

# Migration special

## Northern Serengeti



- PREVIOUS

Five full days will be spent exploring the northern-most limits of the Serengeti National park in the heart of the Serengeti-Mara ecosystems seeking the area's abundant wildlife – including its famous, mind boggling numbers of migrating white bearded wildebeest and zebra that by this time of year will be massing for their return to the Masai Mara. We have timed this safari to coincide with the best possibilities of seeing the spectacular river crossings of tens of thousands of wildebeest pouring across the crocodile-infested waters of the Mara River. Also at a time when overseas tourist crowds have started waning, and all the while lodged in sublime tranquility, strategically positioned and within easy access to the main herd crossing points in the Mara.

Our daily schedule, will usually involve a pre-dawn wake-up call, with hot coffee or tea and some tasty nibbles before we head out in search of the day's offerings. Our vehicles are all 4WD Toyota Land Cruisers, open sided with canvas tops, built in fridges; loaded with ice cold drinks, exclusive and private for this tour and group. These “working horses” are ideal for observing and photographing wildlife and ideal for getting around in the sometimes-difficult conditions characteristic of the African Savannah.

## **SAFARI HIGHLIGHTS**

- Experience the greatest migration on earth.
- We have private 9 passenger 4X4 Land Cruisers with only 6 people per vehicle. Every person will have window seats available for the best viewing and photographic opportunities.
- Luxury accommodations in a small private tented camps

## **THE ITINERARY**

### **DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN ARUSHA KILIMANJARO**

On arrival at Arusha International Airport participants will be met by a representative from Kosen Safaris and transferred to the Arusha coffee House. Here you can spend the rest of the afternoon or evening at leisure

**OVERNIGHT AT ARUSHA COFFEE HOUSE**

**MEAL PLAN: BED AND BREAKFAST**

### **DAY 2: SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK**

Shortly after breakfast you will be transferred to Arusha Airport and checked in on your scheduled flight to the Northern Serengeti. Your flight will touch down at Kogatende, where the Kosen Safari Team will be waiting for you ready to whisk you off to your Camp. En route, you will inevitably enjoy some game viewing and arrive well at the camp in time for a heartfelt welcome, a brief introduction to camp, and a scrumptious light lunch. After lunch, you will get a chance to get settled in your tent, or, relax in the main mess area.

When the heat starts to die down you will set off on your first game drive in search of the herds, its following predators and a plethora of game viewing and photographic opportunities that are every bit as superb as advertised, expected the unexpected and enjoy every second of anticipation!, but fear not...the Serengeti always delivers.

After a productive search for game, Sundowners shall be enjoyed whenever and wherever the end of the day meets us – a daily chance to enjoy the vast plains of the Serengeti – a breathtaking and unbeatable way to finish the day! On return to camp there will be hot showers and a sumptuous dinner waiting at the candle lit mess tent.

**MEAL PLAN: FULLBOARD**

**OVERNIGHT AT-SAYARI LUXURY CAMP OR SIMILAR**

### **DAY 3: SERENGETI**

After an early morning cup of fresh coffee or tea you will head out for the magical plains and river crossing points of the Mara River. Breakfast will be packed into a basket and carried with you, ready to be served anytime during the morning, whilst enjoying your morning game viewing safari. Your driver and guide will be constantly be reading the herd and other wildlife movements and sharing with you the possibilities of sightings ahead. Where safe, comfortable and reasonable, a long stop will be necessary to wait for the buildup required for a river crossing to happen. Whilst you wait there will be ample time to observe other wildlife going about their daily routines. Ample photographic opportunities abound all around you and our seasoned driver/guides will orchestrate the best approach possible to ensure that you are placed as safely to the sighting as possible, whilst always taking light, wind and shadows into consideration and aiming to remain a passive by stander rather than an intruder on any sighting.

In the vehicle, everyone will have their own seat, the vehicles have full open sides all around, and are endowed with a canvas roof to protect clients from the sun, wind or rain, whilst offering at all times ample room to scan your binoculars, view and photograph the Serengeti and its Wildlife.

You will normally return to camp for lunch at 13h00, and enjoy some down time at your leisure. High tea at 15h30 will link up with the afternoon game drive.

Dinner at the camp can be outside under a canopy of Southern Hemisphere stars with pre-dinner cocktails and nibbles around the campfire to chat and discuss the days' sightings.

**MEAL PLAN: FULLBOARD**

**OVERNIGHT AT-SAYARI LUXURY CAMP OR SIMILAR**

### **DAYS 4, 5, 6: SERENGETI**

Today you will head towards a suite of "classic" river crossing spots along the Mara River. Your day will be filled with large herds of Elephants, dazzling herds of Zebras, incomprehensible numbers of Brindled Gnus and all the drama that brews and unfolds around the epic Mara tributaries. Breakfast will again be taken along and your guide will choose a suitable spot to serve you a well-deserved breakfast.

As we approach several of the key Mara crossing spots we are met by the breathtaking sight of "The Herd". Gnus become omnipresent in incomprehensible manner and numbers; so many- that you need to raise your gaze heavenwards seeking some rest for your over-stimulated retinas. The rivers pose a major obstacle in their way, and the herds' momentum drives the show that ensues. At first it causes a stutter and a pause, then suddenly a surge unfolds, and millions of animals summon enough courage (or panic to be left behind....) and lunge forth to swim across the Mara River, the outcome- *THE MOST* spectacular wildlife migration event on earth.

Scanning the herd, studying its mood and its movements your guides will gauge where the best massing for a crossing is most likely, so that you are all ideally positioned for the best viewing and photographing of this event as and when it eventually happens. The tapestry

of colors and photographic opportunities is endless with a gamut of species teetering nervously over river banks – Burchell’s Zebra, Topi, Gazelles and of course, the famous Brindled Gnu awaiting the valiant few to take a first courageous step. Later, a spot next to the river will be chosen for lunch, and if the herd has behaved the way it should have, then you will head yonder and search other enclaves in the Mara Reserve such as Double Crossings, or, Paradise Plains. It is our belief that by combining superb game viewing with the peace and serenity of the Mara’s wilderness, we will offer each client the very best of the Masai Mara.

You will start heading back to camp between 17h00-18h00 for showers and a delicious meal in the candlelit and classy Camp.

**MEAL PLAN: FULLBOARD**

**OVERNIGHT AT-SAYARI LUXURY CAMP OR SIMILAR**

### **DAY 7: SERENGETI – ARUSHA-OUTBOUND**

Leaving camp after a late breakfast, you will head back to Kogatende airstrip for your schedule flight back to Arusha for your flight back home.

End of services

### **Price Includes:**

- In-country flights to and from the Masai Mara
- Airport transfers
- First class accommodations
- Guaranteed window seat in private 4X4 Land cruisers
- All National Parks fees, Game Reserves entrance fees, and taxes
- All meals
- Evacuation insurance to a Nairobi hospital (transport only – Cost of hospitalization NOT included)

### **Not included**

- Visas
- Travel Insurance
- Personal purchases (such as curios, spirit liquors, telephone calls, internet, laundry...)
- Gratuities for the guides, staff at accommodations, and airport transfers
- Optional extra activities (balloon rides, walking safaris, etc.)
- Pre- and post-safari tours
- Meals or accommodation before or after the safari
- International flights to and from the African Continent

**Please note**

Traveling in remote locations can present challenges that may require slight changes to the itinerary. We will always try to run the tour as the initial itinerary. In the event, beyond our control, such as political unrest, natural disasters, overbooking by the lodge, where a change is required, we will do our best to keep you close to the original location. It is our intention for you to have the best possible experience. We will try to notify you of any changes as soon as we are made aware of them. If, however these changes cause an increase to the price, the increase will be passed onto the participant.