

Next Adventure® Custom Family Safari in Kenya

June 24 – July 6

Nairobi – Rift Valley – Masai Mara – Laikipia – Kenyan Coast

Please consult your international air itineraries for flight details which are subject to change.

Your itinerary includes detailed descriptions and information pertinent to your tour and safari. Guide, bird and wildlife books and maps may be consulted to enhance your experience.

*The lodge, hotel and camp descriptions are those of the owners.
Next Adventure cannot verify the accuracy of the descriptions or images used.*

Important Notes Regarding Passports & Visas for US Citizens:

For US Citizens, visas for Kenya may be obtained on arrival for US \$50 per person. Fees are payable in cash only and subject to change. *Important:* Please be sure your passport is valid for at least 6 months beyond your travel dates. Also, you will need 1-2 *blank pages* in your passport for visas and entry & exit stamps.

Luggage Restrictions: 33 lbs per person

As you will be travelling in small aircraft with limited luggage capacity while travelling in Kenya, your luggage is required to be packed in a *soft bag* (no hard suitcases allowed) weighing a maximum of 33 lbs including all carry-on items and camera equipment as well.

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

24 June	Arrive in Nairobi, Giraffe Manor (2 nights)
25 June	Visit Giraffe Center & Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage, Giraffe Manor
26 June	Drive to Rift Valley, Elmenteita Serena Camp (2 nights)
27 June	Safari activities in Rift Valley from Elmenteita Serena Camp
28 June	Fly to Masai Mara Game Reserve, Rekero Camp (3 nights)
29 & 30 June	Wildlife viewing in Masai Mara from Rekero Camp
1 July	Fly to Laikipia (via Nairobi). Game drive to Sabuk Lodge (3 nights)
2 & 3 July	Wildlife viewing and cultural activities in Laikipia from Sabuk Lodge
4 July	Scheduled flight to Malindi (via Nairobi), Charter flight to Delta Dunes Camp (2 nights)
5 July	Beach activities from Delta Dunes
6 July	Boat & road transfer to Malindi, Scheduled flight to Nairobi Wilson Airport, dinner and transfer to Jomo Kenyatta International for departure

24 June Arrive in Nairobi

In accordance with your international air itinerary (*arranged separately*), arrive at Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (**KLM 565 arrives NBO 20:10 from AMS**). Clear immigration and obtain a visa for US \$50 per person for US citizens (not included and subject to change). Collect your baggage and pass through customs. In the international arrivals area, our representative from African Horizons meets and transfers you to the suburb of Langata (about 40 minutes' assuming light traffic).

Your two-night stay at **Giraffe Manor** is on a full-board basis and includes house wines, soft drinks, beers, spirits and laundry, transportation around the Karen and Langat area, as well as entrance to the AFEW Giraffe Centre. Enjoy dinner, if desired, at the manor.

The Giraffe Manor



Giraffe Manor is set in 12 acres of private land within 140 acres of indigenous forest and is only 20 kilometers from Nairobi city center. Built in the 1930s, this luxury boutique hotel has maintained all the charm of the era and is now famous for its resident herd of Rothschild Giraffe.

Giraffe Manor offers you an unparalleled experience of the giraffes, with them vying for your attention at the breakfast table, the front door and even your bedroom window. Giraffe Manor is also home to many characters including warthogs, bushbuck, dik dik and more than 180 species of birds and has a striking view of the Ngong hills.

Top Five Things to Do at Giraffe Manor:

- Share your breakfast with the giraffe popping their heads through the window
- Stroll across the lawn to the AFEW Giraffe Centre, learn more about the endangered Rothschild Giraffe and take a guided walk in the sanctuary
- Visit the David Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage and adopt a baby elephant
- Get a taste of the history of some of the early settlers at the Karen Blixen and Nairobi Museums
- Enjoy afternoon tea on the terrace and enjoy the last few rays of sunshine as it sets behind the Ngong Hills

25 June

Nairobi – Giraffe Manor

After having breakfast with the giraffes, visit the AFEW Giraffe Center (entrance included) & Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage (entrance payable direct) using complimentary transportation from the lodge. All meals & overnight at **Giraffe Manor**.

26 June

Rift Valley

Today after breakfast, you meet your driver-guide to travel by road (about 2 hrs) to Lake Elementaita, a soda lake in the eastern limb of East Africa's Great Rift Valley. You arrive in time for lunch at **Elmenteita Serena Camp** where your 2 night stay is in 2 standard tents (1 single and 1 double) fully inclusive of all meals, beverages (excluding premium imports) and private wildlife-viewing activities on the conservancy.

After lunch at the lodge, you'll enjoy your first afternoon game drive on the conservancy, returning to the lodge for dinner.

Lake Elmenteita Serena Camp



Uniquely situated on the shoreline of sapphire-blue Lake Elmenteita where hundreds of thousands of birds congregate, the small and exclusive Lake Elmenteita Serena Camp opened in July 2011. This area of breathtaking beauty, also home to many rare species of animals, is less than two hours' easy drive from Nairobi.

Evocatively styled to echo the area's rich history, the camp blends aristocratic elegance with modern luxury and will offer cuisine and service of fittingly high standards.

The nomadic Maasai had passed through the area for centuries and the name Elmenteita derives from the Maasai Ol Muteita for “place of dust”. Then in 1897 one of the first pioneers arrived, after walking over 1,000 km south from Berbera on the coast of Somalia. This was the third Baron Delamere, who dedicated his foresight and fortune to pioneering farming methods in the Rift Valley.

He moved to Elmenteita in 1906, where he further experimented with sheep and cattle ranching, advised and assisted by the Maasai - with whom he had a great rapport. He named his farm Soysambu, Maasai for “striated rock” - Sambu is also a cow color.



Today’s Soysambu is a 48,000 acre Wildlife Conservancy, also a RAMSAR site - a wetland of international importance. The alkaline lake’s rocky islands are the only East African nesting site for great white pelicans, while its algae and plankton provides food for vast flocks of flamingos and a multitude of other waterfowl, many of them rare. The Conservancy protects over 450 bird species and 15,000 wild animals. Rothschild giraffes have found a safe haven for breeding here, while a diverse variety of terrain shelters many species - from herds of giant elands to tiny dik diks and cliff-dwelling klipspringers. Night game-drives offer a unique opportunity to spot nocturnal creatures including the curious-looking aardvark and elusive leopard. Walking is also allowed, with chances to experience the miracles of the bush close-up. Atmospheric bush dinners beneath the stars, spectacular sundowners and hot-air ballooning over this geologically fascinating part of the Great Rift Valley are a few more of the camp’s exciting activities. Lake Nakuru National Park and Kariandusi prehistoric site are also nearby.

27 June

Rift Valley

Today you explore Lake Nakuru National Park on a full day game drive including a picnic lunch. All meals and overnight at **Elmenteita Serena Camp**.

28 June

Masai Mara

This morning you are transferred to the Nakuru airstrip for a scheduled flight into the Masai Mara Game Reserve. You are met at the airstrip by a camp representative and transferred to **Rekero Camp** for 3 nights (1 triple tent) fully-inclusive of all meals, laundry, beverages (excluding premium imports) and shared wildlife viewing activities.

Rekero Camp



The camp is located very close to the confluence of the Mara and Talek rivers and sits on a picturesque bend in the Talek River in one of the most game-rich areas of the Masai Mara Reserve. This eco-camp is ideally situated for the annual migration, which is the movement of over one million wildebeest and two hundred thousand zebra from the Serengeti through the Mara in Kenya.

The camp caters for up to 20 guests in nine tents, two of which are family tents, laid out under shady trees along the river's edge. The spacious tents have been designed combining the traditional bush style with a fresh modern feel focusing on attention to detail. All tents have en-suite bathrooms with

flush toilets and showers. Each tent also has a large verandah with a day bed for relaxing after game drives and is attended by a personal butler.

The camp has two common areas under canvas for guest dining and relaxation. The larger area is surrounded by shady trees and lush lawn while the smaller area is built on a platform extending over the river bank.



Mariana Kathini, who worked with the Asilia team at Naboisho Camp for nearly 4 years, manages Rekeru Camp. She is a bright, cheerful and outgoing person who, together with a team of highly-skilled guides, have helped make Rekeru one of the Mara's top camps. Guides and camp crew have worked together for many years and provide guests with an in depth and truly authentic Masai Mara experience.



Every year the camp is closed for two months to allow the bush to regenerate and the wildlife to return to the site, leaving a fresh and recovered wilderness for the next dramatic season.

29 & 30 June Masai Mara

You have two full days for wildlife viewing in Masai Mara with twice-daily game drives shared with other camp guests. Your guide assists in coordinating your activities during your stay. All meals and accommodation at **Rekeru Camp**.

The Maasai Mara Game Reserve



The Maasai Mara Game Reserve and adjacent conservation area totals 750 square-miles and forms the northern tip of the Serengeti-Mara ecosystem. The Masai Mara offers wonderful scenery and an amazing abundance of wildlife. Every year it hosts what is now recognized as the greatest show on earth, the Great Migration which takes place between July and October.

The Mara River is the greatest obstacle they have to face, the currents can be strong and the banks steep, but it is the gigantic Nile crocodiles that are to be their biggest obstacle.

Over a million wildebeest and two hundred thousand zebra are on this endless journey in search of fresh grasslands. Typically the herds continue their journey south in November but have been known to stay into January. The Maasai Mara is also home to one of the great fighting tribes of Africa, the Maasai whose culture is both fascinating and truly unique.

1 July

Laikipia

This morning you fly to Laikipia (via Nairobi's Wilson Airport) where you'll be met and transferred via game drive about 1 hour to **Sabuk Lodge**. Your 3-night stay is in a family cottage, fully-inclusive of all meals, laundry, beverages (excluding premium imports) and shared activities.

Sabuk Lodge



Sabuk is remote and beautiful...an exclusive wilderness haven on the edge of the Northern Laikipia Plateau. Perched on a cliff overlooking the Ewaso Nyiro River, which cascades beneath the lodge all year round. Sabuk, which remains a family home, offers wilderness and stunning views of the Laikipia plains towards Mount Kenya, as well as the Karisa Hills and Mathews Mountains in the North.

A privately owned exclusive lodge, Sabuk is situated on the edge of the Northern Laikipia Plateau, overlooking the Ewaso Nyiro River which cascades through the gorge below all year round.

The landscape here is wonderful for hiking as the local Maasai guides, between spotting for elephant and other game, teach you their traditional knowledge such as the natural remedies of the surrounding flora. Whilst walking or on adventurous camel safari you can see for hundreds of miles, and stunning views of the Laikipia plains, Mount Kenya, the Karisa Hills and the Mathews Mountains in the North.

Sabuk consists of 6 spacious en-suite open fronted stone & thatched cottages, with private verandahs with stunning views. Eagle cottage is the most exclusive room of them all, perfect for families or honeymooners, comprised of two fantastic en-suite rooms – one with king size bed & one triple. This cottage has its own exclusive 'mess area' & plunge pool.



Although ideal for couples lusting after a romantic retreat away, where roaring fires and bath tubs over-looking the stunning gorge and fast flowing river make for an ideal romantic escape, Sabuk is also perfectly suited for family holidays; the fly-camping and camel safaris on offer are a simply sensational experience, especially for children and the sense of adventure gained from trekking through the bush atop a camel and guided by striking and experienced Maasai guides.

You have two full days to enjoy wildlife viewing and cultural activities in Laikipia which may include day and night game drives, guided bush walks, guided bird walks, cultural visits, bush meals, sundowner, river swimming/tubing/fishing, camel assisted walking safari. Your guide assists in coordinating your activities during your stay. All meals and accommodation at **Sabuk Lodge**.

Laikipia Conservancy

The vast plateau of Laikipia Conservancy rolls from the foothills of Mount Kenya to the arid deserts of what used to be known as the NFD, the Northern Frontier District. Wild and very beautiful it is not part of a national park or reserve, but is mostly occupied by large cattle ranches dating from the colonial period, when vast areas were sold at low cost as part of the 'soldier-settlement scheme' to soldiers British soldiers returning from the first world war.

Home of community tourism

These days, cattle-ranching has largely been replaced by 'community tourism', an entirely new concept in Kenyan tourism, which represents a unique cooperation between the local people (Rendille, Samburu and more) and the old ranchers - who represent the new face of Kenyan 'eco tourism'. As a result, visitors can enjoy not only an exclusive and private wilderness, but also pursuits such as walking, biking, camel-riding and horse-riding, none of which are permitted in the national parks).



More endangered species than anywhere in East Africa

As a result of its long exclusion from the normal tourist circuits, and its isolation in the arid north of the country, the region offers a real and pristine wilderness experience. More endangered species can be seen here than anywhere else in East Africa. Here too, the wildlife densities rank second only to the world-famous Masai Mara National Reserve.



Elephants, Grevy's zebra, rhino and oryx

Half of Kenya's black rhino are protected in the Solio, Lewa, Ol Jogi, Ol Pejeta and Ol Ari Ng'iro sanctuaries. The area also has largest elephant herds (over 3,200) outside the national parks, and is one of the few places in Kenya to see Jackson's hartebeest. Laikipia is also home to about 25% of the world's population of rare Grevy's zebra alongside such other rare species as; wild dog and the semi-aquatic sitatunga antelope. This is also the best place to view such northern species as; reticulated giraffe, Somali ostrich, Beisa oryx and gerenuk, while the numerous impala and Grant's gazelle ensure healthy numbers of lion, leopard and cheetah.

After breakfast, you'll enjoy a morning game drive back to the airstrip for a scheduled flight to Nairobi Wilson Airport where you'll be met and assisted with your connecting scheduled flight to Malindi. There, you'll board a charter flight to **Delta Dunes Camp** for 2 nights in a family cottage on a fully-inclusive of all meals, soft drinks, beer, house wine, bottled water, airfield transfers and laundry services.

Your guide assists in coordinating your activities during your stay which may include channel fishing, kayaking in the sea or channel, snorkeling, boat rides and bird watching in the Estuary and river, sand yachts, sundowner trips, walking, cultural visit to Orma villages, river tubing and more.

Delta Dunes Camp

At the old mouth Kenya's mighty Tana River, Delta Dune lodge sits high atop windswept dunes. Nestled among the palms, Delta Dune looks out upon an unparalleled landscape – lush, wild and utterly unique.

To one side, Tana River winds slowly into the bush, a rare wetland home to hippo, basking crocodiles and rainbows of birds. To the other side of Delta Dune, deserted beachfront stretches for 50 kilometers along the Indian Ocean.

Each of the seven open-fronted Delta Dune cottages – built from driftwood and cooled by the ocean breezes – has a private view of this striking panorama, to be enjoyed from the veranda, sun-filled shower or enormous Swahili bed.



By day, guests race sand yachts, explore the shade-dappled creeks by kayak or simply settle into a hammock by the pool. In the evening, it's time for a sunset river cruise, followed by cocktails and a candlelit dinner of freshly-caught seafood under the stars.

Tranquil Wetlands - the only wetlands of its type in Eastern Africa with incredible birdlife and shade dappled creeks & wetlands full of aquatic life with large numbers of hippos and basking crocodiles.

Endless miles of vast uninhabited beach that is wild and exciting and extremely beautiful.....all to yourself. - Miles of rolling rippling sand dunes sit overlooking the creek on one side and the Indian Ocean on the other, fantastic views and exciting game tracking through the sand in the early mornings.

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Conservation: The Tana Delta is the only wetland of its type in Eastern Africa. The swirl of salt and fresh water forms a vast playground for wildlife, including hippo, buffalo, crocodile, and over 400 species of birds. Tana River teems with fish, while the endemic Tana River bushbuck and elusive lions melt into the brush, leaving their tracks on the sand.



To protect this rare and fragile ecosystem, Delta Dunes and the Tana River Delta community have established the Lower Tana River Delta Conservation Trust. Together, they are setting up over 150,000 acres of conservancy, to be owned and managed by the local Orma and Pokomo people. For every visitor, the Delta Dunes lodge donates a conservation fee to the Trust, which supports education, employment and medical facilities for its 13,000 members living in the Tana River Delta.

Guests are welcome to meet these incredible Tana River tribesmen and explore Tana River delta by boat, kayak or guided walking safari. Together with the Tana River delta

community, Delta Dunes is working to ensure that this special habitat will thrive for generations to come.

Two unique tribes - the Pokomo and Orma - call the Tana Delta home. Since the 17th century, the Pokomo people have planted and fished along the Tana's fertile banks, using Tana River's flooding cycles to irrigate their maize fields and mango trees. The pastoralist Orma, Ethiopian by origin, arrived in the late 19th century. The semi-nomadic herders move their beehive-shaped dwellings across the floodplains to graze their cattle. Delta Dunes supports a community-run lodge on the main Tana River, which guests can visit by boat. Together with the Tana River Delta community, Delta Dunes is also setting up a cultural center to share information about the fascinating and very different cultures of the two tribes.

5 July

Tana River Delta

Today, you can relax on the beach or take part in a variety of activities: fishing, kayaking, snorkeling, boat rides, sand yachts, and cultural visits. All meals and accommodation at **Delta Dunes Camp**.

The Tana River Delta

Tranquil Wetlands - The delta and its associated flora and fauna provide Kenya with wetlands that are one of a kind in Eastern Africa. We are privileged to be able to explore this beautiful and unique place with its shade dappled creeks composed of endangered mangrove species, full of aquatic life and pods of hippos and basking crocodiles. There are not too many places left today where you can sip tea with a 360° view of rolling lush untouched wetland, eye-level with fish-eagles gliding on warm air above the dunes calling out to their mates.

Vast uninterrupted beaches - 50km of vast uninhabited beach that is wild, exciting and obviously stunning to behold... and all to yourself! No crowded beaches here; at low tide the beach is serene and relaxing. Miles of rippling, rolling sand dunes stand majestically overlooking the creek on one side and the Indian Ocean on the other; fantastic views and exciting game tracking through the sand in the early mornings.



The Community - Delta Dunes works closely with the community and the people of this area. The 50,000ha community conservation Trust is owned and managed by the local indigenous communities, and is a partner of Delta Dunes Lodge. Together we aim to improve the standard of living, education, employment & medical assistance in the area whilst seeking to conserve the beautiful, fragile wetland habitat. A conservation fee is paid to the Trust for every guest that stays at the lodge.

6 July

Departure

Today, after a morning activity you'll have a boat & road transfer to Malindi airstrip (about 3 hours) where you'll board a scheduled flight to Nairobi Wilson Airport. Upon arrival, you will be met by African Horizons Representative and transferred to a city restaurant for a farewell dinner on your own account.

After dinner, you'll be transferred to Jomo Kenyatta International airport for your onward international departure flight.



Next Adventure & Safari

We take safaris personally!

738 Gilman Street

Berkeley CA 94710 USA

Tel: [510 526 7027](tel:5105267027)

Fax: [510 527 0187](tel:5105270187)

Toll Free: USA & Canada [800 562 7298](tel:8005627298)

www.nextadventure.com

email: safari@nextadventure.com

CST #2024489-40