

## Kenya Safari Experience - DKKNG

8 days: Nairobi to Nairobi

### What's Included

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Café Ubuntu and Ubuntu Made, Maai Mahiu
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Kenya Wildlife Service Amboseli Talk, Amboseli National Park
- Your G for Good Moment: Café Ubuntu , Maai Mahiu
- Arrival transfer
- Entrances and wildlife safari drives in Masai Mara National Reserve, Lake Nakuru National Park, and Amboseli National Park
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing January 21st, 2017 and onwards

### Itinerary

**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

#### Day 1 Nairobi

Arrive at any time. Arrival transfer included.

Our trips throughout Kenya and Tanzania have a maximum group size of six travellers in addition to a CEO and a driver who are both trained safari guides. That means everyone gets a window seat and twice the insight about the astounding wildlife all around you.

This trip covers long distances to visit 3 different wildlife parks in a short period of time and is a very busy trip. Please be prepared for a lot of driving over some very rough, bumpy and often unmaintained roads, which is the norm for Kenya.

#### Private Vehicle

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport - Nairobi

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

#### Arrival Day and Welcome Meeting

1h

The adventure begins tonight. Feel free to explore before your welcome meeting, but make sure you're back in time to meet the group. After introductions, your CEO will review the details of your tour. Please note that normal check-in times apply at our start hotels, but you can usually store your luggage for the day if you arrive early.

#### Optional Activities - Day 1

##### David Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage Visit

Nairobi 5h30m-6h

26-65USD per person

Established in memory of the founder of Kenya's giant Tsavo East National Park, David Sheldrick, this organization strives to help save the lives of orphaned elephants and rhinos before they are released back into the wild. Entrance fees assist in feeding and nurturing the animals.

##### National Museum

Nairobi

21-33USD per person

Take a stroll through this museum to get a better understanding of Kenya's rich heritage through a range of cultural and natural-history exhibits. Learn more about the region's bird population at the Birds of East Africa exhibit, a huge gallery of at least 900 stuffed specimens. Get a refreshing take on Kenyan history counterpoint to colonial historiographies at the Historia Ya Kenya display. Entrance fee and hotel pick-up included.

### **Railway Museum**

Nairobi

6USD per person

Adjacent to the Nairobi railway station, this museum contains exhibits from the East African Railways opened in 1971.

### **Karen Blixen Museum**

Nairobi

34-73USD per person

Converted from the former home of pioneer coffee farmer and acclaimed writer Karen Blixen, this museum provides visitors insight into life of a Danish settler in pre-Independence Kenya. Take a walk through the home, and magnificent gardens that provide a stunning view of the Ngong hills. Hotel pick-up and entrance fee included.

### **The Carnivore Restaurant**

Nairobi

51-82USD per person

Feast on a range of familiar and exotic meats roasted over an open flame barbecue pit. Ever wanted to try ostrich or crocodile? Here's your chance to do so (at a world-renowned restaurant, at that). Price includes the price of a meal (without a beverage) and hotel pick-up.

### **Accommodation**

#### **Jacaranda Hotel (or similar)**

Hotel

### **Day 2 Nairobi/Masai Mara**

Travel to our comfortable tented camp located in the heart of the wildlife reserve. Enjoy a wildlife safari drive this evening, then settle back at the camp and enjoy views overlooking the plains of the reserve.

After breakfast, we depart for the world famous Masai Mara National Reserve. With its vast open plains and flat-topped acacia trees, no visit to Kenya would be complete without a visit here. In the afternoon, we will arrive in the area, and get settled at our safari camp, our base for our time here. Then we'll make our way into the reserve for an afternoon wildlife safari drive, with excellent chances of seeing the Big Five: buffalo, elephant, leopard, lion, and rhino.

The road in and back out of the park is very rough and very bumpy but once you catch a glimpse of the stunning wildlife, it is worth a bit of discomfort.

### **Safari vehicle**

Nairobi - Masai Mara 6h386km

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride.

### **Masai Mara Wildlife Safari Drive**

Masai Mara

Masai Mara is one of the world's top safari destinations, known for its abundance of big cats - cheetahs, leopards, and lions - as well as the two million wildebeest, Thomson's gazelles, and zebra that migrate annually across the vast grasslands in search of water. Set off on safari with our driver/guide and keep your eyes and ears peeled for movement and memories. Watch elephants and giraffe grazing, photograph zebras and wildebeest, and with a little luck, you'll even spot animals feasting on a recent kill.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Accommodation**

#### **Fig Tree Camp (or similar)**

Campground

### **Day 3 Masai Mara**

Enjoy an early morning wildlife safari drive. The day continues with more wildlife viewing as you cross the rolling hills of the African savannah. Also enjoy a late afternoon/evening safari.

### **Safari vehicle**

Masai Mara

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride.

### **Masai Mara Wildlife Safari Drive**

Masai Mara

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### **Free Time**

Masai Mara

In the evenings, settle back at the camp with a cool drink and enjoy sweeping views of the plains of the wildlife reserve.

### **Optional Activities - Day 3**

#### **Masai Mara Balloon Safari**

Masai Mara

599USD per person

The adventure begins just before dawn and lasts an hour in the sky. Fly over the Mara River, plains, and forests of the Masai Mara. Toast your return to earth with a champagne breakfast, cooked wherever you land.

Please note that single passengers can book on this activity, the balloon will require a minimum of two passengers to take flight. In the rare case that this minimum is not reached by the time of your flight, passengers will be refunded for this activity.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

### **Accommodation**

#### **Fig Tree Camp (or similar)**

Campground

### **Day 4 Masai Mara/Lake Nakuru National Park**

Depart early on a long, but beautiful, drive to Lake Nakuru. En route, stop in at a G Adventures for Good-supported project, Ubuntu Café -- an initiative that trains and creates local jobs for women. Visit the craft centre, meet some of the Mamas in the program, then sit down to a delicious farm-to-table lunch. Continue to our safari lodge inside the Lake Nakuru National Park. Enjoy a late afternoon wildlife safari drive, paying special attention to the rare rhinos who make this area their home.

On this afternoon wildlife safari drive, keep an eye out for the resident black and white rhino, buffalo, impala, and the elusive leopard.

Today is a very long driving day but we do break it up with a wonderful visit and lunch at the Ubuntu Cafe.

### **Safari vehicle**

Masai Mara - Maai Mahiu4h Morning210km

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride.

### **Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Café Ubuntu and Ubuntu Made**

Enjoy a guided tour of the centre and meet some of the mothers who work here creating handicrafts. Learn how the lives of these "mamas" have been impacted and, in turn, their communities empowered through this G Adventures-supported initiative.

### **Your G for Good Moment: Café Ubuntu**

In the rural settlement of Maai Mahiu is the very special G Adventures for Good supported project, Ubuntu Café. A true social enterprise in the heart of Kenya, this initiative empowers the community, creating over 400 sustainable local jobs for mothers of children with disabilities, and supporting pediatric health and education programs in the region. Sit down to a delicious, organic farm-to-table lunch.

### **Safari vehicle**

Maai Mahiu - Lake Nakuru National Park2h30m Afternoon120km

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride.

#### **Lake Nakuru Wildlife Safari Drive**

Lake Nakuru National Park 1h30m Evening

Search for rhinos, buffalo, impalas, hyenas, and even lions and leopards on the wildlife safari drive in this renowned national park. Head to the shores of Lake Nakuru to see pelicans and cormorants. The park is also rich in other bird life, including grebes, white winged black terns, stilts, avocets, and ducks.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

#### **Accommodation**

**Lake Nakuru Lodge (or similar)**

Resort

#### **Day 5 Lake Nakuru National Park/Amboseli National Park**

After a morning wildlife safari drive, venture south to famed Amboseli National Park located at the foot of Africa's highest mountain, Mt Kilimanjaro. The snow-capped peak of the mountain dominates every aspect of the park, providing the ultimate photo backdrop.

#### **Lake Nakuru Wildlife Safari Drive**

Lake Nakuru National Park 2h

Search for rhinos, buffalo, impalas, hyenas, and even lions and leopards on the wildlife safari drive in this renowned national park. Head to the shores of Lake Nakuru to see pelicans and cormorants. The park is also rich in other bird life, including grebes, white winged black terns, stilts, avocets, and ducks.

#### **Safari vehicle**

Lake Nakuru National Park - Amboseli National Park

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

#### **Accommodation**

**Kilima Camp (or similar)**

Campground

#### **Day 6 Amboseli National Park**

Enjoy morning and afternoon wildlife safari drives today. During your down time, relax at camp, enjoying views of Mt Kilimanjaro and wildlife visiting the camp's watering holes. Gain a deeper understanding of the issues surrounding poaching and elephant conservation during a lecture by an accredited speaker from the Kenya Wildlife Service.

#### **Amboseli Wildlife Safari Drive**

Amboseli National Park

Charge up your camera batteries and get ready to document the drama of Amboseli. Big sky. Big mountain. Big elephants. Visit with some of the 1,500 African elephants that roam the park. Look for other wildlife and meet the resident Maasai along the journey. Marvel in the beauty of Mt Kilimanjaro, the world's highest free-standing mountain, as it reigns over the landscape of this uniquely African location.

#### **Safari vehicle**

Amboseli National Park

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride.

#### **Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Kenya Wildlife Service Amboseli Talk**

Amboseli National Park is renowned for its incredible elephant population. Gain a deeper understanding of the issues surrounding human and wildlife conflict and elephant conservation during a lecture here by an accredited speaker from the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). The KWS strives to sustainably conserve and develop Kenya's wildlife and its habitats, as well as create programs to enable communities living in wildlife areas to benefit from wildlife revenue. National Geographic has supported many research projects working jointly with KWS researchers in the field. The chairman of the KWS is renowned conservationist Richard Leakey, a long-time collaborator and multiple grantee of the National Geographic Society.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner**

**Accommodation**

**Kilima Camp (or similar)**

Campground

**Day 7 Amboseli National Park/Nairobi**

Enjoy the stunning African sunrise on our last wildlife safari drive, before departing back to Kenya's capital.

Rise early for a final morning wildlife safari drive, enjoying the African sun as it rises over the savannah of the Amboseli plain. Return to Nairobi in the late afternoon and opt to join the CEO in a farewell dinner.

**Amboseli Wildlife Safari Drive**

Amboseli National Park

Charge up your camera batteries and get ready to document the drama of Amboseli. Big sky. Big mountain. Big elephants. Visit with some of the 1,500 African elephants that roam the park. Look for other wildlife and meet the resident Maasai along the journey. Marvel in the beauty of Mt Kilimanjaro, the world's highest free-standing mountain, as it reigns over the landscape of this uniquely African location.

**Safari vehicle**

Amboseli National Park - Nairobi 4h30m-5h235km

Get a better view and take better snapshots aboard this off-road ride.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch**

**Accommodation**

**Jacaranda Hotel (or similar)**

Hotel

**Day 8 Nairobi**

Depart at any time.

**Departure Day**

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

**Optional Activities - Day 8**

**The Carnivore Restaurant**

Nairobi

51-82USD per person

Feast on a range of familiar and exotic meats roasted over an open flame barbecue pit. Ever wanted to try ostrich or crocodile? Here's your chance to do so (at a world-renowned restaurant, at that). Price includes the price of a meal (without a beverage) and hotel pick-up.

**Karen Blixen Museum**

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**David Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage Visit**

Nairobi 5h30m-6h

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Established in memory of the founder of Kenya's giant Tsavo East National Park, David Sheldrick, this organization strives to help save the lives of orphaned elephants and rhinos before they are released back into the wild. Entrance fees assist in feeding and nurturing the animals.

**Railway Museum**

Nairobi

6USD per person

Adjacent to the Nairobi railway station, this museum contains exhibits from the East African Railways opened in 1971.

### **Bomas of Kenya Tour**

Nairobi

26-65USD per person

This tour gives you a glimpse into the life of 42 different tribes of the country that make up Kenya's rich culture. Get a better understanding of village life by visiting homesteads and enjoy a display and sounds of folk dances performed. Entrance fee and hotel pick-up included.

### **National Museum**

Nairobi

21-33USD per person

Take a stroll through this museum to get a better understanding of Kenya's rich heritage through a range of cultural and natural-history exhibits. Learn more about the region's bird population at the Birds of East Africa exhibit, a huge gallery of at least 900 stuffed specimens. Get a refreshing take on Kenyan history counterpoint to colonial historiographies at the Historia Ya Kenya display. Entrance fee and hotel pick-up included.

**Meals included: Breakfast**

### **What's Included**

Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Café Ubuntu and Ubuntu Made, Maai Mahiu

Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Kenya Wildlife Service Amboseli Talk, Amboseli National Park

Your G for Good Moment: Café Ubuntu , Maai Mahiu. Arrival transfer. Entrances and wildlife safari drives in Masai Mara National Reserve, Lake Nakuru National Park, and Amboseli National Park. All transport between destinations and to/from included activities.

### **Highlights**

Witness the iconic wildlife at the foot of Mt Kilimanjaro, Visit the Maasai and learn their way of life, Gain a deeper understanding about elephant conservation, Embark on a sunrise wildlife safari drive

### **Dossier Disclaimer**

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### **Itinerary Disclaimer**

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

### **Important Notes**

#### **1. MIGRATION**

Tanzania and Kenya

The Seronera Plains, which lie in the southeast of the National Park and extend into the western Ngorongoro Conservation Area, form the main ungulate calving grounds of the Serengeti. The wildebeest typically disperse into the Seronera plains during the short rains, which fall in late November or early December, before calving in January, and staying put until the end of the long rains from January to early May. Towards the end of April the wildebeest start to congregate on the southern plains in the preparation for the 800km northward migration. The major obstacle faced by the wildebeest on this migration is the crossing for the Grumeti River through the western corridor, which typically occurs from June into early July. From July to October, the ungulates disperse again, with about half of them crossing the Mara River into Kenya's Masai Mara National Reserve and the remainder spreading out through the northern and western Serengeti. By late October the animals have generally started to plod back southward to the Seronera Plains, to arrive there in late November when the cycle starts all over again.

## 2. COMBO TRIP

DKTNG passengers will be dropped at the Namanga border crossing en route to Nairobi on day 7 to continue their journey into Tanzania. All other passengers will return to Nairobi.

Please note that this tour combines with other G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and some travel companions on your tour may have previously been traveling together with G Adventures, prior to Day 1 of your tour. Likewise, some staff and travel companions may be continuing together on another G Adventures tour, after your trip concludes.

## 3. TRAVEL DAYS

This is not a physically demanding journey; however, travelling can be difficult, as long drives and poor road conditions are the rule as opposed to the exception in Kenya. A safari is about travelling to see animals, so we cover long distances crossing the country to visit different national parks. Once there, we spend the majority of the time viewing wildlife while driving in the parks. This translates to a lot of driving. Despite this, the diversity and scenery of the African landscape, the local culture and abundant wildlife are all well worth the experience.

## 4. ELECTRICITY

All lodges will have electricity although many work off generators with limited times.

The power supply in Kenya is nominally 240VAC, 50hz. Variable voltage, spikes and sporadic, unexpected, unscheduled power cuts of varying duration can be expected.

## 5. YELLOW FEVER

It may be required to show a Yellow Fever certificate upon entering the country visited. Please check in with your local health expert for advice on Yellow Fever and other inoculations required for this area.

## 6. ACCOMMODATION

Please note all accommodation is not guaranteed, and is subject to change.

## Group Leader Description

Throughout the entire 8-day journey around Kenya, you will be accompanied on your trip by a G Adventures Chief Experience Officer (CEO). The Chief Experience Officer (CEO) will be the group manager and leader. He/she organizes the trip, and will be there to assist you when needed. Your leader may be from East Africa, or another country outside of the region, and will have a general knowledge base of the region and wildlife. He/she will take care of the small things so you can concentrate on enjoying your adventure. To round out the team, you will be joined by an expert driver/guide, who, as a skilled and experienced driver and a certified safari guide, is an integral part of the team.

## Group Size Notes

Max 6, Avg 5.

## Meals Included

7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 5 dinners

## Meals

These meals are provided at the hotels or lodges in which you are accommodated. When an evening meal is not included, your hotel will have a restaurant or you will be advised of a good local establishment. All meals you have during your trip will be prepared from fresh local produce. All hotels cater to vegetarians; however, any other dietary requirements need to be specified prior to arrival. Please note all bottled drinking water will be at your own expense.

## Transport

7-seat 4x4 safari vehicle.

## About our Transportation

This trip is done in private 7-seat 4x4 safari vehicle. With sliding windows and a large pop-up roofs, these are designed for wildlife viewing. Road conditions can run the full range of conditions from new to very poor, and during dry seasons, the roads can become very dusty. This style of travel is the best under the local circumstances, as the seats are comfortable and having our own private vehicle allow us the flexibility of making stops when needed, and to stay and watch that crouching lion prepare for an attack.

Speed governors set to 80kph are used on all vehicles to ensure a safe driving speed. Please note for your own safety it is mandatory to wear your seat belt at all times when in a vehicle.

All G Adventure vehicles are regularly serviced and follow a strict maintenance schedule. However given the long travel days and rough conditions of many of the roads in Africa, vehicles can and do breakdown on occasion. If such situations occur all drivers are trained mechanics and any vehicle issues are rectified as quickly as possible so as to not disrupt your trip. Your patience is requested if the vehicle you are traveling in happens to encounter a mechanical fault.

## Solo Travellers

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## **Accommodation**

Hotels (2 nts), safari lodge (1 nt), comfortable tented camps (4 nts).

## **My Own Room**

Please note if you have booked the My Own Room/Tent option for this tour, you will receive your own single accommodation for all night stops.

## **About Accommodation**

Start and end hotels on this tour offer comfortable accommodations with en-suite bathrooms, standard facilities, and wifi. Additional amenities vary from location to location. Please see the hotel listings on the Full Itinerary if you would like to learn more about the offerings of your accommodations.

The tented camp accommodations on this tour are situated centrally, with easy access to the park for wildlife safari drives. Tents are typically spacious with mosquito-proof netting, comfortable bedding, and en-suite bathroom with flushing toilets and camping showers.

Please remember that hotel/lodge/camp standards can be different from what you are used to in your home country, which is part of the appeal of adventure travel.

Note:

- 1) Under certain circumstances we reserve the right to change accommodation and provide something slightly different to what is described, though it will always be of similar or better standard/level.
- 2) Most lodges and camps do not have 24hr electricity - they usually run on generators which are routinely shut off overnight from approximately 10pm to 5am.
- 3) Lodges and camps are NOT equipped with fans or air conditioning due to the electricity constraints listed above.

## **Joining Hotel**

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

## **Joining Instructions**

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through National Geographic Journeys in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Our driver will be waiting for you with a National Geographic Journeys sign with your name on it, and they will be waiting for you outside the luggage hall. There most likely will be many signs, so please check carefully for your name. In the unlikely case, you are unable to find the guide after 30 minutes, please call our local support line

Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned, so you may arrive at any time. Similarly the last day is a departure day in which no activities are planned.

Your CEO will contact you at the hotel on Day 1 and make sure you are settled comfortably. If you arrive late, they will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning. Your CEO will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip.

## **Arrival Complications**

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details.

We strongly advise you to pre-purchase your entry visa prior to arrival as queuing for the visa at the airport can cause long delays in clearing customs. This is especially relevant if you have pre-booked an airport transfer.

If you have pre-booked an airport transfer, it is necessary to make contact with our representative, who waits with a G Adventures sign outside the secure baggage-retrieval area, within 1.5 hours (90 minutes) of your flight's scheduled arrival time. No refunds will be granted if you fail to make contact with our representative within this reasonable time. After such time, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions.

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you receive notification of a flight schedule change outside of 48 hours before your flight is scheduled to arrive, please contact us to advise of your new flight details.

Sales offices:

From within Australia - 1-300-796-618

From within Canada or the United States - 1-800-465-6500

From within the UK - 0870 999-0144

From anywhere else - +1-416-260-0999

**\*Important note\*** If you are advised of the flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please contact the airport transfer operator listed as the emergency contact for your tour which can be found below. We will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

## Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, we will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

For any issues relating to pre-booked transfers for Nairobi Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, including delays or missed transfers, please contact our airport transfer operator:

Phelix: +254 729 692 653 (from outside of Kenya)

Phelix: 0729 692 653(from within Kenya)

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Local Office (Nairobi, Kenya)

Emergency number

From outside Kenya: +254 727 208 832

From within Kenya: 0727 208 832

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below, which will connect you directly with our 24 hour Sales team, who will happily assist you.

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## What to Take

You will be on the move a lot, so our advice is to pack as lightly as possible. Your baggage should be clearly labelled and restricted to one soft compact suitcase, sports bag, or backpack, no larger than 30cm(height) x 30cm(width) x 60cm(length), maximum 15kg, plus a daypack. Luggage limits on airlines are strictly enforced, and due to limited vehicle capacity, the cost of transporting any luggage beyond these restrictions is the responsibility of the client. Please note, if you are travelling with a large amount of luggage and wish to leave a portion of it at the start hotel, this is indeed possible as storage facilities are available.

It is important to pack clothes for warm days and cool evenings, as well as a warm jacket for early morning safaris. Light, quick-drying, practical clothes are advisable for this safari trip. A set of smart casual clothes is also advisable for your time in Nairobi.

## Packing List

Cold Weather:

\* Long-sleeved shirts or sweater

\* Scarf

\* Warm gloves

\* Warm hat

\* Warm layers

Documents:

\* Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)

\* Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)

\* Passport (required) (With photocopies)

\* Required visas or vaccination certificates (required) (With photocopies)

\* Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)

Essentials:

\* Binoculars (optional)

\* Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)

\* Cash, credit and debit cards

- \* Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- \* Ear plugs
- \* First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- \* Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- \* Fleece top/sweater
- \* Footwear
- \* Hat
- \* Locks for bags
- \* Long pants/jeans
- \* Moneybelt
- \* Outlet adapter
- \* Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- \* Reusable water bottle
- \* Shirts/t-shirts
- \* Sleepwear
- \* Small travel towel
- \* Sunglasses
- \* Toiletries (Preferably biodegradable)
- \* Watch and alarm clock
- \* Waterproof backpack cover
- \* Windproof rain jacket

#### Smart Dress:

- \* Smart outfit (For evenings out)

#### Warm Weather:

- \* Sandals/flip-flops
- \* Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- \* Sun hat/bandana
- \* Swimwear

Note: The climate in East Africa varies between the dry and rainy season. Please ensure you bring a windproof rain jacket if you are travelling between April & May, October & November.

## Laundry

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels and lodges for a charge. You should write a list of items that you send for washing. It will be difficult for hotels to have your laundry ready if you arrive in the late afternoon and leave the next morning, so the lodge in the Masai Mara would be the best place, since you are there for a few days.

## Visas and Entry Requirements

All countries require travellers to have a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). The Kenyan Government has introduced an electronic visa process with effect from July 2nd. Travellers wishing to enter Kenya need to visit [www.ecitizen.go.ke](http://www.ecitizen.go.ke) and follow instructions for processing their electronic visa in advance of their arrival into Kenya. As this measure was introduced with little advance notice, there is a grace period where travellers may continue to apply upon arrival into Kenya for their visa. A transit visa, which is valid for 6 nights / 7 days within Kenya, for one entry into Kenya only, costs US\$10 OR 10 GBP OR 10 EUR or 10 SWF. Please note that Kenya is now strictly enforcing a "blank pages, condition of entry". All those requiring a visa on arrival must have at least two blank pages available in their passports. Failure to meet this requirement could mean that entry will be refused. This information is accurate at the time of writing. Though as fees and policies can change, we highly recommend that you contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your responsibility to have the correct travel documentation.

### East Africa Tourist Visa

An East Africa Tourist Visa allows the holder to move freely between Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda with only one Visa, and is valid for a period of 90 days. It also acts as a multiple entry Visa, so if you leave any of the above countries, you do not need a new Visa to re-enter (provided it is within the 90 day validity period). These need to be applied for in advance, and you should contact the foreign Embassy (of the country you will be entering through) for more details. The cost is 100USD.

Please see below for more information:

<http://www.visiteastafrica.org/travel-guide/visa-information>

### IMPORTANT NOTE

It may be required to show a Yellow Fever certificate upon entering the country. Please check in with your local consulate and health expert for advice on Yellow Fever and other inoculations required for this area.

## Spending Money

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## Money Exchange

The local currency in Kenya is the Kenyan Shilling (KES, or KSH).

Shillings can be obtained locally by changing foreign currency or by using ATMs (where available) which will dispense local currency. Your CEO will inform you where you can change money throughout the tour and approximately how much money you will need for each country.

The easiest foreign currency to exchange for locally for any of the local currencies is the \$US; however the British Pound and Euro may also be exchanged as well. Please note that due to past problems with forgery, \$US notes that are older than year 2006 are not accepted in Africa.

Large note (\$US 50, \$US 100 etc) can be difficult to change in some places, but will gain you the best exchange rate.

If you plan to rely on cash, please bring foreign currency (Euro, Pound, USD) with you, as it is often expensive to buy these currencies locally. And in more rural areas, it is often not likely.

If you plan to buy your visas at borders, you will need to bring \$USD cash to pay for these visas. Please note you cannot use the local currency or any other currency to buy these visas- they must be purchased in USD.

Please do not bring Travellers' cheques to Africa. They are difficult if not impossible to exchange in many places.

Visa/Plus system cards are the most widely accepted debit cards. It is harder to find machines Mastercard/Cirrus cards. We highly recommend that if you hold a Mastercard, you obtain a Visa card prior to departure and travel with both. This is also useful should something unforeseen happen to one of your cards during your travels.

While there are many ATMs in the major centres, there are no guarantees that your credit or debit cards will actually work in Africa. Check with your bank.

Credit cards can be used in major cities and towns ONLY but please do not rely on them as a method of payment because they are generally not widely accepted. You should be aware that to purchase products or services on a credit card a fee of 5%-10% usually applies. The majority of our optional activities can also be paid by credit card. Your CEO will advise on these.

Please note that in many areas there may be occasional power-outages, where there will be no electricity for hours at a time. In addition, ATMs outside of larger centers often run out of cash or can be out of order unexpectedly. These factors could affect your ability to access money from ATMs. As such, please do not rely on credit or debit cards as your only source of money.

A combination of foreign currency and debit/credit cards for cash advances is best. Always take more rather than less, as you don't want to spoil the trip by constantly feeling short of funds.

As currency exchange rates can fluctuate often we ask that you refer to the following website for daily exchange rates: [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com).

## Emergency Fund

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## Departure Tax

USD40, usually included in most international air tickets.

## Tipping

Tipping is an expected, though not compulsory, component of your tour program. The gesture serves as an expression of appreciation for exceptional service, and amounts given are up to your discretion.

Tipping is one of the most direct ways that you can have a positive economic impact within the African community. Although it may not be customary for you, it is an important source of income for those in the tourism industry. Giving a tip should be seen as a formal 'thank you', and the action should in no way be awkward.

The best method of tipping someone that has served the whole group is to plan in advance, and not rush when it comes to saying goodbye. A suggestion would be for each group member to contribute anonymously by putting their tip into an envelope. This often works the best and the group should gather to present the gift to the recipient(s), offering their thanks and showing their appreciation. This method brings the action out into the open, allowing for a friendly and appreciative interaction between the group and the recipient(s).

You may use the following as a guideline, all given in a per person format:

CEO and drivers: \$5-10 USD each, per day worked.

Supply Driver \$3-5 USD (full day).

Safari Supply Driver (Balloon Safari): \$3-5 USD

Restaurant/Café servers: 10% of cost of bill, especially when in a large group (no envelope required).

Local guides: \$1 USD for every couple of hours

## Optional Activities

### Nairobi

- Karen Blixen Museum (34-73USD per person)
- Railway Museum (6USD per person)
- The Carnivore Restaurant (51-82USD per person)
- National Museum (21-33USD per person)
- David Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage Visit (26-65USD per person)
- Bomas of Kenya Tour (26-65USD per person)

### Masai Mara

- Masai Mara Balloon Safari (599USD per person)

## Health

We recommend you contact your family physician, or your local travel clinic for the most up-to-date health information at least one month before departure. Travellers should also carry a basic first-aid kit and hand sanitizers/antibacterial wipes on their travels. Medical facilities are basic throughout these countries. For your own safety, we strongly recommend that you advise your tour leader of any medical condition that may affect you while travelling with the group. Your tour leader will be able to inform you of local health advisories (e.g. drinking water quality). Please ensure you have all the inoculations recommended by your doctor.

Yellow Fever Certificate Note: (Updated: May 2017)

It is compulsory to show a valid Yellow Fever Certificate if you are travelling to the following G Adventures-visited countries from a Yellow Fever endemic country:

- Botswana
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Rwanda
- South Africa
- Swaziland
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

For some of these countries, proof of Yellow Fever vaccination is also required for passengers who have travelled more than 12 hours through the airport of an endemic country. If other countries not endemic to Yellow Fever have been visited after visiting an endemic country, then a Yellow Fever certificate may still be required on entry. Please check country-specific regulations before your departure.

### Malaria

Malaria is a mosquito-borne disease that is present in some regions in Africa. Risk of malaria can increase during periods of heavy rain, during the rainy seasons, and in densely populated areas of Southern & East Africa. To prevent malaria, we recommend speaking to your doctor about taking preventative medication (prophylaxis), combined with regular use of insect repellent spray/cream. Please check updated travel health advisories specific to malaria before your departure.

## Safety and Security

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or

protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

[www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/](http://www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/)

## Trip Specific Safety

### NAIROBI

...isn't classed as a safe city. Some precautions you should take are:

\*Always leave your passport (It's better to carry a photocopy of it instead), traveller's cheques, flight tickets and money that you won't be using in the safe deposit at the hotel reception. This is free of charge to G Adventures clients.

\*Remember that like in any other city, you should never leave your bags unattended, nor flaunt jewellery, cameras etc

\*Please don't wander through the city to unknown areas especially at night. Stick to the main streets only during the day, and after sundown, please take a taxi. Taxis can be organised from reception. Also, take the address of the hotel with you.

\*People are generally friendly, but don't let people take advantage of you, especially the sales people!

\* Beware of people approaching you on the street with an apparent interest of where you are from, and want to sit down and have a chat with you. These people are con men and will ask you for money.

\* People on the street who ask you if you want a safari and have a brochure are often con men, best to avoid these folk. Besides, you're already on safari

PHOTOGRAPHY: Please do not take photo's of Police stations or at Cross borders Airports, army barracks and personnel or any Government building. It is against the law and will result in the minimum of your film and camera being confiscated.

## A Couple of Rules

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk.

Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

## Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## Planeterra-The G Adventures Foundation

The Planeterra Foundation [planeterra.org](http://planeterra.org) is a Canadian non-profit organization that helps empower local people to develop their communities, conserve their cultures, and create humane and supportive systems for their endeavours. Planeterra provides capacity building and catalyst grants to get community social enterprises off the ground. These businesses address local challenges by providing benefits for indigenous people, empowering marginalized women, and granting disadvantaged youth access to education, employment, and brighter futures. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating programs into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

### Dollar-a-Day Program

G Adventures' Dollar-a-Day Program provides travellers with the opportunity to give back to the people and places visited on our tours by donating one dollar for every day you are on trip. 100% of these donations go directly to support community development projects worldwide that are implemented by Planeterra.

## Feedback

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at [customerservice@gadventures.com](mailto:customerservice@gadventures.com) and we will send it on to you.

## Newsletter

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation - Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## **Minimum Age**

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

## **International Flights**

Check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.