

**SOUTHERN SKY  
ADVENTURES**  
AFRICA...IN YOUR WILDEST DREAMS.

## 4 STAR EAST AFRICA

13 Days | 12 Nights

Kenya | Rwanda





# MASAI MARA

The Masai Mara together with Tanzania's Serengeti form Africa's most famous wildlife park, the Masai Mara National Reserve. The image of acacia trees dotting endless grass plains epitomizes Africa for many, then add a Maasai warrior and some cattle to the picture and the conversation need go no further.



The undeniable highlight of the Masai Mara National Reserve is undoubtedly the annual wildebeest migration traversing the vast plains of the Serengeti and the Masai Mara. It is known as the largest mass movement of land mammals on the planet – with more than a million animals following the rains. Large prides of lions, elephants, giraffes, gazelles and eland can also be spotted in the reserve. Aside from horse riding safaris and traditional vehicle safaris, hot-air ballooning over the Mara plains has become almost essential.







# VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK

Bordering the Democratic Republic of Congo in Rwanda, the Volcanoes National Park is best known as a sanctuary for the region's rare mountain gorillas. Visitors flock here to experience a face to face encounter with these intriguing creatures. The park is set high on the jungle-covered slopes of the volcanic Virunga Mountains.

Highly regulated treks through the reserve allow visitors to spend an hour at a time with these incredible primates in their natural habitat. While the gorilla's are without a doubt the main drawcard, visitors can also look forward to exploring a network of scenic hiking trails, visiting the tomb of the world-famous Dian Fossey and the Karisoke Research Centre, and enjoying a beautiful day hike to the crater lake on Mount Bisoke.





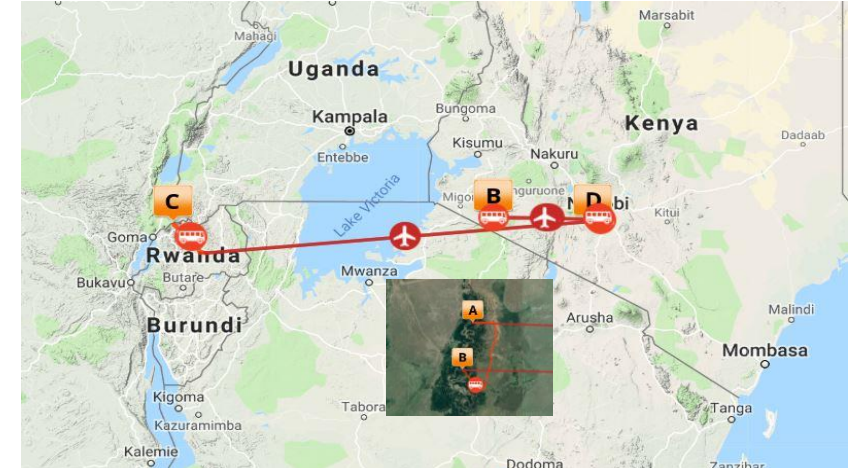
# NAIROBI

Situated in along the Nairobi River in beautiful Kenya, the capital of Nairobi is East Africa's most cosmopolitan city. It serves as an excellent starting point for African safari trips around Kenya.

Nairobi is Africa's 4th largest city and is a vibrant and exciting place, and although it has developed a reputation which keeps tourist visits brief, there are some fascinating attractions: its cafe culture, unbridled nightlife, the National Museum, the Karen Blixen Museum and most notably just 20 minutes from the city center wild lions and buffalo roam in the world's only urban game reserve.

Make sure you pay a visit to the elephant orphanage operated by the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust.





Sentinel Mara Camp  
Governor's Il Moran Camp  
Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge  
Giraffe Manor

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# DAY 1 : MASAI MARA



You will be met at the Nairobi Airport by a member of the Southern Sky Adventures team. They will take you to the Wilson Airport where you will take a connecting scheduled charter flight to the Masai Mara at Sentinel Mara Camp.

“Closer to nature, closer to the romance and adventure of the classic African Safari, closer to indigenous culture.”



Sentinel Camp is set up each season in a forest along the banks of the Mara River in one of the prime areas of the renowned Masai Mara National Reserve. The experience of being in the wild coupled with luxury and attention to detail is the finest way to enjoy the magic and mystery of the African wilderness with its amazing wildlife.



## DAY 2 : MASAI MARA

Our Eco-camp has no permanent structures and blends into the natural surroundings to enhance our guests' experience of being in the wild. The seasonal nature of the camp which is taken down during the rainy seasons encourages rejuvenation of the vegetation.

As members of EcoTourism (Kenya) we are committed to sustainable community based conservation with local community elders receiving a portion of guests' fees. Believing that the future of conservation is linked with local communities benefiting from tourism we employ members of the local community and facilitate authentic encounters with the Masai where their heritage, customs and culture are shared.

Our overall philosophy is to meaningfully introduce guests to this amazing location and its abundant wildlife with minimum interference to the environment.







## DAY 3 : MASAI MARA

The secluded luxury tented Eco-camp is set up in an exceptional location in a forest on the banks of the Mara River. This ensures that guests derive maximum pleasure from their natural surroundings and the abundance of wildlife.

Spacious tents with en-suite porcelain toilets and hot showers are tucked away in the forest. Each tent along the river is tastefully furnished with campaign furniture to capture the romance and adventure of a bygone era. Wi-Fi as well as charging facilities are available in the lounge tents.

Daily game drives can be complimented by guided bush walks in a nearby area with our naturalist or a bird walk in the forest around the precincts of the camp. We offer a longer walk on the escarpment with amazing vistas of the savannah plains. In addition to this, we can arrange for guests to visit a nearby Masai village for an opportunity to see their lifestyle and learn about their customs and culture. A balloon safari with champagne breakfast can be arranged.





## DAY 4 : MASAI MARA

After breakfast and a morning game drive you will be transferred to Governor's IL Moran Camp. The IL Moran Camp is for those who want that extra bit of luxury. We've kept Governors' IL Moran Camp small and intimate, with added touches that make this the top of the range safari. IL Moran is widely regarded as the premiere camp in the Masai Mara.

Hidden under ancient trees, deep in the forest, are just 10 tents. They line the winding banks of the Mara River. You'll be the personal guest of our manager, who'll look after all your needs.

The camp is situated along the banks of the Mara River, right in the heart of the Masai Mara Game Reserve, with the best game viewing right on your doorstep. Governors IL Moran Camp has been awarded a Silver Eco Rating by Eco Tourism Kenya for our environmental practices both in camp and with our neighboring community.



# DAY 5 : MASAI MARA

The adventure begins just before dawn. Departure is from a perfect natural launch site behind Little Governors' Camp, and flames from the hot air balloon burners light the darkness as the crews inflate their craft. The first, pink tongues of sunlight flicker across the skies as the hot air balloon fills, then rises. Suspended in a basket beneath the rainbow colored canopy, you're off for a game viewing adventure with an entirely different perspective.

What amazes most first time balloonists is the absolute stillness: the silence as you float above the plains, the forest and the rivers of the Masai Mara. Even if you've flown elsewhere, this is a unique experience. The flight lasts an hour or so, drifting wherever the air currents take you, and with ample opportunities for photography and video filming. Then your Kenyan Hot Air Balloon Safari finishes with a flourish. In the time honored tradition of balloon flights the world over, you toast your return to earth with a champagne breakfast, cooked wherever you land. The Balloon Safari ends with some leisurely game viewing on the way back to Camp.







## DAY 6 : MASAI MARA

Governors' Camp properties combine superb locations in the Masai Mara with custom designed vehicles and exceptionally highly trained and experienced guides to give our clients unmatched game viewing and photographic opportunities in the world's prime wildlife area. We are in the heart of what is widely considered to be the best game viewing area of the Masai Mara. Our vehicles are custom built 4 wheel drive Landrovers.

We take you out twice a day on a game drive into the famous Masai Mara Game Reserve and surrounding areas. Our driver guides are handpicked and nurtured by us. They undergo a continuous guide training scheme mentored by experts in the field. Having operated in the Masai Mara for 40 years our driver guides have an unparalleled knowledge of the reserve combined with a deep understanding and respect for the sanctity of this wilderness area, its flora and its fauna.







# DAY 7 : VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK

You will be transferred back to the Wilson Airport in Nairobi from the Governors' landing strip. There, you will be met and escorted over to the Nairobi International Airport where you will then connect onto your RwandAir commercial flight for the 2 hour flight to Kigali, RwandAir. Your driver will meet you at the Kigali Airport and drive you 2 hours to Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge in the Ruwenzori Mountains.





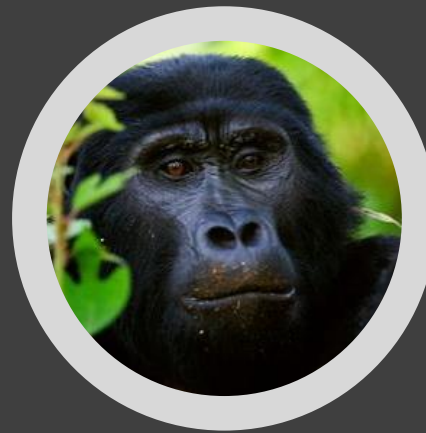
# DAY 8 : VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK

As you may be aware, there are only 650 mountain gorillas remaining in their natural habitat. These habitats are in Rwanda, Uganda and Congo.

Presently, Rwanda not only enjoys the best security in the region but also has the easiest accessed routes for visiting the mountain gorillas. We organize thrilling treks to visit these gentle giants in their misty mountain home, also known as the Virunga.

Mountain Gorillas are found in the high altitude forests surrounding these volcanoes.

In order to minimize behavioral disturbances to the gorillas, only 8 people are allowed to visit each of the families and for a period not exceeding 1 hour. This means that only 56 people are allowed in the park daily. The limits serve to protect gorillas from the risk of exposure to human- borne diseases.







# DAY 9 : VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK

There will be a gorilla trek each of the 2 full days you are at Sabyinyo Silverback Lodge.

There are currently 7 habituated gorilla families that can be visited and 2 Golden Monkey Families (Kabatwa & Musonga).

- Sabyinyo Group -This is a family of 10 gorillas, led by the biggest Silverback known in the entire jungle called Guhonda.
- Amahoro Group - 17 members including two Silverbacks
- Umubano Group - 12 members including one Silverback
- Group 13- 25 members including one Silverback
- Susa Group - The largest family with 43 members including 6 Silverbacks, it split in two groups recently.
  - Susa A- 28 members
  - Susa B- 15 members
- Kwitonda Group- 18 members including three Silverbacks
- Hirwa Group- 11 members including one Silverback







# DAY 10 : NAIROBI

After breakfast on the veranda you will again be driven to the Kigali Airport where you will fly back to Nairobi aboard a commercial flight. You will then be picked up by your driver and taken to Giraffe Manor

Giraffe Manor is owned by The Safari Collection and is an exclusive boutique hotel, set in 12 acres of private land within 140 acres of indigenous forest in the Langata suburb of Nairobi. As one of Nairobi's most iconic buildings, Giraffe Manor has extraordinary appeal, that harks back to the 1930s when European visitors first flocked to East Africa to enjoy safaris. With its stately façade, elegant interior, verdant green gardens, sunny terraces and delightful courtyards, guests often remark that it's like walking into the film *Out of Africa*: indeed, one of its twelve rooms is named after the author Karen Blixen.

However, the most fascinating thing about Giraffe Manor is its herd of resident Rothschild giraffe who may visit morning and evening, sometimes poking their long necks into the windows in the hope of a treat, before retreating to their forest sanctuary. Giraffe Manor can be booked for the night or as part of a complete tailor made safari with The Safari Collection.



# DAY 11 : NAIROBI

Founded in 1977 by Dr. Dame Daphne Sheldrick D.B.E, in honor of the memory of her late husband, famous naturalist and founding Warden of Tsavo East National Park, David Leslie William Sheldrick MBE, the DSWT claims a rich and deeply rooted family history in wildlife and conservation. Born from one family's passion for Kenya and it's wilderness, the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust is today the most successful orphan elephant rescue and rehabilitation program in the world and one of the pioneering conservation organizations for wildlife and habitat protection in East Africa.

To date the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust has successfully hand raised over 150 infant elephants and has accomplished it's long term conservation priority by effectively reintegrating orphans back into the wild herds of Tsavo, claiming many healthy wild born calves from former orphaned elephants raised in care.







# DAY 12 : NAIROBI



The African Fund for Endangered Wildlife Kenya (A.F.E.W. Kenya) also known as the Giraffe Center is a non governmental, non profit making organization, which was founded by Betty and Jock Leslie-Melville in 1979. This was in a bid to save the endangered Rothschild Giraffe, which had lost its natural habitat in Western Kenya to agriculture and there were only 130 left in the wild. Funds were raised and 4 herds of the Rothschild giraffes were moved to 4 parks namely Lake Nakuru National Park, Mwea Game Reserve, Ruma National Park and Nasalot Game Reserve.

The Karen Blixen Museum was once the home of the Danish author Karen Blixen. The renowned author made famous by the release of the Oscar winning movie 'Out of Africa', based on Karen's autobiography of the same title. The museum displays many pieces of the author's furniture and has a splendid view of the Ngong Hills, immortalized in Karen Blixen's opening line, "I had a farm in Africa at the foot of the Ngong Hills."



The Karen Blixen Museum is open to the public every day, with guided tours on offer. The museum shop features handicrafts, posters, postcards, the movie 'Out of Africa', as well as books and other Kenyan souvenirs.





## DAY 13 : END OF ITINERARY

After lunch you will be driven back to the Nairobi Airport where you will connect with your evening flight routing you back to the US via Europe.

