



EAST
AFRICAN
SPLENDOUR

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Kenya's Maasai Mara · Tanzania's Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater & Lake Manyara

12 days door-to-door Includes days en route to/from Nairobi

At 12 days, *East African Splendour* is a shorter version of our 17-day *African Splendour* Classic Safari. But the marvels we encounter—the Maasai Mara, the Serengeti, and the Ngorongoro Crater—are matchless in their African and planetary magnificence, quintessentially African in their wealth of wildlife and their stunning landscapes, planetary because their likes are found precisely nowhere else on Earth.

We begin in Hemingways, a serene hotel in Nairobi's suburbs, before heading to Sir Richard Branson's innovative Mahali Mzuri, an ideal outpost for our forays into the river forests and golden plains of the Maasai Mara. Then, based from the soothingly luxe Four Seasons, we delve into the ocean of life that is the Serengeti. Our last stop before heading back to Nairobi is the Ngorongoro Crater, a 100-square mile caldera populated by the full cast of Africa's glorious animals. And while ensconced in The Manor at Ngorongoro, we'll visit Lake Manyara, whose lyric flight of flamingos you may remember from *Out of Africa*.

The creation was an act of mercy.

—William Blake





DAY 1 *En route*

En route to Kenya and its capital city, Nairobi.

DAY 2 *Nairobi*

We arrive in Nairobi and *Hemingways*, a quietly ravishing haven for lovers of old-style panache mixed with modern amenities and great cuisine, wonderfully set in the lush suburb of Karen.

DAYS 3–5 *The Maasai Mara*

We fly west from Nairobi to the Maasai Mara, the northern, more verdant section of the single most salubrious wildlife habitat on this or any known planet, the Serengeti-Maasai Mara ecosystem.

Game drives in the Mara are especially fruitful. . . Our Mara headquarters is Sir Richard Branson's *Mahali Mzuri*, whose innovatively designed, yet very African tents "resemble the tents of our youth like a Gulfstream G650 resembles a Piper Cub," as we said a while back. Mahali Mzuri is auspiciously set next to one of the Mara's prime migration pathways.

DAYS 6 & 7 *The Serengeti*

Now—these are thrilling safari words!—into the Serengeti, amazing in its enormity, its almost infinite skies and long, golden reaches, its million-year quiet.

We'll make far-ranging game drives on the great plain and in its riverine forests, based from the stunningly deluxe *Four Seasons Safari Lodge Serengeti*, set on rocky bluffs, giving us vast, endlessly stimulating views.*

* As Beryl Markham wrote in her marvelous *West with the Night*, "In the season of drought the Serengeti Plains are as dry and tawny as the coats of the lion that prowl them, and during the rains they provide the benison of soft grass to all the animals in a child's picture book. They are endless and they are empty, but they are as warm with life as the waters of a tropic sea."

DAYS 8–10 *Lake Manyara and the Ngorongoro Crater*

A typically spectacular flight and pleasant drive deliver us to *The Manor at Ngorongoro*, a marvelous 10-cottage, 20-suite retreat set within a 1,500-acre Arabica coffee estate adjacent to the

Words are not adequate to describe the genuine attention to detail, down to the small gifts on the bed at night. Awaiting us on Valentine's Day was a pack of heart-shaped homemade cookies. That's class! —Leo P. Lavellee

Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Those who have travelled to South Africa will recognize the Manor's elegant Cape Dutch style; those who haven't will simply be charmed. Our three nights at the Manor are a rare idyll.

We'll enjoy a restful afternoon (or a very active one; the Manor offers horsebacking, mountain biking, swimming in the Manor's pool, and estate walks, among other enjoyments), before a classic high tea and dinner in the private dining room or wine cellar.

And the next day we visit one of the earth's natural masterpieces. We've got a lot of affection for Ngorongoro. Here's the essence of the crater's tremendous charisma: 25,000 or so large and very viewable mammals—from apex predators to galumphing hippos—inhabit the crater's



100-square-mile floor, and zigzagging up the old volcano's forested wall to its rim, and gazing for the first or fifth time at the lush lands and their inhabitants in the crater below, is a great moment in any traveller's life.

We'll descend to the crater and excitedly roam from morning to afternoon, stopping at mid-day for a charmingly luxurious bush lunch, before heading back to a serene evening at the Manor.

Now we encounter Lake Manyara. Africa is blessed with epic lakes (Tanganyika is the world's second deepest; all the Rift Lakes are gigantic stunners), but many, including Ernest Hemingway, consider the smaller gem of Lake Manyara—with its diamond-white alkali rim, its million or so coral-coloured flamingos, and the deep sapphire waters at its centre—the loveliest of all. After a relaxed (or active) morning at the Manor, we'll embark on a fine afternoon of game viewing around the lake (many tree-climbing lions frequent Manyara's Africa-embodying scrublands,

Your Safari Director will discuss with you a variety of individualized activity choices at every safari location.

mahogany forests, and bird-thronged marshlands). And after cocktails and canapés in the bush, we head back to the Manor for a final night before regretfully getting ready to head home.

DAYS 11 & 12 *Nairobi and flights home*

After flying back to Nairobi, we'll relax in full-service, meals-included day rooms at the **Four Points Sheraton** or the **Norfolk**, have a quiet dinner, and head out with our Safari Director to near-by Jomo Kenyatta Airport for our late evening flights home.

Make Your Safari a Private Classic

East African Splendour can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your friends or family group's own Safari Director, private bush flights, private vehicles, with the freedom to set your own schedules, to enjoy private meals in the bush, and many etceteras. In short, while your Private Classic will follow the set itinerary of any of our Classic Safaris, it offers the exclusivity and flexibility of a Custom Safari, at a lower cost.



Tariff 2024

Land arrangements, per person

	Jan-Mar	May	November	Balance of Year
Double Occupancy	\$21,950	\$20,950	\$22,950	\$23,950
Single Supplement	4,150	3,250	4,250	5,250
Internal Flights	2,150	2,150	2,150	2,150

(Nairobi / Maasai Mara / Serengeti / Lake Manyara / Nairobi)
Connections may apply.



2024 Dates

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Thursday, returns Monday

Every date is a guaranteed departure

Jan. 11 – Jan. 22	May 30 – June 10	Aug. 15 – Aug. 26	Oct. 31 – Nov. 11
Jan. 18 – Jan. 29	June 06 – June 17	Aug. 22 – Sept. 02	Nov. 07 – Nov. 18
Jan. 25 – Feb. 05	June 13 – June 24	Aug. 29 – Sept. 09	Nov. 14 – Nov. 25
Feb. 01 – Feb. 12	June 20 – July 01	Sept. 05 – Sept. 16	Nov. 21 – Dec. 02
Feb. 08 – Feb. 19	June 27 – July 08	Sept. 12 – Sept. 23	Nov. 28 – Dec. 09
Feb. 15 – Feb. 26	July 04 – July 15	Sept. 19 – Sept. 30	Dec. 05 – Dec. 16
Feb. 22 – Mar. 04	July 11 – July 22	Sept. 26 – Oct. 07	Dec. 12 – Dec. 23
Feb. 29 – Mar. 11	July 18 – July 29	Oct. 03 – Oct. 14	Dec. 19 – Dec. 30
Mar. 07 – Mar. 18	July 25 – Aug. 05	Oct. 10 – Oct. 21	Dec. 26 – Jan. 06
Mar. 14 – Mar. 25	Aug. 01 – Aug. 12	Oct. 17 – Oct. 28	
May 23 – June 03	Aug. 08 – Aug. 19	Oct. 24 – Nov. 04	

2025 Dates

Door-to-Door from Home | Departs Thursday, returns Monday

New rates and dates may apply

Jan. 09 – Jan. 20	May 29 – June 09	Aug. 14 – Aug. 25	Oct. 30 – Nov. 10
Jan. 16 – Jan. 27	June 05 – June 16	Aug. 21 – Sept. 01	Nov. 06 – Nov. 17
Jan. 23 – Feb. 03	June 12 – June 23	Aug. 28 – Sept. 08	Nov. 13 – Nov. 24
Jan. 30 – Feb. 10	June 19 – June 30	Sept. 04 – Sept. 15	Nov. 20 – Dec. 01
Feb. 06 – Feb. 17	June 26 – July 07	Sept. 11 – Sept. 22	Nov. 27 – Dec. 08
Feb. 13 – Feb. 24	July 03 – July 14	Sept. 18 – Sept. 29	Dec. 04 – Dec. 15
Feb. 20 – Mar. 03	July 10 – July 21	Sept. 25 – Oct. 06	Dec. 11 – Dec. 22
Feb. 27 – Mar. 10	July 17 – July 28	Oct. 02 – Oct. 13	Dec. 18 – Dec. 29
Mar. 06 – Mar. 17	July 24 – Aug. 04	Oct. 09 – Oct. 20	Dec. 25 – Jan. 05
Mar. 13 – Mar. 24	July 31 – Aug. 11	Oct. 16 – Oct. 27	
May 22 – June 02	Aug. 07 – Aug. 18	Oct. 23 – Nov. 03	