

# THROUGH THE RIFT VALLEY Kenya

4 day small group safari  
(deluxe accommodation)



This is a short but extremely rewarding safari. It visits both the Great Rift Valley and the vast game-rich plains of the Masai Mara National Reserve. A visit to a Masaai village offers an insight into this ancient culture. Your four day visit includes several game drives and offers a sense of the spirit of safari.







#### Cost includes:

- all safari transport and game drives in 4X4 safari vehicle with a pop-up roof and seven window seats
- maximum of seven passengers per vehicle
- English speaking driver-guide
- accommodation as specified
- meals as listed
- Visit to Masai Village
- Boat ride on Lake Naivasha
- all park fees and government taxes
- half-litre bottle of mineral water per person, per day on game drives

#### Cost excludes:

- visas and international flights
- international airport taxes if applicable
- drinks, dining rooms tips, portorage, 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 Nairobi

**Accommodation:** deluxe

**Departs:** Mondays

#### Itinerary overview:

Day 1: Kenya, Masai Mara National Reserve - Keekorok Lodge

Day 2: Kenya, Masai Mara National Reserve - Keekorok Lodge

(Pre-book an optional hot air balloon safari)

Day 3: Kenya, Lake Nakuru - Lake Nakuru Lodge

Day 4: Kenya, Nairobi

**A Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate may be required on entering Kenya on selected airlines.**

## Through the Rift Valley

### Day 1: Masai Mara National Reserve

After a pre-tour meeting at 7.00 am you depart Nairobi and travel towards Kenya's fertile highlands. You will head down the rift escarpment on the road built by Italian prisoners of war during Word War II. On the way spot the charming chapel built at the foot of the escarpment. Pass the impressive Longonot Earth satellite station as you head across the valley to Narok. Continue across acres of wheat and barely, before reaching the Masai Mara in time for lunch.

The Masai Mara National Reserve, although not the largest game park in Kenya, is one of the most spectacular and most popular. Rich in game, the rolling grasslands and acacia savannah have frequently been captured on film, with "Out of Africa" being the most famous. The reserve borders Tanzania and the two countries share the vast Serengeti plains, with wildlife free to roam between Kenya and Tanzania in search of food. The concentration of game in the Mara during the mass migration is mind blowing, and this is one of the few areas where you are likely to see all of the 'big five' - buffalo, elephant, rhino, lion and leopard. In fact lion are very common and you are quite likely to see them feeding on a kill during your visit. Other animals include cheetah, zebra, spotted hyena, black backed jackal, hippo, giraffe, eland and of course wildebeest. The Mara-Serengeti ecosystem is famous for the annual migration of over one million wildebeest and thousands of zebra and gazelles. The incredible spectacle of them crossing the Mara river into Kenya generally happens in late July or August. Thousands of animals die in this dramatic crossing, with predators and crocodiles the winners. In October the animals return again to Tanzania.

Following lunch set off on your first game drive, returning to the lodge as the sun sets. **Keekorok Lodge (LD).**

### Keekorok Lodge

Keekorok Lodge was the first lodge to be built in the Masai Mara National Reserve, affording it the perfect position for the great migration. As it lies at the southern end of the reserve, at the height of the migration Keekorok is surrounded by a swarming mass of animals and there is hardly a need to leave the lodge. Keekorok's charm lies in the liberal use of local building materials. Sandstone, cedar wood and other indigenous materials are used in all rooms and public areas. Each stone and rock chalet has a covered balcony with outdoor furniture facing the plains, offering game viewing from your room. The ensuite has a flush toilet and shower and the room features a luggage area and mosquito netted bed.

In front of the lodge there is a 300 metre elevated walkway that meanders through a small riverine forest to a small bar at one end. The bar overlooks a dam where resident hippo and other game such as elephant and buffalo are regularly seen. Facilities at the lodge include a swimming pool, spa treatment centre and several restaurants to choose from. Keekorok is the best value large game lodge in the Masai Mara. Its location offers great game viewing year round and a good location to view the migration.

### Day 2: Masai Mara National Reserve

Following an early breakfast, depart on a morning game drive, returning to the camp mid-morning. After lunch, and perhaps a siesta, set off on another game drive. This afternoon you also visit a Maasai village, where you have an opportunity to interact with these fascinating people. Return to the lodge as the sunsets. It is possible to pre-book an optional early morning balloon safari (additional cost). Hot air ballooning safaris replace your regular morning game drive. Hot air balloon safaris are a once in a lifetime experience and include a superb champagne bush breakfast dining experience following your flight. **Keekorok Lodge (BLD).**



Keekorok Lodge chalet bedroom







### Day 3: Lake Nakuru

Leaving the Masai Mara after breakfast, 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 arrive at Lake Nakuru around midday. Once in the park, view game en route to the lodge. Following lunch and siesta, there is an afternoon game drive returning to the lodge as the sun sets. The national park, known for its birdlife, offers the possibility to view flamingos. It is also home to black and white rhino, as well as the endangered Rothschild giraffe. **Lake Nakuru Lodge (BLD).**

### Lake Nakuru Lodge

The lodge is situated in the heart of one of Kenya's most densely populated wetland national parks only two leisurely hours' drive from Nairobi through beautiful forested uplands and near a series of lakes. Both black and white rhino are being given a new lease of life in this fully-fenced park, with the population now thought to be the largest in Kenya. The Rothschild giraffe is another rarity and the park has its fair share of buffalo, leopard, zebra, eland, warthog, waterbuck and lion. The original building of this lodge was part of Lord Delamere's colonial era estates. It retains its colonial gardens but has been rebuilt over the years to offer good value comfortable accommodation. Lake Nakuru Lodge offers accommodation in 95, spacious deluxe rooms. Each has glass sliding doors opening to views of the lake or gardens, ensuite bathrooms and mosquito netted beds. Lush gardens surround the lodge which has a program of activities, generous buffet dining and evening entertainment to complete your stay.

### Day 4: Nairobi

Following breakfast, continue to Lake Naivasha for a boat ride. Then you leave the Rift Valley behind and head south, arriving in Kenya's bustling capital city of Nairobi by midday. Once in the city, you will be dropped off at the InterContinental Hotel for your onward arrangements. Flights departing this day should be after 4:00pm **(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.
- 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.
- The times and duration of safaris may change on tour in order to maximise wildlife viewing opportunities.
- It is the responsibility of the client to have all necessary documentation, including visas and inoculation certificates relating to this tour.
- 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.
- Prices for flights, airport taxes, park fees and applicable government taxes and levies may be changed without prior notice. Any change is beyond our control and any increase levied will be passed on.
- As prices are calculated in foreign currencies it may become necessary to add a currency surcharge.

## Through the Rift Valley

- 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.
- Please refer to our terms and conditions for amendments and cancellation policies if necessary.

