

9 DAYS JOURNEY OF 3 CULTURES!

Destinations: Samburu, Lake Baringo, Lake Naivasha and Maasai Mara

ITINERARY:

Day 1: Arrival Nairobi – JKIA

On arrival in Nairobi you will be met and greeted by our representative who will offer all the necessary assistance that you will need on arrival. You will be transferred to your hotel for check in. A welcome Complimentary dinner will be offered at the famous Carnivore Restaurant this evening.

Overnight at Panari Hotel – BB

Day 2: Nairobi – Samburu National Reserve

Early in the morning on this day you will depart Nairobi and drive to Samburu National Reserve. Samburu is both arid and semi arid with hot days and cool nights. This reserve is rich in game with many rare species including Grevy's Zebra, Somali Ostrich, reticulated giraffe, Gerenuk, Beisa Oryx etc. Kamunyak the miracle lioness that adopted the baby Oryx is a resident in the reserve. Over 450 species of birds have been recorded in this reserve. With game viewing en route you will arrive at **Ashnil Samburu Camp** in time for lunch. You will definitely not avoid an afternoon game drive with a visit Buffalo Springs this afternoon.

Dinner and Overnight at Ashnil Samburu Camp – FB

Day 3: Samburu village

This is a whole day of adventure with the Samburu community. Total interaction and engagement with this community to give you insight and exciting experience on their culture and cultural habits. It is believed they originally came from Sudan and some from Egypt. Samburus and Maasai are of similar origin but they dwell in the highlands of northern Kenya. Their name originates from a Maasai name and has unique meaning – Discover! Their women have a unique dress code, multibeaded necklaces and bracelets and men too! All this beads and the way they are worn have meanings. Discover the traditional beliefs they adhere to and ritual diviners “**Loboinik**” believed interpret misfortunes. Discover their pastoralists life and their how they measure their wealth – very interesting! There are different stages both boys and girls transition e.g. boyhood to moran to a warrior! Meet the Morans and warriors and feel their responsibility for the community. Encounter the beading women of Samburu and find out how they are economically empowered through their beading. This a culture well sustained and it is just amazing to be in their midst for the day!

Dinner and Overnight at Ashnil Samburu Camp – FB

Day 4: Samburu Game Reserve – Lake Baringo

Lake Baringo is one of only 2 fresh water lakes in the Great Rift Valley therefore attracting different wildlife and holding fast as a unique destination. The area is a habitat for many species of animals including Hippo, Crocodiles and many others. It is a renowned birding destination boasting of over 500 species of birds. Highlights here include crossing the equator, birding and visits to the authentic Pokot or Njemps villages. A number of Islands surround Lake Baringo but one worth visiting is Ol Kokwe Island which has natural hot springs. Baringo community museum is also worth visiting! Walk, trek and just enjoy your day in Baringo to enjoy this natural habitat and the flamingos that are found here. A boat ride to Ol Kokwe is optional at an extra cost.

Dinner and Overnight at Island Camp - FB

Day 5: The Njemps Community

“Njemps is a unique community sometimes known as Lchamus. It is known to be a very traditional and cultural community. They inhabit the south and south east of Kokwe Island. Note: Kokwe Island is in Lake Baringo. It is believed they ran away from the hostility of the Pokot community and settled in Lake Baringo. They are nilotes but they eat fish which is regarded as taboo for nilotes and this makes them

unique. They dress, dance and perform their ceremonies like marriage, circumcision similarly to the Samburu community. They have been an isolated community for many years. They have community owned boats used for boat riding made by them for bird watching. Spend the day in this community getting engaged in the various activities that revolve around them culturally and also visit one of their local schools to spend a few moments with them. Realize how their daily livelihoods is connected to the Lake Baringo economically and socially. In the evening after a well spent day you return to your hotel for the evening.

Dinner and Overnight at Island Camp - FB

Day 6: Lake Baringo – Lake Naivasha

Take a relaxed morning and drive to Lake Naivasha after breakfast. Lake Naivasha is a beautiful Fresh water lake fringed by thick papyrus. The Lake and its surroundings are rich in natural bounty. Most of the Lake is surrounded by forests of yellow barked Acacia or Yellow fever tree. The Forest abounds with bird life which makes it the best birding destination. The lake draws wild game like Giraffe, Buffalos, Colobus monkeys etc. and Hippos population sleep the day out in the Lakes waters. Start off with a game drive / walk in Hells Gate National Park which is in Naivasha. If possible its also exciting to do a cycling ride in Hells gate (bikes hired at the gate at an extra cost) and also time allowing dip yourselves in the natural health spa found in this park. In the later afternoon, to do a boat ride (at an extra cost) on the lake Naivasha would be exciting!

Dinner and Overnight at Lake Naivasha Sopa Lodge – FB

Day 7: Lake Naivasha – Maasai Mara Game Reserve

Early in the morning you will depart Lake Naivasha and drive to Maasai Mara National Reserve. Maasai Mara National Reserve is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Kenya – Africa. The Reserve is located in the Great Rift Valley in open grassland. Maasai Mara is regarded as the jewel of Kenya's Wildlife viewing areas. 95 species of mammals, amphibians, reptiles and over 400 species of birds have been recorded in this park. In Maasai Mara you will hardly miss to see the BIG FIVE. The annual wildebeest migration takes place in this park between July and October. The eco system of Maasai Mara holds one of the highest Lion densities in the world and this is where over 2 million Wildebeest, Zebras and Thomson Gazelle migrate every year. Nowhere in Africa is wildlife more abundant than in Maasai Mara. En route and afternoon game drives are what will take the day to day. Do not miss the encounter of any of the big five! ***Hammerkop Camp is a sustainable eco camp with waste management policy to protect the environment***

Dinner and Overnight at Hammerkop Migration Camp – FB

Day 8: Maasai Mara Game Reserve – Maasai village visit

The Maasai tribe is one of the most Authentic ethnic tribes of Kenya. With a rich cultural background the Maasai have maintained their rich culture despite of all the western influences, civilization, education etc. They have clung to their rich way traditional way of life which has made them a symbol of Kenyan culture. You will spend this day engaging in activities of this rich culture and learning why and how this community has maintained their rich cultural heritage. Song and dance the Maasai way will welcome you to this community. A tour of the village and to understand and be part of the activities they engage in for economical empowerment. Take the traditional jump together with the morans and see how far you can go! Understand how the warrior is of great importance to this community, how does he transition from a moran to a warrior, what is his responsibility in the community, who mentors him from one level to another etc. In the midst of these warriors you will be taken through the elaborate "Eunoto" ceremony – A ceremony performed to transition the morans to warriors! Enjoy by being engaged in the details of this ceremony, be part of the preparations to this ceremony and realize the beauty of diverse culture. Visit a village school in this community and be part of their learning today and share meaningful moments with this children and the community at large. In the late afternoon return to your camp carrying beautiful memories of this day!

Dinner and Overnight at Hammerkop Migration Camp – FB

Day 9: Maasai Mara – Nairobi

This day early in the morning you have an option of doing a Hot Air Balloon Safari + Champagne breakfast (optional at an extra cost USD \$ 450 per person) OR an early morning game drive which is highly recommended! Allows you the opportunity (with luck) to come face to face with hunters in search of their prey! After this amazing experience you will join your Driver / Guide, bid Maasai Mara "kwaheri" meaning goodbye and "full of lasting safari memories!" you will depart and drive back to Nairobi. On arrival in Nairobi depending on your onward plans we will offer you a souvenir shopping adventure at the Kazuri beads. Kazuri beads is a center empowering single women economically by engaging them to do bead work and pottery thus sustaining their livelihoods and empowering them economically. Get "a bead for every mood!" We will then drop you to your own onward plans.

End of services.....

Included in the price are:

- ✓ Full board accommodation on safari i.e. 3 meals a day
- ✓ Bed & Breakfast accommodation in Nairobi Hotel
- ✓ All national park entry fees,
- ✓ Transport in our custom safari vehicle throughout the safari,
- ✓ Services of our professional English speaking safari Driver-Guide,
- ✓ All game drives as per itinerary,
- ✓ Government Taxes and Levies,
- ✓ All transfers as per itinerary
- ✓ All excursions as per itinerary
- ✓ Water in the vehicle to use while on game drives
- ✓ Emergency medical evacuation cover
- ✓ Dinner at the Carnivore Restaurant

Excluded in the price are:

- ✓ International airfares and their corresponding departure taxes,
- ✓ Visa fees into Kenya,
- ✓ Travel/Baggage/Medical Insurance,
- ✓ Tips to driver-guide, hotel staff etc,
- ✓ Items of personal nature i.e. drinks in the lodges, telephone/fax bills, laundry etc,
- ✓ Any other items not specified in the "***inclusions***" clause.

NB: Maasai Mara

- Balloon Safari @ USD \$ 450 per person

Lake Naivasha

- Boat ride @ USD \$ 35 per person

What to Carry:

- ✓ A digital Camera, its charger and a downloading cable
- ✓ Torch, Tooth paste, warm clothing for the night, pain killers, drinks, snacks and Identifications card / passport for gate entrance
- ✓ Pocket money for drinks and gift for the Maasai cultural visit