

Kenya Up Close

8 days | Starts/Ends: Nairobi



Combining Kenya's rugged north, the beautiful Rift Valley, Samburu National Park, Lake Nakuru and the legendary Masai Mara, go in search of where the wild things are on a comfortable safari that packs in culture and excitement in one fell swoop.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Nairobi - The Karen Blixen Museum
- Samburu National Park - renowned for its rare species of animals
- Nairobi Giraffe Centre
- Masai Mara Game Reserve - considered to be Africa's greatest game reserve
- Lake Nakuru National Park and its spectacular wildlife.
- The Great Rift Valley
- The famous Carnivore Restaurant in Nairobi, where you can enjoy a meat feast!

What's Included

- Arrival and departure transfer from Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport on day 1 and day 8
- 7 nights accommodation (standard, superior or deluxe)
- 7 breakfasts, 8 lunches and 6 dinners

- Transportation in a safari minivan
- Deluxe package includes a domestic flight from the Masai Mara to Nairobi. Travel by road on the standard and superior package with option to upgrade to a flight
- Services of an experienced local guide/driver
- Game drives in Nakuru National Park
- Game drives in Masai Mara Game Reserve
- Government taxes and levies
- Park entrance fees
- Game drives in Samburu National Park

What's Not Included

- International flights and visas
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture
- Drinks and items of a personal nature

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Nairobi

Welcome to Kenya! Morning arrival into Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport where you will be met and transferred to your hotel. After check in you will be taken on an excursion to visit the Karen Blixen museum and the Giraffe Centre. After which you will enjoy lunch at Karen Blixen Coffee Garden. Karen Blixen was famous for writing several books but arguably her most well known

piece of work is 'Out of Africa', her memoirs of living in Africa.

Overnight - Nairobi (L)

Day 2 : Samburu Reserve

Nairobi - Samburu National Park. After breakfast drive north to Samburu National Reserve. As you enter the reserve, two beautiful mountains, Koitogor and Ololokwe present themselves forming the perfect background to your safari. Large herds of elephants, plentiful big cats, reticulated giraffes, buffalo and gerenuks also form part of the reserve's large and diverse wildlife population. Ewaso Nyiro River is the main attraction for wildlife, but many animals are also found in the various habitats such as acacia, river forest, thorn trees and grasslands. You will arrive at your lodge for lunch, and in the afternoon, go on your first safari drive in Samburu. **Overnight - Samburu National Park (B, L, D)**

Day 3 : Samburu Reserve



Kenya Up Close - 8 days

www.onthegotours.com
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038
 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

Kenya Up Close

Sleep in or rise early, but we recommend getting out into bush first thing to experience prime wildlife activity. As you continue with your game drive through this scenically and wildlife dramatic reserve, watch out for the unique Grevy's zebra or Beisa Oryx, both species only found north of the equator. Find relief from the hot African sun back at the lodge as you chill-out in the afternoon. As the day cools, you shall return to the reserve for one last game drive.

Overnight - Samburu National Park (B, L, D)

Days 4-5 : Lake Nakuru



Samburu National Park - Lake Nakuru/Elementaita. This morning after breakfast you depart for Lake Nakuru National Park with a stop for lunch and to admire the views at Thompson's Falls. Arriving at Lake Nakuru National Park late afternoon, enjoy a game drive before checking into your accommodation. The following day enjoy morning and afternoon game drives in the park. The park was established as a sanctuary for black and white rhino, which are often seen.

Please note: Deluxe accommodation is at Lake Elementaita and a game drive in Lake Nakuru National Park is included on the morning of day 5. **Overnight - Lake Nakuru/ Lake Elementaita** (B:2, L:2, D:2)

Day 6 : Masai Mara

Lake Nakuru/Elementaita - Masai Mara. This morning, after breakfast you will set off for what is possibly Africa's and the world's most famous game park, the Masai Mara. Arrive in time for lunch at your lodge after which you will take an afternoon game drive. Then return to your lodge in the late afternoon, in time to enjoy a relaxing sun downer.

Overnight - Masai Mara National Park (B, L, D)

Day 7 : Masai Mara



Rise early if you'd like to enjoy the option of a balloon safari across the Masai Mara. Take off in the crisp morning air, only to experience a game-viewing adventure with an entirely different perspective. As you silently float across the plains, forest and rivers for approximately an hour, your journey comes to end back on land but accompanied with a fully cooked champagne breakfast.

Today enjoy more game viewing in the morning and late afternoon. The Masai Mara is most famous for its large population of big cats. All members of the big five are also present in the Masai Mara and other species from hippos, zebra, antelope, gazelle, giraffe, impala, hyena and more. **Overnight - Masai Mara National Park** (B, L, D)

Day 8 : Masai Mara

Masai Mara - Nairobi. After breakfast game drive through the Masai Mark en route Nairobi, arriving in time for lunch at the aptly named Carnivore Restaurant before your onward transfer to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport where tour arrangements end.

Please note: Our deluxe accommodation package includes a flight from the Mara to Nairobi. (B, L)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Passports & Visas

Please ensure that you have at least two blank pages in your passport, plus an additional blank page for each visa/African country you are visiting. If travelling on one of our longer

overland safaris we recommend that you have at least 12 blank pages in your passport.

Please also note that your passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the end date of your trip.

Any visa information provided in this document is for general guidance purposes only, visa requirements and fees are subject to change. It is essential that you check current entry requirements with each relevant embassy/consulate prior to departure. Visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not of On The Go.

Booking Your Flights

When booking your departure flight you should allow time at the end of your African safari for any unexpected delays. We recommend that you book your onward flight no earlier than 24 hours after the end of your safari. In the case of our longer overland camping safaris (22 days or more) we advise against making any firm arrangements for at least 48 hours after the scheduled departure date. Your tour leader can help to arrange post tour accommodation locally upon request.

Allergies/Likes/Dislikes

Whilst all will be done to accommodate everyone, sometimes the choice available is limited as your cook may be making the best of very limited availability, so some flexibility may be required when encountering something you're not particularly fond of or have chosen not to eat as a lifestyle choice. Should you possess allergies which will result in a medical emergency or a life threatening situation then please ensure you speak to your cook on arrival so you can discuss the options available whilst en-route. This will ensure also that they are fully aware of what you can or cannot eat and make adjustments.

Kenya Country Guide

Visas

Please be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours, therefore it is essential that

Kenya Up Close - 8 days

www.onthegotours.com
 UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com
 AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com
 NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038
 USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

Kenya Up Close

you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Africa.

South African passport holders do not require a visa to visit Kenya for up to 30 days. Most other nationalities, including UK, USA, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand passport holders, do require a visa to enter Kenya.

On 1st July 2015 the government of Kenya introduced an electronic visa application. It is still possible to purchase a visa upon arrival up until 31 August 2015. From 01 September 2015 ALL tourists wishing to visit Kenya need to apply for a visa online at www.ecitizen.go.ke. The visa process can take up to 7 working days. For further details please visit our Kenya visa page -<http://www.onthegotours.com/Kenya/Visas>.

All passengers require an onward/return tickets and sufficient funds for length of intended stay (at least US\$500).

The border crossings we use in Kenya include:

Busia (Kenya/Uganda border)
Namanga (Kenya/Tanzania border)
Isebania (Kenya/Tanzania border)

A Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate is required for travel to Kenya and if travelling from an infected area it must be presented upon arrival in order to be granted entry. Please also note that if you are travelling onward to Uganda and/or Rwanda you will need a Yellow Fever Certificate to produce on arrival in order to be granted entry.

East Africa Tourist Visa

If you are planning on visiting Uganda and/or Rwanda when travelling to Kenya then you can apply for an East Africa tourist visa which will cover all countries. The visa allows multiple entry into these countries and is valid for 90 days. It can be applied for in advance or upon arrival at Nairobi International Airport.

Vaccinations

You should seek medical advice before travelling to Kenya from your local health

practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide Polio, Diphtheria, Hepatitis A&B and Tetanus is strongly recommended. Rabies and Meningitis are also recommended.

There is the risk of malaria in Kenya so it is very important to check with your doctor before you go, to see whether malarial medication is required for the areas you are visiting. A Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate is required for travel to Kenya and if travelling from an infected area it must be presented upon arrival in order to be granted entry. Please also note that if you are travelling onward to Uganda and/or Rwanda you will need a Yellow Fever Certificate to produce on arrival in order to be granted entry.

Time & Voltage

Kenya is 3 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight saving time is not observed.

In Kenya the standard voltage is 220-240V. Primary sockets require a 'Type G' - British BS-1363 type, three pin plug. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adapter in order to use U.S. appliances. We recommend packing a universal adapter.

Currency

The currency of Kenya is the Kenyan Shilling (code KES, symbol KSh).

1 KSh = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of: KSh1,000, 500, 200, 100 and 50.

Coins are in denominations of KSh20, 10 and 5.

Banking hours: Mon-Fri 0900-1500, Sat 0900-1100. You can exchange money in banks or bureau de changes. Be aware that old pre-2010 US\$ banknotes or torn or marked banknotes are difficult to exchange in Africa so make sure you take crisp new notes! In major towns/cities most banks have an ATM. American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa cards are all widely accepted.

Travellers cheques can be changed at banks, these should be in US Dollars or Pound Sterling to avoid additional exchange rate charges. Most banks will want to see your passport and proof of purchase receipt before

cashing your travellers cheques. Please Note: Travellers cheques can be difficult to cash and often have restrictions of about US\$100 a day maximum. They also tend to attract high commission charges, especially when exchanging for hard currency.

Climate

Kenya is an excellent year round destination with a favourable climate and reasonably low rainfall. In general the hottest months are December to March, although the climate varies enormously from place to place. The lowland coastal areas are tropical, with year round high temperatures and humidity, which is at its peak in April and May, although tempered by monsoon winds. The highlands are more temperate with four seasons. Nairobi has a very pleasant climate throughout the year due to its altitude. Near Lake Victoria, the temperatures are much higher and rainfall can be heavy.

Plastic Bag Ban

Effective August 2017: All passengers arriving into Kenya including tourists can possibly face very heavy fines for using plastic bags in any way, shape or form. Using, manufacture or importation of plastic bags, including garbage bags and shopping bags is illegal. Offenders, including tourists, could face very heavy fines. Visitors/Citizens and Residents alike are advised to avoid packing any plastic bags in their suitcases or in carry-on hand luggage before flying to Kenya. Items purchased at the airport before boarding the aircraft should be removed from plastic bags. Please check hand luggage before disembarking at entry points and any plastic bags should be left in the plane.

Similarly the transparent "zip-lock" plastic bags that some airlines require passengers to use for keeping liquids, cosmetics, toiletries etc separately in hand luggage are also not permitted to be brought and should be removed and left on the plane before disembarking.

Kenya Up Close - 8 days

www.onthegotours.com
UK 020 7371 1113 info@onthegotours.com
AUS 1300 855 684 aus-info@onthegotours.com
NZ 0800 44 77 69 CAN 1 866 890 7038
USA 1 866 606 2960 SA 0800 990 311

updated on 23-02-2020 08:59:58

This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.