

Affordable Photo Safari - Eastern Kenya

(\$3,250 plus Air based on 12 guests)

13 days Nairobi ~ Amboseli ~ Tsavo West ~ Tsavo East ~ Mombasa ~ Nairobi

Day 1 Tampa to NAIROBI

Arrive Jomo Kenyatta airport, transfer to a city hotel for overnight with breakfast.

Day 2 NAIROBI NATIONAL PARK

http://www.kws.org/parks/parks_reserves/NANP.html

Depart after breakfast, and drive 8km to Nairobi National park for game viewing. Major attractions are the black rhino, lion, leopard, cheetah, hyena, buffalo, giraffe, zebra, wildebeest, elands and diverse bird life (over 400 species recorded).

Late lunch at the famous Carnivore Restaurant. This open-air meat specialty restaurant has become a standard stop on the safari trail (Vegetarian available).

Day 3 – NAIROBI to AMBOSELI

Depart Nairobi and drive through the scenic Athi Plains and into the bush country of Amboseli National Park - home to the legendary Maasai tribe. A spectacular game drive enroute is planned. Amboseli itself is big game country, famous for large herds of elephant, lion, cheetah, antelope, zebra, wildebeest, buffalo and giraffe.

Following lunch at the lodge we set off for another spectacular game drive. Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain can be seen from all the lodges and campsites in Amboseli. Dinner and overnight at lodge.

Day 4 & 5 – AMBOSELI

http://www.kws.org/parks/parks_reserves/AMNP.html

Early breakfasts will be followed by game drives in morning light, midday relaxation, and game drives in evening light. We will encounter famously large herds of elephants, uncanny giraffes, wild dogs, leopards, and cheetah along with many other species of mammals and birds. In addition to exploring this iconic, majestic park, we will visit a Maasai village and witness the traditional singing and dancing which are part of the daily activity.

Day 6 – AMBOSELI to TSAVO WEST

After breakfast, we depart for Tsavo West National Park. Tsavo West is a vast expanse of African savannah with a diverse array of habitats - open plains, semi desert scrub, woodland, Chyulu Hills and rock outcrops. Tsavo West is famous for red elephants, grenuke and oryx. The trip to Tsavo West will be a game drive.

Other notable features include Mzima Springs, which is replenished with two hundred and twenty million liters of crystal-clear water every day and is a water source for Mombasa Town; Shetani lava flow and ash cones - examples of recent volcanic eruption. The Movie Ghost and the Darkness was shot here. Dinner and overnight at lodge.

Day 7 – TSAVO WEST

http://www.kws.org/parks/parks_reserves/TWNP.html

An early wake up call, breakfast and we're off for a game drive in morning light. We will visit Mzima Springs which offers rich wildlife - elephants soaking in the waters, ponderous hippos tip-toeing across the bottom, crocodiles basking on the bank, gazelles, zebra and giraffe, and hundreds of chattering monkeys along with birds in the thick acacias and raffia palms.

Lunch, an afternoon at leisure, an evening game drive. Dinner and overnight at lodge.

ON DAY 8 WE BREAK - for four days - INTO TWO GROUPS – SAFARI (S) & DIVING (D)

Day 8 SAFARI (S) – TSAVO WEST to TSAVO EAST

Breakfast, followed by departure for Tsavo East. Our route to the next lodge is itself a game drive. Lunch, afternoon at leisure, late afternoon game drive. Dinner and Overnight at the lodge.

Day 9 & 10 (S) TSAVO EAST

http://www.kws.org/parks/parks_reserves/TENP.html

On both days breakfast will be followed by a morning game drive. Return to the Camp for lunch, relaxing and game drives in beautiful evening light. Back to our lodge for dinner and overnight.

Tsavo East is one of Kenya's oldest and largest National Parks at the eastern edge of the inland plateau. Here you find bushy grasslands and rocky open plains alternating with semiarid acacia scrub and woodland. The Galana River cuts a green swathe across the park. The seasonal Voi and Tiva rivers are important to the northern and southern portions of the park, as there is little other surface water. Mudanda Rock is a great spectacle. It has a water catchment area with a natural dam where hundreds of elephants come to drink and bathe during the dry season. The views are exceptional and it is a good place to sit and watch game.

Ancient volcanic activity is evident at the Yatta Plateau - a long flat-topped lava ridge on the western border of Tsavo East.

Day 11 (S) – TSAVO EAST to MOMBASA

Breakfast followed by morning game drive and travel to Mombasa, where you will check into your hotel.

Day 12 (S) – MOMBASA

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mombasa>

Rejoining the divers, breakfast, relax at your resort, enjoy the tropical gardens and white sandy shores of the Indian Ocean, protected by a barrier reef. Dive, snorkel or enjoy other water sports. Explore Mombasa lunching on your own.

Dinner and overnight at the resort.

Divers (D) – NOTE This is Winter diving!!

According to Scubadvisor.com diving in Kenya is generally good all year round, although visibility lessens during July and August due to silting and high seas. The average June air temperature is 84 and the average June water temperature is 80.

Day 8 – DIVERS (D) TSAVO WEST to MOMBASA

An early morning breakfast will be followed by departure to Mombasa, arriving late afternoon.

Dinner and overnight at hotel.

Day 9 – 12 (D) DIVING MOMBASA

Explore these four days scuba diving, relaxing on the beach, snorkeling, or visiting old Mombasa. Two dives a day are included with tanks & gear. Breakfast and dinner are at the hotel, lunches are on your own.

On average this is a great dive area - crystal clear water, beautiful hard and soft corals, and 20 million tropical marine fish - you are experiencing the Indian Ocean. Kenya is one of the few places in the world where there is a 90% chance of seeing reef sharks plus whale sharks.

Water visibility can range from 30 to 90 feet. Temperatures rarely go below 80 and in the summer can reach up to 88.

Kenya has strong conservation practices, including marine reserves where all fishing is forbidden and environmentally friendly moorings to avoid damage to corals by anchors. Local hotels set up protected hatching sites for sea turtle eggs.

East Africa boasts the second longest barrier reef in the world, stretching from the coast of Somalia along Kenya to southern Tanzania.

BOTH GROUPS WILL SPEND THE LAST DAY IN MOMBASA

Day 13 – MOMBASA to NAIROBI BY TRAIN

After breakfast we leave our hotel to explore the city. Lunch on your own. In the afternoon we head for the Mombasa Train Station for an overnight journey to Nairobi on the famous, colonial-era Mombasa-Nairobi Express train with sleeping berths and white cloth food service included and a route through game parks and villages.

DAY 14 - NAIROBI to TAMPA

In Nairobi transfer to Jomo Kenyatta Airport for your International flight.

Application & release forms are available for download at WildImagesPhotography.com along with cost breakdowns. Call Tom Isgar at 941.321.6206 or email him at tom@wildimagesphotography.com with any questions you don't find covered in these documents.

