

# Enaja Safaris and Tours, Inc.

## Full Itinerary

### Family/Friends Safari July 21-August 8, 2021

**Day 1: (July 21)**

**Depart the US**

**Day 2 (July 22)**

**Ole Sereni, Nairobi**

**1 night**

- Upon arrival, Patrick meets our various flights just outside baggage for the transfer to the hotel – only about a 15-minute drive.

**Included: breakfast**

#### **Ole Sereni**

Located just minutes from the international airport and bordering the Nairobi National Game Park, Ole Sereni offers views of animals in their natural surroundings from the restaurants, bar, roof-top swimming pool, and other parts of the hotel. Once home of the American Embassy, Ole Sereni combines the best features of a modern hotel with a traditional wildlife lodge offering world-class facilities and personalized service. Each of the 134 rooms is exquisitely furnished and air-conditioned.



Photo of Patrick

**Days 3-5 (July 23-25)**

**Amboseli Serena Lodge**

**3 nights**

- After breakfast at the hotel, we drive with Patrick to Amboseli Park. The total drive time is about 4 hours including a stop or two. Once we enter the Park, we are on a game drive to the Lodge. This afternoon, enjoy more game drives around Amboseli – known for its large elephant herds. After dinner, sit by the bonfire or on the porch sharing the day's experiences with other guests.
- Today is full of game drives and/or nature walks with the Masai Warriors. There are other camp activities we might want to do. During the middle of the day, there is usually a very casual "talk" with one of the warriors. If you decide to do this, do not hesitate to ask anything at all – no subject is taboo. (*huuummm, maybe I'll arrange a little surprise.*)
- A third day of game drives and some time to relax. (*Who knows, maybe another surprise?*)

**Included: All meals, park fees, game drives, maybe a little surprise!**

- ✓ There is a cultural Boma near the Lodge. We can visit it to see how the Masai live. It is interesting, but it has been my experience that the Masai at this boma are very pushy trying to get us to buy things. There is another opportunity to visit a boma when we get to the Masai Mara.

#### **Amboseli Serena Lodge**

Beside a copse of giant acacia trees in the shadow of Mount Kilimanjaro and beside a gently flowing natural spring stands



Amboseli Serena Lodge, one of Africa's finest safari accommodations. The lodge offers great views of many types of big game, particularly huge herds of elephants that roam around the area. On the lodge grounds one encounters hundreds of species of wetland and migratory birds. The luxury en-suite rooms are in two single-story buildings that lie to the right and left of the main reception and dining areas. Each tastefully-appointed room features a king-sized bed or luxurious twins, lavish all-encompassing mosquito-curtaining, bathroom (with walk-in shower), writing/vanity unit, and a private veranda to enjoy a view of either majestic Mount Kilimanjaro or the expansive Amboseli plains.

#### **Amboseli National Park**

At the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain, Amboseli is one of the most popular of Kenya's national parks. The snow-capped peak of Kilimanjaro, rising above a saucer of clouds, dominates every aspect of Amboseli. Despite its small size and its fragile ecosystem, Amboseli supports a wide range of mammals (well over 50 of the larger species), birds (over 400 species), and gigantic herds of elephants.

Years ago this was the locale around which Ernest Hemingway spun his stories of big-game hunting in the wilds of Africa.



## Day 6: (July 26)

## Mt. Kenya Mountain Lodge

1 night

- **After an early breakfast, we leave for the Mt. Kenya area, arriving at the lodge for lunch. This afternoon there is time to watch game and/or take an optional guided nature walk through the indigenous forest.**

**Included: All meals, park fees**

### Mountain Lodge

The Mountain Lodge is a private hotel, located on the slopes of Mt. Kenya and surrounded by a dense rainforest that comes alive at dusk. At an elevation of 7200 feet, it is laid out specifically for bird and animal watching; all of the rooms have large windows and balconies, and a large artificial watering hole in the clearing attracts forest animals. Lights are kept on all night to attract animals for easy viewing. Elephants, buffaloes, rhinos and waterbucks are regular sights in the evenings and days. Another special feature is the specially constructed bunkers connected to the lodge by a short tunnel that allows spectacular views of the animals while they drink at the waterhole.



## Days 7-9: (July 27-29)

## OI Pejeta Bush Camp\*

3 nights

- **After breakfast, we leisurely depart for a short drive to OI Pejeta. We can stop along the way to visit the Nanyuki Weavers. Once we're at OI Pejeta, we have game drives and other camp activities, possibly using their guides and vehicles. At lunch the other travelers will meet up with us for the rest of the safari.**
- **Another full day of game activities at camp and drives in the Conservancy including the chimpanzee center, the resident rhino, and the rhino sanctuary.**
- **There is time for more game drives, a visit to Mount Kenya Safari Club and the Animal Rehabilitation Center – one of my favorites. Might be time to witness the crazy equator demonstration.**

**\*Depending on the group's final number, we may split the group between OI Pejeta and Porini camps in order to accommodate rooming preferences. Everyone will do activities and game drives together. If you are interested in some of the optional activities below, I will make prior arrangements for you.**

**Included: park fees, game drives, all meals, beverages, laundry, visit to Weavers, Chimpanzee Center, rhino sanctuary visit, Mt. Kenya Safari Club visit**

### OI Pejeta Bush Camp

OI Pejeta Bush Camp, a traditional and very comfortable bush camp set on the banks of the Ewaso Nyiro River, offers guests the opportunity for a unique kind of safari experience in Kenya. The six traditional safari tents at OI Pejeta are set along the river a reasonable distance from each other, but the thick vegetation makes each tent feel really private. Each tent comes with warm blankets for the winter mornings, rechargeable solar lights, and en-suite bathrooms with hot-water safari bucket showers and flushing toilets. Each has a canvas floor with rugs, a large bed with bedside tables and a luggage rack. Solar power lights the rooms, but you cannot plug things in or charge batteries in your room; this has to be done in the main communal tents. Individual verandas provide the perfect spot to while away an afternoon in privacy, watching the animals come and go along the river bank. The tents suit people who are not after a room with lots of frills, but want it to be comfortable, spacious, clean, and of good quality. The central area has two separate safari tents: the unfussy lounge tent decorated with small sofas, armchairs, director's chairs; and the dining tent dominated by a central communal table. While in camp, view game at the salt lick on the opposite bank of the river. It often brings in rhinos at night, causing great excitement. Do remember that OI Pejeta is at an altitude of 5,900 feet, and it gets **extremely cold at night** and in the early mornings. Between June and September wear plenty of warm layers that you can peel off as the day warms up.



### Porini Rhino Camp

Our "overflow" camp, hidden in a secluded valley and set among shady Acacia trees on the bank of a seasonal river, consists of 7 spacious tents. Like OI Pejeta Bush, this is a more authentic "safari bush camp." Both of "our" camps are relatively simple and traditional tented camps that aim to have a very low impact on the environment. The staff is a mix of local people and members of the Selenkay Masai community from southern Kenya. Don't worry, you will have ensuite bathrooms with flush toilets and wonderful amenities, but more basic in design than the over-the-top camps. The safari camp is fully inclusive of meals, drinks (gin & tonics, beer, wine, sodas and mineral water) as well as day and night shared game drives, and escorted walks.



### Activities at Ol Pejeta Bush Camp

Activities focus on day and night game drives in 4WD vehicles and walks accompanied by an armed escort. Alex Hunter, the affable and very knowledgeable owner, enjoys taking guests out with a tracker for a few hours looking for birds and signs of wildlife in the bush. Some of the other activities are guided visits to Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary and Hippo Hide; radio collared lion tracking with the Ol Pejeta predator researchers (when available); day to day cattle ranch activities; visits to the local community projects; bush breakfasts, picnics and dinners. Visits to the Northern White Rhino Sanctuary are also possible, and they need to be booked in advance due to limited daily visitor numbers.

### Ol Pejeta Conservancy

The 90,000 acres of open Savannah grassland that is Ol Pejeta Conservancy has some of the highest predator densities in Kenya, and still manages a very successful livestock program. It is also the largest black rhino sanctuary in East Africa, and the 700-acre Endangered Species Enclosure is home to the world's two last remaining Northern White Rhino. This is the only place in Kenya to see chimpanzees. A 300-acre sanctuary was established to rehabilitate animals rescued from the black market. Ol Pejeta also seeks to support the people living around its border, to ensure wildlife conservation translates to better education, healthcare, and infrastructure for the next generation of wildlife guardians.

### Optional activities at Ol Pejeta Conservancy

#### Visits to Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary

Fully incorporated into the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary remains the only place in Kenya where this highly-endangered species can be seen. Over 40 chimps rescued from the bush-meat industry live in troops on either side of the Ewaso Nyiro River, in a project that aims to preserve chimpanzees and their habitats through public education.



#### Endangered Species Boma

The Endangered Species Boma is a must-see for any trip to Ol Pejeta. Here visitors can meet and learn about the Northern White Rhinos which are critically endangered with only **two left in the world**, and both are found at Ol Pejeta Conservancy in a 700-acre enclosure protected by 24-hour armed security. Take the opportunity to visit the enclosure and learn from the keepers about the efforts being taken to preserve the last of this highly endangered species. Visitors have the unique experience of seeing these majestic creatures up close. The boma also has six southern white rhinos, two black rhinos, numerous Grevy's zebras, and Jackson's hartebeest. Tour starts at 2.45 pm. and lasts approximately 2 hours. There is a maximum of 6 people per visit and physical interaction with the rhinos is relatively restricted. \$75 per person (*This is one of the projects at Ol Pejeta that I have supported over the years*)



#### Lion Tracking



Take this unique opportunity to head out on Ol Pejeta Conservancy to track the lion population. It is a great way to support the conservation project and to learn more about these fascinating animals. All of the information gathered is passed on to the Ol Pejeta Ecological Monitoring Department. Guests remain in the vehicle at all times. Tracking excursions depart daily between 06:30h – 09:30h and 15:30h – 18:30h. This activity would conflict with the regular game drives. \$75 per adult

#### Riding with Rhinos 1-hour

Take a morning or an evening ride on Ol Pejeta's safari horses within the 600-acre Endangered Species Enclosure, always accompanied by knowledgeable staff. These rides take you on a journey through a predator-free area set aside by Ol Pejeta for the recovery of the Northern White Rhinoceros. As well as meeting the last two remaining Northern White Rhinos on the planet, you ride through herds of the highly endangered Grevy's zebra and Jackson's hartebeest. You encounter many other species including southern white rhinos and a myriad of plains game. The rides are only open to experienced riders and some proof of riding ability is required at point of booking; clients judged to be of insufficient riding ability are not permitted to undertake this activity. Ol Pejeta supplies all tack and riding hats; clients are responsible for their own attire. We recommend that legs and arms are covered. Rides for up to 4 riders are available daily at 10:00 and 15:00 and last approximately one hour. \$60



### **Horse riding in the Conservancy 2-hours**

Carry more memories home by riding on horseback across the Ol Pejeta plains. You ride through the endangered species enclosure, then out the gate onto the Ol Pejeta plains and to the rhino memorial, Sudan's resting place. Horse riding gives you a unique perspective of the landscape and allows you to get closer to wildlife than in a safari vehicle. You will feel a sense of quiet isolation amidst the vast scenery of Ol Pejeta Conservancy. Depending on weather conditions and rider experience, there may be a swim in Pelican Dam.



Morning ride: 8-10 or afternoon ride: 2-4 lasting approximately 2 hours. Riding hats and tack are provided. Riders must wear suitable footwear, long trousers and sleeves. Maximum of 9 riders in a group. The rides are only open to experienced riders, and some proof of riding ability is required at point of booking; clients judged to be of insufficient riding ability are not permitted to undertake this activity for safety reasons. (At an additional cost, yet to be determined)

### **Gym in the wild**

Going to the gym will never be the same again after trying it in the wild! In these one-hour-long classes, you enjoy some functional fitness which includes strength, endurance, mobility, agility, and flexibility, but scaled to your fitness level and ability. Open Mondays and Thursdays. Sessions available on the hour from 10 until 4. Must book in advance. Maximum of 10 people in a class. (\$12 per class)

### **Canine Anti-Poaching Unit visit**

Visit the conservancy's bloodhound dog kennels and learn about the training that transforms these canines into anti-poaching patrollers. After your tour, you can play a game of human-canine hide and seek, trying to evade the dogs by finding a spot to hide within the Morani Information Centre. A great way to interact, get a bit of exercise for you and the hounds as well as assist in their training. Morning visit only: 8:30, maximum group size 6. There is an additional cost, but I do not have the exact amount yet. This is the other project at Ol Pejeta that I have been supporting over the last few years. I definitely want to visit this!

### **Cultural and Community visits**

The staff at Ol Pejeta Bush Camp, all drawn from the communities surrounding the conservancy, are always eager to share their culture and history. See first-hand how these communities are benefitting from the conservancy, visiting agricultural projects such as water collection and tree nurseries, or the Jiko Energy Project that reduces firewood usage. If school is in session, it is also possible to visit a local school.

Visit: 10:30-12:30 - pre-booking recommended. (At an additional cost that I do not have yet)

### **Nanyuki Market Day**

Head into the nearby market town of Nanyuki with staff from the Ol Pejeta Bush Camp to visit the huge, open-air market at Mutumba. Pick up the week's supplies for the camp and soak up the hustle and bustle before heading to local restaurant, Mulima View, for a traditional nyama choma lunch – roasted goat, maize meal ugali, and local vegetables. Return to camp in the mid-afternoon in time for an afternoon activity if you wish.

Available Wednesday and Saturdays. (At an additional cost)

### **Night game drives**

Dusk and the early evening just after the sun has fallen below the horizon is a thrilling time to be on safari. Antelope come out to feed in the cool air, predators take advantage of the cloak of darkness to stalk their prey, and nocturnal species such as aardvark, zorille (like a skunk), and white-tailed mongoose come out. Join a knowledgeable guide on a night drive and seek out the action that takes place after darkness falls.

### **Running with the rangers**

Keep your fitness levels up while on safari by joining the Ol Pejeta Conservancy rangers on their early morning run. They do this daily to keep fit, and we can arrange for you to join them and enjoy a coffee with them afterwards to learn more about their work keeping the wildlife on the conservancy safe. A fun and rewarding way to start your day! Available on Mondays and Wednesdays at 7am, maximum 6 people. Suitable running shoes are needed as well as the ability to run a minimum of 5kms without stopping. (At an additional cost)

### **Walking safaris**

Discover the sights, sounds, and smells of the bush on a walking safari. On foot, the magic of the bush truly comes alive, and walking through big game country is an experience not to be missed. The minimum age for walking is 16 yrs. Children under 12 by special arrangement only and on a private basis.



## **Ol Pejeta Bush Camp also has two permanent hides.**

### **Hippo Hide**

Hippo Hide is located discreetly on the banks of the mighty Ewaso Nyiro river and offers fantastic views of the water - where hippos often spend the day keeping cool in the shallow water. From here, visitors can walk along the Hippo Hide nature trail, which loops back through the bush. Ol Pejeta guides are stationed at the hide and are on standby to talk more about the river, the hippos, and introduce you to the indigenous plants and their values in local medicine. Entry is free, and the hide opens daily from 07:00am – 6:30pm. The best viewing times are between 4.30pm and 6.30pm - when the majority of animals come to drink.

### **Scott's Hide**

Scott's Hide is located in a wooded area of Scott's Plain, overlooking a water hole favored by a diverse range of animals. The hide offers photographers, bird watchers, and nature lovers a fantastic opportunity to experience wildlife differently. The best viewing times are between 4.30pm and 6.30pm when the majority of animals come to drink. Salt is also periodically laid to attract wildlife. Scott's hide can comfortably fit six to eight people. Visitors are advised that there are no toilet facilities here, but conveniences can be found at the headquarters not far away. *Pre- booking is essential as the hide is locked, and the key will only be given to those with a confirmed booking reference number. Guests have the option to stay here overnight. A vehicle and guide stay with you for security. Dinner is taken along, and you sleep on bed rolls on a tree platform. It is a simple and adventurous option that suits people who are keen to do something different.*

### **Nanyuki Spinners and Weavers**



Because the Kenyan highlands area around Nanyuki is a major center for sheep and wool production, the Presbyterian Church of East Africa conceived the idea of training women to become self-sufficient. Started in 1977, the women have been able to card, spin, dye, and weave sheep's wool to make rugs and blankets generating income for their families. Today over 100 women rely on their income from this project.

### **Mount Kenya Safari Club**

High on the slopes of Africa's second tallest mountain, the Mount Kenya Safari Club straddles the equator in a glory of luxurious cottages and elegant buildings set amid manicured lawns and decorative ponds. Ever since the Club's founding in 1959 by the late film star, William Holden; eccentric American, Ray Rya;, and Swiss financier, Carl Hirshmann, it has been a Mecca for the international jet-set. With renovations completed in 2008, all rooms have a telephone, log fireplace, and a private bathroom with shower. There are two restaurants and two bars, and the on-site orphan animal petting zoo can be visited at a minimal cost. The Club also has some quite nice shops and a gallery of contemporary art and traditional artifacts. It is a great place to stroll around, have a drink, and pretend you are in an era long past.



### **Animal Rehabilitation**

There is a very minimal charge at the Safari Club, but you get to actually pet, touch, and feed quite a few different animals, and the monkeys will sit on your shoulder if you want.



### **Mount Kenya National Park**

At an elevation of 17,000 feet, Mount Kenya is Africa's second highest mountain. To the Kikuyu tribes-people it is the home of the Supreme Being, Ngai. Part of the mountain's fascination is the variation in flora and fauna at various elevations. These forest belts are host to many different animals and plants, with at least eleven unique species. Game to view includes monkeys, bushbucks, elephants, black rhinos, duikers, leopards, and bongos (a rare type of forest antelope). A number of other rare or endangered species, such as the sunni buck, Mount Kenya mole shrew, skink (a kind of lizard), and a variety of owls, can be found here.



### **Sweetwaters Game Reserve**

This game reserve reveals magnificent views across the game-studded plains to the snow-capped peaks of Mount Kenya. The Chimpanzee Sanctuary, a project initiated in part by the Jane Goodall Institute, allows visitors to see chimps in their own environment. The aim of this project is to set up a colony where chimps can be rehabilitated and introduced to an area similar to their natural habitat.



**Days 10-11: (July 30-31)**

**Lake Naivasha Sopa Lodge**

**2 nights**

- **After breakfast, we depart for Lake Nakuru, world famous for its flamingos. The drive takes us through some beautiful landscapes and interesting towns. A stop at Thompson's Falls is a good place to stretch our legs and explore the local market. After lunch at one of the lodges, we do a game drive to see the flamingos and other game, and then depart in time to arrive Naivasha in time for dinner.**
- **Today we have a boat trip around the Lake and a game walk on Crescent Island. Watch for game on the lawn, take a guided walk with the on-site naturalist, or just relax in your rooms. There may be time to visit Hell's Gate or to take a game walk at Crater Lake.**

√ *When we go to Naivasha and if there is time, we can stop for lunch at my favorite restaurant. It is a truly local restaurant, no plumbing, no electricity, and authentic Kenyan food. I have eaten there for 10 years or more. Just if you want a truly Kenyan experience. I will pay for everyone as a little treat!*

**Included: meals, game drives, park fees, boat trip and game walk on Crescent Island**

### **Naivasha Sopa Lodge**

On the southern shores of Lake Naivasha sits Lake Naivasha Sopa Lodge. Naivasha, the only freshwater lake within Africa's Great Rift Valley, teems with freshwater fish and bathing hippos. Here the avid bird watcher sees paradise in a vast array of exotic bird life, and the region is host to distinctive herds of plains game and the elusive black-faced colobus monkey. Lake Naivasha Sopa Lodge has panoramic views of the lake and its environs. The luxuriously appointed rooms have spacious sunken lounges, and the upper-floor rooms feature their own private balcony on which to relax, sunbathe or view game.



### **Lake Nakuru National Park**

The size of the alkaline Lake Nakuru fluctuates with the seasons, but its international fame comes from its having the largest flamingo concentration in the world. Lake Nakuru National Park should not be regarded only as a flamingo sanctuary, however, because the Park is also an outstanding place for watching a variety of other birds, including other brackish water species and birds of prey. Herds of waterbuck, gazelle, impala, and reedbuck graze in the surrounding acacia woods and grasslands of Lake Nakuru National Park. This park is an important sanctuary for both Black and White Rhino, often seen resting under acacias by the shore, and the park offers one of the best chances in Kenya of seeing a leopard.



### **Thompson's Falls**

Located near Nyahururu, Kenya's highest town, and set amongst lush tea plantations and conifer forests is Thompson's Falls. The Ewaso River plummets over 200 feet into a boulder-strewn gorge. It was discovered in 1880 by the explorer Joseph Thompson who was the first of Kenya's European settlers to walk from Mombasa to Kampala. There are many native shops, Kikuyu in native dress, and other interesting characters along the path to the falls.



### **Lake Naivasha**

Naivasha, the highest and only freshwater lake within Africa's Great Rift Valley (and Kenya's second largest freshwater lake), is unique in that it has no known outlet, normally a prerequisite for a lake. Teeming with freshwater fish and bathing hippos, the avid bird watcher sees paradise in a vast array of exotic bird life attracted by the large population of fish. The region also hosts distinctive herds of plains game and the elusive black-faced colobus monkey.



### **Crescent Island**

This partially submerged volcanic crater is a private game sanctuary with herds of wildebeest, zebra, giraffe, gazelle, and other plains game. Because there are no predators, visitors can walk freely around the island among the herds of game. Crescent Island's beauty is confirmed by the fact that much of *Out of Africa* was filmed here.



## Hell's Gate National Park



This tiny Park, located between Lake Naivasha and the Longonot and Suswa volcanoes, provides a variety of wildlife, unusual flora, and many species of birds. It is one of only two Kenyan parks where climbing, walking and biking are allowed. Covered by ashes from the Longonot eruption 100 years ago, the park is famous for its geothermal station, Lower Gorge, and spectacular scenery. Some of the more interesting points of interest are:

Fischer Tower, a 75-foot high rocky tower, was formed by semi-molten rock forced through a fissure, cooling and solidifying as it extruded. To the Masai community, the tower is a Masai girl who was turned to stone after disobeying the family before her wedding. Watch for the rock hyrax (dassies) that are quite unperturbed by humans. You might even venture to climb the tower.

Obsidian Caves are comprised of distinctive black glass-like obsidian rock, and there is a trail that leads you to a lookout over the plains around Mt. Longonot. Obsidian resulted from the rapid cooling of molten volcanic lava coming in contact with water. Iron and magnesium give the obsidian a dark green to black color. Some obsidian contains small air bubbles that produce interesting effects such as a golden or rainbow sheen.

Ol Karia Geothermal Power Station stands over the lava flow of the Ol Karia extinct volcano and uses the super-heated steam locked 4,500 ft below surface (one of the hottest sources of the world) to provide 25 percent of Kenya's electricity.

Hell's Gate's Cliffs are formed of columnar basalt. The best time to drive within the cliffs is late in the afternoon as the game comes out of cover and you may see herds of buffalo and eland drinking at the waterholes and hundreds of birds flying and nesting in the rocky walls. The large white droppings on the rocky cliffs indicate vulture nests. Grassy plains below the towering cliffs offer visitors a safe place to walk alongside giraffe, eland, hartebeest, buffalo, and other small gazelles and antelopes. Lion, leopard, and cheetah are very rare. Keep your eyes open for small troops of klipspringer and rock hyrax living in rocky areas.



## Days 12-13: (Aug 1-2)

## Encounter Mara Camp

2 nights

- **We drive towards the Masai Mara and turn off to the Naboisho Conservancy. This is where I did the Big Cat Research a couple of years ago. We visit the volunteer base and Guide School on our way to the Camp. We have game drives, game walks, night drives, a viewing platform, and lots more. We may even travel on some of the roads I helped build!**

***Included: All meals, park fees, game drives, drinks, and laundry***

### Encounter Mara Camp

Encounter Mara is a luxury eco-camp tucked away in a stunning valley in the exclusive game-filled Naboisho Conservancy. Each of the camp's 12 spacious tents features its own private veranda with a view over the surrounding savannah. Tents are constructed from canvas and natural materials and furnished with handmade furniture. With a generous spacing between tents, guests have an entirely private space for personal relaxation. The tents boast simple and elegant décor, soaking in the beauty of the surrounding bush – pure luxury in the wild.



### Naboisho Conservancy

The conservancy has been formed by putting together parcels of land owned by over 500 Masai landowner families and conservancy fees are directed back to these landowners, providing them with a sustainable livelihood in return for setting aside their land as a wildlife reserve. The Mara Naboisho Conservancy also limits the number of tourists who may enter the area, thereby reducing the crowds of vehicles. Guests often find themselves in the only vehicle around, giving spectacular, unspoiled views of exciting wildlife. Initial research indicates that Mara Naboisho Conservancy has one of the highest densities of lions in Africa. One of the major prides, comprised of 22 lions, makes its home near Encounter Mara. The conservancy also has impressive numbers of elephant, giraffe, and other plains animals, in addition to hosting endangered species like cheetahs and some of the rarest animals in Kenya, such as wild dogs which have been sighted recently in the conservancy.

**Days 14-16: (Aug 3-5)****Entim Mara****3 nights**

- **We leave this morning driving about 2 hours (with a stop at a Masai village) to the Masai Mara arriving in time for lunch and an afternoon game drive. We are on a game drive from the time we enter the Park until we reach our camp. Enjoy watching game from our tents and/or the camp common areas. Patrick is our personal guide on the Mara. For the entire time, we arrange with him what we want to do each day.... return to camp between game activities, take a picnic for a full day game adventure, many options.**
- **We have an early game drive (or a full-day game drive) to witness the migration and other amazing wildlife so abundant on the Mara. One morning we have an early hot air balloon lift-off to watch the sunrise over the Mara and migration. Upon landing, feast on a full bush champagne breakfast followed by a game drive back to the camp. The rest of the day is at leisure for game drives, relaxing, or other camp activities.**
- **Our final day on the Mara.**

***Included: hot air balloon safari, boma visit, game drives, park fees, all soft drinks, water, beers, house wines and non-luxury spirits are included in the room rates. Champagne, special wines and luxury spirits are at an additional cost.***

**Entim Mara**

Entim, meaning "forest" in Maasai, was designed to be in the best possible location to view the wildebeest migration in the Maasai Mara game reserve, and for a few months of the year the migration is on its doorstep. Overlooking the Mara River and only a short



drive away from where the Talek and Mara rivers converge, the camp is positioned between major wildebeest crossings. At Entim you don't have to drive for hours to get to the wildlife action because you are right there in the middle of it, nor do you have to leave the Park before gates close at 6.30 pm. You can continue to witness the wild's most important and dramatic event, which often takes place at dusk and dawn, from your tent or while sipping a cocktail. Each of the 10 guest tents overlooks the Mara River and is

en-suite with flush-toilets and hot showers. There is a cozy lounge area with a small library and a separate bar and dining area that is open-fronted allowing guests the unmatched experience of eating meals while watching the animals move to and from the river to drink and forage for their food. Enjoy delicious home-cooked meals and a selection of house wines from the famous wineries of South Africa. Bread, cakes and pastries are all baked in camp, while fresh produce is flown in regularly. If you wish you can dine privately on your own verandah.

**The Masai Mara National Reserve**

The Masai Mara Game Reserve is widely considered to be Africa's greatest wildlife reserve. The Mara comprises 200 square miles



of open plains, woodlands, and riverine forest. Contiguous with the plains of the Serengeti in Tanzania, the Mara is home to a breathtaking array of life. The vast grassland plains are scattered with herds of zebra, giraffe, gazelle, and topi, and the acacia forests abound with birdlife and monkeys. Elephants and buffalo wallow in the wide Musiara Swamp while the Mara and Talek Rivers brim with hippos and crocodiles. Each year the Mara plays host to the world's greatest natural spectacle: the Great Wildebeest

Migration from the Serengeti. From July to October, the promise of rain and fresh life-giving grass in the north brings more than 1.3 million wildebeests together into a single massive herd. They pour across the border into the Mara, making a spectacular entrance in a surging column of life that stretches from horizon to horizon. At the Mara River they mass together on the banks before finally plunging forward through the raging waters, creating a frenzy as they fight against swift currents and waiting crocodiles. The Mara has been called the Kingdom of the Lions, and these hunters dominate the grasslands. Cheetahs are also a common sight in the Mara, as are hyena and smaller predators such as jackals.

**Day 17: (Aug 6)****Hemingway's****1 night**

- **Bid farewell to the Mara and the magnificent migration as we drive back to Nairobi. After lunch at a local restaurant or at the hotel (not included), the afternoon is at leisure to enjoy the public giraffe center, visit the Karen Blixen Museum, and other fun places in the Karen area.**

***Included: Breakfast, Giraffe Center, Sheldrick's Elephant Orphanage, transportation to local sites, free Wi-Fi***

## Hemingway's

Whether it's your first night, an extended stay, or the last days of your safari; you will never forget the luxurious Hemingway's



Hotel. The 45 expansive rooms and suites create an ambiance of contemporary-chic with subtle touches of brass, mahogany and leather bearing reference to the classic elegance of vintage East African safaris. Your large private balcony offers views of The Green Hills of Africa, as described in Hemingway's novel. Your butler is available from the moment you arrive, to the hour when she expertly packs your case for departure. Start your day with an amazing breakfast including seasonal fresh fruits, healthy cereals, freshly squeezed juices, homemade pastries, and cold cuts are served buffet style while the 'a la carte' hot breakfast menu offers eggs galore, smoked salmon bagels and a stacked bacon sandwich to stop all conversation. Lunch and dinner in the Brasserie Restaurant are

quite simply indescribable. The Executive Chef focuses on simply cooked free-range products using the freshest ingredients sourced directly from Kenyan farms. Weekly seasonal specials, such as the Watamu prawn masala and ginger crab, supplement the menu. The extensive wine list, featuring old and new world wines, delivers the perfect accompaniment to signature steaks grilled under the Josper oven while the in-house made pastas provide warming fare during the rare chilly nights in Nairobi. If you can't find what you are looking for on any of the menus, nothing is too much trouble to prepare. All of the produce is locally sourced, and the chefs do their utmost to showcase local farmers and growers in support of their enterprise. Expert local craftsmen and artisans are also supported and promoted. You might even want to treat yourself with a visit to the spa. Housed in its own wing of the hotel overlooking the pool and manicured gardens, the Hemingway's Spa offers guests peace and relaxation. The Spa menu combines both French and custom designed treatments crafted from locally sourced ingredients and is the perfect place to rediscover your senses after a long flight or a dusty safari. The property is designed with discretion, in keeping with the quiet, residential neighborhood. The hotel operates an ingenious internal eco-system of water and energy conservation and sustainable waste management.



## Giraffe Center at Giraffe Manor

The Center provides a taste of the Africa most tourists come to Kenya to see. In addition to the short nature walk, the Giraffe Center offers the rare opportunity to be (safely) close enough to the animals to feed and touch them. The entrance fee to the Center supports the re-establishment of the Rothschild giraffes in Kenya.

## Karen Blixen Museum

This museum was originally the home of Karen Blixen, who came to Kenya from Denmark in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The present museum sits at the heart of the larger coffee plantation run by Blixen between 1914 and 1931. Upon Kenya's independence, the Danish government donated the house and surrounding land to Kenya. The house was restored by the Danish government and was used during the filming of *Out of Africa*. Much of the original furniture is on display in the house and, combined with the beautifully landscaped gardens and encompassing view of the Ngong Hills, the Museum has continued to be a very popular destination for international and local visitors.

## Kazuri Bead Shop

This workshop is located at the base of the Ngong Hills outside Nairobi on a portion of the farm once owned by Karen von Blixen of *Out of Africa* fame. Lady Susan Wood founded Kazuri (which means "small and beautiful" in Swahili, the language of Kenya) in 1975 after observing that many women in the villages around Nairobi were nearly destitute. She and two Kikuyu women organized a ceramic workshop and taught jewelry making to the poor, and the instruction continues to this day. Each bead that makes up a necklace or bracelet is shaped by hand, without the aid of molds or forms, by one of the 90 local women employed by Kazuri. The beads are then polished and kiln-fired, painted, and fired again before being strung. You will see the ladies making the beads at the shop.

## Matt Bronze

This is a wonderful gallery with a large selection of hand-made bronzes. There are pieces of all sizes and prices – everything from tasteful animal footprint ashtrays to jewelry, picture frames, and life-size sculptures – even life-sized elephants!

## Day 18: (Aug 7)

### Last day in Africa and flights home

- **After breakfast, Patrick and our drivers are available for any last-minute shopping or stops we want to make. We might consider going to the Daphne Sheldrick's Elephant Orphanage (open from 11am – 12n only) and dinner at the Carnivore before going to the airport for our evening flight home. Depending on flight time, we can arrange a day room, activities, etc.**

### *Lunch is not included*

## Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage

The wife of the late David Sheldrick, founder and warden of Tsavo National Park, Daphne worked with wild animals for some 60 years, and in 1977 she opened the elephant orphanage at her home in Nairobi. Here her trained staff of eight virtually replaces the baby elephants' families. Watch and pet the babies while learning all about the elephants' life.

### The Carnivore Restaurant

Considered "Africa's Greatest Eating Experience," this open-air meat specialty restaurant has strikingly different food and atmosphere. All types of meat imaginable, including four choices of wild game, are roasted on traditional Masai swords over a huge, visually spectacular charcoal pit that dominates the entrance of the restaurant. The waiters then carry these meat-laden swords around the restaurant, carving unlimited amounts of the prime cuts onto sizzling, cast iron plates in front of you. A wide selection of salads, vegetable side dishes, and a variety of exotic sauces accompanies the meat feast. There are enough non-meat dishes to satisfy vegetarians. Dessert and coffee follow the meal. The Carnivore is also the home of the Simba Saloon, Nairobi's most popular nightclub and disco. The informal outdoor atmosphere, exceptional snacks, and outstanding entertainment ensure a vibrant and exciting night out.

## Day 19 (Aug 8)

## Arrive Home

### Safari Cost\*:

(payment by check: for payment by credit card, add 4%)

<b>Double (sharing)</b>	<b>\$12,449</b>
<b>Single</b>	<b>\$13,674</b>

### INCLUDED:

- ❖ Airport transfers
- ❖ All accommodations
- ❖ Full-Board while on safari
- ❖ All transportation in 4-wheel drive  
Land Cruisers (maximum 5 per vehicle)
  - first aid kit
  - wildlife books
  - binoculars
  - cool box with water or your preference
  - fire extinguisher
  - battery ports
- ❖ Private driver/guides – excellent English
- ❖ All game park entrance fees
- ❖ All government taxes
- ❖ Flying Doctor Society Membership  
For emergency evacuation to the  
closest hospital
- ❖ All game drives
- ❖ Masai Boma visit
- ❖ Daphne Sheldrick's Elephant Orphanage fee

### Also included:

- Amboseli Serena
  - ❖ A couple of surprises
- Ol Pejeta Bush Camp
  - ❖ All beverages except premium and champagne
  - ❖ Laundry
  - ❖ Night game drives
  - ❖ Visit to Nanyuki Weavers
  - ❖ Rhino Sanctuary visit
  - ❖ Animal Rehabilitation Entrance Fee at Mount Kenya Safari Club
  - ❖ Visit to the Chimpanzee Center

### Naivasha

- ❖ Lunch at my little local restaurant (weather permitting)
- ❖ Boat trip on Lake Naivasha
- ❖ Game walk on Crescent Island

### Encounter Mara

- ❖ All beverages except premium and champagne
- ❖ Night drives
- ❖ Laundry

### Mara Entim

- ❖ All beverages except premium and champagne
- ❖ Laundry
- ❖ Hot-Air Balloon

### EXCLUDED

- ❖ Personal items such as: drinks, tobacco, phone calls, email
- ❖ Laundry, except as noted
- ❖ Drinks except where noted
- ❖ Meals in Nairobi except where noted
- ❖ Personal shopping
- ❖ Incidental tips to camp staff
- ❖ Gratuities to drivers/guides
- ❖ International airfare
- ❖ Kenyan Visa (\$50)