EXPLORE! Tour Notes

PRICE GUARANTEE 100% NO SURCHARGES

East African Explorer + Zanzibar Extension (EAZ 2015)

WILDLIFE

TOURDURAT
17
DAYS

Tour Style: Classic
Tour Pace: Busy
Tour Type: Small Groups
Tour Comfort: Basic
tour Code: EAZ

Tour Highlights - East African Explorer + Zanzibar Extension

- ✓ Masai Mara & Serengeti - Game viewing in the most iconic and prolific national parks in Africa.
- ✓ Ngorongoro Crater - The world's largest intact caldera, home to rhino, leopard and giraffe.
- ✓ Tarangire - Large herds of elephants in baobab dotted bushland.
- ✓ Lake Naivasha - A walking safari and an opportunity to observe wildlife at close range.
- ✓ Lake Victoria - The second largest lake in the world and the source of the mighty river Nile.
- ✓ Zanzibar - The Spice Island and the narrow streets of Stone Town.

Tour Essentials

Accommodation:	11 nights Simple Camping 1 night Simple Hotel 2 nights Standard Bungalow 2 nights Standard Hotel
Included Meals:	16 breakfasts, 13 lunches, 12 dinners
Start Point:	Join tour: Nairobi
End Point:	Tour ends: Stone Town
Transport:	Truck
Countries:	Kenya, Tanzania

East African Explorer + Zanzibar Island

On this wildlife based holiday we travel through Kenya's beautiful Rift Valley discovering Lake Naivasha, Crescent Island Nature Reserve and the shores of Lake Victoria. We explore the vast gamelands of the Masai Mara in search of elephant, lion, leopard, cheetah, buffaloe and rhino. We discover the impressive Ngorongoro Crater and meet Masai warriors, Hadzabi bushmen and the Datoka tribe at Lake Eyasi. We also relax on the shores of the Indian Ocean on the spice island of Zanzibar and explore the historical Stone Town.

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.

Tour Comfort: Basic

Our basic accommodation can offer the most rewarding and memorable places to stay. These are usually communal or camping style with shared facilities. Running hot and cold water may be unreliable and overall comfort levels are basic.

Tour Style: Classic

Packed with adventure, these tours offer inspiring destinations and authentic travel experiences at a reasonable price. Using all kinds of transport and accommodation, we'll take you off the beaten track to discover the true heart of the people and places you visit.

Tour Pace: Busy

There may be early starts, long journeys and tiring days along the way, but you'll return home feeling you've really experienced as much as you possibly could.

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.
Your tour leader will not accompany you to Zanzibar, you will be met by a local guide on arrival who will be on hand to assist you but will not accompany you.

Your Tour Leader will be with you throughout the safari however they will not continue with you to Zanzibar. Upon arrival on the island our local representative will meet you, assist with the airport transfer and be available for booking excursions, but essentially this section of the tour is unaccompanied.
Your tour leader will not accompany you to Zanzibar, you will be met by a local guide on arrival who will be on hand to assist you but will not accompany you.

DAY 1 Join tour Nairobi; Drive to Lake Naivasha

After arriving in Nairobi this morning we drive north towards one of Africa's most important physical features. Created by the collision of the great continental masses of Africa and the Middle East, the African Rift Valley is more than 9656km

long, stretching from Jordan to Mozambique. At the southernmost end of the Kenya Rift Valley lies the fertile oasis of Lake Naivasha, one of the Rift Valley's freshwater lakes and the site for our overnight camp. Translating as Rippling Waters Naivasha is a picturesque setting of grazing hippos and floating islands of papyrus, occupying the floor of the Valley and dominated by the towering heights of Mount Longonot. There may be an opportunity today to visit Elsamere Conservation Centre (optional), once the home of Joy and George Adamson of "Born Free' fame, where you can take high tea on the lawn, amidst a tranquil lakeside setting and look around the museum presenting an in depth history of Joy Adamson's remarkable attempts to raise Elsa the lion cub and introduce her back into the wild. Another optional alternative is a boat trip on Lake Naivasha to enjoy the splendours of the abundant birdlife.

Overnight: **Simple Camping**
Your own tent available

Included Meals: Lunch, Dinner

DAY 2 AM Visit Crescent island; Drive to Ilariak

This morning we include a visit to Crescent Island Nature Reserve, where we can explore on foot this great bird and wildlife sanctuary in the company of a local guide, hoping to find giraffe, zebra, wildebeest and some of the 350 bird species that have been recorded here. Afterwards we head south to our Maasai community campsite at Ilariak. In the Maasai language Ilariak means a place of salt lick rivers which provide much needed minerals for the animals in the area.

Overnight: **Simple Camping**
Your own tent available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3 In Ilariak, Drive Maasai Mara

This morning we will head for the incredible setting of the Maasai Mara National Reserve, without 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 during our game drive in the area this afternoon we 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. We aim to enter at the Sekenani Gate and head for our campsite located near the exit at Talek Gate, situated close to the river.You may also be interested in an optional visit to a Maasai boma to gain a greater understanding of the local culture and lifestyle.

Overnight: **Simple Camping**
Your own tent available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4 Game drives in the Masai Mara

The Maasai Mara is not actually a park, but is in fact a national reserve and, as such, the Maasai people have been able to retain their traditional way of life. Unchanged through the centuries, tribesmen are often seen herding their cattle along the many trails. The areas that we will be travelling through on our game drives are teeming with herbivores and carnivores, the hunters and the hunted and, depending upon conditions, we may even see this constant battle for life in all its grim glory. The Mara boasts large prides of lions, as well as leopard, cheetah and hyena, so a hunt is always a possibility across these open plains. One of the most memorable and unique spectacles of this area is the annual migration of hundreds of thousands of wildebeest, zebra and gazelle as they move between the Maasai Mara and the Serengeti Plains. This annual trek costs the lives of many of the old and the sick, picked off by the predators that thrive here, both on the plains and in the muddy waters of the Mara and Talek rivers. Trips running between August and October fall within the time frame of these annual migrations, although obviously we cannot guarantee that specific trips will witness this most unique natural phenomenon. Along the forested banks of the Mara and Talek rivers are excellent places to view hippos, crocs and waterfowl and the reserve is also home to some 450 species of bird, including Denham's Bustard, Black Coucal, Red Tailed chat, Yellow Bellied Hyliota and Magpie Shrike.

Overnight: **Simple Camping**
Your own tent available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 Drive to Kisii

Leaving the Mara behind this morning we head for the fertile landscapes of the Western Highlands and the lively market town of Kisii, famed for its soapstone. Home to the Gusii people, Bantu speaking tribes who migrated here from the Congo, Kisii sits amidst a landscape rich with tea and coffee plantations, banana groves and agriculture and our journey north takes us through some of the most productive land in the country

Overnight: **Simple Hotel**
Single Room Available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6 Drive to Musoma via the Isebania border crossing

Today's scenic drive takes us across into Tanzania, travelling via Migori and crossing the border at Isebania, before continuing along the eastern shores of Lake Victoria to Musoma. We plan to arrive at camp in the late afternoon and spend the remainder of the day relaxing by the waters of Africa's largest freshwater lake. Discovered by the explorer John Speke in August 1858, Lake Victoria is the second largest on the planet, covering over 69,000 sq km. and bordering Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The source of the White Nile, scattered with islands and reefs, it is home to over 200 species of fish and fishing is a major contribution to the economy and livelihood of the Bantuspeaking tribes that live along the lakeshore.

Overnight: **Simple Camping**
Your own tent available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7 Drive to Serengeti National Park

From Musoma it is a short drive before we enter the Serengeti and continue through its remote 'Western Corridor'. Covering some 15,000 sq km the Serengeti is the oldest and largest park in Tanzania, its name derived from the Maasai word for 'endless plains', Although particularly famed for its lions, it offers unrivalled opportunities to photograph many other species of wildlife, including an amazing number of birds. The area encompasses the largest concentration of wildlife on the continent and the annual migration of tens of thousands of wildebeest and zebra is a truly impressive spectacle as they battle their way to fresh grazing land, running the gauntlet of the great African predators as they go. It is on these plains that we focus most of our attention over the next couple of days, spending two nights in the Seronera region and taking early morning and late afternoon game drives in search of the 'Big 5' and so much more.

Overnight: **Simple Camping**
Your own tent available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 8 Games drives in Serengeti N.P.

Our exact movements today are very much dependent upon the location and concentration of the wildlife. We may head to the Retima Hippo Pool, the Moru Kopjes or perhaps the Seronera River area in search of leopard and lion. Cheetahs are often seen in family units out on the Serengeti plains, a special sight indeed. During the annual migration hundreds of thousands of wildebeest and zebra move westward, covering some 800 km from the central plains through the park's 'long corridor', towards richer grazing lands and fresh water. These spectacular journeys are often fraught with danger as their long trek invariably draws the attention of the ever-present predators - lion, leopard, hyena and crocodile. This is nature in its rawest sense, where the struggle for survival is played out daily across these expansive plains and churning rivers. The unique sight of hunting packs are always a possibility during our time here.

Overnight: **Simple Camping**
Your own tent available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 9 Drive to Ngorongoro Conservation area. Visit Olduvai Gorge

Driving to Ngorongoro today we stop to visit the remarkable setting of Olduvai Gorge, where in 1959, anthropologists Dr and Mrs Leakey discovered the remains of an almost intact human skull that was eventually discovered to be 1.75 million years old. Named 'Nutcracker Man' on account of its powerful jaw, this incredible discovery proved to be an important milestone in the search for human evolution, only being eclipsed when even older finds were later made in Ethiopia and Laetoli. Accompanied by a local guide we visit Olduvai Gorge Visitor Centre and Museum overlooking the gorge itself, to learn something more of this fascinating discovery. Our journey today affords an opportunity to enjoy more game viewing as we depart the Serengeti, and also offers a chance to view several Maasai settlements along the route. To the south east of Olduvai Gorge lies the huge bowl-like crater of Ngorongoro, a spectacular almost circular depression with a diameter of some 19 kilometres that lies amidst Tanzania's Crater Highlands. Technically classed as a caldera, the crater owes its existence to the violent fracturing of the Rift Valley over a period of some 25 million years. At one time a volcano occupied this spot, until it became extinct and finally collapsed into the empty magma chamber below, leaving only the gigantic natural basin that we see today. This incredible natural amphitheatre presents us with the perfect setting for some remarkable game viewing and an ideal spot from which the sun setting over the African plains. Come prepared for a cold night tonight.

Overnight: **Simple Camping**
Your own tent available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 10 Game viewing in Ngorongoro Crater, then drive to Karatu

This morning we enter the caldera, descending from the upper rim in specially chartered 4WD vehicles in search of big game. As we negotiate the steep track that drops some 600m to the grassy basin below, we enter a setting that provides a rich haven for herbivores and carnivores alike. The open plains thunder beneath the hooves of countless zebra, buffalo and antelope, whilst predators like lion, hyena and cheetah thrive amidst this plentiful open-air buffet, all against a stunning backdrop of dramatic cliffs and lush vegetation that present the perfect photo opportunities. Elephant, black-maned lion, cheetah, buffalo and rhino are in abundance here, whilst the perennial marshes teem with all manner of birdlife, including Egyptian vultures, ostriches, Verreaux's eagles and kori bustards and, during the summer months, the plains echo to the spectacular migrations of millions of wildebeest, zebra and gazelles as they make their way from the Serengeti. After our morning's game drive we depart for our camp at Karatu, set amidst an area of cool verdant hills on the Manyara Escarpment. Once a popular spot for the German settlers and farmers during the country's colonial occupation, this area was once an important coffee growing area and the hills on the approach to the town are still dotted with plantations. Tonight we camp just on the outskirts of the Conservation area, in a region that is home to the Barbaig and Iraqw tribes.

Overnight: **Simple Camping**
Your own tent available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 11 Free Day. Optional 4x4 excursion to Lake Eyasi or local walk to Gibbs Farm

Today you have the option of heading into the Great Rift valley, driving along dusty tracks to Mangola village at Lake Eyasi, home to one of the 'Datoga' families. They are pastoral like the Maasai and grow crops such as maize and collect honey. The women traditionally tattoo a circle of dots around their eyes, usually when they are teenagers. The Maasai call these people 'Mangati', the 'Feared Ones' though they are actually very friendly and welcoming to visitors. We'll also head out into the bush with our local guide in search of the Hadzabi Bushmen, transient people living in small family groups. The men hunt with bows and arrows, whilst the women will gather roots, berries and honey or beg maize from their neighbours, the Datoga. There are only 1000 or so of these true hunter-gatherers left in East Africa! Alternatively, you may like to take a walk in the local area around Karatu to Gibb's Farm. This is a working farm built in 1929 and located on the forested slopes of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. This ecofriendly farm grows organic coffee, organic fuit and vegetables, flowers and herbs, has a tree nursery and a working dairy and pig farm. En route we may have the opportunity of visiting a local market, a local artist, a wood carver, a traditional wedding dress maker and a distillery depending on what is available on the day.

Overnight: **Simple Camping**
Your own tent available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 12 Drive to Tarangire; PM game drive

Travelling via Makunyi today we head for the Tarangire National Park, which derives its name from the Tarangire River flowing through its expansive landscapes. Lying to the southeast of Lake Manyara this is one of Tanzania's lesser known parks and one of its most striking features are the majestic old baobab trees whose massive silvery trunks and gourd-like fruits dominate the skyline. Tarangire has the greatest concentration of wildlife outside of the Serengeti Ecosystem and is part of a much larger ecosystem that extends further south into the Maasai Steppes. Here we can find vast herds of elephants and unprecedented numbers of birds, attracted by the permanent water sources. This is also home to the shy fringed eared oryx and the gerenuk antelope, a species not seen in other parks and during our game drive this afternoon we will hopefully catch sight of some of this abundant wildlife

Overnight: **Simple Camping**
Your own tent available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 13 Morning game drive. Drive to Arusha

This morning we will take a final opportunity to have a game drive on our exit from the park before making our way back to Arusha from where we take a short flight to the exotic and friendly island of Zanzibar and transfer to our hotel on the north coast.

Overnight: **Standard Bungalow**
Single Room Available

Swimming Pool Available

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 14 In Nungwi; optional activities or relaxation

Your time is free for personal exploration and relaxation. Spend time watching the fishermen bringing in their catch or go out in one of the dugout canoes with them and try your hand at line fishing. Stroll or cycle along the beach or visit nearby villages. Alternatively,

with a mask and snorkel, you can explore the colourful reef offshore, teeming with tropical fish. You may even choose to explore the surrounding area by mountain bike. Scuba diving is available.

Overnight: **Standard Bungalow**
Single Room Available **Swimming Pool Available**

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 15 To Stone Town; optional city tour

This morning is left free for you to relax and enjoy your surrounding before transferring to the capital. Zanzibar Town has white washed houses and labyrinth of narrow streets and alleyways. Filled with colourful bazaars and hawkers selling a myriad of goods, and everywhere the atmosphere is permeated with the smell of spices. Taxis to or from our hotel into Stone Town are approximately US$ 10 per taxi

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available **Swimming Pool Available**

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 16 In Stone Town; optional spice tour

Today those who wish can take a tour of Stone Town followed by the Spice Island Tour (including lunch) and learn more of Zanzibar's history, visit the Sultan's palace and see clove plantations established by the Sultan in the 19th century.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
Single Room Available **Swimming Pool Available**

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 17 Tour ends Stone Town

The tour ends today after breakfast.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation and Meals

Accommodation Rating

Please note guaranteed single rooms are not available in Zanzibar.

Food & Drink

Included meals: 16 breakfasts, 13 lunches,12 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

Tanzania

Lunch £: 8.00

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

Tanzania

Bottle of Beer £: 1.60

Water £: 0.70

International Departure Taxes

Please note that a $48 departure tax is applicable on all international flights departing from Zanzibar. Most international tickets should include this tax in the cost of the ticket, please ensure you check with your flight agent/company concerning this. If your international ticket does not include the tax, it must be paid in cash at the airport.

Other Sightseeing & Activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations.

Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

Optional Excursions

Serengeti Balloon Safari
During our stay in the Serengeti there is time to take a once-in-a-lifetime balloon flight over the Serengeti Plains. Flights cost US$ 499, depart each day at dawn and last approx. 1hr. Transport from/to our camp/lodge is included in the price, along with sparkling wine, a full English breakfast in the bush and a flight certificate. For every passenger flown, a royalty is paid to Tanzania National Parks which goes towards conservation funds. For more information, please go to 'www.balloonsafaris.com'.
If you are interested in booking a space for this very popular excursion please contact Serengeti Balloons direct at balloonsreservations@habari.co.tz quoting your Tour Code and Departure Date. Payment will be taken in full at the time of booking and can be made by Visa or Mastercard (credit card) or bank transfer. Please note that this payment is fully refundable up to 7 days prior to the date of the flight. Please note that if your flight is cancelled by the balloon operator due to poor weather conditions, then your money will also be refunded in full.
It is also possible to book the balloon flight locally, athough this will be subject to availability.
Lake Naivasha - Visit to Elsamere with high tea US$ 10, Lake Naivasha boat trip US$ 15.
Maasai Mara - Village walk US$ 10
Lake Eyasi - Search for the Hadzabi Bushmen US$ 40-60 depending on numbers.
Karatu - Walk to Gibbs Farm US$ 15.
Serengeti- Serengeti Balloon Safari US$ 499
Zanzibar - Guided tour of Stone Town US$ 15; Anglican cathedral and slave market US$ 5; Half day Spice Island Tour US$ 23; Scuba diving (PADI registered dive centre) US$ 80 1 tank, US$ 125 2 tanks. (You'll need your diving certificates), Sunset Dhow cruise US$ 20, Mnemba Atoll snorkelling with lunch US$ 35.

Tipping - Tour Leader

At your discretion you might also consider tipping your Tour Leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you receive.

Tipping - Local Crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, the Tour Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour.
Accordingly you should allow approx. £40 for gratuities for local crew.

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.

Tanzania

ATM Availability: Major towns and cities will have ATMs available.

Credit Card Acceptance: Credit cards are generally not accepted.

Travellers Cheques: Take some to act as reserve funds.

Local Currency: Tanzanian Shilling.

Recommended Currency for Exchange: US Dollars are preferable. Please be aware that any notes issued before 2006 will not be accepted

Where to Exchange: Banks or 'Forex' offices only in main towns/cities. Your 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 booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

EXPLORE!
The Adventure Travel Experts

CAMPBELL IRVINE
DIRECT TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel Insurance is essential. If you have not already arranged cover, please contact our recommended Travel Insurance providers www.campbellirvinedirect.com/Explore who offer Travel Insurance specifically designed to cover travel with Explore or call **Campbell Irvine Direct** on Tel: 020 7938 1734

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Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

Visa Information

Tanzania: A single entry visa is required by UK, New Zealand, Australian, US & Canadian citizens. Visas can be arranged on arrival, but due to queues at immigration we recommend for the visa to be arranged in advance.

Kenya: A single entry visa is required by UK, New Zealand, Australian, US & Canadian citizens. Visas can be arranged on arrival upto and including 31st August 2015. From 01st September you must apply for a visa via the ecitizen website: https://immigration.ecitizen.go.ke. However, due to queues at immigration we recommend for the visa to be arranged in advance.

Visas can be obtained through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK. Please contact: Visaswift, at http://www.visaswift.com/explore.aspx.

All visa information is subject to change. You should confirm all visa related questions with the relevant Embassy prior to departure.

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.

Tanzania

We strongly recommend protection against malaria, hepatitis A, tetanus, typhoid, polio and yellow fever. Please note you are required to produce a valid yellow fever certificate on arrival in Tanzania if you have spent 10 hours or more transiting through an endemic country. Consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. Travellers may also wish to take immunisation against meningococcal meningitis. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at http://www.explore.co.uk/Travelhealth/ and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed before departure

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.

Tanzania

The climate is tropical but varies greatly with altitude. Coastal areas are hot and humid, the central plateau dry and arid. It can be cold at night, particularly in June & July and at altitude. Generally the long rains arrive April/May and the short rains Nov/early Dec. Although

this pattern can be completely erratic. 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.

Clothing

Pack for hot conditions for June, July and August departures. Dress is informal. A warm fleece or sweater is essential for cooler nights in the desert. Include a long sleeved shirt and warm trousers. Also a lightweight waterproof jacket, swimwear and a sun hat.

Equipment

You will need a good insect repellent, suncream, sunglasses, sunhat a small torch and a personal water bottle. 3-season (temperature –5°C to 0°C) sleeping bag and a sleeping-sheet.

Footwear

Comfy shoes, trainers or sandals.

Luggage: On Tour

A flexible holdall (suitcases are not suitable for vehicle luggage racks) and a daysac.

Luggage allowance on tour: 15Kg

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

Tanzania

Population: 43,739,000

Size of Country: 945,203 sq km

Major Language: Swahili, English

Religion: Christian, Muslim

Time Difference to GMT: +3

Electric Supply & Plugs

Kenya

3 Pin Flat

Tanzania

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 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 and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Advice follow the link at www.explore.co.uk/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: 2015 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing in 2015. 2016/17 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing from 1st January to 31st December 2016.

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