

# Kenya Country Guide

The adventure starts here...





# Kenya

Unforgettable wildlife, varied and glorious scenery and fabulous tropical beaches, all in one country.



### Table of Contents



01 Intro	02 USP's	03 Best Time to Visit
Why We Love It!	Top Reasons to Visit	Green, Shoulder & Peak Season
04 Destinations	05 Sample Safaris	o6 The Need to Know
Top Areas to Visit	1 <sup>st</sup> Timers, Honeymoons & Families	Different Types of Camps & Safari Budget



### Kenya

Masai Mara
 Amboseli & Tsavo
 Laikipia
 Nairobi
 Great Rift Valley Lakes
 Lake Victoria
 Meru National Park
 Kenya Beaches
 Samburu & Matthews Range



#### Key Attributes

- Wildebeest migration through the Masai Mara one of the most unique African safari experiences
- Varied array of Game Reserves & conservation areas
- Easiest destination to combine 'bush and beach'
- Superb game-viewing, white sandy beaches & warm tropical ocean
- Offers wildlife tours, safari lodges & beach hotels for all budgets

#### Important Tips

- Peak Season: July to October
- Some camps close in April to mid-May (long rains)
- Situated on the equator, so the climate is warm and pleasant when game-viewing is at its best
- Choose between fly-in safaris, road safaris or a mix of the two





Africa has her mysteries and even a wise man cannot understand them. But a wise man respects them.

Miriam Makeba
(South African singer and civil rights activist)



# Kenya's USPs

Kenya is arguably the classic safari destination in Africa. There is nowhere to compare with Kenya for its diversity of landscapes, ecosystems and wildlife.

Afterwards you can soak up the sun at one of the many beautiful beaches along the Kenyan coast.





### Top Reasons to Visit



#### Top wildlife destination

Close enough to travel by road: Maasai Mara, Amboseli, Great Rift Valley & parts of Laikipia

#### **Kenyan Coast**

White powdery beaches, colourful marine life & unique Swahili culture

#### Take a walk with the Samburu

Experience the wisdom of the Samburu & Masai tribes as they continue their ancient traditions

#### **Explore Lamu Island**

Historic & evocative island where Swahili traditions & customs preserved

#### **Experience the Masai Mara**

Experience the quintessential safari landscape, big cats & migrating herds

#### **Walking Safaris**

Matthews Mtns and Samburu setting for epic and contrasting walking safaris

#### Iconic Kilimanjaro views

Enjoy vast elephant herds against breath-taking backdrop

#### Wildlife Ranches

Experience the varied game activities on one of Kenya's safari ranches in Laikipia



### Varied Activities













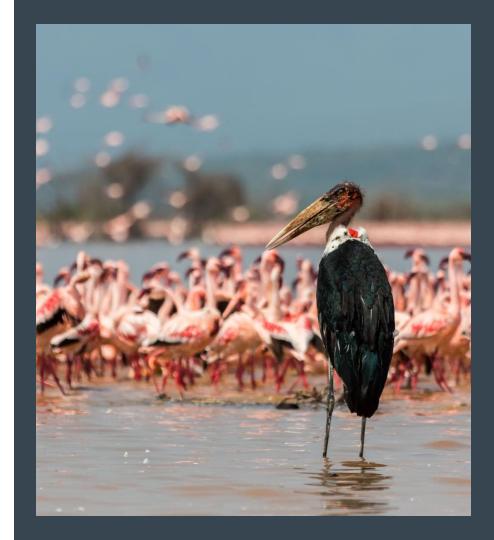


# Best Time to Visit

The best time to visit Kenya is from July to October when the country is at its driest. This coincides with the migration river crossings.

However, all parks offer amazing wildlife sightings at this time as the grasses and bush are at their least dense (and water sources are scarce).





### Best Time to Travel



#### December - March

#### Shoulder Season:

Great time to visit as fairly dry & fewer people

Return crossings can be seen in the north of the Serengeti (Nov), but unpredictable

Lots of newborn animals

Great for birding

Photographers dream

NOTE: short rains in November and lower prices

#### April - June

### Long Rains:

This is the period of heavy rain, so we would advise against travel, except perhaps mid to end of May

Prices are keen!

Late May to June is less busy than July-Sept

### July - October

#### Peak Season:

Experience herds in their hundreds crossing Mara River from now until September

Best wildlife viewing

Highest prices

Combine busier Mara with lesser visited Parks (which also have best game-viewing at this time.)

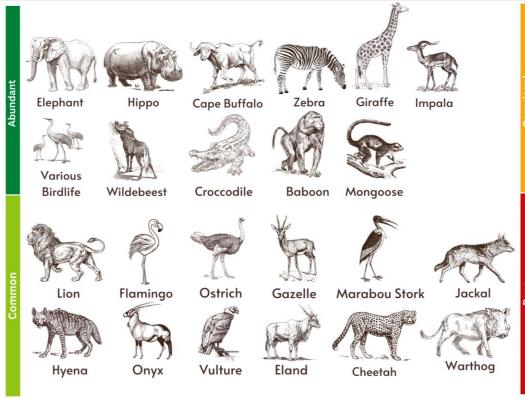


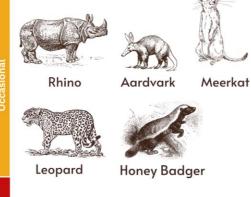


### **KENYA WILDLIFE**



#### WILDLIFE YOU CAN POSSIBLY SEE







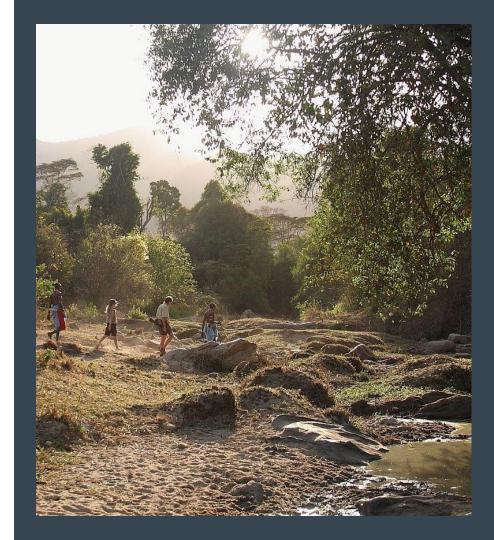




## **Destinations**

- · Masai Mara · Amboseli & Tsavo · Laikipia · Nairobi ·
- Great Rift Valley Lakes Lake Victoria Meru National Park
  - Kenya Beaches Samburu & Matthews Range•



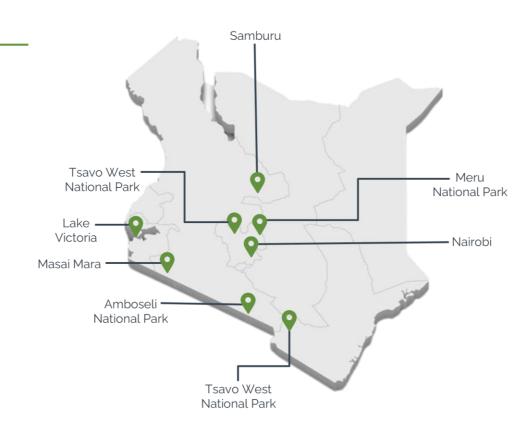


### Key Parks in Kenya

- Masai Mara
- Amboseli
- Tsavo
- Laikipia
- Samburu & Matthews Range
- Meru National Park

#### Plus:

- Great Rift Valley Lakes
- Kenya Beaches
- Lake Victoria





### Masai Mara

- Home to the Great Migration from July to October
- Mara River crossing presents difficulties for the migrating herds, making it an unforgettable experience
- Offer Big 5 with lion & other big cat populations
- Superb game-viewing offered all year round -Huge diversity of resident game in the Mara, even when the migratory herds have left
- Hot Air Balloon flights are a famous highlight
- The Mara is home to one of the great fighting tribes of Africa, the Maasai, whose culture is both fascinating and truly unique



### Masai Mara



### Angama Mara

- Two separate, intimate camps
- Set on edge of Great Rift valley with private access to the Mara
- Wide range of safari activities
- Unique facilities incl photographic studio,gym, art gallery, craft workshop

Uber-Deluxe Lodge



Little Governors Camp

- Romantic luxury lodge
- Combines modern touches with colonial elegance
- Prime location close to the Mara River, for wildebeest crossings
- Close to hot air ballooning site

Luxury Lodge



### Porini Lion Camp

- Comfortable Bush Camp in Olare Motorogi Conservancy
- Only 10 luxury tented rooms
- Best of both worlds: walking & night drives in conservancy with access to Masai Mara Reserve
- Genuine Wilderness
   Experience

Premier Lodge



### Amboseli & Tsavo

- See the famous Amboseli elephant herds with the backdrop of snow-capped Mount Kilimanjaro
- Best place from which to view Africa's highest freestanding mountain (at 5985m, 19,340ft)
- One of the most popular game parks in Kenya only one hour flight from Nairobi
- Game is abundant and wildlife eat the grasses so low that it's easy to spot them
- Amboseli's water source supports some 1500 elephants
- Marshland is home to vast number of bird species



### Amboseli & Tsavo



### Ol Donyo Camp

- Kenya's first Relais & Chateaux lodge perched on a ridge
- Blend of contemporary & unique rustic architecture
- Outstanding array of activities: game drives, hiking, riding, mountain biking, walking & cultural visits

Luxury – in Chyulu Hills



Tortilis Camp

- Superb location with iconic views of Mt Kilimanjaro
- Game drives, walks with Masai guides, bush meals and visits to masai homesteads
- Luxurious & spacious tented rooms

Luxury/ Premier Lodge



Porini Amboseli Camp

- Intimate & charming traditional safari camp but better bathrooms
- In Selenkay concession so mix of private game drives with visits into Amboseli

Premier/Bush camp





### Laikipia

- One of most rewarding safari areas to visit in Kenya
- Richly scenic region with a wide diversity of game
- Its game-viewing is probably only topped by the Masai Mara, but it has the distinct advantage of being off the main wildlife circuit
- One of the largest elephant populations in East Africa
   & also one of the best places to see wild dog
- Laikipia has over 50% of Kenya's heavily endangered white and black rhino population
- Series of wildlife conservancies, privately owned ranches and bush homes; not just one National Park



### Laikipia



Loisaba Tented Camp

- Enormous 56,000 acre private game conservancy
- Loisaba Star Beds
- Array of safari activities from game drives, to walking, riding, fishing, camelriding, biking and visits to Samburu villages



Ol Malo Lodge

 Privately owned safari wildlife ranch in northern Laikipia



Ol Pejeta Bush Camp

- Comfortable owner-run bush camp in game-rich Ol Pejeta
- Superb guiding
- Good chance to spot Black rhino
- Traditional bush camp ambience

Luxury

Premier

Comfortable



### Samburu Game Reserve

- Arid, craggy terrain with Doum palms tracing the river lines
- See 'dry area' wildlife that you won't easily see elsewhere - the rare reticulated giraffe, gerenuk, Somali ostrich, Grevy's zebra and Beisa oryx
- Leopards love this park because of its rocky terrain and steep ravines
- Fascinating Samburu Culture with excellent Samburu wildlife guides
- The birdlife is among the most spectacular in the world, with over 400 species recorded, mostly near the river



### Samburu & Matthews Range



### Sasaab Lodge

- Boasts spectacular views over Samburu to Mount Kenya
- Contemporary North African design to combat the heat.
- Interaction with the Samburu people
- One of few camps with a spa

Luxury Lodge



#### Saruni Samburu

- Stunning mountain top setting overlooking the Samburu
- Architecture mirrors this vast and pure part of Africa
- Guiding by Samburu warriors
- Bush walks, dinners, game drives & cultural interaction with Samburu

Luxury Wilderness Lodge



### Samburu Intrepid Tented Camp

- Well-priced riverside lodge within Samburu National Park
- Family-friendly with 28 luxury tents
- Range of activities incl game drives, bush meals, visits to Samburu villages & even seasonal rafting on the Ewaso Nyiro river

Comfortable





### Kenyan Beaches

- Kenya coastline offers a great mix of stunning white beaches, colourful marine life and the unique Swahili culture
- Great diving and snorkelling around a coral reef
- Beautiful beaches south and just north of Mombasa incl famous Diani Beach is just an hour's drive south
- International-standard beach resorts lie on idyllic tropical beaches esp at Malindi, 2 hours north of Mombasa)
- For a quieter option visit Watamu Bay
- Lamu Island, off northern Kenya, is a long-term favourite where Swahili traditions and customs have been preserved



### Kenyan Beaches



Afro Chic Diani

- Exclusive & intimate boutique hotel with only 10 rooms
- Great setting on Diani beach
- Friendly & attentive staff



Kinondo Kwetu

- Home away from home on a private beach south of Diani
- Offers luxury of space, peace, freedom and tranqulity
- Rustic chic rooms



Waterlovers Beach Resort

- Quaint and well-priced beach resort
- Suites & self-contained 4bedroom villa

Luxury

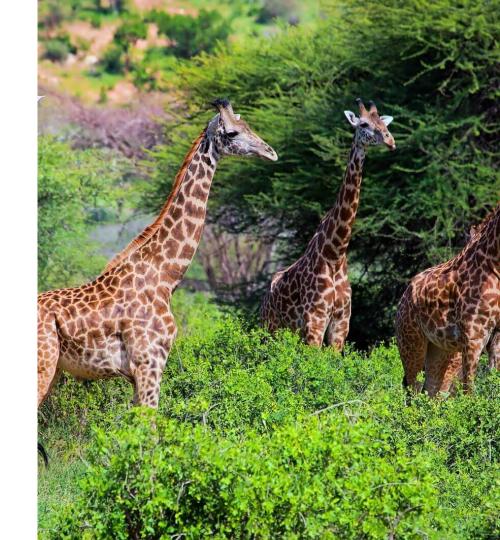
Premier Barefoot Luxury

Comfortable



### Meru National Park

- Original home of 'Elsa', the orphaned lioness made famous by the Adamson film 'Born Free'
- Unspoilt wilderness away from the madding Mara crowds
- Enjoy a game drive of several hours without seeing another vehicle
- Game-viewing is still plentiful
- Known for its migrating elephant herds
- Diversity of habitats offers regular sightings of hippo, giraffe, lion, elephant and rhino within a rhino sanctuary
- Impressive birdlife with 280 recorded species





### Nairobi

- Starting point for most Kenya safaris
- "Up close and personal" encounter at the Daphne Sheldrick's Elephant Orphanage
- Choice of good hotels or even tented wildlife camp In Nairobi National Park
- Shop for souvenirs in one of the craft markets, or look for upscale leather goods in the boutiques
- Visit Karen Blixen's house museum, best known for her novel Out of Africa
- Or the Giraffe Centre, where you can hand-feed these elegant African icons
- Tea & coffee plantations lie within an hour's drive



### Other Kenyan Destinations



#### Great Rift Valley Lakes

- Beautiful lakes filled with grunting hippos, cool crocodiles and the air pink with flamingos
- Active and semi-active volcanoes and hot springs
- Soda Lakes of Kenya are a highlight for birding and gameviewing, as well as boating and fishing
- Picnic at Crescent Island
- Spectacular canyon, hot springs and abundant wildlife at Hell's Gate

#### Matthews Mountain Range

- Visit the remote Matthews Mountain Range north of Samburu for a walking safari experience par excellence
- Easy to combine with Samburu Game Reserve (short onward flight)



### Other Kenyan Destinations

#### Continued...



#### Lake Victoria

- World's 2nd largest freshwater lake
- Source of the River Nile
- Islands and lakeshore lined with banana groves & sleepy villages
- Great contrast with a safari
- Activities incl walking, swimming, birding & fishing

#### Tsavo

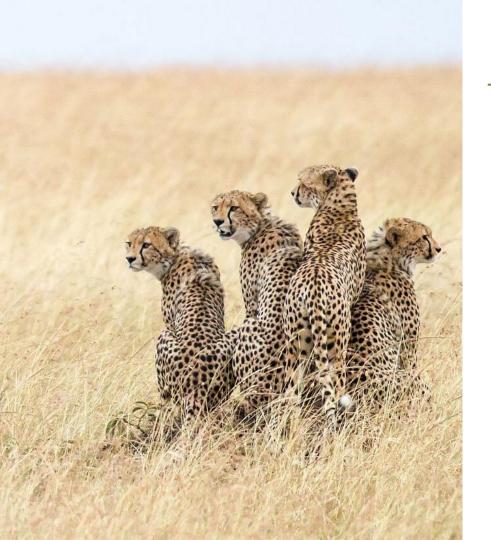
- Tsavo East and West offer great scenery, wildlife and dense forested bush
- Ideally visit in dry season when bush dies back
- Can combine with Amboseli or even with the Kenya coast



# Sample Safaris







### First Time Visitors

Most people likes to see the following:

- Masai Mara National Park
- Amboseli
- Great Rift Valley
- Laikipia, Ol Pejeta or Samburu if time permits

You can easily add on the Kenyan Coast for some R&R afterwards



### Sample Kenya Safari's

Merely some starting ideas. Clients are all unique so each safari is tailored to your needs





#### Saruni Experience Fly-in Safari

Fly-in Safari to Masai Mara & Samburu.

It combines two wonderful camps,
chosen for their style, originality and
location. It combines a relaxing pace with
spectacular lodges, world-class gameviewing and interesting Samburu culture.

7 nights



#### Elewana Sky Safari in Kenya

The 9 night Elewana Sky Safari in Kenya includes a visit to three of the most popular wildlife areas and you stay in first class hotels and safari lodges.

Travel is in a dedicated Elewana executive light aircraft, straight into the closest private airstrip.

9 (or 7) nights



#### Porini Safari & Diani Beach

Porini Safari and Diani Beach is a classic
12 night Kenya bush and beach safari.
You move between game parks by
scheduled flights over a week and
concluding with 5 nights relaxing at Diani
beach on the Indian Ocean.

12 nights

### Specialist or Short Itineraries

Merely some starting ideas. Clients are all unique so each safari is tailored to your needs





Governors Rift Valley & Mara

Luxury fly-in safari from Nairobi to Lake
Naivasha and the Masai Mara. With 2
nights at Loldia House and then 3 nights
at Little Governors Camp in Maasai Mara.

5 nights



Out of Africa Air Safari

The 7 night Out of Africa Air Safari is probably the best value fly-in safari offers the luxury of a high-end private flying safari without compromising on any of the niceties..

7 nights



Ancient Northern Walking Safaris

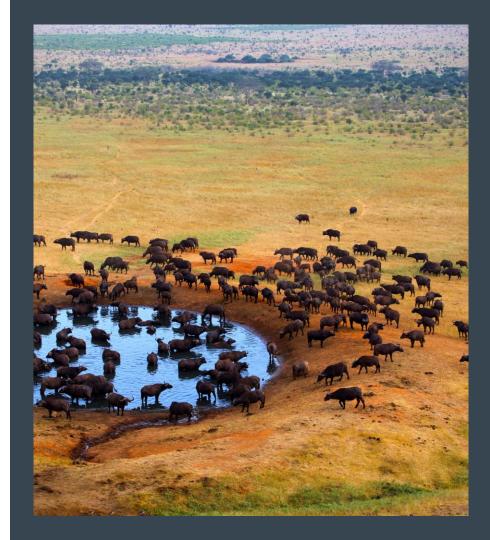
This is the classic northern Tanzania safari visiting the four main game reserves of Lake Manyara, the Serengeti, the Ngorongoro Crater and ending with Tarangire National Park.

9 nights

## Need to Know

Types of Accommodation Safari Costs





### Kenya Accommodation



#### Safari Hotels & Lodges

Safari lodges in Tanzania are permanent structures that offer all the bells & whistles you'd expect from a hotel, but smaller & more intimate to ensure a more personal safari experience. The smaller and more exclusive properties are of course more costly.

#### Tented Camps

Tented camps aim to provide all the comforts of a lodge while giving guests a smaller, intimate, yet luxurious safari experience. These camps consist of large, walk in, canvas tents set up on permanent frames. They will include ensuite bathrooms and often small plunges pools or a main swimming pool.

#### **Beach Options**

A stay at one of the many Beach hotels or resorts offers an alluring mix of beautiful white beaches, palm groves and turquoise water. All mixed with a rich trading history and culture. From luxurious villas and resorts, to more modest beach hotels, all budgets are catered for. It's the perfect end off a Kenya safari.



### Typical per night Safari Costs in Kenya (per person sharing)

	Shoulder January – March, June	Long/ Short Rains April – May, November	Peak June/ July – September
Moderate or Scheduled Safaris	\$550 - \$675	\$500 - \$575	\$600 - \$725
Mid-range – Mix of Drive/Fly-in Safari's	\$750 - \$1 000	\$650 - \$950	\$850 - \$1 250
Deluxe Camps & Fly-in Safaris	\$1 100 - \$1 950	\$1 050 - \$2 550	\$1 350 - \$2 550

#### NOTES:

This typical per night price includes road transfers, any flights, park fees and transfers



### General Info



**Population** 

53 Million

Capital

Nairobi

Safari Season

June/July to October, and also December to mid-March

**Population Density** 

94 people per km<sup>2</sup> USA is 35, UK is 280 **Getting There** 

Direct and one-stop flights from overseas to Nairobi

Official Language

Swahili & English



46

Spectacular By Nature, Personal By Design



### Thank You!

This guide was created by Cedarberg Africa, DMC for whole of Southern Africa.

To ensure the safari trip of a lifetime, book through a Travel Expert like us.

We'll design an individual safari just for you so that you get the family safari you've always dreamed of. But without wasting hours of precious time navigating the endless possibilities. If you're looking for an authentic and magical safari experience, Cedarberg Africa can help you.

Have questions? Schedule a time to chat or email us at:

Africa Office <u>- web@cedarberg.co.za</u> or +27 27 482 2444

UK Office <u>- info@cedarberg-travel.com</u> or +44 20 8898 8533

Web - www.cedarberg-travel.com





