EXPLORE! Tour Notes

PRICE GUARANTEE 100% NO SURCHARGES

Indulge Itinerary Version II (TMKE3)

WILDLIFE

TOURDURAT
12
DAYS

Tour Type: Tailormade

tour Code: TMKE3

Tour Highlights - Indulge Itinerary Version II

- ✓ A luxurious safari adventure, staying in the best lodges; perfect for honeymooners or those looking for a touch of indulgence
- ✓ Fly-in to your camps and lodges - a great way to get an aerial view of Kenya's vast parks and reserves
- ✓ Safari in Kenya's first-class wildlife reserve - the Masai Mara
- ✓ Be treated to bush breakfasts and sundowners around a log fire in the wilderness at Lake Naivasha
- ✓ Finish off with an idyllic beach stay on Kenya's pristine coastline

Tour Essentials

Accommodation:
Included Meals: 9 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 5 dinners
Transport:
Countries: Kenya

Tailormade Kenya in Style

Suitability

We've given each of our tours a comfort rating and a tour pace, walking or cycling grade to give you a general idea about the level of activity on each tour and the standard of accommodation you will be staying in at the end of your day's adventure.

Often you'll stay in different styles of accommodation during your tour; so we make an average rating across the entire tour. For more information on where you'll stay each night, please refer to the day by day tour itinerary.

Your tour itinerary

Tour itinerary notes

While our intention is to adhere to the day-by-day itinerary as printed below, a degree of flexibility is built in. Overnight stops may vary from those suggested.

Your Tour Leader

A Tour Leader is an integral part of any Explore tour and your tour will be led by one of our experienced tour leaders who have been handpicked and expertly trained. We believe that our Tour Leaders are the key to the success of our tours; they are passionate travellers who are bursting with first-hand local knowledge which they love to share. Your tour Leader will also take care of all the planning and organisation throughout your journey. Their passionate approach will make this tour fun and inspiring, bringing the destination to life whether you're travelling alone or with others.

DAY 1 Fly to Nairobi

Depart the UK on your overnight flight to Kenya's capital city of Nairobi.

Why Book this tour?

Kenya has little seasonal fluctuation in temperature, however the year can be divided into two distinct wet seasons. From late March to May the long rains occur. These can last several days and so we would advise against travel during this time. The shorter rains take place during November and generally last only an hour or two each day. The remaining months are warm and dry making them perfect for travel and game viewing.
The spectacular view of the wildebeest migration into the Masai Mara from the Serengeti takes place annually during mid August to mid October and so is a particularly good time to travel, though National Parks do inevitably get busy.

Included Meals: None

DAY 2 Fly to Lake Naivasha

Upon arrival in Nairobi connect with your onward flight to the Oserian Wildlife Sanctuary located near Lake Naivasha. Sitting in the shadow of dormant Longonot Volcano, Lake Naivasha is one of the Great Rift Valley lakes. Used as a location in the film 'Out of Africa', the lake has a picturesque setting with grazing hippos and floating islands of papyrus. It is surrounded by forests of acacia trees, known locally as yellow fever trees they are home to huge numbers of birdlife, while the lake itself draws a variety of game including Masai giraffes, Cape buffalo, colobus monkeys and numerous hippos which wallow in the shallows. Upon arrival at the Oserian Wildlife Sanctuary, you'll have the opportunity to enjoy a late afternoon game drive to discover some of the local wildlife including white rhino, leopard, grevy zebra, lion, hyena, giraffe and kudu, in addition to many smaller species like dik dik, grey duiker, steinbok and aardvark. Alternatively you could walk or take a four-wheel drive down to the shores of Lake Oloidien where flocks of pelicans and flamingos feed off the spirulina bacteria found in the water, followed by a sundowner around a roaring log fire.

Included Meals: Dinner

DAY 3 Activities at Lake Naivasha

The name Naivasha originates from the Masai name Nai'posha, meaning ''Rough Water" due to the afternoon storms that have been known to roll-in over the lake. Today you have a full day to explore the region. A game drive will give you the opportunity of seeing many of the larger mammals who base themselves around the lake. Giraffes hide among the acacia woodlands, hippos cool off in the shallows, while buffaloes wallow in the swamps. Naivasha is a birdlovers paradise and is home to some 350 species including fish eagle, augur buzzard, kingfishers, cormorants and pelicans.You'll also have the opportunity to enjoy a boat trip on the lake allowing you to get a different perspective of the area and it is the perfect, relaxing way to bird spot and observe the hippos at close range. Depending on your arrival time back at your lodge, there may be the chance for a night game drive in Oserian Wildlife Sanctuary in search of nocturnal animals.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4 Fly to the Masai Mara Game Reserve

After breakfast a scenic flight brings you to the world renowned Masai Mara. The incredible setting of the Masai Mara National Reserve is without a doubt one of Africa's dazzling jewels and Kenya's finest wildlife park. Situated at the northern end of the Serengeti National Park, there is almost every species of animal native to East Africa here and you may well find some of the Big Five (elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo and rhino), as well as the herds of wildebeest, zebra and gazelle that roam in large numbers across the grasslands. On arrival at your lodge, you'll have time to freshen up before setting off into the park for an afternoon game drive, stopping off for a refreshing sundowner.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 Game drives in the Masai Mara

Today you head into the Masai Mara National Reserve on early morning and afternoon game drives. Traverse the vast open plains of this spectacular reserve in search of Kenya's greatest wildlife. Keep your camera at the ready as lions, leopards and cheetahs, elephants, hyenas, giraffes and a multitude of game can be spotted from your safari vehicle. One of the most memorable and unique spectacles of this area is the annual migration (August to October) of hundreds of thousands of wildebeest, zebra and gazelle as they move between the Masai Mara and the Serengeti Plains in Tanzania. This annual trek costs the lives of many of the young, old and sick who are picked off by the predators that thrive here, both on the plains and in the muddy waters of the Mara River. During your time in the reserve, you will venture out on game drives to experience a little of this natural struggle as it unfolds before your eyes. The area teems with herbivores, predators and birds including 57 species of birds of prey.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6 Game drives in the Masai Mara

The Masai Mara is not a national park, it is a game reserve and as such the Masai people have been able to retain their traditional lifestyle of cattle herding across the vast plains. It is thought that the Masai arrived in the Mara around 400 years ago, after migrating from South Sudan. These days many Masai also work in the lodges and camps within the reserve. This morning head out on foot with an experienced Masai guide on a walking safari. Seeing big game up-close, on foot is an exhilarating experience and not one that will be forgotten in a hurry. You'll also be able to learn about the land, flora and fauna from the people that know it better than anyone. This afternoon you could go on another game drive in the reserve or visit the local Masai community to discover more of their traditions and culture. You can also visit the local school where the smiley children love to show off to visitors.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7 Fly to the beach

Departing the Masai Mara you'll fly to Mombasa and transfer to your beachfront hotel. The rest of the day is free for you to relax after five days busy safari.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 8 Relax on the beach

Today has been left free for you to relax around the pool of your hotel or on the idyllic white sand beaches.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 9 Visit the local town

Your free day can be spent visiting the nearby local villages or perhaps make the most of the spa treatments that may be available in your hotel.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 10 Try some watersports

Your last day in Kenya can be spent relaxing and remembering all of the magical sights you have seen on your trip. For the more active visitors, snorkelling in the clear, turquoise sea, wind surfing, deep sea fishing or boat safaris are all available to book locally.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 11 Depart Kenya

Depart Mombasa, arriving into Nairobi to connect with your international flight home.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 12 Arrive UK

Included Meals: None

Accommodation and Meals

Food & Drink

Included meals: 9 breakfasts, 4 lunches,5 dinners included in the price of this tour. Please be prepared to pay for non-included meals. Please note that costs for drinks and meals can vary depending on location.

Budgeting for your Tour

You will need some extra money to cover meals and drinks not included in the tour price, any optional sightseeing, souvenirs and items of a personal nature such as laundry.

Food

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide.Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Kenya

Lunch £: 10.00

Dinner £: 13.00

Drink

The prices for drinks can vary greatly depending upon location and the prices detailed below are an average guide. In general you would expect that drinks purchased in a supermarket or local bar to be less expensive, whilst drinks in an upmarket bar or restaurant may be more expensive.

Kenya

Bottle of Beer £: 1.50

Water £: 1.00

Foreign Exchange

Kenya

ATM Availability: Cash can be drawn on credit cards from ATMs in Nairobi.

Credit Card Acceptance: Accepted in larger hotels only.

Travellers Cheques: We do not recommend taking travellers cheques

Local Currency: Kenyan Shilling.

Recommended Currency for Exchange: You should take the majority of your spending money in US Dollars cash. Please be aware that any notes issued before 2002 will not be accepted.

Where to Exchange: Banks or 'Forex' offices in main towns/cities. Tour Leader will advise you on arrival.

Joining your Tour

Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found on our website at www.explore.co.uk, in the tour specific dates and prices section.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer. For more information please refer to https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers.

Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer please refer to https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

Important Information

Travel Insurance

It is a condition of joining any of our tours that you must have valid travel insurance. It must indicate that you have cover for (at least) medical expenses and emergency repatriation in the event of illness or injury. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling in England and Scotland. We also strongly recommend your policy includes curtailment,

personal effects and cancellation protection as all deposits paid are non-refundable. You will also need to ensure your travel policy covers you for all activities you intend to do whilst on tour.

We are delighted to include FREE travel insurance **for all qualifying customers** who book an Explore trip from 01 January 2015.

For more information about Travel insurance and to check whether you are eligible to receive free cover, please visit www.explore.co.uk/insurance. Explore Worldwide Ltd are an Appointed Representative of Campbell Irvine Limited. who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. The registration number can be checked by visiting the the FCA's website www.fca.gov.uk or by contacting them on 0800 111 6768.

Vaccinations & Protection

Kenya

Following the advice given by the Government's Foreign and Commonwealth Office, we strongly recommend the wearing of long sleeved shirts and the liberal application of insect repellent as a precautionary measure to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes. These precautions should be taken at all times as the mosquitoes are also active during daylight hours. Nothing compulsory, we recommend protection against yellow fever, malaria, typhoid, tetanus, diphtheria, polio and hepatitis A. Consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. . Please note you are required to produce a valid yellow fever certificate on arrival in Kenya if you have spent 10 hours or more transiting through an endemic country.

Preparing for your Tour

Climate

Kenya

Although Kenya lies astride the equator, annual rainfall over most of the country is surprisingly low and varies from year to year. Temperatures over much of Kenya are subtropical or temperate, similar to those in California or southern France in summer. Seasonal weather patterns can be unpredictable. Additional information and climate charts can be accessed at http://www.explore.co.uk/weather. Seasonal weather patterns can be unpredictable. Up-to-date information on the weather worldwide can be found by following the BBC weather link on this page.

Luggage allowance on tour:

Unfortunately it does occasionally happen that luggage does not always reach its destination on the same flight as its owner, or possibly it may be damaged in transit. If you are unlucky enough for this to occur, it is important that you file a PIR (Property Irregularity Report) with the airline before leaving the airport. This is essential when you come to make a claim either against the airline or from your travel insurance company

General Information

Country details

Kenya

Population: 41,070,934

Size of Country: 580,367 sq km

Major Language: Swahili, English

Religion: Christian, Protestant, Roman Catholic

Time Difference to GMT: +3

Electric Supply & Plugs

Kenya

3 Pin Flat

Why Choose Explore

We've been creating award-winning pioneering adventure holidays for over 30 years, earning the trust of thousands of delighted customers, who feel safe in our hands. Our tour leaders have expert local knowledge and our tours are designed to take you off the beaten track to see the most exotic, inspiring and dramatic places in the world.

- With over 30 years' experience, we are passionate about what we do.
- Pioneering small group adventures, self-guided, private journeys & tailormade holidays.
- Award winning tour leaders who you can trust.
- Responsible travel is and always has been one the driving principles of Explore.

Our adventure holidays are full of exciting things to see and do, exploring in small groups travelling by bus, boat, plane, rickshaw, camel, elephant, or any number of unusual forms of transport . Often you will stay in family run hotels and village houses and enjoy authentic local cuisine. In this way, it's easy to discover the true heart of the people and the place you travel to – and make some new friends along the way. Each tour is uniquely different, so please feel free to browse through our tours to see what may whet your appetite.

Our commitment to the environment

We are passionate about sustainable travel and work hard to create tours where your holiday delivers real benefits to the local communities. We minimise our impact by travelling in small groups, respecting local cultures and traditional, reducing waste and offsetting 100% of the CO2 from our flights.

When you travel with Explore, you are directly contributing to local economies and helping empower the people you meet. We currently support a range of charities and good causes, including: Toilet Twinning (helping to flush away poverty), Lone Buffalo Foundation (a community project based in Laos providing creative skills for young people), Dekamer (a turtle rescue centre in Turkey) and Kids Saving the Rainforest (a wildlife rescue centre in Costa Rica supported through the LATA foundation). We also care passionately about the world's wildlife. We are patrons of the Born Free Organisation and Friends of Conservation.

Cool Earth

Explore are proud to support Cool Earth in their effort to reduce global carbon dioxide levels through the prevention of deforestation in the South America rainforest. Cool Earth focus on areas in immediate danger of deforestation, supporting local communities to be forest guardians. To date 350,000 acres of rainforest has been protected. Saving rainforest also protects rare animals and plants, allows local forest communities to maintain their way of life, and protects a major source of oxygen and fresh water. When you travel on an Explore holiday we make a donation to Cool Earth that exceeds the impact of our customers flights each year.

Earth Matters

- The Travel Foundation

  Explore are active members and supporters of the Travel Foundation which has established a variety of sustainable tourism projects in destinations and works with industry to improve practice. Visit their website www.thetravelfoundation.org.uk
- Tourism Concern

  Explore support the work of Tourism Concern who campaign for fairly and ethically traded tourism, and are part of its Ethical Tour Operator Group www.tourismconcern.org.uk
- For further information on responsible travel go to http://www.explore.co.uk/ResponsibleTourism/

Know before you go

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety andÂ security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. ForÂ UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Advice follow the link atÂ http://www.explore.co.uk/essential-travel-information/travel-resources/travel-safety

Booking Your Holiday

Peace of mind - book with confidence

You can book your Explore holiday with confidence, as all monies paid to us for your trip are fully protected. Explore is a fully bonded tour operator licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and by ABTOT.

The air holiday packages (Tours including flights) that we advertise are ATOL protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's LicenceÂ granted by the Civil Aviation Authority.Â Our ATOL number is ATOL 2595. In addition, As a member of the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT), Explore has provided a bond to meet the requirements of the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992. Please note that packages booked outside the UK are only protected when purchased directly with Explore.

Reserving your place

To reserve your place on this tour you will need to check availability on the Explore website or through our dedicated call centre based in the UK where you can. Our tours can fill up quickly so you are advised to book as early as possible. If your chosen date is 'Available' or 'Guaranteed' we will be able to provisionally hold you a space for up to 48 hours.

For Self-Guided holidays and Private Journeys simply choose your date of travel and let us know so we can confirm all ground services.

The easiest way to confirm your booking is through our website. When you are ready to book, we normally require a 10% non-refundable deposit, but for some holidays this may be more to cover such items as permit fees, internal flights or other non-refundable services. If your travel starts within 60 days of booking, full payment will be required at the time of booking

100% No Surcharge Guarantee

The price paid for our holidays is no longer subject to change. Once booked and confirmed we will guarantee the price you pay will not increase, whatever the circumstances. You will not be approached to pay fuel surcharges unlike the vast majority of other adventure tour operators. The price guarantee applies to all new bookings departing between 1st January 2014 and 31st December 2015.

Tour Itinerary Versions

Itinerary details may vary depending on departure date and alternative itineraries for this tour may exist. Please refer to the dates and prices page on our website to check which itinerary operates on each departure date.

Please ensure that you have an up-to-date copy of these tour notes immediately before you travel, as from time to time our itineraries may be amended, either for operational reasons or in response to feedback from customers. You will be informed of any major changes to your tour but small changes may just be added to these tour notes.

Please note: 3 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing in 3. 4/ itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing from 1st January to 31st December 4.

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