

# Great Migration

Masai Mara- Kenya



This is an African photographic safari that is especially timed for the annual wildebeest migration, known as the greatest wildlife show on earth. This safari is all about the photography with a focus on the migration crossing the Mara River. We will be staying at two different locations in the Mara as well as at a private reserve with fewer vehicles, where we can drive off road, and at go out on night game drives. Having multiple locations in the Masai Mara will allow you to achieve a solid portfolio of images. Kosen has spent the past 30 years going to the Mara during the migration and he knows the traditional crossing points as well as where the predator's territories are! You will feel like you have stepped into wildlife documentary film and you will be overwhelmed by the plethora of exotic wildlife and photographic opportunities!

## **SAFARI HIGHLIGHTS**

- Experiencing 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.
- 3 different locations in the Mara to increase the chance at witnessing a massive crossing
- Staying in a private reserve where we can go off road and do night game drives. There will be less vehicles, we can go off the roads and stay out after dark.
- Luxury accommodations in a small private tented camps

## THE ITINERARY

### DAY 1

Upon your arrival Nairobi, Kenya a Kosen safaris representative will pick you up from the Airport and transfer to your luxury hotel

### DAY 2

#### MASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE

Today you will awake to the exotic birdcalls in a magical new world with the aroma of Kenyan coffee brewing. We will meet at breakfast for a safari briefing driving to the local airport for our flight to the Masai Mara. We will arrive at camp with enough time to settle in before lunch with a little time to relax before we head out on our first game drive.

Your luxury camp is positioned to blend unobtrusively into the surrounding vegetation and has an authentic safari feel of days gone by. There is no better way to experience Africa than by spending a few nights under canvas and there is no better way to photograph than by camping in the heart of the migration! Sitting close to the campfire at night, you will enjoy the starry African night and once safely escorted to your tent by your Masai watchman, you will be lulled asleep to the sound of grazing Hippo and roaring lion.

**MEAL PLAN: FULLBOARD**

### DAYS 3-4

#### MASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE

Rise early today. As the cool, fresh air fills your lungs you'll feel invigorated and rejuvenated, ready for a great day on safari. Roll down the windows or stand up through the customized roof hatch and enjoy this unhindered 360 views, and the possibilities for what lies ahead.

We will spend the next 2 full days in and around the Talek area of the Mara. This is one of the richest predator areas of the Mara and will be our focus for these three days. However, this is one of the most lush reserves in Africa and we will probably see Elephants, Hippos, Masai giraffe, common zebra, gnu, impala, Thompson's and Grant's gazelles, Topi, Hartebeest, Black-backed jackal, spotted hyena and more during these three days. We will also be in radio connection with colleagues and guides to keep a watch out for a buildup of the migration and a possible crossing. We are close enough to the river that if we get word, we will race off for a large crossing.

**MEAL PLAN: FULLBOARD**

## **DAY 5**

### **MASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE**

We will go out on our planned morning and afternoon game drives or maybe sits along the Mara River waiting for the big crossing, depending on how the herds are lining up. Getting a crossing takes time and patients, many times waiting along the edge of the river for hours or a full day, but we have a big advantage here by being able to see the build up for a great distance. Our guides are experts and if there is not a large build up we will not wait, but game drive near the crossing locations and keep in contact with any action near the crossing points. Our main goal at this location is a big crossing!!

## **DAYS 6, 7**

### **MARA PRIVATE CONSERVANCY**

This morning we will go out on our morning game drive for one last chance at a large crossing before heading back to our new location in a private reserve on the boarder of the Masai Mara. This will allow us to get away from all the other vehicles for a more intimate experience; off road driving is allowed in these private conservancies. We will do this with caution and when necessary to track a predator from a distance. We are also able to venture out on night game drives!!

**MEAL PLAN: FULLBOARD**

## **DAY 8**

### **MARA PRIVATE CONSERVANCY**

We will have one last morning game drive before we board our chartered flight back to Nairobi. Once in Nairobi, we will stop in at the famous Carnivore Restaurant for lunch before taken to our day rooms. We will have a chance to relax and clean up for flights back home later in the evening.

## **END OF SERVICE**

### **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.