

# EAST AFRICAN EXPLORER

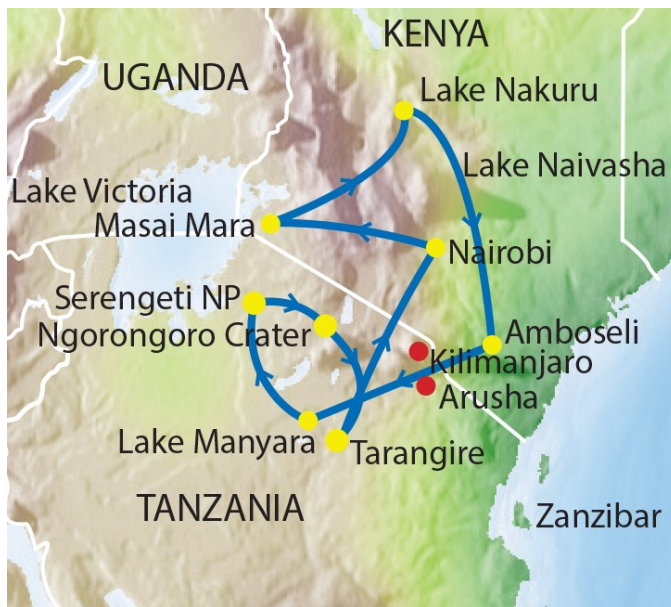
## Kenya and Tanzania



13 day small group safari  
(deluxe accommodation)

This small group safari combines some of the most popular adventures in Kenya and Tanzania. Wildlife abounds as you visit world renowned game parks, as well as lesser known areas. The focus is on game viewing, but you will also enjoy a visit to a Maasai village. With diverse wildlife and cultures, plus spectacular scenery, this is an excellent safari if you are keen to spend two to three weeks in this region.





#### 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 4x4 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
- all park fees and government taxes
- ½ litre bottle 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:** Sunday

#### Itinerary overview:

Day 1: Kenya, Nairobi - Eka Hotel

Day 2: Kenya, Masai Mara - Keekorok Lodge

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

Day 3: Kenya, Masai Mara - Keekorok Lodge

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

Day 5: Kenya, Amboseli National Park- Ol Tukai Lodge

Day 6: Kenya, Amboseli National Park- Ol Tukai Lodge

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

Day 8: Tanzania, Serengeti - Serengeti Serena Lodge

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

Day 9: Tanzania, Serengeti - Serengeti Serena Lodge

Day 10: Tanzania, Ngorongoro Crater - Ngorongoro Serena Lodge

Day 11: Tanzania, Ngorongoro Crater - Ngorongoro Serena Lodge

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

Day 13: Kenya, Nairobi

This tour can be combined with a stay on the island of Zanzibar by ending the tour on day 13 at Arusha. Flights depart Arusha for Zanzibar in the mid-afternoon. Choose from the range of resorts on the sandy beaches of the island, or hotels in historic Stone Town, featured in our brochure.

This tour requires some long days of road travel in order to visit all of the listed parks and highlights.

**A Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate is currently required for entry into Tanzania and may be required on entry into Kenya.**



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## Day 1: Nairobi

On arrival in Nairobi you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Remainder of the day is at leisure. **Eka Hotel.**

### EKA Hotel

EKA Hotel is ideally situated only minutes from Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport and 5 km from the bustling central business district. The hotel rooms offer a high level of comfort, convenience and efficiency. Each air-conditioned room is equipped with a flat-screen TV with satellite connection, direct-dial international telephone access, complimentary high-speed internet access, mini bar, electronic personal safety deposit box and complimentary tea and coffee-making facilities.

## 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 a game drive in the Masai Mara. **Keekorok Lodge (BLD).**

### 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 en suite 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 3: Masai Mara National Reserve

After breakfast you depart on a morning game drive, returning to the lodge for lunch. Then this afternoon you set off on an afternoon game drive. Big cat viewing is particularly interesting in the afternoons with one of the largest concentrations of predators in Africa inhabiting this reserve. After the game drive 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 pre-book an optional early morning balloon safari for an additional cost).* **Keekorok Lodge (BLD).**



Lantern lit dinner - Keekorok Lodge



#### 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 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. On the outskirts of the bustling market town of Nakuru lies a truly remarkable national park which has achieved international fame. 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.

Lake Nakuru Lodge is in the south-east ecological niche of the park, with commanding views of the lake for which it is justly famous. 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, en-suite bathrooms and mosquito netted beds. Lush gardens surround the lodge which has a good program of activities, generous buffet dining and evening entertainment to complete your stay.

#### 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 by late afternoon. **OI Tukai Lodge (BLD).**

#### OI Tukai Lodge

OI Tukai lies at the heart of Amboseli National Park and is set at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa. The cottage style accommodation spreads out on either side of the main lodge, where the architecture is unobtrusive. Each room is built from gum trees and other indigenous building materials and decorated with a beige and cream slate. Rooms have uninterrupted views of either the wetlands or Mount Kilimanjaro. There is a great swimming pool shaded by acacia trees, a library, bars, gift shop and spacious gardens to enjoy. Views from the swimming pool to Mount Kilimanjaro are perfect on a clear day, which makes this lodge a great destination for travellers wishing to catch a glimpse of Africa's highest peak.

#### Day 6: Amboseli National Park

Today you enjoy a morning game drive and afternoon 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.



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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 ecosystem. 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 for dinner. **Oi Tukai Lodge (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 Serena Lodge (BLD)**.

### Lake Manyara Serena Lodge

Situated at the edge of an escarpment, this deluxe lodge overlooks both the Great Rift Valley, which formed millions of years ago, and the beautiful soda lake of Manyara with its abundance of bird life. The local birds are the source of inspiration for the lodge's architecture. Graceful, curving and free flowing, it is built in the local circular style and exudes an atmosphere of peacefulness. From the patterns in the reception area resembling bird migration paths, to the soft geometric designs in the bedrooms, there is barely a single straight line in its design. The bar and restaurant offer guests both indoor and outdoor seating at each meal. Sumptuous menus, buffets and barbecues are served to guests alongside authentic African dishes.

### 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 as you enter the park. At just over 15,000 square kilometres in size, the Serengeti contains over three million animals. Most take part in seasonal migrations, unparalleled in nature. The vast, flat, central plains, made fertile by the ashes of the nine volcanoes of the Ngorongoro highlands, are a place of blue skies, shimmering heat hazes and flat topped acacia trees. The savannah, sprinkled with acacia tortilis, has massive termite mounds and rock formations called kopjes which make great vantage points for predators. Lion are abundant, leopard are plentiful and black rhino and cheetah both sleep lazily under the trees in the middle of the day. There are more than 500 species of bird, 100 sub species of dung beetle; a sign of a varied animal population, and over 70 large mammal species within the park. **Serengeti Serena Lodge (BLD)**.

### Serengeti Serena Lodge

Winner of numerous awards, the Serena Lodge is located near the western corridor and Grumeti River, providing easy access to view the great migration. It has been designed to blend completely into the landscape with the accommodation in a series of traditional domed 'rondavels' widely spaced throughout the grounds. Dining options include the lodge's famous bush dinners with 'sun downer' cocktails served around a campfire surrounded by the sounds of the African bush. Facilities include a stunning pool, plenty of adventure activities and evening entertainment. Possibly the finest of the larger permanent game lodges in the west of the park, it is popular with travellers on both small group safaris and fly-in safaris.





### Day 9: Serengeti National Park

Enjoy morning and afternoon game drives in the Serengeti. This is when the animals are their most active. Hunting, grooming and family interactions all tend to occur at dawn or dusk. Most animals rest during the heat of the day under the park's acacia trees or rock kopjes. **Serengeti Serena 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 and a brief Masaai village visit, you continue 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 soon after the park opens. **Ngorongoro Serena Lodge (BLD).**

### Ngorongoro Serena Lodge

Hardly visible from the crater floor below, Ngorongoro Serena Lodge is built from local river stone to blend into its natural environment. Taking inspiration from nearby archaeological sites, the decor and artwork have prehistoric influences, such as flaring torches which guide you to social areas at night. This award-winning lodge has 75 rondavel style rooms with private balconies offering uninterrupted views of the crater far below. The central restaurant with its stone fireplace offers evening entertainment by local dance groups, and sumptuous buffets. Enjoy an optional Swahili lesson, massage, or some shopping therapy at the lodge's curio shop in-between game drives in the crater or visits to neighbouring historic sites.

### Day 11: Ngorongoro Crater

After breakfast you descend with a picnic lunch 2,000 feet 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 Serena Lodge (BLD).**

### Day 12: Tarangire National Park

Today you head east to Tarangire. Once you enter the park game can be spotted en route to your lodge, arriving for lunch. After lunch and perhaps a swim, 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 with a central island, a pool bar and elegant wooden loungers demonstrates the lodge's 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.



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## 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 Nairobi's international airport, or the InterContinental Hotel at around 7:00pm. **(BLD)**.

### 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.
- This safari is modular. On the Kenyan section of the safari you will have a Kenyan guide and vehicle. This will change to a Tanzanian guide and vehicle once in Tanzania.
- Transfers may be in a minibus or 24 passenger coach. 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.
- 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.
- During peak season multiple vehicle departures may occur and vehicles may travel together.
- 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 times.
- 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, 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.
- 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.
- A Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate is currently required for entry into Tanzania.

