

# MACLEAY VALLEY TRAVEL PTY. LTD.

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## EAST AFRICA TOUR KENYA & TANZANIA

Conducted 16 day safari tour

**\$9,195** per person twin share

This price includes airport taxes & fuel levies



This value price includes:

- ◆ Return air fares from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Nairobi, Kenya with Emirates.
- ◆ A 2 day Dubai stopover.
- ◆ A quality 12 day safari tour of Kenya and Tanzania.
- ◆ Game viewing in Lake Nakuru National Park, Masai Mara Game Reserve, Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Tarangire National Park and Amboseli National Park.
- ◆ Most meals.
- ◆ Mainly 4 star African themed hotel and lodge accommodation with private facilities throughout.
- ◆ All applicable entry fees and national park fees.
- ◆ Custom designed 4WD safari vehicles with pop-up roofs. Every passenger has a window seat in the vehicle and one complimentary bottle of water per day while on safari.
- ◆ Local African & Arab tour guide/drivers and if there are 12 or more passengers there will be an Australian tour escort.



On this tour you should be able to see greatest migration on earth! The annual migration of literally millions of wildebeests and zebras occurs between the Masai Mara in Kenya and the Serengeti in Tanzania. This wonderful tour takes you to some of the best game viewing parks in the world and you do it all in the comfort of your custom built vehicle.

If you do not have a travel partner, but wish to travel at twin share rates, we will try and assign you with another traveller. If you require a single room, there will be an additional charge of \$1540

Tour departs Australia 5<sup>th</sup> October and returns 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016

*We try harder to find you the best travel deal*

## **East Africa Tour to Kenya & Tanzania**

**Note:** Meals are included in the itinerary as B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

### **05.10.16 Australia - Dubai**

Depart Sydney at 9.45pm on EK 413, arriving in Dubai at 5.15am the next morning (06.10.16).

Depart Brisbane at 9.00pm on EK 435, arriving in Dubai at 5.20am the next morning (06.10.16).

Depart Melbourne at 10.25pm on EK 407, arriving in Dubai at 5.30am the next morning (06.10.16).

### **06.10.16 Dubai**

**(B)**

Upon arrival we are met and transferred to our hotel for a two night stay. Our rooms will be ready for us as the hotel will be booked from the night before. The morning is at leisure to recover from your flight. In the afternoon there is a city sightseeing tour. Sample the historic sites and vibrant cosmopolitan life of Dubai on this comprehensive tour. The tour starts with a photo stop at the iconic landmark of Dubai, Burj Al Arab, which is a luxury hotel standing on an artificial island. The shape of the building is designed to mimic the sail of a ship. Proceed to Jumeirah, the picturesque palace and coastal residential area of Dubai, which is also home to the impressive Jumeirah Mosque. The tour continues to Al Bastakiya, the old part of Dubai, to reach the museum located in Al Fahidi Fort. Afterwards we board the Abra (water taxi) to cross the creek to the spice souk. On our return there is time to shop in the most famous market of Dubai, the gold souk. The souk consists of over 300 retailers that trade almost exclusively in jewellery. By some estimates, approximately 10 tons of gold are present at any given time in the souk.

Accommodation: Arabian Courtyard Hotel & Spa

### **07.10.16 Dubai**

**(B/D)**

Today is at leisure to relax or further explore Dubai. In the evening we enjoy a fabulous, relaxing Dhow Cruise with dinner. We join a traditional Arabian dhow for a journey with a contrast of the old and new Dubai, while you cruise on the Dubai Creek. Enjoy a sumptuous feast of Arabic and International cuisine while gently gliding past illuminated souks, banks and palaces.

Accommodation: Arabian Courtyard Hotel & Spa

### **08.10.16 Dubai - Nairobi**

**(B)**

Breakfast at the hotel. This morning we are transferred to the airport for our flight to Nairobi. Depart Dubai at 10.25am on EK 719, arriving in Nairobi at 2.25pm. Upon arrival at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, we will be met and transferred to the hotel, located in a serene environment away from the busy Central Business District, a nice place to relax and unwind before we begin our safari. Nairobi is Kenya's principal economic, administrative and cultural centre and is one of the largest and fastest growing cities in Africa. Nairobi means 'place of cool waters' in the Masai language. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Accommodation: Sarova Panafric Hotel

### **09.10.16 Lake Nakuru National Park**

**(B/L/D)**

After breakfast, our guide/driver will meet us at the hotel and help load our luggage into the safari Land Cruiser. Then off we go to Lake Nakuru. We will have a brief stop at the scenic view point as we enter the Great Rift Valley to enjoy some breathtaking

panoramic views of the valley with its spectacular features and distant mountains. We arrive to a warm welcome, check-in and then have lunch.

This afternoon we depart on a game viewing drive. The 68 square kilometre alkaline Lake Nakuru is home to hundreds of lesser and greater flamingos. The environment here is welcoming, one of the best places to relax, to unwind, to enjoy nature's beauty. The scenery is breathtaking. Some of the interesting places to visit include the Baboon Cliff, the Lion Hill and the Mau Escarpment. The park is one of the best game viewing parks with various animal species including prides of lion, Cape buffalo, waterbucks, wart hogs, the endangered Rothschild giraffes, the black and white rhino, the Burchell's zebra, impalas and the elusive leopard among many others. Over 300 bird species have been recorded here too. This is one of the best places to see the endangered black and white rhino. Dinner and overnight at the lodge.

Accommodation: Lake Nakuru Lodge

#### **10.10.16 Masai Mara Game Reserve**

**(B/L/D)**

A hearty early morning breakfast before our drive to the Masai Mara National Reserve, offering wonderful scenery and plenty of game. We arrive at our camp to a very warm welcome for lunch. This afternoon is the moment we have been longing for as we depart on an exciting game viewing drive. The rolling plains and grasslands, stretching into the horizon as far as the eye can see are home to the Black Maned lion, the Savannah elephant, the Cape buffalo, wildebeests, the elusive leopard, cheetah, the spotted and striped hyena, the rhino, topi, Burchelle's zebra, the Masai giraffe and many others. The Mara Game Reserve is one that can never disappoint. One is spoilt by the variety of bird and wildlife species in this game reserve. For a long time, Mara Game Reserve has stamped her authority as the 'granary' of wildlife in Kenya. We return back to the lodge for dinner.

Accommodation: Mara Sopa Lodge

#### **11.10.16 Masai Mara Game Reserve**

**(B/L/D)**

Today we have an early morning and afternoon game viewing drive and spend the mid-morning at leisure. We should be right in time for one of the greatest spectacles on earth, the eighth wonder of the world - the wildebeest migration. From July to October, the fields are awash with thousands of wildebeests that yearly migrate from the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania to Masai Mara in search of pasture. They cross the Nile crocodile infested Mara River. Many of them are drawn to the water, others are captured and killed by the giant crocodiles. The wildebeests are closely followed by Burchell's zebra and impalas. Predators too in their hundreds also follow and lay in wait for those animals that become weak or incapacitated during the long journey for a kill. Be on the look out for the big five that Masai Mara is famous for. These include the lion, Savannah (African) elephant, the Cape buffalo, the leopard and the black rhino. In the early 20th century, Kenya was a famous hunting destination. Killing any of the big five gave one pride, a sense of class and a feeling of heroism. We may even be lucky enough to witness a leopard or a cheetah sprint and make a kill! This evening we enjoy a bush dinner under the stars and entertainment by Masai Warriors (dancers). Afterwards we return to the camp.

Accommodation: Mara Sopa Lodge

#### **12.10.16 Serengeti National Park**

**(B/L/D)**

After an early morning breakfast we depart with picnic lunch boxes to Serengeti National Park via the Isebania and Sirari border. Our guide/driver will help us through the immigration procedures. Covering an area of 14,763 square kilometres, the world famous Serengeti National Park is Tanzania's oldest park and one of the world's last great wildlife refuges. It stretches as far as Lake Victoria to the west. Its name comes from the Masai word Siringet, meaning 'endless plains'. Dinner and overnight at our

lodge

Accommodation: Serengeti Sopa Lodge

**13.10.16 Serengeti National Park**

**(B/L/D)**

Today we enjoy morning and afternoon game viewing drives on the vast Serengeti Plains. In the early morning and evening light, the Serengeti landscape is stunningly beautiful. The Serengeti ecosystem supports the greatest remaining concentration of plains game in Africa, including more than three million large mammals. The park is one that can never disappoint. One is spoilt by the variety of bird and wildlife species in this game reserve. Enjoy dinner and overnight at our lodge.

Accommodation: Serengeti Sopa Lodge

**14.10.16 Ngorongoro Conservation Area**

**(B/L/D)**

After breakfast we depart for Ngorongoro. We stop at the Oldupai Gorge, one of the most important prehistoric sites in the world to learn about human evolution. We will enjoy an on site talk on the interpretation of the gorge by the resident guide. We arrive at our crater rim lodge to a warm welcome, check in and then lunch. This afternoon we relax and enjoy the breathtaking and spectacular views of the crater below, the largest unbroken caldera in the world. It has been described as one of the great natural wonders of the world. Eight million years ago, the Ngorongoro Crater was an active volcano but its cone collapsed, forming the crater that is 610 metres deep, 20 kilometres in diameter and covers an area of 311 square kilometres. Spectacular as it is, the crater accounts for just a tenth of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. The crater is home to many species of wild game and birds. With the exception of impala and topi (due to fierce competition with the wildebeest) and the giraffe (because there is not much to eat at tree level), almost every species of African plains mammal lives in the crater, including the endangered black rhino and the densest population of predators in Africa. The birdlife, which includes the flamingo, is mainly seasonal and is also affected by the ratio of soda to fresh water in Lake Magadi on the crater floor. Dinner and overnight at our game lodge.

Note: a warm jacket or cardigan is highly recommended.

Accommodation: Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge

**15.10.16 Ngorongoro Conservation Area**

**(B/L/D)**

After breakfast we descend some 610 metres into the crater, which is home to an abundance of wildlife and a photogenic paradise, for a full day of game viewing with picnic lunch. Ngorongoro Crater, the largest intact caldera in the world teems with an abundance of wildlife permanently resident on the crater floor. Prides of lions, herds of Cape buffalo, rhino, golden and black backed jackal, zebra, cheetah, leopard and the spotted hyena freely roam on the crater floor plains. Unmatched for its natural variety and breath taking beauty, there are few places on earth where such a tremendous diversity of landscapes exist inside a region this size. Apart from its wildlife riches, the crater is also of great archaeological importance, with the remains of some of mankind's earliest ancestors discovered in the area and also a home to hundreds of bird species, refreshing in the small lakes in the crater floor. In the late afternoon we drive back to our game lodge for dinner and overnight.

Accommodation: Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge

**16.10.16 Tarangire National Park**

**(B/L/D)**

After breakfast we set off to Tarangire National Park, which of all Tanzania parks boasts the largest number of Savannah elephants. We will be warmly ushered in for check-in, followed by lunch at our game lodge. This afternoon is the moment we have been waiting for. We depart on a game viewing drive in the vast, wildlife rich game

park. Tarangire is home to wildebeests, zebra, buffalo, impala, gazelle and hartebeest among many other wildlife species. The park has the greatest concentration of wildlife outside the Serengeti ecosystem - a smorgasbord for predators - and the one place in Tanzania where dry country antelope such as the stately fringe-eared oryx and the peculiar long-necked gerenuk are regularly observed. Enjoy dinner and overnight at our lodge.

Accommodation: Tarangire Sopa Lodge

**17.10.16 Amboseli National Park**

**(B/L/D)**

After enjoying an early morning breakfast we depart for the Namanga border where we will clear immigration and change back to our Kenyan vehicles and guide/drivers.

We proceed to Amboseli National Park. We have a picnic lunch enroute and arrive in time for an afternoon game viewing drive and adventure. Amboseli National Park provides the classic Hollywood image of Africa. Set in rolling Savannah scenery, it is dwarfed by the presence of the pink-tinged, snow-capped peak of Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest free-standing volcanic mountain in the world and topped by one fifth of all the ice in Africa. The breath-taking scenery is one of the best places for a photogenic view of Mount Kilimanjaro, weather permitting. Dinner and overnight at the lodge.

Accommodation: Amboseli Sopa Lodge

**18.10.16 Nairobi**

**(B/L)**

This morning we enjoy our breakfast then check-out. Unbelievable but true, our good bush moments have come to an end. We bid farewell to our wonderful lodge manager and his team then drive back to Nairobi, though not empty handed. With us are photographs - a capture of the special moments we have had on this tour to immortalise the experience. We transfer to Carnivore Restaurant for lunch. Afterwards our guide/driver will drop us at Sarova Panafric Hotel. The evening is at leisure.

Accommodation: Sarova Panafric Hotel

**19.10.16 Nairobi - Dubai**

**(B/D)**

After a hearty and leisurely breakfast this morning we depart the hotel and drive to the Daphne Sheldrick Orphanage. This centre is a nurturing home for young elephants and other species whose mothers are not able to raise them due to death, incapacitation or illness. Here we will have amazing moments interacting with young elephants and other species. Lunch today is at your own arrangement. Then enjoy a visit to the Giraffe Centre, for a thrilling experience with the tallest mammals on earth. Here we have the Rothschild giraffe, one of the three sub-species that we have in Kenya. We will have the opportunity to hand feed the animals. This is a lifetime experience and perhaps the closest one can get to these gracious creatures in their natural setting.

Afterwards we drive to the Kazuri Beads, where we can purchase a ceramic ornament or two. The women behind these were initially from the slums and their lives have been considerably improved. We then head back to the hotel to freshen up. This evening we have a farewell dinner at Pampa Grill Restaurant. Afterwards we are transferred to Nairobi International Airport for our flights home.

All passengers depart Nairobi at 10.45pm on EK 722, arriving in Dubai at 4.50am the next day (20.10.16).

**20.10.16 Dubai - Australia**

Melbourne passengers depart Dubai at 10.15am on EK 406, arriving in Melbourne at 6.35am the next morning (21.10.16).

Sydney passengers depart Dubai at 10.15am on EK 412, arriving in Sydney at 7.00am the next morning (21.10.16).

Brisbane passengers depart Dubai at 10.40am on EK 434, arriving in Brisbane at

6.25am the next morning (21.10.16).

**Note:** This is a safari-type tour and please keep in mind the some of the roads are rough, particularly within Tanzania.  
Also note that the Wildebeest migration is usually quite predictable, however we cannot guarantee that you will observe this.

## Vehicles used on Safari

Specially designed 4x4wd Safari Land Cruiser  
Custom designed Safari Land Cruiser with pop up roof for maximum game viewing. All vehicles are equipped with long range two way radios and cool boxes/fridges. All passengers get a window seat.

### Example of vehicles used in Kenya



Passenger	Passenger
Passenger	Passenger
Passenger	Passenger
Driver	Passenger

### Example of vehicles used in Tanzania



Passenger	Passenger
Passenger	Passenger
Passenger	Passenger
Driver	Passenger

## Accommodation Information

### Sarova Panafric Hotel

Sarova Panafric is impressively set in a quiet residential suburb, overlooking Kenyatta Avenue, thus commanding a panoramic view of Nairobi's skyline. This 152-roomed hotel has in addition 45 fully serviced apartments and four themed suites.

The finest restaurant in town, Flame Tree has its home at the Sarova Panafric. The other restaurant is Pool Garden where conference clients have their lunch plus succulent barbeque. There is also a swimming pool.



### Lake Nakuru Lodge

In the centre of Lake Nakuru National Park lies Lake Nakuru with its large population of Lesser and Greater Flamingos. Situated in the southeast ecological niche of the Lake Nakuru National Park is the Lake Nakuru Lodge with views across the lake. The Acacia and Euphorbia Forests are havens for animals during the heat of the day, making an excellent game-viewing destination, whilst the "Hippo Pool" is a favourite spot for picnics.

Accommodation at Lake Nakuru Lodge holds up to 120 people, either in family rooms, cottages, or suites and the lodge provides excellent hospitality and friendly service.

Activities include horseback safari excursions, game drives, bird-watching and plant identification. After a day's game watching, you can chill out at the two bars that overlook the lake or refresh yourself in the pool. There is excellent cuisine and you will love the bush barbeque followed by sundowners. In the evening you will enjoy entertainment followed by a good night's rest.



### Mara Sopa Lodge

Set in the Oololaimutia valley the lodge blends in perfectly with its surrounding hillscape. The accent here is on the Masai people and the fabulous wealth of wildlife, and natural flora to be found in the fabled Masai Mara Game Reserve. The lodge has 200 beds by way of 77 rooms, 12 suites and 1 Presidential suite, all of which are 'rondavel' style and have en-suite bathroom facilities which provide shaving sockets and hairdryers. Every room and suite has a private, elevated verandah with splendid views across the valley and on which guests can relax, sunbathe and watch resident birds and wildlife. Mini-bars are also available in each room.

The lodge has direct-dial telephone facilities as well as satellite television and video options. Lodge generators provide 240 volts, 50 cycles 24 hours a day. The water supply comes from nearby springs but guests are advised not to drink from the taps. Instead, filtered water is provided in flasks in every room and bottled water is available for sale. The guest shop stocks a wide selection of curios, gift items, clothing, film and toiletries. The lodge has a freeform, freshwater pool which offers spectacular views over the valley.



### Serengeti Sopa Lodge

Looking out over the seemingly endless Serengeti plains, this hillside lodge is a tranquil oasis set in over 14,000 sq kms (5,000 sq miles) of National Park. The Serengeti plains are host to a dramatic annual migration of hundreds of thousands of wildebeest and numerous other species of animals indigenous to the area.

Opened in 1992, the lodge can accommodate 170 guests in 79 suites, each enjoying wall-to-wall carpeting, a private lounge with a mini bar, a bedroom with two queen size beds and ample room for a third, an en-suite bathroom with shaver sockets and a hair dryer, and a private verandah which offers stunning views over the plains.

The lodge has direct-dial satellite telephone facilities as well as satellite television and wildlife-video-film options. A number of the lodge electrical generating systems provide 240volts, 50 cycles 24 hours a day. Our water supply comes from nearby springs but guests are advised not to drink from the taps. Instead, complimentary bottled mineral water is provided in the mini bars while further stocks are available for sale in the main bar. Our guest shop stocks a wide selection of curios, gift items, clothing, film, sweets, postcards, personal requisites and toiletries, while the other offers gemstones, jewellery and other more unusual items. The large pool offers a refreshing interlude between game drives as well as wonderful views over the rolling plains of the Serengeti.



### Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge

Spread out along the uppermost, eastern rim of the Ngorongoro World Heritage Site, the lodge offers breathtaking views of the crater floor far below. A day's safari through this unique conservation area provides you with spectacular and memorable game viewing experiences.

The lodge is located on Lemala Hill on the uppermost, eastern rim of the Ngorongoro Crater, a World Heritage Site, in the volcanic highlands of northern Tanzania. The crater forms part of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area which covers 8,300sq kms (3,200 sq. miles).

Opened in 1992, the lodge can accommodate 190 guests in 92 suites, each enjoying wall-to-wall carpeting, central heating, a private lounge with a mini bar, a bedroom with two queen size beds and ample room for a third, an en-suite bathroom with shaver sockets and a hair dryer and a private solarium which offers stunning views either down into the crater floor below or of the setting sun over the western horizon.

Communications: The lodge has direct-dial satellite telephone facilities as well as satellite television and wildlife-video-film options. A number of lodge electrical generating systems provide 240volts, 50 cycles 24 hours a day. Our water supply comes from nearby springs but guests are advised not to drink from the taps. Instead, complimentary bottled mineral water is provided in the mini bars while further stocks are available for sale in the main bar. Guest shops stock a wide selection of curios, gift items, clothing, film, sweets, postcards, personal requisites and toiletries. A swimming pool is situated on the very edge of the crater itself and the water is bracing, even invigorating to say the least, at any time of year. However, for those who would prefer the warmth of a shower or bath in their suite, the pool is a perfect area to unwind and relax while enjoying the views of the crater floor below or of the sunsets in the evenings.



## Tarangire Sopa Lodge

Completing the Northern Tanzania safari circuit the lodge, built as a 'low profile' structure, nestles into a wooded hillside valley overlooking Tarangire Hill. Situated 120km (75 miles) from Arusha, Tarangire National Park is easily accessible and boasts magnificent herds of elephant and other species of wildlife. The baobab studded landscape also plays host to a vast variety of resident and migratory bird life. Looking out over the rolling countryside the lodge is a tranquil oasis set in over 2,600 sq kms (900 sq miles) of National Park. The Tarangire flows north to south year-round and sustains an abundance of fauna and flora rarely seen elsewhere.

Opened in 1995, the lodge can accommodate 160 guests in 75 suites, each enjoying wall-to-wall carpeting, a private lounge with a mini bar, a bedroom with two queen size beds and ample room for a third, an en-suite bathroom with shaver sockets, a hair dryer and a private verandah, which offers stunning views over the baobab studded landscape.

The lodge has direct-dial satellite telephone facilities as well as satellite television and wildlife-video-film options. A number of lodge electrical generating systems provide 240volts, 50 cycles 24 hours a day. Our water supply comes from nearby springs but guests are advised not to drink from the taps. Instead, complimentary bottled mineral water is provided in the mini bars while further stocks are available for sale in the main bar. The Guest Shop stocks a wide selection of curios, gift items, clothing, film, sweets, postcards, personal requisites and toiletries. The unique swimming pool which is located at the edge of a rocky gorge has its own bar and snack kitchen and offers a refreshing interlude between game drives.



## Amboseli Sopa Lodge

At the foothills of Mt. Kilimanjaro, is the Amboseli Sopa Lodge, set on 200 acres of land not far from where Ernest Hemingway lived whilst writing his novel, "The Snows of Kilimanjaro."

Amboseli National Park is home to the Masai, over 400 species of breeding birds and it teems with rare and wonderful wildlife. The rustic luxury of Amboseli Sopa lodge makes it the perfect rendezvous for the adventurer wishing to conquer the snow-capped peaks of Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Amboseli Sopa Lodge consists of 18 deluxe rooms, 20 double rooms and 9 single rooms. Each room has its own private verandah and full bathroom. The restaurant serves a multi-ethnic combination of European, African and Asian dishes, all made with fresh produce. Breakfast and lunch are served buffet style. Dinner is a four-course meal and picnic lunch boxes are available for guests traveling or on safari during the day.



## Location and park information

### Nairobi

It is impossible to believe that just over 100 years ago the only visitors to the area which is now Nairobi were the Masai tribe, who used to water their cattle at a "boggy waterhole". They called it Enkare Nyarobi – literally 'the place of cold water'. In the dying years of the 19th century as the Uganda railway forged its way through Kenya, the area became a railhead for the assault on the eastern wall of the escarpment. Because of the swampy surroundings, the railway workers camps rapidly turned into a shanty town, inhabited by rats which brought the plague and it is doubtful if anyone could envisage that one day this would become the 'City in the Sun'

Between the 1903 and 1908 potential settlers arrived in Kenya responding to the promise of cheap agricultural land (which did not strictly belong to the government to give away) and many wealthy sportsmen arrived to hunt the game. Hotels sprang up to cater for the visitors and the base for the valuable tourist industry was laid during those early years.

In 1950 Nairobi became a City by Royal Charter, the streets ablaze with flowering trees and shrubs and to this day the flowering jacaranda trees in the later months of the year are one of Nairobi's great attractions.

Nairobi is now a city of around 3 million people and the heart of the commerce and industry for the whole of East Africa. Over the years the city has developed with modern infrastructure, the expected high rise buildings, tourist hotels and many places of entertainment. Additionally Nairobi has a near perfect climate, lying 144 km south of the equator at an altitude of 5451ft (1662m) and 494 km from the shores of the Indian Ocean. The city has maintained its cosmopolitan ambience which is apparent, not only in the different races and communities who work in and around the city, but also in the architecture and variety of religious buildings, churches, temples, mosques, synagogues.

The range of attractions and places to visit are amazing. A typical day could perhaps start with a tour of the city, including visits to the excellent Railway Museum with its records of the history of the railway.

The National Museum of Kenya has fine exhibits of East African fauna, birds, fish and reptiles as well as collection of cultural merit. You could also see the City Hall and Law Courts, the bazaars and the markets with their colourful displays of locally grown fruit and flowers as well as handicrafts and many different centres of worship, including the spectacular Jamia Mosque. This is the only city in the world which has a National Park on its doorstep and within a short drive visitors enter a completely different world – the Nairobi National Park. Lion, cheetah, buffalo and rhino as well as more common plains game like gazelles, zebra, ostrich and giraffe live within the park.

A short distance away, the Giraffe Centre, where the history of the endangered Rothschild Giraffe (which include the famous "Daisy Rothschild") can be studied and the descendants of the family can be fed.

A morning visit can be paid to the famous Daphne Shel Drake orphans, tiny elephant, rhino and occasionally a kudu which have been rescued from the wilds and are brought up until they are capable of returning to the bush.

As a 'Safari capital' of East Africa, Nairobi has more than enough to entertain any visitor for several days, either before or after their planned safari.

### Lake Nakuru National Park

Lake Nakuru National Park covers 188 sq kms and is dominated by the shallow waters of the lake at its centre. The lake itself is about 62 sq km and the birdlife is superb, with over 450 species recorded. Lake Nakuru is especially famous for its concentrations of greater and lesser flamingos and pelicans, which at certain times of year number in the millions.

The landscape surrounding the lake is a picturesque combination of savannah, marshes and woodland which supports a good variety of wildlife. Tree climbing lions, buffalo, waterbuck, Burchell's zebra, hippo, baboons, impala and Rothschild's giraffe can all be seen. Nakuru is recognized as one of the best places in the country for daytime leopard sightings. The national park is also one of Kenya's premier rhino sanctuaries, with good numbers of breeding white and black rhino.

Lake Nakuru national park is 2 hours drive north of Nairobi and is accessible using 2-wheel-drive vehicles. A leisurely drive around the lake takes about 3 hours.

### Masai Mara Game Reserve

Probably the most famous of the reserves, the Masai Mara, in Kenya's south western corner, boasts an astonishing amount of game. Unfenced, the Mara is bounded in the east by the Ngama Hills and in the west by the Oloololo or Siria Escarpment. Gazelle, wildebeest and zebra graze in large numbers and where prey is found so are predators. Not only is this a great place in which to find game, but the wide greeny-gold savannahs spotted with thorn trees make it ideal for photography. The Mara, as it is known in Kenya, is ravishingly beautiful and also offers long, undisturbed views and utterly dramatic panoramas. The weather really means something here. The unforgiving sun may beat down, huge clouds in fabulous shapes may sweep across the widest of skies, the wind ripples the grasses as though they are stroked by a giant hand. The landscape is stunning.

The famously black-manned Mara lions are possibly the stars of the Mara show, but cheetah, elephant, kongoni, topi, Thompson's gazelle, waterbuck, hyena, and primates are all here too. As with the rest of Kenya, the birding is good. There is no settlement within the reserve however the Mara is in theory owned by the Masai, pastoralists and in earlier times renowned lion-killers.

Famously, the Mara is the northerly end of the Great Migration, that great primeval surge of wildebeest, zebra and antelope that sweeps in from Tanzania's Serengeti to Kenya's Masai Mara as the Tanzanian grass starts to fail. They are tracked by the large predators who pick off the weak, the stragglers and the young. The great herds mass along the Mara River, pushing and shoving. They are fantastically noisy, just waiting for the first animal to cross so that they can all follow on the final leg of the journey. However, crocodiles lie in wait, sluggishly cruising the waters, fully prepared for their best meal of the year. Many fail in the life-and-death struggle – drowned and eaten by the crocodiles or, made careless or weak by their stressful swim, brought down by lions. The Masai Mara is terrible yet wonderful and not to be missed.

#### Serengeti National Park

A vast expanse of flat savannah grasses stretching from horizon to horizon, broken only by an occasional gnarled acacia and rocky kopje, the Serengeti has some of the highest wildlife concentrations in the whole of Africa. Year round it is one of the best safari holiday destinations to see the "big five"; elephant, rhino, lion, leopard and buffalo, whilst the central Seronera area of the Serengeti has one of the continent's densest populations of the elusive leopard.

The short grass on the Serengeti plains makes it easier to see many of the smaller animals that are always present in the African bush but seldom observed. Fascinating creatures such as aardwolf, porcupines, badgers, jackals, mongooses, meerkats and pangolins can all be sighted.

#### Ngorongoro Conservation Area

Popularly known as the eighth wonder of the world, the Ngorongoro crater is a spectacular micro-ecosystem that boasts almost all of East Africa's famous wildlife species. The Ngorongoro crater is 16 kilometres in diameter and with walls 610 metre high, it is the largest intact crater in the world. More remarkable still, its confines are home to over 25,000 large mammals.

Hemmed in by the forested walls, the crater floor has a combination of soda lakes, acacia forests, lush marshes and dry savannah. These diverse habitats support the full cast of East Africa's brilliant animal and bird life. Lions, elephants, hippos, buffalo, leopard, ostriches, flamingos, eagles, vultures to name a few. The teeming bird population includes more than 100 species not found in the Serengeti.

The Ngorongoro is a conservation area that is owned by the Masai – and in this part of Tanzania the Masai, in their striking traditional dress, are as much a part of the scene as the huge population of wild animals.

#### Tarangire National Park

Lying south of the Serengeti, Tarangire is the least visited of the northern circuit national parks. Covering 2,600 km<sup>2</sup>, the park is characterized by thick grasses and giant baobab trees, which imbue it with a particularly wild feel. Tarangire is most spectacular during the dry season months of July to October, when enormous herds of elephant, buffalo, zebra, as well as rhino, greater kudu, leopard, lion, rhino, Oryx, impala and giraffe, are all attracted from miles around to the permanent waters of the Tarangire River.

Together with Lake Manyara, Tarangire offers the best bird watching on the northern circuit. There are about 470 resident species, with migrant species bringing this count to over 500 in the September-to-April period. Typical species are the distinctive red and yellow barbet, yellow-collared lovebirds, and a variety of babblers and larks. Interesting raptors include the pale chanting goshawk, African fish eagle, and the shikra. The Tarangire river system also supports a good number of water birds.

If you have only a day or two in Tarangire during your safari then the northern part of the park offers the best game viewing. For those with more time, the southern areas of the park are well worth exploring. Here a variety of swamp, lake and savannah habitats support large herds of buffalo, as well as cheetah, gerenuk and reedbuck.

#### Amboseli National Park

Amboseli is a fairly small national park of 390 sq kms situated south of Nairobi, bordering Tanzania. One of the most popular safari parks in Kenya, it provides excellent wildlife viewing throughout the year, stunning landscapes and a good selection of lodges and camps. However, what really sets it apart from other national parks is the spectacular backdrop of Mount Kilimanjaro – the highest mountain in Africa.

Most of the cat species, including leopard, lion, cheetah and caracal are present in the park and the open plains provide good chances of sightings. Amboseli is also famous for its large herds of buffalo and especially elephants. Bull elephants here have some of the largest tusks ever recorded and have been the subject of ground breaking work by renowned naturalist Cynthia Moss over the past twenty years.

## Conditions for East Africa Tour to Kenya & Tanzania

Deposits and Payments - A non-refundable deposit of \$400 per person is payable within 7 days of booking. This deposit is not refundable should you later cancel. The balance is payable in full 10 weeks prior to departure.

Refunds and Cancellations - Cancellations after final payment will result in a refund limited to whatever we can recoup from the airline.

Insurance - Adequate travel insurance is essential. We can arrange this for you if desired. Macleay Valley Travel offers Suresave Travel Insurance. Please note that we can only process your travel insurance when we have received full payment for the insurance and the signed Suresave Travel Insurance application form, located on the last page of the Suresave Travel Insurance information booklet. Until this time the travel insurance cannot be processed and will not be valid. Macleay Valley Travel will bear no responsibility for any consequences that may occur as a result of an incomplete insurance application.

Passports - All travellers require a current passport with at least 6 months left on it at the end of the tour. Non-Australian passport holders require a re-entry visa for Australia. Visas are required for both Kenya & Tanzania. For Kenya an eVisa is required to be completed on the internet. Current cost is USD \$51 per person and is paid for by credit card. For Tanzania, the visa fee needs to be obtained from Australia prior to going on the tour. The price for Australian passport holders is \$95 per person and we charge \$30 per person for processing. Please note that these prices are subject to change.

Basic Tour Price and Taxes - Air taxes and fuel levies are included in the basic tour price if the tour is paid in full on or before the due date on the final invoice. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to charge for any increase in air taxes and fuel levies if the tour is not paid in full by the due date.

Breakaway Fee - All fully inclusive prices are based on group travel and any deviation from the set itinerary will incur a breakaway fee. The breakaway fee for most deviations including a post-tour extension on this tour is \$105 per person.

Yellow Fever - You will need to have a Yellow Fever injection before departure and you will need to take the yellow card with you when travelling.

Not Included in the Cost - Travel insurance, visas and all items of a personal nature such as telephone calls, drinks, excess baggage, tips, meals (except those specified in the itinerary), etc. are not included in the cost. Similarly, credit card payments can only be accepted if 2% is added to the price to help defray the heavy merchant fees charged to us by the credit card companies. There is a 3% surcharge for Diners Club.

Health and Fitness - Macleay Valley Travel recommends that the passenger is reasonably healthy and/or fit to participate in this tour. Persons with a disability requiring special assistance must be accompanied by a companion. Macleay Valley Travel and their representatives cannot provide this service. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to accept/decline or terminate a passenger's participation in the tour under certain circumstances.

Booking through other Agents - As we keep the cost of our tours as low as possible, there is insufficient margin for us to be able to pay commission to other travel agents, so some bookings can only be accepted if the client pays the other agent's commission.

Accreditation - Macleay Valley Travel is a fully accredited travel agency under the AFTA (Australian Federation of Travel Agents) ATAS - AFTA Travel Accreditation Scheme. As such, you are assured of a consumer focused and quality assured business, ensuring professional conduct and ethical business practices. We are happy for any prospective traveller with us to check us out with your local Consumer Affairs (Fair Trading) department.

Twin Share Bookings - If you do not have a travel partner, but wish to travel at twin share rates, we will try and assign you with another traveller but this is not guaranteed. We assign passengers by their gender, on a first come, first served basis and do not assign twin share passengers according to their age, profession, interests etc. There are risks with sharing a room with a person you do not know, and Macleay Valley Travel accepts no responsibility if you are incompatible with your assigned room mate. Additionally, if you are assigned a travelling companion to share with and they cancel off the tour prior to making the final payment, then you will either be required to pay the single room supplement or we will try our best to assign you with another twin share passenger, if one is available.

Limitation of Liability - As Macleay Valley Travel acts only as agent for the Airlines, Hotels, Coach Companies etc., providing accommodation, transportation and other services, Macleay Valley Travel shall not be liable or responsible for death or injury to any person or loss or damage to any property including baggage arising out of or connection with any transportation, accommodation or other services, or resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, fire, breakdown in machinery or equipment, acts of Government or other authorities, de jure or de facto wars, whether declared or not, hostilities, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, thefts, epidemics, quarantines, medical or customs regulations, delays or cancellations caused by changes in schedules or itinerary, or over bookings or defaults or for any causes beyond Macleay Valley Travel's control or any loss or damage resulting from improper or insufficient passports, visas or other documents and neither Macleay Valley Travel, and its servants or employees shall be or become liable or responsible for any additional expenses or liability sustained or incurred by the tour member as a result of the foregoing causes. Additionally you must meet the entry requirements for each country you visit. Macleay Valley Travel will not be liable if you are denied entry to a country for any reason, including a past criminal history. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to decline bookings made for any group tour. Any tour booking confirmation is conditional, contingent on our view of the ability of a person to be able to participate in a tour without the likelihood of conflict between members of a tour whether perceived or actual.

Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to modify the itinerary or the accommodation if circumstances make this necessary, provided that the amended itinerary is of equal value or greater value than that of the original program.

**MACLEAY VALLEY TRAVEL - BOOKING FORM**

**PLEASE PRINT DETAILS CLEARLY IN BLOCK LETTERS AND ALSO**

**A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR PASSPORT MUST BE SENT WITH BOOKING FORM**

Name of Tour : \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Passenger 1** (as written in passport) \_\_\_\_\_

Title: **Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr.** \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**Passenger 2** (as written in passport) \_\_\_\_\_

Title: **Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr.** \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **PostCode** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone / Fax Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile** \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Nationality \_\_\_\_\_

(Passport must have 6 months validity from the time of tour completion)

**Single room / Twin Beds or Twin Share / Double bed:** (Room type is subject to availability)

Circle which airport you wish to depart from: SYDNEY / MELBOURNE / BRISBANE

Do you have any existing medical conditions?: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Extensions: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to receive details of our travel insurance?: YES / NO (Please Circle)

In case of emergency, please notify :

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this sheet with your non-refundable deposit of \$400 per person.

**DECLARATION. I have read and understand fully the booking conditions and I accept them.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**A copy of passport is required to verify spelling of name; If this is not provided and the information we have for the airline is incorrect and ticket is issued, then the airline will charge a reissue fee.**