



Tropical Woods Adventures

Kenyan Safari

NOVEMBER 2017

Day 1 - En Route to Nairobi

Depart US and arrive in Europe early morning on your way to Kenya. Later today you will board your flight to Nairobi, arriving at Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta Airport late in the evening. You will be met outside of customs by our safari leader and drivers who will take you to the Boma Inn in time for a good night's rest. At the hotel, you will be assisted with check in and your luggage transported to your rooms. **Overnight at Boma Inn.**

Day 2 - The Ark Lodge

This morning you will drive north to the Aberdare National Park in central Kenya. You are booked at The Ark Lodge. Here you will check into your rooms and spend



the rest of afternoon and early evening viewing animals that come to the waterhole for water and salt licking. Elephants, buffaloes, waterbucks, bushbucks, monkeys and a wide range of birds are to be found. Rhinos, bush hogs, leopards are known to visit at late night hours.

The Ark lodge is a tree-lodge and is uniquely shaped to resemble the actual Ark. Designed with decks from which numerous balconies and lounges provide superb vantage points for viewing the animals visiting the salt lick and waterhole. A ground-level bunker at the lodge provides excellent photographic opportunities, and the Yasabara waterhole is floodlit by night to enable all-night viewing of game.

Overnight at The Ark Lodge.

Aberdare National Park:

The Aberdare National Park, with an area of 767 sq. km covers the higher areas of the Aberdare Mountain Ranges of Central Kenya, from altitude of 1829M to 4001M above sea level. The topography is quite diverse with deep ravines that cut through the forested eastern and western slopes. Animals easily observed in the park include the Black Rhino, leopard, baboon, black and white Colobus monkey and Sykes monkey. Rarer sightings include those of lions, the golden cat and the bongo, an elusive forest antelope that lives in the bamboo forest. Animals like the eland and spotted serval cats can be found higher up in the moorlands.

Day 3 - Samburu

Today, you continue your journey north to Samburu National Reserve. You will enjoy a game drive and visit the women's project en route, arriving at your camp located along Ewaso Nyiro River in time for lunch. There will be time to relax before departing on your afternoon game drive. **Overnight Larsen's Camp.**

Day 4 - Samburu

Morning and afternoon game drives will give you more opportunity to enjoy the unique game species, which are found only north of the Equator. Following breakfast, you will have the opportunity to visit a Samburu Village and learn about these pastoral people who are related to the Maasai. **Overnight Larsen's Camp.**

Samburu National Reserve

Samburu National Reserve lies 202 miles north of Nairobi in the hot and arid fringes of the vast northern region of Kenya. The Reserve is within the lands of the colourful Samburu people, close relatives of the Maasai, and harbours a number of wildlife species rarely found elsewhere in any numbers. These include Grevy's zebra, the reticulated giraffe and Beisa oryx, all species found only north of the equator. |



The long-necked gerenuk is a graceful antelope which spends much of its time in a bi-pedal stance seeking succulence among the withered scrub which dots this harsh terrain. The Ewaso Nyiro River which rises some hundreds of kilometres to the west on the foothills of the Aberdare Mountains and which vanishes beyond Samburu in the recesses of the Lorian swamp provides the lifeline to

both wildlife, people and their domestic animals. The river is at its best in the Reserve, broad and sluggish with a large population of crocodile seen on sandbanks at almost every bend. The river is fringed with giant acacias, figs and doum palms all of which provide shade and sustenance to the wildlife which comes to drink. One of the highlights of your visit to Samburu will be the tour of a native village. These people still live the tradition life they have enjoyed for centuries. A village elder will escort you on a guided tour of the village and explain their way of life.

Larsen's Camp

Larsen's Camp is a small exclusive camp nestled in the lush lawns on the banks of the Uaso Nyiro, a river in Kenya's famous Samburu National Reserve. The camp is approximately 320 km north of Nairobi. The camp is named after Erik Ole Larsen, a legendary Dane credited with defining the luxury safari under canvas. ! Designed in contemporary safari style, luxury is blended with the stunning surroundings of the spectacular Samburu Game Reserve. At Larsen's Camp tranquility and nature embrace you the minute you enter Larsen's with the river being the perfect stage for an endless pageant of wildlife - elephants rolling and trumpeting in the shallows, timid impala nervously drinking, baboons and vervet monkeys swinging through the canopy of trees. The only man made noise is that of the young Samburu flute as he slowly makes his way along the riverfront. He unobtrusively doubles as a palm nut thrower when the monkeys become too bold. Larsen's Camp offers 20 free standing luxurious tented accommodations each with a private balcony. All tents are discreetly sited along the west bank of the Uaso Nyiro River with the result that the tents are bathed with light at sunrise.



Each tent stands on a plinth of natural stone and all have en suite private bathrooms stocked with a range of toiletries, flushing toilets, constant hot water, and 24-hour electricity (240 volts). Each tent features one king or two twin beds designed in chic safari style.

Day 5 - Lake Nakuru

Your southward journey takes you to Lake Nakuru in the great rift valley, defined as "the greatest bird spectacle on earth". Your afternoon game drive will bring you close to rhinoceros, cape buffalo, zebra, lions and baboon. Game drives here will give you more opportunities to view more bird life and the thriving population of a antelopes such as impalas, gazelles, giraffe, and quite likely a leopard among the yellow fever trees. **Overnight flamingo Hill camp.**

Lake Nakuru National Park.

Lake Nakuru National Park was gazetted as a bird sanctuary in 1960, to protect the "greatest bird spectacle", Lesser Flamingoes for the future generations. In 1968, Lake Nakuru was upgraded to a National Park and later its size was increased to 188km².

In 1990, Lake Nakuru National Park was designated a Ramsar site for protection of wetlands of international importance. However due to climatic changes the lake's water surface has increased in size thus the PH status for the formation of blue green algae - food for the flamingo has gone down and the birds have moved to other surrounding lakes within the rift valley. Lake Nakuru National park is the only fully fenced park in Kenya with an area of



188Km², and has become very famous as a Rhino sanctuary. Both Black and White Rhino are found in the open grassland area of the park. There are large numbers of buffalo, zebra, and a variety of antelope, as well as lions who have become famous for tree climbing. Leopards are also found hanging on the yellow backed acacia tree branches. !

Flamingo Hill Camp

Located at the border of Lake Nakuru National Park, Flamingo Hill Camp gives the best view of the parks landscape teaming with a variety of animals and birds. The camp offers 25 guest tents in a homely welcoming setting to ensure you have a comfortable and serene tour of Lake Nakuru, and the attentive staff are very helpful and responsive to your needs. Guest tents are situated amidst landscaped



campgrounds with views of the surrounding flora, trees and valley, and the quietest and most private tents are located away from the main central areas. The soothing decor, romantic four-poster beds, small writing desk and private veranda of your chalet tent reflect a fused classical safari experience with a traditional hut-style shaded structure. Few tents are catered towards families traveling together so are close to each other while the rest of the tents are minimally spaced out to afford some extra privacy. At night, your tents and common areas are low lit so as to blend in with bush and avoid the urbanisation of Flamingo Hill. Electricity is available all day but somewhat limited in terms of using a blow-dryer in your tent. **Overnight Flamingo Camp.**

Day 6, & 7 Maasai Mara

Travel out of the Rift Valley today into the fabulous Maasai Mara National Reserve. Maasai Mara is the most spectacular and best known wildlife sanctuary in the world and offers breath taking landscapes, ranging from extensive grassy plains, rounded hills, and dense tropical forest and acacia woodlands. As the northern tip of the Great Mara-Serengeti ecosystem, it is home to the 'Big Five' of Africa: Lion, Elephant, Buffalo, Rhino, and Leopard. It is also an exceptional place to see birds. . **Overnights Leisure camp.**

Maasai Mara National Reserve

The Maasai Mara Reserve covers 645 square miles and is part of the finest wildlife ecosystem in East Africa. The Mara is the northern extension of the Serengeti plains, with rolling grassland and riverine forests. It has more permanent water, a higher rainfall and more wildlife residents than anywhere in East Africa. It is also home to the Maasai people who live and graze their cattle on the fringes of the park. The Mara is especially noted for its predators with large prides of lion, hyena and



cheetah, being the main focus. Elephant, giraffe, buffalo, zebra, topi, hartebeest, and large herds of gazelle are also found here year round. Hippos and crocodiles can be seen lying in secluded pools along the Mara River and its tributaries.

During your stay you may want to enjoy the ultimate safari experience. As the sun rises over the Maasai Kopjes, so the hot air balloon rises above the savannah and drifts for about an hour above the plains for an unforgettable bird's-eye view of the wildlife below. Upon landing, a "champagne-style" full English breakfast is impeccably served in the bush before driving back to the lodge. !

Day 8 - Masai Mara to Nairobi

Today morning after breakfast and check out from your camp, you will depart with a game drive en route to Nairobi arriving in the afternoon for an optional tour of Giraffe centre and city of Nairobi for last minute shopping. Early this evening those going home will transfer to airport for your flight back to USA while those proceeding to Uganda for Gorilla trekking will have an overnight at **the Boma Inn.**

Gorilla Excursion

Day 9 - Entebbe to Bwindi

After breakfast at the Boma Inn we'll drive to airport for to board flight to Entebbe where you'll connect flight to Bwindi National park flying over Equator and Savannah grasslands, banana plantations and herds of Ankole cattle with their incredible long curving horns and over Kigezi highlands, known as the "Switzerland of Africa" with terraced farming and mountain scenery. We arrive Bwindi in time for late lunch and check in to our rooms. **Overnight at Engagi Lodge.**



Engagi Lodge in Bwindi is a modern lodge in a breathtaking setting offering stunning views over the forest canopy. The lodge is situated in a large tract of land contiguous to the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park, and runs from the main road to the Park Headquarters down to the Munyaga river. The lodge was constructed using rocks found in and around the site and eucalyptus trees while the rooms are

thatched from banana fibre sourced from local farmers. The main lodge building is divided into a bar cum sitting room, the dining room and a large outdoor verandah viewing platform. The lodge building is big enough to cater for larger groups but still allows for smaller individual groups to spread out in the various different areas for privacy. The lodge is open ended at the front allowing a dramatic view of the Bwindi forest from every corner inside the building. ! The lodge consists of just 8 ensuite cottages, spaced out and hidden in the foliage. Each cottage has either double or twin beds, a bathroom with flushing toilets and hot and cold running water. All have private verandahs where guests can enjoy their morning tea or coffee as they watch out over the forest canopy. Electricity is provided by solar power with a back-up generator. Hot water is supplied by eco-friendly wood burning boilers. Clients can walk around the lodge down to the river, viewing the birdlife and flora of the area. !

Day 10 – Bwindi tracking day



Early this morning you will enter the sanctuary at dawn and enjoy the beauty and freshness of the forest, home of the mountain gorillas. After a short briefing by the guides, you will proceed through dense bush to trek for these endangered animals. Your guide will give detailed information on the plants and the general fauna and flora in this beautiful park. Other animals found include the

black and white colobus monkey, red-tailed monkey, chimpanzee, Elephants and duiker. Enjoy a packed lunch en route and if time permitting, you will visit the cultural village of the Batwa pygmies to learn their traditional way of life, like how they make a local brew out of bananas, use of plants for medicinal purposes and watch their traditional dance. **Overnight at Engagi Lodge.**

Bwindi National Park.

Bwindi Impenetrable National Park is located in south western Uganda. It covers an area of 331 square km (128 sq mi). Its topography is very rugged, with narrow valleys intersected by rivers and steep hills. Altitudes in the park range from 3,900 to 8,553 ft above sea level, and 60% of the park has an elevation of over 6,600 ft. The forest is an important water catchment area.. Much of the park's rainfall forms streams, and the forest has quite a dense network of streams. Bwindi has a tropical climate with annual mean temperature ranges from a minimum of 7–15°C to a maximum of 20–27°C. Its annual rainfall ranges from 55 in to 75 in. Peak rainfall occurs from March to April and from September to November. High amounts of evapotranspiration from the forest's vegetation increases the amount of precipitation that the region outside the park receives. They also lessen soil erosion and flooding and ensure that streams continue to flow in the dry season.



Mountain Gorillas. Mountain gorillas live in age-graded groups of, on average, 9.2 individuals, with one adult male (though there may be more than one), multiple adult females, and their offspring. Natal dispersal is much more common for females than for males in mountain gorillas. In groups containing only one silverback male, females disperse and find new social groups upon the death of the silverback.



Infants deprived of protection by an adult male are almost certain to be killed and as a tactic to protect against this, females join new groups in the absence of a silverback. Finally, males can live in all-male groups, although this seems to be a strategy generally employed by young males when their group disintegrates before they reach adulthood. It is important for female mountain gorillas to develop strong relationships with males because males offer such services as protection against predators, protection against infanticide by other males, and mating opportunities. It is common to see aggressive behaviour between males and females, though rarely is it intense or does it lead to serious injury.

Day 11 - Entebbe - USA

This morning after breakfast you will drive back to Entebbe International airport with packed lunch. Will arrive in Entebbe in the evening with enough time to rest, check into your flight to Europe on your way back Home with memories of a lifetime safari.

END OF SAFARI

SAFARI PRICE NOVEMBER 2017

US \$ 3000/- per person sharing room – Kenya

US \$ 387/- Single room supplement

US \$ 2800/- per person sharing room - Uganda

US \$ 342/- Single room supplement

Included:

- All road transport, game drives and transfers,
- All hotel and lodge/camp accommodations, hotel tips
- Bed and Breakfasts in Nairobi on day one,
- Full board accommodation outside Nairobi, tea and coffee at lodges/camps
- Park fees for visits to all game reserves and National Parks,
- Services of professional experienced safari guides,
- Water in buses during transfers and game drives,
- 3 inland flights to Uganda for Gorilla trekking in Bwindi Park.

Not included:

- International flight cost,
- Travel insurance,
- Tips for safari guides,
- Beverages consumed at lodges other than tea and coffee,
- Optional activities like nature walks, village visits and Balloon flights,
- All other services of personal nature like laundry telephone, etc.

Payment Plan 2017

With this simple payment plan, the trip of a lifetime is well within reach!

Deposit: \$500.00 Due at registration

November	\$250.00	
December	\$250.00	
January	\$250.00	
February	\$250.00	
March	\$250.00	
April	\$250.00	
May	\$250.00	
June	\$250.00	
July	\$250.00	
August	\$250.00	
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	\$3,000.00	

Refund Policy:

Until May 2017 - Full Refund

June - August: 75% Refund

September: 50% Refund

October: 25% Refund

* Credit Card Payments add 3%

Registration

Please return with deposit

Legal Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Phone number: _____ Email Address: _____

Roommate: _____

Passport Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Medical Information: _____

Gorilla Excursion? Yes / No

What are the top 5 animals you hope to see?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)