

# LIONESS SAFARI TO NORTHERN TANZANIA 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE – 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024



This safari will take you to the very heart of northern Tanzania visiting key parks and reserves and enjoying absolutely top wildlife viewing. June is a wonderful time to visit Tanzania – the rains have stopped and the temperatures should be a little cooler and the parks should still be lovely and green - depending on the amount of rain experienced during the rainy season.

We have negotiated a special 'no single supplement' offer for all our guests travelling on this safari – so you will enjoy your own room throughout your holiday at no extra cost!

We have included a night on arrival in Arusha so you can arrive anytime on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Start your safari by travelling by road down to the Tarangire National Park for 2 nights in a tented camp in the heart of the park. Continue on to Lake Manyara for a game drive before heading to the Ngorongoro

Conservation Area, and up to the rim of the caldera, where you will stay for 2 nights to enable you to enjoy a full day safari on the crater floor.

Your journey will then take you down from the cloud forest to the Rift Valley – a wonderfully scenic drive past Masai homesteads – until you reach the Rift Valley and the Serengeti where you will stay in a tented camp set the central part of the park - which has permanent water all the year round and superb wildlife viewing. On this safari you will visit some of Africa's most iconic areas – the Serengeti National Park, the Ngorongoro Crater, Lake Manyara National Park and Tarangire National Park.

We have put together this Ladies Only safari to enable those keen to travel to Tanzania in the comfort and safety of a small group of other ladies with similar interests let by a professional and experienced driver/guide. You will be on a bed and breakfast basis in Arusha and a full board basis throughout your safari just paying for drinks as you go.

We have limited the group to just 6 ladies - who could be from all over the world - and you will travel in a 4 x 4 safari vehicle with your own driver/professional and experienced guide throughout.



# **5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024**

# ARRIVAL KILIMANJARO – TRANSFER TO ARUSH FOR THE NIGHT

On arrival into Kilimanjaro International Airport you will be met and transferred to Arusha for one night. You can arrive at any time today.

### OVERNIGHT AT THE FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON ON A BED AND BREAKFAST BASIS

### **6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024**

An early start today as your guide will meet the group at the hotel and conduct a short safari briefing before heading to Tarangire National Park to arrive in time for lunch at Nyikani Camp Tarangire. The road transfer will be approximately 3.5 hours.

Tarangire National Park lies 120 km south of Arusha, along The Great North Road highway, and offers a wide variety of wildlife in its area of 2,600 sq km. As in all ecosystems, the vegetation and the types of animals you find are closely correlated.

The principal features of the park are the flood plains and the grassland, mainly comprising of various types of acacia trees, and a few scattered baobabs, tamarind and the sausage trees. The Tarangire River, after which the park is named, provides the only permanent water for wildlife in the area.

When the Maasai Steppes dry up with the end of the long rains in June migratory animals return to the Tarangire River, making Tarangire National Park second only to Ngorongoro in the concentration of wildlife. This period stretches between June and November and it is the best season for game viewing in Tarangire.



The most common animals found in the park include zebras, wildebeest, lions, leopards, waterbucks, giraffe, elephants, gazelles, impala, gerenuk, lesser kudu and the beautiful fringe-eared oryx. You may be lucky to spot the tree-climbing python for which the park is famous, or the kudu and the roan antelope which are rare species in Northern Tanzania. Over 300 species of birds have been recorded in the Park.

After lunch you will enjoy your first game drive in the Tarangire National Park.

### OVERNIGHT AT NYIKANI CAMP TARANGIRE ON A FULL BOARD BASIS

### **7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024 - TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK**

After breakfast at the lodge you will set out for a full day game drive in the Tarangire National Park with a packed lunch.

# **OVERNIGHT AT NYIKANI CAMP TARANGIRE ON A FULL BOARD BASIS**

# 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024 - LAKE MANYARA – NGORONGORO CRATER RIM

This morning you will depart to Lake Manyara National Park with packed lunches where you will enjoy a game drive - before heading to the Ngorongoro Conservation area. The drive up to the rim of the crater

offers stunning views of the interior of the crater and the countryside around. You will be staying at the Ngorongoro Serena perched high on the rim for two nights to enable you to enjoy a full day safari on the crater floor.

### OVERNIGHT AT THE NGORONGORO SERENA LODGE ON A FULL BOARD BASIS

A UNESCO protected World Heritage Site and an International Biosphere Reserve, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area is situated some 190 km west of Arusha between Lake Manyara and Serengeti National Parks. Covering approximately 8,288 square km, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area consists of the Ngorongoro Crater itself, the Olduvai Gorge and Ndutu, the Empakai crater and the Oldonyo Lengai Mountain.

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area is a pioneering experiment in multi-purpose land use where people (the Maasai), their livestock and wildlife coexist and share the same protected habitat. Wild animals are protected as in the National Parks. The craters of Ngorongoro and Empakai are reserved exclusively for wildlife, while the rest of the Conservation Area is shared by wildlife, people and livestock. The Maasai, the main residents of Ngorongoro, are pastoralists who move widely with their herds of cattle, sheep, goat and donkeys in search of pasture and water. In recent years the Maasai have been encouraged to work on the land and supplement their traditional diet of milk, blood and meat.



The Ngorongoro Crater, which is the central attraction in the area, is the largest Caldera in the world that has its walls intact. The Ngorongoro Crater floor - a sheer drop of 610 metres below the crater rim - has an area of 265 sq km with a diameter of 19 km. The views from the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater are simply stunning.

The crater floor is covered with plains animals including wildebeest, zebra, gazelles, elands, rhino, and a large predator population of lions, hyena and jackal which can all be viewed at close quarters. Cheetah and leopard can also be seen here. The rainy season is between November and May. The altitude at the crater rim is about 2286 metres above sea level and temperatures can get quite chilly in the evening.

# 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024 – NGORONGORO CRATER SAFARI

A highlight awaits today! After breakfast at the lodge you will descend to the floor of the crater with packed lunches for a full day crater safari. As the Serena Lodge is perched actually on the crater rim you will have a head start and will reach the crater floor nice and early before those who are staying outside the conservation area.

Later in the afternoon you will drive back up to the crater rim for another night at the Serena Lodge.

OVERNIGHT AT THE NGORONGORO SERENA LODGE ON A FULL BOARD BASIS

# **10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024 - SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK**

After breakfast you will check out of the Serena Lodge and start your drive to the Serengeti. The drive is enthralling as you drive down from the crater to the Rift Valley floor. Your drive will take you through ancient rainforest, down the flanks of the crater driving past Masai bomas on the way. Eventually you will reach the Rift Valley and the vegetation will change and as you drive towards the gates of the national park you will start to see wildlife on the plains.

You will stop briefly at the National Park gates for completion of paperwork by your guide and then the roof will be put up and you will be inside the Serengeti! You will drive to your tented camp stopping to watch any interesting wildlife on the way and arriving in camp in time for lunch. Your home for the next 4 nights is Nyikani Central Serengeti Camp in the central area of the Serengeti. Depending on what you see the drive from the Crater to the Serengeti Camp will take around 4 - 5 hours.

After a siesta you will meet your guide in the afternoon for a game drive in the Serengeti, returning back to the camp in time for dinner.

#### OVERNIGHT AT NYIKANI CAMP – CENTRAL SERENGETI – ON A FULL BOARD BASIS



Covering an area of 14,763 sq km, Serengeti National Park is the largest National Park in Tanzania. The park is located some 320 km to the northwest of Arusha lying in a high plateau between the Ngorongoro highlands and the Kenya/ Tanzania border, and extending almost to Lake Victoria to the west. Aptly named 'endless plains' by the Maasai people, you immediately experience this vastness as you enter the South-eastern plains of the park from Ngorongoro.

Declared a protected area in 1921 and gazetted as a National park in 1951, Serengeti is the oldest National Park in Tanzania and undoubtedly one of the most famous wildlife sanctuaries in the world. The principal features of the Serengeti are the short and long grass plains in the south and east, the acacia Savannah in the central areas, the hilly and densely wooded areas in the north and the extensive woodland in the west. There is a variety of scenery, which includes the plains, lakes, hills and the rocky outcrops called kopjes.

The main game drive areas in the Serengeti are the Seronera Valley, the Western Corridor, and Lobo or northern Serengeti. The Seronera valley in central Serengeti endowed with permanent surface water attract a large concentration of wildlife throughout the year. Common animals that can be seen here are lions, buffaloes, impalas, hippos, waterbucks, elephants, cheetahs and the leopard.

From December when the long rains start, to May, eastern Serengeti plains provide the best opportunities for game viewing as hundreds of thousands of the migratory animals are concentrated in this part attracted by the short palatable grass. Between May and July, when drought sets in, Serengeti is the site of one of the most breath taking events in the animal kingdom - the migration of thousands of wildebeest heading southwest, north or west in search of water and greener pastures. The Lobo area remains rich in wildlife during the dry months of August to November when most of the game has moved from the grass plains in the south. This is also true of the Western Corridor towards Lake Victoria when the migration usually lingers in the area between June and July.

Serengeti provides sanctuary to the highest concentration of plains animals in the world. Survey estimates indicate an animal population of about 4 million including 3000 lions, 1600000 wildebeests, 300000 Thomson's and Grant's gazelle, 500000 zebras. There are over 400 species of birds in the Serengeti.



# 11<sup>TH</sup>, 12<sup>TH</sup> AND 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024 - CENTRAL SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

Three full days to explore the central Serengeti area which is rich in game viewing at any time of the year thanks to the permeant water sources in the area.

OVERNIGHT AT NYIKANI CAMP – CENTRAL SERENGETI – ON A FULL BOARD BASIS

### 14TH JUNE 2024 - SERENGETI - KILIMANJARO AIRPORT

After breakfast at the camp you will be transferred to Seroner Airstrip for your scheduled flight departing at 1130 and arriving into Arusha at 1220. On arrival you will be met and transferred to the Arusha Coffee Lodge for lunch, with a group transfer on to Kilimanjaro International Airport mid-afternoon.

Please do not book your flight until after 6pm today – it is possible to organise a later transfer to the airport at a small supplement for those who are flying later.

Why not extend your safari! We can offer extensions to see the wonderful parks and reserves in Kenya or the southern Tanzania parks are just a quick hop by light aircraft. If the warm blue seas and soft white sands of the Indian Ocean are preferable then we can arrange an extension to the islands of Zanzibar, Mafia or Pemba for some rest and relaxation – please ask!



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