



Conservation Safari - led by Kip Ole Polos

Join us on a safari around Kenya to learn more about conservation efforts that are working to protect wildlife and landscapes in Africa, as well as get exclusive access to the Lewa-Borana Game Count.



‘The only man I envy is the man who has not yet
been to Africa - for he has so much to look
forward to’

Richard Mullins

Itinerary

The safari will be led and guided by an Kip Ole Polos, as you visit his home and his lands, as well as meet other conservationist working to promote peace and stability to landscapes and wildlife in

Kenya.

Day 1: Saturday 2nd March

Arrive in Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) to be met by your driver and representative and taken to the exclusive hotel, The Emakoko, located in Nairobi National Nairobi - even from the first, you will have the chance of spotting some amazing game, including rhino!

Day 2: Sunday 3rd March

Spend the day in Nairobi, visiting Giraffe Centre, to learn about the problems related to the decline of wild giraffe across Africa. You will have lunch in the exclusive neighbourhood of Karen, where the famous writer 'Karen Blixen' lived, during the colonial times. After this you will visit the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust to meet orphaned elephants who have lost their family and herd to the effects of human-wildlife conflict and poaching.

Days 3-5: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 4th - 6th March

In the morning, you will be driven to Wilson Airport directly to Lewa Downs Airstrip. Here you will be met by a Lewa Wilderness vehicle who will take you to the lodge. It is here that you will meet your guide, Kip.

During your stay at Lewa Wilderness, you will have the chance to visit the Elephant Underpass and meet the local village chief to discuss how the local population are living with wildlife and visit the Operations Room at HQ of Lewa, and meet the TrackerDogs.

You will also have exclusive access to the Lewa Game Count on Tuesday 5th

March. Have an evening lecture by David Kimiti, Lewa Conservancy Head of

Development Days 6: Thursday 7th March

With the help of your guide, Kip, and armed rangers, you will walk across Lewa and to Kip's, ancestral home of Il Ngwesi Conservancy. This walk is an incredible experience and will allow you to see the full landscape that surrounds you. The walk is approximately four hours and is an incredible way to see the wildlife that calls Lewa home.

At Il Ngwesi you will have the chance to meet the community that your guide, Kip, is from. You will have the chance to visit projects ongoing from the conservancy fees you have paid, as well as meet local pastoralists and visit a local school.

Have an evening lecture from Kip Ole Polos, your guide and Il Ngwesi Community

Elder Day 7-9: Friday, Saturday & Sunday 8th - 10th March

Spend the morning at Il Ngwesi Eco Lodge and visit the community and projects there. At around tea time, you will drive onto the Borana Conservancy, by road. You will be taken to Borana Lodge where you will spend two nights. During your stay on Borana Conservancy, you will enjoy visits to the Borana Healthcare clinic, local schools and permaculture garden.

You will also spend time on safari on the Conservancy.

Have an evening lecture from Michael Dyer, Borana Conservancy CEO.

Day 10-12: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 11th - 13th March

In the morning, you will be taken to the Borana Airstrip where you will meet charter plane. This plane will take you to directly to the Maasai Mara, where you will be picked up and taken to Saruni Mara.

During your visit the Maasai Mara, you will visit what is known as 'one of the wonders of the natural world' - the Mara provides some of the best game viewing in the whole of Africa.

You will also visit the Mara Elephant Project (MEP), an conservation project that is working to protect elephants using exciting and modern methods including drones, helicopters and collaring. Their tour of HQ allows for an in-depth understanding of the work that they are doing there.

Day 13-15: Thursday, Friday & Saturday 14th - 16th March

In the morning, you will fly back to Nairobi Wilson airport. This is where your guide, Kip, will say his goodbyes.

Guests have the option of leaving their safari here or continuing to a beach break at Manda Bay in Lamu.

During your visit to Manda Bay, you will get the chance to learn more about the issues facing Kenya's marine life, including overfishing and mangrove destruction. Your stay at Manda Bay will include a visit to Lamu Marine Conservation Trust (LAMCOT) to learn more about what local communities are doing to help solve these problems.

Your guide & host,

Kip Ole Polos



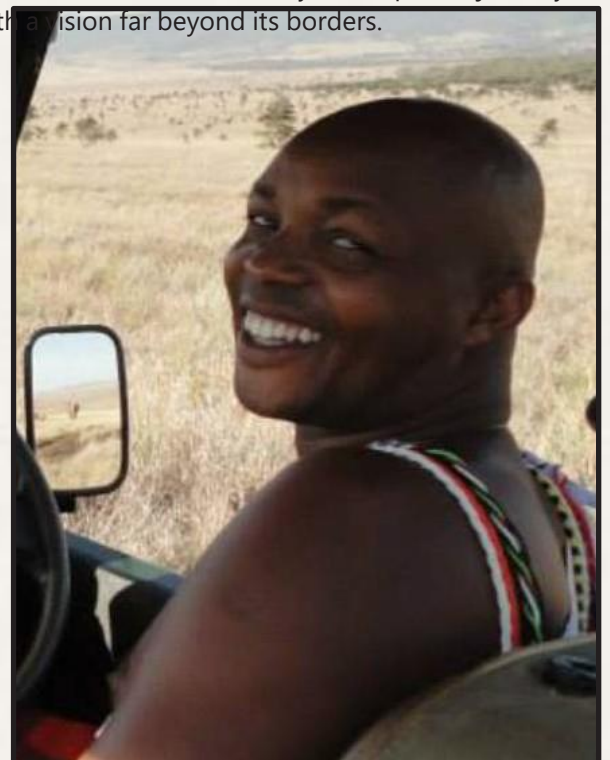
Jonathan Kipkorir Ole Ntere "Kip" was born in the Il Ngwesi area of Laikipia. He went to Lokusero Primary School, Mwenja High School, and Utalli College.

After college he was as a guide and lodge manager at Il Ngwesi Group Ranch, a Maasai owned lodge that is a role model for community based land and wildlife conservation.

Kip became lodge manager when Il Ngwesi opened and chose the staff who still work there. He is known as one of Kenya's most respected authorities on the local area.

Il Ngwesi Community

Following an approach by Ian Craig from neighbouring Lewa Wildlife Conservancy in the mid 1990s, Il Ngwesi became the first Maasai Group Ranch in Laikipia to join Lewa on a conservation and community development journey with a vision far beyond its borders.



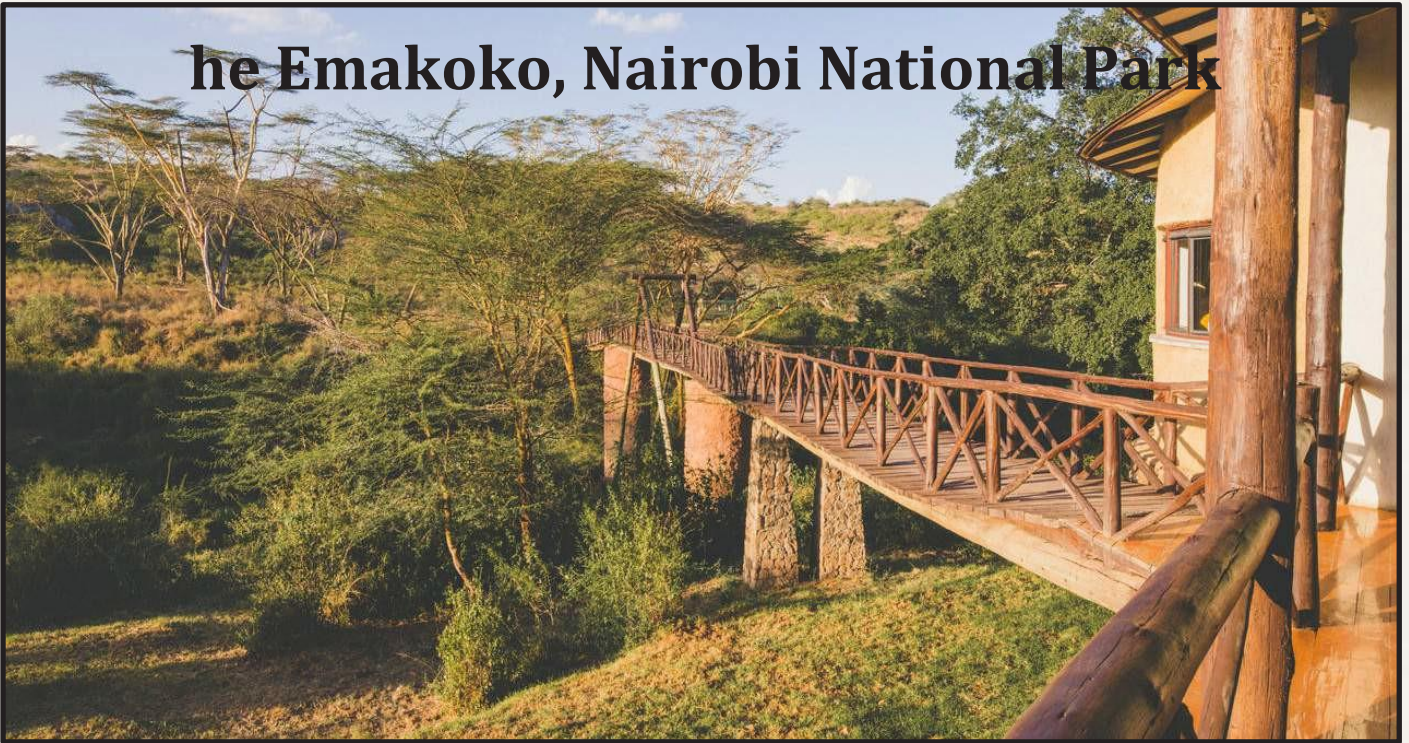
Community elders agreed to set aside 8,675 ha of their grazing land for conservation, and in 1996 with funding from USAID through the Kenya Wildlife Service, the superb Il Ngwesi Eco-Lodge was built.

From the 80 men that worked for 10 months to build the lodge, 10 were selected to be trained to run the lodge and host tourists. A team of rangers (now totalling 16) was also trained at Lewa to oversee security, and monitor and protect people and wildlife.

Wildlife numbers steadily increased. More elephants were evident almost immediately, and within five years numbers had grown significantly, having found a safe place to rest and feed.

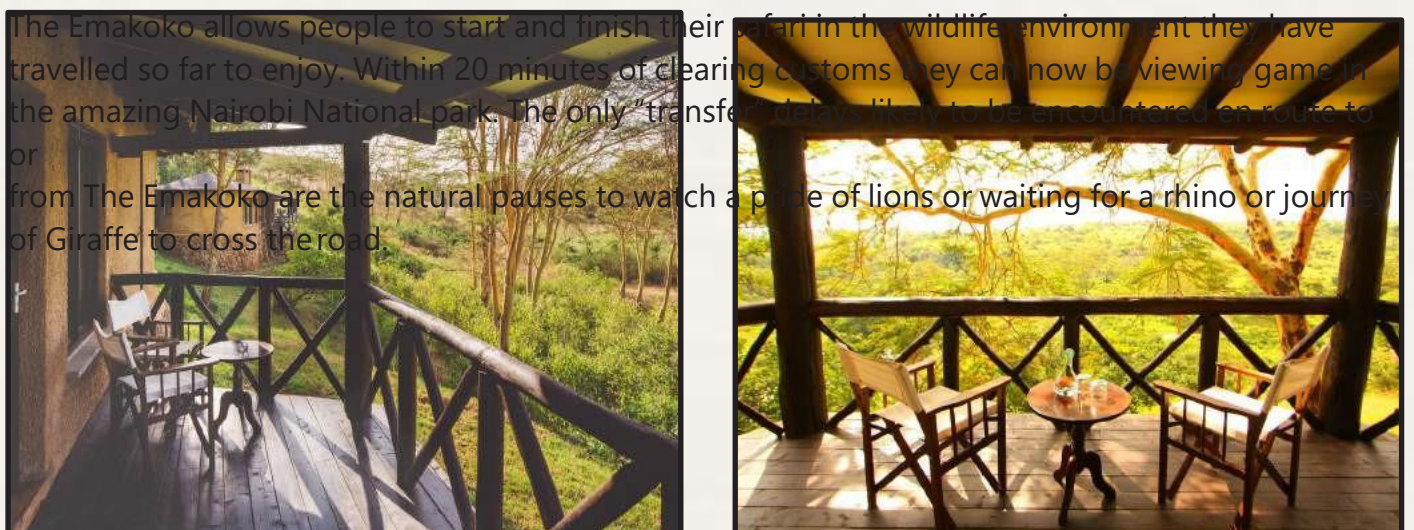
In 2002, a rare Black Rhino male known as Omni, hand reared on Lewa after being born to a blind female, was translocated to a protected and fenced sanctuary close to the lodge. It was joined in 2006 by two White Rhino, also from Lewa. Tragically in 2013, Omni became a victim of rhino poaching, but the two white rhino remain and the rangers watch over them night and day.

The Emakoko, Nairobi National Park



The concept for The Emakoko was the brainchild of Anthony and Emma Childs - your hosts during your stay. They live on site with their small family and their dedicated team of staff, who are delighted to welcome guests and for whom nothing is too much trouble.

The Emakoko is a twenty-bed, luxury lodge artfully built into the side of a valley on the Mbagathi River, on the border of the Nairobi National Park. Great care has been taken to incorporate the beautiful fig trees which grow on the cliff where the lodge is situated. All rooms look straight over the river and into the Park.



David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust



In your afternoon in Nairobi, you will have the opportunity to visit the David Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage on the edge of the Nairobi National Park and the elephant orphanage. This is the headquarters where many new orphans rescued from around the country, are brought back from the brink of death to start their long recovery from psychological trauma and physical hurt, back to a life where they are cared for, loved and ultimately re-taught how to be an elephant.

This is an incredible experience as you see the youngsters come inform their day out with the keepers back to their stables and the comfort of their milk feeds and warm beds for the night.

DSWT is an incredible organisation, which at any one time, can have as many as 30 orphans cared for there. The keepers, who look after and love these animals, spend their time dedicated to these babies and nurse them back to health.



Lewa Wilderness



Lewa Wilderness is one of Kenya's oldest private safari experiences. For forty years guests have been coming to this remarkable region to be part of an adventure like no other. Those four decades have seen that passion passed down through the Craig family who proudly continue to run Lewa Wilderness today.

Lewa Wilderness is one of the original family homes and is still home to Will and Emma Craig, as well as Sacha Craig - a key member of the team putting together this safari. Guests can relax by the fire in the cosy sitting room and share meals around a long banquet table in the open-air dining room. Natural springs, home-raised livestock, and a 5-acre organic garden are transformed by skilled chefs into incredible, healthy and delicious food.

There are ten comfortable thatched cottages with spacious en-suite bathrooms, fireplaces in the sitting areas and verandas.



Borana Lodge



Borana Lodge, the home of the Dyer family, is a jewel in the Meru landscape. A fully hosted, family-owned eco-lodge set within the vast eco-system that is Borana Conservancy. With stunning views of Mt Kenya and activities to fill the day, Borana Lodge is the perfect Kenyan experience.

The lodge is broken up into smaller, secluded cottages, as well as a pool area, dining room and drawing room. Each bedroom comes with an en-suite bathroom and a fireplace that is lit each night; evenings can be cold at 6,000ft above sea level!

Activities at the lodge include using the pool, day and night time game drives, horseriding, walking safaris, visits to Pride Rock (of Lion King fame), cultural visits, lion tracking and many more!

Borana Lodge's kitchen is constantly creating delicious meals for guests, including locally grown vegetables and meat. A visit to the Borana permaculture project is well worth it for anyone interested in where their food is coming from.



The Lewa-Borana Landscape



The Lewa Borana Conservancy is increasingly acknowledged as one of the most importance areas of biodiversity in Kenya (rivalling the Maasai Mara). In 2014, Lewa and Borana formed 93,000 acres of prime black rhino habitat, when they took a bold move to remove the fence separating the two areas to create one conservation landscape for the black rhino habitat. With over half of Kenya's black rhino population found in the local area, as well as Grevy zebra, the only expanding population of the rare wild dog and the only viable population of Lelwel hartebeest in the country.

The Lewa Wildlife Conservancy is an award-winning catalyst and model for community conservation, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and features on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Green List of successful protected areas.

As part of this safari, you will have direct and exclusive access to involvement in the Lewa-Borana Game Count. This means you will be able to learn more and have exclusive access to this yearly event as the effects of human-wildlife conflict and poaching are understood and discussed.



Il Ngwezi

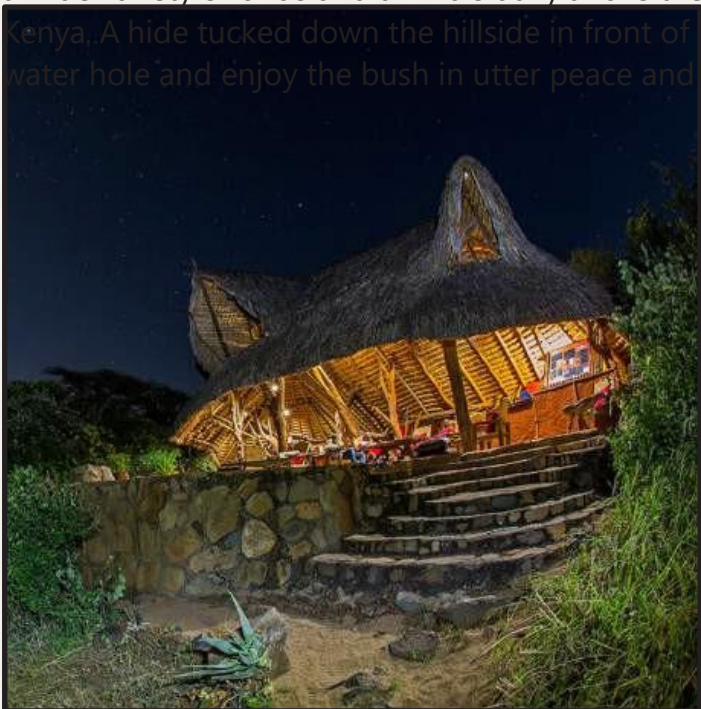


'Il Ngwesi' means "people of wildlife" in Laikipiak Maasai and the name couldn't be more appropriate.

It was one of the first community-led conservation initiatives in northern Kenya, set up with a vision to sustainably manage the environment in order to both graze livestock and conserve wildlife, which it was hoped would in turn, encourage tourists. Both the lodge and Il Ngwesi's neighbouring conservancy, Lewa, have played a huge part in helping to develop community initiatives, and continue to do so today.

Constructed entirely out of local materials, the award winning Il Ngwesi Lodge is perched on the edge of the Mararoi hills close to the Ngare Ndare river in Laikipia District in Kenya, with breathtaking views towards Samburu as far as the eye can see. The water hole – fed by a nearby spring – attracts

a wide variety of birds and animals daily and is the life blood for wildlife in this semi-arid part of Kenya. A hide tucked down the hillside in front of the lodge allows visitors to get closer to the water hole and enjoy the bush in utter peace and quiet.



Saruni Mara

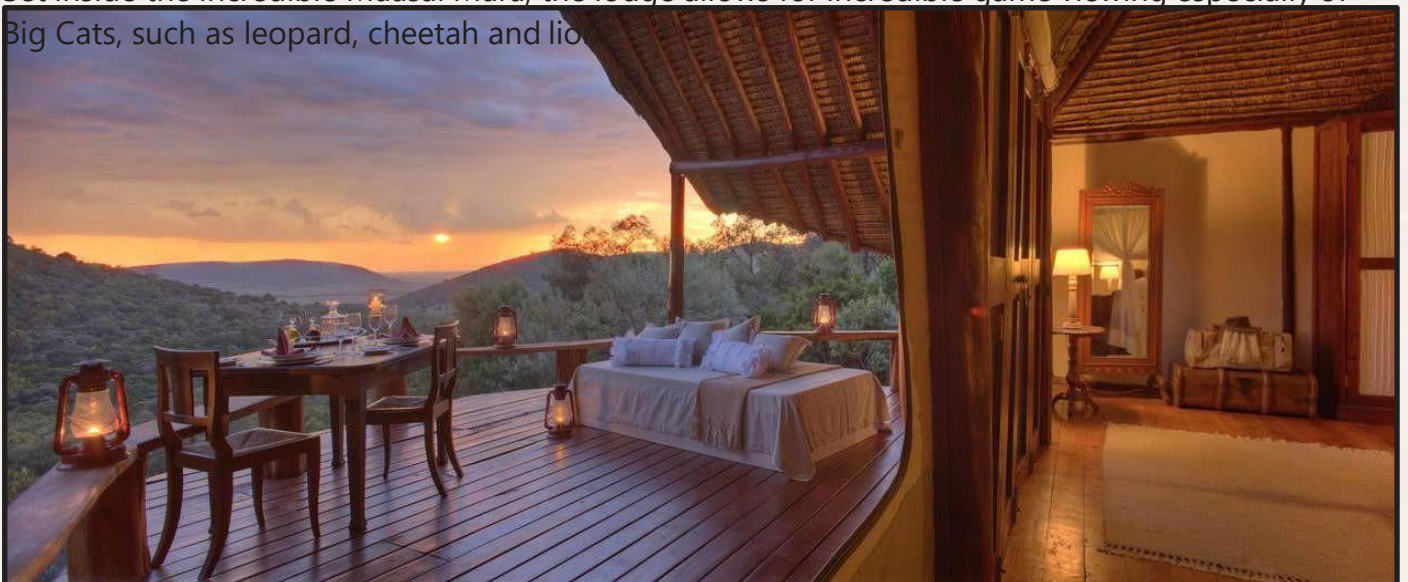


Saruni Mara is the only small, boutique lodge in the Mara, with five elegant cottages, one family villa and one private villa.

The beautiful rooms are each decorated to a unique theme with a luxurious, classic safari feel. The lodge is nestled in a secluded valley in the heart of the most exciting wilderness in Africa: Mara North Conservancy – an exclusive, private wildlife concession bordering the world-renowned Masai Mara National Reserve.

Encounter Africa's Big Five and the most remarkable natural spectacle on Earth; the Great Migration. Enjoy the Italian-inspired cuisine, exceptional service and being immersed in nature from your private veranda, the Wellbeing Space and the open lounge and dining area. Maasai warriors guide you throughout, sharing their ancient wisdom of the area and animals and their fascinating way of life - a truly life-enriching safari experience.

Set inside the incredible Maasai Mara, the lodge allows for incredible game viewing especially of Big Cats, such as leopard, cheetah and lion.



Mara Elephant Project

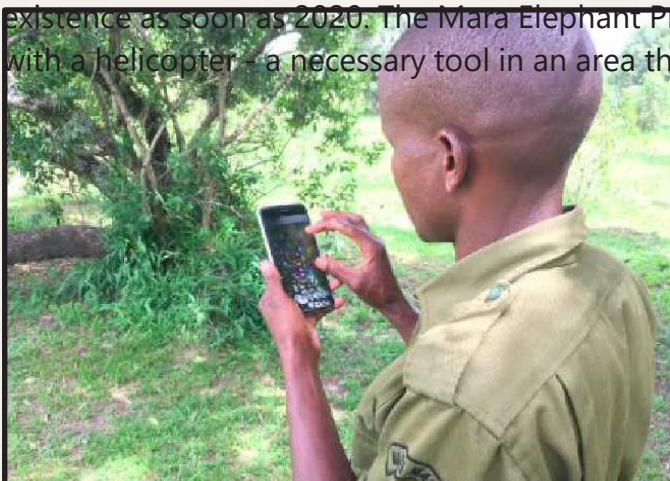


The Mara Elephant Project works within the Maasai Mara to protect elephants from issues such as human-wildlife conflict and poaching.

A mixture of land-use changes resulting from human population growth, deforestation and poaching for elephants' highly valuable ivory is causing populations to dwindle. Humans are encroaching upon historic elephant rangelands, and human-elephant conflict is on the rise. That, paired with the demand for ivory, means the illegal killing of elephants is at its highest level since the international ivory trade ban.

MEP save and protect the African elephant population in the Mara by combatting poaching operations, collaring, monitoring and researching elephants, and protecting farmers and elephants across their large dispersal area. They use a number of tactics, including elephant collaring for monitoring and research, anti-poaching patrols and rapid response units and human-elephant conflict mitigation.

Their work is vital to protect these giants, who at the current rate will have been poached out of existence as soon as 2020. The Mara Elephant Project is the only organisation working in the area with a helicopter – a necessary tool in an area that is so large.



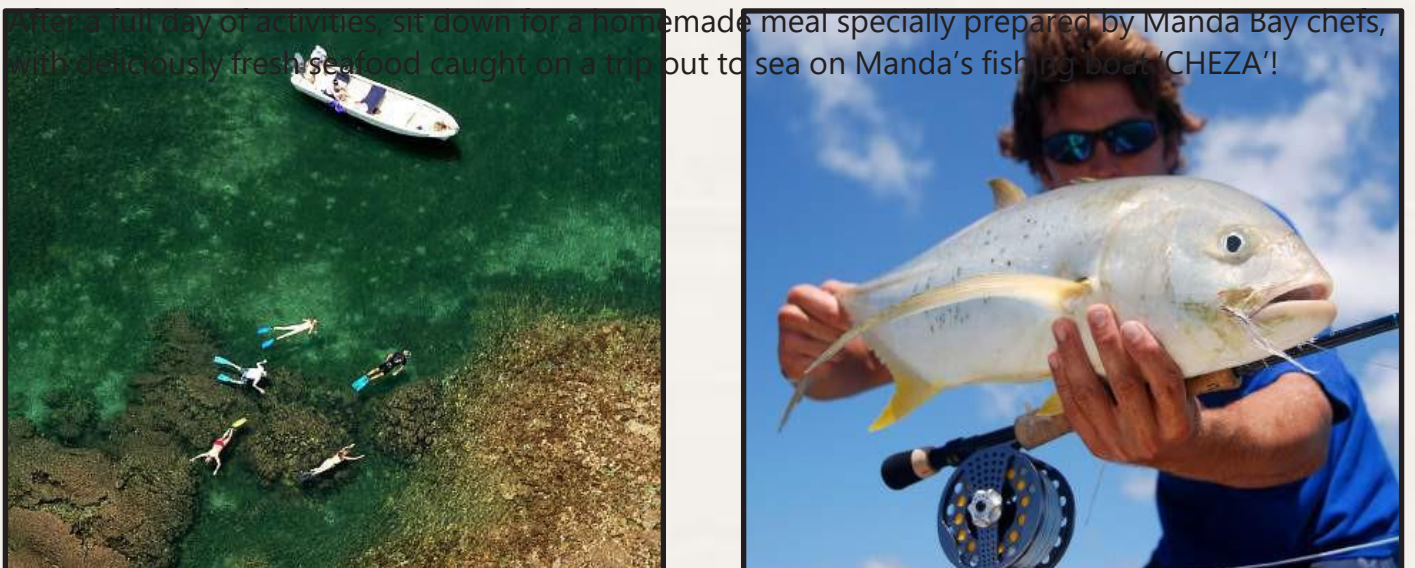
Manda Bay



Manda Bay, a jewel in the Kenyan coastline, has a 'no shoes, no news' attitude to life. A small boutique lodge located on the tip of an unspoiled, idyllic island in Lamu's archipelago where you kick off your shoes and enjoy simplistic beauty in palm thatched cottages and open living spaces.

Manda Bay combines the ultimate bush and beach experience. Whilst miles of soft white sand and coconut palms surround the lodge itself, the bush behind the lodge is dry country scattered with Doum palms, Acacia Tortilis and savannah-like scrub. A variety of birds and mammals (mongoose, civet cat, porcupine, genet cat, dik-dik, buffalo and bushbuck) can also be seen on the island.

There is never a dull moment at Manda; with activities for both kids and adults ready for guests to try. Snorkel the surrounding reefs, swim in the calm waters of the bay, sail, ski, wakeboard and windsurf, as well as for deep sea fishing for the adventurers in the group! For those who intend to relax their way through their time at Manda, massages can be arranged.



Lamu town



Lamu town, which is the nearest town to Manda Island, is the largest and oldest Swahili settlement in East Africa. A completely unique experience, and where a visit is often called the highlight in a trip.

The town has been continually inhabited since 1370; It is a World Heritage Site and the oldest continually habited towns on the East Africa coast. The town, where life is lived at its own rhythm, is a mixture of Swahili culture, colonial buildings and the local donkeys who hide in the shade between tall, narrow houses! A visit to the local museum is well worth the trip to see how Kenyans lived over a century ago. The busy waterfront is a hive of activity and a great place for people watching.

To visit Lamu Island is to go back in time, and once you are there, you may wish to stay!



'1 + 1 = 2 Protect'

We are a company that is committed to conservation – we want to include all our guests in our passion, so that they, too, can get involved in the dedicated work of so many projects and organisations across the region who are working to protect wildlife, lands and cultures that so many face.

So why not join SCC in our '1 + 1 = 2 Protect' Scheme. This Scheme allows guests to give back directly to a conservation project that they have directly interacted with during their stay, and that SCC has direct links with to make sure of its authenticity and dedication. SCC is promising you, right now, that we will give 1% of the total cost of your safari as a donation to an SCC-approved conservation organisation of your choice, from this list, but ONLY if YOU match our donate of 1% too!

This 1% will be added as a conservation donation on top of the total cost of your safari and will allow you to choose a project to support. SCC promises to keep you up to date with the project long after your visit is over, with email updates regarding the success of the project and organisation. Once you have chosen your organisation to support, we will match your 1% out of SCC's profits from the safari, making a total of 2%.

More information of all the projects is available on our website. If you would rather choose an organisation to donate the 1% + 1% to after your visit, that is also fine. We can add the cost to your safari, and then you can choose who the money goes to at a later date. Please let me know if you have any more questions about the project, we are happy to provide more information.

Included

Included in this safari is:

- All internal scheduled flights
- All transfers
- Meet & greet
- All accommodation
- All meals at the lodges as stated above
- Some drinks
- Activities mentioned
- Conservation fees
- DSWT adoption fee & Giraffe Centre entrance fee
- AMREF
- A certified guide

Excluded

Excluded from this flying safari is:

- International flights
- Visa to enter Kenya (\$50/£30)
- Some drinks
- Some activities
- Gratuities or items of a personal nature
- Any meals outside of lodges or hotels (in restaurants)

General informati on

Geography:

Lying along the Indian Ocean, at the equator, Kenya is bordered by Ethiopia (north), Somalia (northeast), Tanzania (south), Uganda plus Lake Victoria (west), and Sudan (northwest). Kenya is roughly the size of Texas or Spain.

People:

There are 43 tribes in Kenya, each with their own tribal language though most people in the country speak Kiswahili as well as their own tribal language. English is the commercial language, therefore is commonly spoken in the major towns and at all lodges and hotels.

Climate:

Kenya is on the equator therefore we do not have seasons. The climate is very pleasant and variations in altitude and terrain can create contrasts. Generally in the highlands the climate is cool, elsewhere the temperatures can reach approximately 35°C during the day. The coast is humid and balmy.

Passport & visa:

A valid passport is required. Visitors require a visa to enter Kenya; if you have any queries please contact your nearest Kenyan Consulate or Safari & Conservation Company for advice.

Health & malaria:

Kenya is considered a generally healthy place to travel. Malaria prophylaxis is imperative and there are no necessary vaccines for visiting Kenya however we do recommend you contact your doctor or a specialised travel clinic for further advice. As with travel in any part of the world, it is advisable to know your blood type in case of an emergency.

The Safari and Conservation Company clients automatically become members

of the Flying Doctors Rescue Service for emergency evacuation. However, you should carry your own complete holiday/ medical insurance. Please note that in Kenya we do have good medical facilities and a good hospital.

Insurance:

There is no national welfare scheme and visitors to Kenya are responsible for their own medical expenses. All clients are requested to leave a copy of their travel insurance with us at their briefing, along with copies of their airline tickets and passports.

Food & water:

Although tap water can be reasonably safe, whenever possible, we recommend you drink bottled water; this is available in all lodges and camps. Please advise The Safari and Conservation Company of any allergies, likes or dislikes before you embark on your holiday.

Communications:

All camps and lodges have radio communication with Nairobi. Most lodges do have a mobile phone signal (Safaricom and Airtel are best) in the lodge or nearby which can be weak, so please do not always rely on it. Most lodges and hotels also have internet access in case of emergencies.

Booking advice

Please get in touch with the below to learn more:

Miles Barber 0207 723 5858



‘I never knew of a morning in Africa when I woke
up and was not happy’

- Ernest Hemmingway