



STEP AFRICA TRAVELS

9 DAYS PREMIER ITINERARY KENYA SAFARI EXPERIENCE

Itinerary Highlights:

- 2 nights stay in **Ambosemi**. Overnights at **Tawi Lodge**.
- 2 nights stay in ***Great Rift Valley*** Featuring **Lake Naivasha** & **Lake Nakuru**. Visits to two unique areas of the Great Rift Valley: the fresh water lake of Naivasha and the alkaline lake of Nakuru. Overnights at **Loldia House**.
- 2 nights stay in **Masai Mara Reserve**. Overnights at **Governors IL Moran Camp**.
- 2 nights stay in **Masai Mara North Private Conservancy**. Overnights at **Ngare Serian Camp**.
- Game drives and outdoor activities in two different areas of the Masai Mara giving you the best wildlife viewing and nature experience on both sides of the county government controlled and private Maasai community conservancy owned land of the Masai Mara.
- Five scenic scheduled safari charter flights allowing time saving and convenient access to the wilderness.
- Expert and highly experienced safari guide driving a camp/lodge 4x4 vehicle with an option to upgrade to a private vehicle to allow for maximum flexibility, independence and personalization especially during the Masai Mara-Serengeti Great Wildebeest Migration.
- **Option** to add an early morning **hot air balloon safari** over the Masai Mara plains.
- **Option** to add on an overnight in Nairobi, depending on your international flight arrival and rest time required.
- Ability to **customize** and add more days to the existing program in e.g. Lake Victoria relaxation experience, Mombasa, Malindi or Lamu beach vacation or Swahili cultural coastal experience.

ARRIVAL - DAY 1 & 2 - AMBOSELI

Upon arrival at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi, our airport guest relation's officer will personally meet all arriving guests. We will be standing outside the arrival section holding a signboard with your name on it. You are assisted with your luggage and transferred to the secondary airport, Wilson, where you will check in for your outbound flight to Kenya's wilderness parks and reserves.

Fly from Nairobi to **Amboseli** arriving at the airstrip where you will be met by your guide at the foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro. The Amboseli outback is a majestic landscape on 392 square kilometers of protected wilderness. The park borders Tanzania and is situated at the base of Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's tallest peak, and the melting snow flows into underground springs that feed the swamps and wetlands that dot the plains. These water sources attract animals of all sizes, the most sought-after being— the free-roaming elephants, but you may also see elands, waterbucks, grant's gazelles, warthogs, coke's hartebeests, zebras and other grazing herbivores. The abundance of large prey supports lions, leopards, civets, wildcats and other elusive hunters, as well as jackals, hyenas and other scavengers. Your guide will also help you locate and identify yellow and olive baboons and black-face vervet monkeys. A bird watching vacation in Amboseli Park gives you the chance to record your observations of commonly sighted grey-crowned cranes, superb starlings, beautiful sunbird, secretary bird and several more of the 425-feathered resident and migratory species. One of the best vantage points that will give you a true appreciation of the immense natural beauty of Amboseli is the Observation Hill, a perfect location for sundowners, and the stunning sunsets are not to missed by photographers. The proud Maasai people continue to live outside the park borders, following their ancient traditions and tending to their cherished cattle.

Amboseli Accommodation

Tawi is an upmarket, boutique accommodation located in an exclusive 6000-acre conservancy, close to the eastern portal of the Amboseli National Park. Tawi Lodge has 12 chalets with thatched roofs; each erected on its own wooden deck, perfect for open-air relaxation. Their deck has daybeds where you can spend quiet afternoons on your safari

holiday in Amboseli with stunning views of the lofty Mount Kilimanjaro. Tawi Lodge works in partnership with the African Wildlife Foundation to assist in the growth and preservation of the wildlife in the Amboseli ecosystem and the Maasai community living there. Their operations are in keeping with subtle eco-friendly values, and their focus is on minimizing their impact on the delicate eco-system where they are located. Tawi Lodge guests can opt for double bed or twin bed chalets, and they all come with fireplaces that give the rooms an inviting, romantic feel. Choose drinks from the mini-bar and enjoy long soaks in the bathtub at the end of your exciting days on your African safari vacation in southern Kenya. Twin washbasins, separate shower area and bathrobes are also available for your use. Solar power warms the water for your bath; and also provides the electricity to light your room and to charge your batteries and mobile devices. A butler assigned to your room takes care of all your needs during your safari trip at Tawi. The dining area and bar is located in a shady locale, in the midst of the central lodge zone and close to the paths leading up to the swimming pool. The ingredients for your meals are sourced from the organic lowlands of Amboseli that have rich, volcanic soil watered by underground streams that originate from Mt. Kilimanjaro. Added Swahili coastal herbs lend an authentic taste to your meals.

Overnight Accommodation: [Tawi Lodge](#)

DAY 3 & 4 - GREAT RIFT VALLEY (FEATURING LAKE NAIVASHA & LAKE NAKURU)

Fly to Nairobi and connect to your flight to the **Great Rift Valley**. Your stay will provide two unique ecosystems with two different experiences. Resting at an elevation of 1890 meters is the serene freshwater **Lake Naivasha**, a superb oasis to include on your Kenya safari. Just beyond its shores are papyrus swamps, acacia woodlands, forests and unique geologic features that are remnants of the area's volcanic past. The lake is also a RAMSAR site, a designation that reflects the ecological importance of the wetlands around the lake. More than 450 distinct birdlife species have been identified, and the resident avi-fauna are joined by migratory species. Lake Naivasha is one of the primary drinking holes for buffalos, zebras, elands, impalas, waterbucks and other grazers, as well as a favorite place for hippos to cool themselves during the day. Take a night game drive on one of the surrounding private conservancies like Loldia, and you will see these incredible animals slowly emerge from their wallowing sites in the lake to grass along the shores.

The next morning, proceed to the **Lake Nakuru National Park** for a contrasting alkaline lake and ecological experience. The most prominent wildlife in the park includes 56 mammals and 450 bird species. Seasonally, see firsthand one to two million lesser and greater

flamingos dip their curved bills into the warm, alkaline water of the lake to extract their favorite food – special algae that are found in abundance in this unique water outback. Explore beyond the lake, and you will find a world of forest dwellers, plains game and other creatures – large and small. The white and black rhinos, as well as the Rothschild's giraffes that you will see in the park have been rescued from the threat of poaching in other areas of Africa and also Kenya. Lake Nakuru's most sought-after and elusive predator is the leopard. Although plenty of luck and efforts are required to locate, these spotted carnivores are most often found lounging in the trees of the acacia forests that are set back from the shores of the lake. Your game drives will also take you into the woodlands where you may catch sight of the colobus and vervet monkeys. Enjoy watching these primates but be careful not to stand under them as they are known to be quite messy eaters, a habit that helps propagate the forest trees and vegetation. Thomson's gazelles, impalas, Grant's gazelles, waterbucks, reedbucks, buffalos and hippos are just some of the other herbivores found in the park. Keeping a constant watch over some of these prey animals are striped hyenas, lions, the rare wild cats, golden cats and other highly elusive predators.

Lake Naivasha Accommodation

Loldia House is a 6,500-acre working farm set on shores of Lake Naivasha. The colonial masonry architecture reflects an early settler style that luxuriously extends into the indoor common areas and 9 guest rooms. The four double en-suite rooms in the Main House feature muted color palettes that brilliantly accentuate the understated elegance of dressing tables, thatch and corrugated roofs, nightstands with lamps and chairs. Most rooms are positioned to provide views of the wild grounds and lake upon waking, and private outdoor verandahs with lounging chairs invite quiet relaxation and conversation with a glass of wine. For Step Africa Travels guests who desire a secluded family trip to Lake Naivasha, the lodge also offers a three-room cottage on an elevated hill that features expansive views, sitting area and fireplace. Start your day watching local fisherman sail across the lake from the comfort of your bed. A soft knock on the door lets you know that another day of your incredible East African lake vacation has begun. The aroma of freshly brewed tea and coffee fill your room as you prepare for a morning game activity on Loldia Ranch. Spend the morning with an experienced guide that takes you to see hippos, zebras, elands, giraffes and other large mammals. You also gain key insight about the 450-avian species that are nesting, feeding and hunting around the lake grounds. A garden breakfast under a fig tree awaits you at the Main House, and you spend the remainder of your

morning lounging on your veranda. After lunch, relax with a book, explore the farm or take a rejuvenating nap. Afternoon tea reawakens you for a late day birdwatching tour of Lake Naivasha, boat ride, evening game drive on the ranch, tour of a local flower farm or a visit to Loldia School.

Overnight Accommodation: Loldia House

DAY 5 & 6 - MASAI MARA RESERVE

Fly to the heart of the Masai Mara Reserve arriving at the airstrip where your specialist Masai Mara safari guide will meet you on arrival. Offering superb plains scenery, unmatched safari activities and diverse wildlife, Masai Mara National Reserve is considered Kenya's best park and one of Africa's highest wildlife density region for predators. The reserve covers 583 square miles (1510 square kilometers) of outstanding wilderness in southwest Kenya. The location, wildlife, activities and comfortable moderate climate puts Mara at the top of the list, even for the most discerning Step Africa Travels traveler to Kenya. The Masai Mara is a critical part of the route used by wildebeests and zebras during the Great Migration that traverses the Masai Mara via the Serengeti National Park during late July through late October - approximately. Recognized as one of the most spectacular wildlife events on the planet, the migration is a continuous route that is followed by an over 1.5 million wildebeests and thousands of zebras, gazelles and elands. In their never-ending pursuit for the finest grazing and watering grounds, the gnu relocate on an almost constant basis. The perseverance of these wildebeests is demonstrated in their ability to mate while on the move, and many cows are pregnant during part of the migration. Additionally, even the youngest wildebeest calves are expected to keep up with the herd. Standing and walking within minutes are critical to its survival. Additionally, the Masai Mara offers year-round game viewing. The reserve and surrounding conservancies offer diverse resident species experiences during your safari excursions. You will frequently see impalas, topis, giraffes, elephants, zebras, buffalos, warthogs and other grazing herbivores. With so many prey animals, Masai Mara is a veritable bonanza for large predators, such as lions, cheetahs, leopards, crocodiles and other stealthy, powerful hunters. The abundance of terrestrial animals is enhanced by the presence of more than 450-winged species, including 57 birds of prey.

Masai Mara Reserve Accommodation

Set along the Mara River in the heart of Masai Mara National Reserve is Governor's IL Moran Camp, a secluded, premium accommodation for your customized East African plains tour. As a guest at the camp, you receive impeccable service and utmost privacy in a splendid setting. Because the camp is sited within a natural riverine forest, you will feel completely immersed in this natural bounty of Kenya's outback country. Governor's IL Moran Camp offers only 10 luxury tents with an average of twenty beds; therefore, expect to receive the individualized attention you desire for your safari holiday in Masai Mara Reserve. Each tent is tastefully designed to evoke the yesteryear romance and adventure of the African bush. Lanterns, native wood furnishings, ethnic rugs and other design elements evoke the romance and adventure. Masai Mara begins with aromatic coffee and tea brought to your tent to gently awaken you. These invigorating beverages are complemented with an assortment of freshly baked shortbread cookies. Put on your most comfortable safari clothes and meet with your guide. Because you are already inside the reserve, your safari vehicle is one of the first to the best vantage points.

Overnight Accommodation: Governors IL Moran Camp

DAY 7 & 8 - MASAI MARA PRIVATE CONSERVANCY

Proceed to **Masai Mara Private Conservancy**. The establishment of Kenya's conservancies that encircle Masai Mara National Reserve advanced wildlife management strategies that are core to Step Africa Travels' preservation values. The conservancies essentially extend the protected land for flora and fauna. The Mara conservancies are the result of a brilliant approach to wildlife management – work with local Maasai landowners to set aside land and help communities benefit from the generated revenue. Under the conservancy agreements, landowners establish zones that are not to be used for grazing and agriculture. Instead, these zones are allowed to return to a natural and pristine state. Once flora re-establishes in the zone, grazing and foraging herbivores return, along with many species of avi-fauna. These prey animals in turn attract predators, including birds of prey, scavengers and Kenya's powerful hunters – lions, cheetahs, leopards, hyenas and wild dogs. The conservancies in the greater Mara also offer many advantages to landowners, local communities and Step Africa Travels guests. Within each conservancy are lodges and camps that offer exclusive access to safari activities. These accommodations generate revenue. Landowners, in turn, receive monies from leasing their land. Portions of the revenue are also dedicated to local community projects in Masai Mara, such as medical

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facilities, schools, micro-financing and much more. Our guests benefit by spending time in Masai Mara's pristine wilderness country and partaking of wholesome safari activities. The conservancies offer a more extensive range of activities than what is allowed in the reserve, such as night game drives, safari walks and off-road game drives, to name a few of the outdoor activities that are unique to the conservancies. Additionally, the conservancies restrict the maximum number of guests and rooms, so seeing many safari vehicles during game drives is lessened compared to the public reserve.

Masai Mara Private Conservancy Accommodation

Located within 4000 acres of private land, the Ngare Serian Camp offers an intimate and private hideaway for discerning guests especially honeymooners who desire an upscale bush accommodation. With only 4 boutique tents, Step Africa Travels lodgers can also reserve the camp on an exclusive basis for the utmost privacy and immersion amidst the remote bush of Kenya. The superb service of the staff, delectable food and exceptional location are complemented by the lavish and ultra-comfortable guest tents. Each tent is bathed in rich colors, such as honey-gold wood flooring and furnishings, chocolate brown and crisp white curtains and subtle hints of jewel tones. The bed is well-placed to give you views from the moment you wake up until you quietly fall asleep to the sounds and scents of East Africa. A small writing desk, bench, small daybed, sofas and other small pieces make you feel right at home. Your tent is built upon an elevated solid-wood deck that includes a shady private verandah from which you observe the hippos and other animals at the river. All of the luxury tents are well-placed on the property to maximize views and privacy, but some are more secluded than others.

Overnight Accommodation: [Ngare Serian Camp](#)

DAY 9 - DEPARTURE DAY - AIRPORT TRANSFER OR CONTINUE ON AN OPTIONAL SAFARI

EXTENSION

Breakfast. Morning activity. Thereafter, transfer to the airstrip for your flight to Nairobi. Upon arrival, connect to your international flight back home or continue on with an extension safari, tour or beach trip within Kenya, Africa or the Indian Ocean Islands.

COST OF PREMIER TIER 1 - SOUTHERN KENYA SAFARI

Step Africa Travels recommends you plan and book your Kenya safari at least 5 to 7 months prior to your arrival. Safari accommodations are almost fully booked all year round due to limited rooming capacity and high demand.

Please contact us to customize your safari and request prices based on your travel preference.

**Price guide is per person sharing a double or twin room. Single room and holiday season supplements may apply for certain travel months and accommodations.*

MONTH OF TRAVEL	VALUE EXPERIENCE
January (After Holidays)	\$6570
February	\$6570
March	\$6570
April	\$5800
May	\$5800
June	\$6080
July	\$7600
August	\$7910
September	\$7910
October	\$6840
November	\$6570
December (Before Holiday Season)	\$6570
December (During Holiday Season)	\$7910

What Is Included:

- Knowledgeable program expertise, pre-planning resource guidance along with firsthand experience.
- Professional safari guiding services. All guides are native experts in African wildlife, game driving, culture and history, many of whom speak other European languages.
- Accommodation in a standard double or twin room - sharing.

- Full board meals (lunch, dinner and breakfast) when staying the night during the safari.
- Selected drinks and beverages when at safari camps and lodges.
- Internal airlines as indicated.
- Game viewing activities are included with your overnight stay.
- Arrival and departure meet, greet and transfer services as in the itinerary.
- All park and reserve entry fees, airstrip transfers, VAT, government levies, service charges and hotel taxes for the services booked.
- Step Africa Travels office and cellular emergency contact details.

What Is Not Included:

Other services, tours, activities, drinks and meals that are outside the included offerings, personal expenses such travelers' insurance, medical evacuation, communication charges, gratuities - tips, visas, airport specific passenger charges, international airfares, that are extra and NOT part of the included itinerary.

