

Kenya Safari

June 10, 2024 through June 21, 2024



Full Itinerary

Day 1 Monday 10 Jun. 24

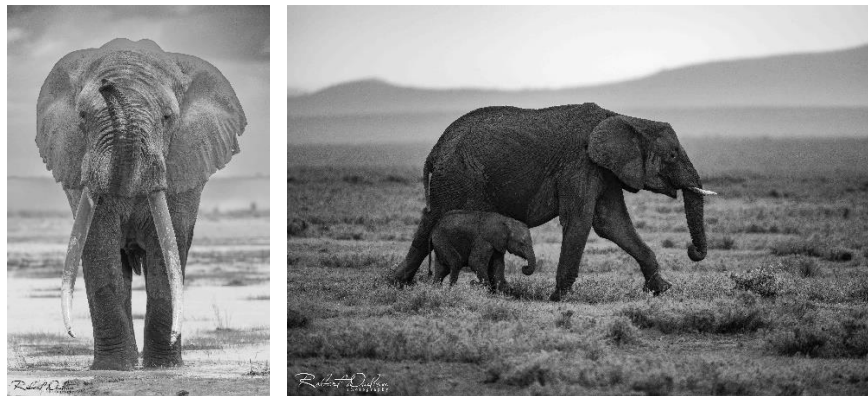
Depart U.S. for Nairobi, Kenya.

Day 2 Tuesday 11 Jun. 24 Nairobi

On arrival at Jomo Kenyatta International airport you will be met by local representatives and transferred to your city hotel for check-in. Lunch at your hotel. Enjoy pre-dinner cocktail followed by welcome dinner at the hotel with overnight at **Nairobi Serena Hotel-Deluxe room L-D-BB**

Day 3 Wednesday 12 Jun. 24 Nairobi

After breakfast depart with packed lunch boxes for a game drive in Nairobi National Park including a visit to Daphne Sheldricks elephant orphanage. Thereafter enjoy shopping at a local market to return early for dinner and overnight at **Nairobi Serena Hotel-Deluxe room L-D-BB**



Day 4 Thursday 13 Jun. 24 Ol Pejeta

After breakfast, travel north to Ol Pejeta Conservancy. The Conservancy is home to the last two northern white rhinos in the World. It is also home to several black rhino, a critically endangered species on the brink of extinction. In addition, Ol Pejeta is home to a chimpanzee sanctuary started by Jane Goodall. The sanctuary takes in chimpanzees who have been abused and gives them a second chance at just being chimpanzees in a natural environment. After lunch, you'll have time for a nap or swim before a game drive through the Conservancy. The Conservancy is home to all of the "big five" – lions, leopard, rhino, elephant and cape buffalo. You're also likely to see giraffe, cheetah, baboons and many other animals. **Overnight at Sweetwaters Serena Camp-STD room LDBB**



Day 5 Friday 14 Jun. 24 Ol Pejeta

You'll have the option of sleeping in or an early morning game drive before breakfast (hint – don't miss the early morning game drive as the animals are most active during this time). Return for breakfast where you'll have the rest of the morning and early afternoon to enjoy your time. The camp has a nice swimming pool and offers optional activities like camel rides. After lunch at the camp, you'll get to visit the chimpanzees and get a tour of the sanctuary. It may also be possible to see the last two northern white rhinos on earth. Currently, Ol Pejeta has a black rhino who is blind and is cared for by the staff. It's often possible to see him up close and even feed him or give him a short pet! Dinner and Overnight at **Sweetwaters Serena Camp-STD room LDBB**



Day 6 Saturday 15 Jun. 24 Nakuru

Today after breakfast, drive to Lake Nakuru with a brief stop at Thomson falls, a 237-foot cascade. Lake Nakuru National Park is a sanctuary for Rothschild giraffe, both black and white rhino and leopard. The park is renowned for its magnificent birdlife, beautiful scenery and array of wildlife. Arrive early for check-in followed by lunch. Afternoon enjoy a game drive and return early before sunset for dinner and Overnight at **Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge-Standard room LDBB**

Day 7 Sunday 16 Jun. 24 Nakuru

Today enjoy full day in Lake Nakuru National Park with morning and afternoon game drives with all meals and Overnight at **Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge-Standard room LDBB**



Day 8 Monday 17 Jun. 24 Masai Mara

After breakfast travel to the famed Masai Mara National Reserve offering wonderful scenery and plenty of game. It is perhaps the only region left in Kenya where the visitor may see animals in the same super-abundance as existed a century ago. A brief stop at Sarova Mara Camp and afterward enjoy a game drive en-route before arriving early before sunset for check-in followed by dinner and Overnight at **Mara Serena Lodge-Standard room L-LDBB**

Day 9 Tuesday 18 Jun. 24 Masai Mara

Enjoy full day in Masai Mara Game Reserve with morning and afternoon game drives with all meals and overnight at **Mara Serena Lodge-Standard room LDBB**



Day 10 Wednesday 19 Jun. 24 Masai Mara

Enjoy full day in Masai Mara Game Reserve with morning and afternoon game drives with all meals and overnight at **Mara Serena Lodge-Standard room LDBB**

Day 11 Thursday 20 Jun. 24 Nairobi

After breakfast, check out and transfer to the local airstrip for your scheduled flight back to Nairobi, departing at 1100hrs. Upon arrival at 1200hrs you will be met by local representative and transferred for lunch at the famous carnivore restaurant. After lunch, guests will have dayrooms and an early dinner before being dropped off at the airport for flights back to U.S.



Day 12 Friday 21 Jun. 24 back US

Arrive back to the United States.

Prices and Policies

The total price of the safari is \$4,143.40, excluding international airfare and park entrance fees, which may change next year. Park fees will be added to your last payment. The price is based on double occupancy and if requested we can arrange for two beds in each room. Once you arrive and until you depart for home, everything is included in the price other than the the exceptions noted below. Optional souvenirs and tips are not included, nor is alcohol.

Full information about international flights will be forthcoming but we can set you up with a travel agent if you wish.

Payment Schedule and Cancellation Policies

Make all checks payable to: Custom Europe Travels and mail to 727 Dial Creek Road, Elgin, SC 29045.

- On enrollment - \$400 (not refundable).
- November 16, 2023 - \$1,690.00. (Refundable until January 03, 2024).
- January 25, 2024 - Final payment amount to be determined when Kenya publishes national park fees. (Refundable until May 02, 2024.)

Price includes:

- Arrival and departure transfers to and from Nairobi airport;
- Visit to Nairobi National Park & Daphne Sheldricks elephant orphanage on day 02 + optional personal shopping;
- Full board accommodation while on Safari;
- All meals as mentioned in the itinerary;
- Transportation in our 6-seater, 4x4 safari vehicle driven by our experienced driver/guides with services of an English speaking driver guide;
- All excursions and game drives as indicated in the itinerary;
- Complimentary 1 liter bottled mineral water per person per day while in our safari vehicle.

Included flights:

Scheduled flights from Masai Mara to Nairobi

Due to the type of Aircraft operated for this flight, passengers are limited to size and weight of bags. Soft duffel bags only. The baggage weight allowance, including hand luggage is 15 kg.

Price excludes:

- International air transportation;
- Park entrance fees;
- Visa Fees (currently \$56 which can be completed online prior to departure)
- International departure tax;
- Incidental tips to hotel/lodge staff;
- Gratuity to tour driver/guide;
- All items of a personal nature such as laundry and alcoholic and soft drinks.

Trip Cancellation Insurance

If you choose you may take out trip cancellation on your own. See insuremytrip.com for listing of carriers. If you pay in full, up front trip cancellation insurance is free for medical emergencies, health reasons, or death in family. This insurance is for the safari only and is not available for merely changing your mind and dropping out. Please note that this does not include the international flight. If you choose this option it is non-refundable but is reimbursed (see above) 100%, including the initial deposit.

Lodging Accommodations

Nairobi Serena Hotel

Justly famed for its superlative standards of efficiency, service and hospitality, the elegantly sophisticated Nairobi Serena is a member of the Leading Hotels of the World group and is consistently voted 'Best Hotel in Nairobi' by airlines and international travel magazines alike. Despite its pivotal central location, the Serena remains true to its title and offers an oasis of

serenity amidst the bustle of one of Africa's most vibrant capital cities. The hotel offers a selection of 183 rooms and suites each with: 24-hour room service, air-conditioning, in-room modem hook-up, direct dial phone, voice mail, complimentary newspaper, in-room satellite TV, mini bar, private safe, tea and coffee-making facilities, hair driers, in-room 'butler bath' service, porter/concierge).

Dining choices include: The Mandhari Restaurant; considered by many to be Nairobi's finest restaurant, the Mandhari offers both local and international cuisine and regularly hosts visiting chefs of international reputations. The Café Maghreb; this all-day brasserie-styled restaurant offers sumptuous buffet selections, regular barbeques and themed events; seating inside and by the pool. The Pool Bar; offering a wide range of cocktails and a pool-side café service and the atmospheric Aksum Bar and water gardens. The hotel also offers a state of the art health club, swimming pool, golf, a conference center, ballroom, residents lounge, gift shop and business center.



Sweetwaters Serena Camp

A sheltered oasis, clustered around a water hole and set in the pristine calm of its own private reserve, the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, Sweetwaters Tented Camp offers a charming blend of under-canvas ambiance and uncompromising luxury. Located on the plains of Mount Kenya, the camp features 39 tents, each with its own veranda overlooking the water hole. Boasting a higher wildlife-to-area ratio than any other Kenyan national park, the camp offers unprecedented opportunities for wildlife watching. The central Rhino Restaurant is housed in the former manager's house of this once colonial farm, and offers both regional and international cuisine. Also within the house is the Kashoggi Bar and lounge, which centers on a blazing log fire.

The Waterhole Bar, built in the style of a game-viewing hide, overlooks the waterhole and offers unrivalled wildlife-watching. Additionally, the camp offers a swimming pool and day and night game drives, morning and afternoon nature and bird walks, camel trekking within the Conservancy, lion-tracking, day trip to Mountain Lodge on the flanks of Mount Kenya (trout fishing, forest and moorland walks), visit to the Jane Goodall Chimpanzee Sanctuary and visit to the Ol Pejeta Game Conservancy Educational Centre. Also offered is a tour of authentic Maasai and Pokot village - dance displays, traditional welcome and handicrafts sale.

Unique experiences; sundowners on the Laikipia plains, bush dinner by the Elephant Swamp; bush breakfast by the hippo hide of the Uaso Nyiro River.



Mara Serena Lodge

Secluded deep within the world-famous Masai Mara National Reserve, the Mara Serena Safari Lodge stands high on a bush-cloaked hill with commanding views over one of Africa's most dramatic wildlife arenas – the scene of the annual migration of over one million wildebeest. Set high on a hill, the lodge is styled to mirror the circular motif of a traditional Maasai manyatta and features twin rows of individual rooms (74 in total: telephone, laundry and valet services), each with fabulous views down to the famous Mara River. The lodge also offers a panoramic central dining room and bar area featuring both interior and exterior seating and local and international cuisine. The lodge has a swimming pool and offers a daily selection of morning and afternoon game drives. Guests can also enjoy; balloon safaris, morning and afternoon nature and bird walks, wildlife talks, audio-visual presentations and talks on the heritage and traditions of the local tribes.

Unique experiences: a balloon flight over the Mara, landing to a full English breakfast in the bush; sundowners on the plains of the Masai Mara with dance and musical entertainment; full English breakfast cooked and served by the hippo pool of the Mara River; lamp-lit bush dinner served by the Mara River, with campfire and Maasai dance performance.



Ground Transport Information

6-Seater 4x4 Landcruiser (Kenya)

Most of the trip will use 4x4 Landcruisers with pop-up roofs. Other vehicles may be used for airport transfers.

Each Landcruiser specially adapted to meet the demands of the rugged African terrain and are all fitted with:

- GPS tracking
- VHF Radio Connection

- Pop-up Roof
- First Aid Kit
- Cooler Box
- Fire Extinguisher
- Tool Kit and spare tires
- Sliding windows
- 6 passenger window seats guaranteeing an unrestricted panoramic view
- 12V cigarette lighters (ideal for charging batteries)

Note: Please note that due to dusty conditions on Safari, the vehicles are not air-conditioned.

Built with safety and comfort in mind, each safari Land Cruiser is designed to seat a max of 7 passengers but for optimum safari enjoyment we seat six passengers to a vehicle.

Each offers comfortable seats with seat belts and canvas covers fitted with pockets for water bottles and other handy items.

Well maintained, each vehicle is routinely subjected to an overhaul service after every safari and checked again before the next safari by our very own team of competent mechanics and workshop staff who are on standby round the clock.



Disclaimer

*While we endeavor to ensure that all our vehicles offer 12V connections and HF radio connections, the high-impact of the rugged African terrain can occasionally cause these delicate mechanisms to go temporarily out of service. We do our utmost to ensure against this, but beg your understanding for the few times in which such temporary faults may occur.

Location and park information

Nairobi

Nairobi, (taken from the Maasai Nyrobi meaning place of cool waters) is aptly known as the 'Safari Capital of the World'.

The capital city has a population of approximately 3 million people and came into being in May 1899 as an artificial settlement created by the European builders of the East African railway at

Mile 327. Easily the largest city in East Africa, Nairobi is also the youngest, the most modern, the highest (at 1700m) and the fastest growing.

As the birthplace of the safari, Nairobi city is a natural starting point for most Kenya safari itineraries. Indeed nearly all of the famous safaris of colonial history set off from here, some with lines of 'bearers' miles long. But before you set off, you might like to spend a few days relaxing and discovering for yourself some of the many treasures of this surprising Kenya city.



OI Pejeta Game Reserve

Home to "The Big Five" (lion, leopard, elephant, rhino and buffalo) plus an exciting catalogue of; giraffe, zebra, eland, oryx, waterbuck, Grant's gazelle, Thompson's gazelle, cheetah, silver-backed jackal, hartebeest and baboon. The reserve also boasts several hundred bird species. The reserve has the highest ratio of game to area of any park or reserve in Kenya.

Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary was established in cooperation with the Kenya Wildlife Service and the Jane Goodall Institute for Conservation Projects for Chimpanzees Throughout the World, the 1 km sq sanctuary is a non-profit-making venture and the only sanctuary of its kind in Kenya. A gentle and charming diversion for children and adults alike, it offers visitors the unique opportunity of taking a boat ride on the Ewaso Nyiro River, which flows through the center of the sanctuary where 26 orphaned chimps enjoy the peace and harmony of their natural environment.



Nakuru

The most famous of the Great Rift Valley lakes, Lake Nakuru is renowned for its magnificent birdlife, beautiful scenery and teeming with wildlife. This 188sq. kms. park is a paradise for those who are particularly interested in ornithology and also offers the opportunity of seeing

white rhino, the rare Rothchild's giraffe, large herds of buffalo and an abundance of various plains game. Sightings of leopard resting in the branches of acacia trees are very common though not guaranteed on every safari.

The 40sq. kms. alkaline Lake Nakuru lies within the park and has been given the conservation world's Ramsar Site designation. As you move further afield into the woods, you find black and white colobus monkey and closer to the escarpment walls and rocky ridges, mountain reedbuck, dik dik, rock hyrax and klipspringer, making game viewing well worthwhile.



Masai Mara

Justifiably one of the most famous reserves in Africa, its' dominant feature is the great rolling plains of savannah grasslands, which sustain the greatest variety of wildlife in Africa and indeed in the world. The concentration of game is at its highest from July through October when the Mara is host to the annual migration of more than a million wildebeest.

However, game viewing is excellent year round with giraffe, buffalo, zebra, eland, hartebeest and Thompson's gazelle offering a rich choice for the predators lion, leopard and cheetah. It should be noted, however, that during the rainy season, the grass is fairly tall in some areas, which may affect visibility and restrict game drives slightly.

The Maasai people, after whom the park is named, are nomadic. While on game drives, you will often notice young tribesmen herding their cattle amongst the plains game. They are colorfully attired, usually wrapped in bright red cloths, and armed with spears.