

Welcome to East Africa

Albatros Africa welcomes you to East Africa.
We are on call 24 hours a day so please feel free
to contact us anytime.

Our emergency contact numbers are:

- Kenya +254 734687345
- Tanzania +255 683812236

Albatros travel





Nairobi

Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, is the starting point for many safaris giving you a night or two to discover this bustling city. Just over a century ago, Nairobi, meaning cool water in Maa, was no more than a small water depot on a train route; it has now become a hub for Kenya's many businesses as well as a major centre for commerce in Africa. Today the city's skyline bristles with skyscrapers; its modernity and spaciousness surprising many first time visitors.

Since it was founded, little over a century ago, the city has grown at a breakneck speed becoming one of the continent's largest metropolises. As a result, the city sometimes suffers from chaotic traffic jams and many visitors therefore choose to stay in the leafy suburbs where many delightful accommodation choices and hotels are on offer.

For the traveller who has some time to spend in the city, there is plenty to see and do; from lush green parks and world class golf courses to museums, upscale restaurants and trendy bars. Nairobi might not be the reason people come to Kenya, but one shouldn't overlook this vibrant city which has plenty to offer every inquisitive visitor.



EXCURSIONS

Nairobi City Tour

A three hour tour of Kenya's bustling capital including a visit to the National Museum, City Market and Nairobi View Point.

Giraffe Centre

This is a sanctuary for the endangered Rothschild giraffe species, where you will be able to interact with and feed the giraffes.

Karen Blixen Museum

Go back in time and discover the house of Karen Blixen, the famous author of *Out of Africa*, exactly as it was when she lived in Kenya.

Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage

Visit the many baby elephants that have been rescued from threatening situations in Kenya's various national parks and even get a chance to see the calves being fed and playing with the staff.

Animal Orphanage

It is here that a number of different animals that have been orphaned are housed and cared for. Not only are the animals adorable, this is a great opportunity to get up close and personal with Kenya's incredible wildlife.

Nairobi Shopping

Discover the best handicrafts, art, jewellery, fashion and accessories Nairobi has to offer on

this full day tour of the Utamaduni Craft Centre, Matbronze, Kazuri Beads and House of Treasures.

Nairobi Kid's Day

An adventurous, cultural and educational day for both you and your children. This full day tour includes a visit to the Giraffe Centre, the Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage, the Animal Orphanage and the Boma's of Kenya where you will be able to gain some insight into Kenya's various tribes by discovering their traditionally built homesteads.

Golf

Nairobi boasts several world-class golf courses with international golf standards and some of the world's finest design and landscaping. Enjoy a leisurely game of golf at one of the city's many golf clubs for a chance to unwind and relax in nature.

Nairobi National Park

Spend half the day or a full day with a picnic lunch in search of lion, rhino, buffalo and other plains game without leaving Nairobi.

For more information on any of the above excursions or to book these please contact us on +254 202629229 or +254 734687345 and we will be happy to assist.

Kenya Coast

If miles and miles of white sandy beaches, coral reefs, fresh seafood and blue skies are your idea of a perfect holiday destination then you are in luck, as the Kenya Coast boasts one of the best white sandy beaches in Africa. The warm water of the Indian Ocean caters to every tourist; with everything from large resorts and water sports to untouched gems reachable only by 4X4 or dhow, a visit to the Kenyan coast can be as peaceful or exciting as you wish.

In addition to its beautiful beaches, Kenya Coast offers a diverse and rich cultural history which can be traced back to former Portuguese, Arab and British settlers. The city's food, architecture, and people reflect the lasting impression these settlers left behind.

The Indian Ocean laps gently against one of the best places to visit if you are after a spot of tranquillity tropical Manda island. Part of the Lamu Archipelago, an unspoiled tropical nirvana, Manda is a piece of paradise where you can also undertake a voyage by dhow, a traditional Swahili sailing vessel, and visit the ancient Takwa ruins. Exploring the historic backstreets in the nearby sleepy town of Lamu is a real treat for the traveller who needs to recharge, perhaps after spending some time on safari.

What's more, the coast also offers a host of wildlife to observe, from thumbless monkeys and elephant shrews to dolphins and turtles, meaning you'll never be 'off safari' even when relaxing on the beach.





EXCURSIONS

Mombasa City Tour

A full day cultural and historic tour as well as a chance to purchase local handicrafts, The tour includes a visit to Fort Jesus, the former slave market, the dhow harbour and Akamba Handicrafts.

BomboluluTour

A visit to the Bombolulu Workshop where you will be able to discover and purchase a range of jewellery, textile, wood and leather products all manufactured by men and women with disabilities.

Haller Park

Walk along the Bamburi Nature Trail in the heart of Mombasa with your own personal guide and discover the wide array of bird and wildlife including giraffes, hippos, buffalos, antelopes and many other smaller species that call the park home.

Cultural Tour

Experience the daily life of the Mombasa locals with a visit to a typical Kenyan home, one of the local schools and a chance to experience traditional medicine in practice and lastly a visit to the snake park.

Malindi Ruins Tour

Take a tour of cultural and historical sites of the little coastal town of Kilifi and Malindi including a visit to the ruins of the 16th century town of Gedi, a glass bottom boat tour of the Marine Park, a visit to

the Vasco de Gama Pillar, the falconry and lastly to a traditional Giriama village.

Pili Pipa Dhow Safari

A full day safari on a traditional dhow including a guided snorkelling safari in Kisite Marine National Park and a delicious Swahili seafood lunch on the private Wasini Island.

Tamarind Dhow Cruise

Hop on board a traditional dhow for a lunch or dinner cruise passing through the old town, Fort Jesus and entering the calm waters of Tudor Creek while you are served grilled lobster, giant fillet steak or a very special seafood dish prepared by world famous Tamarind Restaurant.

Shimba Hills Game Reserve

Enjoy a half or full day game viewing in the Shimbo Hills Game Reserve. The reserve offers magnificent views over the Indian Ocean to the east and bush country to the west with rolling hills, tropical streams and splendid waterfalls.

Tsavo East National Park

A full day excursion to Tsavo East National Park famous for its many elephants. You will enjoy a full day of game spotting including lunch at Aruba Lodge, Voi Safari Lodge or Voi Wildlife Lodge.



Arusha

Also known as “A” Town by the locals, Arusha is situated at the foot of Mt Meru and surrounded by some of Africa’s most famous landscapes and National Parks — Arusha National Park, the Ngorongoro Crater, Lake Manyara, Olduvai Gorge, Tarangire National Park and Mt Kilimanjaro.

Founded a little over a century ago by German colonists, the city was named after the local tribe Waarusha and has quickly become a multi-cultural city and a major international diplomatic hub. It is today regarded as the East African Community’s de facto capital.

While a stay in Arusha will likely be limited to a short transit period, there will most probably not be much time for sightseeing. However, in the case that visitors would like to venture further than their hotel room and explore this vibrant city, Arusha has plenty to offer with the natural charm of the Tanzanians, the buzz of a fast growing city and its famous clock tower situated at the midpoint between Cairo and Cape Town.



EXCURSIONS

Tengeru Cultural Tour

Spend a half or full day on a unique cultural experience at Tengeru village. The tour includes lunch, a guided visit to the village and school and insight into the traditional farming methods still used today.

Arusha National Park

Discover the diverse habitats of Arusha National Park on a half or full day safari. In addition to game drives, you can enjoy walks on Mt Meru or canoeing on the Momela lakes.

Cultural Heritage

Visit Cultural Heritage, a unique cultural centre, for a chance to purchase local souvenirs including curios, jewellery, Tanzanite & other precious stones, fine art and antiques.

Kilimanjaro Day Trip

A full day hiking with picnic lunch on the lower slopes of Mt Kilimanjaro through lush montane forest.

Shanga Project Visit

Spend the afternoon at this heart warming project dedicated to supporting and empowering disabled community members. Take a walk around the bustling workshop, have lunch at the open-air restaurant or spend your time browsing at the three trendy boutiques.

Tanzanite Experience

Visit a selection of specialist Tanzanite boutiques and museum concept stores owned by the world's largest Tanzanite mining company. This is a great chance to learn more about this fascinating stone and purchase beautiful jewellery and loose gem stones.

Our Favourite Restaurants in Arusha

Fig & Olive - Mediterranean • Blue Heron - Pizza • Impala - Indian • Chinese Dragon - Chinese • River House - BBQ



For more information on any of the above excursions or to book these please contact us on +255 736501080 and we will be happy to assist.



Dar es Salaam

Often left out of the Tanzanian holiday circuit, Dar es Salaam has plenty to offer any traveller. Tanzania's largest city, literally translated as "House of Peace", offers not only culture but miles of white exotic beaches which are unspoilt and almost deserted; a perfect haven on the shores of the Indian Ocean.

Previously part of the German East Africa, Dar es Salaam boasts a number of interesting exhibits and photo expositions related to colonial history as well as beautifully preserved historical buildings. But the city's culture does not stop there as a visit to the local fish market is a must to gain better insight into daily life in Dar.

Raised from the humble surroundings of a fishing village just over a century ago, Dar es Salaam has blossomed into one of the most beautiful sea side capitals, its large metropolitan centre is bustling with life and has plenty to offer the more restless traveller including a lively nightlife which should not be missed.



EXCURSIONS

Dar es Soloam City Tour

A half or full day cultural and historical tour including a delicious lunch and a chance to purchase some souvenirs and crafts.

Bugomoyo Day Trip

Spend a full day, discovering the 200 year old town, previously the original capital of German East Africa and one of the most important trading ports in East Africa.

Zanzibar Tour

Spend a full day discovering the island's exotic spices followed by lunch and a guided tour of Stone Town's many historical sites.

Bongoyo Island

Spend a full day relaxing and swimming on Bongoyo Island a 30 minute boat ride from Dar es Salaam. A Hut is also provided for the afternoon.

Golf

Enjoy a 9 — hole game of golf at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club.

Bird Spotting

Visit the Pugu Hills Forest where you will spend the day bird spotting with a picnic lunch. The forest is home to over 81 different bird species.

Fishing

Board a private fishing boat for a full day fishing trip in the Indian Ocean.

Our Favourite Restaurants in Dar

The Waterfront - Seafood • Cape Town Fish Market -
Sea Food • Beautiful China - Chinese





Zanzibar

Think of an exotic island and you'll probably be thinking of Zanzibar. This ancient island was once ruled by sultans and slave traders and served as a stepping stone into the African continent for missionaries and explorers.

Today, this jewel in the Indian Ocean attracts visitors intent on discovering the white sandy beaches, tropical forests and colourful coral reefs while staying at one of the quality Zanzibar beach resorts.

Aptly known as the Spice islands, Zanzibar and the nearby Pemba and Mafia Islands are separated from the mainland by a narrow strait. Stone Town, on Zanzibar, is a maze of winding streets lined with houses featuring magnificently carved brass-studded doors. The islands are steeped in history and you can sense the mystique as you wander through the bazaars and markets and marvel at the still grand architecture. If you plan to visit Zanzibar, an excursion to Stone Town is a must.

What's more, the islands have some of the best beaches in Africa and are the perfect spot for a post or pre safari wind-down. The palm trees and Arab dhows act as the perfect backdrop to lazy days of eating fresh sea food, exploring laid-back villages and swimming in the crystal blue waters on these island paradises. It is not difficult to see why Zanzibar is considered to be one of the world's most romantic honeymoon locations, with many couples choosing to tie the knot here and spend their first few married weeks in paradise.

Please find our package tours to Zanzibar and Pemba overleaf, but if you would like us to create your perfect Zanzibar holiday just get in touch with us and we will do our best to make your trip an unforgettable one.



EXCURSIONS

Stone Town Tour

A three hour tour discovering the magnificent architecture, history and culture of the historical Stone Town with a visit to the main city market, the Anglican Church of Christ, the Sultan's Palace, the Old Fort, the Jamituri Gardens and the Royal ceremonial function palace.

Spice Tour

This three hour tour will give you a better idea as to why Zanzibar is known as the Spice island. Enjoy a drive through a profusion of greenery in the country side seeing smelling and tasting a variety of spices and mouth-watering tropical seasonal fruits.

Prison Island Tour

A full day visit to Changuu Island including a visit to the prison built in 1893 as well as a chance to swim, snorkel, sunbathe or just relax and enjoy the peacefulness of this beautiful island.

Jozani Forest Tour

A three hour visit to the only forest on Unguja Island and get a closer look at Red Colobus and Blue Sykes Monkeys and the coastal evergreen bush land, mangrove forest, saline grassland and ground water forest.

Dolphin Tour

A half day tour that takes you to the small village of Kizimkazi, at the southern point of the island, for a chance to swim close to wild bottle-nosed dolphins.

Nungwi Tour

A half or full day excursion to the crystal waters of Nungwi, the perfect place for snorkelling, diving and swimming. This tour includes a visit to the Mangapwani cave where slaves were kept illegally after the official closure of the slave market in June 1873.

Sunset Dhow Cruise

An hour tour on a traditional dhow as you watch the sun set over the Indian Ocean. Savour the peacefulness and beauty of the ocean with your drink of choice in hand.

Safari Blue Tour

A full day safari on a traditional dhow including a guided snorkelling safari in Minai Bay conservation area followed by a delicious buffet lunch of Zanzibari seafood that includes grilled fish, slipper lobster and calamari. The tour also includes a chance to swim in the lagoon hidden inside Kwale Island which is surrounded by a mangrove forest.

For more information on any of the above excursions or to book these please contact us on +255 736501080 and we will be happy to assist.

Practical information

● Culture

Kenyan and Tanzanian culture are not easy to define as it differs from one tribe to another but also from one locality to another. The different cultures have however forever changed due to the colonial era and globalisation which have also changed the current generation, especially in the big cities. Tribal practices are exchanged for modern lifestyles and ideas.

Kenya has roughly 42 tribes while Tanzania counts approximately 120 different ethnic groups, most of which have evolved and been greatly influenced by industrialisation and education, completely transforming their way of life. However, some of the tribes have shunned civilisation and held on to their traditional way of life such as the Maasai people who adorn their colourful traditional garments and continue to lead a nomadic life style in huts made of mud and cow dung.

● Language

While there are many dialects spoken in both Kenya and Tanzania, all tribes use Swahili as the national language and English as the official language. JAMBO is one of the most common words you will hear spoken throughout Kenya and Tanzania; this is the simplest Swahili greeting, and is often the first word learned by visitors.

Some Useful Simple Swahili Words

GREETINGS & COMMON COURTESIES

Hello	<i>Jambo</i>
Goodbye	<i>Kwaheri</i>
How are you?	<i>Habari Yako?</i>
Fine	<i>Mzuri</i>
Please	<i>Tafadhali</i>
Thank you	<i>Asante</i>
Yes	<i>Ndiyo</i>
No	<i>Hapana</i>
May I come in?	<i>Hodi</i>
Welcome	<i>Karibu</i>
How many?	<i>Ngapi?</i>
Is there tea/coffee?	<i>Iko chai/kahawa</i>
Drinking water	<i>Maji ya kunywa</i>
No problem	<i>Hakuna matata</i>
What is your name?	<i>Unaitwa nani?</i>
My name is...	<i>Jina langu ni...</i>
Where are you from?	<i>Unatoka wapi?</i>
I come from....	<i>Mimi ninatoka...</i>

OUT SHOPPING

Basket	<i>Kikapu</i>
Newspaper	<i>Gazeti</i>
Clothes	<i>Nguo</i>
Necklace	<i>Shanga</i>
Carvings	<i>Sanamu</i>
How much?	<i>Ni bei gani?</i>
It is very expensive	<i>Ni bei ghali sana</i>
What are you selling?	<i>Unauza nini?</i>
Wrap it for me	<i>Nifungie</i>
It's a reasonable price	<i>Ni bei nafuu</i>

TIME

What time is it?	<i>Saa ngapi?</i>
Today	<i>Leo</i>
Tomorrow	<i>Kesho</i>
Yesterday	<i>Jana</i>
Morning	<i>Asubuhi</i>
Evening	<i>Jioni</i>
Night	<i>Usiku</i>



● Laundry

All camps and lodges offer laundry service and in cases this is included in the nightly rate. Please note most lodges will not wash undergarments as this goes against cultural customs, however hand washing soap is generally provided in the rooms. All laundry is washed by hand and air dried, therefore delicate materials i.e silk and wool should be left at home. Please also note that laundry in a safari lodge is weather dependent as they dry the clothes in the open.

● A Few Practical Tips

While in towns where the majority of the population is Muslim e.g. Lamu, Dar, Stone Town, Mombasa please ensure your legs are covered to the knee and that your shoulders are not on display. This is purely to show respect for the Muslim religion.

- Alcohol is not freely served in many of Mombasa's & Lamu's local restaurants. If it's not on the menu, don't ask for it. This is of course NOT the case in all hotels.
- While out exploring the coastal towns it may be worth noting that public displays of affection, while not banned, are frowned upon and can often offend people. In particular the older generation.
- Do not take any photos of anybody without

their permission. This is considered highly disrespectful and offence will be taken. Ask your driver guide to enquire if it would be ok before you start snapping away. Additionally, do not take photographs at border crossings or in the airports; this is strictly forbidden.

- Do not give money to children who ask for it as it encourages them to 'beg'. There are many community projects which you can donate to if you wish to do so. Your driver guide will be able to assist you in identifying the right ones in the area you are in.
- When on safari, never get out of the vehicle unless you are told it is safe to do so. Do not attempt to go for walks by yourself when staying in game lodges; these can be arranged in most camps and lodges for an extra cost. We recommend that you change a small amount of foreign currency into smaller denominations as it makes things easier for tipping and purchasing smaller trinkets.

● Shopping

While travelling through East Africa, you will find that the region has a wealth of charming curio shops, clothes stores and shops specialised in Africana. Shopping on safari is also possible and does not always require traditional currency; you can always swap t-shirts, socks, caps and pens for souvenirs. For those who opt to pay by cash, bargaining is a must.



Below are some suggestions for some of Kenya and Tanzania's best buys:

- Carvings — Wakamba from Kenya and Makonde from Tanzania.
- Toys, animals and decorative objects made from banana leaves, wood seeds, bottle tops.
- Precious and semi-precious stones and jewellery (in particular the very rare Tanzanite).
- Kitenges, khangas and kikoyis; brightly coloured patterned traditional cloth A perfect for the beach Various handcrafts craved from soapstone.
- Bead work jewellery, belts and bags.
- Paintings, prints and batiks.
- Ground or roasted coffee, tea and spices.
- Cashew and macadamia nuts.

Make sure that anything you purchase will be allowed through customs upon your return home and that all wooden purchases have been treated.

● Business & Shopping Hours

Usual business hours in Kenya and Tanzania are generally between 0830 to 1700hrs from Monday to Friday and 0900 to 1300hrs on Saturdays. Nonetheless, most shops can be found open on Saturday afternoon and Sunday mornings.

● Currency

The unit of currency in Kenya and Tanzania is the shilling though the countries' currencies do not share the same value. Kenya Shilling notes are available in denominations of 1000, 500, 200, 100 and 50 Tanzania Shilling notes are available in denominations of 10,000, 5000, 1000 and 500. Banks generally offer a better rate of exchange than foreign exchange bureaux and hotels. While US Dollars are widely accepted, please note that bills printed before the year 2006 will not be accepted.

● Credit Cards

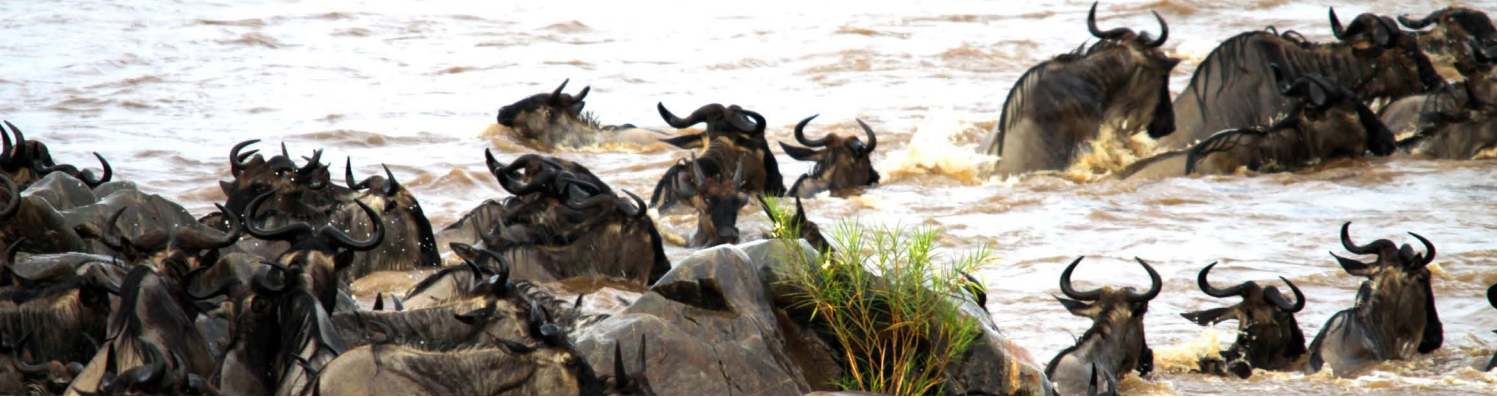
Although accepted in towns, some properties do not accept credit cards and those that do add a handling fee of circa 5%.

● Taxis

If using a taxi, make sure you agree on the price before the journey. Your hotel will be able to advise you on taxis and appropriate rates.

● Communication

Both Kenya and Tanzania have a good telephone and internet connection in the main cities and are in the process of improving the network further. Most lodges and hotels offer international telephone and internet service but make sure to



check the rates before hand as some lodges can impose a surcharge, particularly on international calls. More remote camps and lodges rely on radio for communication and mobile phone coverage is not extensive in most game parks. When calling Kenya and Tanzania, the international dialling code is +254 and +255 respectively.

● Electricity

The electricity supply in Kenya and Tanzania is 220/240 v 50hz. Plugs are 3 point square. If you have brought any electrical device from USA or Canada, you will need a voltage and plug converter. Additionally, many safari lodges run on generators which are generally switched off between 2300hrs and 0600hrs. If you need to charge any electronics, this can be done in the office.

● Reception and Transfers

On all arrangements where transfers are included, you will be met by an Albatros Travel representative on arrival at the airport and transferred to your hotel. To identify the representative look out for a sign with your name or group name.

● Arrival and Entry Formalities

Visas are the responsibility of the traveller. Some nationalities will have to obtain these prior to arrival and others will be able to obtain these on arrival at the port of entry.

A single entry visa (valid for three months) is available at Jomo Kenyatta international Airport in Nairobi, Kilimanjaro international Airport near Arusha or Julius Nyerere international Airport in Dar es Salaam for a cost of \$50 to \$100 depending on nationality(subject to change). It is imperative that clients' passports are valid for at least six months and have at least two blank pages, or four, if travelling to both Kenya and Tanzania. Clients travelling to Kenya and Tanzania do not require a multiple-entry visa.

Upon arrival at all airports, you will be met by an Albatros Kenya / Tanzania representative and introduced to your driver guide who will accompany you on your safari. You will also be transferred to the airport at the end of your safari for your flight home or onto your next destination.

● Baggage

If travelling on a flying safari, the baggage allowance on small aircraft is strictly 15Kgs, including hand luggage. All luggage must be packed in soft duffel bags. This information is essential to ensure that everything fits not only into the small aircraft but into the safari vehicles. Please note that any luggage you do not need while on safari can be stored at the office.

● Climate and Clothing

Being located on or near the equator, East Africa boasts a fabulous tropical climate which is hot and



humid on the Coast while being dry and arid in the north to north east and temperate inland. Though days are quite hot it can get pretty cold during the night in areas at altitude such as Nairobi.

There are two separate wet seasons in Kenya and Tanzania with the longest being from March to May and the shorter from November to December. Heavy rains can mean that road access becomes more limited.

The key is lightweight clothing in breathable materials for the day and warmer materials at night. Cotton is always best. Bush colours (khaki, brown, dark green) are also highly recommended. These will enable you to blend in with the environment and not draw attention to yourself when on game drives or bush walks.

● Health

Tap water in Kenya and Tanzania is not drinkable and we therefore advise that you drink only sealed, bottled water. While on safari, you will almost always find a flask of drinking water on your bedside table or in the bathroom. Ice at all hotels, camps and lodges is made with bottled water and is therefore safe to have in your drink. Remember to take anti-malaria medication especially if travelling to coastal regions and continue to take these for the required weeks after your departure.

A Yellow Fever card is required (the vaccination must be administered at least ten days prior to arrival) if entering Kenya, Tanzania or Zanzibar from an endemic country as this is required for travel between the countries. Please note that while you may not be required to obtain a yellow fever vaccination for your safari, it is recommended if you are travelling outside urban areas.

All vehicles are equipped with a basic medical kit; please ask your driver/guide if you need anything from it.

Flying doctors temporary medical cover is included for all passengers travelling with Albatros and you will be presented with your temporary membership card upon arrival which should be kept safe until your departure in case of an emergency.

● Tipping

East Africa does have a tipping culture. It is always a tricky subject and although not mandatory below are recommendations to guide you:

A basic guide of \$10 per person per day for your driver guide and \$10 per room per night for hotel tip boxes are generally the recommended amount but it is entirely dependent on the service you felt you received. Porters are best paid in local currency at the equivalent of \$1 per piece of luggage carried. However please feel free to tip all and any staff as you see fit.



● Photography

Kenya and Tanzania are great photography destinations with their diverse culture, people, landscapes and wildlife. However please note that you must first ask permission if photographing the locals as some people may be offended or expect a tip. Photographing border crossings or airports is strictly prohibited and there are certain times when flash photography is not permitted e.g. when gorilla trekking in Uganda and Rwanda.

On safari, always keep your camera on hand with the lens cap off to avoid wasting critical seconds. If you are worried about dust, use a dust/rain cover or slip your camera and lens into a pillowcase. Additionally, ensure that you always have a spare battery as recharging cameras is not always possible on safari.

● Security

Kenya and Tanzania are both safe countries; however we recommend that you take the some precautionary care that you would back home. The following are a list of basic security tips to remember while on safari in East Africa.

- Most hotels/lodges have safes; it is therefore advisable to leave valuables, traveller's cheques and travel documents locked up when away from your hotel. At those properties that do not have this facility, we recommend you keep them at the reception.

- Avoid carrying too much cash & keep a small stash separate so you do not have to reveal where you keep the rest of your money when paying for small things on the streets.
- The town and city streets are not dangerous, but we do not advise you to walk around unaccompanied. We also recommend you avoid walking around after dark and suggest you take a taxi.
- Only take marked taxis and make sure you negotiate the price up front if the car does not have a metre.
- Do not take pictures of government or military buildings.
- While on game drives, stay in the car except at designated areas.
- If on a camping safari, never keep food in your tent; it will attract wildlife.



Safari Etiquette

It is important to realise and appreciate that whenever you are in a National Park you are a visitor in our wildlife's home. The appropriate behaviour is essential to ensure the ultimate enjoyment of your safari and our wildlife's happiness.

Below is the code of conduct all visitors are expected to adhere to:

- Respect the privacy of the wildlife, this is their habitat.
- Beware of the animals, they are wild and can be unpredictable.
- Don't crowd the animals or make sudden noises or movements.
- Don't feed the animals, it upsets their diet and leads to human dependence.
- Keep quiet, noise disturbs the wildlife and may antagonise fellow visitors. It is not advisable to play music, and better to enjoy the magical sounds of the African bush.
- Stay in your vehicle at all times, except at designated picnic or walking areas.
- Keep below the maximum speed limit of (40 kph/25 mph).
- A Never drive off road, this severely damages the habitat.
- When viewing wildlife keep to a minimum distance of 20 meters and pull to the side of the road to let others pass.
- Remember that animals always have the right of way!
- Leave no litter and never leave fires unattended to or discard burning objects.
- Respect the cultural heritage of Kenya and Tanzania.
- Always dress with decorum.
- Do not purchase items that are considered to be from park resources in Kenya and Tanzania' This includes shells that are often for sale at the coast.
- Do not stay overnight in a park unauthorised, and leave before dusk' Visitors must vacate the park between 6pm and 6am unless they are camping at a designated camp site or staying overnight at a lodge / Tented Camp. Night game driving is generally NOT allowed in National Parks.



National Parks

All the national parks in Kenya and Tanzania are easily accessible by road though most of them have airstrips for both scheduled and chartered flights. Each park offers different experiences with their wide variety of bird life, wildlife, landscapes and plants.

The weather in Kenya and Tanzania is very similar and stays warm throughout the year, a factor that makes travel here easy year round.

The countries' national parks are categorised as National parks and game reserves which are run by the communities around them but still under the authority of Kenya/Tanzania Wildlife Services. In addition, 26% of the Tanzanian territory is put aside exclusively for the protection of animals.



Driving Distances Kenya

Time in hrs/Distance in Kms

Kms/hours	Nairobi	Naivasha	Elementeita	Nakuru	Baringo	Bogora	Aberdare	Mt Lodge	Simbani	Amboseli	Tsavo W	Tsavo E	Mombasa	Namanga	Diani	Malindi	Chyulu Hills	Meru	Migori	Kisumu	Keicho	Sirate	Masai Mara
150	2 hrs	2.5 hrs	3 hrs	3 hrs	4 hrs	3 hrs	3 hrs	3 hrs	4 hrs	5.5 hrs	5 hrs	8 hrs	3 hrs	10 hrs	10 hrs	11 hrs	3 hrs	5 hrs	7 hrs	5 hrs	4 hrs	7.5 hrs	6 hrs
180	2.5 hrs	3 hrs	3.5 hrs	4 hrs	5 hrs	4 hrs	4 hrs	4.5 hrs	5 hrs	6.5 hrs	7.5 hrs	10 hrs	4 hrs	10 hrs	10 hrs	10 hrs	5 hrs	7 hrs	6 hrs	4 hrs	2 hrs	5 hrs	4 hrs
220	3 hrs	3.5 hrs	4 hrs	4.5 hrs	5 hrs	5 hrs	5 hrs	5 hrs	6 hrs	8 hrs	9 hrs	12 hrs	5 hrs	12 hrs	12 hrs	12 hrs	6 hrs	7 hrs	6 hrs	4 hrs	3 hrs	5 hrs	4 hrs
250	3.5 hrs	4 hrs	4.5 hrs	5 hrs	6 hrs	6 hrs	6 hrs	6 hrs	7 hrs	9 hrs	10 hrs	14 hrs	6 hrs	13 hrs	13 hrs	13 hrs	7 hrs	8 hrs	7 hrs	5 hrs	4 hrs	5 hrs	4 hrs
325	4 hrs	4.5 hrs	5 hrs	5.5 hrs	6 hrs	6 hrs	6 hrs	6 hrs	7 hrs	9.5 hrs	10.5 hrs	15 hrs	7 hrs	15 hrs	15 hrs	15 hrs	8 hrs	10 hrs	9 hrs	6 hrs	5 hrs	6 hrs	5 hrs
350	4.5 hrs	5 hrs	5.5 hrs	6 hrs	7 hrs	7 hrs	7 hrs	7 hrs	8 hrs	10.5 hrs	11 hrs	16 hrs	8 hrs	16 hrs	16 hrs	16 hrs	9 hrs	11 hrs	10 hrs	7 hrs	6 hrs	7 hrs	6 hrs
400	5 hrs	5.5 hrs	6 hrs	6.5 hrs	7 hrs	7 hrs	7 hrs	7 hrs	8 hrs	11 hrs	12 hrs	18 hrs	9 hrs	18 hrs	18 hrs	18 hrs	10 hrs	12 hrs	11 hrs	8 hrs	7 hrs	8 hrs	7 hrs
450	5.5 hrs	6 hrs	6.5 hrs	7 hrs	8 hrs	8 hrs	8 hrs	8 hrs	9 hrs	12 hrs	13 hrs	20 hrs	10 hrs	20 hrs	20 hrs	20 hrs	11 hrs	13 hrs	12 hrs	9 hrs	8 hrs	9 hrs	8 hrs
500	6 hrs	6.5 hrs	7 hrs	7.5 hrs	8 hrs	8 hrs	8 hrs	8 hrs	9 hrs	13 hrs	14 hrs	22 hrs	11 hrs	22 hrs	22 hrs	22 hrs	12 hrs	14 hrs	13 hrs	10 hrs	9 hrs	10 hrs	9 hrs
550	6.5 hrs	7 hrs	7.5 hrs	8 hrs	9 hrs	9 hrs	9 hrs	9 hrs	10 hrs	14 hrs	15 hrs	24 hrs	12 hrs	24 hrs	24 hrs	24 hrs	13 hrs	15 hrs	14 hrs	11 hrs	10 hrs	11 hrs	10 hrs
600	7 hrs	7.5 hrs	8 hrs	8.5 hrs	9 hrs	9 hrs	9 hrs	9 hrs	10 hrs	15 hrs	16 hrs	26 hrs	13 hrs	26 hrs	26 hrs	26 hrs	14 hrs	16 hrs	15 hrs	12 hrs	11 hrs	12 hrs	11 hrs
650	7.5 hrs	8 hrs	8.5 hrs	9 hrs	10 hrs	10 hrs	10 hrs	10 hrs	11 hrs	16 hrs	17 hrs	28 hrs	14 hrs	28 hrs	28 hrs	28 hrs	15 hrs	17 hrs	16 hrs	13 hrs	12 hrs	13 hrs	12 hrs
700	8 hrs	8.5 hrs	9 hrs	9.5 hrs	10 hrs	10 hrs	10 hrs	10 hrs	11 hrs	17 hrs	18 hrs	30 hrs	15 hrs	30 hrs	30 hrs	30 hrs	16 hrs	18 hrs	17 hrs	14 hrs	13 hrs	14 hrs	13 hrs
750	8.5 hrs	9 hrs	9.5 hrs	10 hrs	11 hrs	11 hrs	11 hrs	11 hrs	12 hrs	18 hrs	19 hrs	32 hrs	16 hrs	32 hrs	32 hrs	32 hrs	17 hrs	19 hrs	18 hrs	15 hrs	14 hrs	15 hrs	14 hrs
800	9 hrs	9.5 hrs	10 hrs	10.5 hrs	11 hrs	11 hrs	11 hrs	11 hrs	12 hrs	19 hrs	20 hrs	34 hrs	17 hrs	34 hrs	34 hrs	34 hrs	18 hrs	20 hrs	19 hrs	16 hrs	15 hrs	16 hrs	15 hrs
850	9.5 hrs	10 hrs	10.5 hrs	11 hrs	12 hrs	12 hrs	12 hrs	12 hrs	13 hrs	20 hrs	21 hrs	36 hrs	18 hrs	36 hrs	36 hrs	36 hrs	19 hrs	21 hrs	20 hrs	17 hrs	16 hrs	17 hrs	16 hrs
900	10 hrs	10.5 hrs	11 hrs	11.5 hrs	12 hrs	12 hrs	12 hrs	12 hrs	13 hrs	21 hrs	22 hrs	38 hrs	19 hrs	38 hrs	38 hrs	38 hrs	20 hrs	22 hrs	21 hrs	18 hrs	17 hrs	18 hrs	17 hrs
950	10.5 hrs	11 hrs	11.5 hrs	12 hrs	13 hrs	13 hrs	13 hrs	13 hrs	14 hrs	22 hrs	23 hrs	40 hrs	20 hrs	40 hrs	40 hrs	40 hrs	21 hrs	23 hrs	22 hrs	19 hrs	18 hrs	19 hrs	18 hrs
1000	11 hrs	11.5 hrs	12 hrs	12.5 hrs	13 hrs	13 hrs	13 hrs	13 hrs	14 hrs	23 hrs	24 hrs	42 hrs	21 hrs	42 hrs	42 hrs	42 hrs	22 hrs	24 hrs	23 hrs	20 hrs	19 hrs	20 hrs	19 hrs
1050	11.5 hrs	12 hrs	12.5 hrs	13 hrs	14 hrs	14 hrs	14 hrs	14 hrs	15 hrs	24 hrs	25 hrs	44 hrs	22 hrs	44 hrs	44 hrs	44 hrs	23 hrs	25 hrs	24 hrs	21 hrs	20 hrs	21 hrs	20 hrs
1100	12 hrs	12.5 hrs	13 hrs	13.5 hrs	14 hrs	14 hrs	14 hrs	14 hrs	15 hrs	25 hrs	26 hrs	46 hrs	23 hrs	46 hrs	46 hrs	46 hrs	24 hrs	26 hrs	25 hrs	22 hrs	21 hrs	22 hrs	21 hrs
1150	12.5 hrs	13 hrs	13.5 hrs	14 hrs	15 hrs	15 hrs	15 hrs	15 hrs	16 hrs	26 hrs	27 hrs	48 hrs	24 hrs	48 hrs	48 hrs	48 hrs	25 hrs	27 hrs	26 hrs	23 hrs	22 hrs	23 hrs	22 hrs
1200	13 hrs	13.5 hrs	14 hrs	14.5 hrs	15 hrs	15 hrs	15 hrs	15 hrs	16 hrs	27 hrs	28 hrs	50 hrs	25 hrs	50 hrs	50 hrs	50 hrs	26 hrs	28 hrs	27 hrs	24 hrs	23 hrs	24 hrs	23 hrs
1250	13.5 hrs	14 hrs	14.5 hrs	15 hrs	16 hrs	16 hrs	16 hrs	16 hrs	17 hrs	28 hrs	29 hrs	52 hrs	26 hrs	52 hrs	52 hrs	52 hrs	27 hrs	29 hrs	28 hrs	25 hrs	24 hrs	25 hrs	24 hrs
1300	14 hrs	14.5 hrs	15 hrs	15.5 hrs	16 hrs	16 hrs	16 hrs	16 hrs	17 hrs	29 hrs	30 hrs	54 hrs	27 hrs	54 hrs	54 hrs	54 hrs	28 hrs	30 hrs	29 hrs	26 hrs	25 hrs	26 hrs	25 hrs
1350	14.5 hrs	15 hrs	15.5 hrs	16 hrs	17 hrs	17 hrs	17 hrs	17 hrs	18 hrs	30 hrs	31 hrs	56 hrs	28 hrs	56 hrs	56 hrs	56 hrs	29 hrs	31 hrs	30 hrs	27 hrs	26 hrs	27 hrs	26 hrs
1400	15 hrs	15.5 hrs	16 hrs	16.5 hrs	17 hrs	17 hrs	17 hrs	17 hrs	18 hrs	31 hrs	32 hrs	58 hrs	29 hrs	58 hrs	58 hrs	58 hrs	30 hrs	32 hrs	31 hrs	28 hrs	27 hrs	28 hrs	27 hrs
1450	15.5 hrs	16 hrs	16.5 hrs	17 hrs	18 hrs	18 hrs	18 hrs	18 hrs	19 hrs	32 hrs	33 hrs	60 hrs	30 hrs	60 hrs	60 hrs	60 hrs	31 hrs	33 hrs	32 hrs	29 hrs	28 hrs	29 hrs	28 hrs
1500	16 hrs	16.5 hrs	17 hrs	17.5 hrs	18 hrs	18 hrs	18 hrs	18 hrs	19 hrs	33 hrs	34 hrs	62 hrs	31 hrs	62 hrs	62 hrs	62 hrs	32 hrs	34 hrs	33 hrs	30 hrs	29 hrs	30 hrs	29 hrs
1550	16.5 hrs	17 hrs	17.5 hrs	18 hrs	19 hrs	19 hrs	19 hrs	19 hrs	20 hrs	34 hrs	35 hrs	64 hrs	32 hrs	64 hrs	64 hrs	64 hrs	33 hrs	35 hrs	34 hrs	31 hrs	30 hrs	31 hrs	30 hrs
1600	17 hrs	17.5 hrs	18 hrs	18.5 hrs	19 hrs	19 hrs	19 hrs	19 hrs	20 hrs	35 hrs	36 hrs	66 hrs	33 hrs	66 hrs	66 hrs	66 hrs	34 hrs	36 hrs	35 hrs	32 hrs	31 hrs	32 hrs	31 hrs
1650	17.5 hrs	18 hrs	18.5 hrs	19 hrs	20 hrs	20 hrs	20 hrs	20 hrs	21 hrs	36 hrs	37 hrs	68 hrs	34 hrs	68 hrs	68 hrs	68 hrs	35 hrs	37 hrs	36 hrs	33 hrs	32 hrs	33 hrs	32 hrs
1700	18 hrs	18.5 hrs	19 hrs	19.5 hrs	20 hrs	20 hrs	20 hrs	20 hrs	21 hrs	37 hrs	38 hrs	70 hrs	35 hrs	70 hrs	70 hrs	70 hrs	36 hrs	38 hrs	37 hrs	34 hrs	33 hrs	34 hrs	33 hrs
1750	18.5 hrs	19 hrs	19.5 hrs	20 hrs	21 hrs	21 hrs	21 hrs	21 hrs	22 hrs	38 hrs	39 hrs	72 hrs	36 hrs	72 hrs	72 hrs	72 hrs	37 hrs	39 hrs	38 hrs	35 hrs	34 hrs	35 hrs	34 hrs
1800	19 hrs	19.5 hrs	20 hrs	20.5 hrs	21 hrs	21 hrs	21 hrs	21 hrs	22 hrs	39 hrs	40 hrs	74 hrs	37 hrs	74 hrs	74 hrs	74 hrs	38 hrs	40 hrs	39 hrs	36 hrs	35 hrs	36 hrs	35 hrs
1850	19.5 hrs	20 hrs	20.5 hrs	21 hrs	22 hrs	22 hrs	22 hrs	22 hrs	23 hrs	40 hrs	41 hrs	76 hrs	38 hrs	76 hrs	76 hrs	76 hrs	39 hrs	41 hrs	40 hrs	37 hrs	36 hrs	37 hrs	36 hrs
1900	20 hrs	20.5 hrs	21 hrs	21.5 hrs	22 hrs	22 hrs	22 hrs	22 hrs	23 hrs	41 hrs	42 hrs	78 hrs	39 hrs	78 hrs	78 hrs	78 hrs	40 hrs	42 hrs	41 hrs	38 hrs	37 hrs	38 hrs	37 hrs
1950	20.5 hrs	21 hrs	21.5 hrs	22 hrs	23 hrs	23 hrs	23 hrs	23 hrs	24 hrs	42 hrs	43 hrs	80 hrs	40 hrs	80 hrs	80 hrs	80 hrs	41 hrs	43 hrs	42 hrs	39 hrs	38 hrs	39 hrs	38 hrs
2000	21 hrs	21.5 hrs	22 hrs	22.5 hrs	23 hrs	23 hrs	23 hrs	23 hrs	24 hrs	43 hrs	44 hrs	82 hrs	41 hrs	82 hrs	82 hrs	82 hrs	42 hrs	44 hrs	43 hrs	40 hrs	39 hrs	40 hrs	39 hrs
2050	21.5 hrs	22 hrs	22.5 hrs	23 hrs	24 hrs	24 hrs	24 hrs	24 hrs	25 hrs	44 hrs	45 hrs	84 hrs	42 hrs	84 hrs	84 hrs	84 hrs	43 hrs	45 hrs	44 hrs	41 hrs	40 hrs	41 hrs	40 hrs
2100	22 hrs	22.5 hrs	23 hrs	23.5 hrs	24 hrs	24 hrs	24 hrs	24 hrs	25 hrs	45 hrs	46 hrs	86 hrs	43 hrs	86 hrs	86 hrs	86 hrs	44 hrs	46 hrs	45 hrs	42 hrs	41 hrs	42 hrs	41 hrs
2150	22.5 hrs	23 hrs	23.5 hrs	24 hrs	25 hrs	25 hrs	25 hrs	25 hrs	26 hrs	46 hrs	47 hrs	88 hrs	44 hrs	88 hrs	88 hrs	88 hrs	45 hrs	47 hrs	46 hrs	43 hrs	42 hrs	43 hrs	42 hrs
2200	23 hrs	23.5 hrs	24 hrs	24.5 hrs	25 hrs	25 hrs	25 hrs	25 hrs	26 hrs	47 hrs	48 hrs	90 hrs	45 hrs	90 hrs	90 hrs	90 hrs	46 hrs	48 hrs	47 hrs	44 hrs	43 hrs	44 hrs	43 hrs
2250	23.5 hrs	24 hrs	24.5 hrs	25 hrs	26 hrs	26 hrs	26 hrs	26 hrs	27 hrs	48 hrs	49 hrs	92 hrs	46 hrs	92 hrs	92 hrs	92 hrs	47 hrs	49 hrs	48 hrs	45 hrs	44 hrs	45 hrs	44 hrs
2300	24 hrs	24.5 hrs	25 hrs	25.5 hrs	26 hrs	26 hrs	26 hrs	26 hrs	27 hrs	49 hrs	50 hrs	94 hrs	47 hrs	94 hrs	94 hrs	94 hrs	48 hrs	50 hrs	49 hrs	46 hrs	45 hrs	46 hrs	45 hrs
2350	24.5 hrs	25 hrs	25.5 hrs	26 hrs	27 hrs	27 hrs	27 hrs	27 hrs	28 hrs	50 hrs	51 hrs	96 hrs	48 hrs	96 hrs	96 hrs	96 hrs	49 hrs	51 hrs	50 hrs	47 hrs	46 hrs	47 hrs	46 hrs
2400	25 hrs	25.5 hrs	26 hrs	26.5 hrs	27 hrs	27 hrs	27 hrs	27 hrs	28 hrs	51 hrs	52 hrs	98 hrs	49 hrs	98 hrs	98 hrs	98 hrs	50 hrs	52 hrs	51 hrs	48 hrs	47 hrs	48 hrs	47 hrs
2450	25.5 hrs	26 hrs	26.5 hrs	27 hrs	28 hrs	28 hrs	28 hrs	28 hrs	29 hrs	52 hrs	53 hrs	100 hrs	50 hrs	100 hrs	100 hrs	100 hrs	51 hrs	53 hrs	52 hrs	49 hrs	48 hrs	49 hrs	48 hrs
2500	26 hrs	26.5 hrs	27 hrs	27.5 hrs	28 hrs	28 hrs	28 hrs	28 hrs	29 hrs	53 hrs	54 hrs	102 hrs	51 hrs	102 hrs	102 hrs	102 hrs	52 hrs	54 hrs	53 hrs	50 hrs	49 hrs	50 hrs	49 hrs
2550	26.5 hrs	27 hrs	27.5 hrs	28 hrs	29 hrs	29 hrs	29 hrs	29 hrs	30 hrs	54 hrs	55 hrs	104 hrs	52 hrs	104 hrs	104 hrs	104 hrs	53 hrs	55 hrs	54 hrs	51 hrs	50 hrs	51 hrs	50 hrs
2600	27 hrs	27.5 hrs	28 hrs	28.5 hrs	29 hrs	29 hrs	29 hrs	29 hrs	30 hrs	55 hrs	56 hrs	106 hrs	53 hrs	106 hrs	106 hrs	106 hrs	54 hrs	56 hrs	55 hrs	52 hrs	51 hrs	52 hrs	51 hrs
2650	27.5 hrs	28 hrs	28.5 hrs	29 hrs	30 hrs	30 hrs	30 hrs	30 hrs	31 hrs	56 hrs	57 hrs	108 hrs	54 hrs	108 hrs	108 hrs	108 hrs	55 hrs	57 hrs	56 hrs	53 hrs	52 hrs	53 hrs	52 hrs
2700	28 hrs	28.5 hrs	29 hrs	29.5 hrs	30 hrs	30 hrs	30 hrs	30 hrs	31 hrs	57 hrs	58 hrs	110 hrs	55 hrs	110 hrs	110 hrs	110 hrs	56 hrs	58 hrs	57 hrs	54 hrs	53 hrs	54 hrs	53 hrs
2750	28.5 hrs	29 hrs	29.5 hrs	30 hrs	31 hrs	31 hrs	31 hrs	31 hrs	32 hrs	58 hrs	59 hrs	112 hrs	56 hrs	112 hrs									

National Parks of Kenya



Nairobi National Park

Nairobi National Park became the first national park in Kenya in 1946. It is the only national park in the world to be located within a city and is definitely worth a visit while in Nairobi. Common sightings include lions, buffalos, giraffes as well as numerous exotic birds. In addition, the park is a major sanctuary for the endangered black rhino to restock other parks.

Lake Nakuru National Park

Lake Nakuru is 230 km north west of Nairobi and the drive through the Rift Valley is nothing short of breath taking. Meaning 'Dusty Place' in the local Maasai tongue, Nakuru was founded as a park in 1961 and now encompasses a large area surrounding the lake. The lake itself is a shallow alkaline body of water the size of which can vary enormously from season to season. At its largest, the lake covers 45 square kilometres which shrinks to as little as 5 square kilometres in dry conditions.

Lake Nakuru is a birder's paradise with 400 different species of birds located around its shores. Apart from the rather obvious flamingos (water levels dependant), other species that are present include avocets, ducks, stilts and little grebes. The park also has fabulous game including the elusive leopard, the endangered black rhino and the regular plains game. The lake is located in the centre of the park and takes about an hour to drive around. Lake Nakuru is extremely popular with all visitors to Kenya because of its diversity and proximity to Nairobi and the other Rift Valley lakes.

Hells Gate National Park

Hell's Gate National Park lies to the south of Lake Naivasha,

north west of Nairobi, in the Great Rift Valley. The park, which mainly comprises a savannah ecosystem, harbours a wide variety of wildlife including over 100 species of birds, African buffalo, Zebra, eland, hartebeest, Thomson's gazelle, and baboons. The park's close proximity to Nairobi has made it an ideal weekend getaway spot but is also popular for its unusual hot geysers and springs, which are rich in algae due to high concentration of alkaline. The absence of wild cats and big mammals make a walk or mountain biking safari possible and offers an adventurous way to explore the park's geological formations, wildlife and birdlife.

Aberdare National Park

The Aberdare National Park, with an area of 767 Km² covers the higher areas of the Aberdare Mountain Ranges of Central Kenya. The scenery is quite diverse with deep ravines cutting through the forested eastern and western slopes. Animals easily observed in the park include the Black Rhino, baboon, black and white Colobus monkeys and sykes. Rarer sightings include lions, leopards, the golden cat and the bongo; an elusive forest antelope that lives in the bamboo forest. Animals such as the eland and serval cat can be found higher up in the moorlands.

Visitors can also indulge in picnics, trout fishing and camping. This area is also a birders paradise with over 250 species of birds including the Jackson's Francolin, sparrow hawk, goshawks, eagles, sun birds and plovers.

The Masai Mara National Reserve

No trip to Kenya would be complete without a visit to the Masai Mara National Reserve. This iconic game reserve is Kenya's biggest draw card, instantly recognisable from



films and nature documentaries. It is known mainly for its exceptional population of big cats, abundant game and the annual Great Migration of around one and a half million zebras, gazelles, and wildebeest from the Serengeti every year between July and October.

The wildlife of the Masai Mara is extensive but can be divided into mammals, birds and reptiles. Many of the mammals can be divided into carnivores, primates and ungulates (hooved animals). Carnivores that you are likely to see include cheetahs, genets, Hyenas, Jackals, leopards, lions, mongoose and wild dogs. Primates include baboons, bush babies and monkeys.

The so-called 'Big Five' of Buffalos, Elephants, Leopards, Lions and Rhinos are, of course, all present. Along with the animals the Masai Mara is also home to the Maasai people whose pastoral lifestyle, colourful garb and culture have made them Kenya's best known tribe.

There is a variety of accommodation on offering the Masai Mara, and most take the form of luxury safari camps and lodges. While you are in the Mara, take an early morning trip in a hot air balloon and sip champagne on the open plain as Africa's wildlife begins to stir this is truly an unforgettable experience.

Samburu National Park

North of Mt Kenya is the remote Samburu National Park. It is often regarded by travellers and guides in Kenya as the best of Kenya's national parks. The drive from the foothills of Mt Kenya treats the traveller to an unusual spectacle of green bush and forest on one side and a desert landscape on the other. Like in all of Kenya's national parks there is

no shortage of game here and there are frequent sightings of all of the big cats, as well as all of Kenya's plains game. Visitors will also be privileged to see the red-robed Samburu tribesmen bringing their cattle down to the river to drink. The lives of the Samburu, like the Masai, are centered on their livestock which are their traditional means of survival. After initiation, boys become 'Morans' and it becomes their duty to protect both the humans and the livestock from predators.

Amboseli National Park

Amboseli National Park is located immediately north west of Mt Kilimanjaro and 240 km southeast of Nairobi, right on the Tanzanian border. This is certainly one of the most picturesque places in Africa to view game and the sight of herds of elephants trudging slowly across the plains in front of Africa's highest mountain is as iconic as it is breath taking. Amboseli is filled with the larger game species including zebras, giraffes and all of the other plains game such as elephants and Africa's big cats. The famous landmark of Observation Hill must be visited and from here you will be able to view the entire park and take some stunning photos. You will also see the famous faces of the Maasai people with their bright red shukas and their long spears. The park has accommodation choices to suit everybody's taste and budget, with everything from budget camping style bandas to high end luxury lodges and tented camps.

Tsavo East National Park

The Joint mass of Tsavo West and Tsavo East National Parks forms one of the largest National parks in the world and covers a massive 4% of Kenya's total land area. Tsavo East, the larger of the two, lies to the east of the



Nairobi -Mombasa road, equidistant between Nairobi and Mombasa, and offers a vast and untapped arena of arid bush which is washed by the azure and emerald meandering of the Galana River. Guarded by the limitless lava reaches of the Yatta plateau and patrolled by some of the largest elephant herds in Kenya.

Tsavo West National Park

The park is located in south eastern Kenya, 240Km from Nairobi along the western side of the Mombasa-Nairobi highway. The savannah ecosystem comprises of open grasslands, scrub lands, Acacia woodlands, belts of riverine vegetation and rocky ridges.

Major wildlife attractions include elephant, rhino, hippo, lion, cheetah, leopard, buffalo and diverse plant & bird species. Additionally, a visit to the Ngulia Rhino Sanctuary and Mzima Springs is highly recommended.

Mt Kenya National Park

Mt Kenya National Park is located 175 kilometres north east of Nairobi in central Kenya, Dubbed a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997, at 5,199metres Mt Kenya is Africa's second highest peak and an important water tower in Kenya. The mountain provides water to over 50% of the country's population and produces 70% of Kenya's hydroelectric power. The park, made up of diverse landscapes and attractions, including pristine wilderness, lakes, glacier-clad summits, forests, mineral springs, unique alpine vegetation, rare and endangered species of animals and high altitude adapted plains game. On the mountain's lower slopes, giant forest hog tree hyrax, white-tailed mongoose, elephant, black rhino and over 130 species of bird can be easily spotted.

Laikipia

Considered the gateway to Kenya's wild northern frontier

country, Laikipia consists of a 9,500km² mid-altitude plateau running from Mt Kenya to the Aberdares, and incised by the Ewaso Nyiro and Ewaso Narok Rivers. Much of Laikipia is covered by large, privately owned ranches with private camps and whose cattle share the land with free ranging wildlife. These numerous wildlife conservancies have become sanctuaries for local communities as well as many wildlife species including elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, and a wealth of plains game, including many endemic Northern species.

A spectacular region of beautiful wilderness, the Laikipia Plateau is without a doubt Kenya's greatest conservation success story with protected animals roaming freely and safely while preserving traditional farming methods and ways of life.

Meru National Park

Meru National Park, where George and Joy Adamson released their famous lioness Elsa back into the wild, occupies part of a vast savannah in the basin of the Tana River on the relatively rainy eastern side of Mt Kenya. This unspoiled 870km² stretch of well-watered, dense bush, acacia woodland and verdant, tall grasslands dotted with wild doum palms, is one of Kenya's least visited big parks. This in addition to very few camps within the park ensures for a more exclusive safari experience.

Meru's game viewing easily matches, and at some times exceeds, that found in the country's more popular parks with increasingly frequent sightings of the Big Five as well as cheetah and other savannah species including Grevy's zebra, Reticulated giraffe, gerenuk and over 300 species of birds.

National Parks of Tanzania



Arusha National Park

At the foothills of Mt Meru, the 552km² Arusha National Park is a gem not to be missed. Visitors can explore a fascinating array of ecosystems with montane forests packed with blue monkeys and colourful trogon birds, as well as the Momela lakes, like gems fringed with pink shores of flamingos, and the stunning views of Mt Kilimanjaro. Access to the park is easy and it is only 40 minute drive from the town of Arusha.

Lake Manyara National Park

Lake Manyara National Park is small compared to Tanzania's other parks. At only 330km², it fits neatly into the Great Rift Valley. This park was described by Ernest Hemingway as 'the loveliest place I have ever seen'. The shallow alkaline lake is often covered by resident flamingos and whatever the park lacks in size it makes up for in diversity. Apart from the lake and the many lions that roam the park, there is an expanse of tropical jungle filled with troops of baboons, a variety of bird species and other occupants of the rainforest.

Ngorongoro Crater

The Ngorongoro crater and conservation area ranks high among Africa's most popular wildlife destinations. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, visitors are always excited to discover the world's largest inactive, intact and unfilled volcanic caldera. The conservation area receives a lot of rain; the crater floor is therefore mostly covered by montane forest and open grassland making the area home to a wide range of wildlife including elephants, lions, hippos, rhinos, leopards and many more. Game viewing in the Crater is excellent all year round.

Serengeti National Park

No visit to Tanzania would be complete without an excursion to the famed Serengeti National Park whose

plain's run over 14,736km². It is from here that massive concentrations of wildebeest and zebras commence the annual Great Migration in search of new pastures providing one of the greatest natural spectacles to be found anywhere in the world. The Serengeti, meaning 'endless plain' in the Maasai language, is Tanzania's oldest and most popular national park.

Tarangire National Park

Named after the river that winds its way through the park, the Tarangire extends over some 2,600km² (1,615 square miles) in the Rift Valley. Arid and studded with giant termite mounds, it is here that you can witness massive herds of elephant with some reaching as many as 500. During the dry season the park becomes a haven for many migratory species and this is the best time to see animals as they cluster around various water sources. When the rains arrive the animals become more widely distributed and the regions swamps are alive with bird life.

Kilimanjaro National Park

Kilimanjaro is the highest mountain in Africa (5,895 meters above sea level), and the world's highest free-standing mountain, making it one of the seven most sought-after peaks. Despite its location, just 330kms south of the Equator, on Tanzania's northern border, its size, height and location on a flat open plain close to the Indian Ocean, strongly influence the climate which in turn influences its vegetation. Kilimanjaro counts five distinct ecological zones montane forest, hagenia, heathland, alpine desert and arctic-making it one of the most beautiful and varied peaks on earth. The mountain is also one of the world's most accessible high summits.

Selous National Park

Many visitors come away from the Selous Game Reserve acknowledging that this is Africa as it always has been.

Only 200 km West of Dar es Salaam, lies the mighty Selous Game Reserve at an unbelievable 55,000km² making it almost twice the size of Belgium and four times larger than the famous Serengeti. Fed by the mighty Ruflii River, the largest river in East Africa, this reserve is home to over 1,000,000 large animals and over half of Tanzania's elephant population. The Selous is unique among reserves in Tanzania as it encompasses an area exclusively devoted to tourism in its Northern part, making up for about 10% of the reserve's total size.

Ruaha National Park

The Ruaha National Park, gazetted in 1964, lies between two large rivers, the Njombe and the Ruaha. Ruaha national park is one of Tanzania's few famous wilderness areas where one can have a rare experience of game viewing spiced up by the fascinating landscape. The park is rich in plants and animals such as Greater Kudu which cannot be found in any other national park in Tanzania. Due to the park's hot, dry climate the animals tend not to stray very far from the four main rivers, making for excellent game viewing.

Katavi & Mahale Mountains National Park

In the far west of Tanzania, lie two of the country's lesser known national parks: Katavi and Mahale Mountains National Park. The western circuit remains an untouched, unique experience absolutely worth visiting due to its extreme remoteness.

Katavi

Katavi is Tanzania's third largest national park. The area is largely dominated by two large plains surrounded by varied woodlands and an abundance of game. The park's 4,500km² is best visited during dry season (August -October) when the plains are filled with millions of zebra, topi and impala.

Mahale

Mahale has often been described as "quite simply one of the most beautiful parks anywhere in Africa". Gazetted in 1985, Mahale Mountain National Park covers an area of 1,613 km² and is located on the eastern shore of Lake Tanganyika. The lake shore is a beach of the finest powder white sand with a range of imposing mountains clad with tropical vegetation in the backdrop. The park is home to Tanzania's Chimpanzees.