

Kicheche Bush Camp

Fact sheet



Kicheche Bush camp consists of six stylish tents spread widely in light acacia woodland within Olare Motorogi Conservancy. The personal attention at camp and exclusivity of the conservancy offers a winning combination.

LOCATION

Kicheche Bush Camp is located within the **Olare Motorogi Conservancy** (created from Koiyaki Group Ranchlands) bordering the Reserve. The Olare Motorogi Conservancy, through its strict limit on bed numbers, offers an incomparable game viewing experience without crowds. The camp is located in a prime wildlife area and game viewing starts right from the camp itself. The location is also ideal to enjoy the wildebeest migration.

GPS [1°21'33.38"S 35°12'49.29"E](#)

Olare Motorogi Conservancy

It is the first private Conservancy in the Masai Mara eco-system. The Conservancy not only offers outstanding wildlife viewing it also offers an uncrowded wilderness. There are 30,000 acres of rolling grassland, hills, escarpment, and the Motorogi plains located immediately to the north of the Ol Kiombo area of the Reserve within Olare Motorogi there is a great walking country and also the opportunity to overnight in a fly camp. The Conservancy is a groundbreaking venture between the local Maasai landowners and only 3 small eco camps including Kicheche's Bush Camp.

Access

By air: A scheduled one-hour flight from Nairobi's Wilson Airport to Mara **Olare** airstrip. Flights depart at 0900, 1000, 1300, and 1500.

With Safarilink or Air Kenya. Flights also available from Nanyuki, Naivasha, and Mombasa. The camp is a 40-minute game drive from the airstrip.

Note: Luggage allowance 15kg per person only, in soft luggage bags. Excess luggage is charged at approx \$5 per kilo.

By road: 5½ hours drive from Nairobi.

FACILITIES

Guest tents

The camp is a classic, intimate, luxury bush camp with only six tents, completely unfenced. The custom-designed tents are spacious, fully insect-proof, and equipped with Podocarpus beds, Egyptian cotton linen, bedside tables, luggage racks, and Indian rugs. Bathrooms are en-suite and are equipped with a dresser, shower, a flushing toilet, and a wash basin with running water. There are very comfortable chairs on the veranda of each tent where you can watch the world go by. One tent can be converted to a triple on request.

Lounge Tent

A large open-sided dining tent, overlooking the plains also hosts a relaxing lounge area with a selection of reference books and a small curio shop.

Meals and Drinks

All meals and drinks are included in your stay and taken al-fresco, beneath the shade of the acacia trees or underneath the stars, or in our dining tent. We have a fully stocked bar with a range of wines. Drinks are included with the meals. Picnic breakfasts and lunches are also available on game driving excursions.

Laundry

Included in the rate is a daily laundry service. Please note this is a bush laundry that cannot cope with delicate items of clothing.

Power & Lighting

There is no mains power however each tent has its own 24-hour solar lighting system. Camera and Video batteries can also be charged on the central system in the dining tent. The inverter system is backed up with a generator.



Safety

Safety is of paramount importance and therefore askaris (night-watchmen) patrol the camp at regular intervals after dark. Guests are advised to remain in their tent after dark and will be escorted between their tent and the lounge/dining areas by a staff member. Each tent is equipped with a whistle to call for assistance in case of emergency and there is also a walkie-talkie in each guest tent that can be used from 6 pm to 6 am if guests wish to communicate with askaris or management. Each vehicle is equipped with a radio for communications with the camp and the camp is in contact with the Nairobi office daily. Flying Doctors' medical evacuation planes can be called in the event of an emergency.

Children

We accept children but adults must be aware that our camp is not fenced and no additional facilities are available to occupy them outside our normal excursions. No baby equipment is provided.

Souvenirs

There is a camp souvenir shop with a selection of clothing, maps, and miscellaneous items.

Tipping

It is customary to tip your guide and camp staff however it is not compulsory and tips should only be given if you are satisfied with the service provided.

Payments at camp

We accept credit card payments (AMEX, VISA, and MASTER CARD) or cash (EURO, USD, GBP, and Kenya Shilling). There is a safety deposit box at the camp where all valuables can be kept.

PREPARATION

Communications

There is a variable mobile signal at camp however usage is restricted in the camp public areas and on game drives. There is an unreliable e-mail connection at camp bushcamp@kicheche.com therefore all communications should be copied to the Nairobi office (sales@kicheche.com). In the event of an emergency, the camp number is +254736699952 but is not a reliable connection; therefore we recommend you contact the Nairobi Duty mobile phone: +254 736 888 055 / +254 700 888 055. Kenya is GMT +3 hours and does not have summertime/daylight savings.

There is Wi-Fi available in the main areas and guest tents (15mbps).

ACTIVITIES

Daily Routine

Guests are woken with tea, coffee or hot chocolate & biscuits brought to their tent. An early morning game drive sets off at sunrise and returns to the camp late morning. Breakfast is a leisurely affair taken outside in the morning sunlight. Lunch is also served al-fresco in the shade of an acacia tree. During the heat of the day, relax and appreciate the silence, punctuated only by birdcalls. Alternatively, utilise our reference library in the lounge tent, which has a good selection of books. An afternoon game drive departs around 16h00 after tea and returns after sundowners. Freshen up before joining other guests around the campfire for a pre-dinner drink. Dinner is served by candlelight al-fresco or in the dining tent. Take a nightcap by the fire before retiring. Rigid daily schedules are not on our agenda, there are no hard and fast rules at Kicheche so guests can decide on the duration and frequency of their drives but this is much easier if you have booked sole use of a vehicle. Picnic breakfasts, lunches, and sundowner drinks are popular options to include on game drives.

Game Drives

Early morning and late afternoon are the most productive hours for game drives and, our safari customised 4WD vehicles and a photographic vehicle give everyone a perfect view. Watching wildlife at close range, but without encroaching on their space, is endlessly fascinating and our guides' instincts and experience provide superb photo opportunities of wild animals.

Game driving is available throughout the area and your program is arranged daily with your guide. Game viewing drives are conducted in open-sided and open-roofed customised 4WD Land Cruiser vehicles. Game drives are shared with other guests, though **exclusive use** of a vehicle is available at an extra charge. Our vehicles are superbly designed for photographers, all our fleet is open-sided with open roofs. Cameras can be rested on the roof, with supplied beanbags, or on the armrests lower down, to which we can mount simple platforms for larger lenses. For complete flexibility, it is recommended that you take a vehicle on an exclusive use basis at US\$400 per vehicle per night in peak season US\$350 in green and mid-season.

Modified Photographic Vehicle

A modified photography vehicle is available providing photographers an extra lower edge to enable them to capture their memorable and award-winning shots. The side of the vehicle drops down behind the driver, allowing photographers to lie flat and capture eye-level images in comfort, with soft padded flooring, lens platforms, and bean bags all provided. The vehicle is suitable for a maximum of 3 people and must be booked on an exclusive use basis.

Walking

A different perspective is gained through escorted walks on the savannah. Our interpretive guides may point out the spoor of a leopard, the nest of a rare bird, or signs of recent migration activity that would pass unnoticed by the eyes of a stranger. Walks are included in our tariff.

Village visits

Guests can visit one of the local Maasai villages to see firsthand their way of life. A village guide or your Kicheche guide will give you an interpretive talk during your visit. There is sometimes dancing and traditional souvenirs are on sale. There is a charge of \$30 per person.

Aitong Primary

Kicheche's Community Trust supports the local school, medical clinic, and Discovery Centre. During term time it is possible to pay a visit to the school – Aitong Primary Academy. Any educational gifts or donations that you can contribute are an enormous help to these struggling schools.

Hot Air Ballooning

This is a popular excursion in the Masai Mara. Balloons take off early each morning at sunrise and glide over the plains for approximately an hour before landing. Upon touchdown, a champagne breakfast is set up before you. The excursion finishes with a game drive back to camp. Trips can be booked through your tour operator or with the balloon operator.

Fly Camping

Kicheche Camps offers escorted walking safaris with overnight stays in a fly-camp in the bush. These excursions are led by one of Kicheche's senior guides and an armed ranger. It is an outstanding opportunity to see the Mara from a completely different perspective and also offers some welcome exercise whilst on safari.

Kicheche Bush Camp is closed in April, May & November.

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