

The Lobo Valley

A Photo Safari to the Serengeti



Introduction

Few experiences can match the exhilaration of a dedicated photographic safari. Your tour leaders bring a wealth of expertise and passion for African wildlife photography. Both David Tipling and Dave Cox have extensive experience capturing the beauty of Africa, since the late 1980s.

Though this will be their first joint trip to the Lobo region their vast knowledge of safari photography, composition and techniques will ensure you make the most of every photographic moment on this unforgettable journey.



Our base will be a semi-permanent camp nestled in the secluded Lobo region of the northern Serengeti, reserved exclusively for our group. This magical landscape is defined by dramatic granite kopjes—ancient rock formations rising out of the plains like natural fortresses. These iconic outcrops are not just striking backdrops; they are the stage for some of the most compelling wildlife behaviour in Africa.



The Lobo Valley is famed for its lion prides, including the legendary Lobo Pride, the second-largest in the Serengeti. By day, you'll often find these regal cats draped across the sun-warmed rocks. It's also one of the few places in East Africa where you have a genuine chance to see all three iconic big cats lion, leopard, and cheetah on a single game drive.

During the dry season, the valley remains relatively lush compared to the surrounding plains, attracting large numbers of herbivores. The area is a key stopover for the Great Migration, as thousands of wildebeest, zebras, and gazelles pass through on their journey north to the Mara River and south toward the Seronera region.

Apart from large predators and migratory herds, the valley is home to elephants, giraffes, buffalo, and various antelope species, as well as a rich diversity of birdlife. The presence of permanent water sources makes Lobo a year-round wildlife hotspot, even outside of the migration season.

Each photographer will enjoy a full row of seats in our specially designed safari vehicles, ensuring space for gear and freedom to frame your shots, whether through low side windows or from the open roof. These vehicles are specially designed for wildlife photography offering the ability to get down for a lower

angle than you would normally be able to achieve. Our expert guides, deeply familiar with the area, will work tirelessly to position us for the best light, angles, and proximity to wildlife.



Unlike the busier regions of the Serengeti, the Lobo Valley offers a sense of exclusivity. Here, sightings often feel personal and unhurried, allowing us to linger and truly connect with the moment. And while our focus will be on the majestic big cats, the Serengeti's rich biodiversity ensures that surprises await around every corner from towering giraffes to playful hyenas and a rainbow of birdlife.

Dates for 2025

13th to 23rd October

Itinerary

Day 1: 13th October

Depart from home for overnight flights to Africa.

Day 2: 14th October

Today, (subject to chosen flight times) we arrive at Kilimanjaro International Airport. After clearing customs, we'll take a comfortable one-hour transfer to Arusha, where we'll settle into a cozy hotel for the night. Here, you can unwind, recover from your travels, and prepare for the adventure that awaits.

Day 3: 15th October

After an early breakfast, we transfer to the domestic airport for a breathtaking bush flight into the Lobo Valley. Upon landing, our guides and drivers will greet us, ready to transfer us to our private tented camp, which will be our home for the next seven nights. After lunch and a short rest, we'll head out on our first game drive to explore the remarkable landscapes of the Lobo Valley. With no strict time limits, we'll



stay out until the last light fades, capturing the serenity of the African dusk. Back at camp, we'll enjoy dinner under the stars before settling in for the night.

Days 4–8: 16th–21st October

Each day in the Serengeti will follow the timeless rhythm of safari life, offering unparalleled opportunities to capture the beauty of this extraordinary wilderness. At dawn, we will set out with packed breakfasts to catch the soft golden light and observe wildlife at its most active. This is the perfect time to photograph big cats like lions, leopards, and cheetahs as they patrol their territories or rest atop the iconic granite kopjes.

During the heat of the day, we'll return to camp to relax, recharge, and review our images. This time also allows for discussions on composition and camera settings.

Day 9: 22nd October

After a final game drive we leave camp for homeward flights.

Day 10: 23rd October

Arrive home

2026 Departure

3rd–11th October

For those interested in 2026 we can add on visits to Lake Natron and Magadi to photograph flamingos from the air.

Trip leaders

Dave Cox & David
Tipling

Cost

£7,500.00

Deposit

We will ask for a deposit of 25% of the tour cost once the tour is confirmed with our required minimum number of guests, then the balance is payable 90 days prior to departure.

Group size

6



Cost Includes

All transfers within Tanzania
National park fees
Daily game drives
Meals and accommodation
throughout the safari

Cost Excludes

International flights
Tanzania visa fees
Personal expenses and sundry items
Alcoholic beverages
Tips and gratuities for camp staff and drivers
Overnight accommodation if required before the trip.

Accommodation

Throughout the trip, we'll stay in a very comfortable tented safari camp. The camp serves as an ideal base for our excursions, offering an immersive experience of the African wilderness while ensuring modern comforts. Pricing is based on a twin room sharing basis. Single supplements at a cost of £400.00 for the tour are available on request.

Level of Fitness Required

This safari does not demand high levels of physical fitness. However, the itinerary includes early morning and late afternoon game drives, which can be tiring, though these are balanced with rest periods during the day.



Post Tour Image Review

Help and tuition extend beyond the camp. For those seeking further guidance, we offer a comprehensive online post-trip image review. This includes personalised feedback on selecting and editing your best shots, either through a Zoom session or by submitting images for our review.

Booking



To book your place on one of the tours email or
call David Tipling
dtphotos@btinternet.com
Tel: 07973181375

