

ROTHSCHILD • SAFARIS •

Explorations of Kenya & Tanzania



Highlights:

- Mount Kenya
- Amboseli National Park
- Tarangire National Park
- Lake Manyara
- Ngorongoro Crater
- Serengeti National Park
- Maasai village visit
- *Optional: Hot air balloon ride*

This safari is our recommendation for those who want to see the highlights of both Kenya and Tanzania, and have the time to spend traveling around these countries. In this itinerary, you will drive the distances between wildlife parks, providing you with a wonderful opportunity to see the countryside. Your accommodations will be a combination of larger lodges and tented camps, allowing you to experience all that Africa has to offer.

Safari outline

| Date | Destination/Game Reserve | # of nights | Specific camp/lodge/hotel | Country |
|--------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Days 1 & 2 | Nairobi | 2 | Nairobi InterContinental Hotel | Kenya |
| Days 3 & 4 | Mount Kenya | 2 | Sweetwaters Tented Camp | Kenya |
| Days 5 & 6 | Amboseli National Park | 2 | Amboseli Serena Lodge | Kenya |
| Days 7 & 8 | Tarangire National Park | 2 | Lake Burunge Tented Lodge | Tanzania |
| Days 9 & 10 | Lake Manyara | 2 | Tloma Lodge | Tanzania |
| Days 11 & 12 | Ngorongoro Crater | 2 | Ngorongoro Serena Lodge | Tanzania |
| Days 13 & 14 | Serengeti National Park | 2 | Serengeti Serena Lodge | Tanzania |
| Days 15 & 16 | Serengeti National Park | 2 | Mbuzi Mawe Tented Camp | Tanzania |
| Day 17 | Depart | | | |

Detailed Itinerary

DAY 1 ARRIVE IN NAIROBI

Your safari begins today as you arrive in Nairobi, Kenya. Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to the InterContinental Hotel for two nights.

Overnight: Nairobi InterContinental Hotel

DAY 2 NAIROBI

The morning is yours to relax or explore at leisure. You will be transferred to the Carnivore Restaurant for lunch. Afterwards, you will be brought to the nearby town of Karen to visit the museum dedicated to Karen Blixen, who wrote “Out of Africa” under her pen name Isak Dinesen. The Kikuyu people she wrote about with great affection are still one of Kenya’s major ethnic groups. The Danish writer, as you may know, “had a farm in Africa, at the foot of the Ngong Hills.” Here she lived from 1914 to 1931. The Danish government gave the beautiful house to the country of Kenya upon its independence, and today it is a museum furnished with much of her original period furniture and open to visitors. This is a fascinating peek into the lives of early Kenya settlers.

To add a touch of African nature to today’s encounters with African culture, we stop in at the Giraffe Center, where you can get close to these towering animals and photograph them. “Giraffe Manor,” a beautiful Tudor-style manor house, was built in 1932. In 1974, Jock and Betty Leslie-Melville purchased it and relocated five orphaned and rare Rothschild giraffe here. Over the years they have thrived, and now have their own young. We also visit the Kazuri Bead Factory, where ceramic beadwork jewelry made by local craftspeople is on display. Afterwards, you will be brought back to your hotel for some time to relax and a leisurely dinner.

Overnight: Nairobi InterContinental Hotel

DAY 3 MOUNT KENYA

This morning you drive to Sweetwaters Private Game Sanctuary, arriving in time for lunch. The drive will take approximately 5 hours and a large part is on dirt roads. This 24,000-acre private preserve has views of the peaks of Mount Kenya and offers game drives into countryside many travelers never see. You will be staying here at the Sweetwaters Tented Camp for two nights. You will enjoy late afternoon game drives after you arrive.

Overnight: Sweetwaters Tented Camp

DAY 4 MOUNT KENYA

Today you will enjoy game drives, and an opportunity to visit the Chimpanzee Sanctuary. Some 26 chimps, rescued from unfavorable living conditions by the renowned Jane Goodall and her supporters, have found refuge

here in 250 acres of natural habitat. Hear stories of their liberation and recovery — like those of Poco, who was freed from a cramped cage, and Sultana, once feared by her keepers but now a protective mother.

Overnight: Sweetwaters Tented Camp

DAY 5
AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast, you will travel back to Nairobi, and continue overland towards Amboseli National Park, set on the border of Tanzania and in the shadow of Mount Kilimanjaro. There will be a stop en route to visit the A.I.C. Kajaido Boarding School (closed for vacation in April, May & December), which is supported by the Grand Circle Foundation. You will continue on to the Amboseli National Park, lying below the most famous symbol of Africa, Mt. Kilimanjaro. Enjoy an afternoon game drive on the way to the lodge. You will be arriving at the Amboseli Serena Safari Lodge in time for dinner; you will be staying here for two nights.

Overnight: Amboseli Serena Safari Lodge

DAY 6
AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK

Today, you will begin your exploration of the varied environments of the Amboseli ecosystem, from the desert-like pan to lush swamps. Rise early for coffee and tea, and then head out on an early-morning game viewing drive to catch wildlife at its most active. Morning is often the best time to glimpse the majestic snow-covered flattop of Mt. Kilimanjaro, which forms a memorable backdrop to today's explorations. Return to the lodge for a late breakfast. In the late morning, you can visit a local Maasai village where we have the unique opportunity to see how these pastoral herders continue to live much as they have for centuries. You'll see how the houses are constructed, how the hierarchy of a village is set up, and perhaps young women and men will demonstrate a dance for you.

After lunch and time to relax, you will head out into the late afternoon sunlight for another game-viewing drive. Look for the elusive gerenuk, a delicate antelope with a long giraffe-like neck that enables it to browse the middle branches of acacia trees. You may see families of giraffe, herds of zebra and antelope—and if you are lucky, you may spot the rare serval cat. Because Amboseli's abundant elephants are tracked almost constantly by researchers, they largely escaped the ravages of 1980s poaching. Here, you are apt to see some older "tuskers" lumbering almost delicately before the backdrop of Kilimanjaro. You'll be fascinated by the abundant bird life—from the colorful little lilac-breasted roller to the comical guinea fowl to graceful hawks and eagles. You will have dinner back at the lodge.

Overnight: Amboseli Serena Safari Lodge

DAY 7
TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast this morning, you will be driven to the Kenya-Tanzania border at Namanga, where you will clear customs formalities. You are met and transferred to the town of Arusha, Tanzania and enjoy lunch at the Arusha Hotel. You will be driven to the Tarangire National Park, Tanzania's third-largest national park, where you will be staying at Lake Burunge Tented Lodge for two nights.

Overnight: Burunge Tented Lodge

DAY 8
TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK

Today we will enjoy a full day game-viewing drive in Tarangire National Park, with a picnic lunch. With nine distinct vegetation zones ranging from grassland to woodland, from deep gully vegetation to scattered rocky hilltops, Tarangire offers a diverse geological landscape as well as diverse wildlife, including an extraordinary concentration of bird life. Bulbous baobab trees dot the landscape and the valley of the Tarangire River dominates the entire scene. Tarangire is teeming with an amazing diversity of exotic flora and fauna including elephant, lion,

leopard, and buffalo. Your guide has extensive knowledge of the behavior of the great animals. Elephants are plentiful here, traveling in larger herds than are normally seen elsewhere in East Africa.

Overnight: Burunge Tented Lodge

DAY 9
LAKE MANYARA

Today you will depart Tarangire and arrive at Lake Manyara National Park in time for a late-morning game-viewing drive. You will enjoy a picnic lunch in this scenic area, and then make a long climb as we drive up the western escarpment of the Great Rift Valley. The road can be bumpy and dusty, but your guide is an expert at negotiating the rougher sections. The views along the way are sweeping and spectacular. As you ascend, the valley unfolds below us and we can even see Lake Manyara stretching in the distance. During our climb, we may see elephant or other wildlife along the roadside. We arrive at Tloma Lodge with time to relax before dinner amidst the lovely Ngorongoro Foothills. You will spend two nights at Tloma Lodge.

Overnight: Tloma Lodge

DAY 10
LAKE MANYARA

This morning, you can take an early-morning walk before breakfast to catch the birds at their peak of activity. After breakfast, enjoy another guided walk along trails where you'll encounter rural life and meet some of the local people. You may find this chance to experience Africa's natural beauty on foot to be a refreshing complement to the days when you drive to see big game.

After lunch at the lodge, we have some free time and then take a short trip to the village of Karatu, the area's major market town and gateway to the African bush country. While here, we visit one of four schools depending on individual school schedules. Each one is supported by donations from the Grand Circle Foundation. We always receive a warm welcome from students-the older kids are eager to practice their English with us-and we are sometimes even serenaded with song. If you wish to contribute to the school, a donation may be made through the manager of your lodge. You will return to your lodge for dinner and a relaxing evening.

Overnight: Tloma Lodge

DAY 11
NGOROGNORO CRATER

Enjoy breakfast this morning and then you will depart via road to the Ngorongoro Crater and the Ngorongoro Serena Lodge, where you will stay for two nights. You will be able to take an afternoon walk along the crater.

Overnight: Ngorongoro Serena Safari Lodge

DAY 12
NGOROGNORO CRATER

Early this morning your guide will take you into the Ngorongoro Crater.

The Ngorongoro Crater is a natural amphitheatre created about 2 million years ago when the cone of a volcano collapsed into itself, leaving a 100 square mile (259km²) caldron-like cavity. This caldera, protected by a circular unbroken 2,000-foot high rim (610-metres), contains everything necessary for Africa's wildlife to exist and thrive.

On your game drive you will descend the steep crater wall and spend the day on grass plains that are teeming with animals. The rule of the park is that all vehicles must leave the crater floor by sunset.

Overnight: Ngorongoro Serena Lodge

DAY 13
SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

You will depart Ngorongoro after breakfast this morning and drive into the Serengeti National Park. En route, you will stop at Oldupai Gorge (known more familiarly as the "Olduvai" Gorge). Early man flourished around here.

This is known because in 1960, Mary Leakey discovered a 1.75 million-year-old *Homo habilis* (nicknamed 'The Handyman' for his tool making skills), who represents man's first step on the ladder of human evolution. This famous archeological site is also where the remains of *Homo Erectus* was discovered, bringing crucial understanding to the study of the evolution of the human species.

Shortly after leaving Olduvai you will begin to see numerous herds of wildebeest and zebra and marvel at the sheer numbers of wildlife that litter these grassy plains. The Serengeti holds the greatest and most diverse concentration of wildlife remaining in Africa today. It is also home to the Maasai people. The Serengeti, undoubtedly the most famous wildlife sanctuary in the world, unequalled for its natural beauty and greatest concentration of plains game anywhere, is going to render you speechless. The Serengeti is Tanzania's largest and best-known national park, with a massive concentration of migratory animals who move around the park according to the availability of food.

Overnight: Serengeti Serena Safari Lodge

DAY 14
SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

You will explore this wilderness area further today. The Serengeti's varied landscape of savannas, grassy plains and riverine woodlands make it one of the world's most hospitable places for wildlife, which you will likely see in large numbers. You will follow the standard safari schedule. Your day begins with coffee and tea, followed by a morning game drive. You will return to your lodge for a late breakfast, siesta, and afternoon tea. Then you head into the bush again when animals resume activity in the late afternoon. You return to your camp for dinner.

Overnight: Serengeti Serena Safari Lodge

DAY 15
SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

This morning you will enjoy a game drive and breakfast. You will continue to explore the vast ecosystem of the Northern Corridor of the Serengeti at a pace that allows us to truly focus on observing animal behavior and interaction. You will arrive at Mbuzi Mawe Tented Camp in time for lunch and then enjoy an afternoon game drive. Tonight you relax in camp over dinner. You will spend two nights here.

Optional activity while in the Serengeti is the hot air balloon ride (this is additional cost).

Overnight: Mbuzi Mawe Tented Camp

DAY 16
SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast this morning, enjoy a game drive. The great diversity of Serengeti wildlife is also evident here—look for buffalo, hippopotamus, elephant, giraffe, antelope, Thompson's and Grant's gazelle, lions, and in season the spectacular migration of the wildebeest. In late afternoon you will venture out on another game drive. Your final night in the Serengeti is spent at your camp where you enjoy dinner in the dining tent under the vast expanse of the African skies

Overnight: Mbuzi Mawe Tented Camp

DAY 17
ARUSHA - DEPART

This morning after breakfast, you will be transferred to the airstrip for your scheduled flight to Arusha. You will have lunch in Arusha at the Arusha Hotel. You will later be transferred to the Airport for your international flight home.

SAFARI PRICE FROM \$6,915 per person
Optional Hot Air Balloon Ride: \$475 per person

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT ROTHSCHILD SAFARIS

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