Great Migration Safari

12 NIGHT ITINERARY

Lake Natron, the Serengeti & Kilimanjaro



AFRICAN POLECAT SAFARIS

TRAVEL DEEP. FEEL MORE.

Welcome to your safari.

13 DAYS / 12 NIGHTS · GREAT MIGRATION

Twelve nights following the migration: north through Maasai country to Lake Natron, two nights on the Mara River in the northern Serengeti, then west, then central, then the crater and Tarangire — finishing with a day on Kilimanjaro, Materuni and the hot springs.

- Follows the migration across four distinct Serengeti regions
- Two nights on the Mara River, where the crossings happen
- Lake Natron, under Ol Doinyo Lengai, at the start
- Luxury lodges and tented camps for all twelve nights
- A private 4×4 and a professional guide throughout
- The Ngorongoro Crater floor
- A cultural day in Mto wa Mbu
- A coffee tour and the waterfall at Materuni
- A swim in the Kikuletwa hot springs
- A guided day hike on Kilimanjaro, no summit attempt needed

DURATION

13 days, 12 nights

BEST TIME

July – October

FROM

US$ 6,943

per person sharing



The itinerary



Day 1

ARRIVAL IN ARUSHA

Arusha Serena Hotel, Resort & Spa

Your guide meets you at Kilimanjaro International Airport and drives you to Arusha Serena Hotel, Resort & Spa, on the shore of Lake Duluti.

Gardens, water, and a day with nothing in it — which you will be glad of, because tomorrow is a long drive.

MEALS Dinner

Day 2

ARUSHA TO LAKE NATRON

Africa Safari Lake Natron

North through Maasai country to Lake Natron, which is one of the most dramatic places in Tanzania and one of the least visited.

The lake is alkaline, shallow and full of flamingo, ringed by volcanic mountains with Ol Doinyo Lengai — still active — standing over it.

You stay at Africa Safari Lake Natron, with all of that in front of you.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch & dinner



The itinerary



Day 3

NATRON TO THE NORTHERN SERENGETI

Mara River Camp, Northern Serengeti

Today you enter the Serengeti from the north-east and work your way towards the Mara River.

Between July and October this is where the migration is: hundreds of thousands of wildebeest and zebra gathered along the river, with everything that hunts them close behind.

A first afternoon game drive, and then Mara River Camp.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch & dinner



Day 4

THE MARA RIVER

Mara River Camp, Northern Serengeti

A full day in the north, which is what a crossing requires — your guide positions you at the crossing points and you wait, because the herds move when they move and not before.

When it happens it is the most violent thing most people will ever watch: crocodile in the water, predators on the bank, and a great deal of noise.

When it does not happen there is still more game per hour here than almost anywhere else in the park.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch & dinner

The itinerary



Day 5

NORTH TO THE WESTERN CORRIDOR

Lahia Tented Lodge, Western Serengeti

After breakfast you cross into the western corridor, a strip of riverine forest and open savannah that runs towards Lake Victoria and carries its own migration routes.

You stay at Lahia Tented Lodge, which looks out a long way.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Day 6

INTO THE SERONERA VALLEY

Kubu Kubu Tented Lodge, Central Serengeti

East into the Seronera Valley, the heart of the park and the densest predator country in it — leopard in the riverine trees, lion on the kopjes, cheetah on the open ground.

An afternoon working the valley, and then Kubu Kubu Tented Lodge.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch & dinner



The itinerary



Day 7

CENTRAL SERENGETI TO NGORONGORO

Lion's Paw Camp, Ngorongoro Crater rim

One last morning game drive in the central Serengeti, and then the climb east through the highlands.

You finish at Lion's Paw Camp, set near the crater rim, ready for the descent in the morning.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch & dinner



Day 8

SIX HUNDRED METRES DOWN

Kitela Lodge, Karatu

The descent into the crater is more than six hundred metres, and what is at the bottom is one of the highest concentrations of wildlife on the continent held inside twenty kilometres of caldera.

The Big Five are all possible in the day, black rhino included, along with hippo, hyena and flamingo.

Afterwards you climb out and carry on to Kitela Lodge in the Karatu highlands.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch & dinner

The itinerary



Day 9

MTO WA MBU, THEN TARANGIRE

Elephant Springs by Karibu Camps, Tarangire

A morning in Mto wa Mbu — farms, the market, and a town where a remarkable number of Tanzania's communities live within a few streets of each other.

Then south to Tarangire and Elephant Springs by Karibu Camps.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch & dinner



Day 10

TARANGIRE

Meliá Arusha

A full day in Tarangire, following the river through the baobabs to the elephant herds the park is known for.

Afterwards, the road back to Arusha and Meliá Arusha.

MEALS Breakfast, lunch & dinner

The itinerary



Day 11

A DAY ON KILIMANJARO — THE MARANGU ROUTE

Pink Flamingo Boutique Hotel, Marangu

After breakfast you drive to the Marangu Gate, where the oldest route up Kilimanjaro starts.

The day hike takes you up through the rainforest with a local guide — enough of the mountain to understand it, without a week of it.

You come back down to Marangu and stay at the Pink Flamingo Boutique Hotel.

MEALS Breakfast & lunch

Day 12

MATERUNI FALLS & KIKULETWA HOT SPRINGS

Meliá Arusha

Materuni Village in the morning, on the slopes of Kilimanjaro: a guided walk through the coffee to the waterfall, and the coffee-growing itself, which the Chagga will take you through properly.

Then Kikuletwa, where warm, startlingly clear water sits under fig trees and you can swim in it.

Back to Arusha for the last night.

MEALS Breakfast & lunch



The itinerary



Day 13

SHANGA, THE CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTRE & DEPARTURE

Shanga first, where artisans with disabilities make jewellery, glassware, textiles and homeware, and will show you the workshop.

Then the Cultural Heritage Centre — carvings, gemstones and a very large amount of Tanzanian art under one roof.

Afterwards, on to Kilimanjaro International Airport for your onward flight.

MEALS Breakfast & lunch

The details

ITINERARY RATE	From US$ 6,943, per person sharing. July to October is the window for the Mara River crossings, and this itinerary is built around it. The crossings themselves depend on the rain and on the herds — no operator can put a date on them.
ACCOMMODATION	Arusha Serena Hotel, Resort & Spa · Africa Safari Lake Natron · Mara River Camp, Northern Serengeti · Lahia Tented Lodge, Western Serengeti · Kubu Kubu Tented Lodge, Central Serengeti · Lion's Paw Camp, Ngorongoro Crater rim · Kitela Lodge, Karatu · Elephant Springs by Karibu Camps, Tarangire · Meliá Arusha · Pink Flamingo Boutique Hotel, Marangu
INCLUDED	A private luxury 4×4 safari vehicle with a pop-up roof A professional English-speaking safari guide throughout All luxury accommodation as listed All meals as specified in the itinerary All game drives listed, across four Serengeti regions The Ngorongoro Crater descent The Mto wa Mbu cultural experience The Materuni coffee tour and waterfall walk The Kikuletwa Hot Springs visit The guided Kilimanjaro day hike on the Marangu route Park and conservation area fees Airport transfers on arrival and departure Bottled water, soft drinks, beer, wine and snacks on safari
EXCLUDED	International flights to and from Kilimanjaro (JRO) Tanzanian visa fees Travel insurance Items of a personal nature Tips and gratuities for your guide and lodge staff Optional activities not listed in the itinerary

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