

12-day Tent and Lodge-Safari in Tanzania

**With your own driver, guide and cook
Overnight accommodation alternately in tents and lodges**

Itinerary:

Arusha - Lake Manyara - Lake Natron – North Eastern Serengeti - Serengeti Centre - Serengeti Western Corridor - Olduvai Gorge – Ngorongoro - Arusha

Day 1

Arrival in Arusha

Arrival at Kilimanjaro Airport at 7:45 p.m. Our private guide and driver Fredrick is waiting for us in the terminal. After a drive of about one hour we arrive in Arusha. After checking in at the Arusha Hotel **** we enjoy a late dinner.

Day 2

Safari Lake Manyara.

Our driver and guide, Fredrick, has already made plans for the next few days. We start off at 7:30 a.m. from the hotel for our first tour via Mto wa mbu to Lake Manyara National Park. At about 11:00 a.m. we arrive there for our first short game drive. After eating our packed lunches by the lake, we begin the drive through the park which lasts until about 3:00 p.m.

We drive along the edge of the Rift Valley to Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge ****, the location of our next overnight stay. The view from the pool over the East African Rift Valley and Lake Manyara is magnificent. The souvenir shop offers lovely and inexpensive locally made safari shirts, trousers and caps.



Day 3

Rift Valley Escarpment

At 8:00 a.m. we drive from Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge via Mtu wa mbu in a south-easterly direction along the Rift Valley. Our guide is perfectly prepared and provides us with packed lunches on the way. We pass by splendid landscapes which take on an increasingly volcanic appearance as we proceed. At about 3:00 p.m. we arrive at the camp site, about 4 kilometres from Lake Natron. The tents are put up and we go on our first exploration of the surroundings. At about 7:00 p.m. we enjoy an idyllic dinner at the tent.

Day 4

Lake Natron, Ngare Sero Waterfall, early human footprints – Option A

Breakfast at the tent at 7:30 a.m. Drive to Lake Natron and its surroundings. Visit to a remote, hardly known area where the petrified footprints of early humans (ca. 120,000 years old) can be seen. Return and lunch at the tent. Drive to the Ngare Sero River where we walk beside and in the river to a waterfall which cascades from a great height into a pool at the foot of an impressive gorge (strong, waterproof bathing shoes and swimming attire are essential).

We walk back to the safari vehicle and return to the camp. In the evening, we enjoy a twilight drive for a sundowner on a hill with a wonderful view of Lake Natron and one of the most spectacular active volcanoes in Africa. Return at about 8:00 p.m. for dinner.

5. Tag

Safari to Lake Natron – Option A

At 9:00 a.m. our trip continues along the western bank of Lake Natron to Loliondo with a stop for lunch on the way. Arrival at about 2:30 p.m. at the camping site by Loliondo. At 3:00 p.m. we drive to Mr. Babu Mwaisapile, a famous Tanzanian pastor and natural healer with a large collection of herbal medicines. If Mr. Babu is not available for our visit, safari on foot accompanied by Massai for about 1 ½ to 2 hours. Dinner at the tent at about 7:00 p.m.

Day 4

Lake Natron, waterfall, early human footprints, climb up Oldonyo Lengai – Option B

Breakfast at the tent at 7:30 a.m. Drive to Lake Natron and its surroundings. Visit to a remote, hardly known area where early human petrified footprints (ca. 120,000 years old) can be seen. Return and lunch at the tent. Drive to the Ngare Sero River where we walk beside and in the river to a waterfall which cascades from a great height into a pool at the foot of an impressive gorge (strong, waterproof bathing shoes and swimming attire are essential). We walk back to the safari vehicle and return to the camp.

At 6:30 p.m. dinner at the tent. At 9:30 p.m. drive to the ascent route of the magnificent Oldonyo Lengai (2,878 metres), the holy mountain of the Massai and the only volcano in the Rift Valley which is still active. The ascent starts at 10:00 p.m. with a guide and involves climbing up about 2,000 metres of altitude. The climb takes about 5-6 hours and is extremely strenuous as on some long sections of the very steep ascent it is necessary to walk through loose ash. Above-average physical condition and fitness are absolutely necessary for taking part in this climb.

Day 5

Safari to Lake Natron, climb up Oldonyo Lengai – Option B

Arrival at the peak at about 4:00 a.m. Descent at about 4:30 a.m. (3-4 hours). Return to the camp site and breakfast at about 9:00 a.m. Relaxation at the camp site, then departure at 10:30 a.m. for Loliondo. Arrival in Loliondo at 4:00 p.m. At 4:30 p.m. Drive to Mr. Babu Mwaisapile, a famous Tanzanian pastor and natural healer with a large collection of herbal medicines. If Mr. Babu is not available for our visit, safari on foot accompanied by Massai for about 1 ½ to 2 hours. Dinner at the tent at about 7:00 p.m.

Day 6

Game drive to the Serengeti National Park

At 8:00 a.m. we set off from the Loliondo Camping Ground towards Serengeti National Park. On the way, we have lunch at Klein's Gate, then begin our game drive in the Serengeti Park/Grumeti River. At about 5:00 p.m. we arrive on schedule at the Lobo Wildlife Camping Ground. Dinner at 7:00 p.m. at the tent.

Day7

Full-day game drive in the north-eastern part of the Serengeti

We rise early at about 5:30 a.m., have a quick snack, and then our game drive starts. We return at about 8:30 a.m. and have breakfast together. At 9:30 a.m. the next game drive starts, lasting until about 12:00 noon. After a packed lunch in the "bush" we start on the afternoon game drive which lasts until 4:30 p.m. Return to the camp site and dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Day 8

Game drive to the Serengeti Centre, Retima Hippo Pool

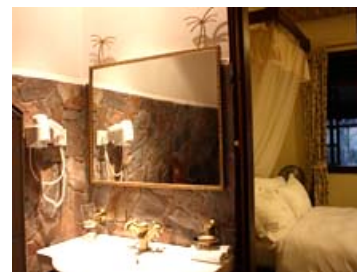
Another early rise at 5:30 a.m., a quick snack and start at 6:00 a.m. on an early game drive. We return at about 8:00 a.m. and enjoy a lavish breakfast. Departure at 9:30 a.m. to the Serengeti Visitor Centre, visiting the famous Retima Hippo Pool on the way. Packed lunch picnic. Then our drive continues to the next overnight accommodation at the Bilila Kempinski Lodge *****. We arrive at 3:00 p.m. and spend the rest of the afternoon relaxing.



Day 9

Game drive Serengeti, North-West Corridor, Grumeti River

Our departure is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. We drive into the North-West Corridor of the Serengeti. Game drive until lunch (packed lunch). Then, another game drive to the Grumeti River on the way to the Mbalageti Luxury Tented Camp****. We arrive at about 3:30 p.m.



Day 10

Serengeti game drive, Olduvai Gorge and Ngorongoro Crater

We start out for our drive to Ngorongoro at 8:00 a.m. with a game drive along the way. Picnic lunch in Naabi Hill. Then we make a detour to the very interesting anthropological museum near the Olduvai Gorge. The trip continues to the rim of the Ngorongoro crater where the Simba Public Camp Site is located. We arrive at about 5:30 p.m. Dinner at the tent.

Day 11

Game drive in the Ngorongoro Caldera

After breakfast at about 6:00 a.m., we start off for the Ngorongoro Caldera for a game drive in the crater. Lunch on the bank of the lake on the Ngoitokitoki Picnic area in the centre of the crater. Departure at 2:30 p.m. for the Simba public camp site, then we pick up the tents. Our tour ends at about 4:00 p.m. at our new overnight location, the Farm House Lodge ****.



Day 12

Drive to Arusha, visit to a banana farm, snake museum and Fredrick's family (optional). Transfer to Kilimanjaro International Airport. Return flight.

At 8:30 a.m.: Departure from the Farm House Lodge for Arusha. If time allows, a visit to the banana farm in Mtu wa mbu is a must. While we are here we also visit a family of wood carvers. Their works of art are much less expensive than in the many shops in the main streets. Bargaining about the price is definitely alright. We continue our drive to the Snake Museum which houses about 80 snakes, some of them extremely poisonous. Close to the Snake Museum is the Massai Museum with many huts in which handmade jewellery, scarves, Massai blankets etc. are on sale. Arrival in Arusha at about 3:30 p.m. Anyone who wishes can visit the house of our driver and guide Fredrick to see his home and meet his family. About 4:30 p.m. we drive to "Hotel Arusha" for a shower and a change of clothes. At 6:15 p.m. transfer by Fredrick/ Driver Guide to Kilimanjaro International Airport. At 8:50 p.m. return flight.