

12 Day Kenya Safari

May 21 – June 1, 2012



Air \$1469

Land \$2999 Dbl

Kenya Visa is \$50 for US travelers
Kenya Departure tax is \$20

This is the calving and nesting season; pasture is abundant so animal concentrations are at their highest. This is the end of the rainy season.

Day 1 Overnight flight to Kenya

We depart on Monday night via British Air at 10:00 PM and arrive in Nairobi the next day in the early evening, where you will be transferred to the **Nairobi Safari Club**. While traveling in Africa we use 24 passenger coaches and while traveling through the game parks vehicles with raised roofs and a Maximum of 7 travelers per saloon vehicle. It is our intent to have a maximum of six passengers per vehicle. **Meals Served in flight.**

Day 2: Arrive: Nairobi City

Accommodation: Nairobi Safari Club

Activity: Airport Arrival - Meet, Greet & Assist, transfer to hotel. Rest & Relax. The trip to Kenya can have its moments - airports, crowds, lines, luggage, and irritating snafus. But once you arrive in Nairobi, Safari Capital of the World, everything changes. A smiling happy face greets and welcomes you to Kenya. You're welcomed, assisted and chauffeured to the Nairobi Safari Club to rest, relax and refresh. **Meal Plan: Meals served in flight light food on arrival at hotel.**

Day 3: Amboseli National Park

Accommodation: Amboseli Sopa Lodge

Activity: Transfer to Amboseli. Afternoon Game Drive In the morning we set off to Amboseli National Park on the border with Tanzania begins your exploration of Kenya. Mount Kilimanjaro provides a dramatic backdrop to Amboseli as it rises almost 20,000 feet above the plain and the concentration of wildlife drawn to the park in the dry season. Amboseli boasts a variety of ecosystems - marshland, scrubby plain, acacia woodlands - supporting a diverse range of wildlife. Following lunch, you'll spend the afternoon viewing some of this diversity, notably the park's elephants, which are numerous, and giraffes, and predators including lions and cheetahs. **Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Day 4: Amboseli National Park

Accommodation: Amboseli Sopa Lodge

Activity: Morning and Afternoon Game Drives

Optional: Walking Safari + Visit to Tribal Village.

Today features morning and afternoon game drives over the park's dusty roads (some of these are impassable during the rainy season due to the ashy soil), and you're likely to spot wildebeest and zebra attracted to the marshes and swamps fed by the melting snows of Kilimanjaro. You may also spot white rhinos on the fringes of the marshes as well as a great variety of birdlife (some 425 species of bird populate the park). With Kilimanjaro providing a dramatic backdrop, your photographs will be stunning. East Africa game avoids the mid-day heat by dozing in the shade. You can avoid the mid-day heat in the lodge's pool, at the bar, or like the beasts of the savannah, with a nap in the shade. **Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Day 5: Sweetwaters Wildlife Sanctuary

Accommodation: Sweetwaters Tented Camp

Activity: Transfer to Sweetwaters Wildlife Sanctuary Private afternoon Game

Drive

Optional: Walking Safari and Night Games Drives

We continue our exploration with a scenic drive north through coffee, pineapple and tea plantations of central Kenya we will enjoy a picnic lunch on the Sweetwaters Wildlife Sanctuary. This is a beautiful private game reserve and home to rare species such as Beisa oryx, Rothschild's giraffe and black rhino. Game drives here reveal the full range of African wildlife including lion, leopard, cheetah, elephant and hippo. Enjoy a private visit with the tame animals at the wildlife orphanage. Observe chimps from the Jane Goodall Institute at the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary. Optional activities; include walking safaris escorted by a local ranger, bird walks with several hundred species to observe, horseback and camel rides. **Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Day 6: Samburu National Park

Accommodation: Samburu Sopa Lodge

Activity: Transfer to Samburu. Private Afternoon Game Drive

After breakfast we cross the equator to Samburu land. In the afternoon we go watching crocodiles basking on the muddy riverbanks and velvet monkeys frolicking in the sun. The next day with morning and after game drives we seek elephant and unique northern species such as reticulated giraffe, beisa oryx, Grevy's Zebra and the long-necked gerenuk. **Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Day 7: Samburu National Park

Accommodation: Samburu Sopa Lodge

Activity: Private Morning and afternoon game drives

Optional: Visit to tribal village + walking safari + Camel Back Ride

Morning and afternoon game drives set you in search of unique northern Kenya species such as the reticulated giraffe, beisa oryx, Grevy's zebra, and the long-necked gerenuk. Much of the reserve consists of desert landscape - dusty red plains broken by thorny scrub, featuring dramatic views of tabletop Mt Ol Olokwe on the horizon. **Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Day 8: Lake Nakuru National Park

Accommodation: Lake Nakuru Lodge

Activity: Transfer to Lake Nakuru. Private Afternoon Game Drive

After breakfast we travel to Lake Nakuru National Park. Here we spend a delightful day exploring the extraordinary bird life for which Lake Nakuru is internationally renowned. Apart from its thousands and sometimes millions of flamingos nesting along the shores, this is the ultimate ornithologist's paradise with over 450 species of birds. The surface of this shallow lake is often hard to recognize due to the continually shifting mass of pink. The number of flamingoes on the lake varies with water and food conditions and the best vantage point is from Baboon Cliff. Lake Nakuru houses Kenya's first rhino sanctuary and one of the largest concentrations of black rhinoceros in the world a large population of white rhino. The park features the picturesque Malaika Waterfalls. Also of interest is an area of 188 km around the lake fenced off as a sanctuary to protect Rothschild giraffes. Among predators are lion, leopard and large pythons hiding in the dense woodlands which may occasionally be seen crossing roads or dangling from trees. Others game include Thomson's and Grant gazelle, the long-eared leaf-nosed bat, colobus monkey, rock hyrax, hippo, and waterbuck; Impala, striped hyena, bat-eared fox, wildcat, reedbuck and golden cat. **Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Day 9: Maasai Mara National Reserve

Accommodation: Mara Sopa Lodge

Activity: Transfer to Maasai Mara. Private Afternoon Game Drive

This remarkable day takes you to the Maasai Mara Reserve and into the domain of the Maasai, Kenya's cattle-herding nomads determined to preserve their traditions. The Mara is magnificent, home to Kenya's richest

concentration of wildlife, and regarded by many travelers as an essential stop on any tour of Africa. When westerners think of Africa and safari, this is place they imagine - golden grassland plains pocked with acacia, wildebeests, zebras, lions, and jackals bound by together by the cycle of life and death. Three days here will only scratch at the surface of the wonders of the Mara. **Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

Day 10: Maasai Mara National Reserve

Accommodation: Mara Sopa Lodge

Activity: Private Morning and Afternoon Game Drives,

Optional: Visit to Tribal Village + Walking Safari

Morning and afternoon game drives will lead you to some of Africa's largest lion prides, herds of zebra, antelopes, buffaloes, wildebeest, giraffes, cheetahs, and hyenas. Accommodations include en suite restroom facilities and secluded verandahs. In between game drives, lounge at the pool or bar, or enjoy a mid-day nap.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 11: Maasai Mara - Nairobi City

Meal Plan: Activity: Predawn Game drive > Breakfast > Transfer to Nairobi at Leisure.

Optional Activity include Souvenir shopping, farewell dinner

Airport departure transfer

An early morning game drive is followed by a breakfast feast. Take your time to say Kwaheri to simba and his friends. We leave when you're ready. In the evening take you to the airport and bid you bon voyage as you catch your flight home. **Breakfast**

Day 12 Return to USA

Included with this package:

Accommodation as detailed in the itinerary

All meals noted in the itinerary.

Each day generally includes Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner buffets consisting of both western and local dishes.

Transportation in a minivan fitted with a pop-up roof for game-viewing and photography.

Every passenger is guaranteed a window seat.

Your driver/guide speaks English and has in-depth knowledge of the flora, fauna, landscape, and Kenyan culture.

Two-way, long-range high frequency radio communications equipment.

Each minivan carries safari accessories including wildlife books, beanbags to support cameras on car doors and window sills, binoculars, a first-aid kit, an ice-chest, and a fire extinguisher.

Bottled mineral water during game drives.

Park entrance fees and game drives as noted in the itinerary.

All government taxes, levies, and fees *

All arrival and departure transfer fees between airports, hotels, parks, etc.

Tour Director from start to finish.

Note: individuals on arrival and departure must pay Kenya Visa and departure tax. These fees cannot be prepaid or paid as a group. Because of airline scheduling a forced overnight might take place in London on the outbound leg delaying the return by 1 day,

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