



AFRICAN UBUNTU SAFARIS

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Confirmed Safari Itinerary

Travellers:	Tenille and Ryan
Tour name:	Best of Kenya and Tanzania (Option A)
Travel dates:	23 June 2012 – 08 July 2012
Group size:	Max 7

Itinerary Outline

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Accommodation</u>	<u>Meals</u>	<u>Location</u>
01	23 June 2012	Safari Park Hotel	BB	Nairobi
02	24 June 2012	Safari Park Hotel	BB	Nairobi
03	25 June 2012	Mara Simba Lodge	FB	Masai Mara Game Reserve
04	26 June 2012	Mara Simba Lodge	FB	Masai Mara Game Reserve
05	27 June 2012	Lake Nakuru Lodge	FB	Lake Nakuru National Park
06	28 June 2012	Ol Tukai Lodge	FB	Amboseli National Park
07	29 June 2012	Ol Tukai Lodge	FB	Amboseli National Park
08	30 June 2012	Lake Manyara Serena Lodge	FB	Lake Manyara
09	01 July 2012	Serengeti Serena Lodge	FB	Serengeti National Park
10	02 July 2012	Serengeti Serena Lodge	FB	Serengeti National Park
11	03 July 2012	Ngorongoro Serena Lodge	FB	Ngorongoro Crater
12	04 July 2012	Ngorongoro Serena Lodge	FB	Ngorongoro Crater
13	05 July 2012	Tarangire Sopa Lodge	FB	Tarangire National Park
14	06 July 2012	Sarova Stanley Hotel	BB	Nairobi
15	07 July 2012	Sarova Stanley Hotel	BB	Nairobi
16	08 July 2012	Departure day		

(BB) = Bed and breakfast

(FB) = Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Cost includes:

- Meet and greet services
- All airport transfers
- Services of an English speaking driver-guide
- Guaranteed window seat in a shared safari mini-bus in Kenya
- Guaranteed window seat in a shared 4 x 4 vehicle in Tanzania
- All game drives and a Crater tour
- Hot-air balloon safari in Masai Mara
- All accommodation and meals as specified
- All park fees and government taxes

Cost Excludes:

- International flights
- Visas
- Driver guide or local escort gratuities
- Drinks and dining rooms tips, portorage, personal travel and baggage insurance
- Telephone bill, laundry and any items of a personal nature
- Medical, evacuation and travel insurance



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Detailed Itinerary

Day 01: 23 June 2012

Arrival into Nairobi

On arrival in Nairobi today at **23h30** off flight **WB317** you will be met after passing through immigration and transferred to the Safari Park Hotel where you will spend **2 nights** on a bed and breakfast basis.

Jambo! Karibu to Kenya! (Hello! Welcome to Kenya!)

	<p><u>Safari Park Hotel</u></p> <p>The hotel offers a wide selection of rooms with en suite marble bathrooms, wooden polished floors, and antique African themed four-poster beds and furniture.</p> <p>The 204 guest rooms, 168 deluxe rooms, 21 Junior suites, 8 Business suites, 6 Executive suites and 1 Presidential suite are spread out in 9 storey blocks of 2 floors each and have rear and front private balconies overlooking the beautifully manicured gardens. The rooms have large windows and enjoy natural light.</p>
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Day 02: 24 June 2012

Nairobi

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You will have the full day in Nairobi today. Day trips can be arranged, or you can spend the day at leisure at your hotel.

Day 03: 25 June 2012


Nairobi – Masai Mara Game Reserve

B/L/D

This morning you will join your small group and meet your driver-guide, before departing Nairobi for the Masai Mara Game Reserve.

You will arrive at your lodge for lunch before spending the afternoon on a game drive.

You will spend the next **2 nights** at the **Mara Simba Lodge** on a **full board basis**.

	<p><u>Mara Simba Lodge</u></p> <p>The Mara Simba lodge overlooks a dramatic bend of the Talek, a tributary of the Mara River. Stretching almost a kilometer along the river, the indigenous river banks and the landscaped gardens of the lodge grounds draw a great variety of birds and butterflies.</p> <p>The 84 guest rooms, decorated in Maasai traditional style, are arranged in clusters of 6 Banda built in natural wood and stone and comprise 60 twin rooms, 12 double, 4 double+single and 8 triple rooms, all with en suite showers.</p>
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Day 04: 26 June 2012

Masai Mara Game Reserve

B/L/D

Early this morning you will be collected from your lodge and driven to the launch point for your hot-air balloon safari over the Mara plains.

After drifting for about an hour you will land and enjoy a champagne breakfast in the wilderness, before being driven back to your lodge to relax the heat of the day.

This afternoon you will join the group again and explore more of the reserve on a game drive.



Masai Mara Game Reserve

It is no surprise that the Masai Mara ranks up near the top of most famous game reserves in the world.

The land of the Mara is consistently covered with herds of antelope, interspersed with prides of lions, journeys of giraffe, dazzles of zebra, and almost every other collective animal noun you can think of.



Day 05: 27 June 2012 Masai Mara – Lake Nakuru National Park B/L/D

Leaving the Masai Mara this morning you will drive to Lake Nakuru National Park, where you will spend the afternoon on a game drive enjoying the brilliant birdlife and excellent rhino sightings.

You will spend **1 night** at the **Lake Nakuru Lodge** on a **full board basis**.



Lake Nakuru Lodge

Located on the slopes of Oloongams Hills, built in an ethnic design in the rich landscape of the Masai Mara, the Mara Sopa Lodge provides accommodation in 100 standard rooms, 12 suites and a special honeymoon suite.

The standard rooms are in 50 traditional round buildings with thatched roofs, each with 2 rooms with parquet floors and wooden paneled ceilings, an ornamental fire place, en-suite bathroom with a shower, and a verandah.

Lake Nakuru National Park

Accessed via a relatively short, but scenic drive from Nairobi, through the Great Rift Valley, Lake Nakuru National Park is a very popular destination, especially amongst birdlovers.

To go with its beautiful scenery, Nakuru is the feeding ground for thousand upon thousand of flamingos which turn the entire landscape pink as they flock to the shallow lake.

Added to this, Lake Nakuru is one of the best locations in East Africa to view rhino's, and is home to both the black and white species.



Day 06: 28 June 2012 Lake Nakuru – Amboseli National Park B/L/D

It is a fairly long drive today as you return past Nairobi and continue to the foot of Mount Kilimanjaro, to Amboseli National Park.

You will spend **2 nights** at the **Ol Tukai Lodge** on a **full board basis**.



Ol Tukai Lodge

Ol Tukai Lodge is located in the Amboseli National Park and provides 80 luxury chalet-style twin rooms all having private bath rooms and individual terraces.

Each chalet ensures an uninterrupted view of the wetlands or Mount Kilimanjaro. Lunch is served on the veranda and on most occasions elephants, zebra and buffalo can be spotted metres away from the fence.



Day 07: 29 June 2012

Amboseli National Park

B/L/D

Today will be spent on morning and afternoon game drives in Amboseli.

Amboseli National Park

The combination of masses of animals, diverse eco-systems, and the splendid views of Mount Kilimanjaro make Amboseli National Park high up on the must-see list of any Kenyan safari. With desert landscapes to lush green swampland, the scenery changes entirely during game drives, with new photo opportunities presenting themselves all the time.



Day 08: 30 June 2012

Arusha – Lake Manyara National Park

B/L/D

Leaving Kenya today you will be driven from Amboseli to the Namanga Border Post where you will pass through immigrations and cross into Tanzania.

Your Tanzanian guide will greet you at the border and you will transfer into your new vehicle for this section of the trip, bidding your Kenyan guide farewell. You will drive through Arusha for lunch, before continuing west towards Lake Manyara.

At the town of Makuyuni you turn North West and continue through a scenic escarpment that brings you to your lodge, perched on the edge of the Rift Valley with stunning views over the distant Lake Manyara.

You will spend **1 night** at **Lake Manyara Serena Lodge** on a **full board basis**.



Lake Manyara Serena Lodge

Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge stands high on the edge of a towering terracotta escarpment with panoramic views over Lake Manyara, and offers a blend of tranquillity, wildlife discovery, and ornithological richness.

Grouped around a central 'vanishing horizon' pool, this Lodge features a simple timbered reception area, built in traditional African style, which is accessed via a bridge over a small stream. Beyond the reception are the central dining room, bar and veranda, below which lies the pool.

Lake Manyara National Park

Being a relatively small park, and with Lake Manyara taking up the majority of the area, Lake Manyara National Park can be covered easily on half-day game drives, but these drives are usually very rewarding despite their brevity.

The scenery and birdlife are Lake Manyara's major attractions, with the lake being perfectly located to offer spectacular views along the Great Rift Valley.



Day 09: 01 July 2012

Lake Manyara – Serengeti National Park

B/L/D

After breakfast there is a game drive in Lake Manyara National Park that returns to the lodge for lunch.

Leaving Lake Manyara behind, the journey continues North West across the stunning hilly countryside of the highlands which is filled with wheat and coffee plantations, and then into the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. From here lie the vast plains of the Serengeti, where you'll hopefully start spotting game well before you get into the park.

You will spend the next **2 nights** at the **Serengeti Serena Lodge** on a **full board basis**.



Serengeti Serena Lodge

Located adjacent to the famous Serengeti National Park Western Corridor and Grumeti River, set high on the saddle of a tree-clad ridge, commanding panoramic views, the lodge has been designed to blend into the landscape.

A series of two storey domed thatched 'rondavels' provide guest accommodation. Each stone built rondavel has its own private balcony, private entrance, spacious bedroom, natural stone bathroom and intricately carved furniture.

Day 10: 02 July 2012

Serengeti National Park

B/L/D

Today will be spent on morning and afternoon game drives across the Serengeti plains.

Serengeti National Park

The word "Siringit" means "endless plains", and this is understandably from where the Serengeti National Park takes its name. The iconic, endless, golden plains of Africa are nowhere more evident than within this national park, as they stretch off into eternity, dotted throughout with thousands of animals.

Located in the north-west corner of Tanzania, alongside Lake Victoria, the Serengeti has earned its place as one of the world's most famous wildlife areas.



Day 11: 03 July 2012

Serengeti – Ngorongoro Crater

B/L/D

After breakfast you depart for Ngorongoro viewing game across the vast Serengeti plains with a picnic lunch en-route.

After lunch you will visit a Maasai village before continuing to your lodge, set high on the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.

You will spend the next **2 nights** at the **Ngorongoro Serena Lodge** on a **full board basis**.

Ngorongoro Serena Lodge

Regularly voted one of the best hotels in the world, the Ngorongoro Serena Lodge clings to the rim of the magnificent Ngorongoro Crater.

The lodge takes inspiration from the so-called 'Cradle of Mankind', the prehistoric site of Olduvai Gorge, which lies close by. Long and low, the lodge is built from local river stone and camouflaged with indigenous vines.



Day 12: 04 July 2012

Ngorongoro Crater

B/L/D

A highlight awaits you this morning as you depart to explore what is commonly referred to as the World's largest wildlife zoo. After breakfast, you descend with a picnic lunch through the early morning mists and 2,000 feet into the crater. Ngorongoro Crater is the World's largest intact volcanic caldera.

Due to its size and diversity, the crater floor is comprised of several distinct areas, ranging from forest, swamps, lakes and springs, to open grassland and some sandy dunes. It's an awesome wildlife experience. Lunch is served near a small lake filled with hippos. You then continue game viewing before returning to the crater's rim and your lodge.



Ngorongoro Crater

A unique and fascinating game viewing destinations in Africa, the Ngorongoro Crater is a must-see on any Tanzania safari.

Being the world's largest intact caldera, and the result of a collapsed volcano thousands of years ago, the 260 square kilometres of crater floor hosts up to 25 000 animals at all times of year. This makes it one of the most dense wildlife areas in Africa, and allows for many memorable sightings.



Day 13: 05 July 2012 Ngorongoro – Tarangire National Park B/L/D

Departing Ngorongoro Crater after breakfast you will head south-east en route to Lake Manyara, Mto wa Mbu village and Tarangire beyond. Through the highlands and the Karatu district, you'll view the scenic wheat plains and coffee plantations here before journeying down the spectacular escarpment where you turn south on to the main Arusha – Dodoma road and into the park. From here to the lodge, you'll enjoy a game drive en-route.

After lunch and perhaps a swim, the remainder of the afternoon will be spent on a game drive.

You will spend **1 night at Tarangire Sopa Lodge** on a **full board basis**.



Tarangire Sopa Lodge

Tarangire Sopa Lodge provides 75 spacious rooms furnished with a mini bar and 2 queen size beds including mosquito nets. 4 of these rooms are suitable for the physically challenged.

The Lodge lies hidden among the kopjes and surrounded by ancient baobab trees. Tarangire is the home of one of the greatest concentration of elephants in Africa, and showcases other game including the elusive leopard. Over 400 bird species can be spotted here as well.

Tarangire National Park

In the past, Tarangire National Park was often overlooked by visitors to Tanzania, however it is now holding its own as one of the best dry season parks in the region.

During the dry months of July through to October, an enormous amount of wildlife is drawn inside Tarangire to access the water from the Tarangire River and the Silale Swamps, allowing for very rewarding game viewing experiences.

The park is home to some of the largest elephant herds of East Africa, and the scenery is particularly popular for the wide open, Serengeti-like plains, decorated with enormous and commanding Baobab trees.



Day 14: 06 July 2012 Tarangire – Nairobi B/L/D

This morning you will leave Tarangire behind and drive back through Arusha and onwards to Kenya, again passing through the Namanga Border Post.

You will arrive in Nairobi this evening, where you will be taken for dinner before being dropped off at the **Sarova Stanley Hotel** to spend the next **2 nights** on a **bed and breakfast basis**.

