

FRIENDS TO KENYA

August 21-30, 2012

Day 1, August 21 Nairobi, Kenya

Upon arrival at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport you are met by Chameleon (our chosen operators for this special journey) representatives and transferred to the delightful Giraffe Manor.



Built originally in 1932 for coffee king David Duncan, the 120 acres of primeval forest adjoining the Manor are home to warthogs, exotic dik dik, bushbuck and more than 180 different species of bird. The once near-extinct Rothschild giraffe wander freely around the gardens, occasionally poking their heads through open windows and doors.

Overnight: Giraffe Manor

Day 2, August 22 Samburu National Reserve

Following breakfast we take a short flight to Samburu Game Reserve. Samburu is a wild and little visited region, well known for spectacular scenery and wildlife not found in the south: reticulated giraffes, the rare Grevy's zebra, the gerenuk, and Somali ostriches with their distinctive blue legs.

Overnight: Saasab Luxury Tented Camp

DAY 3 & 4 - August 23 & 24 **Samburu National Reserve**

We will spend our days searching for wildlife in this varied landscape of red dirt, thorn scrub, broken volcanic rock, steep hills and rocky outcroppings. Following the river's curves, a forest of doum palms, acacia, and tamarind is a magical contrast of cool green.

We will join the research team of Ewaso Lions in the field for a unique opportunity to learn from the experts. In this area we will also meet the local Samburu people, ride a camel, and do a bush walk.

Saasab has a pool and spa on the banks of the river where you can relax to the sounds of the various birds and animals that visit the water.

Overnight (2): Saasab Luxury Tented Camp

DAY 5 & 6 - August 25 & 26 **Maasai Mara National Reserve**

After breakfast we board the flight to the Maasai Mara. Considered the finest game sanctuary in Kenya, the Mara is home to an astonishing number and variety of animals. At this time of the year hundreds of thousands of migratory wildebeest and zebra are in the Mara.

Our tented camp here, one of my favorites, is set intimately in the bush. The surrounding area is home to the Maasai people and their cattle, and you will observe them criss-crossing the plains.

Overnight (2): Kicheche Mara Camp



DAY 7 & 8 - August 27 & 28

Maasai Mara National Reserve



This morning we will transfer to another area in the Maasai Mara reserve. This is the Africa of your imagination. Prides of more than twenty lions, including the majestic black-maned male, are not uncommon. Other inhabitants of the Mara include elephant, giraffe, buffalo, cheetah, leopard, hyena, topi, gazelle, and black rhino. It is a country of rolling grasslands, dense thickets of scrub, and groves of acacia woodland. Luxuriant forest grows along the banks of the Mara River, where hippos and crocodiles bask in the sun.

Rekero Camp is small and intimate. Lions and other wildlife frequently visit the camp in the evenings.

Overnight (2): Rekero Camp

DAY 9 - August 29

Nairobi

Today we fly back to Nairobi. This afternoon visit some famous Kenya designers and do last minute shopping after checking into the old colonial Norfolk Hotel. The newly renovated Norfolk is one of Nairobi's oldest gathering places for the discerning traveler.

Tonight is a 'free' night. You can go out in Nairobi, or relax at the hotel enjoying their world cuisine dining room.

Overnight: Norfolk Hotel

DAY 10 - August 30 Nairobi

This morning visit the Daphne Sheldrick Center where you will meet orphaned baby elephants who are being groomed to return to the wild.



Lunch and shopping at the Verandah Utamanduni craft centre, followed by a visit to the Karen Blixen (Out of Africa) Museum.

At the Nairobi Animal Orphanage we will get up close and personal with the resident wildlife, and we will take the "safari walk". Our farewell dinner will be a groups choice of the famous Carnivore Restaurant or a local Indian restaurant before catching our flights home.

END of JOURNEY

Cost: \$7,850 per person double occupancy

Single supplement (if available)= \$1,500

Deposit of \$2,500 (I can only take checks), and a registration form (I will send you one) to reserve your space. The trip is limited to 8 people and space will fill on a first come, first serve basis. Balance will be due April 2, 2012. If you wish to take out travelers insurance it is best to do so at the same time you make your deposit. I can give you information about who to contact.

What is included:

- Nairobi Airport transfers
- Three local scheduled flights: Wilson/Samburu/Mara/Wilson
- Conservancy and Park fees
- Entrance fees for Daphne Sheldrick Orphanage
- Entrance fees for Nairobi Safari Walk
- Entrance fees for Karen Blixen Museum
- Vehicle and driver for shopping on last day
- Required donation to Ewaso Lion Project

-Flying doctor services

Giraffe Manor: meals, all house drinks, laundry, entrance to the AFEW Giraffe Centre, a donation to AFEW, wireless internet access throughout the Manor

Sasaab: all meals and beverages, guided bush walks, camel rides, conservancy fees, game drives, transfers to/from Samburu airstrip, laundry and wireless internet access in all rooms

Kicheche Mara Camp: all meals, drinks (house wines, beers, sodas and local spirits), unlimited game view drives, conservancy fees, laundry, bush walks, transfer from Kicheche Mara to Rekeru by road

Rekeru: meals, all drinks except champagne and premium spirits, game drives, airstrip transfers, conservancy fees and laundry

Norfolk: bed and breakfast accommodation

And what is not:

-International Airfare

-Visa

-Cultural visits to Masai and or Samburu bomas or market place

-Dinner the last two nights

-Gratuities

-Items of a personal nature

-Lunch, Dinner and Laundry at Norfolk Hotel

One of the best parts of traveling are the activities and other options that become available spontaneously. For that reason there are some activities (such as dinners on the final 2 nights) that are not pre-arranged. This way the group decides what to do and we can add things that are available 'in the moment'.