**ABOUT OUR SAFARIS:**

**Arrivals and departures :**

A typical safari starts with arrival to a gateway city. This may be Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi or Kilimanjaro International Airport near Arusha. Often, the first night is spent in the city giving the holiday-makers time to refresh after their long flight. However, there are also people who arrive in the early morning after an overnight flight and want to get to the bush straight away. At the end of the trip, there may be the need for an overnight room in a city hotel because the departure is in the early morning. Or, if departure is in the late evening, clients may wish to have a day room to relax and refresh.

**Excursions:**

A great way to enhance a safari experience is to add an excursion at the beginning or end of the safari. These can include visits to cultural and historical sites as well as meals at some of East Africa’s best restaurants.

**Private safaris**

Private safaris are custom tailored for the specific interests of the participants with a bit more flexibility in decisions such as start times of game drives. They operate with a minimum of 02 passengers.The touring is flexible and passenger can amend the program to spend more or less time at places of interest.

**Fly-in safaris**

These safaris depend on travel between places by aircraft. Generally, transfers and activities in the park are provided by the camp or lodge in shared use vehicles. The aircraft used is often 12 or 13 seat aeroplanes such as a Cessna Grand Caravan. Luggage allowances on these flights are generally limited to a maximum of 15 kilograms in soft sided bags.

**Road safaris**

Safaris by road are by road and almost always in our vehicles. This means you get the exclusive use of the vehicle on safari and the driver-guide is with you throughout the part of the trip in that particular country.

**Fly-drive safaris (Safaris by air and road)**

These programmes have a combination of driving and flying and may spend part or all of the time in our vehicles. The flight is usually a time saving measure at the beginning or end of the adventure to avoid retracing ground that has already been driven over. However, sometimes part of the trip is by road in our vehicle and then another part is by air and then uses the lodge or camp’s vehicle.

**OUR SAFARIS:**

**3 STAR LUXURY SAFARIS (THE SIMPLE)**

[**http://www.african.travel/pages/3-star-luxury-safaris-the-simple.html**](http://www.african.travel/pages/3-star-luxury-safaris-the-simple.html)

**4 STAR LUXURY SAFARIS (THE SOFT)**

[**http://www.african.travel/pages/4-star-luxury-safaris-the-soft.html**](http://www.african.travel/pages/4-star-luxury-safaris-the-soft.html)

**“The Taste of Africa” safari is an added program for African Dot Travel.**

[**https://wetu.com/Itinerary/Landing/deef0e97-ad59-4c24-9a04-214991146460**](https://wetu.com/Itinerary/Landing/deef0e97-ad59-4c24-9a04-214991146460)

**5 STAR LUXURY SAFARIS (THE SUBLIME)**

[**http://www.african.travel/pages/5-star-luxury-safaris-the-sublime.html**](http://www.african.travel/pages/5-star-luxury-safaris-the-sublime.html)

**COUNTRY INFORMATION:**

**Kenya**

Kenya is a country rich in wildlife, culture, history, beauty and friendly, welcoming people. Kenya is geographically diverse, from snow-capped mountain peaks to extensive forests to wide-open plains.

Key geographical attractions include the Great Rift Valley, which features extinct volcanoes and hot springs, and Kenya's coastline, complete with reefs and magnificent beaches.

Combine all this with a well-developed tourist infrastructure of hotels, lodges, campsites and a variety of activities, and it’s no wonder Kenya is a popular tourist destination attracting millions of visitors each year. Game Safaris and wildlife tours are Kenya's biggest attractions, drawing many visitors to the country each year. Kenya manages more than 20 national parks and national game reserves, where visitors can view some of the country's most spectacular wildlife, including the "Big Five["](http://www.kenya-information-guide.com/kenya-animals.html) animals. In fact, the "Big Five" are the central focus of the majority of safari tours and wildlife expeditions offered within the parks. Kenya's most popular game park is the Masaai Mara, which borders the Serengeti plains in Tanzania. Between July and September, visitors can witness the remarkable annual wildebeest migration which takes place at the Mara.

**Capital: Nairobi**

**Population: 47 million**

**Currency: Kenyan shilling (KES)**

**Languages: Swahili and English**

**Drives on the: Left**

**Time zone: GMT/UTC +3**

**Electricity - 240 volts AC, 50Hz. Plugs may be round or square three-pin, fused or unfused.  
Telephone - Country code: 254. IDD is available. In some rural areas. TMobile Telephone - Roaming agreements exist with most international mobile phone companies.  
Coverage is limited to main urban areas.  
Internet - E-mail can be accessed in Internet cafes in main urban some rural areas.**

**Tanzania**

[**https://www.tokenya.com/pages/tanzania-country-information**](https://www.tokenya.com/pages/tanzania-country-information)

**Zanzibar**

[**https://www.tokenya.com/pages/zanzibar-country-information**](https://www.tokenya.com/pages/zanzibar-country-information)

**BRIEF INFORMATION ABOUT THE NATIONAL PARKS & GAME RESERVES:**

**Masai Mara Game Reserve:**

Masai Mara National Reserve is considered a "must see" for any new visitor traveling on a safari to Kenya. It is on the "to do" list for many Kenyans and visitors alike because the park is graced by a wide variety of unique and exquisite wildlife and birds.

Masai Mara is the best place to see the "Big Five" animals (elephants, lions, leopards, rhinos and buffalo) together. The famous wildebeest migration also takes place at the Mara.

Maasai Mara derives its name from the indigenous people of Kenya - the Maasai tribe - and the Mara River that cuts through the park.

The Masai Mara provides the best view of the famous wildebeest migration as the animals cross the Mara River between July and August. Birdlife is as plentiful as wildlife at the Masai Mara, which boasts over 400 different birds species. For bird lovers, the Mara birds come in every color and size, including birds of prey.  
You can enjoy a colorful view of birds such as vultures, ostriches, long-crested eagles, pygmy falcons, secretary birds, marabous, red-winged Schalow's turacos, white-tipped crests, ross turacos, orange buffs, Pel's fishing owls, wary guinea fowl, Jackson's bustards, black-bellied hartlaubs bustards and many others.

Between August and October the weather is dry, the vegetation is lush and the daytime temperatures are pleasant, making it the best time to see the park's wildlife. The Masai Mara experiences the highest tourist numbers during this period. Hot temperatures peak between December and January while June and July are the coolest months at the park.

**Amboseli National Park:**

Amboseli National Park, the second most popular animal park after Maasai Mara, is 260km (160 miles) from Nairobi, on the border with the neighboring country of Tanzania. Its magnificent situation at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro, combined with its excellent opportunities to view Kenya's animals, make it one of the most-visited safari parks in Kenya.

Amboseli is renowned for its large herds of free-ranging African elephants. There are over 900 African elephants in Amboseli, as well as huge herds of wildebeests and many other animals including giraffes, lions, monkeys, zebras, hyenas and antelope.

Amboseli National Park covers 392km² (151miles²) and has a mixed topography of plains, acacia woodland, rocky thorn bush, swamps and marshes. This diversity, along with a long dry season, ensures excellent viewing of the large concentrations of African animals living in this natural habitat.  
  
With its awesome view of Mount Kilimanjaro (Africa's highest mountain at 5,895m), Amboseli National Park offers a unique and breathtaking backdrop for viewing Africa's animals. It also has a dry Pleistocene lake basin that houses a temporary lake, Lake Amboseli, after the rains.

**Lake Nakuru National Park:**

Lake Nakuru National Park started as a bird viewing and sport shooting area of migratory birds in 1950s, but has since been expanded and fenced to protect populations of endangered giraffes and rhinoceros.

Lake Nakuru National Park is one of Kenya’s two Premium Parks, and is a bird lover’s paradise. It surrounds Lake Nakuru, located in the Central Rift Conservation Area in the Southern Rift Valley region of Kenya. Originally protected as a bird sanctuary, this park hosts over 400 bird species, including 5 globally threatened species, and is an important stop on the African-Eurasian Migratory Flyway. This park was also the first national Rhino sanctuary and hosts one of the world’s highest concentrations of the Black Rhinoceros.

In addition to its 400 species of birds, Lake Nakuru National Park is home to 50+ mammal species, and over 500 species of flora. This park is famous for the flocks of Greater and Lesser Flamingos that gather around the lake, sometimes with as many as 2 million! You can find this great pink mass around the lake for a good part of the year, as these iconic birds stay mostly within the Rift Valley, migrating from lake to lake. Thel Park was fenced to protect endangered Rhinos and Giraffes and it can not support African Elephants, so you won’t find any here!

**The Aberdare National Park.**

The park is located about 100 km north from Nairobi and stretches over a wide variety of terrains because it covers altitudes from about 7,000 feet (2,100 m) to 14,000 feet (4,300 m) above sea level. Established in May 1950, the Aberdare National Park covers an area of 766 square kilometers and forms part of the Aberdare Mountain Range. The park contains a wide range of landscapes - from the mountain peaks that rise to 14,000 feet (4,300 m) above sea level, to their deep, v-shaped valleys intersected by streams, rivers, and waterfalls. Moorland, bamboo forests and rainforests are found at lower altitudes.

The Aberdare National Park covers the higher areas of the Aberdare Mountain Range of central Kenya and the Aberdare Salient to their east.

The experience in Aberdare National Park is unlike anywhere else in Kenya. The Park is most famous as the place where Princess Elizabeth found out that she was Queen upon the death of her father at Treetops Lodge. Since then this lodge has been popular with tourists on safari to Kenya.

**Tsavo National Park**

Tsavo National Park is the largest park in Kenya and consists of two separate parks, Tsavo East and Tsavo West. Altogether, Tsavo measures 21,000 square kilometers. Tsavo National Park is known for its abundance of wildlife as well as a variety of geological features such as Mudanda Rock and Lugard Falls. Because Mudanda Rock towers over a natural dam, it is a good place to see elephants and other park inhabitants in the dry season. Both Tsavo West and Tsavo East provide park guests with the opportunity to view a diverse collection of wildlife. Tsavo National park is home to the Tsavo Lions. Tsavo lions look slightly different from the ordinarly Masai lions. The males have smaller manes. This might be because the weather in Tsavo is hot and huge manes like those of the Masai Mara lions would only bring unnecessary warmth to the animals.  
  
The Tsavo lions came to light after two male lions terrorized railway workers in the late 1890s. The two Tsavo lions later came to be known as the man-eaters of Tsavo.

**Mzima Springs** is at the north end of Tsavo West. Water from the Chyulu Hills runs from beneath the lava ridge and forms several natural pools. Fringed with palm trees, these pools are popular watering holes for birds and African wildlife. You can also watch the hippos bathing underwater here.  
  
**Bird watching safaris** are best between October and January, featuring many migratory birds including African skimmers, red and yellow bishops, goshawks, buffalo weavers and palm nut vultures, to name a few.

**Samburu Game Reserve:**

Samburu National Reserve is a rugged and semi-desert park located in Samburu district in the Rift Valley Province of Kenya. The park neighbors the homes of the Samburu tribe of Kenya, a tribe known for their remote culture, pastoral and nomadic way of life. Due to its remote distance and the fact that it was inaccessible for many years, the park has retained a naturally serene and quiet feeling. Besides the numerous wildlife found in this game reserve, the park is also a bird haven.

The Uaso Nyiro River cuts through this reserve, drawing a big population of Kenya animals to the park. The river bustles with activity from its huge population of Nile crocodile.  
  
The reserve's topography is mainly open savannah (grassland) with clusters of acacia trees, forest, thorn trees and grassland vegetation.  
Samburu National Reserve was one of the two areas in which conservationists George and Joy Adamson raised Elsa the Lioness. Their story was made famous by the bestselling book and award-winning movie "Born Free".

The game reserve is renowned for its rare species of animals unique to the park, namely: the long necked gerenuk, Grevy's zebra, reticulated giraffe and Beisa oryx and Somali Ostrich . The elusive Kenya leopard is often known to visit the park, especially in the evenings.

Birdlife is as plentiful as wildlife at Samburu National Reserve, which boasts over 350 different species of birds including vultures, kingfishers, marabous, bateleurs, guinea fowl, Somali ostriches and others.

**Meru National Park:**

Meru National Park is noted for its fauna and natural beauty. It has many swamps and rivers lined with palms, as well as mountains and woodlands, and it is the setting for Joy Adamson's book "Born Free", which was later made into a successful film. The park is home to a large pride of lions, herds of buffalo, and hippos and crocodiles that live in the rivers.

At Meru, you will find excellent views of snow-capped Mount Kenya and the park's beautiful landscape is a camper's paradise. The roads are suitable for vehicles and there are many rocky outcrops that provide great lookout points for the abundant Kenyan animals.

George and Joy Adamson pioneered research in the park by associating with cheetahs and lions, particularly "Elsa" the lioness. Joy wrote a book that was made into the famous film "Born Free", which, in turn, brought Meru National Park to public attention.

Game viewing includes elephants, hippos, lions, leopards and cheetahs. There are also some rare antelope, including the Lesser Kudu, duiker and dik-dik, a tiny African antelope that stands just twelve inches high and is notoriously shy. Meru National Park also has some of Kenya's largest herds of buffalo, along with hartebeests, giraffes and gazelles.