

Kenya – June 6 – 19, 2019

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TOURS



Trip overview

Join Tim and Sharon Corcoran on a trip to Kenya to experience the wonders of Africa. We will be visiting three parks, Amboseli, Sweetwaters, and Masai Mara. We checked Kenya out on a visit in 2017 with an ambitious itinerary visiting five parks in all. We have selected the best three parks for this trip and we are looking forward to sharing the abundant wildlife, the culture, the landscape, and the magic we found here.

Price - \$7,795 per person based on double occupancy

(Single supplement add \$600)

Included

- 11 nights accommodations per itinerary
- Shared Adventure Tour Guides
- All transportation including domestic flights in Kenya and 4-wheel drive vehicles
- Admission to the parks – see itinerary
- Game drives per itinerary
- Meals including 11 breakfasts, 10 lunches and 10 dinners
- Tips to porters and dining staff
- Naturalist Guide
- Airport transfers
- All hotel and government taxes
- Fun group experience
- Pre and post trip parties



SPECIAL GIVEAWAY!

Once 15 people have signed up, all will be entered in a drawing for \$2000 off this trip!

Not included

- International Airfare
- Drinks at most meals
- Gratuities to Kenya guide and drivers
- Visas if applicable

*Sign up by June 1, 2018 and receive 3 entries!
Drawing be held at pre trip party*

Payment Requirements –Deposits and payments are nonrefundable

- \$1000 deposit (all payments cash or check)
- 50% of remaining balance – November 1, 2018
- Remaining balance – February 1, 2019
- **We highly recommend Travel Insurance to protect your investment. Check out <https://www.insuremytrip.com> for options.**



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'Experiencing the World Together'

Kenya Safari Adventure

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'Experiencing the world together'

Day 1 – Thursday - June 6 - Depart New York

Depart home today on a journey to transverse the globe.

Day 2 – Friday – June 7 - Nairobi

Jambo! Upon arrival at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi, you will be met by your host and your naturalist guide.

Arrive at the Safari Park Hotel an oasis of tranquility in the heart of Nairobi. The Safari Park Hotel blends stylishly elegant African architecture with supremely luxurious accommodation; sparkling water gardens with an inland beach and beautifully landscaped gardens, with a wide choice of international restaurants.

The Safari Park Hotel & Casino stands in 50 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens incorporating a wide variety of indigenous trees, and offering sanctuary to a startling array of birds and butterflies.

Dinner is on your own this evening or based on flight arrival time a Welcome Dinner will be provided at the hotel. If dinner is not provided this evening dinner will be included on your final evening in Nairobi (Day 13).

ACCOMMODATIONS: SAFARI PARK HOTEL OR SIMILAR (D)

Day 3 – Saturday – June 8 - Nairobi

This morning you will get set for an exciting adventure as you visit Daphne Sheldrick's Orphanage at the edge of Nairobi National Park, which is a nursery and rehab center for infant elephants that have lost their families, as well as rhino and occasionally zebras and other wildlife. Daphne was the first person to successfully master the art and raise orphan infant elephants. The wife of the famous naturalist David Sheldrick, Daphne has dedicated her life to conservation. David was founder Warden of Kenya's giant Tsavo East National Park, in which he served from 1948 until

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his death in 1976. Daphne has continued her involvement and has had real impact on the lives of elephants and rhinos, which would have normally died due to human poaching and surrounding population conflict. You'll enjoy a visit with the elephants as they're brought by their keepers to the waterhole and salt lick to be fed and socialize – see how they roll in the mud and play fight, and their affectionate interaction with their keepers.

Continue to the AFEW Nature Center near Giraffe Manor where you may hand-feed the Rothschild giraffe that live here. The giraffes were brought here by Jock and Betty Leslie-Melville, who founded AFEW (African Fund for Endangered Wildlife) and built the Nature Center to help educate young African children about wildlife conservation. The Rothschild giraffe are the tallest species and may reach 18 feet in height, but you can see eye to eye with them on the elevated walkway at the center.

Drive towards the Ngong Hills and the home of Karen Blixen. As you approach the Ngong Hills, you feel swept immediately onto the film set of Out of Africa.

Enjoy lunch at Karen Blixen's Garden Restaurant before visiting the Karen Blixen House, the former house of the Danish Baroness, Karen Blixen (1885-1962) author of the book Out of Africa. Karen lived in this green residential area from 1914 to 1931 when she left permanently for Denmark. The house was built in 1910 and when Ms. Blixen bought the property, it had 6,000 acres of land but only 600 acres were developed for growing coffee; the rest was retained under natural forest. The house was bought by the Danish Government, which offered it back to Kenya in 1963. In 1986, the house, formerly used as a school, was transformed to a National Museum. Much of the original furniture is on display in the house and most objects were either used by Karen herself or for the shooting of the film or donated to the museum.

Your welcome dinner is at the hotel at the Nyama Choma Ranch . Stunning selection of roasted barbecued meats; sizzling hot, presented on skewers and carved at your table; accompanied with jacket potatoes, crispy salads and tasty dips. Choose from prime Kenyan steak, succulent chicken, traditionally roasted mutton... and sink your teeth into a variety of meats (plenty of vegetarian options too!). Dinner is followed by Nairobi's premiere cabaret.

ACCOMMODATIONS: SAFARI PARK HOTEL OR SIMILAR (B, L, D)

Day 4/5 – Sunday/Monday – June 9/10 - Nairobi/Amboseli

Leave Nairobi this morning driving South East towards Amboseli National Park located at the foot of Africa's highest mountain, Mount Kilimanjaro. The snow-capped peak of Mount Kilimanjaro rises 19,344 feet through a saucer of clouds and dominates every aspect of Amboseli.

The next two days will be spent exploring the small park. Its fragile ecosystem supports a wide range of mammals (well over 50 of the larger species) and birds (over 400 species). Years ago this was the locale around which such famous writers as Ernest Hemingway and Robert Ruark spun their stories of big-game hunting in the wilds of Africa. This too, is part of Maasailand, and it's not unusual to see the proud Maasai warrior or small children tending their cattle as you traverse their territory. In this land, animal and man

have learned to coexist and thrive together, despite the harsh conditions. This is also the park that has been made famous by Cynthia Moss, the noted American naturalist and author who has one of the longest-running studies on elephants.

You might even see some of the elephants that Cynthia has immortalized in her many books and award-winning film Echo of the Elephants.

ACCOMMODATIONS: AMBOSELI SERENA LODGE OR SIMILAR (B, L, D)

Day 6/7 – Tuesday/Wednesday – June 11/12 - Samburu

After breakfast you will have a chance to take one last game drive in Amboseli. Then drive to the airstrip where you will board a plane to Nairobi and then onto Samburu.

Samburu lies on the hot and arid fringes of Kenya's vast northern region. The landscapes are magnificent with extremely colorful birds and numerous wildlife species found only north of the equator and rarely elsewhere in Kenya. Two days of game drives include spotting the "big five". Be sure to look for Grevy's zebra, reticulated giraffe and beisa oryx while the graceful gerenuk, an antelope with a characteristic long neck, spends most time in a bipedal stance seeking relaxation in the sparse scrub. The dramatic, harsh landscape is subjected to the hot equatorial sun for most of the year and relief comes only from the cool waters of the Uaso Nyiro ("Brown") River. Rising to the West on the foothills of the Aberdares, the river vanishes beyond Samburu in the soggy expanse of the Lorian swamp.

ACCOMMODATIONS: SAROVA SHABA LODGE OR SIMILAR (B, L, D)

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Day 8/9 – Thursday/Friday – June 13/14 - Sweetwaters

Continue your exploration of this magnificent country with its diverse landscapes and hospitable people, and drive north to the equator and Sweetwaters Tented Camp, which lies in the heart of the privately owned 22,000-acre reserve, enjoying magnificent views across the bush to the snow-capped peaks of Mt. Kenya.

Overlooking a floodlit waterhole, the camp offers visitors an unforgettable opportunity to watch and photograph wildlife in its natural habitat. During your stay, you will also visit the 200-acre Chimpanzee sanctuary that has been set up here. Although chimps are not indigenous to Kenya, the aim of the project, initiated by Kenya Wildlife Services and the Jane Goodall Institute, was to set up a colony where chimps could be introduced, rehabilitated and taught to fend for themselves in an area similar to their natural living conditions. Priority is given to orphaned and abused chimps. The Sanctuary currently has 41 chimps, including two babies born in the Sanctuary. While here, you can enjoy a guided optional walking safari, as well as camel safaris, and horse-back riding.

In the evening, you can enjoy an optional night drive (additional fee) where you may see nocturnal animals such as aardvark, aardwolf, genet, caracal, porcupine, spring hare and galagos. During your drive, stop and feast your eyes on the brilliant star-studded sky, also take a moment to absorb the wondrous African night. This is definitely what Mother Nature intended.

Enjoy game drives and a special cooking lesson for one hour with the head chef of the camp. Plant a tree as part of the reforestation project.

ACCOMMODATIONS: SWEETWATERS CAMP (B, L, D)

Day 10 – Saturday – June 15 - Sweetwaters/Nanyuki/Masai Mara

After an early morning game drive and breakfast drive to Nanyuki air strip for a flight to the Masai Mara.

Welcome to the Masai Mara Kenya's most famous wildlife reserve. Known as the "Jewel of Africa" and setting for the film Out of Africa, it covers an area of 700 square miles and forms part of the Serengeti ecosystem. The reserve is a classic savannah landscape of rolling grasslands with free

roaming animals and spectacular vista. Wildlife shares the land with minimal conflict with local, cattle tending Maasai tribes.

Spend three days of exciting wildlife-viewing in the Masai Mara, site of one of the world's largest and the most spectacular animal migrations. Up to two million wildebeest and thousands of zebra move from the Serengeti plains, surrounded by an escort of carnivores, following the rains and subsequent presence of succulent new grass. It is a costly trek. Many of the lame, laggard and sick animals fall prey to ravaging packs of predators while many more die in the swirling flood waters of the Mara River which crosses the reserve from north to south. The Mara has its own resident herds and shelters many of Africa's most popular wild animals including lion, elephant, leopard, black rhino and hippo. The Mara has one of Africa's highest concentrations of cheetahs, as well as magnificent black-maned lions. Over 500 species of birds live in the park including ostrich, larks, sunbirds and the lovely Lilac-breasted Roller.

Your stay at the Mara Egai Wilderness Lodge includes soft drinks, house wines, local branded spirit & beers and limited laundry.

ACCOMMODATIONS: MARA ENGAI WILDERNESS LODGE (B, L, D)

Day 11 – Sunday – June 16 - Masai Mara

Rising at dawn with tea and coffee, depart for an early morning game drive before breakfast, catching the animals before the heat of the day sets in.

Stop for a bush breakfast en-route back to the lodge. Not many experiences are as memorable, or as typically, Kenyan, as breakfast in the bush. At one of our specially chosen breakfast sites, a full English breakfast will be cooked before you. Enjoy a glass of chilled buck's fizz while you savor the experience.

Return to the lodge and enjoy the rest of the morning at leisure, followed by an afternoon game drive, returning to the Lodge as the sun sets.

ACCOMMODATIONS: MARA ENGAI WILDERNESS LODGE (B, L, D)

Day 12 – Monday – June 17 - Masai Mara

Early morning game drive before breakfast, catching the animals before the heat of the day sets in.

Enjoy the rest of the morning at leisure, followed by an afternoon game drive, returning to the Lodge as the sun sets.

This evening, enjoy a bush dinner, under the twinkling stars of the African sky. It's a wonderful al fresco dining experience overlooking the Mara open plains. Enjoy a Masai performance and show.

ACCOMMODATIONS: MARA ENGAI WILDERNESS LODGE (B, L, D)

Day 13 – Tuesday – June 18 - Masai Mara/Nairobi/Departure

Following an early morning game drive enjoy your last breakfast in Kenya.

Transfer to the airstrip for a flight to Nairobi. Depending on your final flight arrangements you may stay in Nairobi at the Boma Hotel for a short time have dinner and then transfer to the airport for your departure flight back to Europe.

ACCOMMODATIONS: BOMA HOTEL OR SIMILAR (B, D)

Day 14 – Wednesday – June 19 - Home

Arrive home your hearts and minds filled with happy memories and wonderful photos!

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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

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- 2 nights accommodation in Nairobi at the Safari Park Hotel & Casino or similar
<http://www.safaripark-hotel.com/?page=home>
- 2 nights accommodation at Amboseli Serena Lodge or similar
<http://www.serenahotels.com/serenaamboseli/rooms-en.html>
- 2 nights accommodation in Samburu at the Sarova Shaba Lodge
<https://www.sarovahotels.com/shabalodge-samburu/>
- 2 nights accommodation at Sweetwaters Camp
<http://www.serenahotels.com/serenasweetwaters/default-en.html>
- 3 nights accommodations at the Mara Engai Wilderness Lodge including Soft drinks, House Wines, Local Branded Spirit & Beers and Limited Laundry
<http://www.maraengai.info/>
- Dayroom use in Nairobi at the Boma Hotel or similar To **be determined when air flights are chosen**
<http://theboma.co.ke/boma-nairobi/>
- 11 breakfasts, 10 lunches and 10 dinners
- One bottle of mineral water per person during all lunches and dinners
- One bottle of mineral water per person per day in safari vehicle
- Transportation by 4 x 4 Land Cruiser with pop-up roof for easy game viewing & photography (no more than 7 participants to a vehicle)
- Services of an English speaking naturalist-guide
- Services of an English speaking driver-guide per vehicle
- Game viewing drives as per the program
- National Park entrances fees as per itinerary
- All government taxes and levies (based on fees of October 27, 2017 – subject to change)
- Flying Doctors Membership <https://www.flyingdoctorsafrica.org/>
- Air: Amboseli/Nairobi – Nairobi/Samburu
- Air: Nanyuki/Masai Mara
- Air Masai Mara/Nairobi
- Porterage at lodges and camps
- Tips to porters & dining room staff

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