

Kenya & Tanzania Luxury Safari

Please note that all of the itineraries listed in our web site are actual private tour itineraries we have prepared for clients over the past 12-18 months. By the very nature of what we do, each private tour itinerary is custom, exclusive and unique unto itself. Our over-riding goal is to create lifelong memories that you and your family will forever carry deep within your hearts.

Overview

Though South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Rwanda, and Zambia may be our favorite high-touch safari destinations over the past few years, we certainly cannot overlook the uniqueness of Kenya and Tanzania’s wildlife areas which include Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, Masai Mara National Reserve Ngorongoro Conservation Area, and Serengeti National Park. There is no roughing it here as the 5-star Sirikoi House, Sanctuary Olonana, Nimali Mara, and Ngorongoro Crater Lodge all offer a custom luxury experience. The flagship wildlife feature of Ngorongoro is the Ngorongoro Crater, home to over 250,00 animals, including the “Big 5”. Complimenting Ngorongoro is the iconic Serengeti National Park and the Mara River in the Masai Mara National Reserve, where, though becoming increasingly less predictable, two million wildebeests usually pass through from mid-June to August.

For our clients passionate about hiking, we may offer a seven-day ascent up Mt. Kilimanjaro via the Machame Route offering the challenge of a lifetime, but much rewarded by a relaxing, luxury safari experience after!

Best Travel Time: [Spring Summer](#)

<p>KENYA</p> <p>Temperature Range Highs: Low 80’s Lows: Mid 50’s</p> <p>Area 582,646 SQ KM 224,961 SQ MILES</p> <p>Population 53.4 Million</p> <p>Language Swahili & English</p> <p>Capital Nairobi</p> <p>Currency Kenyan shilling</p>	<p>TANZANIA</p> <p>Temperature Range Highs: Low 90’s Lows: Mid 60’s</p> <p>Area 945,087 SQ KM 364,900 SQ MILES</p> <p>Population 59.2 Million</p> <p>Language Swahili & English</p> <p>Capital Dodoma</p> <p>Currency Tanzanian shilling</p>
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Day 1

Fly to Nairobi, Kenya

Through our sister company, premium air provider TRAVNET, we may assist with your international airfare, as well as with mileage points conversion.

Day 2

Arrive Nairobi

Upon arrival in Nairobi, you will be privately transferred to Hemingways Nairobi (an approximately 40-minute drive).

Hemingways Nairobi

Consisting of 45 deluxe suites, Hemingways Nairobi is a boutique hotel overlooking the Ngong Hills. Each spacious suite is 80 sqm and has its own dedicated butler. The bright and airy layouts include a seating area in front of a large private balcony, offering natural light and stunning views. Perhaps our favorite aspect of the rooms is the large en-suite marble bathrooms with a traditional tub and walk-in closets! During your time at the hotel, you are welcome to enjoy the cozy home-inspired areas throughout to unwind and relax. The onsite Serenity Spa offers custom and French-style treatments to guests with luxurious locally sourced products. The hotel restaurant, Brasserie, serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner to guests each day and prepares meals for 24-hour room service. The executive chef on-site uses free-range products from local Kenyan farms and likes to create simple yet delicious dishes with a focus on modern European and South Asian flavors. In addition to the Brasserie, Hemingways Nairobi also has a full bar and offers afternoon tea services. Named for the famous classic author Ernest Hemingway, this luxury accommodation in Nairobi focuses on exceptional service and comfort to its guests. Hemingway found inspiration for many of his novels and short stories after spending three months on safari in Africa in 1933. He left with this impactful quote, “I never knew of a morning in Africa when I woke up that I was not happy”.

Accommodations: Hemingways Nairobi

Day 3

Fly Nairobi/Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

This morning, at approximately 9:00 a.m., you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy (an approximately 1-hour flight). Upon arrival in Lewa, you will be met by a Sirikoi House representative and transferred to the property, located in the wilderness of the conservancy. This afternoon, have lunch at the lodge and enjoy the various activities offered at Sirikoi such as wildlife drives, horseback riding, helicopter excursions, and quad bike safaris.

Sirikoi House

Located on the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, Sirikoi House is surrounded by 68,000 acres of wilderness that have been deemed a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is home to the endangered Grevy’s zebra, black and white rhino, and the reticulated giraffe. Guests can also expect to see leopards, cheetahs, and lions during their stay! There are three types of accommodation at Sirikoi House: four luxury one-bedroom tents, a two-bedroom cottage, and a three-bedroom house. With such intimate accommodations, no more than 18 guests are ever on the property at any given time. No matter what room type you choose, all guests will find amenities such as a fireplace, en-suite bathrooms, Wi-Fi, and complimentary laundry service (!) Activities offered include morning, evening, and nighttime game drives, in-room massages, horseback riding, an infinity

pool, guided bush walks, wildlife watching, and adventurous runs down ATV trails! The property has its own helicopter, available to take guests to remote destinations for intimate experiences. An added benefit is that the lodge is located at 5,500 feet where there are no mosquitos, meaning you are able to relax without having to repel pesky bugs and comfortably enjoy delicious meals outside! All meals are served on the deck overlooking a water hole, and all meals contain fresh produce from the organic garden on site. Guests are welcome to end their day with a glass of champagne around the community campfire each night! The true bond with nature that Sirikoi House offers its guests is our absolute favorite aspect of this unique and special property!

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Sirikoi House

Day 4-5

Wildlife Drives in Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

Each day, you will embark on wildlife-viewing tours in the morning, afternoon, and evening on open 4x4 vehicles. Here, you will be able to see many rare and endangered species such as reticulated giraffe, black and white rhino, and the largest resident population of Grevy's zebra in the world. There are also frequent leopard, cheetah and lion sightings. Elephant families can be seen almost daily in front of the Sirikoi deck for hours at a time.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Sirikoi House

Day 6

Fly Lewa Wildlife Conservancy/Masai Mara National Reserve

At 8:00 a.m., following breakfast at Sirikoi House, you will be transferred to Lewa Airstrip for your flight to Masai Mara (an approximately 1 hour, 25-minute flight). Upon arrival in Masai Mara, you will be privately transferred to Sanctuary Olonana. Following lunch at the lodge, enjoy an afternoon wildlife drive.

Sanctuary Olonana

Being big fans of its sister luxury lodge, Chief's Camp in Botswana, Bev Zen and I were excited to see the opening of Olonana in 2019. Our stay here happily satisfied our high expectations! Sanctuary Olonana is set on a private stretch of the Mara River in the heart of Kenya's most famous wildlife reserve, the Masai Mara. The 14 glass-sided suites feature floor-to-ceiling glass doors that fold open to reveal the spectacular views of the Mara River. Each suite includes king-sized beds with overhead fans, glamorous ensuites, and a daybed on the private deck, while the sprawling lower lounge area offers panoramic views of the surrounding landscape. Three of the suites boast an extra bedroom, ideal for families! The main dining area, lounge, and vast decking area command views over a dramatic stretch of the river. Other amenities include a swimming pool and a mini spa. Though remote, Wi-Fi is available in all rooms!

Following the 2018 rebuild, the two-bedroom Geoffrey Kent Suite, allows travelers to immerse themselves in secluded ultra-luxury in a free-flowing space. In addition to the extra bedroom and ensuite bathroom, the GK suite features an additional family room, wraparound private decking, an infinity pool, lounge, dining area. Another perk is your access to a private vehicle and safari guide.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Sanctuary Olonana

Day 7-8

Wildlife in the Masai Mara National Reserve

Enjoy wildlife drives with professional guides in Sanctuary Olonana's private concession in open safari vehicles! Here, you will likely see an abundance of wildlife year-round, including lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo, hippo, giraffe, zebra, cheetah, impala, wildebeest. The Mara River is also the stage for the Great Migration. From around July to October each year, millions of grunting wildebeest and zebra cover the plains, often crossing the Mara River and moving between Tanzania and Kenya. They are closely followed by crocodile, lion, and cheetah.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Sanctuary Olonana

Day 9

Fly Masai Mara National Reserve/Serengeti National Park

Following breakfast at Sanctuary Olonana, at 10:00 a.m., you will be transferred to the local airstrip for your flight to Migori (an approximately 30-minute flight). Upon arrival, you will be met by our representative and transferred across the Kenyan border to Tarime, Tanzania (an approximately 1-hour transfer) for your afternoon flight to the Serengeti (an approximately 30-minute flight). Upon arrival, you will be met by a Nimali Mara representative and transferred to the camp with the rest of the day at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Nimali Mara

Day 10

Full-Day Serengeti National Park Wildlife Drive

Following breakfast, you will set out on a full-day wildlife drive. Excursions are focused in northern Serengeti via private 4x4 vehicles. When the wildebeest migration is in full force, you're likely to head towards the Mara River in search of river crossings. The resident wildlife in the northern Serengeti is excellent and big cats can be seen here throughout the year. Other available activities include walking and hot-air balloon safaris, and bird watching.

Nimali Mara

Recently opened and located in the northern, more remote area of Serengeti National Park, Nimali Mara is an intimate luxury camp waiting to welcome you on safari! With only 10 luxury tents (including two honeymoon suites that can be joined to form a family suite), the camp is welcoming to all sorts of travelers and families. The "tents" are a modern take and style compared to the traditional look, including fixed wooden floors, overhead fans, electronic safe, flush toilets, double showers, a beautiful brass bathtub, and comfortable post beds with netting. The camp boasts the unique ability to offer high-end experiences, whilst having the secluded and intimate location in the far-flung area of Kogatende. However, it is still easily accessible with an airstrip just 30 minutes away including easy access to the Mara River, famous for wildebeest migration crossings. In between your expertly guided game drives, Nimali Mara is a blissful property aimed to help you be at one with nature as you view the open fields from the floor to ceiling glass doors in your luxury tent. Our

favorite amenities include the impressive wine cellar hidden in a natural cave where you can request to dine and a stunning infinity pool! Free high-speed internet is included for all guests, as well as a spa on-site for optimal relaxation. The delicious food is served fresh daily from local ingredients and trained chefs. You are sure to have both a tranquil and luxurious experience during your stay at Nimali Mara!

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Nimali Mara

Day 11

Fly Serengeti National Park/Lake Manyara + Transfer to Ngorongoro Conservation Area

Following breakfast at Nimali Mara, you will be transferred to Kogatende Airstrip for your flight to Lake Manyara Airport (an approximately 2-hour flight). Upon arrival, you will be met by a Ngorongoro Crater Lodge representative and be transferred to the lodge in time for lunch. The rest of the day is at your leisure to enjoy the amenities of the lodge.

Ngorongoro Crater Lodge

Ngorongoro Crater Lodge is located on the edge of the World Heritage Site – Ngorongoro Crater. The lodge is surrounded by the local conservation area spanning 3, 204 square miles from the Rift Valley to the Serengeti. Divided up into three camps, totaling 30 suites, each camp has its own common and dining areas with private butlers providing excellent service. Architecturally striking, the design of the camps follows the Maasai mud-and-stick style combined with ornate French baroque interiors. Aside from daily game drives that take you into the crater itself, guests can enjoy walking safaris that circle the rim of the crater, visit a local village, and enjoy visits to the nearby lakes. The wildlife here is plentiful and you may be able to spot elephants, zebras, rare black rhinos, and pink flamingos during your stay.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Ngorongoro Crater Lodge

Day 12

Ngorongoro Crater Safari

Today, you will be led on a safari adventure through the Ngorongoro Crater. Apart from the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority, the Ngorongoro Crater has protection status for the wildlife and also permits human habitation. Maasai cattle can sometimes be seen grazing alongside zebras on Ngorongoro's grassland.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodations: Ngorongoro Crater Lodge

Day 13

Drive Ngorongoro Conservation Area/Arusha/Kilimanjaro + Fly Kilimanjaro/Home

At 8:00 a.m., following breakfast at Ngorongoro Lodge, you will be driven to Arusha Coffee Lodge (an approximately 3- hour drive) where you will have lunch and time to relax. In the afternoon, you will be transferred to Kilimanjaro Airport for your flight home (an approximately 1-hour drive).

Arusha Coffee Lodge

Arusha Coffee Lodge is a luxury boutique hotel living up to its name due to its location on one of Tanzania's largest coffee plantations. The hotel's 30 Victorian-style split level "cottages" offer stunning views of Mount Meru, located just nearby. The hotel itself dates back to the early 1900's and was built with the intention of being the plantation house. Today, all of the 30 cottages are quite spacious and have been decorated to stay in tune with the history and elegance of the building. With cozy home-like furniture such as living spaces and neutral colors as well as wooden beams and luxurious chandeliers, you will feel relaxed and comfortable. Each room as an en-suite bathroom including a rain shower and separate bathtub, private balcony terrace with a log burning fire, WiFi, a personal attendant for required services, safe, and of course, views overlooking the surrounding coffee plants. The hotel has lots of gastronomic options such as a four-course garden lunch buffet, the Grill Room for an upscale dinner and impressive wine collection, the Bistro for classic meals anytime of the day, the option to have a picnic lunch arranged by the staff, and 24-hour room service. Our favorite part of Arusha Coffee Lodge is the welcoming and personal touch of adding a coffee percolator in your room so that you can try the local product for yourself!

Meals: Breakfast

Day-Use Accommodations: Arusha Coffee Lodge

Seven-Day Ascent up Mt. Kilimanjaro

Climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro via the Machame Route

As the highest mountain in Africa, with its summit being approximately 16,100 feet from its base and 19,341 feet above sea level, it is no wonder why bucket lists of avid climbers and hikers worldwide feature Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. Kilimanjaro can be hiked all year round; however, we feel it is best to climb when there is a lower possibility of precipitation. The dry seasons are from the beginning of December through the beginning of March and from late June through the end of October. These are considered to be the best times to climb in terms of weather. Please note that large animals are rarely seen and are more frequent in the forests and lower parts of the mountain.

Though there are six main trekking paths used to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro, we feel the nine-day/eight-night Machame Route, with a seven-day ascent, to be the best option. To read more about this journey and day-by-day itinerary, please read our blog post [here](#).