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# NORTHERN KENYA

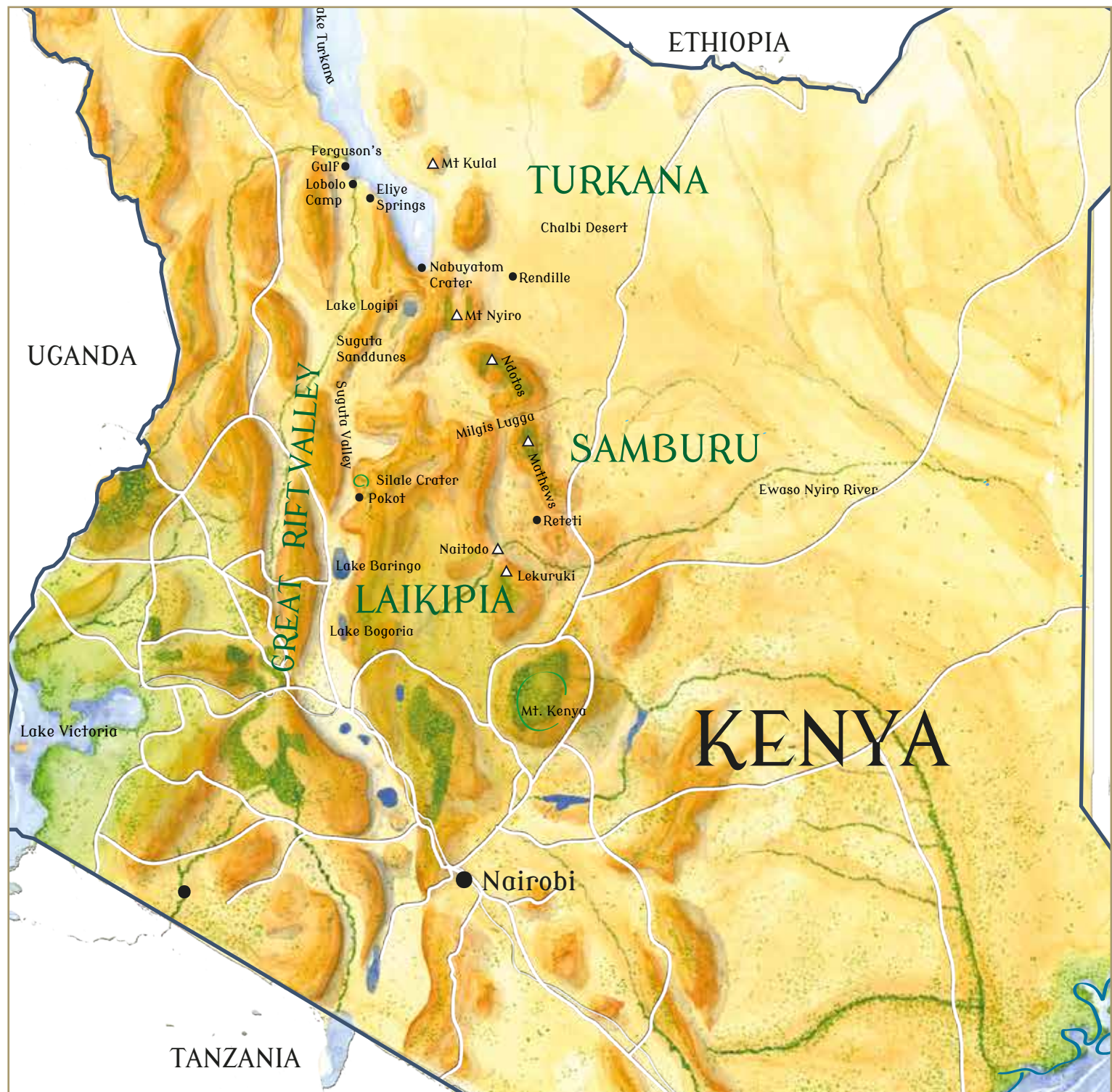
2019 | HELICOPTER EXCURSIONS



# NORTHERN KENYA BY HELICOPTER

*There is nowhere more diverse in landscapes and scenery than Northern Kenya.*

From the summits of Mount Kenya to the deserts of Turkana, the helicopter offers the most exciting platform to explore and experience scenically spectacular landscapes, virtually empty of visible life, yet scattered with small groups of traditional people and savannah wildlife that roam these plains freely.





## HELICOPTER EXCURSION OPTIONS

### Mount Kenya 2.0 hours

Dawn helicopter flight around the peaks, refreshments besides an alpine lake, and a chance to fly fish for Rainbow trout.

### Suguta Valley & Mathews 5 hours

Flying low through the Suguta Valley, touching down within the 'Painted' Valley and Hoodoo Valley, and on the Mathews Mountain Range.

### Ol Lolokwe & Naitodo 2.5 hours

Flight over Laikipia, and onto Ol Lolokwe and Naitodo in Samburu.

### Mathews & Reteti 3.0 hours

Low level over Samburu to the Reteti Elephant Sanctuary for their 9am feeding session. Continue to the summit of the Mathews to enjoy the vistas and ancient cycads.

### The Lakes, Silale & the Pokot 4.0 hours

Exploring the flamingo shores of Lake Bogoria and the fresh water lake of Baringo in the Great Rift Valley. Silale Crater picnic and cultural encounter with the Pokot in the southern tip of the Suguta Valley.

### Lake Turkana 8.5 hours Overnight Lobolo Camp

Scenic flight to Lake Turkana, starting at the southern end of the Suguta Valley, through the 'Painted' Valley, onto the sand dunes, and over Lake Logipi to the southern shores of Lake Turkana. Overnight at Lobolo Camp on the western shores. Returning via the Ndoti & Mathews Mountains and Lekuruki Hill.

*The hours refer to flying hours, and not to the length of the actual excursion.*



# MOUNT KENYA

*Dawn flight around the peaks, touching down at Lake Michaelson, to take in the incredible views and unique mountain flora.*

Iconic in shape and size, Mount Kenya is situated in the heart of Kenya, on the equator - its highest peak 'Batian' stands at 5,199 meters.

The vast and desolate nature of Mount Kenya with its towering summit, sheer cliffs and glaciers become apparent as we circulate above the peaks of Batian and Nelion.



© Paul Joynson-Hicks



© Richard Ingram



© Paul Joynson-Hicks



© John Balsom



# MOUNT KENYA

## BY HELICOPTER

A dawn heli-excursion around the peaks of Mount Kenya, with the option to land besides one of the alpine lakes for refreshments and to take in the fresh mountain air, the unique vegetation and spectacular scenery; and for anyone keen, a chance to fly fish for Rainbow trout. The length of time spent on the ground depends on the weather conditions - cloud often descends by 11am.

Due to weather conditions, this excursion is done only in the early morning with pick up from your lodge at 7:00am to be on the mountain and around the peaks by 8:00 am. The months of July and August can be difficult with cloud cover.

PLEASE NOTE THAT IF CLIENTS WISH TO LAND ON MOUNT KENYA, WE ONLY ALLOW 4 PAX. Should it only be a scenic flight around the peaks, then we can accept 5 pax. This is a strict policy due to safety with landing on the mountain at altitude.



# SUGUTA VALLEY & MATHEWS

*Through the changing landscape of the Suguta Valley - the red rock formations of the 'Hoodoo' and 'painted' valleys, back via the ancient cycad forest on the summit of the Mathews Range.*

A half day helicopter excursion, heading north through the lower part of the Suguta Valley where the landscape changes so rapidly from saline pools and mud flats to dramatically eroded valleys and impressive rock formations.

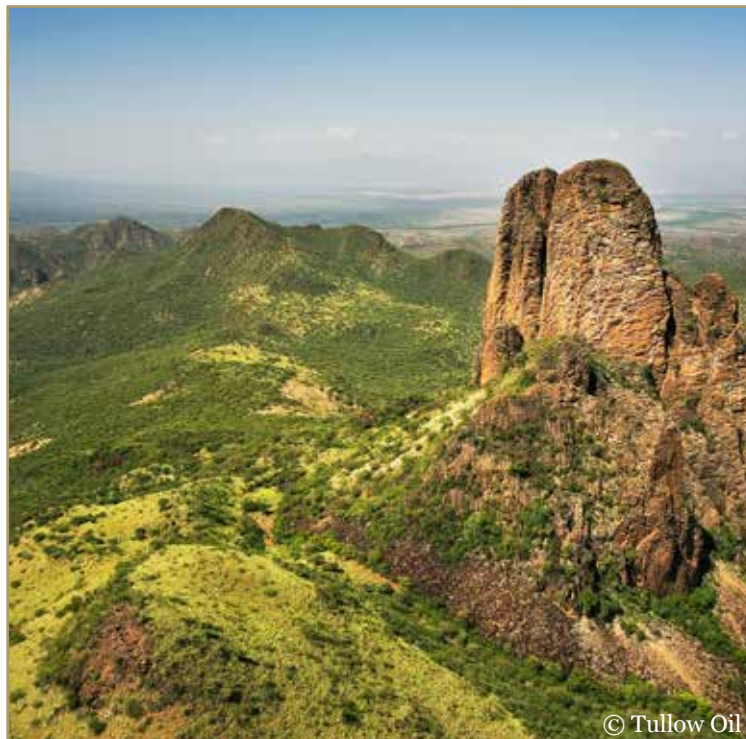
We touch down several times - spontaneously, along the way. Our return flight takes us over the 'sky-island' of the Mathews Range, where we land along side the cycad forest and take in the vast panoramic views.



© Richard Roberts



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© Tullow Oil



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# SUGUTA VALLEY & MATHEWS

BY HELICOPTER

A whole morning excursion, with a total of 5 hours flying time. The incredible diversity of the Suguta's landscape and the contrast with the mist forests of the Mathews range, makes this our most popular day trip. We embark on a flight through the Suguta, the Hoodoo and Painted Valleys north, as far as the Suguta sand dunes and Lake Logipi in Turkana, landing along the way in the most scenic spots. Our return flight takes us to the summit of the Mathews Range in Samburu. Visiting the Samburu 'Singing Wells' is an optional extra.

Pick up at 7am, return to your lodge mid afternoon.

Up to 5 PAX.



# LAKE TURKANA

*Kenya's Suguta Valley, part of the Gregory Rift, several thousands of years ago was a vast lake. Being one of the driest places in Kenya, and almost totally inaccessible, the Suguta remains untouched and undeveloped. A flight through the Suguta is nothing less than fascinating and unforgettable.*

An overnight helicopter excursion, starting with a flight through the Suguta, touching down on the vast sand dunes, over the flamingo shoes of Lake Logipi, to the southern corner of the 'Jade Sea' - Lake Turkana. Overnight at the unique camp of Lobolo on the western shores of Lake Turkana, returning the following day, via the Ndoto Mountains and Lekuruki Hill.







# LAKE TURKANA

## BY HELICOPTER

This is the ultimate overnight helicopter trip that you can do in Northern Kenya and comes with our highest recommendation. A total of 8.5 hours flying time, the majority will be on the first day.

From your lodge, we fly north west over the Laikipia plains to Silale Crater for our first stop, continuing north through the Suguta, Hoodoo and Painted Valleys to western shores of Lake Turkana, where we'll arrive at the private camp of Lobolo for lunch. In the afternoon, we'll get airborne again for a stunning scenic flight along the southern shores of Lake Turkana, over Lake Logipi to see the mass of pink flamingo, and finally to the Suguta sand dunes for sundowners before returning to Lobolo for the night.

The following morning we'll fly south over the Ndoto Mountains, and touch down on the summit of the Mathews Range to enjoy the views and the ancient cycads. There is an option to visit the Samburu's Singing Wells in Namunyak Conservancy. Our final stop will be on the top of Lekuruki Hill - where we'll get the most spectacular views over Samburu and Laikipia.

Pick up at 7am, return to your lodge the following day before lunch.

Up to 5 PAX.



# LAKES, SILALE & THE POKOT

*Exploring two contrasting lakes within the Rift, followed by a cultural encounter with the Pokot, and ending with a touch-down on the rim of Silale for refreshments.*

A morning helicopter trip to Lake Bogoria, a soda rich lake, home to thousands of flamingo and dozens of hot springs. To its north lies the fresh waters of Lake Baringo - full of life from crocodiles to hippo, and an astounding 450, or so, recorded bird species.

We'll meet the Pokot people, living in the southern tip of the Suguta, whose traditions and customs remain authentic and real.

Our final stop will be on the rim of the massive caldera of Silale - remote and undeveloped, its views are special to say the least.







# THE LAKES, SILALE CRATER & THE POKOT

BY HELICOPTER

This is a half day heli-excursion, starting early with a picnic breakfast on board. The scenic flight takes us over 2 of the Great Rift Valley lakes, landing on the soda shores of Lake Bogora to enjoy the flamingo and hot springs at close range. We'll continue low-level over the fresh bronze waters of Lake Baringo and into the southern tip of the Suguta Valley to enjoy a special visit with the Pokot people - one of the most authentic cultural experience that Kenya has to offer. On the rim of the Silale Crater we touch down for refreshments and to appreciate the views from this beautiful caldera, before flying back to your lodge over the Laikipia wilderness.

Pick up 7am, return to your lodge by lunch.

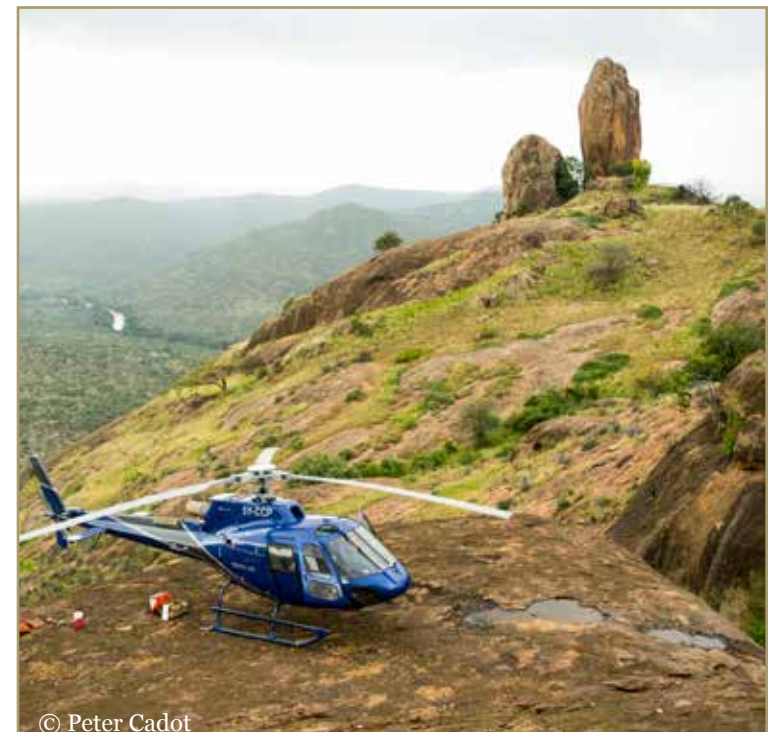
Up to 5 PAX.



# SAMBURU, OL LOLOKWE & NAITODO

*Laikipia & Samburu from the air,  
and onto the magnificent summit  
of 'Ol Lolokwe'. Back via 'Naitodo'  
- a kopje of giant rocks made  
famous by David Attenborough  
during the filming of BBC's  
Africa series.*

Low level helicopter flight over the plains of Laikipia and Samburu, spotting game and taking in the diverse unspoiled landscapes. Our destination is Ol Lolokwe, captivating in size and stature, this giant isolated mountain rises 1000 meters from the arid plains, a favored place for many raptor bird species. After time to enjoy the incredible views, we return via Naitodo - meaning 'needle' in Samburu, in reference to the huge rock pinnacles that almost looked 'placed' on top of this hill.







## OL LOLOKWE & NAITODO

### BY HELICOPTER

A morning or afternoon excursion starting with a spectacular scenic flight over Samburu National Reserve - famous for its vast elephant herds, and low-level following the course of the Ewaso Nyiro River - northern Kenya's most important source of water. We'll fly along the side of the 1000 foot cliff faces of Ol Lolokwe and land on the top of this impressive flat topped massif, which is sacred to the Samburu people. Its summit has a high altitude mist forest with cycads and unusual birdlife including Kenya's largest nesting colony of Ruppell's Vultures. We'll continue our journey on to the iconic granite outcrop of 'Naitodo'. It was here that the opening scenes of David Attenborough's BBC 'Africa' series was filmed.

8am or 3:00pm pick up, with a total of 2.5 hours flying time.

Up to 5 PAX.



# MATHEWS RANGE & THE RETETI ELEPHANT SANCTUARY

*Samburu lies in Northern Kenya and stretches from Laikipia and the Ewaso Nyiro River, to the southern end of Lake Turkana.*

7000 elephants roam this entire ecosystem, within which lies Samburu National Reserve - one of Kenya's most sought-after tourist destinations.

Located at the foot of the Mathews Range within the Namunyak Conservancy, amongst Kenya's second largest elephant population is Reteti Elephant Sanctuary - the first community-owned and managed orphanage of its type in Africa.

Known as a 'sky island', the 150km long Mathews Range rises from the dry desolate country, exposing lush forested hills and craggy peaks.



© Richard Roberts







# MATHEWS & RETETI

## BY HELICOPTER

From the wildlife plains of Laikipia and Lewa, heading north over the expansive savannah plains of Samburu to the foothills of the Mathews Range. We land by 9am at the Reteti Elephant Sanctuary, to experience the work of this amazing conservation initiative, who rescue, raise and release orphan baby elephants. It is a partnership between people of this region, the local government, the Kenya Wildlife Service, and many conservation-minded organisations and people.

We continue our heli-expedition rising up to the summit of the Mathews - a dominant mountain range that emerges from the arid plains, with mist forests and ancient cycads, and views of empty wild landscapes below. After a casual walk within the cycad forest and time to enjoy the views with a coffee in hand, we take-off again and drop down over the foothills, back to our lodge.

7:30am pick up, with a total of 3 hours flying time.

Up to 5 PAX.



Private helicopter and pilot / guides are provided by a leading air charter company based in East Africa, specialising in heli-safaris and adventures, with more than 14 years of experience in this field.

The Eurocopter AS 350 B3's are perfectly adapted to fly in East Africa's hot and high environments. Aircraft are fitted with satellite tracking software, pilots are trained in 'first person on scene' first aid, and all precautions are carried out to ensure maximum safety and comfort.

**dm** *A*FRICA

EVERYTHING EXTRAORDINARY



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