

# Gorilla Trek and Tanzania

## 25 days | Nairobi to Dar es Salaam



*From the wilds of the Masai Mara, to gorillas in Uganda, safari in the Serengeti and down into the Ngorongoro crater. Then top off your African adventure with a taste of the tropics on the beautiful island of Zanzibar.*

### HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

#### Trip Highlights

- Nairobi - begin your African adventure in the bustling Kenyan capital and opt to head out and explore independently
- Serengeti National Park - spot incredible wildlife as you game drive through Tanzania's best known national park, home to the amazing annual migration
- Gorilla trekking - trek into the dense jungle of Uganda and watch a group of endangered mountain gorillas from a safe distance
- Masai Mara - search for Africa's iconic Big Five (lion, elephant, leopard, rhino, buffalo) in one of the continents most famous game reserves
- Ngorongoro Crater - explore the UNESCO-listed crater, which has one of the highest densities of wildlife of any African national park
- Zanzibar - spend two full days relaxing on the beach, exploring Stone Town

or participating in optional activities, including a sunset dhow cruise

- Lake Nakuru - see the shallow soda lake and spot both black and white rhinos in the small but biodiverse Lake Nakuru National Park
- Lake Bunyoni - unwind on the shore of the deepest crater lake in Africa, which is home to a large number of bird species
- Lake Naivasha - watch the rare African Fish Eagle swooping over the lake, as well as a myriad of other bird life found at the African great lake
- Kampala - cross the Equator and stand with a foot in each hemisphere before arriving in the Ugandan capital

#### What's Included

- Arrival transfer from Nairobi Airport on day 1
- 1st night dormitory accommodation at Kenya Comfort Hotel and 20 nights camping. Tents and sleeping mats provided
- A fully equipped overland truck for transportation and game drives
- Services of 3 person crew (leader, driver, cook)
- All camping fees and appropriate equipment
- 19 breakfasts, 19 lunches and 19 dinners
- Park entry - Lake Naivasha NP. Park entry & game drives - Lake Nakuru NP, Masai Mara, Ngorongoro NP, Serengeti NP

- 3 night Zanzibar Excursion including ferry transfer, accommodation, Spice Tour and Dhow Sunset Cruise.
- All road taxes and tolls

#### What's Not Included

- Entrance Fees: Gorilla Permit + Transfer USD\$750-900pp, paid in USD
- Gorilla Permit and transfer fee: Please note that Gorillas often move across the border, between the national parks in Rwanda and Uganda, therefore itineraries often have to be changed at short notice in order to track the Gorillas in whichever National Park they have migrated to. For this reason the cost of the Gorilla Permit and relevant transfers varies, as do the applicable visa costs, dependent upon which country we need to travel into. Permits are subject to availability and need to be booked in advance.
- International flights and visas
- Sleeping bag - please bring your own
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture
- Optional activities

#### Local Payment

\$1850pp, paid in USD

The local payment is a cost per person which needs to be paid in US Dollars cash only. It is this payment which in part covers the park fees and other inclusions such as meals as detailed under 'what you get'. The local payment also covers your arrival transfer and 1st night's accommodation. Please note that due

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to exchange rate fluctuations in the US dollar, the local payment amount may be subject to changes. This payment will be collected by your tour leader at the Welcome Meeting on day 1.

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 : Nairobi

Saturday. Welcome to Nairobi! We'll be there to collect you at Nairobi Airport and transfer you to the Kenya Comfort Hotel. Tonight you will stay in shared dorms. There will be a pre departure meeting at 17.00 **Overnight - Nairobi**

### Days 2-3 : Masai Mara



Nairobi - Masai Mara. Heading west from Nairobi on day 2, we reach possibly Kenya's most famous natural attraction - the Masai Mara National Reserve. The Kenyan section of the wildly beautiful Serengeti Plains teems with wildlife. The highlight of the Mara is no doubt the annual wildebeest migration, when literally millions of these beasts plus zebra and Thomson's gazelle stray north from the Serengeti in neighbouring Tanzania in search of lush grass on the savannah plains. Elephant, lion, cheetah, giraffe and a multitude of hooved herbivores also inhabit the reserve. A game drive through the Mara on day 3 gives us the chance to spot the Big Five. During our stay we can also opt to visit a local Masai tribe.

**Overnight - Masai Mara** (B:1, L:2, D:2)

### Day 4 : Eldoret & Kampala

Masai Mara - Eldoret. Leaving the Masai Mara early today, we head out of Masai Land and pass through the scenic tea plantations of Kericho before descending the Rift Valley Plateau, on our way to Eldoret - our stop for the night. **Overnight - Eldoret** (B, L, D)

### Day 5 : Kampala

Eldoret - Kampala (Uganda). This morning, we cross the border into Uganda where we overnight in the capital city, Kampala.

**Overnight - Kampala** (B, L, D)

### Days 6-9 : Lake Bunyoni & Gorilla Trekking



Kampala - Lake Bunyoni. From Kampala we drive to Lake Bunyoni, the deepest Crater Lake in Africa and home to a large and varied number of beautiful birds, which is the base from which the optional Gorilla trek takes place. Dependant on where trekking permits are available, we trek in the Magahinga or Bwindi National Parks in Uganda.

We depart from our base in Bunyoni in small groups over 3-4 days, depending on the group size. We wind our way through arguably some of the most picturesque scenery in Africa en-route to the National Park. Dependant on where permits are available, we may spend a night in Kisoro en route. The following morning, after packing our picnic lunch, we are transferred to a ranger's station where the trek commences. Your rangers will lead you through the cultivated lands and then into the dense rain forest and on to a gorilla family. Trekking can take anywhere from 45 minutes to 8 hours and it can be quite strenuous. To ensure the gorillas do not get too used to the presence of humans and because they share many of our genes (and therefore able to catch our diseases), the maximum time permitted to spend with them is 1 hour. You will have plenty of time to watch their activity and to take photographs. The rangers will be able to provide you with a background to the family you are visiting. Once your hour is up, you trek back out of the rain forest to your meeting point where you

will be transferred back to the Lake Bunyoni campsite.

**Please note:** Gorilla permits need to be purchased in advance, please ask your reservations consultant or visit our Gorilla trekking travel guide. **Overnight - Lake Bunyoni** (B:4, L:4, D:4)

### Day 10 : Kampala

Lake Bunyoni - Kampala. After marvelling at the experience of our gorilla encounters and enjoying the peaceful Lake Bunyoni, we begin our drive back to Kampala. We cross the Equator for the second time and stop for the classic "one foot in each hemisphere" photo opportunity. We overnight in Kampala and have the opportunity to sample its night life!

**Overnight - Kampala** (B, L, D)

### Day 11 : Jinja

Kampala - Jinja. Today we have the option of visiting the Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary or heading to Jinja for a selection of adventure activities including white water rafting at the source of the White Nile, quad biking or visiting a volunteer and community project. **Overnight - Jinja** (B, L, D)

### Days 12-13 : Lake Nakuru

Jinja - Lake Nakuru (Kenya). Departing early, we head back to Kenya and spend the night outside Nakuru at a lovely campsite on a local farm. Nakuru is Kenya's 4th largest town and capital of the Rift Valley Province and lies adjacent to the small but wildlife rich Lake Nakuru National Park.

Lake Nakuru National Park is home to a veritable array of wildlife. The park supports a population of black rhino, lion, leopard, zebra, antelope and giraffe. The lake itself is a shallow soda lake.

On day 13 we begin our exploration of the Lake Nakuru National Park. The park was established as a sanctuary for black and white rhino, which are often seen. We spend the day searching for these pre-historic looking beasts as well as the elusive leopard, encountering buffalo, giraffe, various

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antelope and the occasional hippo along the way. **Overnight - Lake Nakuru** (B:2, L:2, D:2)

## Day 14 : Lake Naivasha

Nakuru – Naivasha. Today we head to Lake Naivasha arriving in the late afternoon. Lake Naivasha, is home to a multitude of bird life, the most magnificent being the African Fish Eagle with his regal cry. At 1880 m, this is the highest of the Rift Valley lakes. We spend the day enjoying optional excursions like Elsamere (former home to Joy & George Adamson of Born Free fame), a boat ride to the Crescent Island Game Sanctuary or a bike ride around Hell's Gate National Park. **Overnight - Lake Naivasha** (B, L, D)

## Day 15 : Nairobi

Naivasha - Nairobi. After breakfast we head back to Nairobi. On arrival we bid farewell to members of the group who will be ending their trip here before heading to our hotel for the night. **Overnight - Nairobi** (B)

## Days 16-19 : Serengeti & Ngorongoro



Nairobi - Arusha (Tanzania). Leaving Nairobi, we cross the border into Tanzania. We set up camp in a Meserani, on the outskirts of Arusha - the starting point for the 3 day excursion to Ngorongoro Crater and the Serengeti.

The Ngorongoro/Serengeti excursion takes us via the Masai town of Mtu Wa Mbu (Mosquito River) that lies adjacent to the Lake Manyara National Park and up the Rift Valley Escarpment to the higher lying village of Karatu. Karatu offers magnificent views over the surrounding hills and has many well established wheat farms that add to the picturesque panoramas. We spend the evening at a pleasant campsite in Karatu. The following morning we depart early for

the Ngorongoro Conservation area and head into the wildlife rich Ngorongoro Crater. This World Heritage Site boasts some of the best game viewing in Africa – including the elusive Black Rhino. **Overnight - Karatu (1) Serengeti (1) Arusha (1)** (B:3, L:4, D:4)

## Day 20 : Pangani

Arusha - Pangani. We return to Arusha before continuing on towards Dar es Salaam. On the way we drive through the town of Moshi situated at the magnificent Mount Kilimanjaro – Africa's highest mountain. We may even catch a glimpse of this magical mountain's snowy summit - a photo opportunity not to be missed! **Overnight - Pangani** (B, L, D)

## Day 21 : Dar es Salaam

Pangani - Dar es Salaam. After our night in Pangani midway between Arusha and Dar es Salaam we continue to our lovely seaside campsite in Dar es Salaam. **Overnight - Dar es Salaam** (B, L, D)

## Days 22-24 : Zanzibar



Dar es Salaam - Zanzibar. A ferry from Dar Es Salaam takes us to 'Spice Island', where we spend the next three nights. Zanzibar is steeped in history and offers a wealth of experiences. Wander the streets of Stone Town, take an excursion around a spice plantation or simply laze on one of the pristine white sandy beaches, the choice is yours! **Overnight - Zanzibar** (B:1)

## Day 25 : Dar es Salaam

Zanzibar - Dar es Salaam. Leaving Zanzibar in the afternoon we take the ferry back to Dar es Salaam. On arrival, where we exchange addresses and part ways, having just experienced a trip of a lifetime!

## HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

**Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.**

### Kenya Comfort Hotel

Comfortable dormitory accommodation in central Nairobi (upgrades available on request). The Kenya Comfort Hotel also features an outdoor pool, restaurant serving a good array of local and international dishes as well as a fully stocked bar - perfect for relaxing before or after your epic overland adventure.



### Wildebeest Eco Camp

Wildebeest Eco Camp is a distinctive starting point from which to explore Nairobi and beyond. The camp offers a shaded campsite for budget travellers, or luxury ensuite tents for those looking to splurge a little on their safari experience. Located in the vibrant Langata area, Nairobi National Park and the Galleria Shopping Centre are among the attractions just 10 minutes' drive away. After a long day of travelling, indulgences such as an infinity pool and guest library are available, as are free Wi-fi and laundry service.



### Naiberi River Campsite & Resort

Camp by the river Naiberi at this vintage resort 16km from Eldoret, which also offers spacious dorms, log cabins, and executive rooms built into the valley slopes. During

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the day, admire the wildlife, with a variety of local nature trails offering the chance to encounter over 250 bird species. At night, venture down to the famous cave restaurant and enjoy a meal within the stone walls, believed to have once housed members of the ancient Sirikwa tribe. Other amenities include an outdoor pool and extensive bar selection.



### Red Chilli Hideaway

Located on a purpose-built, 5-acre site in a peaceful suburb, the Red Chilli Hideaway offers affordable accommodation ranging from a campsite which we use for our overland safaris to private ensuite rooms for upgrades. Settle down for the day at the Hideaway's saltwater pool, self-catering kitchen, or restaurant & bar. The camp supports sustainable tourism and operates the Steve Willis Memorial Fund, whose proceeds go to providing clean drinking water in the Murchison Falls region.



### East Africa Mission Organisation (EAMO)

Established in 1997 by Australian couple Ralph & May Spinks, EAMO is a registered charitable institution which houses hundreds of orphaned Kenyan children. Their goal is to provide these children with dedicated care, nutrition, and education. EAMO has been rapidly expanding over the last two decades, and relies entirely on the generosity of volunteers and sponsors to support its growth.

### Kipepeo Village

The Tanzanian bush meets the blue waters of the Indian Ocean at Kipepeo Beach & Village, situated on the south coast of Dar Es Salaam. The campsite is right on the beach itself and is a popular destination for watersports adventures or simple relaxation. Facilities include a beach bar and restaurant. Upgrades are available to the twenty elevated ensuite chalets, built in the bush and decorated in traditional Swahili style, provide a stunning ocean views.



### PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 4 persons. Prices shown are per person travelling. Single travellers will be paired up in tents with another person of the same gender.

### PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
01 Aug	CAD 3,995	CAD 7,640
29 Aug	CAD 3,995	CAD 7,640
07 Nov	CAD 3,895	CAD 7,540
21 Nov	CAD 3,895	CAD 7,540
19 Dec	CAD 3,995	CAD 7,640

### PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
02 Jan	CAD 3,955	CAD 3,955
30 Jan	CAD 3,955	CAD 3,955
27 Feb	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
27 Mar	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
24 Apr	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
22 May	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
05 Jun	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
19 Jun	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
03 Jul	CAD 4,305	CAD 8,260
17 Jul	CAD 4,305	CAD 8,260
31 Jul	CAD 4,305	CAD 8,260

### PRICES / DATES 2021

Date	Twin Share	Single
14 Aug	CAD 4,305	CAD 8,260
28 Aug	CAD 4,305	CAD 8,260
11 Sep	CAD 4,305	CAD 8,260
25 Sep	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
09 Oct	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
23 Oct	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
06 Nov	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
20 Nov	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
04 Dec	CAD 4,205	CAD 8,160
18 Dec	CAD 4,305	CAD 8,260

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