

Tanzania Explored... under Canvas
8 Days - 7 Nights Mobile safari
Arusha, Tarangire, Manyara, Ngorongoro, Serengeti
Wildlife, Photography, Discovery, Adventure

This program may be operated for individual or for small groups
This is a suggested itinerary – Please call us to customize

Imagine finding yourself under the vast African sky in the middle of one of the last expanses of true wilderness left on our planet, possibly listening to the haunting and mysterious sounds of night predators and their prey as the drama of their interactions unfold. Is this your kind of safari? Explorer Mobile safaris are a relaxed alternative to a lodge safari – for those who prefer to sleep under canvas and get away from the crowds.

On our Explorer Mobile Safari we offer a style of travel which is extremely comfortable, whilst still mobile camping, allowing our guests to get off the beaten track and away from the main safari thoroughfares. On this style of safari we book private wilderness campsites to keep you away from the crowds and as close as possible to the wildlife action.

Inside your spacious vehicle you will find a selection of reference books on Tanzania's parks, history, its flora and fauna, and a cool box or fridge for drinks. In our specially customized extended Land Cruisers the windows are enlarged and the roof height extended to allow ease of photography and game viewing, with plenty of room to stretch your legs. Our standard Land Cruisers are also very comfortably customized for safari and have game viewing hatches that allow 360-degree views. We have bean bags for photographers' use i.e. to rest long lenses on.

Your guide and their assistants are experienced professionals who will prioritize your comfort and safety as well as ensuring optimal game-viewing opportunities throughout your safari.

Meals usually consist of a cooked breakfast, light lunch and a three-course dinner. We supply drinking water throughout the safari.

During the safari you may wish to take advantage of the support vehicle for carrying your larger items of luggage and take only a daypack in the safari vehicle, allowing extra space and comfort inside the vehicle.

Day 1: Kilimanjaro, Arusha

Upon arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport you will be greeted by our representative and transferred to your hotel in Arusha. The rest of the day is free to rest from the long trip and recuperate a little of your jet leg. Accommodation at the hotel.

Day 2: Arusha, Tarangire National Park

Your guide will meet you at your hotel and conduct a pre-departure briefing at 8:00 am for a 9:00 am departure. He can assist you should you wish to exchange money or purchase beverages or snacks. The rest of the safari crew will have gone ahead to set up your camp. The drive to Tarangire is just over two hours and so we will either be able to enjoy lunch at the campsite or a picnic lunch en route so that you will be able to spend the rest of the day game-viewing. The Tarangire ecosystem is the third largest in Tanzania (4,942,100 acres), of which the park occupies a mere 13%. During the dry season, the park has the second largest concentration of wildlife in Tanzania. The unique acacia and baobab vegetation provide a home for over 550 bird species, as well as lion, leopard, buffalo and large herds of elephant; also, species such as gerenuk, oryx and eland, rarely seen in the other parks in the north. Overnight at a private campsite in Tarangire National Park, or in a private concession nearby. [B/L/D]

Day 3: Tarangire National Park

Today you will spend time further exploring Tarangire. Overnight at Explorer Mobile tented camp, private site, all meals included. Overnight at a private campsite in Tarangire National Park, or in a private concession nearby. [B/L/D]

Day 4: Tarangire Nat'l Park, Lake Manyara Nat'l Park, Ngorongoro Crater

Today we leave early and drive to Lake Manyara National Park and enjoy the day game viewing in this beautiful little park. Lake Manyara is a shallow, alkaline lake. The north-western area of this lake is protected in a 81,545-acre national park, which contains a remarkable diversity of habitats: the grassy floodplain of the lakeshore, the rocky base of the escarpment, a belt of thick acacia woodland and a lush patch of groundwater forest just inside the northern entrance gate. A variety of large mammal species including elephant, buffalo, wildebeest, giraffe and lion may be observed. Perhaps, however, the most immediately visible residents are the troupes of olive baboon, sometimes found in the company of the smaller and rather beautiful blue monkey. This is also a wonderful location for viewing groups of elephants and for keen birders. Manyara has recorded almost 400 species due to the wide habitat diversity. Late afternoon, we depart and head up to the Ngorongoro highlands via the rich soils and farming area of Karatu. We enter Ngorongoro Conservation area and continue climbing up to the crater rim - pausing to admire the splendid view of the crater floor 1,968 ft. below at Heroes Point. At 2,050,975 acres, Ngorongoro Conservation Area is named after its central feature, the Ngorongoro Crater, which is the world's largest intact volcanic caldera and within which has evolved an extraordinary natural sanctuary for some of Africa's densest populations of large mammals. The crater rim can be very cold at night and cloaked in mist in the early mornings. It can also be quite bleak and windy (July and August). You will need a heavy jumper, several layers or a warm jacket here. [B/L/D]

Day 5: Ngorongoro Crater, Serengeti National Park

This morning we head down into the caldera below and enjoy game viewing in one of the most spectacular places on earth! Photographic opportunities are abundant, and one often sees four out of the Big Five in a short time! We will have a picnic lunch at the floor of the crater at a pleasant lakeside location where we can stretch our legs and soak up the magnificent scenery. The crater floor itself is 64,247 acres and from the viewing points at the rim the vast herds of wildebeest, buffalo and zebra look like mere ant formations winding their way across the grasslands below! The crater is also home to a great diversity of environments and you may encounter all of the large herbivores mentioned above, as well as lions, hyenas, jackals, male elephant (females and family groups tend to stay up on the higher slopes) and, in the forest around the rim, occasional leopard and bushbuck. There is an active black rhino breeding project inside the crater and you may be lucky enough to spot some of these magnificent, shy beasts during your tour, but sightings are limited as breeding areas are strictly protected and usually closed to public access. We will head to the Serengeti after a picnic lunch, and enjoy game viewing en route, there is time for an optional visit to Olduvai Gorge, or a Masai Village – these can be organized once there. Olduvai Gorge offers a short talk on the archaeological importance of Olduvai and the work of Mary and Louis Leakey in excavating the area and discovering some of Africa's most important hominid fossils. A Masai village boma - where you can spend some time learning about the culture, traditions and beliefs of this ancient, noble warrior tribe. [B/L/D]

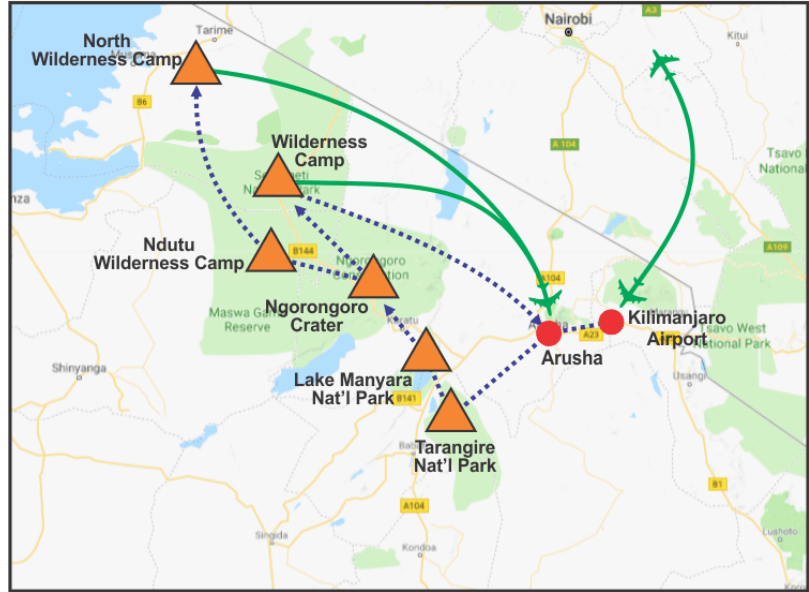
Days 6 & 7: Serengeti National Park

Morning and afternoon game drives in Serengeti National Park. The Serengeti is unequalled for its beauty and contains more than three million large mammals spread over the vast endless plains. It is here, at certain times of the year, that we may encounter the breathtaking spectacle of the annual wildebeest migration, where one and a quarter million wildebeest trek in columns of up to 25 miles long in search of grazing, drawing with them their predators and numerous other species of game. Animal migration is linked to the annual rainfall patterns and its effect on their feeding habits, and the name Serengeti is derived from the Maasai word Serengeti, meaning 'endless plain'. Huge herds of wildebeest and zebra can be found here along with smaller concentrations of gazelles and buck. There are also significant numbers of buffalo, giraffe and warthog. Elephants are relatively scarce on the open plains, more common in the northern areas and the western corridor. The few remaining black rhinos are restricted to an inaccessible part of the park. But the most popular animals to be found here in greater abundance than elsewhere on the northern circuit are the cats. Lions, cheetahs and leopard may all be seen here along with other predators, such as the spotted hyena, golden and black-backed jackals, wild cats and servals. Overnight Serengeti National Park. Overnight Serengeti National Park. [B/L/D]

Signature option: Balloon safari.

Day 8: Serengeti, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, USA

We strongly recommend that you consider the option of flying back from the Serengeti to Arusha or Kilimanjaro today. It is an exceptionally scenic flight over the highlands of Ngorongoro, across the vast expanse of the Rift Valley escarpments, and through the green coffee plantations surrounding Arusha airport. On a clear day you will see amazing views of Mount Meru’s dark profile rising up above the town, cloaked in wisps of cloud, and sometimes Kilimanjaro in the distance. The flight is an additional cost. If flying back, breakfast only will be included. Alternatively, you may prefer to drive back to Arusha (not recommended as it’s a long way in one day) – arriving very late afternoon (picnic lunch included). There may be a little time to shop for curios along the way or just outside the town center. [B/L]



Signature option: Arusha overnight extension

[B/L] = Breakfast and Lunch | [B/L/D] = Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Your Tour includes:

- 7-day ‘Explorer mobile’ safari by road
- All meals on safari
- Game viewing activities as indicated
 - Tangire National Park
 - Lake Manyara National Park
 - Ngorongoro National Park
 - Ngorongoro caldera tour
 - Serengeti National Park
 - Masai village boma
- All camping equipment
- Bedding (duvet/linens), pillows and towels
- Bottled water for game drives / in vehicle throughout
- 4x4 vehicle with open game viewing hatches, with
- Full back up guide and full support crew and cook in separate vehicle
- Optional one-way flight from Serengeti to Arusha/Kilimanjaro

Tour does not include:

- International or domestic airfares
- Any taxes related to airfares or airports
- Park fees and entries (listed separately with Tour Prices)
- Optional tours or activities listed in the itinerary
- Visas
- Travel Insurance
- Meals and drinks not mentioned under inclusions
- Tips to guides or drivers
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Any item not mentioned as “Included”
- Optional excursion to Olduvai Gorge & Masai Village visit
- Balloon safari – must be pre-booked to avoid disappointment

Hotels in your Tour:

Location	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
Arusha	African Tulip	4.5
Tarangire national Park	Explorer Mobile	n/a
Ngorongoro Crater	Bouganvillea Lodge	n/a
Serengeti National Park	Explorer Mobile	n/a

Our support vehicle and camp crew travel ahead of the group and set up the camp. We provide 11.5 x 21 ft. (340 sq. ft.) dome tents (including the en-suite section), which are extremely spacious with

comfortable camp beds, foam mattresses and warm bedding (duvet & linens) and pillow. The shower and eco-friendly toilet are en-suite, so you don't have to leave the safety of your tent at night. Sumptuous meals are prepared by our friendly safari chef, and are either served in the mess tent, or if you prefer, "under the stars". Outside your tent and at the meal table you will have the use of large, comfortable, foldaway chairs and we provide washstands and towel for each client.

Tour Price:

These programs can be customized for individuals and groups.

Changes to this program may be requested by phone (1855-55-TOURS) or using the web FIT Quote Request

• **Airfare**

We also be glad to add the necessary airfare from your gateway so you take advantage of our special discounted leisure fares

• **Program**

You may add or remove;

- Trip days
- Cities and sites
- Meals

• **Other options**

- The program was designed with private services however, we may substitute shared sightseeing where available
- If you prefer deluxe services we may operate this program including private driver, private guide and concierge service.

• **Quotation**

Once we have designed the program the way you want we'll give you a quote within 2 business days.

Tour Code: TZ05ARK20LT

Signature Option: Serengeti additional nights

If you would like to stay in one of intimate Serengeti Wilderness camps instead – this is easily organized. Please note that this itinerary is totally flexible and merely an idea of our suggested favorite places, for optimum game viewing.

Our camps – Serengeti Wilderness Camp (permanent camp), Serengeti North Wilderness Camp and/or Ndotu Wilderness Camp (seasonal camps) are located inside the national park and conservation areas respectively. These camps are designed in the safari style of olde – simple, but comfortable with every need being taken care of. Each camp comprises of maximum 12 tents, each comfortably furnished with great attention to detail and include quality linens, solar lighting, eco-friendly flush toilet and shower en suite. Depending on the time of year and the anticipated movement of game you may stay at either one of our camps during your time in the Serengeti. Serengeti Wilderness Camp is located centrally and is a great place to base up just about all year round. There is exceptional resident game in the area, including the big cats, herds of elephant, resident wildebeest and zebra, buffalo and plenty of antelope. At certain times of the year the migration is a stone's throw from the camp.

The seasonal camp moves from Ndotu (in the south) during the calving season, to the North for the migration' river crossings. Whichever camp you stay at, our guides will take you to the best game viewing possible, sometimes that may entail a long day in the vehicle, others the game may be close by!

Signature option: Balloon safari

If you would like to go on an early morning balloon safari over the Serengeti, this MAY be possible but is largely dependent on the position of your pre-booked campsites and the season that you travel.

Please note that balloon safaris can only be organized by pre-arrangement and there is an additional cost for this, detailed below. It can only be booked for Day 6 or 7 of your safari.

Signature option: Arusha overnight extension

If you are not flying out tonight, but overnighing in Arusha, we highly recommend heading out to Mosque Street. Here, you will find probably the best chicken in Africa (we will phone in your order the day before - to be sure...) Relax, eat, meet the locals ... real people. In every town there are a few gems - delightful places off the beaten track that give you a sense of the soul of the town. Khan's is undoubtedly one of the key attractions in Arusha, and while it's definitely been discovered, it's still the real deal. You may have heard of Khan's as "Chicken in the Ditch", "Chicken on the Bonnet", "Kuku on the Curb", "That place by Soko Kuu with the fantastic chicken" or "Zubeda Autospares by Day, Khan's Chicken BBQ by Night". Tasty salads, Zanzibar pizzas, garlic naan, barbecued chicken, beef mishkaki and mutton shish kabob are all winners. Even the passion juice is top notch. But Khan's serves up more than an evening out - it's one place that will always remain a highlight of your trip to Arusha. Another great spot is the " Lively Lady Bar and Grill ", down by the old train station, where the ambience is great (best pork chops ever), drinks icy, and, 1960's ROCK AND ROLL is played ... loudly! However, you choose to end off your Essence trip with us, your journey through Tanzania promises to leave you with many fond memories.

Other Options:

- Lunches and dinners can be arranged for individuals, families and groups at top restaurants or any restaurant requested by you.
- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.

Group Quotations

- If you wish to use these programs for your group or as the basis for a customized journey please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web Group Quote Request.
- In either case our specialists will work with to refine all the details and they will get you a quote with 2 business days. Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the land journey.
- Booking both air and land with us will represent savings for you because of our buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.
- We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.

Style of Safari

On this style of trip our clients are not expected to participate in any of the camp preparations or chores. Our camp crew will take care of all aspects of camp life behind the scenes, allowing our guests to have a real holiday in some of the most beautiful game areas in Africa.

Whilst we have no restrictions of group size, we do guarantee window seats – so maximum 6, or 7, guests per vehicle. Our 'stretch' vehicles are very spacious with game viewing open hatches and large windows for photography, Our safari chef prepares all meals and vegetarians can be easily catered for but please do advise us well in advance so that we can shop accordingly.

- Charging facilities - There are charging facilities in our safari vehicles for camera batteries, mobile phones etc. Two-pin plugs as well as the round three-square pin plug points.
- Health Requirements - Yellow Fever inoculations are necessary. This must be done no later than 10 days prior to departure. Anti-malaria tablets are also necessary. Please enquire for details of travel clinics operating in your area.
- Visas – Are required for Americans to enter Tanzania. An electronic visa application is available
- Travel insurance – We strongly recommend that you take out Travel Insurance for the duration of your holiday.

Weather and Eco-system in Tanzania:

Weather:

Months	Rain	Day	Night
Dry season			
June-October	Sporadic	77°	57°
Rainy Season			
November-December	Short	80°	59°
January-February	Intermittent	81°	59°
March-May	Long	79°	51°

Tanzania is a land without winter. However, if you are travelling to high altitude areas like Ngorongoro Crater and Kilimanjaro, the temperature drops substantially. The average temperature mentioned above are for exemplification only and may vary during your stay.

Eco-system:

The Migration explained: The following should be used as a guideline when planning your safari to East Africa – movement of wildlife depends on a great many aspects. The following migration calendar helps to explain the seasonality of game viewing. Remember there is resident game throughout the year in the Serengeti/Ngorongoro eco-systems.

January-March

The large herds of wildebeest are generally in the southern plains of the Serengeti eco-system, calving takes place over approximately two weeks. An abundance of predators, good visibility of game, mix of open plains and some woodland.

April-May

The herds start moving toward central Serengeti. This is typically the rainy season, however, game viewing is still excellent and there are some great discounts available at lodges and camps. It generally doesn't rain all day. Conditions for photography are generally superb with moody skies and good depth of color.

June-August

The wildebeest move from the central area and split to the west and north, continuing their trek toward the Mara River. River crossings may be seen in both the western corridor (Grumeti area) and north (Mara River) within the Serengeti.

September-October

Whilst some of the wildebeest successfully reach the Masai Mara, there are still hundreds of thousands remaining in the northern region of Serengeti, offering those with guests with loads of patience the chance to see exciting river crossings (the Mara River runs through the Serengeti).

November-December

The massive herds start to return from the north, to the southern plains, before the cycle repeats again!

