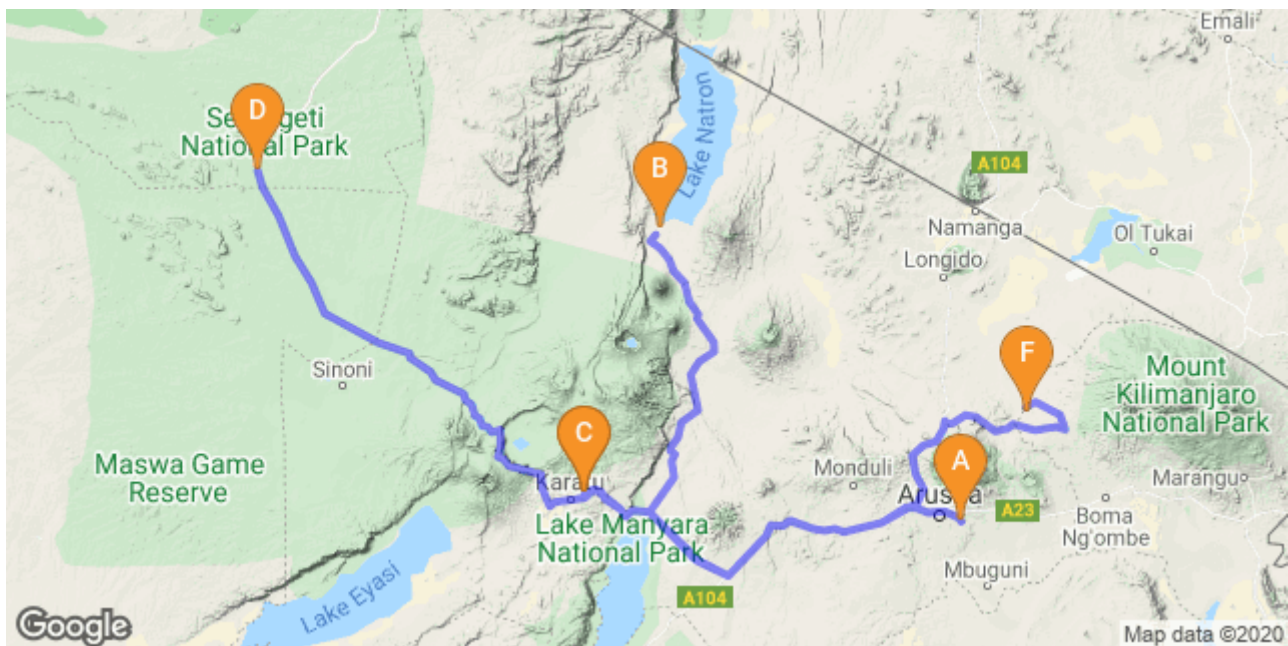




Tanzania Special: Lake Natrón & Tribes

Arusha - Lake Natron – Lake Manyara - Lake Eyasi - Ngorongoro - Central Serengeti - West Kilimanjaro
10 days / 9 Nights



Day 1: Villa Maua, Arusha



Arusha is the safari capital of Tanzania located at the foot of Mt. Meru, close to Mount Kilimanjaro, the Manyara, Tarangire and Ngorongoro National Parks. From there it's only a short trip to the Serengeti. Just to the north, on the slopes of Mt. Meru is the Arusha National Park. Built by the Germans as a centre of colonial administration because of the temperate climate, Arusha is a good spot to take a day or two off from your safari.

Day Itinerary

Karibu Tanzania! (Welcome to Tanzania)!

Arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport and transfer to Villa Maua for check in, dinner and overnight. The drive is approximately 1 hour.

Overnight: Villa Maua

Just a stone's throw from the 'centre of Africa' – being halfway between Cairo and Cape Town – Arusha's Villa Maua (House of Flowers) could not be more 'central' than its prime location in the safari capital of Northern Tanzania. With just nine, spacious and tastefully decorated garden rooms, this elegant, Cape Dutch inspired, boutique property combines the benefits of being in the 'centre of town' with also being sited in one of the historic residential areas of the city.

Ideal for pre or post-safari stays or those visitors with historic or commercial interests in the city, the cosy warmth of Villa Maua creates an ambience of welcome home-style hospitality complete with a fully stocked licensed bar and restaurant. All rooms are fully air-conditioned and equipped with Wi-Fi and satellite televisions.



Included

Private transfer to Villa Maua (English speaking driver/guide).
Accommodation includes dinner, bed and breakfast.

Day 2: Lake Natron Camp, Lake Natron



The waters of this alkaline lake, which is 58 km long and only 50 cm deep, glisten amid the scorched landscape of the Kenyan border, northeast of the Ngorongoro Protected Area. The land beyond Mto wa Mbu is a remote place of arid, otherworldly beauty, causing a unique sense of spaciousness and antiquity. The road runs through the Rift Valley fault through Maasai territory with small bomas (villages) and large mountains that are always in sight in this plain with hardly any trees. Lots of zebras, wildebeest, giraffes and ostriches graze within walking distance.

During the mating season (June to November) more than 3 million flamingos gather, making it the most important enclave in East Africa.

This area is dry and hot all year round, although the most bearable months are June, July and August.

Day Itinerary

Breakfast and departure to Lake Natrón. The distance between Arusha and the lake is about 4 - 5 hours approx by a road without asphalt, sandy and rocky to this inhospitable area. En route you will go through Masai territories, with small villages and large mountains. Zebras, giraffes, ñus, ostriches ... can be seen as they approach this territory.

Arrival at Lake Natron Camp and Lunch.



In the afternoon, walk to the waterfall in Engo sero. This ride winds through a shadowly throat (which is appreciated with the heat of the afternoon) between steep cliffs while crossing the river's channel several times.

However, after 1 hour, you will arrive at a beautiful natural pool surrounded by steep rocky walls - watered by waterfalls of spring water and dominated by palm trees. It is possible to swim in the natural pool. wear a swimsuit and bambas suitable for walking through the water as it is possible. This activity lasts about 2 hours

Overnight: Lake Natron Tented Camp

Wild and remote Lake Natron lies in the northeast of Tanzania in between the Ngorongoro Highlands and Serengeti plains. Here it is the landscape rather than the animals that is the attraction - the area around the lake inhabited by Maasai is dry, desolate and hauntingly beautiful. Situated at the base of Africa's only active volcano Oldonyo Lengai (Mountain of God), Lake Natron is one of the most alkaline lakes in the world. The lake is home to millions of tiny crustaceans, attracting literally thousands of lesser flamingo's and it is therefore one of the most important flamingo breeding grounds on earth. Unique in its setting, Lake Natron Tented Camp is set back in a grove of trees adjacent to the shores of the lake. Basic but clean safari tents offer showers, comfortable beds and a private veranda. A fully stocked bar and candle lit restaurant ensure you have a cold drink and delicious food at the end of an arduous climb or long days walking.



Included

English guide and 4x4 vehicle on private (Toyota Land cruiser 4x4).

Visit Ngare Sero waterfalls.

Accommodation includes breakfast and dinner.

Day 3: Pamoja Olea Farm Lodge, Karatu



Travelers heading to the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater will inevitably pass through the city of Karatu, in the green hills of the northern highlands of Tanzania. Presided over by the mighty Ol Deani Volcano, this colorful little town serves as a popular night stop for visitors exploring the area's many game parks. The city offers a variety of activities including exploring the bustling market, tasting beer at a local brewery, visiting a traditional Iraqi farm, or taking a guided walk through the Ngorongoro Forest in search of waterfalls and elephant caves. Whether they are looking for cultural tours, excursions and cycling, the opportunity to enjoy an authentic rural experience in Tanzania, or simply a break between safaris, this underrated city has a lot to offer.

Day Itinerary

Breakfast and a very early walk to the shores of Lake Natron to enjoy the flamingo show. Hike from the camp to the shores of the great Lake Natron, in which flamingos line up with fascinating views of the active Oldoinyo Lengai volcano. The best time to do this activity is early in the morning to avoid the heat of the day.

Once the activity is finished, departure to the town of Mto Wa Mbu (about 3 hours away) for a local lunch and a tuk tuk excursion. En route to Karatu, the main protagonist for most of the route will be the imposing and sacred Oldoinyo Leng'ai volcano. With an altitude of almost 3000 meters above sea level.

Enjoy a memorable scenic and cultural excursion by tuk tuk through the nearby community of Mto wa Mbu, organized by an expert guide. Begin your adventure by traveling through this bustling town and interacting with its friendly people. Once you have walked through the village, you will continue along a picturesque route, which lends itself to exceptional photographic opportunities.

At the end, departure to your accommodation located 1 hour away.

Overnight: Pamoja Olea Farm Lodge

The lodge perfectly located between the Tarangire and Lake Manyara National Parks on one side and Ngorongoro Conservation Area and Serengeti National Park on the other, this is a great base from which to experience these world-famous reserves as well as enjoy many other adventurous activities in the Region.

From the mighty Big Five- Lions, Leopard, Buffalo, Elephant and Rhino to the tenacious dung Beetle, Elephant shrew, Buffalo Weaver, Leopard tortoise, Rhinoceros beetle, Antlion, from thousands of Butterflies to the Great Migration in Serengeti.

Discover the night skies like you never see before – a billion stars hanging low over your head, almost close enough to touch.

Stand at the edge of Ngorongoro forest and enjoy the risen plateau with Karatu fertile farm land and its Kushi people.



Included

English guide and 4x4 vehicle on private (Toyota Land cruiser 4x4).

Early morning visit to Lake Natron

Cultural tour by Tuk tuk or bicycle around Mto wa Mbu including local lunch.

Accommodation includes breakfast and dinner..

Day 4: Pamoja Olea Farm Lodge, Karatu



Day Itinerary

Lake Eyasi is a seasonal shallow salt lake on the floor of the Great Rift Valley at the base of the Serengeti Plateau. Lake Eyasi tour includes a visit to 2 remote tribes called The Hadzabe and The Datoga and you will be accompanied by a local guide who will help with the language translation.

Early in the morning proceed driving with a local guide into the surrounding hills ridges in search of a Hadzabe encampment; arriving at their last known site of camp upon meeting them you will be introduced to the camp members. Visit their tiny huts, follow the women on a gathering and see how roots are dug, mice are caught and berries and Baobab fruit are gathered and prepared, or follow the men on a hunt. The men are armed with long bows with poison tipped arrows, which you can see produced in the village and honey axes. If they are successful in hunting or finding a beehive, you will be offered to share their meal a small antelope, a Francolin or Guinea fowl as luck dictates that day.

Lunch in Eyasi



In the afternoon set out and visit a Datoga community and learn about their traditional pastoral way of life. The women still wear leather dresses, traditional jewellery and distinctive facial scarification, and the men armed with spears tend to their vast herds. Visit the traditional homesteads and experience their way of life and if you're lucky enough time you will be able to see the traditional Datoga blacksmith that still resides in the area.

In the late afternoon return to the lodge.

Included

English guide and 4x4 vehicle on private (Toyota Land cruiser 4x4).
Visit to Hadzabe and Datooga tribes including lunch.
Accommodation includes breakfast and dinner

Day 5: Serengeti Mbugani Camp, Central Serengeti



Day Itinerary

After an early breakfast drive to Ngorongoro Crater for game drive safari on the crater floor of Ngorongoro. Ngorongoro Crater is a natural wonder of the world and is 20 km in diameter with its own ecosystem due to its enclosed nature.

On Game drive you will spot a lush highland forest, with magnificent birdlife among the different tree species. Once on the grassy crater floor, you may discover a large variety of grazing herbivores, as well as the predators that are attracted by this abundant supply of prey. If you are after **The Big Five**, it is all here waiting for you. Black rhino, Tuskers elephants, lion, leopard and hyena along with healthy herds of wildebeest, buffalo and zebra. The Ngorongoro Crater has the biggest tusked elephants in Tanzania and is home to one of the few concentrated populations of Rhino. The Ngorongoro Conservation Area is famous not only for its beauty and wildlife, but also for the fact that it allows human habitation. The local Maasai tribe still lives within the area.

In the afternoon have your picnic hamper lunch in the crater



After lunch depart to your accommodation in Serengeti for dinner and overnight.

Overnight: Mbugani Camps - Seronera Camp

Enhance your safari adventure with a stay at Mbugani Camps located in Seronera, the heart of Serengeti National Park. This semipermanent camp is open year round to offer clients prime gamewatching and full immersion in nature in a safe, serene, and home-like setting. Clients can enjoy full-course meals prepared onsite, amazing vistas, oversized tented suites with 24/7 water and power, professional and friendly staff, lounge area with bar service, and evenings by the campfire. Each roomy tented suite features queen-size beds, private bath, and windows ideal for taking in fresh air and scenery



Included

English guide and 4x4 vehicle on private (Toyota Land cruiser 4x4).
Ngorongoro Crater Fees and Crater Game Drive. Includes picnic lunch
In-route game drive in Serengeti
Accommodation includes breakfast and dinner

Day 6: Serengeti Mbugani Camp, Central Serengeti



The Serengeti together with Kenya's Masai Mara Game Park form Africa's most famous wildlife park. The image of acacia trees on an endless grass plain epitomises Africa for many, and then add a Masai warrior and some cattle to the picture and the conversation need go no further. The annual wildebeest migration through the Serengeti and the Masai Mara is the largest mass movement of land mammals on the planet – with more than a million animals following the rains. But that is not where the game viewing ends; large prides of lions, elephants and giraffes in grasslands, gazelles and eland to mention but a few. Aside from traditional vehicle safaris, hot-air ballooning over the Serengeti plains has become almost essential and you can even do a horseback safari.

Day Itinerary

Today you will spend the day exploring the Serengeti National Park together with your guide.

Tanzania's oldest and most popular national park, the Serengeti is famous for its annual migration, when some six million hooves hit the open plains, as more than 200,000 zebras and 300,000 Thomson's gazelles join the wildebeest walk to fresh grazing. Yet even when the migration is silent, the Serengeti offers undoubtedly the most scintillating glimpse of the game in Africa: large herds of buffalo, smaller groups of elephants and giraffes, and thousands upon thousands of eland, topi, kongoni, impala. and Grant's gazelle.

Optional activity - Hot air Balloning. :

Enjoy a great experience of a hot air balloon safari. Depart before dawn to the launch site and experience the wakening of wildlife and beautiful sunrise. Upon arrival at the site you will meet your pilot who will demonstrate all necessary safety information

The flight depends mostly on the weather and the wind, thus varies from day to day, but generally it is an hour's flight. On your flight you will experience an eagle's view of the Serengeti and all its beauty and if there is a special activity, the pilot will take the balloon near the treetops for better vision.

On landing, you will be served traditional toast of champagne, followed by breakfast. There is truly nothing to compare with breakfast served in the middle of the Serengeti plains.



Included

English guide and 4x4 vehicle on private (Toyota Land cruiser 4x4).

Serengeti Park fees and game drives

Accommodation includes all meals.

Day 7: Pamoja Olea Farm Lodge, Karatu



Day Itinerary

Early morning game drive in the central of Serengeti National Park on the way to Karatu through the Ngorongoro Conservation Area on the way you can visit Olduvai and its museum arrive to Karatu for dinner at Pamoja Olea Farm Lodge

Overnight: Pamoja Olea Farm Lodge

The lodge is perfectly located between the Tarangire and Lake Manyara National Parks on one side and Ngorongoro Conservation Area and Serengeti National Park on the other, this is a great base from which to experience these world-famous reserves as well as enjoy many other adventurous activities in the Region.

From the mighty Big Five- Lions, Leopard, Buffalo, Elephant and Rhino to the tenacious dung Beetle, Elephant shrew, Buffalo Weaver, Leopard tortoise, Rhinoceros beetle, Antlion, from thousands of Butterflies to the Great Migration in Serengeti.

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Stand at the edge of Ngorongoro forest and enjoy the risen plateau with Karatu fertile farm land and its Kushi people.



Included

English guide and 4x4 vehicle on private (Toyota Land Cruiser 4x4).
Serengeti Park fees and game drives
Accommodation including dinner and breakfast.

Day 8: Africa Amini Maasai Lodge, West Kilimanjaro



Located to the north of Mount Meru in the northeast of Tanzania North, West Kilimanjaro is a concession area to the west of Mount Kilimanjaro and South of the Kenya's Amboseli National Park. This remote, off-the-beaten-track destination combines Maasai culture and private wildlife game viewing in a spectacularly scenic environment. The area is remarkably uncrowded and unspoiled as it is often overlooked by travellers in the rush to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. Those discerning enough to visit will discover: incredible open and empty stretches of savannah dotted with acacia woodland and wild bush; plenty of wildlife including large numbers of elephant; and a diverse range of activities such as walking safaris, night drives and even horseback safaris.

Day Itinerary

After your breakfast, early departure to Maasai Lodge located on the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro.

The distance between your accommodation and Maasai Lodge is about 5 hours.

Upon arrival you can enjoy your lunch and an activity in the afternoon.

Overnight: Africa Amini Maasai Lodge

Africa Amini Maasai Lodge is located at the foot of Mt. Kilimanjaro near the Ngabobo village. The Africa Amini Maasai Lodge is built on 400 acres of protected wildlife territory which was gifted to Africa Amini Alama by the villagers of Ngabobo to honour the organization for their constant charity work during the last years. The main purpose of the lodge is to empower the community and generate income for the social, educational, conservation project and medical projects. The lodge was built by women and men of the village of Ngabobo with local materials. The staff is mainly recruited out of the local community and trained in order to meet international standards and clients requirements. The concept of permaculture and therefore the conservation of nature is integrated in the lodge concept while planting trees. One of the purposes of the permaculture practice at the Africa Amini Maasai Lodge is to educate the Maasai how to create and use their natural resources in order to benefit their health and nutrition. Therefore a beekeeping project and a chicken farm are created as one of the Maasai women projects. Last but not least the lodge uses solar power as the main electricity source. As an authentic Maasai project the lodge offers people from all over the world a unique and in-depth Maasai experience. The Maasai people themselves consider the lodge as an essential part of their village and like to warmly welcome tourists in their home place. Together with the Maasai community a conservation area was created around the lodge property to enable an undisturbed roaming of wild animals who you as a visitor will be lucky to enjoy.



Included

English guide and 4x4 vehicle on private (Toyota Land cruiser 4x4).
Maasai Lodge including lunch, dinner and afternoon activity.

Day 9: Africa Amini Maasai Lodge, West Kilimanjaro



Day Itinerary

Today you will have a chance to participate on the Special Maasai Day where you will have the change to discover the maasai life from first hand.

You will wake up early in the morning to be dressed like a Maasai, go for goat and cow milking experience in one of the Maasai settlement near to the lodge. After a late brunch men will collect healing plants, slaughter a goat and prepare the goat on the fire place. Women look for firewood, repair Maasai houses and experience the challenges of the life of Maasai. Finish the evening with a special goat fire celebration and dances. During the whole day you will be accompanied by one of our Maasai guide who will explain you the deeper meaning of Maasai life. An experience you will never forget!

Included

English speaking guide and 4x4 vehicle on private (Toyota Land cruiser 4x4)
Accommodation includes 3 meals daily and Special Maasai Day.

Day 10: End of Itinerary



Day Itinerary

This morning you will have the option to go on walk either before breakfast or after (at your choice).

After lunch transfer to Kilimanjaro International airport for your schedule flight back home.

Included

Transfer Masai Lodge - Kilimanjaro airport (private)
