

African Safari

Host

Rick MacSwain

African Safari with Indian Ocean Experience
January 9th – 27th, 2025
17 Nights / 18 Days (Depart Canada Jan 9th, 2025)

\$12,399/ person
Double occupancy | CAD
International Flights Not Included

Highlights

- 2 Nights to rest after a long flight, 2 Nights in Samburu, 2 Nights in the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, 1 Night Lake Nakuru, 3 Nights Masai Mara, 1 Night Lake Naivasha, 2 Nights Amboseli National Park with Mt. Kilimanjaro as the backdrop and 4 Nights post safari on the Indian Ocean at an all-inclusive beach front resort.
- 4.5 - 5 Star Lodges / Hotels (6 Nights in luxury tented lodges)
- Private Land Cruisers with open hatch roofs, onboard fresh drinking water, binoculars & coolers
- Safety & Comfort - Only 4 guests per Land Cruiser with a private English speaking driver guide
- 12 Day / 11 Nights safari throughout the country of Kenya with daily morning & afternoon game drives
- Visit to the Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage and Giraffe Centre including lunch.
- Welcome dinner with drinks, safari hat and backpack with safari essentials.
- **This is NOT a coach tour!**

Package Includes:

- Personally, escorted by Rick MacSwain – Network Travel
- All meals with water, tea and coffee (All inclusive resort includes all meals and alcoholic beverages)
- 4.5 - 5-star luxury accommodations (17 nights)
- Scheduled Kenya flights: Amboseli - Diani Beach - Nairobi (baggage allowance 15 kgs in soft bags)
- All local transportation in Kenya including private English-speaking driver/safari guide
- Game drives, park entry fees, Visa document processing
- Flying Doctors Coverage - Emergency medical aircraft services (fixed wing aircraft & helicopter)
- Taxes, lodge and hotel gratuities (food and portage) (*Driver / Guide tipping not included, at guest discretion)

Please Note:

SAVE Credit Card Fees: Pay by cheque, e-Transfer or cash and save \$300 CAD per person.

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 – Arrival in Nairobi, Kenya

Evening Arrival

We are greeted at the Kenyatta International Airport and shuttled to the 5-Star **Nairobi Serena Hotel**. Here we will rest and relax for 2 nights in this stunning hotel nestled among lush gardens at the edge of Nairobi's Central Park.



Day 2 - Nairobi

After breakfast you will proceed to Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage. This centre has played a significant role in Kenya's conservation efforts. The baby elephants are brought from the national park for a mud-bath at the orphanage, where for an hour (i.e. 11am – 12 pm) you can get close to them and sometimes touch them. You may not feed the animals but will get a chance to view the handlers feeding them. The orphanage offers hope for any orphaned baby elephant fortunate enough to be found alive and so far, it is proud to have saved over 150 orphaned infant elephants, which would otherwise have perished. The baby elephants are raised at the orphanage with the intention of gradually reintegrating them into the wild. The age range of the elephants can vary from a few months to three years. Each elephant is assigned to its own keeper, who acts as a surrogate mother and will stay with the elephant until it is released back into the wild.



Thereafter, you will visit the renowned Giraffe Centre, where you will be given a rare opportunity to get up close to these gentle giants in this natural sanctuary, which was founded to protect the endangered Rothschild giraffe. Here you are able to

climb to the top of a platform and stand eye to eye with the giraffes and feed them with small pellets.

Enjoy lunch at the Karen Blixen coffee garden and proceed to explore the Karen Blixen Museum for a glimpse into the fascinating world of this pioneer coffee farmer, who achieved world fame through her highly-acclaimed memoir, "Out of Africa". She left Africa after a series of personal tragedies and her lovely colonial house has been preserved as a museum. Set in expansive gardens, the Karen Blixen Museum is an interesting place to wander around.

You will then proceed to visit Kazuri Bead Factory- Kazuri meaning 'small and beautiful' in Swahili, makes exquisite handmade ceramic beads, jewelry and pottery. Established more than 25 years ago, over the years it has given a number of near-destitute women an important livelihood. You can watch all the processes of the beads being made at the workshop, a finely dexterous process, and there's also a shop. The designs are colorful and bold, reflecting Kenya's culture and wildlife.

Tonight: Welcome cocktails and Dinner
Return to the hotel for overnight.
Nairobi Serena Hotel



Day 3 & 4 - Depart on Safari – Samburu Game Reserves

Afternoon Game Drive

After breakfast, you will drive north to the Samburu National Reserve, set in the rugged semi-arid northern region with a spectacular scenic landscape. Upon arrival, you will be met by the camp's representative and transferred to the camp to a warm welcome then lunch, short siesta before heading for an afternoon game-viewing drive. The verdant riverine forest is a stark contrast to the arid thorn-studded plains. The Samburu region is the best place to find several endemic Northern species; including the Gerenuk (twiga gazelle) due to her long neck, the beisa Oryx, the Reticulated Giraffe, the Somali ostrich and Grevy's Zebra.

Samburu is also an ornithological paradise, home to many birds including local species such as the Palm Nut Vulture and the Vivacious Dove. Leopards are often seen at dusk. The Samburu culture is a truly fascinating one, sharing a great deal of ancestral and linguistic ties to the Maasai. The entire Samburu region is a place of breath taking and magical beauty, a place where the vision of a deep red sunset silhouetting the doum palms along the river as a leopard emerges to hunt brings the perfect end to a day on safari. Dinner and overnight at the camp.

Samburu Intrepids Camp



Day 4

Spend this day in Samburu with morning and afternoon game viewing drives in Buffalo Springs game reserves. These game reserves provide some of the best and most colourful game viewing in the country. The Ewaso Nyiro River which meanders through the vast, dry, doum palm-dominated reserve brings life along the green, scenic river banks, home and refuge to many wildlife. Meals and overnight at our camp.

Samburu Intrepids Camp



Day 5 & 6 – Ol Pejeta Conservancy

After breakfast, you will depart for Ol Pejeta Conservancy arriving at your tented camp in time for lunch. The Ol Pejeta Conservancy and its sumptuous ranch were once the private domain of famed multi-millionaire, Adnan Kashoggi. We enjoy a game drive in this game wealthy conservancy with a visit to the Chimpanzee Sanctuary, a charming haven established by the Jane Goodall Institute to provide sanctuary to orphaned chimps, and the specially protected refuge of black rhino. In fact Sweetwaters boasts excellent game viewing with the highest ratio of game to area of any park or reserve in Kenya. The camp overlooks one of the busiest waterholes in the area and offers an astounding variety of animals including all the Big Five and myriad of plains game. This is Africa as Teddy Roosevelt saw it years ago when he led one of the first safaris to tour Africa in comfort and splendor. The tents at Sweetwaters will remind us of this past era. Dinner and overnight at your camp.

Sweetwaters Tented Camp

Your private luxury tent includes: Private balcony or veranda, bath robes, coffee / tea making station, premium bath amenities, hair dryer, free wifi and a work station. (see image above)



Day 6

This full day will be spent in Ol Pejeta Conservancy with an early morning and afternoon game drive. Breakfast, lunch and dinner at the camp. **Sweetwaters Tented Camp**

Day 7 – Samburu Game Reserve – Lake Nakuru

After breakfast we depart for Lake Nakuru National Park with a brief stop at the Thompson's Falls for a breath-taking view of the great scenery. We arrive for lunch. This afternoon we enjoy a game viewing drive. The environment here is welcoming, one of the best places to relax, to unwind, to enjoy nature's beauty. The scenery is breath-taking; a sight of the virgin forest is re-assuring. Some of the interesting places to visit include the baboon cliff, the lion hill and the Mau escarpment. (Images below taken during on our last visit to Kenya)



The park is one of the best game viewing parks with various animal species including prides of lion, Cape buffalo, waterbucks, wart hogs, the endangered Rothschild giraffes, the black & white Rhino, the Burchell's zebra, impalas, and the elusive leopard among many others. Over 300 bird species have been recorded here too. Lake Nakuru National Park is one of the best places to see the endangered black and white Rhino. Enjoy dinner and overnight at our Lodge.

Sarova Lion Hill Game Lodge

Day 8 – Masai Mara Game Reserve

After a sumptuous breakfast, you will continue to Masai Mara. It is perhaps the only region left in Kenya where the visitor may see animals in the same super-abundance as existed a century ago. Enjoy a game viewing drive enroute to the camp. Arrive for lunch and some relaxation time. In the afternoon you will proceed on another game viewing drive in this vast and expansive reserve teeming with game. Mara game reserve is famous for her big five; the most sought after in the early 20th century, when Kenya was a hunters' paradise. These include the lion, Cape buffalo, the savanna elephant, black rhino and the elusive leopard. The vast savanna grasslands as far as the eye can see is home to impalas, Maasai giraffes, waterbucks, warthogs, Thompson & Grants gazelles, topis, the resident wildebeests among many others. Dinner and overnight at your lodge.



Sarova Mara Game Camp

Day 9 & 10 – Masai Mara Game Reserve

On these two days, you will have an option of either enjoying two extensive game viewing drives per day or departing with packed lunch boxes for a full day of game viewing. Be on the look-out for the big five that Maasai Mara is famous for. These include the lion, savannah (African) elephant, the Cape buffalo, the leopard and the black rhino. We may even be so lucky to witness a leopard or a cheetah sprint and make a kill!

We return back to the lodge for dinner and overnight. **Sarova Mara Game Camp**

(Images below were taken during our last group to Kenya in on our last



Day 11 – Naivasha Sopa Lodge, Lake Naivasha

After a leisurely morning, you will drive to Lake Naivasha. This is an important horticultural area of Kenya, famous for her teeming diverse bird species, scenic climate and tranquillity. Arrive at your lodge for lunch. In the afternoon, you will enjoy a boat ride and visit to the crescent island for a guided walking safari on the eastern side of the lake that is also home to Masai giraffe, zebra, dik diks, steenbok, impala and gazelles. It is quite liberating to walk among the giraffe and zebra with no fences or barriers between you and the wildlife!

Lake Naivasha Sopa Lodge



Day 12 – Amboseli National Park

An early start today with breakfast then check out. You will then depart for Amboseli National Park. Arrive for lunch and check in. In the afternoon, you will proceed on an afternoon game viewing drive, set in rolling savannah scenery, it is dwarfed by the presence of the pink-tinged, snow-capped peak of Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest free-standing volcanic mountain in the world and topped by one fifth of all the ice in Africa. Against this magnificent backdrop roam vast herds of 'giant' elephant accompanied by a kaleidoscope of other fabulous beasts - lion, buffalo, cheetah, giraffe, baboon, gazelle hippo and wildebeest. Amboseli National Park is also an ornithological paradise with over 400 species of birds, all manner of reptilian, flora and fauna and some of the most soul-searing views in Africa. Dinner and overnight at the lodge. **Oi Tukai Lodge & Spa**

(Optional Balloon Safari in Amboseli \$500 USD per guest)



Day 13 - Amboseli National Park

Spend the full day in Amboseli National Park with two game drives per day.

This location exhibits one of Kenya's most spectacular displays of wildlife - lion, elephant, leopard, rhino, cheetah, buffalo and hosts of plains' game. Thereafter return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. **Oi Tukai Lodge**

Day 14 - Diani Beach (East Coast Indian Ocean 4 Nights)



This morning, enjoy your breakfast then check out as you depart Amboseli National Park. We are transported to the local airstrip to board a charter flight for a short 53-minute flight to spend 4 nights at Diani Beach on the Indian Ocean. Unbelievable but true, your good bush moments have come to an end. You bid farewell to your wonderful private drivers but not empty-handed though but with you are photographs – a capture of the special moments you have had on this tour to immortalize the experience. Upon arrival in Diani, you will be transferred to your beach hotel for check-in.

Baobab Beach Resort & Spa – All Inclusive Ocean Facing Rooms

Day 15 – 17 Diani Beach - Days at your Leisure

The perfect way to end an amazing 10-day safari. Relax and spend these days at leisure to enjoy the white sandy beach. On the beach you will find camel rides, glass bottom boat excursions, and a shuttle to the sand bar during low tide.

Enjoy 4 relaxing nights at the all-Inclusive Baobab Beach Resort. Upon arrival we are transported to the Baobab Beach Resort to experience one of the best ways to end a safari experience. Here you will enjoy the amazing resort and ocean as you relax and share stories about your safari.

This stunning resort, set within 80 acres of tropical gardens, overlooks the Indian Ocean. Renowned as Kenya's leading all-inclusive resort. The culinary experience blends international inspiration with Swahili flavors, including themed buffets and gala dinners served at three all-inclusive restaurants (Karibu, Jodari, Maridadi). Two à-la carte specialty restaurants (Marhaba and Tangezi) provide enticing seafood delights. Facilities include 3 swimming pools,



a watersports centre, flood-lit tennis courts, a fully equipped gymnasium, a variety of bars and nightly entertainment at the Porini Amphitheatre. Indulge at the Afya Bora Wellness Club & Spa, offering the ultimate in well-being and relaxation. Enjoy signature beauty treatments, alluring steam rituals and holistic therapies ensuring total relaxation for body and mind.

All Inclusive Dining

Savor a rich and varied choice of imaginative cuisines at the Baobab Beach Resort & Spa. With fresh seafood harvested from the Indian Ocean, mouth-watering exotic fruits and a delicious range of international and traditional dishes served in a choice of exquisite settings. Each night of the week, their buffets have a different theme to cater for different tastes and preferences, and to offer guests a greater variety of cuisines.

Resort Activities

The Baobab Beach Resort & Spa offers a multitude of activities to satisfy all your needs. The Three individual swimming pools overlooking the ocean and 80 acres of tropical gardens provide an oasis to relax and revitalise. Guests can also enjoy a range of land activities and watersports and of course, the golden beaches stretching as far as the eye can see.

Experience the thrill of big game fishing outside the barrier reef, snorkel in the calm ocean waters from a glass-bottomed boat or try your hand at windsurfing or scuba diving. For those who adopt a gentler approach, a walk through the indigenous forest provides an opportunity to spot several species of monkey and birds.

Day 18 Depart Diani Beach for Nairobi International Airport

Following an early morning breakfast and check out, we transfer to Ukunda Airport in Diani Beach for our onward flight to Nairobi International Airport and return to Canada. (International flight departs 11:58 pm)

End of tour

Packing Details:

Packing details will be provided to the group after guests are confirmed.

Pre-departure Group Get-together

We will be hosting a pre-departure information event to discuss the itinerary details and deliver your documents.

Package Includes:

- ❖ Personally, escorted by Rick MacSwain - Network Travel
- ❖ Arrival transfer from Jomo Kenyatta International Airport /to Ukunda or Moi International Airport
- ❖ Airport greeting with wet towels and 'bubbly'
- ❖ Complimentary Authentic Branded Safari Hat and safari essentials pack
- ❖ All Inclusive Accommodation on the Beach (Food and Beverages including alcohol)
- ❖ All meals, park entrance fees
- ❖ Flying Doctors Coverage - Emergency medical aircraft services (fixed wing aircraft & helicopter)
- ❖ Private English Speaking Driver Guides
- ❖ Unlimited mileage on game-viewing drives
- ❖ Unlimited supply of mineral drinking water in the vehicle while on safari
- ❖ Private Land Cruisers - open hatch roof, only 4 guests per vehicle with ice box & fresh drinking water
- ❖ Domestic flights: Amboseli - Diani Beach - Nairobi (baggage allowance 15 kgs per person in soft bags)
- ❖ Beautiful Accommodations (17 nights) all meals (beverages: coffee, tea and water)
- ❖ Taxes and Gratuities (excluding driver/guide gratuities \$100 USD per guest)
- ❖ East Africa Visa application processing by Network Travel

Package Excludes:

International flights from Canada (arrangements will be made by Network Travel)

Cost of East Africa Visas (Processing will be made by Network Travel)

Driver Gratuities: \$100 USD Per guest or at your discretion



Day 13 - **Optional Balloon Safari** experience in Amboseli National Park with Mt. Kilimanjaro in the backdrop.
\$500 USD per guest.

Please Note: Network Travel will be providing special group rates for international flights.

Assistance with visa processing will be provided. Any item of a personal nature, optional activities as indicated, and any other extras not mentioned as included.

Payments:

Deposit: Due at time of booking \$1000 CAD per person - Non-refundable

Final Payment: October 23th, 2024

SAVE Credit Card Fees:

Pay by cheque, e-Transfer or cash and save \$300 CAD per person.

Please contact Network Travel to inquire or book.

Michelle Alvaro - Group Experience Specialist - E: MAlvaro@NetworkTravel.ca

Local: 780-454-4933 ext.: 101 | Toll-Free: 866-604-8714 ext.: 101

