

Local experts for



Kenya classic.

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KENYA | 7DAYS / 6NIGHTS

Route: Round-trip from and to Nairobi

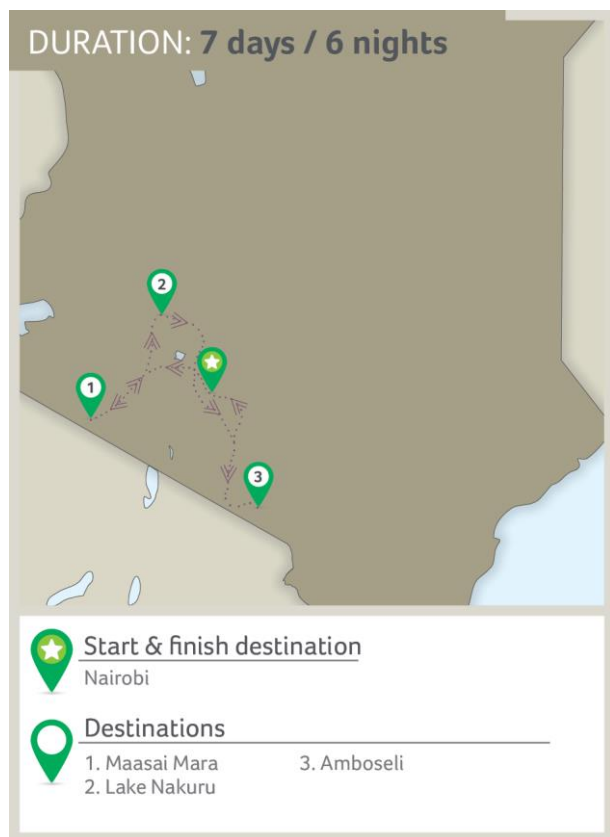
Type of tour: Safari

Departure day: Tuesday, Thursday or Sunday

TOUR OVERVIEW

An African safari touches something deep within all of us, for it is an experience that will never be forgotten. This seven-day adventure takes you to some of the most dramatic landscapes in the planet in search of wildlife, especially the Big Five, and intriguing cultures. The safari covers two national parks, one national reserve and one conservation area. The driver-guides are all skilled experts and will certainly make this safari feel special while the accommodation has been specifically chosen to enhance your experience. Three options are available for this safari adventure, with example seen below.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS



Maasai Mara National Reserve: Located in the African Great Rift Valley and a habitat for the Big Five

Lake Nakuru National Park: Fully fenced park that is home to flamingos as well as black and white rhinos among others

Amboseli National Park: Stunningly located at the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain

DON'T MISS

Flamingos: Seeing lakes take a shimmering pink appearance when thousands of these birds flock to them in wet season

Big cats: Observing lions, leopards and cheetahs relentlessly track wildebeest during the wet season Great Migration (subject to wildlife movement)

Amboseli: The picture-postcard views of majestic Mount Kilimanjaro and its snowcapped peak while herds of elephants roam the park's open spaces

DAY BY DAY

DAY 1 | NAIROBI

Upon arrival in Nairobi, you will be met by a representative and transferred to the **Eka Hotel** for check-in into a superior room. Enjoy an afternoon at your own leisure, perhaps taking advantage of the modern facilities, which include two restaurants, a bar, and a swimming pool. This contemporary-style hotel provides comfort and convenience before you embark on your Kenyan odyssey. The Eka is located on the Mombasa Road in southern Nairobi. It is close to both the international and domestic airports as well as the city centre. Rooms are spacious and tastefully decorated, and all have air conditioning. Optional excursions for early morning arrivals: Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage visit, Out of Africa (Karen Blixen Museum and Giraffe Centre visit)

- **Overnight at hotel in Nairobi on a bed-and-breakfast basis.**

DAY 2 | NAIROBI – MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE (280km – 5 hrs)

Leaving Nairobi after breakfast, travel towards Kenya's fertile highlands and head down the **Rift Escarpment** on a road built by Italian prisoners of war during World War II. Keep an eye out for the charming chapel they built at the foot of the escarpment. Pass the futuristic Longonot earth satellite station as you head across the valley to Narok, and then travel through fields of wheat and barley, before reaching the Maasai Mara and **Keekorok Lodge** in time for lunch and perhaps a siesta. Afterwards, it's time for the first game drive of the tour. Keekorok is strategically located in the direct path of the annual **Great Migration**, and was the first lodge to be built in the Mara. At the height of the migration, Keekorok is surrounded by a swarming mass of hundreds of thousands of wildebeests, zebras and gazelles, all relentlessly tracked by predators, and there is hardly need to go on a game drive. Sandstone, cedar wood and other indigenous materials are used in all rooms and public areas. In front of the lodge, there is a 300-metre-long elevated walkway that meanders through a small riverine forest to a bar. This overlooks a dam where **resident hippos** and other game are regularly seen. There are no fences around Keekorok and it is not uncommon to see elephants and buffaloes on the perimeter of the grounds or even strolling in – though there are watchmen on the constant look out!

- **Overnight in Maasai Mara on a full-board basis.**

DAY 3 | MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE (5-6 hrs on game drives)

Enjoy an early breakfast before departing on a morning game drive. **The Maasai Mara National Reserve** is home to millions of wild animals, including the fabled Big Five of lions, leopards, elephants, buffaloes and black rhinos as well as antelopes, gazelles and wildebeest among others. Return to the lodge for lunch and perhaps a siesta before setting off to visit a Maasai village followed by an afternoon game drive, heading back to the lodge as the sun sets. An optional early morning hot air balloon safari is available today. Pick-up is before sunrise and flight begins at dawn. Flight time is approximately one hour and champagne bush breakfast and return transfers are included.

- **Overnight in Maasai Mara on a full-board basis.**



DAY 4 | MAASAI MARA – LAKE NAKURU NATIONAL PARK (315km – 6 hrs)

Bid farewell to the Maasai Mara after breakfast and travel across the 'breadbasket' of Kenya. Acres of wheat and barley dominate the landscape as you head north to Narok, the district headquarters of this part of **Maasailand**. Cross the vast plains on the floor of the **Great Rift Valley**, keeping an eye out for herds of giraffes and gazelles as you head up the **Mau Escarpment**, before arriving at **Lake Nakuru** around midday. The waters here are often coloured a shimmering pink, from the thousands of flamingos that line its shores. After lunch, depart for an afternoon game drive in **Lake Nakuru National Park**. As well as all the beautiful **flamingos**, both **black and white rhinos** are being carefully protected and given a new lease of life in this 188 square kilometre, fully fenced park. The rhino population numbers more than 50 and continues to multiply. The Rothschild's giraffe is another rarity and the park has its fair share of buffaloes, leopards, zebras, elands, waterbucks and lions. **Lake Nakuru Lodge** is situated in the heart of what is Kenya's most densely populated wetland national park, which is one of six internationally protected marsh areas, known as Ramsar sites, in the country. Lake Nakuru Lodge is in the south-east ecological niche of the park, with commanding views of the lake and the flamingos. Lush gardens surround the lodge and cottages, and there is an exciting programme of activities and evening entertainment.

- **Overnight at Lake Nakuru on a full-board basis.**

DAY 5 | LAKE NAKURU – AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK (405km – 7 hrs)

Rise for breakfast before a drive south to **Lake Naivasha for a boat ride**, which provides a habitat for hundreds of bird species and hippos. The lake is located at one of the highest elevations in the Rift Valley, which is left behind as the tour proceeds towards Nairobi for a picnic lunch. Head south to **Amboseli National Park**, arriving at **Ol Tukai Lodge** by late afternoon. The lodge lies at the heart of the national park, which is itself at the foot of **Mount Kilimanjaro**, the highest mountain in Africa. The cottage-style accommodation spreads out on both sides of the main lodge, where the architecture is rustic and inviting. Rooms are built out of beautiful gum tree wood and other indigenous materials, designed with a warm décor, and offer uninterrupted views of the wetlands or of Mount Kilimanjaro. Relax by the swimming pool shaded by acacia trees, enjoy a drink at the two-storey Elephant Bar or stroll the spacious gardens.

- **Overnight at Amboseli on a full-board basis.**

DAY 6 | AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK (5-6 hrs on game drives)

Feast on a fine breakfast in preparation of a morning and afternoon spent on **game drives in Amboseli**. Most of the park consists of a partially dry lake bed of evaporated salts and fragile grassland with patches of acacia woodland. You can see most types of game in the park, including rhinos, giraffes, gazelles, lions, cheetahs and leopards. Birdlife is prolific, too, especially around the swamp areas. This entire experience is carried out under the shadow of the majestic Mount Kilimanjaro, which rises some 5,000 metres above the national park, returning to the lodge as the sun sets.

- **Overnight at Amboseli on a full-board basis.**

DAY 7 | AMBOSELI – NAIROBI (230km – 4.5 hrs)

After breakfast, catch the last views of magnificent Mount Kilimanjaro before heading northwards to **Nairobi**, crossing the seemingly never-ending Athi Plains. Arrive in the bustling capital by midday, and be dropped off at either the InterContinental Hotel in the city centre or at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport for your ongoing travel arrangements.

We can also set up a plethora of optional activities upon your return to Nairobi, including lunch or dinner at Carnivore Restaurant, Out of Africa excursion, a shopping trip to Utamaduni craft centre and Kazuri Bead Factory, or use of Pollman's Club Lounge.

END OF SERVICES

INCLUDED

TOUR GUIDE:

- Operated with English-speaking guides – bilingual guides are available in French, Spanish, German and Italian

AIRPORT TRANSFERS:

- Arrival transfers will be in a safari minibus or mini coach

ACCOMMODATION:

- Five nights' accommodation on a full-board basis and one on a bed-and-breakfast basis

MEALS:

- As specified and 500ml of mineral water per person per day on game drives

TRANSPORT:

- All transport and game drives on road safaris will be in a 4x4 vehicle with pop-up roof and guaranteed window seat (maximum 7 pax) with an English-speaking driver-guide on a shared basis

ENTRANCE FEES AND ACTIVITIES:

- Admission to and game drives Maasai Mara National Reserve, Lake Nakuru National Park and Amboseli National Park

NOT INCLUDED

- Visas and international flights
- Airport taxes (clients pay direct)
- Driver-guide gratuities, drinks, dining rooms tips and portage
- Personal travel, baggage and medical insurance
- Telephone bill, laundry and any items of a personal nature
- Balloon safari on Day 3

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

A wide range of optional excursions and pre and post-programme extensions are available on request. Please ask tour designer Taqi Moledina for rates and conditions

RECOMMENDATIONS

Passengers should bring only soft-sided bags on safari. Passengers arriving to Kenya may be asked to present a valid Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate. Travellers' cheques are generally not accepted in east Africa. US banknotes cannot be older than 2004 and must have the latest security markings (large portrait of the president). Sun protection, sunglasses, a hat and mosquito repellent can be very useful during your stay.