



The Women's Travel Group Masai Footsteps in Kenya Post tour - Madagascar June 21 -28, 2020

Tour overview

Savor the highlights of Kenya's greatest wildlife reserves with a game drive through the Masai Mara National Reserve. Your journey includes Lake Nakuru with its beautiful flamingo-lined shores and a drive to admire majestic Mount Kilimanjaro from Amboseli National Park.

Day 1: Sun. June 21 - New York / Nairobi

Depart New York's JFK Airport on Kenya Airways flight #3 at 12:25pm, arriving to Nairobi at 10:55am the following morning.

Day 2: Mon, June 22 - Arrive Nairobi, Kenya

Upon arrival to Nairobi, Kenya, you are met, after clearing government formalities, and escorted to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure. A safari briefing is given before dinner. A Welcome dinner is arranged at the hotel's festive Nyama Choma Ranch and you will be joined by our local host. **Overnight Safari Park Hotel.** *Set in 50 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens, you have 2 pools, a sauna and jacuzzi. There is a beauty salon, fitness center and a variety of massages are offered.* (D)

Day 3: Tue, June 23 - Nairobi / Masai Mara National Reserve (5 hours)

Leaving Nairobi, travel towards Kenya's fertile highlands and head down the Rift Escarpment, reaching the Masai Mara mid-day. Afternoon game drive returning to the lodge as the sun sets.

Overnight Keekorok Lodge. *Located in the Masai Mara nature reserve, Keekorok Lodge offers traditional-style accommodation with a private patio. The property has an outdoor pool with a terrace and views of nature.*

The spacious rooms have a ceiling fan, mosquito net, hypoallergenic bedding and a balcony with views of the garden, the pool or the reservation.

The Lodge houses the Hippo Bar, which serves traditional dishes and overlooks the lake, and The Elephant Deck Restaurant, where you can enjoy a typical savannah dinner. Free WiFi is available in all areas (BLD)

Day 4: Wed, June 24 - Masai Mara National Reserve - Village Visit

We may encounter prides of lions, gatherings of hippo, and vast herds of wildebeest, zebra and antelope on morning and afternoon game drives. Also visit a local Masai Village, where the villagers sell their beaded jewelry and handicrafts. **Overnight Keekorok Lodge.** (BLD)



Day 5: Thu, June 25 - Masai Mara National Reserve / Lake Nakuru National Park (4 ¾ hrs)

Leaving the Masai Mara, travel across the 'breadbasket' of Kenya, before arriving at Lake Nakuru. The waters here are often colored with a shimmering pink, from the beautiful flamingos lining its shores. Afternoon game drive in Nakuru National Park. The white and black rhino and often seen resting under acacias by the Lake shore. There are huge herds of waterbuck, zebra, buffalo and more. The endangered Rothchild's giraffes found in the park are protected from poachers. There are several large prides of Lion.

This is one of your best chances to perhaps see the illusive leopard.

Overnight Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge. *Located on a range of hills that form the western limits of Africa's Great Rift Valley, the lodge offers spectacular views of the vastness of Africa. The lodge also overlooks Lake Nakuru and its National Park, a paradise for bird and wildlife lovers alike.* (BLD)

Day 6: Fri, June 26 Lake Nakuru / Lake Naivasha/Nairobi (2 ½ hr.)

Lake Naivasha to Nairobi (2 hours)

Morning departure for a tranquil boat ride on Lake Naivasha. The Lake is home to a variety of birds as well as hippos. You can come quite close to the birds which makes for great viewing and photos! Proceed on to Nairobi and **Overnight Eka Hotel** *Enjoy the pool, spa or fitness center* (BLD)

Day 7: Sat June 27 – Nairobi / Amboseli National Park (4 hr.)

This morning we head south towards Amboseli National Park with lunch en route. Mount Kilimanjaro which, at almost 20 thousand feet, is Africa's highest and most famous snowcapped mountain. It was this region of Kenya that, in the 1930's, inspired Ernest Hemingway's unforgettable stories 'The Snows of Kilimanjaro' and 'The Short, Happy Life of Francis Macomber'. **Overnight Ol Tukai Lodge** *Ol Tukai Lodge is one of the best spots in the world to watch elephant with the backdrop of Africa's highest mountain, Mount Kilimanjaro. Writers have described Ol Tukai and the surrounding Amboseli National Park 'as a home for the Gods'. Ol Tukai is an Eco-rated lodge having excellent outdoor and indoor facilities with its unique collection of African art.*

Day 8: Sun, June 28 Amboseli National Park

Full day game drive with picnic lunch. We may spot vast herds of elephant accompanied by a kaleidoscope of other wildlife - lion, buffalo, cheetah, giraffe, baboons, gazelle, hippo and wildebeest to name but a few. **Overnight Ol Tukai Lodge.** (BLD)



Day 9: Mon, Jun 29 - Amboseli National Park / Depart Nairobi (4 hr.)

Catch your last views of the majestic Mount Kilimanjaro as we return to Nairobi, arriving by midday. **A Day-Use room is provided at the Eka Hotel.** Evening farewell dinner and transfer to the airport for your departure flight. Kenya Airways flight #2 departs Nairobi at 11:25 pm. Those taking the Madagascar extension will overnight in Nairobi (BD)

Day 10: Tue, Jun 30 - Arrive New York

Kenya Airways arrives back to New York's JFK Airport at 7:25 am, allowing time for connecting to cities across the USA and Canada.

OPTIONAL PRE-TOUR PACKAGE: Nairobi Sightseeing:

Sun, June 21 - Arrive Nairobi

Arrive Nairobi, where you are met and transferred to your hotel. Overnight Safari Park Hotel

Mon, June 22 - Nairobi - Elephant Orphanage, Karen Blixen Museum & Giraffe Centre

Full day sightseeing with lunch. Depart to The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust's Elephant Orphanage situated on the outskirts of Nairobi. Here, you will see the orphaned animals and meet the people who handle and care for these animals. It's an interesting 1-hour visit and the team who run the orphanage are always willing to spend time answering any questions guests have. From here, proceed to the Karen Blixen Coffee Garden for lunch. The Historic Swedo House at the Karen Blixen Coffee Garden and Cottages, Ltd. was the original hunting lodge/farm house which was built around 1906 to 1908. Following lunch, head to the Karen Blixen Museum. Once owned by Danish Author Karen and her Swedish Husband, Baron Bror, and based at the foot of the Ngong Hills, the farm house gained international fame with the release of the movie 'Out of Africa', an Oscar winning film based on Karen's autobiography by the same title. Later visit the Giraffe Centre, where the endangered Rothschild giraffe lives. With an elevated viewing-cum-feeding platform, this tour is also wonderful for children of all ages. Return to your hotel in time for the group's Welcome Dinner. (BLD)



OPTIONAL Madagascar Extension

The island of Madagascar is sometimes called the 8th continent because of its unique fauna and flora. 80% of its 15,000 plant species are found no place else in the world! Over 100 species of Lemurs that are only found here. Warm welcoming people and dramatic scenery put Madagascar on the 'must see' list.

Day 9: Mon, June 29 - Nairobi
Overnight EKA Hotel.

Day 10: Tue, June 30 - Nairobi / Antananarivo

Transfer to the airport. Kenya Airways flight #256 departs Nairobi at 12:15pm, arriving to Antananarivao, Madagascar at 3:35pm. Arrive Antananarivo and enjoy a brief sightseeing tour of the city including a visit to Anatrova, the upper town or palace of the queen, the door of the Rova, the royal tombs, the palace of the first minister or palace of Andafiavaratra and the home of Jean Laborde. Transfer to the hotel. **Overnight Hotel Carlton or similar.** (B)

Day 11: Wed, July 1 - Antananarivo/o Andasibe Nature Reserve

This morning, Drive to Andasibe through the green and luxuriant vegetation of the east. Along the way you will see Merina villages in the rocky mountains. Arrive to Andasibe Nature Reserve and enjoy a night walk to observe night active lemurs and other nocturnal animals. **Overnight Vakona Lodge or similar.** (B)

Day 12: Thu, July 2 - Mantadia National Park & Andasibe Nature Reserve

Visit Mantadia National Park where you may be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of diademed Sifaka and Black and White-ruffed lemurs. In Andasibe Nature Reserve you are sure to see the Indri – the largest lemurs on the island. The reserve also contains a wide variety of orchids, canopy, and endemic animals like chameleons, tenrecs, and many birds. Both reserves are exceptionally rich in frogs and reptiles. **Overnight Vakona Lodge or similar.** (B)

Day 13: Fri, July 3 - Andasibe / Antananarivo

Spend the morning in the reserve. Late afternoon to Antananarivo with possibility to stop at a few local villages along the way. **Overnight Hotel Carlton or similar.** (B)

Day 14: Sat, July 4 - Antananarivo / Sightseeing / Depart Nairobi

This morning we will enjoy an excursion to Ambohimanga Royal Hills. The Royal Palace also called the King's Palace, home to the first king of Madagascar. Ambohimanga is the Mecca of the Merina Kingdom. Enter the ancient royal city which once barred foreigners from accessing the sacred site. Enclosed within are various buildings and sights, including the village entrance, the old stone gate-shaped disc in the chamber, the royal box of Andrianampoinimerina, the



summer palace of the queens, the horse park and sacred ponds. It is surrounded by a wall consisting of egg shells in place of cement. Still today, this place is sacred and many Malagasy continue to sacrifice zebu and smaller animals to their ancestors here. Enjoy the remarkable stories about the king's habits and sacred behaviors in the palace, related by your knowledgeable local guide.

We will then stop and visit a local community focused on Women's empowerment.

This is an association of disadvantaged woman, named FANAVOTANA. These women attend training and collect recyclable products such as newspapers, boxes, plastics, and use these to make items baskets and other products. This is then displayed in their workshop for clients to purchase. Late afternoon transfer to Antananarivo Airport for your return flight to New York via Nairobi. Depart on Kenya Airways flight #257 at 4:25pm, arriving Nairobi at 7:50pm. Connect with Kenya Airways flight #2 departing Nairobi at 10:55pm. (B)

Day 15: Sun, July 5 - Arrive New York

Kenya Airways arrives back to New York's JFK Airport at 6:55am, allowing time for connecting to cities across the USA and Canada.

Custom Kenya Package (June 22-28, 2020)

Based on 6 to 12 passengers -

Land price based on double occupancy: \$3,475 per person

Single Room Supplement: \$ 475 per person

Transfers if not arriving on Kenya Airways flight from/to JFK:

\$80 for single traveler, or \$40 per person for 2 or more arriving together

Transfers if not departing on Kenya Airways flight from/to JFK:

\$50 for single traveler, or \$25 per person for 2 or more arriving together

OPTIONAL PRE-TOUR, NAIROBI (Jun 21-22, 2020)

Based on minimum 2 passengers -

Land price based on double occupancy: \$450 per person

Single Room Supplement: \$120 per person

OPTIONAL POST-TOUR, MADAGASCAR (Jun 28-Jul 3, 2020)

-Based on minimum 2 passengers -

Land price based on double occupancy: \$1,425 per person

Single Room Supplement: \$ 465 per person



Included in Custom Package:

- Accommodation – as per itinerary or similar
- Meals – as per itinerary
- Sightseeing/Game Viewing w/ entrance fees – as per itinerary
- Safari transportation in 4WD vehicle with pop-top roof
- Airport transfers for those arriving/departing on Kenya Airways from/to JFK
- Coffee/Tea/Juice with breakfast only
- Service of local professional driver/guide
- Porterage at airport and hotels (1 bag per person)
- Park entrance fees
- One bottle of mineral water per person per day in vehicles

Included in Pre-Tour, Nairobi:

- Accommodation – as per itinerary or similar
- Meals – as per itinerary
- Sightseeing – as per itinerary
- Airport transfers for those arriving on Kenya Airways from/to JFK
- Service of local professional driver/guide
- Porterage at airport and hotels (1 bag per person)
- Park entrance fees

Included in Post-Tour, Madagascar:

- Accommodation – as per itinerary or similar
- Meals – as per itinerary
- Sightseeing w/ entrance fees – as per itinerary
- Transportation in 4WD vehicle
- Airport transfers for those arriving/departing on Kenya Airways from/to NBO
- Coffee/Tea/Juice with breakfast only
- Service of local professional driver/guide
- Porterage at airport and hotels (1 bag per person)
- Park entrance fees
- One bottle of mineral water per person per day in vehicles

Not included:

- Meals not mentioned
- All drinks (except coffee/tea/juice with breakfasts & 1 bottle of water per day)
- Tours not mentioned
- International Air & Airport taxes (quotes available upon request)
- Insurance
- Tipping/gratuities for all services (meals, lodge staff & driver/guide)
- Items of personal nature such as telephone, laundry, beverages
- Any items not listed above.



Visas: US Passport holders require visas for Kenya **Please ensure that passports have 2 blank visa pages. Single entry visas are available on arrival at Kenyan airports. However, Kenyan immigration plans to end Visas on Arrival in the near future.** Please ensure that your passport is valid for 6 months from return date.

Inoculations: We recommend that you contact Passport Health at 1-888-499 7277 or www.passporthealthusa.com for questions regarding country-specific health counseling.

Tour Reservations: SITA requires a deposit of \$600 per person to commence reservations. This amount will be adjusted with the balance due 90 days prior to departure. Additional non-refundable deposit of \$300 for Madagascar extension.

Cancellation policy: Cancellations received 90 days or more prior to departure: \$350 per person; 89-61 days prior to departure, the fee incurred will be 75% of the entire tour price No refunds whatsoever will be made for cancellations received within the last 60 days prior to departure.

Tour documents: Final tour documents including day-by-day itinerary, hotel listing, air tickets & vouchers are sent between 30-15 days prior to departure.