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## TANZANIA WILDLIFE SAFARI 2024

*Arusha National Park - Tarangire National Park - Karatu - Ndutu - Central Serengeti*

*13 Days / 12 Nights*

*Reference: S18/24*

**31 October 2024 - 12 November 2024**

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## Introduction

Africa is the stage for the world's best wildlife viewing. After all, the continent holds a staggering 25% of the world's mammal species! East Africa holds a prime spot on the continent in terms of the wildlife spectacular. The great Wildebeest migration. Elephants or Giraffes on the plains with a snow-capped peak as a backdrop. Ancient volcanic craters packed with plains game... For the Africa-enthusiast East Africa is a must. And nowhere is the safari experience more dazzling than in the great parks of Tanzania.

## Areas covered

Our **Tanzania Wildlife Safari** starts at Kilimanjaro International Airport. After a night to settle in the safari experience begins. We have two nights in Tarangire National Park. From there it just gets better and better. Next up is Lake Manyara National Park for a day visit on the way to the Ngorongoro Crater. Moving on, we explore the Nduvu area. Finally, we end off with four nights in the central Serengeti. The tour concludes with either a night in Arusha, or a drop off at the airport. This will depend on outbound flight times.

## Accommodation

The accommodation is of a medium-plus standard. It includes a small boutique hotel and various safari lodges. Importantly, all accommodations have en-suite facilities, and are clean and comfortable.

## The mammals

Our Tanzania Wildlife Safari is primarily a mammal experience. Large mammal biomass and wide-open spaces are hallmarks of Tanzania's northern circuit. Mammals to see include the classic game species of Africa. These are species such as: Lion, Elephant, Leopard, African Buffalo, Masai Giraffe, Hippopotamus, Plains Zebra and even Black Rhino with some luck. In addition, there's a massive array of different Antelope and Gazelle species to be seen. Then there are primates, such as Olive and Yellow Baboons, Vervet and Syke's Monkeys, and perhaps Galagos / Bush Babies after dark. And let's not forget other carnivores such as Striped and Spotted Hyenas, Golden and Black-backed Jackals, Honey Badger, Serval, African Civet and so forth. Then there's the famous Pumba – the much-loved Common Warthog. Indeed, there's plenty to see on this safari!

## The birding

Although this is primarily a mammal tour, there will be plenty of birds to be seen as well. Savanna species are well represented. These include species such as: Grey-breasted Spurfowl, Eastern Grey Plantain-eater, Jackson's Widowbird, Fischer's Lovebird, Rosy-throated Longclaw, Secretarybird, Rüppel's Griffon, Hildebrandt's Starling, Golden-winged Sunbird, Grey Crowned Crane and many more.

## Group size

Maximum of 10 participants; 5 participants per vehicle / guide

## Expected weather conditions

Warm to mild days to be expected, with a chance of some rain as November typically heralds the start of the 'short rains', though with climate change these are becoming far less predictable.

In conclusion, our **Tanzania Wildlife Safari** will probably be the safari experience of a lifetime. Mind you there is a saying about Africa. Visit once and you are bound to return again... If you want to see some of the best wildlife in all of Africa, then this tour is definitely for you. For those who want to add on, we can arrange for a Masai Mara extension. Contact us for more info.

Accommodation	Destination	Start	End	Basis	Duration
Rivertrees Country Inn	Arusha National Park	31 Oct	2 Nov	B&B	2 Nights
Tarangire Safari Lodge	Tarangire National Park	2 Nov	4 Nov	FB	2 Nights
<a href="#">Ngorongoro Farm House</a>	Karatu	4 Nov	6 Nov	FB	2 Nights
<a href="#">Ndotu Safari Lodge</a>	Ndotu	6 Nov	9 Nov	FB	3 Nights
<a href="#">Serengeti Kati Kati</a>	Central Serengeti	9 Nov	12 Nov	FB	3 Nights

### Key

B&B: Bed and Breakfast

FB: Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

### Price

5 participants **USD 6 825** per person sharing

4 participants **USD 7 350** per person sharing

3 participants **USD 8 165** per person sharing

Single supplement **USD 630**

### Included

- Accommodation
- All meals (except lunches and dinners at Rivertrees Country Inn)
- Entrance fees
- Ground transport in 4x4 photographic converted Land Cruiser
- Charter flight (*Seronera - Kilimanjaro*)
- Bottled water in vehicle whilst travelling
- Personalised checklists
- Specialist guide fees

### Excluded

- All airfares
- Travel and medical insurance
- Additional accommodation in Arusha if necessary
- Lunches and dinners at Rivertrees Country Inn
- All drinks
- Optional excursions where applicable
- Gratuities
- Items of a personal nature

## Day 1-3: Thursday, 31 October to Saturday, 2 November

### Rivertrees Country Inn, Arusha National Park

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#### Day Itinerary

To start this epic safari adventure, the group will gather in Arusha, where we have two nights at Rivertrees Country Inn, situated along the Usa River on the outskirts of the city.

Our full day here will serve as a 'buffer day', in case flight delays mean any group members miss the first night, and also as a chance to explore the nearby Arusha National Park. If participants arrive late or prefer to just relax on the first day and recover from the travelling, the costs of this will be credited to your final account.

Arusha National Park provides a great introduction to the Tanzanian safari experience. It covers 542 square kilometers on the slopes of Mount Meru, and includes montane forest, savanna and soda lake habitats. One of our main target species here will be the spectacular Guereza, or Black-and White Colobus monkeys, inhabitants of the forested parts of the park. Mitis Monkey, also known as Blue or Syke's Monkey, is another primate species we'll be looking out for. For those who opt to stay at the lodge for the day, fear not, as both of these primates also frequent the lodge gardens. Other species we'll be looking out for in Arusha National Park include Olive Baboon, Suni, Red Duiker (also known as Harvey's Duiker), Kirk's Dik-dik and then more typical savanna species such as Masai Giraffe, Hippopotamus, Plains Zebra etc. Birders won't be disappointed either, as there's a wide range of species to be seen, including Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Crowned and Martial Eagles, good numbers of Greater and Lesser Flamingos, and a range of Kingfishers, Bee-eaters, Starlings etc.

We'll return to the inn during the late afternoon for some time to relax before dinner and the start of the safari the following day.

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#### Arusha National Park

Situated in northeastern Tanzania, the Arusha National Park is set against the spectacular backdrop of Mount Kilimanjaro. This 552 square kilometre park is renowned for its other-worldly scenery and excellent choice of trekking possibilities. This beautiful area is divided into three parts: Mt. Meru, a spectacular volcanic cone; the Ngurdoto Crater, with its lost-world feel; and the multi-hued Momela Lakes. The park features a wide range of habitats that provide a home to an array of wildlife and plant species. Commonly spotted animals include Cape Buffalo, Giraffe, Zebra, Warthog, Lion and Elephant.

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#### Overnight: Rivertrees Country Inn

Once an old coffee estate, Rivertrees is now a charming country inn nestled in abundant foliage with the Usa River flowing by. Set in the foothills of Mt Meru, conveniently close to Kilimanjaro International Airport and a short drive to Arusha, its location proffers a wealth of natural wonders to explore. Comprising the original Farm House, an elegant River House, luxurious River Cottages and several beautifully appointed Garden Rooms, it also serves delicious garden-fresh cuisine in its stunningly set restaurant. The swimming pool and spa are tailored for relaxation, and friendly personalised service ensures a memorable stay, whether for a one-night stopover or much longer.






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## Day 3-5: Saturday, 2 November to Monday, 4 November

### Tarangire Safari Lodge, Tarangire National Park

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#### Day Itinerary

Today we'll have an early breakfast before departing for Tarangire. Although not as well known as the likes of the Serengeti, Tarangire National Park offers some great game viewing and is a perfect start-off point for our Tanzania Wildlife safari. Baobab trees and large herds of Elephants are some of the hallmarks of the reserve, which is around 2 850 square kilometers in size. The park is linked to the other large reserves of Tanzania's 'northern circuit', and species such as Wildebeest and Zebra move into Tarangire in the dry season, adding significantly to the park's large mammal biomass.

Other species we'll be looking out for include Olive and Yellow Baboons, Black-backed Jackal, Bat-eared Fox, Lion, Wild Dog, Lesser Kudu, Eland, Masai Giraffe, Fringe-eared Oryx, Bohor Reedbuck, Coke's Hartebeest, Gerenuk and many others. The park boasts over 500 species of birds, including some species endemic to Tanzania. We should arrive in time for lunch, followed by an afternoon game drive as a great way to get the game viewing under way.

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#### Tarangire National Park

Tarangire National Park, situated within Tanzania's spectacular Manyara Region, is an awe-inspiring national park comprising of granite ridges, river valleys, mixed vegetative landscapes, and free-roaming wildlife. During the annual dry season the Tarangire River is a magnet for thirsty wildlife. Large herds of elephants and migratory Wildebeest, Zebra, Buffalo, Impala, Gazelle, Hartebeest and Eland gather and not surprisingly the predators follow. With Lion being among the most commonly spotted animal, it is a rare day that a visitor does not spot this majestic animal prowling or grazing. Tarangire is also the one place in Tanzania where dry-country antelope such as Oryx and Gerenuk are seen regularly. This expansive area is also known for its spectacular baobab trees, its breathtaking views of the Masaai Steppe and the wondrous mountains to the south.

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#### Overnight: Tarangire Safari Lodge

Tarangire Safari Lodge is located within the national park boundary of Tarangire National Park, approximately 10 km away from the main entrance. Perched at the edge of a natural bluff, the lodge is renowned for its panoramic views of the Savannah and Tarangire River below, providing breathtaking scenery and game viewing. The lodge's safari tents, with thatched roofs and large, mesh screened windows, provide the ideal opportunity to connect with the sights and sounds of nature. Each tent has a comfortable veranda, ideal for bird and game viewing, or reading a favorite book after a dusty safari. With a choice of twin, double, or triple accommodation, all tents are equipped with en suite bathrooms with solar heated showers, ample cupboard space and a cultural touch of local textiles. The five circular bungalows, built in a similar style to the Maasai boma, offer a more spacious option for family and triple accommodation. The airy rooms are situated near a large watering hole, creating the opportunity to watch wildlife

from the shaded veranda. The bungalows are set away from the main lodge, providing privacy, and all are equipped with large en suite bathrooms with solar heated showers, and comfortable bedding made from local textiles.




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## Day 5-7: Monday, 4 November to Wednesday, 6 November

### Ngorongoro Farm House, Karatu

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#### Day Itinerary

Today we'll have an early breakfast before departing for the Ngorongoro Crater, where we are staying at Ngorongoro Farm House, located on a 500 acre working coffee farm. On our full day we'll make our way down into the crater, stopping for views on the rim of the largest intact caldera in the world, overlooking the crater bottom far below. An estimated 25 000 large mammals are resident in this bowl of plenty, including a large population of Lions. Cheetahs move in and out of the crater, while Leopards are most often encountered in the spectacular Lerai Forest. Among the smaller carnivores, both Golden and Black-backed Jackals are abundant, while normally shy and nocturnal Serval are frequently seen during daylight hours. Vast numbers of Buffalo, Zebra and Thomson's Gazelle can be seen grazing the crater floor, unwittingly providing the food base for the predators of the area. The crater is home to some of the densest Lion and Spotted Hyena populations on the continent, while the wide array of general game and jaw-dropping views will keep us entertained, and our cameras working very hard indeed! It's also one of the best places in East Africa to see wild Black Rhinos, this being the *michaeli* subspecies. In the afternoon we'll make our way back to the lodge for sundowners, before dinner and drinks at the lodge restaurant.

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#### Karatu

Travellers heading for the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater will pass through the town of Karatu in the green hills of Tanzania's northern highlands. Presided over by the towering Ol Deani Volcano, this small, colourful town serves as a popular overnight stop for visitors exploring the area's many game parks. The town offers a variety of activities including browsing the bustling marketplace, sampling beer at a local brewery, visiting a traditional homestead, or taking a guided walk through the Ngorongoro Forest in search of waterfalls and caves. Whether you are looking for cultural tours, hiking and biking opportunities, a chance to enjoy an authentic rural Tanzania experience, or simply a break between safari game drives, this underrated town has plenty to offer.

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#### Overnight: Ngorongoro Farm House

[View iBrochure](#)

Ngorongoro Farmhouse Lodge is situated beneath the majestic Oldeani Volcano, and boasts easy access to both the untamed wilderness of Ngorongoro Conservation Area, as well as the simple pleasure of a ramble through 500 acres of farmland. Ngorongoro Farm House was inaugurated on February 20th 2003, and is offering 52 room cottages, 49 standard rooms and 3 suite rooms, all with ample space inside, built on the style of an old colonial farm and rustically decorated with local materials and full of details of good taste, with the purpose of offering our clients an imaginary journey to the life of the days gone.




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## Day 7-10: Wednesday, 6 November to Saturday, 9 November

### Ndotu Safari Lodge, Ndotu

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#### Day Itinerary

Today we'll have an early breakfast before departing for our next destination, the Serengeti ecosystem, to the west of Ngorongoro Crater. With a name that means 'endless plains' in the Masai language, the Serengeti National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, stretches along a vast plateau between the eastern arm of the rugged Rift Valley and the huge expanse of Lake Victoria. The park covers an immense 1.5 million hectares and is famous for its vast, open grasslands, which allow for excellent sightings of abundant wildlife, and indeed, it must rank as one of Africa's greatest conservation areas. For this reason we have devoted a total of six nights to the area, divided between two camps.

Our first is Ndotu Safari Lodge, on the far west of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, close to the un-fenced border with the Serengeti. November is late dry season, around the time when the short rains start (though as elsewhere this is becoming more unpredictable) and the area's marshes will attract large numbers of animals. These attract predators and Ndotu is well-known for great sightings of the full spectrum, from Lions to Cheetah, Leopard, Spotted Hyena, Serval, African Wild Cat, Caracal and others. There's a wide range of habitats to explore, from the short grass plains to *Acacia* woodlands, soda lakes and marshes, and we'll have an exciting stay here indeed as we explore the area on unlimited game drives, ranging far and wide in search of animals and landscapes. It honestly doesn't get much better than this!

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#### Ndotu

Set in the Arusha Region, Ndotu is situated in the northern part of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area within the magnificent Serengeti. The surrounding landscapes are covered in sweeping grasslands which provide the perfect habitat for the migratory route for hundreds of thousands of Wildebeest, various antelope and Zebra. Visitors can look forward to exploring the forest around Lake Ndotu, spotting an array of wildlife, and visiting the fascinating archaeological site at the Olduvai Gorge. Don't miss the opportunity to jump on a game drive to view the spectacular herds of the annual Great Migration, enjoy a scenic hot air balloon ride over the plains and take a guided tour with the local Maasai and learn about culture and traditions. Other commonly spotted species include: Leopard, Lion, Cheetah, Caracal, Serval, African Wildcat, and a variety of prolific birdlife.

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**Overnight: Ndotu Safari Lodge**      [View iBrochure](#)

A traditional Safari lodge in an outstanding wildlife location.



Ndutu Safari Lodge comprises 34 simple and comfortable stone and thatch en-suite cottages extending from a relaxed central bar and dining area, a meeting place for friends over the past 50 years. Each cottage has a private veranda looking out onto the ever-changing waters of Lake Ndutu. Steeped in history and famous for our homely warmth and generous hospitality, we have built a reputation as consistently being the choice of expert guides, professional wildlife photographers, filmmakers and biologists alike. The reason?

It's simply the best place in the Serengeti ecosystem to watch and enjoy predators and prey, herds and hunters and is one of the finest locations to witness the extraordinary speed and spectacle of Cheetah hunting their prey.

We pride ourselves on doing the simple things well. Wonderfully comfy beds, hot showers, delicious home cooked meals, friendly service and not forgetting our tempting homemade cookie jar! Join us after a full day of wildlife viewing around our famous Ndutu campfire under the stars where you can relax, sharing stories with friends, as the moon rises above the towering acacia trees.




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## Day 10-13: Saturday, 9 November to Tuesday, 12 November

### Serengeti Kati Kati, Central Serengeti

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#### Day Itinerary

Today we'll finish off the morning program at Ndutu Safari Lodge before making our way further into the central Serengeti, with Kati Kati Tented Camp as our base for the next three nights. This is a small, low-key mobile tented camp situated in the Seronera area. As it is located within the reserve, and without any fencing or barriers around it, we're literally part of the environment here and this stay is apt to be an experience not to be forgotten, and a fitting end to this fantastic Tanzania wildlife safari experience. Once again we'll have unlimited game drives available, allowing us to make the most of our time here. Lovely accommodation and good food will round off this Tanzania wildlife safari perfectly!

#### Central Serengeti

Situated in the heart of Tanzania, the Central Serengeti encompasses the world-famous Seronera Valley which is known for its prime wildlife-viewing opportunities. This picture-perfect landscape is characterised by endless stretches of savannah-covered open plains, interspersed by rocky outcrops of granite, scattered with acacia woodlands and covered in a network of rivers and streams. The Central Serengeti forms part of the great Wildebeest and Zebra migration and provides an ideal habitat for a variety of wildlife such as Giraffe, Impala, Waterbuck, Hippo, Elephant, Buffalo, Lion, Leopard, Hyena, Jackal, Serval and much more. Popular activities include: game viewing, cultural tours, horse riding safaris, and hot air ballooning over the spectacularly scenic terrain.

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**Overnight: Serengeti Kati Kati**      [View iBrochure](#)

Serengeti Kati Kati is a mobile tented camp located in Central Serengeti, strategically located to cover the vast Serengeti Plains. The camp offers comfortable accommodation and a unique opportunity to enjoy a real safari camp experience, just a two-hour scenic drive from Olduvai Gorge Museum and Grumeti River.

Accommodation comprises 10 double tents and with one family tent, all with en-suite facilities, with a cosy mess tent located in the centre of the camp where meals are served. The campfire is ready every evening for appetizers and snacks before dinner.

Serengeti National Park is one of the largest wildlife sanctuaries on the planet and the largest National Park in Tanzania, covering an extension of 15,000 square kilometres. Its landscapes depict the mythical image of an Africa of large spaces, profound blue skies dotted with clouds, cool sunrises and fire-red sunsets.



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**Day 13: Tuesday, 12 November****End of Itinerary**

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**Day Itinerary**

Today we'll have time for a last drive on the plains of the Serengeti before we make our way to Seronera Airstrip for our hop back to Kilimanjaro Airport. This flight goes via Arusha, where those who have departures the following day can spend a last night before leaving Tanzania. This is at an extra cost.

## Transport

### Flight Information

Date	Flight	Airline	Departure Airport	Time	Arrival Airport	Time	Class	Ref
12 Nov	Scheduled		Seronera Airstrip [SEU]		Kilimanjaro International Airport [JRO]			

### Transfers

Date	Company	Pick Up	Drop Off	Time	Vehicle
31 Oct		Kilimanjaro International Airport [JRO]	Rivertrees Country Inn		Transfer

### Urgent Contact Numbers

Company Name	Telephone	Email Address	Contact Person
Lawson's Birding, Wildlife & Custom Safaris	+27 82 576 7526	mavourneen@lawsons-africa.co.za	Mavourneen Pearce
Lawson's Birding, Wildlife & Custom Safaris - Emergency Contact	+27 82 576 7526		

### Service Provider Directory

Service Provider	Ref. Number	Telephone	Address
Ndutu Safari Lodge		+255272545856	NDUTU SAFARI LODGE P.O. Box 6084 Arusha Tanzania East Africa
Ngorongoro Farm House		+255736502894	Karatu - Tanzania
Rivertrees Country Inn		+255 743 600 160	Arusha, Tanzania
Serengeti Kati Kati		+255 (0) 272 970 153   +255 (0) 272 970 154	
Tarangire Safari Lodge		Tel: +255 (0) 27 297 0705/8	



## Terms and Conditions

### Itinerary Terms and Conditions

This itinerary is subject to change due to weather conditions at the time and other factors beyond our control.

Participants need to co-ordinate their arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport for the transfer to Arusha. Please consult with us before booking any flights. On the last day participants may need to overnight in Arusha again, depending on the time of outbound flights. This accommodation is not included in the tour price, but we are happy to arrange it.

The species mentioned in the itinerary represent only some of the possible ones we may see on the tour, however, none of these can be guaranteed even though every effort will be made where possible to locate them. A full list of possibles appears on your checklist.