

10 DAYS 9 NIGHTS (AFKTB)

BUCKET LIST SAFARI – KENYA & TANZANIA WILDLIFE HIGHLIGHTS



Itinerary At a Glance

<u>Date</u>	<u>Itinerary</u>
Day 1	Nairobi
Day 2	Lake Nakuru National Park
Day 3/4	Masai Mara Game Reserve
Day 5/6	Serengeti National Park
Day 7/8	Ngorongoro Conservation Area
Day 9	Lake Manyara National Park
Day 10	Departure Home

Destination Highlight

✓ Lake Nakuru National Park

- World-famous for its seasonal flocks of flamingoes and over 400 recorded bird species.
- Sanctuary for both black and white rhinos.
- Known for sightings of large pythons in acacia woodlands.
- Dramatic natural scenery including waterfalls, escarpments, and forests.

✓ Masai Mara National Reserve

- Northern stage of the Great Migration, famous for the dramatic Mara River crossings (July–October).
- Microcosm of African wildlife, with opportunities to see the Big Five and vast herds of grazers.
- Unique cultural landscape where the Maasai people coexist with nature.
- Renowned for spectacular sunrises and sunsets over the savannah.

✓ Serengeti National Park

- UNESCO World Heritage Site, one of Africa's most iconic and largest national parks.
- Stage of the Great Migration, with millions of wildebeest, zebras, and antelopes crossing the plains.
- High predator density, making it one of the best places to spot lions, leopards, and cheetahs.
- Birdwatcher's haven with nearly 500 species including flamingoes, ostriches, and fish eagles.
- Endless golden plains, the quintessential image of the African wilderness.

✓ Ngorongoro Crater

- UNESCO World Heritage Site and the world's largest intact volcanic caldera, often called "Africa's Garden of Eden."
- One of the best places to see endangered black rhinos.
- Exceptional wildlife density, with lions, elephants, hippos, and zebras concentrated in a single area.
- Unparalleled scenery from the crater rim, offering views that feel like stepping into a prehistoric world.

✓ Lake Manyara National Park

- Famous for its rare tree-climbing lions.
- Bird sanctuary with over 350 recorded species, including flamingoes, pelicans, and kingfishers.
- Known for large elephant herds and diverse ecosystems.
- Scenic location at the base of the Great Rift Valley escarpment, with varied landscapes of lakes, forests, and plains.



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ITINERARY

Day 1

Arrival Nairobi

No Meal

Nairobi Serena Hotel

- Jambo! Upon arrival at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, you'll be greeted by local representative and transferred to your hotel.
- Take time to unwind and recover from your flight in a serene five-star oasis on the edge of Nairobi's Central Park.
- Enjoy refined hospitality, lush gardens, and a calm pre-safari evening.

Day 2

Nairobi – Lake Nakuru National Park

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Sarova Lion Hill Game Lodge

Today's Highlights

- Scenic drive across the Great Rift Valley
- Close encounters with rhinos and endangered Rothschild's giraffes
- Birdwatching paradise with flamingos and hundreds of other species

After breakfast, depart Nairobi and drive across the Great Rift Valley to Lake Nakuru National Park. Arrive mid-morning for your first game drive before lunch at the Sarova Lion Hill Game Lodge. In the afternoon, set out again to explore the park, home to black and white rhinos, Rothschild's giraffes, lions, leopards, hippos, and countless bird species.

🚗 Nairobi → Lake Nakuru National Park | Approx 150km | Estimate 3hr drive



- **Lake Nakuru National Park:** Famous worldwide for its spectacular birdlife, with over 400 species recorded.
- **Rhino Sanctuary:** One of the best places in East Africa to spot both black and white rhinos.

Day 3

Lake Nakuru National Park – Masai Mara National Reserve

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Mara Serena Safari Lodge

Today's Highlights

- Scenic journey from Lake Nakuru to Masai Mara
- First encounters with the legendary Mara wildlife
- Sunset atmosphere on the savannah, followed by a cozy evening at the lodge

After an early breakfast, drive toward the legendary Masai Mara, enjoying game viewing en route. Arrive at your lodge in time for lunch, and take the afternoon to relax on your private verandah overlooking the plains. In the late afternoon, head out for your first game drive in the Mara, exploring its grasslands, acacia forests, and vibrant wildlife. Return to your lodge for dinner, and end the evening around the fire pit before overnighting in the heart of the Mara.

🚗 Lake Nakuru National Park → Masai Mara National Reserve | Approx 210km | Estimate 4hr drive



- **Masai Mara National Reserve:** One of Africa's most iconic reserves, renowned for its abundant wildlife and sweeping savannah landscapes.
- **Cultural Heritage:** A land where the Maasai people coexist in harmony with nature.



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Today's Highlights

- Sunrise safari with opportunities to see predators on the hunt
- Full-day game drive through the Mara's breathtaking landscapes
- Immersive wildlife encounters in one of Africa's richest ecosystems

Wake before dawn for the unforgettable experience of a Masai Mara sunrise. With a quick cup of coffee, set out to witness the savannah come alive as predators take advantage of the cool morning to hunt. Return to the lodge for a late breakfast before heading out again with a picnic lunch for a full-day safari. The Mara's endless plains and abundant wildlife make every turn a new adventure. In the evening, return to your lodge, enjoy dinner, and fall asleep to the sounds of lions roaring and hyenas calling in the distance.



- **The Mara Triangle:** A pristine section of the reserve known for breathtaking vistas and excellent year-round game viewing.
- **The Great Migration:** Part of the stage where millions of wildebeest and zebras thunder across the plains (seasonal).
- **Predator Encounters:** One of the best places to spot big cats—lions, leopards, and cheetahs—especially during early mornings.

Today's Highlights

- Cross-border journey from Kenya to Tanzania
- Scenic drive and wildlife encounters en route to Serengeti
- Evening arrival and first taste of the vast Serengeti wilderness

After an early breakfast, transfer to the border town of Isebania for customs and immigration formalities before crossing into Tanzania. Enjoy a picnic lunch and continue into Serengeti National Park, game viewing en route. Arrive at Serengeti Serena Safari Lodge in time for dinner. Along the way, take in the Serengeti's magnificent landscape of plains dotted with rivers, lakes, and swamps where animals roam in complete freedom.

 Masai Mara National Reserve → Serengeti National Park | Approx 211km | Estimate 3.5hr - 4hr drive

- **Serengeti National Park (UNESCO World Heritage Site):** One of the world's most famous safari destinations, larger than the state of Connecticut, and home to over four million animals.
- **The Great Migration:** Stage to the southern part of the migration, with wildebeest herds arriving from the Mara between December and May.
- **Wildlife Haven:** High densities of antelope, wildebeest, buffalo, zebra, giraffe, and nearly 500 bird species.



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Today's Highlights

- Full-day safari under the African sunrise
- Guided exploration of Serengeti's timeless landscapes
- Peaceful evening surrounded by the sights and sounds of nature

Begin the day with breakfast at sunrise before setting out for a full-day safari across the Serengeti. Your driver's expertise reveals hidden gems and remarkable encounters, from vast plains alive with wildlife to serene riversides where animals gather. Pause midday for a picnic lunch at a scenic spot before continuing your adventure. Return to the lodge at dusk, pleasantly tired from the day's discoveries. After a refreshing shower, enjoy dinner in the lodge's main restaurant or sip an after-dinner drink on your verandah, watching animals graze nearby as night falls.

- **Serengeti Ecosystem:** A landscape unchanged for thousands of years, where life follows ancient rhythms of nature.
- **Wildlife Diversity:** An unrivaled safari environment offering frequent sightings of predators, grazers, and birdlife.

**Today's Highlights**

- Journey from Serengeti to the Ngorongoro highlands
- Scenic lunch with panoramic views over the crater
- Stay at Ngorongoro Serena Safari Lodge, a masterpiece of natural design

After breakfast, depart the Serengeti and drive toward the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Arrive at Ngorongoro Serena Safari Lodge in time for a scenic lunch overlooking the crater. Built into the crater's rim and draped with river stone and vines, the lodge blends harmoniously with its surroundings. In the evening, enjoy dinner by torchlight and soak in the lodge's unique atmosphere, with stylized cave paintings and a glowing hearth at its.

🚗 Serengeti National Park → Ngorongoro Conservation Area | Approx. 80km | Estimate 2hr drive

- **Serengeti Ecosystem:** A landscape unchanged for thousands of years, where life follows ancient rhythms of nature.
- **Wildlife Diversity:** An unrivaled safari environment offering frequent sightings of predators, grazers, and birdlife.



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Today's Highlights

- Game viewing in one of the world's greatest natural wonders
- Opportunities to see the Big Five in a single day
- Picnic lunch on the crater floor surrounded by wildlife

After breakfast, descend nearly 2,000 feet into the crater for a half-day exploration. Experience the extraordinary diversity of wildlife, from wildebeests, zebras, and gazelles to mountain reedbucks along the slopes. Bird enthusiasts will marvel at flamingoes, pelicans, and other species gathered around the soda lake. Pause for a picnic lunch inside the crater before ascending back to the lodge for dinner and relaxation.



- **Ngorongoro Crater:** A microcosm of East Africa's ecosystems, home to thousands of animals within its floor.
- **Big Five Sightings:** A top location to view lions, elephants, buffalos, leopards, and rhinos in one setting.
- **Unique Habitats:** From dense forests on the crater rim to soda lakes alive with flamingoes.

Today's Highlights

- Afternoon safari in Lake Manyara National Park
- Chance to spot rare tree-climbing lions
- Stay at Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge with stunning park views

After breakfast, drive to Lake Manyara National Park. Enjoy a picnic lunch upon arrival before setting out on an afternoon game drive. Keep an eye out for the park's famous tree-climbing lions, large herds of elephants, and troops of baboons in the forest. Later, continue to Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge, which mirrors the birdlife of the park with its colorful frescoes and avian-inspired architecture. Dinner and overnight at the lodge.

 Ngorongoro → Lake Manyara National Park | Approx. 41km | Estimate 1hr drive



- **Lake Manyara National Park:** Known for its tree-climbing lions and dramatic Great Rift Valley backdrop.
- **Birdwatcher's Paradise:** Over 350 species, including flamingoes, pelicans, ibises, and kingfishers.
- **Diverse Landscapes:** From woodlands and swamps to hot springs and open plains.

- Begin the morning with a final game drive in Lake Manyara National Park before returning to the lodge for breakfast.
- Check out and transfer to Kilimanjaro International Airport via Arusha.

 Lake Manyara → Arusha Airport | Approx. 109km | Estimate 2hr drive



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