GUARANTEED DEPARTURES

Route: Round-trip from and to Nairobi
Type of tour: Safari
Departure days: Every second day – contact us for exact dates
Validity: From 1 July 2015 to 31 December 2015

Your tour designer
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TOUR OVERVIEW
Live the high life on safari with this thrilling and innovative eight-day programme featuring the best wildlife parks and most exclusive accommodation in Kenya. The sky safari starts off with an evening at Hemingways Nairobi before flying you off to Amboseli National Park for a couple of days’ games drives and then on to Meru National Park for more time exploring the wild before flying on to the magical Maasai Mara National Reserve. This itinerary is guaranteed for a minimum of two guests.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Amboseli National Park: This vast wilderness is stunningly located near the foot of the 5,900 metre Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa’s highest mountain.

Meru National Park: Enjoy walking safaris and game drives in the varied landscapes of this park made famous by Elsa the lioness from 60s movie Born Free.

Maasai Mara National Reserve: Located in the Great Rift Valley, this habitat for the Big Five is also the spiritual homeland of one of Africa’s most iconic peoples.

DON’T MISS!

Amboseli: The picture-postcard views of majestic Mount Kilimanjaro and its snowcapped peak.

Meru: The park has more than 400 species of birds and is also home to Grevy’s zebra, the largest of its species.

Maasai: Meet members of this mystical tribe, which for generations has inhabited the Great Rift Valley.

DAY BY DAY

D1 NAIROBI
Arrive at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, where you will be welcomed by a representative and chauffeured to Hemingways Nairobi. Located between Nairobi National Park and the foot of the Ngong Hills, this exclusive plantation-style boutique hotel offers full butler service, gourmet restaurant, a brasserie and a bar. The sophisticated and tranquil ambiance evokes the halcyon days when adventurers such as Ernest Hemingway were attracted to east Africa by the lure of the wild. Each of the 45 generously sized suites has a terrace with magnificent views of the Ngong Hills. Overnight in Nairobi on a half-board basis.

D2 NAIROBI – AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK (45 minutes' flying time)
After a leisurely breakfast at Hemingways, check out and transfer to Wilson Nairobi Airport to board the Cessna Grand Caravan and begin your safari adventure in earnest. Fly to Amboseli National Park, where the Tortilis Camp team meets you on arrival. Get going straight away with a game drive en route to the camp. Enjoy a delicious lunch at the camp before heading into the wild for an afternoon game drive. Savour a sundowner before returning to the camp for dinner. Accommodation at Tortilis is an en suite safari tent with a spacious veranda boasting views of Mount Kilimanjaro. Overnight in Amboseli on an all-inclusive basis.
D3 AMBOSELI (2-3 hrs per game drive)
Rise early for a morning walking safari followed by a bush breakfast. Then enjoy a game drive in Amboseli. Tortilis’s location near Lake Amboseli on the western edge of the park (most lodges and camps are outside of the eastern gate) means you have an almost private park to explore. Camp guides know the individual elephants and their family histories and half of the guides are Maasai who know the terrain intimately. They are more than happy to share their knowledge with you, whether it is to explain the many uses of wild herbs and barks or to recount Maasai cultural traditions. Overnight in Amboseli on an all-inclusive basis.

D4 AMBOSELI – MERU NATIONAL PARK (75 minutes' flying time)
Early morning game drive followed by brunch back at the lodge. Check out and transfer to the airstrip for the flight to Meru National Park. On arrival, the Elsa’s Kopje team awaits before transferring you to the lodge, arriving in time for high tea. Afterwards, choose between a relaxing massage and a game drive in the park. Accommodation at Elsa’s Kopje is in an open-fronted cottage decorated in elegant safari style. Each cottage has a large bedroom, open sitting room, veranda, rock-hewn bathroom and breathtaking views. Elsa’s Kopje is the only operational lodge in the park so this vast wilderness is a private domain for those staying here. The lodge is name after Elsa the lioness, who earned worldwide fame in the 1960s as the cub raised by conservationists Joy and Robert Adamson. It was at this very location that the Adamsons raised and released orphan lions. Elsa’s grave is in the south of the park. Overnight in Meru on an all-inclusive basis.

D5 MERU (2-3 hrs per game drive)
Breakfast at the lodge is followed by a morning game drive in the park. There is also a night game drive followed by sundowners. Meru has enormous diversity of habitat and wildlife, game drives take you through forests, past giant baobab trees and along clear spring-fed streams lined with palms. This is lion and elephant country though the park is also home to rare species including caracal, lesser kudu antelopes, aardwolf and more than 400 species of birds. The park’s riverine forest is home to basking hippo while there is also a large sanctuary housing about 60 black and white rhinos. Overnight in Meru on an all-inclusive basis.

D6 MERU – MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE (90 minutes’ flying time)
Rise early for a morning walking safari in the park. Return to the lodge for lunch before checking out and transferring to the airstrip. Fly to Maasai Mara National Reserve, landing at the Keekorok airstrip in the southeast of the park. A team from Sand River Masai greets you before transferring you to the lodge. Get going straight away with a game drive en route to the camp, arriving in time for sundowners. Accommodation is in a luxurious safari tent just a few metres away from the River Sand. The camp replicates the heyday of exclusive permanent tented camps of the late 1920s. The décor of tents mirrors this period perfectly, with furnishings paying homage to the classic imagery of east African adventure. Overnight in Maasai Mara on an all-inclusive basis.

D7 MAASAI MARA (2-3 hrs per game drive)
Enjoy a bush breakfast followed by a full day of game drives. The Maasai Mara National Reserve is home to millions of wild animals, including the fabled Big Five of lion, elephant, buffalo, leopard and rhinoceros as well as antelopes, gazelles and wildebeest among others. Return to the lodge for lunch and perhaps a siesta before setting off for an afternoon game drive, then returning to the lodge as the sun sets. Tonight, enjoy a dinner under the stars – a truly magical experience. Overnight Maasai Mara on a full board basis.

An optional early morning hot air balloon safari is available today. Pick-up is at about 04:30 hours and drop off is at about 10:00 hours. Flight time is approximately one hour and champagne breakfast and return transfers are included.
D8 MAASAI MARA – NAIROBI (1 hr flying time)
Breakfast at the camp is followed by one last game drive in the Maasai Mara. Return to the camp for lunch. Check out by mid-afternoon, when you are transferred to Keekorok airstrip for the flight to Nairobi. On arrival, a representative greets you and you are driven to a restaurant for dinner before continuing to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in time for your outbound flight.

*****END OF SERVICES*****

INCLUDED

Tour guide:
- Operated with English-speaking guides

Accommodation:
- Seven nights’ accommodation on an full board basis

Meals and drinks:
- As specified, all meals from dinner on Day 1 in Nairobi and all drinks (excluding premium drinks such as Champagne, Cognacs, single malt whiskeys etc), laundry service (except in Nairobi), scheduled activities and transfers

Transport:
- Transfers as specified and domestic flights including airport/safety taxes and airline surcharges
- All internal scheduled flights
- All flights between to parks in an eight-seater Cessna Grand Caravan light aircraft

Entrance fees and activities:
- Park entry fees and game drives in 4WD safari vehicles, bush meals and bush activities

NOT INCLUDED

- Visas and international flights
- Airport taxes (clients pay direct)
- Travel insurance
- Driver-guide gratuities, drinks, dining rooms tips and porterage
- Telephone bill and any items of a personal nature
- Laundry in Nairobi
- Drinks in Nairobi
- Other camp/ lodge activities not mentioned in the above itinerary

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, sun glasses, a hat and mosquito repellent can be very useful during your stay.