14-Day Kenya Wildlife Safari: Mara, Samburu and Amboseli

Kenya



DURATION	COUNTRY	STARTING FROM
14 days, 13 nights	**Kenya**	**USD 6,900 per person**

TOUR SUMMARY

This 14-day, 13-night Kenya wildlife safari visits Olpejeta, Samburu National Reserve, Lake Nakuru National Park, the Masai Mara, Lake Naivasha, Amboseli National Park and Tsavo West National Park.

The itinerary can be booked as it is, or customised to your requirements, and Namib Safaris will send the best option for you. You start in Nairobi and finish in Nairobi or Mombasa.

ITINERARY

Day 1

Arrival in Nairobi

Arrive Nairobi. Welcome to Nairobi, Kenya's cosmopolitan capital. Once little more than a watering hole for Masai tribes, today's Nairobi is one of the largest cities between Cairo and Johannesburg. Arrive in the late morning and drive to Karen Von Blixen's former home, now a museum. Continue to the Giraffe Center, where you can feed and photograph giraffes from an elevated platform. Return to the hotel early this evening—complimentary dinner at The Carnivore Restaurant. Nairobi has many restaurants offering a variety of exotic and African cuisine. However, none beats Carnivore for its uniqueness: It is carnivorous. It is the only place you can get a variety of meats served in one meal. Its succulent steaks and barbecue dishes are recommended for everyone. Vegetarian meals are also available. Overnight at the Boma Hotel or similar.

Day 2

Nairobi – Olpejeta

After breakfast, you'll be met by your safari driver/guide and proceed North via the Central Kenya highlands. Drive on to the Equator, where you have a stopover and on to Olpejeta Ranch, arriving in the late morning. After lunch, you will have a game drive in the Olpejeta Conservancy and a visit to the Chimpanzee Sanctuary. Dinner and overnight at Serena Sweet Waters Camp or similar.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3

Olpejeta Full Day

Awaken at dawn and depart on an early morning game drive while the light is just perfect for photographing the magnificent Mt. Kenya. Return to the camp for breakfast. After breakfast, have a rest and lunch. In the afternoon, head out for another game drive in this rhino haven. Dinner and overnight at Serena Sweet Waters Camp.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4

Olpejeta Conservancy – Samburu Game Reserve

Have breakfast and brief en-route wildlife viewing. Drive north to Samburu, where the climate is drier, and the land is semi-desert. Spend the next two days exploring the Samburu Game Reserve. Keep your camera and binoculars ready, as the wildlife is plentiful. See the thin-striped Grevy's zebra, reticulated giraffe, blue-necked Somali ostrich, and Beisa Oryx, all species only found north of the equator. The long-necked gerenuk, a graceful antelope, spends most of its time here in a bi-pedal stance, seeking succulent leaves. Later, relax at your camp on the banks of the Ewaso Nyiro River, deep in the reserve. Accommodation is provided in luxuriously appointed rooms set under thatch, with en-suite facilities and a private veranda. All meals and overnight at Samburu Intrepids Camp or similar.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5

Samburu National Reserve Full Day

You'll have morning and afternoon game drives, with opportunities to take some superb photographs in the low morning and afternoon sunlight. As Samburu is one of the smaller parks, chances for sporting all the big five and species unique to Samburu, such as the Grevy's zebra, are excellent. This is the easiest park in the Kenya tour circuit to see the "big 5". In between game drives, you can do some excellent birdwatching from the verandah of your tent. All meals and overnight at Samburu Intrepids Camp.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6

Samburu National Reserve – Lake Nakuru National Park

After breakfast, depart and drive to the Great Rift Valley View Point and on to Thompson Falls Lodge for lunch. Drive on to Lake Nakuru National Park for a game drive. This is 200-sq. Km shallow Soda Lake lies in the volcanic-strewn Rift Valley and is one of a chain of lakes stretching the length of Kenya from Tanzania to Ethiopia. It previously hosted the world's greatest bird spectacle with millions of pink flamingos (which have migrated, but some flocks are usually found here) and pelicans, birds of prey like vultures, eagles, and such animals as waterbuck and black rhinos, buffalo, reedbuck, gazelle, leopard, hyrax, hippos, velvet-monkey, Rothschild giraffe and baboon. This is an ideal place for ornithologists and photographers. All meals and overnight at Lake Nakuru Lodge or similar.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7

Lake Nakuru National Park – Masai Mara National Reserve

Have an early morning game drive and late breakfast. Depart for Masai Mara. The Maasai Mara is a jewel of Kenya's game parks, located in the northern section of the great Serengeti plains. The reserve is the home of the "big five" …. elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, and Rhino, as well as cheetah, zebra, giraffe, wildebeests, hippo, impala gazelle, and numerous other wildlife, including hundreds of species of birds.

For the next three nights, you will find your accommodations at the exquisite Mara Engai Lodge, one of the Mara's premier luxury tented camps. This allows you to immerse yourself in the wilderness while still enjoying all the comforts of home. Perched on the edge of the Olololo escarpment and enveloped by the lush forest canopy, each sumptuous tent offers panoramic views of the world's most extensive grassland ecosystem, which is still under the watchful care of the Maasai tribe.

You can look forward to thrilling game drives, where Mara's wonders will be unveiled before your eyes. After you check in and savor a delicious lunch, you'll have some leisure time to unwind and take a refreshing dip in the pool. Later in the afternoon, you'll reunite with your private guide for an exciting game drive in pursuit of the "big five." The soft afternoon light is ideal for capturing the beauty of the rolling plains of the Maasai Mara. Your overnight stay will be at the Mara Engai Lodge.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8

Maasai Mara Game Reserve Full Day

During the following mornings, you'll experience the enchantment of waking before sunrise. After savoring a cup of tea or coffee, you'll embark on an early morning game drive as the sun begins to paint the Mara with its first light. The Mara reveals its magic in these early hours; melodious birdsong fills the air, the morning breeze carries a fresh and invigorating scent, and the wildlife starts to stir, welcoming the new day. Zebras frolic and exchange greetings, jackals gracefully bound through the grass in search of mice, rabbits dart about, baboons engage in animated chatter, and inquisitive giraffes observe you while munching on acacia leaves. You might even stumble upon a lion family sharing the remnants of last night's hunt, or spot a leopard taking a leisurely nap in a tree.

After returning to the camp, a lavish buffet breakfast awaits you. Following this, you'll head out once more with your driver/guide for a mid-morning game drive, venturing deeper into the heart of the Mara. Don't forget to keep an eye out for the "little five" – the Thompson's gazelle, jackal, African hare, vervet monkeys, and banded mongoose. These smaller creatures can be just as fascinating and entertaining to observe as their larger counterparts.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9

Maasai Mara Game Reserve Full Day

Enjoy the morning Game drive to this vast, open grasslands of the Serengeti-Mara ecosystem, which are home to over 3 million large mammals. In our game drive, we have a very good chance of seeing all the major Plains animals, including lion, leopard, buffalo, elephant, rhino, hyena, cheetah, jackal, warthog, and many other species. Visit a Masai village (not in cost) this afternoon to learn the ancient ways of the Masai people, who are allowed to graze animals and to hunt within the reserve boundaries. All meals and overnight at Mara Engai Lodge.

Optional Activities

Masai Village Visit – US$ 25 per person

Balloon Safari – US$ 450 per person

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 10

Maasai Mara Game Reserve – Lake Naivasha

Have breakfast and depart from Masai Mara for Lake Naivasha. You will arrive at this fresh water lake located in the Rift Valley for lunch. In the afternoon, head to the lake, where you will have a boat ride to Crescent Island, where you will have a walking safari among the wildlife found on the Island. In the late afternoon head back to the lodge for rest, dinner and overnight.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 11

Lake Naivasha – Amboseli National Park

Have breakfast and Depart at 07.30 hrs and drive south through vast Maasai country to Amboseli National Park, arriving for lunch. You will head out for an afternoon game drive, viewing giraffes, lions, elephants, and many more, with Mt. Kilimanjaro (Africa's highest peak) providing a beautiful background. Dinner and overnight at the Amboseli Serena Lodge.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 12

Amboseli National Park Full Day

Early morning game drive. Thereafter, return to the lodge for breakfast and mid-morning at leisure. Amboseli National Park is located at the foot of Mt. Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain. The mountain's snow forms a majestic backdrop to one of Kenya's most renowned national parks and has the most spectacular wealth of wildlife like – elephants, warthogs, cheetahs, and buffaloes. It's the home of plains game and their accompanying predators, making Kenya the most sought-after photographer's paradise, nature lovers' haven, safari walkers challenge, and film maker's scenic beauty of unequaled levels the world over. Meals and overnight at the Amboseli Serena Lodge.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 13

Amboseli National Park – Tsavo West National Park

Pre-breakfast game drive followed by breakfast. Thereafter, depart and head to Tsavo West National Park with a game drive en route to the lodge. You will also have stopovers at the Shetani Lava Flow and Mzima Springs. After your lunch, proceed for afternoon game drives and thereafter return to the lodge for rest, dinner, and overnight stay at the Kilaguni Serena Lodge.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 14

Tsavo West National Park – Nairobi/Mombasa

After an early morning game drive and breakfast, you will say goodbye to the bush and transfer to Nairobi, arriving in the late afternoon before your evening transfer to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport for your international flight. End of your Kenya Wildlife Safari Holiday. Note you can also choose to take the train for Mombasa via Tsavo East for a well-deserved beach stay.

Breakfast

WHAT IS INCLUDED

Cost includes

- All park entrance fees
- Accommodation at all lodges and tented camps on full board.
- 1 liter per person per day bottled water for use during the safari
- Services of an English-speaking experienced driver/guide
- Transport in a 4 x 4 Safari Land cruiser with a pop-up roof for easier game viewing and photography. Exclusive use of safari vehicle throughout the duration of the trip
- Meals as in itinerary
- All government taxes and levies
- Flying doctors air ambulance evacuation in case of a life-threatening accident or injury
- Safari accessories (First Aid kit, cool box, and fire extinguisher) Emergency number 24 hours. All safari vehicles are equipped with RF radio

Cost excludes

- Driver tips
- Balloon safari
- Masai village visit
- Expenses of a personal nature, such as visas, etc
- Any other expenses not noted above

GOOD TO KNOW

- Packing for Safari? Keep it simple!
- Bring comfortable, lightweight clothes in natural colors like khaki, olive, sand, and earth tones. Pack layers too: mornings can be surprisingly chilly, while the middle of the day gets hot. You don't need a fresh outfit for every day, since most lodges and camps can arrange laundry service.
- Don't forget your sun protection: a good hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen. Comfortable shoes are enough for most safaris. Heavy hiking boots are only needed if you're doing a walking safari, primate tracking, or mountain climbing.
- A good pair of binoculars is a must. A camera is great, but binoculars will transform the way you experience wildlife, especially birds and animals that are far away.
- For luggage, we recommend a soft-sided bag over a hard suitcase. It fits much more easily into safari vehicles and small aircraft, where space is tight and weight is often limited to 15 kg.
- Most importantly, don't overpack. Travel light and enjoy the adventure!

Ready to book this safari?

Request a quote and we will tailor it to your dates and group: **gorillatreking.com/safari/14-day-kenya-wildlife-safari-mara-samburu-and-amboseli/**

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Starting prices are per person and depend on season, group size and availability; request a quote for exact pricing. Itineraries can be adjusted to suit your plans.