

Safari Itinerary

Samburu Five & Big Five

14-day safari tour for John van der dol Group

Sandwich Bird Tours



Your adventure starts here...

SAFARI OVERVIEW

A really diversified safari, first stop will be the iconic Amboseli with its great views of Kilimanjaro and herds of elephants, then onto the central highlands of Kenya; visiting the Aberdares mountain range with its' fabulous waterfalls, great views of Mount Kenya and endemic wildlife such as the mountain bongo. The safari will continue onto the semi-arid Samburu with its' many bird species, unusual mammals known as the Special Five, and you'll also have a great chance to spot leopard. You'll then spend two days at the OI Pejeta conservancy where you can see rhino, track lions and take a night game drive. The safari will then head to the Great Rift Valley and Lake Naivasha for a boat safari before heading to the Savannah plains of the Masai Mara to track down all the Big Five.

Parks and places of interest: Amboseli, Aberdares, Samburu, OI Pejeta, Lake Naivasha, the Masai Mara & Naboisho conservancy.

Activities: game drives, night game drives, boat safari, bush walks & lion tracking

Accommodation: a mix of game viewing lodges and mid-range luxury tented camps and lodges.

DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

PROVISIONAL DATES Feb 9-24 2020



plus flight dates

Day 1 & 2 - Amboseli, OI Tukai

Depart Nairobi by road for Amboseli National Park (5 hours), a fantastic park, with amazing views of the imposing Mount Kilimanjaro, and with the possibility of seeing big cats and herds of elephants - it's a park not to be missed! You will arrive in time for lunch at the OI Tukai Lodge, one of

just a few accommodations located within the park itself and is one of the best places to watch elephants with the backdrop of Mount Kilimanjaro; the lodge also holds birding talks, lectures by researchers from the Elephant Research Centre and cultural talks by a Masai culturist. After lunch you will head out onto the plains of Amboseli for a late afternoon game drive to explore the park. The next day will be spent on morning and afternoon game drives exploring the park and seeking elephant encounters, with all meals taken at the lodge.

Day 3 – Nairobi stop-over - Wildebeest Eco Camp

After an early morning game drive and breakfast, you'll depart Amboseli for Nairobi arriving in time for dinner at the Wildebeest Eco Camp. The camp is located just on the outskirts of

Nairobi in Karen, there is a small pool, restaurant and games room and it's all set in a very attractive site with lots of trees and bird-life.



Day 4 - The Aberdares, The Ark

Depart Nairobi for the Aberdares (3 hours), a park set in a mountain range with great views of Mount Kenya. There are many waterfalls and mist covered, lichen hung trees and you may see elephant, rhino and leopards here as well as long haired colobus monkeys, and the mountain bongo if you are

lucky. You will arrive at the Aberdares Country Club for lunch after which you will be transferred to The Ark - a game-viewing lodge, where you will stay for a night. The Ark offers a unique game viewing experience from the comfort of the lodge, with four viewing decks and a hide. Before dinner, the host gives an interactive talk about the local fauna and animals and dinner is served from 7.30 pm to 9 pm. Then continue to watch the wildlife and if you do want to go to bed, during the night the resident ranger stays on watch and will buzz your room if an interesting animal comes to the water hole!

Day 5 & 6 - Samburu, Intrepids

After breakfast, you'll leave The Ark and the Aberdares and continue on to Samburu (3.5 hours) a place rich in wildlife with its rare Northern species; including the Gerenuk, Beisa Oryx and Somali ostrich. Samburu is a very scenic but lesser known park and is situated along the Uaso Nyiro River that attracts wildlife



in from the surrounding savannah plains. This is a semi-arid area and can become quite hot but the park is rich in wildlife and is home to a number of large predators including cheetah, lion and leopard. You'll arrive in time for lunch at Intrepids Camp, set on the banks of the great Uaso Nyiro River. Each tent sits on a raised wooden deck overlooking the river where the elephants sometimes make an appearance or the crocodiles come out to lounge by the river banks. The restaurant also overlooks the river and serves a high standard of food from it's a la carte menu. After lunch you'll head out on a game drive and then spend the next day exploring the reserve.

Day 7 & 8 - OI Pejeta, Sweetwaters Tented Camp

After breakfast, you'll depart Samburu and continue your journey onto Laikipia (3.5 hours) and the OI Pejeta conservancy, which is located on a vast plateau and has the highest density of large mammals in Kenya.

There are many unusual species here including the reticulated giraffe, Grevy's zebra and the Lelwel hartebeest, there are also seven rhino sanctuaries here and you may be lucky enough to see the now rare black rhino. You'll spend two nights at the stunning, luxury Sweetwaters tented camp, set on the foothills of Mount Kenya - and with amazing views and close proximity to wildlife, it's a wonderful place to stay. You'll spend your time here on game drives during the day and night, lion tracking, visiting the rhino sanctuaries (optional) or just relaxing in camp and watching the wildlife at the camp's watering hole.



Day 9 - Lake Naivasha, Sopa



After breakfast, you'll leave Sweetwaters for a short game drive before heading to the Great Rift Valley and Lake Naivasha, arriving in time for lunch at the Sopa Resort. The lodge is situated on the lake shore and has beautiful grounds with huge cactus, many acacia trees and you are likely to see colobus monkeys, bushbuck, zebra and giraffe wandering the grounds. The main

building has an interior garden, fireplaces and low comfy leather sofas. The rooms are spacious, Swahili style chalets either with a balcony or a glass fronted lounge area for relaxing and wildlife viewing. After lunch you'll take a boat safari across the lake where you may see hippos and many species of birds including fish eagles and pelicans and sometimes flamingoes. At the end of the boat safari you'll stop at Crescent Island for a guided bush walk before returning to the lodge for the evening to have dinner and watch the hippos come up from the Lake to graze in Sopa's grounds.

Day 10 & 11 - Masai Mara, Sarova Game Camp

After an early breakfast, you'll leave Naivasha and travel to the open grassland of the Masai Mara (4.5 hours), rich in biodiversity and home to a large variety of bird species and wildlife, the reserve offers great game viewing and bird watching opportunities.

You'll arrive in time for lunch at the Sarova Mara Game Camp, situated in the Masai Mara national reserve, before taking a late afternoon game drive. Sarova Mara Game Camp is a high quality tented camp with over 50 standard tents and also club and family tents available. The dining is of a high standard and there are also a number of other activities available such as fishing and bush walking. The next two days will be spent exploring the savannah grasslands of the Masai Mara on game drives tracking down all the Big Five, along with many other species of mammals, reptiles and birds.

Day 12 & 13 - Naboisho conservancy, Eagle View

Next morning after an early game drive and breakfast you'll head to Basecamp's Eagle View



in the Naboisho conservancy, which overlooks a natural waterhole and is frequented by many species of wild animals such as elephants, hippos and giraffes. The camp itself consists of nine double viewpoint luxury tents, each offering a king size double or two large twin beds, a private bathroom area featuring bio-flush toilets and two showers, one inside and one open-air 'safari shower'.

All rooms have a private elevated viewing deck offering exceptional views of Naboisho Conservancy. You'll have lunch and then head out for an afternoon game drive before heading back to camp for dinner. The next day will be spent on an early morning bush walk and a late afternoon/evening game drive, with all meals in camp.

Day 14 - Transfer to Nairobi

After an early morning game drive you'll head back to camp for breakfast before heading back to Nairobi by road. End of tour.

Links to accommodation websites:

OI Tukai: <http://www.oltukailodge.com>

The Ark, Aberdares: <http://www.thearkkenya.com>

Intrepids, Samburu: <http://www.heritage-eastafrica.com/samburuintrepids/hotel-overview.html>

Sweetwaters, Ol Pejeta: <http://www.serenahotels.com/serenasweetwaters/default-en.html>

Sopa Resort, Naivasha: <http://www.sopalodges.com/lake-naivasha-sopa-lodge/overview>

Sarova, Masai Mara: <http://www.sarovahotels.com/maracamp/overview.aspx>

Basecamp Eagle View: <https://www.basecampexplorer.com/kenya/hotels/eagle-view/>

PRICING & WHAT'S INCLUDED

Price based on 12 guests:

- **\$5030 USD / £3795 GBP* per person sharing**
- Additional single room supplement:
 - \$1,095 USD / £845* GBP
 - **Please note that the exchange rate was at the time of writing and thus the £ price may vary at the time of payments.**

What's included in the price?

- All accommodation on full board basis
- Transport in a private, safari tour vehicle x 2 with lifting roof for game viewing
- Unlimited game drives
- Experienced driver / guide
- All park & conservancy fees
- All airport transfers
- All excursions and entrance fees
- Drinking water while on safari

What's not included in the price?

- International flights
- Kenyan tourist visa
- Alcoholic drinks
- Soft drinks
- Tips & gratuities



Transport for this tour is in a safari land cruiser, with lifting roof for game viewing.

Optional extras

- Masai village visit \$20 USD per person
- Hot Air balloon flight in the Masai Mara \$425 USD per person
- Local flights from Masai Mara to Nairobi \$220 USD per person

Important notes:

- ** Safari tours to Kenya are priced in US Dollars, any price quoted in another currency will be subject to current exchange rates at the time of booking & making final payment*
- *Seasons can vary between areas, supplements apply for Easter & Christmas*
- *Children under 18 will qualify for various discounts; discounts apply for groups of three and more; single supplements for accommodation may apply*
- *Payments can be made by Visa, MasterCard, Maestro and American Express and are accepted in either US dollars or Pounds Sterling; there are **no additional fees** for making payment by credit, debit or charge card*

- *Transtrek Safaris Limited is a fully bonded & licensed UK travel agent and tour operator and all client monies are held in a UK client trust account*
- *Ground operations (vehicles, guides etc.) are provided by Transtrek Travel Limited, based in Kenya*
- *All payments to third party suppliers (lodges and camps etc.) are under contract and are insured against supplier failure, full details on request*
- *Terms and conditions apply and will be provided prior to booking*

WHAT TO TAKE WITH YOU AND USEFUL INFORMATION

- Loose cool cotton clothing and some warmer clothing as it can become quite cool in the highlands at certain times of the year particularly at night
- Sensible shoes; sandals, flip flops, trainers
- Swimming costume - many of the lodges & camps have pools
- Hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, insect repellent (deet), bite cream & pack of wet wipes
- Binoculars – (one pair is provided in the tour vehicle for your use)
- Wildlife book – (vehicles carry various field guides for birds and mammals)
- Camera & charger – Kenyan plug sockets are the same as the UK - 3 pins
- Local currency for tips & gratuities, we suggest tips of 50 to 100 Kenyan shillings (ksh) for portage and housemaids. We will have a collection for the drivers at the end.
- Flights on light-aircraft have luggage restrictions of 15kg per person in a semi-soft case
- Please visit our website <https://transtreksafaris.com/kenya.html> for information on visas and vaccinations for Kenya



Have a great safari...!



Transtrek Safaris Limited Co. No. 8358388
Third Floor, 207 Regent Street, London W1B 3HH
www.transtreksafaris.com

