



UNIQUE SELLING POINTS FOR KAREN BLIXEN CAMP, MARA NORTH CONSERVANCY - MASAI MARA

### **Location and Wild Luxury**

Karen Blixen camp is located in the heart of the greater Mara –Serengeti ecosystem inside the exclusive Mara North conservancy.

All our 22 en-suite luxury tents are pitched on the bank the famous Mara River.

This luxury camp is set in the controlled and managed Mara North Conservancy where quality game viewing is guaranteed. Safari mini vans are not allowed to do game drives in Mara North Conservancy. Also, only a maximum of 5 vehicles are allowed around a particular animal sighting.

#### Our Eco face, our strength

We are a pioneer and a strong advocate for sustainable tourism as shown through our commitment to Conservation and community support programs.

#### **Environment and Conservation**

- a. Pioneered the establishment of Mara North Conservancy with long term commitments to the environment, the wildlife and the Maasai communities www.maranorthconservancy.com
- b. Mainly dependent on solar energy for heating and lighting of the camp operations hence ensuring there is very limited emission of CO2 from our daily activities.

- c. Tree planting project within and surrounding the camp continues on daily basis in the interest of offsetting the CO2 emission.
- d. Reutilization of the grey water to re-water our area through a natural filtered system
- e. Separation of non-biodegradable and biodegradable waste. The non-biodegradable ones like plastics, tins ,metal scraps etc are taken back to Nairobi for recycling.

#### Giving back to the host community

### a. Rent and Bed night fees to the Land Owners

More than 750 Landowners who have leased their land to Mara North Conservancy receive payment from the tourism partners/investors through the Mara North Management. In addition Land owners whose land is occupied by our Camp receives bed night fees for every night spend by a guest.

#### b. Employment of local Maasai Community

The Camp directly employs slightly more than than 80% of staff from the local Maasai Community.

# c. Hospitality ,Forestry And Language School

Establishment of a hospitality school dubbed 'Learning for Life' with a forestry unit for the Maasai youth. Our ambition is to strategically invest in the education of tomorrow's young chefs, waiters and conservationists and to combat low education and unemployment. The school also offers IT education and foreign language courses for all staff interested to enable them to communicate with international visitors fluently thereby becoming competitive in the market and eventually benefit directly from tourism through employment in the tourism establishments within Mara and to some extent other parts of the country.

### d. Indirect support to the community

Organized donation of material and financial support to community projects like water & sanitation, health, education and small scale enterprises either directly or indirectly through our camp guests. Our guests have given material and financial support to local health clinic, primary schools and visited the community villages where they pay entry as well as purchase local artifacts from the Maasai women.

### **Coming soon projects**

#### a. Karen Blixen Women Art and Craft Centre

This will target women as they are the most vulnerable in the Maasai community. Close to 50 women will be enlisted and hosted in the camp where they will get expert training on making high quality beaded artifacts to be sold both locally and internationally. Karen Blixen Camp will source for the markets on behalf of the women.

# b. Motor Vehicle Training school

We intend to establish a training school for those Maasai youths planning to become future mechanics. This will be operated by an expert trainer in a fully modernized and equipped workshop. We see a future where several Lodges and Camps within Mara will employ Maasai youths as mechanics hence taking direct benefits to the host community.

# KAREN BLIXEN CAMP IS A PRACTICAL TESTIMONY OF BALANCE BETWEEN PURE LUXURY AND RESPONSIBLE TOURISM.







