other game including the elusive leopard. Over 400 bird species can be spotted here as well. With water constantly available in the area, the greenery is lush providing a wonderful contrast to the burnt ground.

### **DAY 13- End of Itinerary**

- Depart Tarangire after breakfast and drive back to Arusha arriving in time for lunch.
- After lunch you continue the journey by road to Nairobi and onto a Nairobi City Center Restaurant for dinner before drop off at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport or city center Hotel.
- Alternatively, depart from Kilimanjaro International Airport.

## Accommodation Photos:

