# WILDLIFE & WATERFALLS Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe



13 day small group safari and 4 day Victoria Falls package (standard accommodation)

This spectacular journey allows you to combine East Africa's premier reserves and game parks with a visit to the iconic Victoria Falls. The first 13 days offer outstanding game viewing on a small group safari in Kenya and Tanzania. The following four days are spent in Victoria Falls on a private basis. A short flight connects Nairobi with Victoria Falls, making these three destinations easily combinable.







#### Cost includes:

- meet and greet services with assistance at the airport or border
- airport transfers associated with tour
- all safari transport and game drives in 4WD safari vehicles with a maximum of seven passengers per vehicle and seven window seats
- English speaking driver-guide
- airport transfers in Kenya and travel between Kenya and Tanzania in coach or safari bus
- accommodation as specified
- meals as listed
- Maasai village visits
- all park fees and government taxes
- half-litre bottle mineral water per person, per day on game drives
- meet and greet transfer at Victoria Falls airport, departure transfer Victoria Falls Safari Lodge to Victoria Falls airport
- accommodation in a waterhole-facing room as listed with breakfast daily
- Zambezi River sunset cruise with refreshments, guided tour of Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe), dinner and entertainment at The Boma restaurant, 2 x dinners at MaKuwa-Kuwa Restaurant (Table d'hote Menu), 2 x Vulture Culture lunches at the MaKuwa-Kuwa Restaurant (Table d'hote Menu)

## Cost excludes:

- visas and international flights
- Victoria Falls National Park fee at USD30pp and Zambezi River usage fee of USD10pp
- international airport taxes if applicable
- drinks, dining rooms tips, porterage, personal travel, baggage and medical insurance
- telephone bill, laundry and any items of a personal nature
- · optional meals.
- B breakfast L lunch D dinner

## Nairobi to Victoria Falls

Accommodation: standard

**Departs:** Tuesdays and Thursdays

#### **Itinerary overview:**

Day 1: Kenya, Nairobi - Safari Park Hotel

Day 2: Kenya, Masai Mara - Mara Sopa Lodge

(Pre-book an optional hot air balloon safari. An additional cost applies.)

Day 3: Kenya, Masai Mara - Mara Sopa Lodge

Day 4: Kenya, Lake Nakuru National Park - Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge

Day 5: Kenya, Amboseli National Park- Amboseli Sopa Lodge

Day 6: Kenya, Amboseli National Park- Amboseli Sopa Lodge

Day 7: Tanzania, Lake Manyara - Lake Manyara Kilimamoja Lodge

Day 8: Tanzania, Serengeti - Serengeti Sopa Lodge

(Pre-book an optional hot air balloon safari. An additional cost applies.)

Day 9: Tanzania, Serengeti - Serengeti Sopa Lodge

Day 10: Tanzania, Ngorongoro Crater - Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge

Day 11: Tanzania, Ngorongoro Crater - Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge

Day 12: Tanzania, Tarangire National Park - Tarangire Sopa Lodge

Day 13: Kenya, Nairobi - Crowne Plaza Nairobi Airport

Day 14: Zimbabwe, Victoria Falls - Victoria Falls Safari Lodge

Day 15: Zimbabwe, Victoria Falls - Victoria Falls Safari Lodge

Day 16: Zimbabwe, Victoria Falls - Victoria Falls Safari Lodge

Day 17: Zimbabwe, Victoria Falls - ends

A Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate is a compulsory requirement for some countries in eastern and central Africa. We strongly advise you seek advice from a travel doctor regarding inoculations.

# Wildlife and Waterfalls

## Day 1: Nairobi

On arrival in Nairobi you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Safari Park Hotel - deluxe room.

## **Safari Park Hotel**

Situated only 10km from the city center and 20km from the international airport, the lively Safari Park Hotel is an African-theme resort providing deluxe accommodation in 64 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens and indigenous forest. All of the 204 distinctively designed and decorated rooms are airy and contain television, bathroom facilities and private balconies. Antique furniture, polished wooden floors and large garden-view rear and front balconies create a light-filled ambience. Its six restaurants are excellent and cater to all tastes.

## Day 2: Masai Mara National Reserve

Today your safari commences. Leaving Nairobi at 7:30 am, you travel towards Kenya's fertile highlands and head down the Rift Escarpment on a road built by World War II Italian prisoners of war. The Masai Mara is Kenya's premier wildlife viewing reserve and is famous for its exceptional population of game and the annual migration of over one million wildebeest and thousands of zebra and gazelle. The migration takes place from July to October and watching these animals cross the Mara River from Tanzania into Kenya is truly a remarkable spectacle. Thousands die in the dramatic river crossing, with predators and crocodiles the winners. The concentration of game during the mass migration is phenomenal and this is one of the few areas in East Africa where you are likely to see all of the 'big five' (buffalo, elephant, rhino, lion and leopard) in one place. Other animals found in the Mara include: cheetah, zebra, spotted hyena, black-backed jackal, hippo, giraffe and eland. In the mid-afternoon you enjoy an afternoon game drive. **Mara Sopa Lodge - standard room (BLD).** 

## Mara Sopa Lodge

The lodge is set in the Ololiuqui Valley and built into the surrounding hillside landscape. A fabulous wealth of wildlife, birdlife and natural flora can be seen in every direction. The lodge is luxuriously appointed with all the mod cons one would expect from a Sopa styled lodge in the bush. The bedrooms are spacious, the large pool has wonderful views and there's evening wildlife films and CNN to enjoy during down-time.

## **Day 3: Masai Mara National Reserve**

After breakfast enjoy a game drive in the Masai Mara, returning to the lodge for lunch. Big cat viewing is particularly interesting in the morning with one of the largest concentrations of predators in Africa inhabiting this reserve. In the afternoon you visit a Maasai village to learn about this fascinating culture. Habitual pastoralists, the Masai are often seen tending to their cattle from the side of the road. Return to the lodge at sunset. (*It is possible to prebook an optional early morning balloon safari at an additional cost*). **Mara Sopa Lodge - standard room (BLD).** 

## **Day 4: Lake Nakuru National Park**

Leaving the Masai Mara after breakfast, you travel across the 'breadbasket' of Kenya where acres of wheat and barley litter the landscape as you head back to Narok. Travel across the vast plains of the Rift Valley and up the Mau Escarpment, before arriving at Lake Nakuru in time for lunch. In the late afternoon you depart for a game drive in the national park. Within the park's 188 square kilometres lies the shallow and strongly alkaline Lake Nakuru, which at times can support up to a million lesser flamingos. The park is set in a picturesque landscape of surrounding wood and grasslands. Aside from flamingo and other waterbirds which abound, other wildlife highlights include black and white rhino, hippo, Rothschild giraffe, lion, leopard and a variety of primates, including vervet monkeys, baboons and black and white colobus. Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge (BLD).







#### Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge

Located on the range of hills that form the western limits of Africa's Great Rift Valley Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge offers spectacular views over the lake and it's surrounding National Park. Opened in 2015, the lodge is a show-case for modern African décor. Each of the 60 suites has an open balcony, private en-suite, mini-bar and Wi- Fi connectivity. The lodge's communal lounges, two bars and dining areas are all located on sheltered terraces affording extensive views of the local wildlife. The infinity pool overlooks Lake Nakuru itself which is often home to a vast flamingo population.

## Day 5: Amboseli National Park

After an early breakfast you continue to Lake Naivasha for a boat ride. The lake supports resident hippo and a host of waterbirds, including: African fish eagles, pied kingfishers, pelicans, flamingos and waterfowl. Following the boat ride, you leave the Rift Valley behind and proceed to Nairobi, where you collect a picnic lunch. From Nairobi you head south towards Amboseli, arriving at your lodge in the late afternoon. **Amboseli Sopa Lodge - standard room (BLD).** 

### Amboseli Sopa Lodge

Set on 200 acres of private land on the foothills of Africa's highest mountain, Mount Kilimanjaro, the lodge is perfectly poised to provide a base to explore the park and get great pictures of this incredible mountain. Each of the 47 rooms has a private veranda on which to relax, sunbathe and take in the views. All rooms have an en-suite and are modern, spacious and comfortable. Meals are a cosmopolitan combination of European, African and Asian dishes and are made with fresh produce. There are also several bars, a great pool, TV lounge and many other small niceties that make this a superb location.

## **Day 6: Amboseli National Park**

Enjoy a sumptuous breakfast before heading off on a full day's safari game drive in Amboseli. Amboseli National Park covers 400 square kilometres of plains with the stunning spectacle of Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain, towering over it. One of the most popular parks in Kenya, wildlife viewing here is great all year round. The melting snows of Kilimanjaro flow underground into the park, continually feeding water to springs, swamps and marshes. Amboseli is a favourite spot for wildlife, in particular elephant, with over 1000 living in the park eco-system. Along with elephant there's hippo, giraffe, oryx antelope, buffalo, wildebeest, zebra and gazelle, plus a profusion of birdlife. Lions are very rare, but cheetahs are seen fairly frequently. A hot lunch is served at a picnic site, followed by more game viewing before you return to the lodge late afternoon with some time to freshen up before dinner. **Amboseli Sopa Lodge - standard room (BLD).** 

## **Day 7: Lake Manyara National Park**

After breakfast you continue your journey on to the Tanzanian border, before arriving in Arusha for lunch. After lunch we drive across the Masai Steppe and onto the Great Rift Valley, where your lodge is located high on the rim of the valley overlooking the national park. **Lake Manyara Kilimamoja Lodge - standard room (BLD).** 

## Lake Manyara Kilimamoja Lodge

Set in lush green gardens and offering stunning views over Lake Manyara, and on a clear day, Mount Kilimanjaro, Lake Manyara Kilimamoja Lodge is the ideal place to explore the great rift valley. Each of the 50 suites and two bed villas have inside and outside showers, a bath, air-conditioning, fire places and private balcony. The spacious main house highlights local stone work and includes a main lounge, grand hallway, dining room, spa, boutique and outside fire pit. Kilimamoja is a friendly lodge where guests can enjoy a refreshing dip in the infinity pool, linger over a dinner featuring a selection of dishes from around Africa and sit around the outside fireplace watching the sun set over the great rift valley.

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# Wildlife and Waterfalls

## Day 8: Serengeti National Park

After breakfast enjoy a game drive in Lake Manyara National Park, returning to the lodge for lunch. Leaving Lake Manyara behind, your journey continues along the stunning countryside of the highlands and into the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. From here lie the vast plains of the Serengeti, where you will start spotting game well before you get into the park. At just 15,000 square kilometres in size, the Serengeti contains over three million animals. Most take part in seasonal migrations, unparalleled in nature. **Serengeti Sopa Lodge** - **standard room (BLD).** 

## Serengeti Sopa Lodge

Located in the Nyarboro Hills in the south-west of the Serengeti National Park, the lodge is the only tourism development in this section of the park. A year round supply of water and the acacia woodland create an ideal environment for the wide variety of wildlife seen in the immediate vicinity of the lodge. Looking out over the seemingly endless Serengeti plains, this hillside lodge is a tranquil oasis set within thousands of square kilometres of Serengeti National Park. The lodge can accommodate around 170 guests in 79 suites, each enjoying wall-to-wall carpeting, a private lounge with a mini bar, a bedroom with two queen size beds and ample room for a third guest. Each has a private veranda which offers stunning views over the plains. As the sun sets you can enjoy sundowner cocktails by the pool, and in the evening after a four-course dinner, traditional dancers entertain guests. Slide presentations are also held daily by resident naturalists.

## Day 9: Serengeti National Park

Enjoy morning and afternoon game drives in the Serengeti. Serengeti Sopa Lodge (BLD).

## **Day 10: Ngorongoro Conservation Area**

After breakfast you depart for the Ngorongoro with a picnic lunch, viewing game across the vast Serengeti plains en route. After stopping for a picnic lunch you enjoy a short visit to a Maasai village, before continuing on to your lodge, which is located on Lemala Hill on the uppermost eastern rim of the Ngorongoro Crater. The views to the crater floor from your room are spectacular. A major advantage of this lodge is its close proximity to the park gate, allowing guests to be on safari in the crater within minutes. **Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge (BLD).** 

## Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge

The lodge is located on Lemala Hill on the uppermost eastern rim of the Ngorongoro Crater, making it the only tourist development on the eastern rim of the crater. The views to the crater floor are spectacular and the sunsets are magnificent. A major advantage of this lodge is that you are on safari within five minutes of leaving the property as the park gate is very close. The lodge is tastefully decorated, spacious and all the bedrooms are modern, comfortable and well equipped. With an altitude of 2,375 metres, the lodge experiences cool and even cold weather, especially during the winter months of June and July.

### **Day 11: Ngorongoro Crater**

After breakfast you descend with a picnic lunch over 600 metres into the crater. Ngorongoro Crater is the world's largest intact volcanic caldera. You will spend a whole day game viewing in the crater which is home to an estimated 25,000 animals. Grazing animals dominate with zebra, wildebeest, gazelle, buffalo, eland, hartebeest, warthog and rhino all common. A large concentration of predators, mainly lion, add to this unequalled wildlife experience. **Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge (BLD).** 







## **Day 12: Tarangire National Park**

Today you head east to Tarangire. Look out for game en route to your lodge, where you arrive for lunch. After lunch the remainder of the afternoon is spent game driving in the park. Famous for its huge elephant herds and thousands of distinctive baobab trees, Tarangire offers unique game viewing. **Tarangire Sopa Lodge (BLD).** 

## **Tarangire Sopa Lodge**

Tarangire is recognized as one of the best parks on the northern circuit for elephant viewing during the dry season and Tarangire Sopa is ideally placed to experience this. The lodge welcomes guests to its vast marble-floored reception area with cold flannels and iced juice. In the pretty gardens a large circular pool, a pool bar and elegant wooden loungers reveal a commitment to comfort. Delicious barbecue lunches are often served here. A broad veranda wraps itself around the lodge and gives prime viewing for the waterhole below, which is filled during the dry season and becomes a magnet for wildlife. The rooms at the lodge are simple, comfortable and spacious and arranged in groups of four, in African-style buildings. Large sliding doors open to a private balcony.

#### Day 13: Nairobi

Depart Tarangire after breakfast and drive back to Arusha, arriving in time for lunch. The journey will pass through the Masai Steppe filled with many picturesque African villages as well as maize, coffee and banana plantations. After lunch you continue on to Nairobi, arriving in time for a farewell dinner with your group before transferring to your airport hotel. **Crowne Plaza Nairobi Airport Hotel (BLD).** 

### **Crowne Plaza Nairobi Airport Hotel**

The hotel offers 144 spacious, adaptable, contemporarily designed rooms, with a large ergonomic working area consisting of suites, interconnecting rooms, double and twin rooms, convenient for business, family and leisure travellers. Tailored to meet every guest's needs, the hotel also has facilities for pre or post flight passengers with day rooms. Specialising in relaxation and rejuvenation, personal fulfilment is also guaranteed at the Euphoria Spa, a rooftop deck with an infinity pool as well as an equipped gym for the fitness enthusiasts. The hotel features a contemporary café with around the clock menu offering local and global cuisine, a coffee shop that offers the best-handpicked flavours and a unique culinary experience. A bar with an amazing range of exotic cocktails, international wines, draught beer, mock tails and starters for every mood.

#### Day 14: Victoria Falls

Join your hotel's courtesy airport shuttle this morning and transfer to Nairobi's JKI airport for your flight to Victoria Falls (flight not included). On arrival at Victoria Falls airport you are met and transferred by shuttle service to your lodge, which is located less than ten minutes' drive from Victoria Falls.

Victoria Falls is one of the most spectacular natural wonders in the world. The local people call it 'Mosi-oa-Tunya'-the smoke that thunders. There is a magic about the falls manifested in the towering column of spray when the river is high, the thunder of the falling water, the Batoka abyss and tranquil lagoons upstream in which hippo and lurk. The falls are 1,708 metres wide, making it the largest curtain of water in the world. Remarkably preserved in its natural state, Victoria Falls inspires visitors as much today as it did David Livingstone in the 1860s. In the late afternoon you board your boat for a gentle sunset cruise, including drinks and snacks, on the Zambezi River. As you drift down the river, watching the incredible orange sunset, you really do feel that you are in Africa. The sunsets here are stunning, with the red soil of nearby Namibia providing deep orange skies. After the cruise you are transferred back to your lodge to freshen-up before dinner at the MaKuwa-Kuma restaurant. **Victoria Falls Safari Lodge - waterhole facing room (BD).** 

# Wildlife and Waterfalls

## Victoria Falls Safari Lodge

Winning the Association of Zimbabwe Travel Agents' Award for 'Best Safari Lodge' for 20 consecutive years, Victoria Falls Safari Lodge is one of the most popular lodges in the Victoria Falls region. Set high on a natural plateau, the westward facing Victoria Falls Safari Lodge borders the Zambezi National Park and is just four kilometres from the entrance to Victoria Falls. Enjoying uninterrupted views of spectacular African sunsets and year round game at the outlying waterhole, the lodge is ideally positioned to offer every traveller a taste of Africa at its best. This award winning lodge has 72 en suite bedrooms with private balconies decorated with African décor. Standard rooms face westwards to the lodge's grounds, whereas waterhole facing rooms face east towards the waterhole. The lodge also offers suites which have a mezzanine bedroom and are suitable for families.

Victoria Falls Safari Lodge is built from local wood and features a vaulted thatched roof which covers the multi layered communal areas. The lodge boasts two of the country's top restaurants, The Boma and the a la carte Ma-Kuwa-Kuwa Restaurant. The Boma offers an unforgettable African dining experience incorporating Zimbabwean cuisine, traditional dance performances and interactive drumming show. Whilst the MaKuwa-Kuwa celebrates the richness of Africa's heritage with fine fare, unmatched hospitality and superb views. The elevated bar area, casual eating restaurant, lounges and pool all overlook the waterhole and vast plateau. Lodge facilities include an internet café with e-mail access, wireless internet access from all rooms and public areas, a TV lounge with satellite link, a guest library, games room and a curio shop.

## **Day 15: Victoria Falls**

After breakfast you join an informative guided tour of Victoria Falls on the Zimbabwe side. Accompanied through the rainforest by a qualified guide you hear a brief history of the falls as well as information on the flora and fauna and other points of interest. You return to the lodge around midday.

Enjoy a Culture Vulture lunch at the lodge, which includes a viewing of birds of prey as they devour scraps. After lunch there is time in the afternoon to relax or enjoy an optional excursion. Victoria Falls has become a mecca for travellers who enjoy the great outdoors. Extreme adventurers can enjoy bungee jumping, zip lining, white water rafting and a swing over an adjacent valley. Culture buffs can join informative visits to a nearby township, rural village or enjoy lunch with a local family. Sightseeing offers incredible views of the falls, with scenic helicopter and micro light flights both popular. Wildlife can be viewed in 'big five' private game reserves, or in the Zambezi National Park, on game drives, canoe safaris and in the form of animal interactions. This evening at 7.00 pm you are transferred to The Boma Restaurant for dinner. This barbeque style restaurant is a popular award-winning restaurant which includes a selection of traditional foods and a performance by the local Ndebele people, whose song and dance tell the folklore of the region during a colourful and energetic show.

Victoria Falls Safari Lodge - waterhole-facing room (BLD).

### **Day 16: Victoria Falls**

Enjoy breakfast, lunch and dinner at the lodge, with the balance of the day at leisure to enjoy an optional activity. We recommend you ask us to book your chosen optional excursions in Victoria Falls prior to arrival as some activities have limited numbers. **Victoria Falls Safari Lodge - waterhole-facing room (BLD).** 

## Day 17: Victoria Falls

After breakfast and check-out you are transferred to Victoria Falls airport for your onward flight (flight not included). (B).







## Important information

- It is the responsibility of the client to be at the tour departure point at the time assigned by the tour operator. On completion of the tour, flights must be booked taking into consideration the time recommended by the tour operator.
- The tour operator may re-route the itinerary or change the accommodation in rare cases of non-availability, or if local conditions restrict accessibility.
- Transfers may be in a two-wheel drive seven passenger minibus or 24 passenger coach.
- During peak season multiple vehicle departures may occur and vehicles may travel together.
- This safari is modular. On the Kenyan section of your safari you will have a Kenyan guide and vehicle. This will change to a Tanzanian guide and vehicle once in Tanzania. A transfer vehicle may be used between the border and Arusha where you meet your guide and vehicle for the Tanzanian section of your safari.
- It is the responsibility of the client to have all necessary documentation, including visas and inoculation certificates relating to this tour.
- River crossing sightings during the months of the migration are not guaranteed as animal movements are seasonal and unpredictable. However every effort will be made to see animals cross the Mara River.
- This tour includes some long days of road travel which are necessary in order to visit all the listed regions of Kenya and Tanzania.
- The times and duration of safaris may change on tour in order to maximise wildlife viewing opportunities.
- Prices may vary when booking seasons overlap. Bookings over Christmas, New Year and Easter incur holiday supplements. Please ask for a date-specific quote for travel during these dates.
- Children younger than seven are unable to join seat-in-vehicle safaris, however we would be pleased to book a private safari for families with young children.
- Due to limited luggage space in vehicles, suitcases are unsuitable for scheduled road safaris. We recommend luggage packed in inexpensive barrel style bags or soft sided bags not exceeding 15kgs and 65 x 46 cm.
- As prices are calculated in foreign currencies it may become necessary to add a currency surcharge.
- Please refer to our terms and conditions for amendments and cancellation policies if necessary.

A Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate is a compulsory requirement for some countries in eastern and central Africa. We strongly advise you seek advice from a travel doctor regarding inoculations.