

# KENYA - MAASAI MARA - MAASAI MARA STARTING AT NKILENYA

## ITINERARY

### Day 1

The meeting point on day one of the safari is Nairobi Wilson Airport at c. 9am for a flight to the Mara departing at c.10:30.

You are recommended to arrive into Nairobi the day before. We will arrange for you to be met on arrival and transferred to your accommodation. On the morning of your safari you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to Wilson Airport.

On the last day of the safari your flight from the Mara arrives back to Nairobi Wilson at c.16:00. If you intend to fly home that evening we recommend booking international flights departing after 22:00. Transfers from Wilson Airport to the international airport or to your Nairobi hotel are included.

Your professional safari guide, Gordie Church, will meet you at the Mara airstrip for a game drive to the private canvas mobile camp arriving in time for lunch.



During the afternoon you have a safety briefing and after settling into camp you have a short ride to familiarise you with the horses.

Riding distance: 5 - 10 km.

After dinner there is time for drinks around the camp fire.



The following is the proposed itinerary but please note that the itinerary may vary due to local conditions. On occasions, should the weather be unkind, you may find that you are unable to move camp when expected. This decision is always made with your best interests in mind.

Overnight Nkilenya Camp. The camps are moved by the support crew with your luggage to the most beautiful areas usually under a canopy of trees or overlooking a stream. The mosquito-proof tents are simply furnished in traditional safari camping style with double or single beds, carpets and bedside tables.

Egyptian cotton sheets and warm feather duvets make for a great night's sleep.

A separate canvas shower and loo is placed behind each tent.

Nkilenya Camp is in the Lemek Conservancy and is situated by a small stream used by the Masai to water their cattle.

## **Day 2**

Both morning and afternoon are spent exploring the riverine forests and open plains of Lemek. There is normally an abundance of wildlife here including giraffe, warthog, zebra, hartebeest and with a little luck, cheetah and leopard too.



Bloody Marys might be served in the morning and Pink Gins for ‘sundowners’ in the evening.

Riding distance: 15 - 20 km.

Overnight Nkilenya Camp.

### **Day 3**

Your first full long day in the saddle takes you through spectacular wildlife country with impala, gazelle, elephant, buffalo, ostrich and more as you ride to your new camp.



Picnic lunch is enjoyed in a patch of forest called Olomai. After a siesta you ride down the banks of the Mara River with its large pods of hippo and the odd monster crocodile.



Riding distance 20 - 25 km.

Overnight Mara River Camp. At Mara River Camp each tent is placed on the bank of the river making it a magical place to relax in the evenings.



## Day 4

This is a stunning area to traverse by horse or vehicle. You may ford the Mara River and ride under the iconic Siria Escarpment.



The concentration of game is normally breath-taking. For those who wish it and it is totally optional, there are also plenty of opportunities to jump fallen trees knocked down by resident elephants.





Waterbuck, eland, jackal, hyena and lion occur in this area, as do many other wildlife species.

Riding distance 10 - 15 km.

Overnight Mara River Camp.

## Day 5

After a 'full-monty' breakfast you ride in a southerly direction across Maternity Plain towards your new camp. There are stunning views in every direction and excellent going for the horses.



You cross the Mara River on horseback and enter the famous Mara Triangle. Picnic lunch is enjoyed in a patch of thick forest often occupied by elephant.



After lunch, a short ride, followed by an ascent on foot, to the top of the escarpment.



Riding distance 20 - 25 km.

Overnight Out of Africa Camp. This camp is situated on the top of the Siria Escarpment with views over the Mara and to the Serengeti in the distance.



**Day 6**

Today provides you with options to ride or for game drives in the triangle with magical views looking down towards the Serengeti in the distance.



This corner of the ecosystem is blessed with croton thickets, forest and endless tall grasslands, the perfect environment for rhino, elephant, buffalo and lion.

Riding distance 10 - 15 km.

In the late afternoon you may visit a small traditional homestead for your local Masai hosts.



Overnight Out of Africa Camp.

## Day 7

Today you descend the escarpment on foot and head due east, riding back over the Mara River, skirting the village of Rianta and onwards to a lovely picnic lunch under scattered acacia trees.



After a long siesta you ride over the Koiyaki Plain and then on to your new camp.

Riding distance 20 - 25 km.

Overnight Kampi Ya Simba K08 Camp. This camp is situated on the banks of the Olare Orok stream and is named after George Adamson's famous Camp of the Lions.



## Day 8

Morning and afternoon rides in this stunning area. This is a magical corner of the Mara and exceptional riding country. Two large prides of lions make this area their home and so this is the big-cat experience.





Later after supper you may go out by vehicle, with a spot-light, to discover the nocturnal creatures.



Riding distance 15 - 20 km.

Overnight Kampi Ya Simba K08 Camp.

## **Day 9**

Your last morning ride in this stunning country. Riding distance: 10-15 km.

After a hearty brunch you say your goodbyes to the horses and camp crew.

