



Kenya Safari: 9 Days/ 8 Nights



INTRODUCTION:

Kenya has a culture born of countless sources. This region has been crossed by the paths of a long and complex history. From the prehistoric records of early man to the present day, Kenya has been a land of unending change, contrasts and diversity. Kenya lies astride the equator on the eastern coast of Africa. It is a medium-sized country by continental standards; covering an area of about 586,600km sq. Inland water bodies cover some 10,700km sq, the bulk of this in Lakes Victoria and Turkana. A tour to the East African country wouldn't be complete without witnessing some of its fascinating wildlife up close. Masai Mara National Park is arguably the country's most famous, but definitely the most visited. Not merely has it got spectacular views in every corner of the park, but zebra and gazelle trek the park on their way to Tanzania. Hot on their tails are an assortment of predators such as cheetah, leopard and hyena. No other country on earth can offer the visitor as much to see and do. Within the borders of a single country, you will find savannahs rich with big game, timeless cultures unchanged by the modern world, pristine beaches and coral reef, equatorial forests and mighty snow-capped mountains, searing deserts and cool highland retreats and endless opportunities for adventure, discovery, relaxation; more than you would ever expect.

ITINERARY

Day 1 Monday, 10 September 2011: Jomo Kenyatta Airport – Southern Sun Holiday Inn

Arrive at Jomo Kenyatta Airport and await your transfer to your hotel.

The Southern Sun Holiday Inn is situated just outside the city centre in the Westland's area of Nairobi. This popular hotel is located near good restaurants and shopping areas. There are two swimming pools, several gift shops, a business centre, beauty salon, restaurant and poolside café, fully equipped gym including steam rooms, saunas and several meeting rooms.

<i>Accommodation:</i>	<i>Southern Sun Holiday Inn</i>
<i>Meals:</i>	<i>No meals</i>
<i>Included activities:</i>	<i>Afternoon at leisure</i>
<i>Optional activities:</i>	<i>N.A.</i>



Overnight at Southern Sun Holiday Inn

Day 2 Tuesday, 11 September 2011: Southern Sun Holiday Inn – Mountain Lodge

After breakfast at the Oasis Restaurant we depart and drive through the central rich agricultural farmlands and to the Mount Kenya region. This 3 hour journey takes us to the Mountain Lodge. This tree lodge is situated on the slopes of Mount Kenya, offering very good viewing from the reception, the open balcony, the bird's eye panorama of the rooftop and down to the underground tunnel leading to the waterhole for perfect photography. Situated approximately 7,000ft above sea level, the lodge is rustically indulgent, with unique visitors from the mountain such as Giant forest hog, the elusive bongo, genets, mongooses, as well as rich bird life. Mountain Lodge stands at 7 200 feet on the slopes of Mt Kenya approximately two and a half hours drive from Nairobi and has been positioned as the leading Tree Hotel in East Africa with all rooms en-suite and with spacious verandas. Game viewing throughout the evening and night include elephant, buffalo, rhino, waterbuck and giant hog. A specially constructed viewing bunker connected to the lodge by a short tunnel offers spectacular closer views of wildlife at the waterhole.

Accommodation: Mountain Lodge
Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Included activities: Afternoon and evening game viewing from the lodge
Optional activities: N.A.

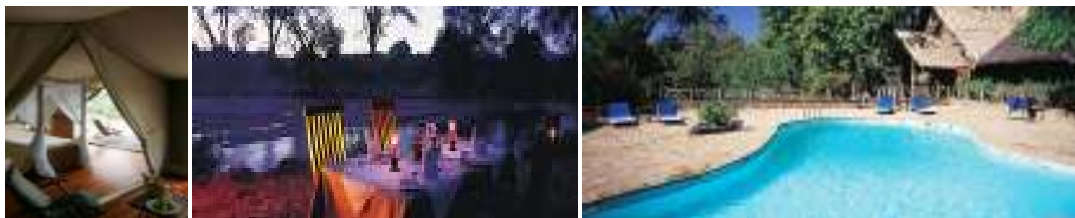


Overnight at Mountain Lodge

Day 3 Wednesday, 12 September 2011: Mountain Lodge – Samburu Intrepids Camp

After breakfast at the lodge we depart and drive to the northern frontier district and to Samburu National Park. Samburu Intrepids Camp is a delightful permanent tented camp and is set along the banks of the Ewaso Niro River. The tents are large with en-suite bathrooms. A small group of dwarf mongoose often runs under the dining area making close up game watching easy. Elephant often come to the river for a drink and bird activity is plentiful. Breakfast and lunch are served outside on a deck overlooking the river, but guard your bananas from the pesky monkeys! The resident Samburu naturalist is available for bird and nature walks and often holds a discussion on Samburu culture in the evening. A group of local warriors perform traditional dances and the gift shop here is a popular one. The pool is inviting most of the year round.

Accommodation: Samburu Intrepids Camp
Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Included activities: Afternoon game drive
Optional activities: N.A.



Overnight at Samburu Intrepids Camp

Day 4 Thursday, 13 September 2011: Samburu Intrepids Camp

Today we spend a full day in this semi arid area filled with prolific game viewing. The landscape of the Samburu area is beautiful - arid and scrubby with magnificent mountains in the background. The three reserves of Samburu, Shaba and Buffalo Springs are situated about 350 kms north of Nairobi. The Ewaso Niro River, the only water source in the dry season, bisects Samburu and Buffalo Springs Reserves and crocodiles are often spotted sunning themselves along its edges and sand bars. An unusual forked palm, the Doum palm, grows along the banks of this river and adds striking beauty to the panorama. Wildlife is surprisingly abundant for such a dry place and includes species such as gerenuk, dik-dik, grants and Thomson's gazelles, elephant, cheetah, leopard and lion. There are several species, which are unique to the area: Gravy's zebra, Beisa oryx, the reticulated giraffe and Somali ostrich. Not to be overlooked are the hundreds of species of birds to be found here. This is home to the Samburu people, "cousins" to the Masai and the young warriors' colourful dress and ornamentation distinguishes them from other members of the tribe.

Accommodation: Samburu Intrepids Camp
Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Included activities: Game viewing
Optional activities: N.A.

Overnight at Samburu Intrepids Camp

Day 5 Friday, 14 September 2011: Samburu Intrepids Camp – Lion Hill Lodge

After breakfast at Samburu Intrepids camp we depart and drive to the Rift Valley area and to the Lake Nakuru Lodge. Here we will lunch at the Nyahururu Hotel, thereafter arriving around 3pm at Lion Hill Lodge in time for an afternoon game drive. Lake Nakuru National Park surrounds Lake Nakuru, a shallow alkaline lake famous for the thousands of lesser flamingoes who flock here year round. Besides the rich and varied bird life this is a popular place to encounter leopard. Waterbuck are usually sighted along the lake shore, two species are resident here, and this is the home of the Rothschild's giraffe. Baboon, impala, buffalo, monkeys, warthog, reedbuck and eland are also residents. However, the main attractions are the rhino. The park has been designated a rhino sanctuary and is entirely fenced. Both Black and White rhinoceros are thriving here and this is one of the best places in Kenya to observe them.

Accommodation: Lion Hill Lodge
Meals: Breakfast / Dinner
Included activities: Afternoon game drive
Optional activities: N.A.



Overnight at Lion Hill Lodge

Day 6 Saturday, 15 September 2011: Lion Hill Lodge – Mara Serena Lodge

After breakfast at Lion Hill Lodge we depart and drive to the Masai Mara. Here we will lunch at the Mara Simba Lodge. The Mara, as it's popularly referred to, is Kenya's most frequented wildlife viewing area. Situated about 180km's from Nairobi, the name means "Spotted Plain" in the language of the Masai, the colourful and interesting tribe which inhabits the surrounding areas. The Masai have been living in harmony with nature and wildlife for centuries and it is mostly due to their beliefs and traditions that the area is still rich in wildlife. Whilst staying in the Masai Mara, it's possible to visit an authentic manyatta or village for insights into the culture and lifestyle of the Masai. During the seasonal migrations, the Mara is home to up to half a million wildebeest and an equally impressive number of zebra who move into the area from neighbouring Tanzania. These large numbers of animals give rise to a proportionate number of predators, especially the big cats. Lion, cheetah, leopard and hyena roam the vast grassy plains on the lookout for their next meal. It may be an unsuspecting impala or gazelle or even something small like a warthog or African hare. Whatever the players, the spectacle of nature unfolding is always awesome. Here it's also possible to observe elephant, giraffe, baboon, African buffalo, eland, ostrich, Bat-eared fox, jackal and sometimes the rare rhino. The rivers abound with hippos and crocodiles.

Accommodation: Mara Serena Lodge
Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner
Included activities: Afternoon game drive
Optional activities: Cultural village excursion



Overnight at Mara Serena Lodge

Day 7 & 8 Sunday, 16 – Monday, 17 September 2011: Mara Serena Lodge

Located at the very centre of the famous 'Mara Triangle' of the world-renowned Masai Mara National Reserve, the Mara Serena Safari Lodge is the ultimate safari destination. Set high on a bush-cloaked hill with long views over the savannah and down to the winding coils of the hippo-filled Mara River, it stands centre-stage to one of Africa's most dramatic wildlife arenas, with a ringside seat for the 'greatest wildlife show on earth', the legendary migration of the wildebeest. Styled to echo the circular motif of a traditional Masai manyatta, the lodge blends international sophistication with raw African beauty. World renowned for the breathtaking spectacle of 'The greatest wildlife show on earth', the Mara is Kenya's most visited protected area. Technically an extension of Tanzania's renowned Serengeti National Park, the Mara constitutes only 4% of the entire Serengeti ecosystem, but its rolling grasslands, meandering rivers and towering escarpments offer one of the world's most rewarding and evocative wildlife arenas.

Accommodation: *Mara Serena Lodge*
Meals: *Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner*
Included activities: *Morning & afternoon game drives, or full day game viewing with picnic lunch*
Optional activities: *N.A.*

Overnight at Mara Serena Lodge**Day 9 Tuesday, 18 September 2011: Mara Serena Lodge – Jomo Kenyatta Airport**

After breakfast at Mara Serena Lodge we depart and drive back to Nairobi to Jomo Kenyatta Airport for your homebound flight.

Accommodation: *N. A.*
Meals: *Breakfast*
Included activities: *N.A.*
Optional activities: *N.A.*

End of Services.

INCLUDED IN PACKAGE:

Destinations: *Nairobi, Mount Kenya, Samburu National Park, Rift Valley & Masai Mara National Reserve*
Date: *10th September 2011 – 18th September 2011*
Duration: *9 Days / 8 Nights*
Accommodation: *En suite accommodation at the following: Southern Sun Holiday Inn, Mountain Lodge, Samburu Intrepids Camp, Lion Hill Lodge & Mara Serena Lodge*
Meals: *Meals as listed in itinerary*

EXCLUDED FROM PACKAGE:

- *All International and/or Domestic flights*
- *Gratuities*
- *Optional activities*
- *Travel insurance*
- *Laundry*
- *Beverages*
- *Visa*
- *Items not specified*

Please Note:

- The costing for the itinerary is based on a minimum of six (6) guests.
- This is a quotation and is valid for set departures for 2011 tours only.
- No reservations have been made and all accommodation, flights and transport are subject to availability.
- Should any of the accommodation mentioned not be available, we reserve the right to substitute it with an alternative suitable venue, which might affect the final quoted price.
- Quoted price is also subject to availability, fuel/gas price and possibly exchange rate fluctuations.
- 15% non-refundable deposit is required on confirmation of safari.
- Full payment is required sixty (60) days prior to arrival.