



12 NIGHT/13 DAY FAMILY SAFARI NORTHERN TANZANIA



Day One - Lake Manyara

On arrival into Kilimanjaro you are met and transferred directly to Lake Manyara National Park. Located 125 km west of Arusha town, under the wall of the Great Rift Valley, Lake Manyara National Park is one of the oldest and most popular sanctuaries in East Africa. The park has a large variety of habitats, making it possible to support a wealth of wildlife in its small area. The main habitats include the shallow soda lake itself which occupies 70% of the National Park total area of 320 sq. km, the ground water forest, open grassland, acacia woodland and the rift wall. The most famous spectacle in the park is the tree-climbing lions, which are occasionally seen along branches of acacia trees. Other animals found in the park include buffalo, elephants, leopards, baboons, impala, giraffes, zebra, wildebeest, ostrich and hippos. Popularly referred to as an ornithologist's paradise, Lake Manyara National Park contains over 400 bird species found in most savanna and river habitats in East Africa. Common water birds to be seen here are pelicans, spoonbills, Egyptian geese, hammerkops and the migratory flamingoes, which arrive in hundreds of thousands creating one of Africa's great natural sights over the soda lake.

Lunch at Lake Manyara Serena Lodge and afternoon game drives at the Park

Dinner & Overnight at Lake Manyara Serena Lodge LDBB



Day Two - Lake Manyara

Morning + Afternoon game drives at the Park

All meals and Overnight at Lake Manyara Serena Lodge LDBB



Day Three - Serengeti

After breakfast drive to Serengeti National Park for 4 nights. 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 southeastern 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 rock 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 breathtaking 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.

Lunch at Serengeti Serena Lodge - afternoon game drives. Hotel has swimming pool.

Dinner & Overnight at Serengeti Serena LDBB



Days Four – Six - Serengeti

Morning + Afternoon game drives at the Park

All meals & Overnight at **Serengeti Serena LDBB**



Day Seven – Ngorongoro Crater

After breakfast drive to the Ngorongoro Conservation Area for 3 nights. 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 sight of the Ngorongoro Crater is simply stunning. "There is nothing with which to compare. It is one of the wonders of the world...." once wrote Professor Bernard Grzimek. 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.

**Lunch at the Ngorongoro Serena Lodge and in the afternoon visit a traditional Maasai Village.
Dinner & Overnight at Ngorongoro Serena Safari Lodge LDBB**

Day Eight – Ngorongoro Crater

After breakfast descend into the Ngorongoro Crater for a full day of game viewing with picnic lunches.

Dinner and Overnight at Ngorongoro Serena Safari Lodge LDBB

Day Nine – Ngorongoro Crater

Another full day game viewing in the Ngorongoro Crater with picnic lunches.

Dinner and Overnight at Ngorongoro Serena Safari Lodge LDBB



Day Ten - Lake Natron

After breakfast drive to Lake Natron Area arriving in time for lunch at Lake Natron Camp.

After Lunch depart for afternoon walk at the Lake shore with bird watching.

Dinner & Overnight at Lake Natron Camp LDBB



Day Eleven - Tarangire

Early morning game drives at the Natron area and after lunch drive to Tarangire National Park for 2 nights. Tarangire National Park lies 120 km south of Arusha, along The Great North Road highway, and is very popular for day trips from the town. Tarangire 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.

Lunch at Tarangire Sopa Lodge and afternoon game drives

Dinner & Overnight at Tarangire Sopa Lodge LDBB



Day Twelve - Tarangire

Morning + Afternoon game drives at the Park

All meals & Overnight at Tarangire Sopa Lodge LDBB



Day Thirteen -Arusha

Early morning game drive and after a late breakfast drive to Arusha in time for lunch at Kia Lodge which is located just 5 minutes' drive from Kilimanjaro Airport. The rest of the day is spent at leisure at Kia lodge which has a swimming pool. Two hours before your flight you are transferred to Kilimanjaro Airport for your international flight back to the UK.

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