

15 Days / 14 Nights

Return of the Safari Pioneers 2020 | 21NOV2020 to 05DEC2020

Olare Motorogi Conservancy | Mara Naboisho Conservancy | Chyulu Hills National Park | Laikipia

Date of Issue: September 13, 2020

Reference: 200901S

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RETURN of the
**SAFARI
PIONEERS**

**COME TO THE THEATRE
OF AFRICA - NOV 2020**

FIND OUT MORE


experientialtravel
with Neville Jones

Experiential Travel

On each trip we introduce a handful of like-minded people to some of the most extraordinary experiences this planet has to offer. Places like Antarctica, the Arctic, Botswana, China, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zanzibar, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

Your Consultant

| Neville Jones



Neville has been planning and leading tours to Africa since 2007. He visits the continent at least once a year to find the best experiences for his clients. He prefers small, owner-operated lodges and camps run by families with a long history in providing unique, safe and personalised experiences.

| Countries Visited

Antarctica, Argentina, Australia, Botswana, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Canada, China, Croatia, Egypt, England, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Greece, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Rwanda, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, United States, Zambia, Zanzibar, Zimbabwe

| Favourite Destinations

Southern and East Africa

Contact Details

Email Address	Telephone	Skype
neville@experiential.travel	+61 418 325 812	nevjones

Trip Summary

Great Plains Conservation has curated this safari, in the same meticulous style and attention to detail as Dereck and Beverly Joubert would to one of their National Geographic wildlife movies.

This Return of the Safari Pioneers air safari stars... you!

Fade up:

Introduction

From JFK Airport for your evening flight

The Safari Pioneers gather in a private lounge put on by Kenya Airways. There is a buzz of excitement. The Pioneers have their safari all ahead of them. Customs, temperature checks, immigration have all gone well, easily even.

Seated in the front of a completely cleaned and aired new Boeing 787, allows the Pioneers to experience first-class type service on the direct flight to Nairobi, but with the safari having already begun. Our master chef emerges to serve a first-class dinner on board, taking care of the sensitiveness of social distancing, with trained service protocols Pioneers will become accustomed to over the next two-week safari.

Cut to

Exit Nairobi (Jomo Kenyatta International Airport) around Mid-Morning: Official hosts meet the plane and the Pioneers disembark first and go straight to the new Kenya Airways private lounge, and over refreshing drinks made to order by your Great Plains butler, Kenyan health, immigration, and customs suitably attired quickly confirm and connect the Pioneers to passports, Stamp Stamp, and you are cleared.

Within minutes, the line-up of Executive Caravans is waiting on the tarmac, and the adventurers are seated in an executive configuration, seats freshly swabbed down, ready to take in the thrill of the approaching crossing of the Rift Valley, and far too soon, the descent into a grass runway at one of the 4 chosen camps, each pre-cleared by Kenya's Department of Health, with each staff member checked and confirmed for the important, and national effort to welcome the Pioneers back to Africa.

It is hard not to weep, the welcome, the joy, the deep thanks from the communities delivered by the Great Plains Conservation guides with heartfelt gratitude.

Safari vehicles, adjusted to take just 4 Pioneers now (sensitive to that distancing that has become second nature), head off into an Africa that has seen other crises like this 2020 moment which has stopped the world, come and go since before Man first walked upright right here over 3.5 million years ago.

Zebras and wildebeest compete for the road and dart off, with watching warthogs and gazelle in case the lions, that you will soon see, catch them off guard. Each Pioneers camp is bespoke, with natural settings and fresh air flowing through – the healthiest environments on the planet. Each room/tent thoroughly cleaned and aired before your arrival using medical-grade disinfectants.

But these are not hospitals, here it's all about safe hospitality.

Magical names like ol Donyo Lodge – set in the ancient lava flow overlooking Kilimanjaro, where elephants are so closed that from the safety of the sunken 'hide' you can almost touch their toenails. Or Mara Plains Camp – designed for space and airflow, where a single tree miles away is the landmark of the camp boundary. Mara Nyika Camp – set up high on platforms under stylish canvas tents and typical East African flat-topped acacia trees. And Arijiju – designed as a Swahili fort ruin with the finest interiors and Borana's famous lions calling beyond the camp.

Each Pioneer's safari includes a 3-night stay at each camp, driving from Mara Plains to Mara Nyika, and flying the short hop to ol Donyo and Arijiju. This is a personal service all the way.

Revel and relax over the 12-night safari as it grows from one experience to the other – from elephants to lions, cheetah, leopard, wildebeest, endless landscapes, great wine, rolling plains, and Kilimanjaro herself, that delicately painted mountain shrouded in 'lace'. Your cuisine is expertly prepared (naturally with safety and hygiene top of mind of course) but catered to every Pioneer's personal taste or allergies. We are known for our personal touches.

After 12 nights on safari, you hit rewind and travel in reverse, with two major differences: it is, of course, seamless but now our Pioneers are loaded with memories, your lives are changed forever AND you know that in the hold of the 787 tons of donated PPE have been left in Africa, helping those in our communities, making life better and assured you played a starring role in bringing much-needed tourism back to Africa.

Epilogue

“We travel to make a difference. This Pioneers Safari is restarting that dream.”

FAQ

When will you leave New York City?

The Return of the Safari Pioneers private jet safari departs from John F Kennedy airport in New York City on Saturday 21 November, 2020 and heads back to the USA on Friday, the 4th of December 2020 from Nairobi.

How long is your safari?

Each flight is an overnight between the U.S.A and Kenya. Added to that, are 12 nights in four exclusive safari locations in Kenya.

How many others will be travelling with me?

We have reserved the entire business class section of the direct, overnight flight from New York City’s JFK to Nairobi’s Kenyatta International Airport. There are only 30 luxurious seats available on this departure ensuring social distance and peace of mind en route. Once you land in Nairobi, you will be whisked away to a private lounge for customs and immigration formalities. Whilst on safari you will be part of one of three smaller groups of only 10 guests each for the duration of your 12-night safari.

We have limited all Covid-19 concerns

From the moment you check-in JFK at our exclusive check in desk, to private departure and arrival lounges, as well as private inter-camp air transfers, travelling with a limited number of guests, staying at remote, luxurious safari properties, your health and that of your companions is top of mind for us. We have spared no expense and have considered every detail to ensure that we limit any form of concern you may have around Corona and possible risks associated there. All travellers will be required to produce a valid, Covid-19 free medical certificate prior to departure.

How much will this cost?

The Return of the Safari Pioneers private flying safari costs USD42,900* per person sharing and includes literally everything - from your international business class flights, private inter-camp air transfers, lounge access in all airports on arrival and departures, all meals, all beverages (premier cellar wine, champagnes and spirits excluded at Arijju), all wildlife sightings and activities. Exclusions include comprehensive medical and travel insurance, a nightly conservation levy, curios you decide to purchase from our safari boutiques, treatments you choose to enjoy in our wellness centres and gratuities.

*There is an exclusive (lower) price for returning guests, subscribers and friends of Experiential Travel.

Download the printable itinerary here:

<https://www.experientialtravel.com.au/resources/itineraries/200901S.pdf>

Day	Accommodation	Room Type and Basis
Day 1 - 2	Overnight Travel (1 Night)	PREM

Day 2 - 5	Mara Plains Camp (3 Nights) in Olare Motorogi Conservancy	FI
Day 5 - 8	Mara Nyika Camp (3 Nights) in Mara Naboisho Conservancy	FI
Day 8 - 11	OI Donyo Lodge (3 Nights) in Chyulu Hills National Park	FI
Day 11 - 14	Arijju Retreat (3 Nights) in Laikipia	FB+
Day 14 - 15	Overnight Travel (1 Night)	PREM
Day 15	End of Itinerary	NONE

Key

FB+: Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities

FI: Fully Inclusive - Bed, All Meals, Fees and Activities

PREM: Premier - Executive Club / Premier Benefits

| Price

US\$39,900 per person, sharing. 15 days, 14 nights.

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Daily Information

Day 1 - 2

Overnight Travel

| Day Notes

Fade up:

INTRODUCTION

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| Basis

PREM: Premier - Executive Club / Premier Benefits

AD: All Drinks Included

| Charter Flight

Charter Flight from JFK International Airport [JFK] to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [NBO]



Day 2 - 5

Olare Motorogi Conservancy

The Olare Motorogi Conservancy is an 85 square kilometre expanse of prime private wilderness in southwest Kenya which forms part of the Maasai Mara-Serengeti ecosystem and wildlife dispersal zone. The conservancy lies immediately to the northwest of the main Maasai Mara Reserve. Tourism is limited to a maximum of 94 beds which maximizes the client wilderness experience and minimizes the environmental impact of tourism. Open hills provide a habitat for a diverse range of grazers, including giraffes, zebras, hartebeests, and warthogs. These herds attract large numbers of predators, including lions, cheetahs, hyenas, and jackals. In between the hills run a

number of small seasonal streams, fringed by stretches of forest which are home to a broader range of species including baboons, elephants, buffaloes, hippos, and leopards.

| Day Notes

Cut to:

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| Charter Flight

Arrive at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [NBO]

| Charter Flight

Charter Flight from Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [NBO] to Mara Plains Camp



Overnight

Mara Plains Camp

Mara Plains Camp is a one-of-a-kind, seven tent camp located in the private 35,000-acre Olare Motorogi Conservancy, on the northern boundary of the Maasai Mara National Reserve. This intimate tented camp blends the finest wildlife viewing with outstanding hospitality and guiding. No other camp offers the extensive traversing area of Mara Plains Camp, with access to a total of 100,000 acres of private conservancy land as well as the world-renowned Masai Mara, home to the Great Migration. Olare Motorogi Conservancy has an incredible density of big cats and only one guest bed per 350 acres, leaving the land unadulterated for the wildlife to roam and thrive. By day and night, the camp is a sanctuary for resident species, including many of the Maasai Mara's 300 bird species. After dark, larger mammals frequent the camp and Maasai warriors escort guests to and from their rooms. Hippos snorting and leopards barking often provide the night's chorus. The camp itself has only seven tents, each with deep canvas canopied ceilings, rough-hewn wood floors and accents of East Africa's rich safari history. Each guest tent comes with Swarovski binoculars and a professional Canon camera and lenses.

[View iBrochure >](#)

| Basis

FI: Fully Inclusive - Bed, All Meals, Fees and Activities

AD: All Drinks Included



Day 5 - 8

Mara Naboisho Conservancy

Bordering the Masai Mara National Reserve to the southwest, the Olare Orok Conservancy to the west and the Ol Kinyei Conservancy to the east, the Mara Naboisho Conservancy is comprised of over 50 000 hectares of unspoilt wilderness in Kenya's Greater Mara Region. The area is renowned for its bountiful biodiversity and breathtaking natural beauty with a wide range of wildlife on offer including lion, cheetah, elephant, giraffe, wild dog, and a host of plains game. Visitors can look forward to guided walking safaris, spending the night in a transient fly camp, heading out on a night game drive in search of elusive nocturnal creatures, joining the Mara Naboisho Lion Project as they track lions across the conservancy, or visiting Maasai villages to learn about this fascinating indigenous culture.

Transfer

Transfer from Mara Plains Camp to Mara Nyika Camp



Overnight

Mara Nyika Camp

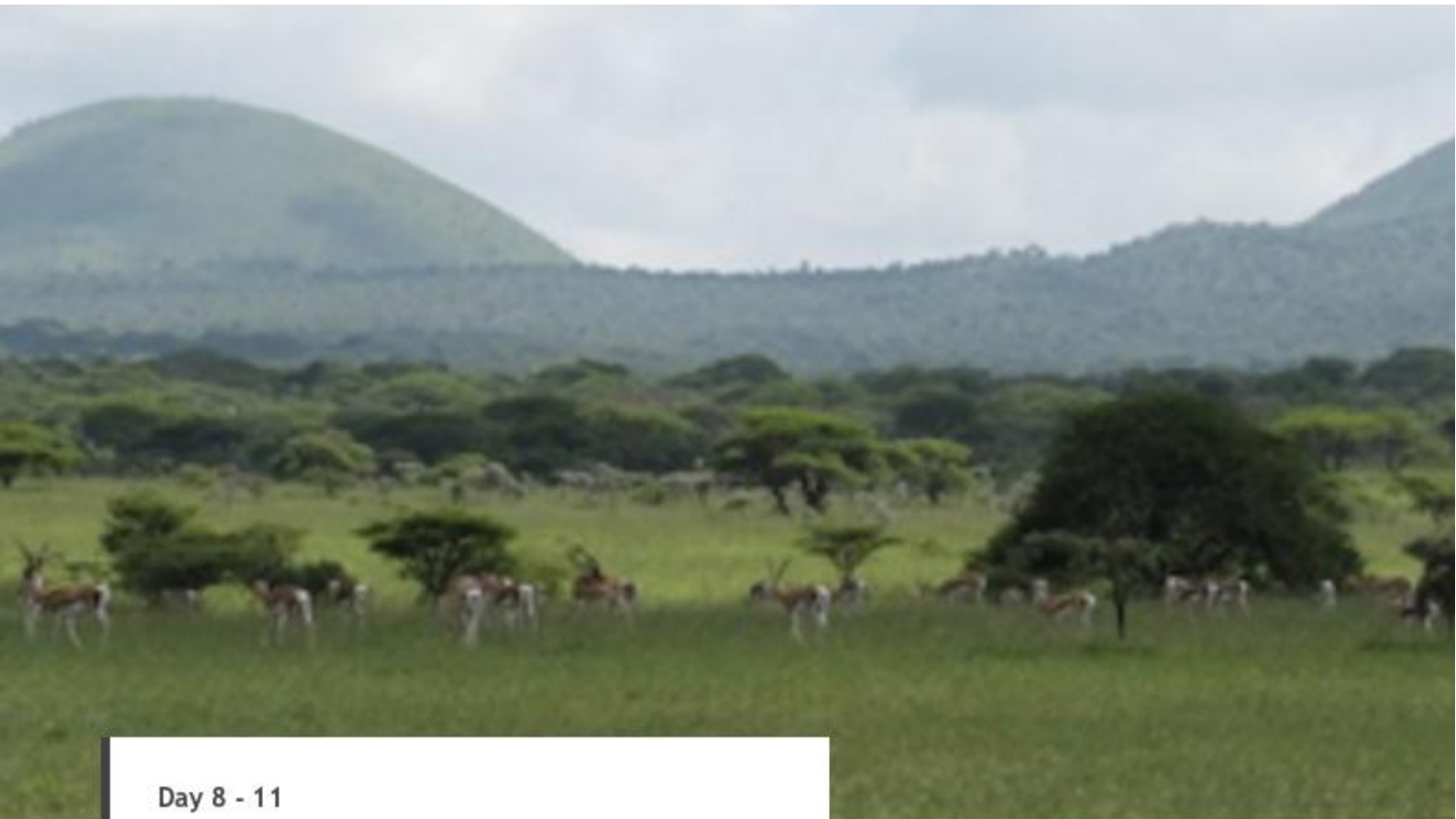
Mara Nyika is the newest edition to the Great Plains Conservation family of camps in Kenya. While this intimate camp of just five tents and one 2-bedroom family suite is set in a valley, straddling a small stream, the light-coloured canvas tents were designed to sit under the canopy of umbrella thorn trees while still offering guests views out over the bush. Walkways from tents to the main area evoke the feeling of a treehouse under canvas and the camp's ethic and inspiration is one of exploration and adventure. Privacy is the key to Mara Nyika. Privacy to live, think, explore, be romantic and be pampered – all the while with one of the most spectacular backdrops Africa can provide. Guests of Mara Nyika are able to explore the private and exclusive and game-rich 50,000-acre Naboisho Conservancy as well as explore further afield with safari drives into the Maasai Mara Reserve.

[View iBrochure >](#)

| Basis

FI: Fully Inclusive - Bed, All Meals, Fees and Activities

AD: All Drinks Included



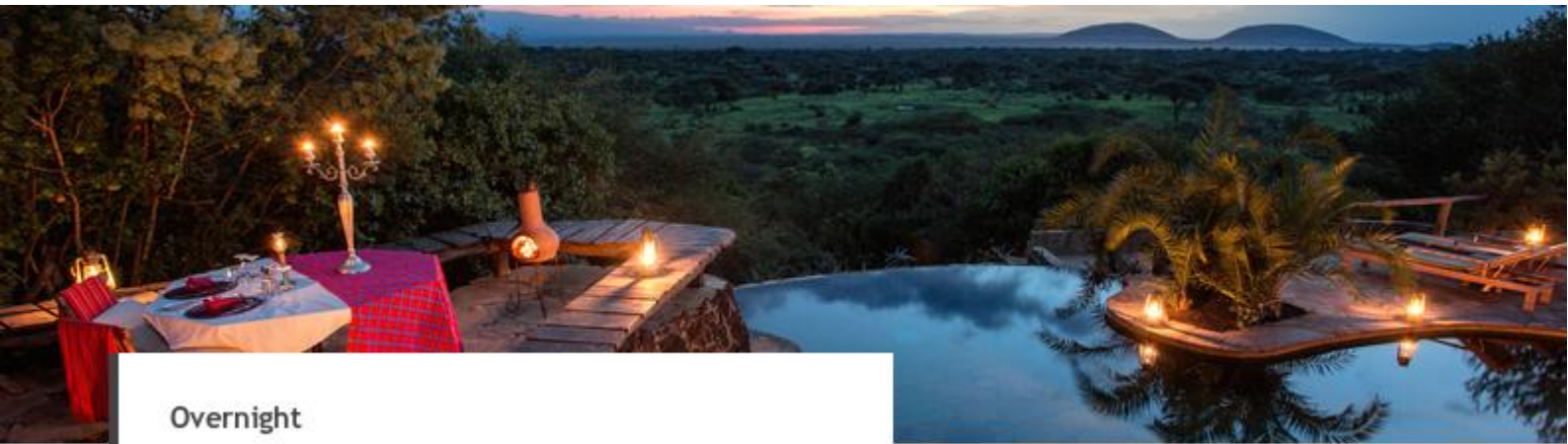
Day 8 - 11

Chyulu Hills National Park

Sandwiched between the Tsavo West National Park and Amboseli National Park, the Chyulu Hills National Park protects an important water catchment area. This unique habitat features vast grass plains, forested rolling hills and rugged volcanic cones and craters set against the beautiful backdrop of Mount Kilimanjaro. Visitors can look for to a wide selection of exciting activities including camping, mountain climbing, horse riding, and excellent bird watching. Commonly spotted wildlife include: elephant, bushbuck, eland, leopard, bush pig, reedbuck, buffalo and giraffe. Don't miss the opportunity to explore the longest lava tube in the world.

| Charter Flight

Charter Flight from Mara Nyika Camp to Ol Donyo Lodge



Overnight

Ol Donyo Lodge

Ol Donyo Lodge is located on the Maasai-owned Mbirikani Group Ranch, comprising of 275,000 acres of wilderness between Amboseli and Tsavo National Parks and bordering Chyulu Hills National Park. This stunningly beautiful area is incredibly diverse, and often has spectacular views of Mount Kilimanjaro. The 16-bed lodge is a harmonious blend of contemporary and rustic, merging the landscape into each suite. Designed for a wide appeal, the lodge is a perfect getaway for families, honeymooners or multi-generational groups. What makes it a standout is its notable variety of activities – from cultural visits, good quality wildlife viewing, hiking, horseback riding and mountain biking – Ol Donyo Lodge is a place to feel Africa, and get out from behind the wheel. Add to this the lodge's creature comforts of fine dining, massage, infinity pool, star beds and multiple lounges, and it is a place to relax and unwind for days.

[View iBrochure >](#)

| Basis

FI: Fully Inclusive - Bed, All Meals, Fees and Activities

AD: All Drinks Included



Day 11 - 14

Laikipia

Sandwiched between Mount Kenya and the northern deserts, Laikipia is where Kenya's wild and semi-arid northern frontier country begins. The region is made up of privately owned and community ranches centred around the Laikipia National Reserve. Known as one of Kenya's best safari areas, the high plains of Laikipia feature vast open stretches of African savanna scattered with abundant game including: Grevy's zebras, black rhino, lion, leopard, wild dogs, buffalo and thousands of elephants. Visitors can enjoy a luxury safari experience at a private lodge or stay in the worthwhile community-run lodges which support the local Samburu and Laikipiak and Mokogodo Maasai communities.

| Charter Flight

Charter Flight from Ol Donyo Lodge to Arijiju Retreat



Overnight

Arijiju Retreat

Arijiju lies low on the land. The building behaves as though it has always been on that warm Kenyan hillside with living grassed roofs that move with the air and connect it into the earth and forest. It is there but not there. Partly sculpted into the rock-bed, its subtle entrance opens into a fragrant, greened space with generous Swahili curves and an air of monastic calm. Walls of stone built on stone create vaulted walkways that lure you into cool shade and lead you along earth paths towards a simply luxurious gym, spa and hammam, dappled suntraps and Lamu daybeds. Alongside a gnarled African Olive tree, a slice of pool hangs over the untamed wild of the Sieku valley in the Borana Conservancy – a thriving piece of the game-rich Kenyan Highlands and a sanctuary for adventure.

Arijiju is a beautiful, private home in the game-rich, malaria-free, Kenyan Highlands with rare, truly wild luxuries.

An elegant spa and hammam, a gym, a clay tennis and squash court and glorious, health-focused menus make wellness and fitness feel effortless.

A sanctuary for adventure-Explore 97 000 acres dedicated to conservation as well as helicopter flips, quad bike safaris, rapelling, horse riding and big five game drives

| Basis

FB+: Full Board Plus - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast, Lunch and Activities

Day 14 - 15

Overnight Travel

| Day Notes

After 12 nights on safari, you hit rewind and travel in reverse, with two major differences: it is of course seamless but now our Pioneers are loaded with memories, your lives are changed forever AND you know that in the hold of the 787 tons of donated PPE have been left in Africa, helping those in our communities, making life better and assured you played a starring role in bringing much needed tourism back to Africa.

EPILOGUE.

“We travel to make a difference. This Pioneers Safari is restarting that dream.”

| Basis

PREM: Premier - Executive Club / Premier Benefits

AD: All Drinks Included

| Charter Flight

Charter Flight from Arijju Retreat to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [NBO]

| Charter Flight

Charter Flight from Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [NBO] to JFK International Airport [JFK]

Day 15

End of Itinerary

| Charter Flight

Arrive at JFK International Airport [JFK]

Transport

Flights

Date & Time	Route	Flight
Day 1	Depart: JFK International Airport [JFK]	Charter Flight
Day 2	Arrive: Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [NBO]	
Day 2	Depart: Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [NBO]	Charter Flight
Day 2	Arrive: Mara Plains Camp	
Day 8	Depart: Mara Nyika Camp	Charter Flight
Day 8	Arrive: Ol Donyo Lodge	
Day 11	Depart: Ol Donyo Lodge	Charter Flight
Day 11	Arrive: Arijju Retreat	
Day 14	Depart: Arijju Retreat	Charter Flight
Day 14	Arrive: Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [NBO]	
Day 14	Depart: Jomo Kenyatta International Airport [NBO]	Charter Flight
Day 15	Arrive: JFK International Airport [JFK]	

Transfers

Date & Time	Route	Vehicle
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Day 5
Day 5

Pick Up: Mara Plains Camp
Drop Off: Mara Nyika Camp

Transfer

Urgent Contacts

Contact Person	Email Address	Telephone
Experiential Travel - Neville Jones	info@experiential.travel	+61 418 325 812
Experiential Travel - Emergency Contact		+61 416 371 178

Service Providers

Mara Plains Camp

Address

Contact Numbers

Telephone: +27 87 354 6591
Front Desk: +27 87 354 6591

Mara Nyika Camp

Address

Contact Numbers

Naboisho Conservancy
Maasai Mara National Reserve
Kenya

Telephone: +27 87 354 6591
Front Desk: +27 87 354 6591

Ol Donyo Lodge

Address

Contact Numbers

Telephone: +27 87 354 6591
Front Desk: +27 87 354 6591

Travel Information

| Travel Guidance

The information in this document is provided by the operators and other parties. It may not accurately reflect your experience.



Country

Kenya

Resting in the magnificent Great Rift Valley and presided over by the majestic Mount Kilimanjaro, Kenya is characterised by hauntingly beautiful natural landscapes of forested hills, patchwork farms, wooded savanna and vast forests brimming with an extraordinary abundance of wildlife. The nation's diverse range of traditional African cultures is influenced by over 70 unique ethnic groups from the Maasai, Samburu, Kikuyu, and Turkana tribes to the Arabs and Indians that settled on the coast. Add to this: an exquisite tropical coastline fringed with breathtaking golden sand beaches; gorgeous coral gardens providing excellent snorkeling and diving opportunities; and a slew of lively beach resorts, and it is easy to see why so many visitors flock here from around the world to experience a truly unique African adventure in one of the world's most pristine safari destinations.

| Electricity and Plug Standards

Electrical sockets in Kenya are of the 'Type G (BS-1363)'. If your appliance's plug doesn't match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter in order to plug in. Travel plug adapters simply change the shape of your appliance's plug to match whatever type of socket you need to plug into. If it's crucial to be able to plug in no matter what, bring an adapter for all types.

Electrical sockets in Kenya usually supply electricity at 220-240 volts AC. If you're plugging in an appliance that was built for 220-240 volt electrical input, or an appliance that is compatible with multiple voltages, then an adapter is all you need. If your appliance isn't compatible with 220-240 volts, a voltage converter will be necessary.

| Banking and Currency

Currency

The currency of Kenya is the Kenyan Shilling (KES; symbol KSh) = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of KSh1,000, 500, 200, 100 and 50. Coins are in denominations of KSh20, 10 and 5. Residents may import up to KES 500,000 and must declare if currencies exceeding US \$10,000. Non-residents may import local and foreign currencies without restrictions but amounts exceeding US \$10,000 must be declared.

Banking

Banking hours: Monday -Friday 09h00-15h00, and Saturdays 09h00-12h00. Banks in Mombasa and the coastal areas open and close half an hour earlier. Banks in airports tend to open earlier and close later; typical hours are 07h00-19h00.

ATMs are common especially in major tourist destinations.

Mastercard and Visa Credit Cards are widely accepted; American Express and Diners Club less so. Major hotels accept payment by credit card, as do major safari companies, travel agencies and restaurants.

Very few banks or foreign exchange bureaus accept travellers cheques; when they do, they charge high commissions.

| Food, Drink and Cuisine

Meat in Kenya is generally outstandingly good, and 'nyam achoma' (barbecued meat) is ubiquitous at any major feasts or popular dining spots. Beef and chicken are readily available, but goat is the most-widely eaten among locals and certainly a must try for carnivorous visitors. Middle Eastern and Indian cuisine is also popular, as are fresh-water fish inland, and sea fish along the coast.

Drinking the tap water is not recommended as the supply is not reliable, but bottled water is available in most places. When buying bottled water, check the seal of the bottle is intact. Alternatively, bring your own reusable water bottle with a filter or use water purification tablets. Avoid ice and washed salads and fruit except in top hotels and restaurants. Milk is pasteurised and dairy products are safe for consumption. Food prepared by unlicensed vendors should be avoided at all times.

Tipping is optional. Most hotels and restaurants include a 10% service charge in the bill. If they don't, a small tip is customary for good service.

| Climate and Weather

Kenya has three types of climate: temperate subtropical climate in the west and southwest highlands (where Nairobi is located), hot and humid along the coast, and hot and dry in the north and east.

| Internet Availability

Wi-Fi is readily available in major cities and hotels, as well as in luxury game lodges.

| Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Nairobi has two airports for domestic and regional flights: Jomo Kenyatta International Airport and Wilson Airport. Kenya has over 150 domestic airports and airstrips and there are daily flights to the most popular destinations. In addition to the scheduled airlines, several private charter companies operate out of Wilson Airport.

Kenya Airways, Air Kenya, Fly 540, Mombasa Air Safari, and Safarilink serve the most popular safari destinations, plus many others such as Lake Victoria.

All other types of transport are good and efficient. Quality on trains can differ depending on which 'class' you buy.

Drive on the left side of the road.

Road conditions vary, and are improving.

| Clothing and Dress Recommendations

For Nairobi and the coast: lightweight cotton and linens are advised. Warmer clothing is needed in June and July, while rainwear is advisable between March and June, and October and December.

For safari: loose-fitting and light neutral tones are recommended. If you are visiting a luxury lodge, pack a nice set of clothes for dinner is recommended.

Terms and Conditions

| Experiential Travel Terms and Conditions

Please be sure to read our full Terms and Conditions at www.experientialtravel.com.au/Legal.php