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HELICOPTER EXCURSIONS

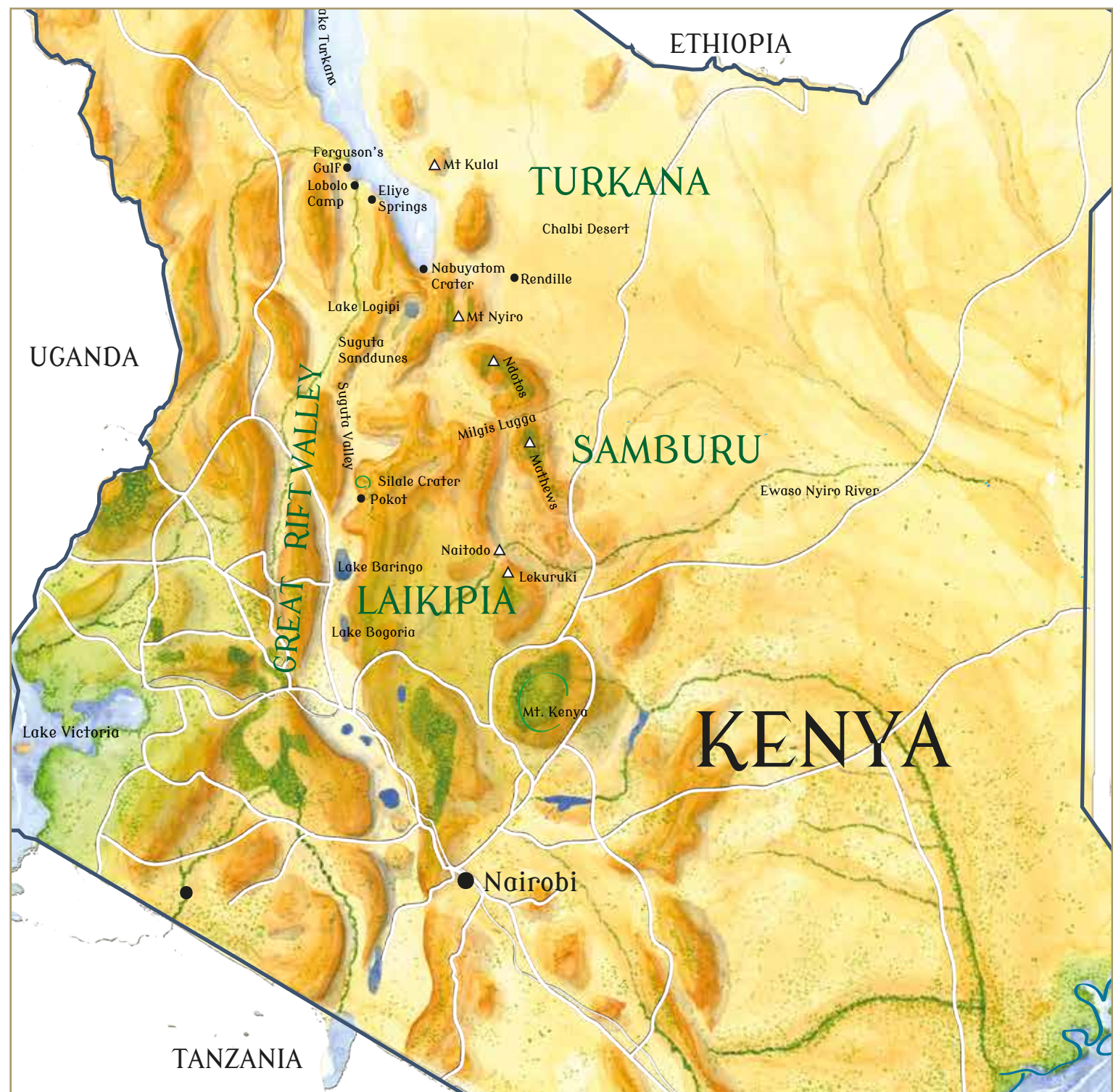
NORTHERN KENYA

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.





© Richard Roberts

HELICOPTER EXCURSION OPTIONS

Mount Kenya

2 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.

The Lakes, Silale & the Pokot

4 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 Ndoto & 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.

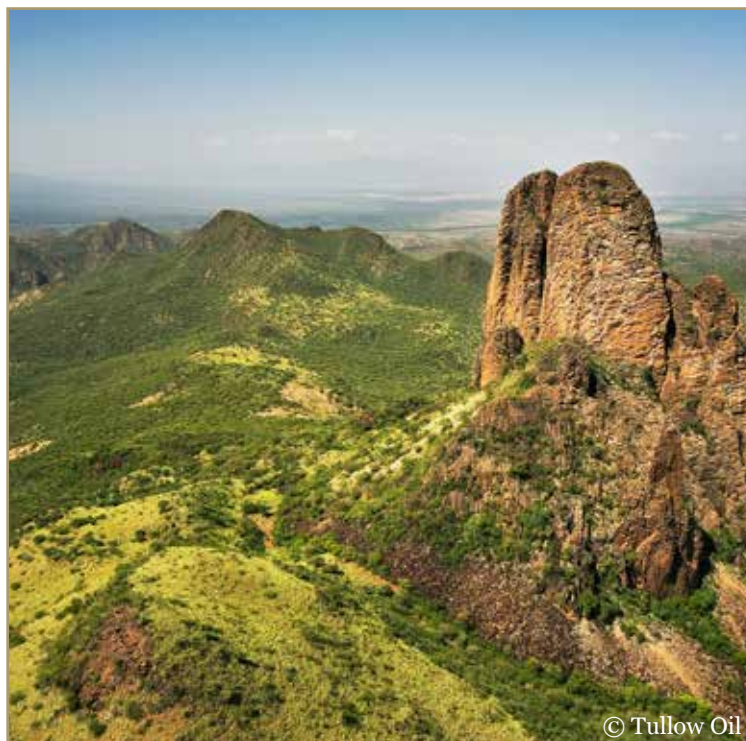
PLEASE NOTE THAT IF CLIENTS WISH TO LAND ON MOUNT KENYA, WE ONLY ALLOW 4 PAX. Should it only be a scenic flight around the peaks, then we can accept 5 pax. This is a strict policy due to safety with landing on the mountain at altitude.

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.





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.



© Richard Roberts



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.

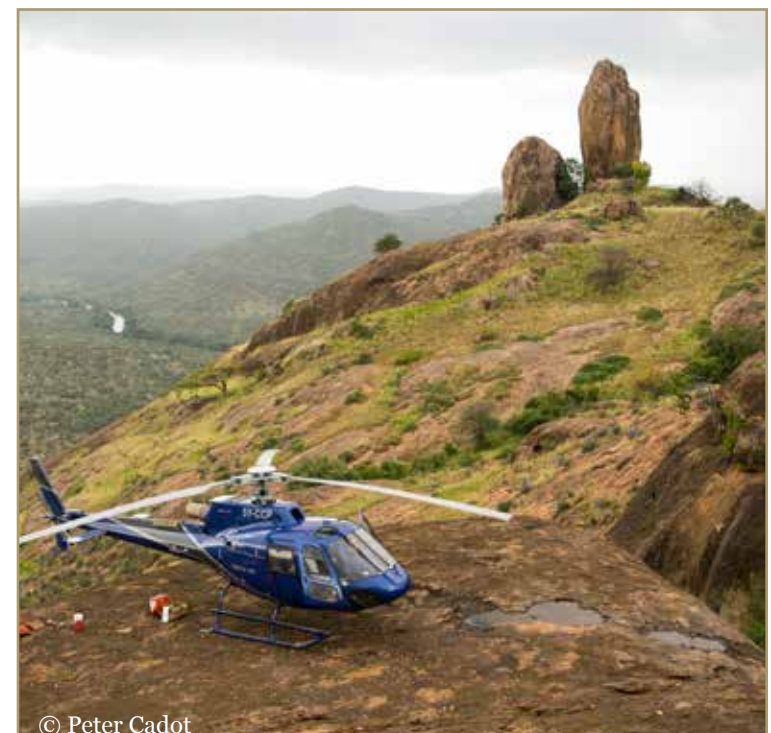
Pick up 7am, return to your lodge by lunch.

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 statue,
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.

ABOUT TROPIC AIR

Nanyuki, Kenya

Tropic Air is based in Kenya, and offers a broad range of professional air services using helicopters and fixed wing aircraft, throughout sub-Saharan Africa.

Areas of operation: 15 African countries, covering more than 10 million square kilometers: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Congo, South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Madagascar, Mozambique, Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia.

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