



East Africa: Safari Drives, Maasai Culture & the Great Migration

15 days, Nairobi to Arusha

Trip code DKTG

What's included

- Your G for Good Moment: Il Ngwesi Eco-Lodge Stay, Il Ngwesi
- Your G for Good Moment: Café Ubuntu 3-Course Farm-to-Table Lunch, Maai Mahiu
- Your G for Good Moment: Mto wa Mbu Banana Plantation Bike Ride or Village Walk & Community Lunch, Mto wa Mbu
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your OMG Day: Maasai Village Visit or Kenya Wildlife Safari Drive, Il Ngwesi
- Your OMG Day: Lake Manyara Safari Drive or Elephant Cave Walk & Coffee Plantation Tour, Karatu
- Complimentary Arrival and Departure Transfers
- Welcome and Farewell dinners
- Safari drive near Il Ngwesi Lodge
- Bush walk with a Maasai guide
- Safari drive in the Maasai Mara Reserve
- Tree Planting Experience
- Bush dinner
- Internal flight between Nairobi & Il Ngwesi Lodge
- Internal flight between Il Ngwesi Lodge & Maasai Mara
- Amboseli National Park Safari Drive
- Picnic lunch at Hippo lake
- Crater Rim View Point Visit
- Safari drive inside Ngorongoro Crater
- Serengeti National Park safari drives
- Wildlife Safari Drives near Ngorongoro Highlands
- Banana Plantation Bike Ride or Village Walk on return to Arusha
- All tips included for activities and meals, except for CEO and portorage
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing February 25th, 2026 and onwards

Itinerary



NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

Nairobi: Welcome to Kenya

From culture to wildlife to active adventures, Kenya has it all, and has well-earned its reputation as one of the best places for safari in Africa. But this adventure goes way beyond that, bringing you a step further off the beaten path. Welcome to Nairobi and to Kenya, where we invite you to leave your hesitations behind and dive straight into the action.

Join your CEO and fellow travellers for a welcome briefing. Afterwards, head out for a delicious welcome dinner.



Meals included

Dinner



Accommodation

Pridelnn Azure Hotel Nairobi (or similar)

Hotel



Today's Activities

Airport Transfer

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport – Nairobi

Settle in and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Il Ngwesi: Maasai Wildlife Tracking

Without a doubt the Maasai people have become the symbol of East Africa in many ways. North of Nairobi, south of Samburu, sits a very special lodge with a very special story. Il Ngwesi is owned and operated by the local Maasai community. The aim is to invite travelers to meet the community and feel completely immersed into your surroundings. It can be hard to really understand a culture when you are limited to a quick hour-long visit, and this experience at Il Ngwesi is the exact opposite. Spend plenty of time with your hosts, asking questions and discussing life. Join them on a bush walk to learn local techniques, or visit the village to learn how to craft some beautiful beadwork. With a laid back pace and a completely private experience, your stay at Il Ngwesi is completely worthy of its OMG status.

After a short flight from Nairobi to Laikipia, transfer to a vehicle to make your way north to Il Ngwesi. Keep your eyes peeled as you will be on safari some of the way to the lodge. Stretch your legs this afternoon and join your Maasai guides on a bush walk as they teach you different bird calls and how to spot elephant tracks in the bush.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Il Ngwesi Eco-Lodge (or similar)

Lodge

Owned and run by the Maasai community, Il Ngwesi offers a truly unique, once in a lifetime opportunity. Visitors to the lodge are immersed in wildlife and Maasai culture. At Il Ngwesi, join your Maasai host on a bushwalk, learn the traditional ways of hunting, watch the watering hole from the house and experience local music and dancing.



Today's Activities

Plane

Nairobi - Lewa Downs Airstrip

1h

Sit back and enjoy the scenery on your short flight from Nairobi to Lewa Downs.

7-Seat 4x4 Safari Vehicle

Lewa Downs Airstrip - Laikipia

2h-3h

Take a private Safari vehicle from the Lewa Downs Airstrip to the Laikipia. This transfer is likely to take 2 hours as a transfer, but will take closer to 3 hours, as we will see wildlife en route. The drive is via the Lewa Conservancy.

Guided Bush Walk

Laikipia

A highlight of your stay at Il Ngwesi is the bush walk. Walking with the Maasai guides, the stories on the tracks and trails unfold around you as you learn to spot the different calls and habitats of the birds and animals. As you walk, you will hear the ancient tales as told by the Maasai people to explain the world around you.

ACTIVITY

Enjoy a truly unique stay at Il Ngwesi, an eco-lodge owned and operated by the Maasai community. Become immersed in the resident wildlife and Maasai culture, join your host on bush walks, learn more about traditional ways of hunting, watch the watering hole from a unique perch, and join in on some dancing to local music. The best part? Your stay is helping to support the nearby community while offering guests no barrier between each room and the vast savannah. Plus, the conservation efforts here have been instrumental in protecting a number of species only found in northern Kenya.

Awake this morning at Il Ngwesi and with no front wall whatsoever, the fresh air wafts in as the sun rises. Rooms are built in the traditional style using wood and earth to afford travelers the opportunity to feel connected to traditional Maasai life in a very unique way. The lodge has an incredible location, set away from other tourist spots, and your hosts and guides are the Maasai men and women from the nearby community. Though not quite as modern as other facilities in Kenya, Il Ngwesi brings you straight into the heart of a Maasai community who are keen to welcome you and engage with you from the moment you arrive.

Today you get to choose! Do you want to visit a local Maasai Village or spot wildlife? If the village visit sounds right, you will head off to one nearby and learn more about Maasai culture. If you're looking for something more wildlife focused, choose to embark on morning safari alongside extremely knowledgeable Maasai guides through some of Kenya's most spectacular scenery and spot the legendary wildlife of the plains. The afternoon is for enjoying the lodge's atmosphere and amenities before a delicious dinner together as a group.

Today might just be the best day of your trip. For your OMG Day, choose between a cultural immersion visit to a nearby Maasai village, or set off on a morning wildlife safari drive through Kenya's beautiful landscape in search for the legendary creatures that call this place home. In the afternoon, you'll enjoy free time at the lodge before a group dinner in the evening.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Il Ngwesi Eco-Lodge (or similar)

Lodge

Owned and run by the Maasai community, Il Ngwesi offers a truly unique, once in a lifetime opportunity. Visitors to the lodge are immersed in wildlife and Maasai culture. At Il Ngwesi, join your Maasai host on a bushwalk, learn the traditional ways of hunting, watch the watering hole from the house and experience local music and dancing.



Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

Option 1: Enjoy a visit to a nearby Maasai Village where the group will learn about the Maasai culture. Witness how the lodge is also helping this community to develop and admire the exquisite beaded necklaces, bracelets and earrings worn by both the men and women, and watch expert bead makers in action. Learn about the traditions that have been passed down from generation to generation.

Option 2: Join knowledgeable, local Maasai Safari Guides on a morning drive. Drive away from the crowds and take in some of Kenya's most spectacular scenery. The area is famous for its high population of big cats and is also home to the Great Migration. Climb aboard your safari vehicle and head out in search of wildlife!

Free Time

Il Ngwesi

Enjoy a free afternoon to partake in the lodge's amenities, or simply relax in an unforgettable setting.

ACTIVITY

Enjoy a truly unique stay at Il Ngwesi, an eco-lodge owned and operated by the Maasai community. Become immersed in the resident wildlife and Maasai culture, join your host on bush walks, learn more about traditional ways of hunting, watch the watering hole from a unique perch, and join in on some dancing to local music. The best part? Your stay is helping to support the nearby community while offering guests no barrier between each room and the vast savannah. Plus, the conservation efforts here have been instrumental in protecting a number of species only found in northern Kenya.

Maasai Mara: Gateway to Safari

Hosting the safari Big Five, the Great Migration and offering unparalleled wildlife encounters, the Mara is a destination you could easily spend weeks discovering. With some of the largest populations of lions, leopards and cheetahs in the world, Maasai Mara is one of the most legendary safari destinations. After your flight, waste no time before your first unforgettable safari out in its rugged grasslands.

If safari is what brought you to Africa, then get your binoculars ready. After a flight to Maasai Mara, we'll head out on safari in the national park renowned for having the highest concentration of big cats in the world. You'll be amazed how these giant cats are still master disguisers.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Pridelnn Mara Camp (or similar)

Lodge



Today's Activities

Plane

Lewa Downs Airstrip - Mara-Keekorok Airstrip

1h45m-2h

Enjoy a short flight between Lewa Downs and Mara-Keekorok Airstrip.

Wildlife Safari Drive

Masai Mara

You are in one of the world's top safari destinations, known for its abundance of big cats – cheetahs, leopards and lions – as well as the two million wildebeest, Thomson's gazelles and zebra that migrate annually across the vast grasslands in search of water. Set off on safari with our driver/guide on a private concession near the reserve and keep your eyes and ears peeled for movement and memories. Watch elephants and giraffe grazing, photograph zebras and wildebeest and, with a little luck, you'll even spot animals feasting on a recent kill.

You begin to recognize the soulful soundtrack of the wild at dawn, the comforting scent of the evening fire after an epic day on safari, and the responsive rhythm of the vehicle as it navigates the vast bush. The sheer wonder of discovery—witnessing a breathtaking spectacle of Earth's diversity—is an unforgettable thrill that stays with you. Thankfully, an extraordinary day of safari awaits to fill your spirit.

Start your day with light snacks before heading out on an exhilarating, early morning safari wildlife drive. The golden light is sure to bring a special atmosphere to the whole wildlife route. Return to the lodge for a delicious breakfast. There will be free time to spend at your leisure. Choose to enjoy the property's amenities. In the late afternoon, board the vehicle for another safari drive into the gorgeous scenery of the area as the sun begins its descent. This drive culminates in a beautiful bush dinner in the open landscape.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Pridelnn Mara Camp (or similar)

Lodge



Today's Activities

Wildlife Safari Drive

Masai Mara

Spend the morning out on safari in Maasai Mara National Park. The dawn hours present optimal conditions for observing active and vibrant animal behavior, giving us a prime opportunity to witness the untamed beauty of the wilderness awakening to a new day.

Free Time

Masai Mara

Enjoy free time this afternoon back at the lodge. Simply relax in a gorgeous setting amid some of Kenya's premier scenery and wildlife.

Wildlife Safari Drive

Masai Mara

In the late afternoon, head out on another safari in the Maasai Mara. As the setting sun casts mesmerizing, warm hues across the landscape, it creates stunning silhouettes which enhance the

photographic allure of the wildlife. During the afternoon, many animals can become more active, engaging in their daily rituals and increasing the chances of encounters.

Dinner in the Bush

Masai Mara

Dinner in the savannah is one of those meals that is much less about what you eat, and more about where you eat. The food will be delicious, without question, but it's eating in the open air with the sights, smells and sounds of Africa all around that make this experience unforgettable. From the bush kitchen straight to your outdoor table, bon appetit!

Maasai Mara: The heartbeat of the Wild

With some of the largest populations of lions, leopards, and cheetahs in the world, Maasai Mara is one of the most legendary safari destinations. Waste no time today as you become immersed on safari through its rugged grasslands; a landscape you could easily spend weeks discovering. Find time to give back to the planet while searching for the legendary big five on morning and afternoon wildlife drives.

The day begins with an exhilarating choice: soar above the vast plains of the Maasai Mara by pre-booking the Hot Air Balloon Safari, gliding through the air as the beauty of dawn breaks. This breathtaking adventure concludes with a delicious bush breakfast. Alternatively, sleep a bit later and join your CEO for an included Early Morning Game Drive, seeking out the Mara's iconic residents as they begin their day. Those who choose to book the balloon safari ride will still be able to join the morning wildlife drive.

Afterwards, participate in a meaningful Tree Planting Experience before a satisfying lunch at the lodge. Later, choose to join the included afternoon safari drive out into the landscape or stay behind at the lodge and simply relax before a final group dinner there this evening.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Pridelnn Mara Camp (or similar)

Lodge



Today's Activities

Wildlife Safari Drive

Masai Mara

You are in one of the world's top safari destinations, known for its abundance of big cats – cheetahs, leopards and lions – as well as the two million wildebeest, Thomson's gazelles and zebra that migrate annually across the vast grasslands in search of water. Set off on safari with our driver/guide on a private concession near the reserve and keep your eyes and ears peeled for movement and memories. Watch elephants and giraffe grazing, photograph zebras and wildebeest and, with a little luck, you'll even spot animals feasting on a recent kill.

Tree Planting

Masai Mara

Support a local reforestation project by planting acacia trees with your fellow travellers.

Wildlife Safari Drive

Masai Mara

In the afternoon, head out on another safari in the Maasai Mara. During the afternoon, many animals can become more active, engaging in their daily rituals and increasing the chances of encounters. The afternoon safari drive will vary in length depending on how long this morning's drive is. You can also choose to stay at hotel and relax.



Optional Activities - Day 6

Masai Mara Balloon Safari

Masai Mara

Choose to pre-book a Hot Air Balloon safari over the plains of the Maasai Mara. Your balloon adventure ends with a delicious breakfast. Float above the Mara plains in a dimension of unsurpassed tranquillity and beauty. The hot air balloon lifts you into the clear blue sky at dawn and gives you an eagle's view of the wildlife pageant below. You will glide over the treetops with the early birds and be wafted gently over the plains, above the bustle and bumps of the ground below, but cruising close to enjoy the spectacular scenery.

Balloon Flight Times

Pickup at 05:00

Flight at 06:00

Savor a final, soul-stirring morning within the legendary Maasai Mara, capturing last precious mental snapshots of your incredible safari adventure. As you journey northward toward the bustling heart of Nairobi, pause for a delicious and meaningful lunch at the G Adventures-supported Cafe Ubuntu. This inspiring social enterprise not only offers delightful cuisine but also empowers local women and families, fueling their community's growth through the cafe's vibrant atmosphere and a beautiful crafts shop.

Enjoy one final morning safari drive as you exit the breathtaking Maasai Mara National Reserve. Stop by the G Adventures-supported Café Ubuntu for lunch en route to Nairobi. Once in city, join your CEO and fellow travellers for a final farewell meal.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Pridelnn Azure Hotel Nairobi (or similar)

Hotel



Today's Activities

Safari Vehicle

Masai Mara – Nairobi

6h30m

245km

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride as the group exits the Mara and begins the transfer to Nairobi.

ACTIVITY

In the rural settlement of Maai Mahiu is the very special G Adventures for Good supported project, Ubuntu Café. A true social enterprise in the heart of Kenya, this initiative empowers the community, creating over 400 sustainable local jobs for mothers of children with disabilities, and supporting pediatric health and education programs in the region. Enjoy a delicious, organic farm-to-table lunch with tastes of quality coffee, breakfast tacos, soup, salad, freshly made pizzas, curry dishes and burritos.

Farewell to Kenya Dinner

Nairobi

Join your group for one last dinner together in Kenya.

Amboseli: A scenic elephant paradise

The crimson dust of Amboseli swirls around the wheels of your safari vehicle as the afternoon sun paints the plains in gold. In the distance, search for the legendary peak of Mount Kilimanjaro. It is here that colossal elephants move with the slow, rumbling grace of ancient giants, while a parade of zebras amble through the tall, whispering grasses. This is Amboseli National Park, a striking landscape defined by the contrast of arid plains and life-giving swamps, featuring great photo opportunities of snow-capped Mount Kilimanjaro.

Depart for Amboseli National Park in the morning after breakfast at the hotel in Nairobi. Upon arrival sit down for lunch at the lodge and get settled before an exciting afternoon safari drive out into the park in search of the resident wildlife; especially elephants.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Ol Tukai Lodge Amboseli (or similar)

Campground



Today's Activities

7-Seat 4x4 Safari Vehicle

Nairobi - Amboseli National Park

4h

205km

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride as your travel between Nairobi and Amboseli National Park.

Amboseli Wildlife Safari Drive

Amboseli National Park

3h

Charge up your camera batteries and get ready to document the drama of Amboseli. Big sky. Big mountain. Big elephants. Visit with some of the 1,500 African elephants that roam the park. Look for other wildlife and meet the resident Maasai along the journey. Marvel in the beauty of Mt Kilimanjaro, the world's highest free-standing mountain, as it reigns over the landscape of this uniquely African location.

Arusha: Welcome to Tanzania

Leaving the wildlife of Amboseli National Park in Kenya behind, cross into Tanzania. Home to the Great Migration, the tallest mountain in Africa, and the world's largest game reserve, making Tanzania one of the most sought after destinations in Africa. Welcome to Arusha, and to Tanzania. While here, let the endless adventure and wildlife encounters deepen your connection with the earth.

Enjoy a final breakfast at the lodge before embarking on a morning safari drive as the group travels out of the park. After an included packed lunch, cross the border at Namanga, clearing customs from Kenya into Tanzania. Here, a local Tanzanian vehicle will then drive you to Arusha, where you will check into your hotel and have the remainder of the afternoon at your leisure before gathering for a group dinner this evening to celebrate the next leg of your adventure.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Kibo Palace Hotel (or similar)

Hotel



Today's Activities

7-Seat 4x4 Safari Vehicle

Amboseli National Park – Namanga

4h

Sit back and enjoy the scenery on your drive between Amboseli National Park and the border of Tanzania. There will be a safari drive as the group exits the national park from the lodge stay within.

Border Crossing (Kenya - Tanzania)

Tarakea

1h

Ready for a little more ink in your passport? Grab your bags and get ready to check another country off your bucket list.

You will enjoy a packed lunch as you approach the border.

Private Vehicle

Namanga – Arusha

2h

Sit back and scan the scenery from the comfort of your private vehicle between the Namanga border crossing and Tanzania.

Ngorongoro Crater: Impressive Views and Crater Safari

Millions of years ago when the volcano erupted, the world's largest intact and unfilled volcanic caldera was formed, creating Ngorongoro Crater. It is believed that animals like zebras, lions and rhinos fell into the crater almost 500,000 years ago and were trapped. The steepness of the crater is why you won't find a single giraffe inside. Travel to this incredible natural phenomenon and spend the day getting to know the landscape from both above at the breathtaking crater rim, and below on a safari drive and picnic near Hippo Lake on the crater floor.

The day begins with breakfast at the hotel before continuing on from Arusha to Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Travel to the impressive Crater Rim View Point featuring the vast caldera below. Then, drive down into the crater for a unique safari experience and a picnic lunch amidst the sounds of the African bush near the tranquil Hippo Lake. From an incredible density of wildlife to the vast open sky, this is the glimpse of Tanzania you've been searching for. Dinner will be had at the lodge accommodations near the crater.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Ngorongoro Tortilis Camp (or similar)

Campground



Today's Activities

7-Seat 4x4 Safari Vehicle

Arusha - Ngorongoro Crater

3h-4h

179km

Sit back and enjoy the scenery from the comfort of your private safari vehicle between Arusha and Ngorongoro Crater. Please note, this drive time includes the transport between the crater and this evening's accommodations.

Ngorongoro Crater Afternoon Wildlife Safari Drive

Ngorongoro Crater

Head down into the crater and to all the best spots to view wildlife. Spot zebras, gazelles, buffaloes and warthogs. The swamp and forest are home to hippos, rhinos, elephants, baboons and monkeys. Keep your eyes peeled and camera ready to capture a pride of lions or a lone leopard walking along the crater floor.

Picnic Lunch at Hippo Lake

Ngorongoro Crater

30m-1h

Gather around the tranquil Hippo Lake known as the Ngoitoktok Spring for a delicious picnic lunch amid the gorgeous Tanzanian scenery.

Serengeti: Impressive Wildlife Safari Drives

Ngorongoro Crater and The Serengeti are two of the world's most renowned safari destinations. Driving from one iconic spot to the next means three and a half hours of nonstop beauty, wildlife and adventure. But don't go anywhere, because your time in the Serengeti is just starting. So grab your binoculars and your camera and get ready to experience some of the most jaw-dropping wildlife encounters.

Depart the lodge this morning for the Central Serengeti. The scenic drive takes you through the Ngorongoro Conservation Area to the Naabi Hill Gate, your entrance to the vast Serengeti National Park. Today is about maximizing your wildlife viewing opportunities. You will enjoy a safari drive en-route to your beautiful accommodations where you will have lunch before another afternoon wildlife drive out in the alluring landscape.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Serengeti Tortilis Camps (or similar)

Lodge



Today's Activities

7-Seat 4x4 Safari Vehicle

Ngorongoro Crater - Serengeti National Park

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride with a pop-up top.

Serengeti National Park Wildlife Safari Drive

Serengeti National Park

This is the reason you came to Africa. Charge your camera, grab your binoculars and set out on safari. Your eagle-eyed driver will keep an eye out for wildlife – buffaloes, elephants, lions, wildebeests, zebras and more. Enjoy the scenery, the vast expanse of the grasslands, the play of light and shadow and the up-close look at wild Africa.

Witness the awe-inspiring spectacle of the Serengeti, where millions of wildebeest, zebra, and gazelle flood the plains in their annual migration, trailed by the continent's most formidable predators. Prepare to be captivated as massive lions dissolve into the shimmering golden savannah, and towering giraffes emerge from the horizon, their grace humbling you as they stand right before your eyes.

Choose to rise early for an exciting day of wildlife viewing and embark on the optional, once-in-a-lifetime chance to take to the skies on a Serengeti Balloon Safari, which includes a one-hour flight and a champagne breakfast upon landing. For those who choose to remain on the ground, enjoy an early morning safari wildlife drive in the area, followed by a delicious bush lunch back at the lodge. The afternoon brings another exhilarating safari wildlife drive in the Serengeti before being whisked away for sundowner drinks as the sun sets over the Serengeti. Return to the lodge to freshen up before gathering for a relaxing group dinner.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Serengeti Tortilis Camps (or similar)

Lodge



Today's Activities

Full-Day Serengeti National Park Wildlife Safari Drive

Serengeti National Park

7h30m

Spend the entire day in the gorgeous landscapes of Serengeti National Park, a true icon of Eastern Africa. The park is most famous for the Great Migration, where over a million wildebeest, along with zebras and gazelles, migrate annually across the plains in search of food and water. Try to spot the big five and simply enjoy the views across the vast, open grasslands known as the "endless plains".

Tanzania's Serengeti tends to be less crowded than some of Kenya's reserves, so enjoy the scenery, the vast expanse of the grasslands, the play of light and shadow, and the up-close look at wild Africa.



Optional Activities - Day 12

Spirited aloft in a hot-air balloon, view the wildlife and terrain of the Serengeti that only the birds see. Enjoy a champagne breakfast and keep that shutter-finger good and limber—you'll be using it plenty over the course of your hour in the air.

Please note, additional fees will apply for passengers exceeding the 120 kg (265 lbs) weight limit.

Karatu: The Beauty of Tanzania's Varied Landscapes

Nestled in the highlands between Lake Manyara and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, the vibrant market town of Karatu offers an authentic glimpse into Tanzanian rural life and serves as a key gateway to the region's most iconic wildlife parks. Experience the lively energy and learn about the unique, local culture while simultaneously enjoying the stunning, rolling green landscapes. Karatu is a place to pause, absorb the local rhythm, and prepare for—or reflect on—the thrilling safari adventures just a short drive away.

After breakfast at the lodge, embark on an immersive wildlife safari drive between the Serengeti and Karatu. Pass through the vast planes and fertile landscapes of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area before arriving at your lodge near Karatu. Enjoy time at leisure this afternoon to relax and simply bask in your lovely surroundings.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Ngorongoro Oldeani Mountain Lodge (or similar)

Lodge

Ngorongoro Oldeani Mountain Lodge is a beautiful 40 acre property situated on hill with 360 degree views towards Oldeani Mountain and the Ngorongoro Crater Rim. The views also extend to Lake Eyasi and Lake Manyara. The lodge area is surrounded by lush green gardens and local vegetation with over 130 species of birds that come visit. Each of the 50 rooms here have stunning views of the landscape. The amenities here allow for an adventurous and relaxing stay.



Today's Activities

7-Seat 4x4 Safari Vehicle

Serengeti National Park - Karatu

5h

180km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the comfort of your safari vehicle between the Serengeti and Karatu. The group will enjoy a wildlife safari drive en-route through Serengeti NP and Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

Free Time

Karatu

Stretch those legs and relax this afternoon during free time at your beautiful lodge's property. Situated on a picturesque hill with spectacular views onto Oldeani Mountain and the Ngorongoro Crater Rim, the lodge is elevated with 360 degree views that extend all the way to Lake Eyasi and Lake Manyara. This is your OMG stay.

A Day of Choices featuring a morning safari adventure or an Elephant Caves hike makes for an unforgettable day. Hoping to rise with the sun? Travel to Lake Manyara National Park for an early morning safari drive and bush brunch. If you're looking for a change of scenery, choose a guided walk to the famous Elephant Cave, a watering hole used by elephants for their essential mineral intake. Sit down for lunch at a local, organic farm.

No matter which experience you choose today, you are guaranteed to feel the vast grandness that is so unique to the East African landscape. Enjoy free time this afternoon at the lodge before a group dinner in the evening.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Accommodation

Ngorongoro Oldeani Mountain Lodge (or similar)

Lodge

Ngorongoro Oldeani Mountain Lodge is a beautiful 40 acre property situated on hill with 360 degree views towards Oldeani Mountain and the Ngorongoro Crater Rim. The views also extend to Lake Eyasi and Lake Manyara. The lodge area is surrounded by lush green gardens and local vegetation with over 130 species of birds that come visit. Each of the 50 rooms here have stunning views of the landscape. The amenities here allow for an adventurous and relaxing stay.



Today's Activities

ACTIVITY

Option 1: Lake Manyara is known for its diverse birdlife, including flamingos that flock to the lake's alkaline waters. The core of the excursion is a wildlife safari drive through the park, where you can spot various animals like elephants, giraffes, wildebeest, zebras, and the distinctive tree-climbing lions. Breakfast will be early before going to Lake Manyara to focus on birding. Then there will be two safari drives split up by a packed brunch in the park. You'll return to the lodge in the early afternoon to rest and have free time.

Option 2: After breakfast at the lodge, depart for Gibb's Farm, featuring a multi-generational history of organic farming, and go for a walk to the Elephant Caves. These massive holes in the forested hillside

were carved by elephants over the centuries as they used their tusks to access the mineral-rich soil. The walk is for about two hours through the forest landscape. Then, enjoy a coffee plantation tour and sit down for lunch at the farm before returning to the lodge a bit later in the afternoon for rest and relaxation.

Free Time

Karatu

Enjoy an afternoon at your leisure.

Day 15

Arusha: Mto wa Mbu

Rise with the sun and enjoy a hearty breakfast at the lodge before embarking on a journey to the heart of East African culture in Mto wa Mbu. This vibrant town is a mosaic of life, home to 18,000 residents from 120 different tribes, offering a truly unique cultural immersion.

Start your day with breakfast at the lodge before heading to Mto wa Mbu. Here, choose between a scenic bike ride through a banana plantation or a fascinating two-hour cultural village walk. The walk is a G Adventures-supported experience, where you'll connect with the community, visit the local market and farmer's fields, see traditional hut construction, and meet local artisans. Afterwards, enjoy a traditional local lunch of meat and plantains before departing for Arusha where your adventure comes to an end at the airport.

Please do not book onward travel prior to 5pm.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

7-Seat 4x4 Safari Vehicle

Karatu – Mto wa Mbu

1h

32km

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride with a pop-up top.

ACTIVITY

Choose to go on a bike ride through a banana plantation or take part in a cultural walk to learn about life in this East African village. Mto wa Mbu has attracted some 18,000 residents from 120 different tribes. During the two-hour tour, visit the community's local market, go right to the farmer's fields, see how huts are constructed and meet artisans in their shops. Afterwards, sit down together and enjoy a traditional lunch of meat and plantains.

7-Seat 4x4 Safari Vehicle

Mto wa Mbu – Kilimanjaro International Airport

1h30m

88km

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride with a pop-up top.

What's included

- Your G for Good Moment: Il Ngwesi Eco-Lodge Stay, Il Ngwesi
- Your G for Good Moment: Café Ubuntu 3-Course Farm-to-Table Lunch, Maai Mahiu
- Your G for Good Moment: Mto wa Mbu Banana Plantation Bike Ride or Village Walk & Community Lunch, Mto wa Mbu
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your OMG Day: Maasai Village Visit or Kenya Wildlife Safari Drive, Il Ngwesi
- Your OMG Day: Lake Manyara Safari Drive or Elephant Cave Walk & Coffee Plantation Tour, Karatu
- Complimentary Arrival and Departure Transfers
- Welcome and Farewell dinners
- Safari drive near Il Ngwesi Lodge
- Bush walk with a Maasai guide
- Safari drive in the Maasai Mara Reserve
- Tree Planting Experience
- Bush dinner
- Internal flight between Nairobi & Il Ngwesi Lodge
- Internal flight between Il Ngwesi Lodge & Maasai Mara
- Amboseli National Park Safari Drive
- Picnic lunch at Hippo lake
- Crater Rim View Point Visit
- Safari drive inside Ngorongoro Crater
- Serengeti National Park safari drives
- Wildlife Safari Drives near Ngorongoro Highlands
- Banana Plantation Bike Ride or Village Walk on return to Arusha
- All tips included for activities and meals, except for CEO and portorage
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

What are the main highlights of this trip?

Stay at a Maasai-owned lodge and track wildlife on foot with a local guide, Safari through the Maasai Mara and witness the spectacle of the Great Migration, Descend into the Ngorongoro Crater for an unforgettable wildlife encounter, Dine under the stars in the bush with the African plains as your backdrop, Picnic at Hippo Lake and share a long lunch in the village of Mto wa Mbu

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Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you view a final copy of your Trip Details a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

ACCOMMODATION NOTE:

Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

MIGRATION

Tanzania and Kenya

The Seronera Plains, which lie in the southeast of the National Park and extend into the western Ngorongoro Conservation Area, form the main ungulate calving grounds of the Serengeti. The wildebeest typically disperse into the Seronera plains during the short rains, which fall in late November or early December, before calving in January, and staying put until the end of the long rains from January to early May. Towards the end of April the wildebeest start to congregate on the southern plains in the preparation for the 800km northward migration. The major obstacle faced by the wildebeest on this migration is the crossing for the Grumeti River through the western corridor, which typically occurs from June into early July. From July to October, the ungulates disperse again, with about half of them crossing the Mara River into Kenya's Masai Mara National Reserve and the remainder spreading out through the northern and western Serengeti. By late October the animals have generally started to plod back southward to the Seronera Plains, to arrive there in late November when the cycle starts all over again.

3. TRAVEL DAYS

This is not a physically demanding journey; however, travelling can be difficult, as long drives and poor road conditions are the rule as opposed to the exception in both Kenya and Tanzania. A safari is about travelling to see animals, so we cover long distances south from Kenya and around northern Tanzania to visit different wildlife parks. Once there, we spend the majority of the time viewing wildlife while driving in the parks. This translates to a lot of driving. Despite this, the diversity and scenery of the African landscape, the local culture and abundant wildlife are all well worth the experience.

4. COMBO TRIP

Please note that this tour is a combination of two G Adventures tours in two different countries. Due to local regulations, your local staff (driver/guide, cook) and vehicles will change halfway through the trip, and your group CEO and fellow passengers may also change between the Kenyan and Tanzanian sections of the trip.

5. YELLOW FEVER: COUNTRY DETAIL

There is no risk of Yellow Fever transmission in Botswana, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, or Zimbabwe. However, all of these countries require proof of vaccination under International Health Regulations to prevent importation of the virus. It is compulsory to show a valid Yellow Fever vaccination certificate if you are travelling to any of the above countries from a Yellow Fever endemic country, or have recently transited through one (12 hours or more in airport). Endemic countries include: Angola, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, French Guiana, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Suriname, Tanzania, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Venezuela. We advise all travellers on Southern and East Africa itineraries to carry a valid Yellow Fever vaccination certificate regardless of their country of origin. Given the multi-country nature of these itineraries, travellers will cross borders into countries that require the certificate as a condition of entry from preceding destinations. A traveller entering the itinerary from a non-endemic country may not require the certificate to enter the first country, but will almost certainly require it by the time they cross into a subsequent one. Yellow Fever vaccinations must be administered at least 10 days prior to

entry into the first country visited. Under WHO regulations (effective 11 July 2016), certificates are valid for the lifetime of the person vaccinated, there is no 10-year expiry on the certificate itself, though some border officials may be unaware of this. Travellers should carry their original International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis (yellow card) at all times during the tour. Travellers without a valid certificate run the risk of being denied entry and will not be able to continue with the tour. Any additional travel expenses incurred will be at the traveller's own account.

6. LUGGAGE COMPLICATIONS

It occasionally happens that luggage on international flights into Nairobi does not arrive, especially with, but not exclusive to, major airlines out of London-Heathrow or Schiphol (Amsterdam). Please be aware that this may happen, especially if you have a tight connection in either of these centres, are flying with different airlines with a connection, have a last minute flight change or re-route, or fly from or connect through another African centre. Please be prepared and keep all important documentation and valuables on your person. As well we recommend a change of clothes in your hand luggage. If unfortunately this does happen, and your luggage does not arrive, you should be entitled to a limited initial compensation from your airline. In Nairobi, the arrival of lost luggage normally takes between 48 and 72 hours after the initial plane's arrival. The airlines technically should be responsible to forward your luggage to you, to your hotel or elsewhere in Kenya. You may find that your tour will begin, and you still have not received your luggage. Considering that the customer service standards in Kenya are different from home, and that we find that the airlines are not always pro-active in helping luggage in its care be reunited with its owner, it is recommended that you purchase locally a few needed items, begin your tour, and hire someone locally to persist with the your airline to retrieve your luggage. Your CEO or local representative will be able to help you organize this, and once your luggage is retrieved, it should be able to be forwarded to you – depending where you are. Please note that any costs that you may incur for luggage retrieval or sending luggage are not the responsibility of G Adventures, though we will always strive to assist you in any way possible. You should always keep all receipts and documentation, and contact your airline or insurance provider for reimbursement.

7. FLYING THROUGH LONDON-HEATHROW TO EAST AFRICA?

Please note that regardless of the rules in other centres, travellers flying from, or connecting in, London-Heathrow are currently only permitted one carry-on piece of luggage and one small personal bag (purse, laptop-size bag, briefcase) on board on flights to Nairobi. If you arrive to the security gate with 2 pieces, you will be forced to check-in one of them, which may result in complications noted above. This policy is in place as of the time of writing, though local rules and regulations may indeed change. It is thus advisable to contact your airline directly for the most up-to-date information.

8. ELECTRICITY

The power supply in Kenya and Tanzania is nominally 240VAC, 50hz. Variable voltage, spikes and sporadic, unexpected, unscheduled power cuts of varying duration can be expected.

9. LUGGAGE

Due to weight restrictions on the internal flight, your checked luggage may not weigh more than 15kg (33 lbs).

What is the role of the group leader during this trip?

On this tour, you will be accompanied by a group Chief Experience Officer (CEO) and an expert driver. The Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will be the group manager and leader. All of our leaders in southern Africa are registered and licensed tourism guides, meaning they've studied to have a broad knowledge base of the region's history, cultures, and wildlife, and are legally certified to lead/guide tours in the regions visited. Most of our leaders in the region are from South Africa, though it may be possible that you'll have a leader from another country in the southern African region.

As the group manager and leader, the aim of the group leader is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places where are travelling, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. He/she will take care of the small things so you can concentrate on enjoying your adventure. In addition, as an integral part of the team, your driver is skilled and experienced driver who has intimate knowledge of the vehicle and routes travelled.

We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting.

What is the maximum and typical number of participants on this tour?

Max 12, Avg. 8.

What meals are included in this trip?

14 breakfasts, 14 lunches, 14 dinners

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private vehicle, plane, walking, open-air safari vehicle

How will we travel between destinations?

This trip is done in private 7 seat 4x4 Land cruiser vehicles. With sliding windows and a large pop-up roofs, these vehicles are designed for wildlife viewing. If there is a large group, 2 vehicles will be used.

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe solo travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotel (3 nts), Safari Lodge (5 nts), Tented Safari Camp (6 nts).

If I choose to purchase My Own Room, are there any exceptions during the trip?

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

Do any exceptions apply to Rooming or “My Own Room” on my tour?

Night 2, 3

What should I expect from the accommodations on this trip?

Hotel (3nts), Safari Lodge (4nts), Tented Safari Camp (6nts).

What are the joining instructions?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through G Adventures in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Our driver will be waiting for you with a G Adventures sign, and they will be waiting for you outside the luggage hall. If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your CEO. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your CEO and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your CEO will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

What should I do if I can't find my airport transfer or experience arrival issues?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

Who do I contact for arrival issues or in the event of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

For any issues relating to pre-booked transfers for Nairobi Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, including delays or missed transfers, please contact our airport transfer operator:

Mr. Ashwin Bhatt

During office hours, Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

From outside of Kenya: +254 721 474 814 or +254 729 163 545

From within Kenya: 0721 474 814 or 0729 163 545

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Office (Nairobi, Kenya)

Emergency number

From outside Kenya: +254 727 208 832

From within Kenya: 0727 208 832

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

What details should I be aware of when planning my departure day?

Your tour will finish on arrival to Kilimanjaro Airport (JRO). Please do not book onward travel prior to 5pm.

What should I pack for this trip?

Cold weather:

- Long-sleeved shirts or sweater
- Warm gloves
- Warm layers
- Scarf
- Warm hat

Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, band-aids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

Warm Weather:

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear

What are the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

Kenya:

As of January 1st 2024, the Kenyan government announced the introduction of a new Electronic Travel Authorisation (eTA) scheme, eliminating the requirement for all nationalities to obtain a visitor visa for Kenya. ALL travellers must apply for the eTA, including those that were previously exempt.

For more information, please refer to the eTA site [here](#)

Tanzania Host information for the online Visa application for travellers:

- 1) Host – G Adventures
- 2) Full Name - G Adventures
- 3) Email – experience@gadventures.com
- 4) Relationship – Tour Operator
- 5) Mobile No - +255 754 400 141
- 6) Company Name / Organisation registration No - G Adventures
- 7) Physical Address: P.O.Box 1912, Boma Road, Arusha

IMPORTANT NOTE:

It may be required to show a Yellow Fever certificate upon entering the country. Please check in with your local consulate and health expert for advice on Yellow Fever and other inoculations required for this area.

Information is accurate as of March 1st, 2024.

What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

Kenya is the Kenyan Shilling (KES, or KSH) and the local currency in Tanzania is the Tanzanian Shilling (TSH).

Shillings can be obtained locally by changing foreign currency or by using ATMs (where available) which will disperse local currency. Your CEO will inform you where you can change money throughout the tour and approximately how much money you will need for each country.

The easiest foreign currency to exchange for locally for any of the local currencies is the \$US; however the British Pound and Euro may also be exchanged as well. Please note that due to past problems with forgery, \$US notes that are older than year 2006 are not accepted in Africa.

Large note (\$US 50, \$US 100 etc) can be difficult to change in some places, but will gain you the best exchange rate.

If you plan to rely on cash, please bring foreign currency (Euro, Pound, USD) with you, as it is often expensive to buy these currencies locally. And in more rural areas, it is often not likely.

If you plan to buy your visas at borders, you will need to bring \$USD cash to pay for these visas. Please note you cannot use the local currency or any other currency to buy these visas- they must be purchased in USD.

Please do not bring Travellers' cheques to Africa. They are difficult if not impossible to exchange in many places.

Visa/Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. It is harder to find machines Mastercard/Cirrus cards. We highly recommend that if you hold a Mastercard, you obtain a Visa card prior to departure and travel with both. This is also useful should something unforeseen happen to one of your cards during your travels.

While there are many ATMs in the major centres, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work in Africa. Check with your bank.

Credit cards can be used in major cities and towns ONLY but please do not rely on them as a method of payment because they are generally not widely accepted. You should be aware that to purchase products or services on a credit card a fee of 5%-10% usually applies. The majority of our optional activities can also be paid by credit card. Your CEO will advise on these.

Please note that in many areas there may be occasional power-outages, where there will be no electricity for hours at a time. In addition, ATMs outside of larger centers often run out of cash or can be out of order unexpectedly. These factors could affect your ability to access money from ATMs. As such, please do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money.

A combination of foreign currency and debit/credit cards for cash advances is best. Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: www.xe.com.

What emergency funds do I need access to on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

What are the tipping guidelines for this trip?

On the Geluxe Collection tours, tipping is included for all included activities and meals. Tipping is not included for the CEO or Porterage. Should you want some basic guidelines on tipping for the activities you do on your own, please see below. At the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline would be \$10-\$15 per person, per day.

For meals and activities not included in your itinerary, it is appropriate in Africa to tip 10%. Though not compulsory, tipping is expected. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels and shows an expression of satisfaction.

What activities are optional on this trip?

Masai Mara

- Masai Mara Balloon Safari

Serengeti National Park

- Serengeti Balloon Safari

Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?

We recommend you contact your family physician, or your local travel clinic for the most up-to-date health information at least one month before departure. Travellers should also carry a basic first-aid kit and hand sanitizers/antibacterial wipes on their travels. Medical facilities are basic throughout these countries. For your own safety, we strongly recommend that you advise your tour leader of any medical condition that may affect you while travelling with the group. Your tour leader will be able to inform you of local health advisories (e.g. drinking water quality). Please ensure you have all the inoculations recommended by your doctor.

Yellow Fever Certificate Note (Updated: June 2026)

It is compulsory to show a valid Yellow Fever Certificate if you are travelling to the following G Adventures-visited countries from a Yellow Fever endemic country, or if you have transited for more than 12 hours through the airport of a Yellow Fever endemic country:

Botswana

Kenya*

Malawi

Namibia

South Africa

Tanzania

Uganda*

Zambia

Zimbabwe

*Kenya and Uganda require a valid Yellow Fever Certificate from all travellers regardless of country of origin, not only those arriving from endemic countries. Travellers to these destinations should ensure they are vaccinated regardless of their travel history. If other non-endemic countries have been visited after visiting an endemic country, a Yellow Fever certificate may still be required on entry into subsequent destinations. This is particularly relevant on multi-country Southern Africa itineraries, for example, a traveller moving from Uganda to Kenya, or from Kenya across a land border into Tanzania, will be required to show their certificate at each entry point. Please check country-specific regulations before departure.

Malaria

Malaria is a mosquito-borne disease that is present in some regions in Africa. Risk of malaria can increase during periods of heavy rain, during the rainy seasons, and in densely populated areas of Southern & East Africa. To prevent malaria, we recommend speaking to your doctor about taking preventative medication (prophylaxis), combined with regular use of insect repellent spray/cream. Please check updated travel health advisories specific to malaria before your departure.

What general safety tips and free-time guidelines should I follow?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy and explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location, please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgement when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards), have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

What are the mandatory group rules regarding laws and behaviour?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

What are the mandatory travel insurance requirements for this trip?

Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.