

Kenyan Wildlife Wonders - Family Safari Adventure

Trip Code: FSK

Version:



MULTI ACTIVITY



FAMILY



LEISURELY



HIGHLIGHTS

- See amazing African wildlife on safari in the stunning Tsavo West and Amboseli National Parks
- See orphaned baby elephants at the Daphne Sheldrick Wildlife Trust
- Visit a Maasai village and help with daily life, overnight in traditional hut

- Walk and wild camp in the Chyulu Hills on this active family safari holiday in Kenya
- Relax for 3 full days on the sandy beaches of the Kenyan Coast

AT A GLANCE

- 7 days safari and sightseeing
- 2 days with child suitable walks
- 4 nights Mombasa relaxing, 8 nights at accommodation with swimming pools.
- Join at Nairobi, end Mombasa

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

Introduction

This active family safari holiday in Kenya, East Africa is a journey of adventures and experiences from the Kenyan capital of Nairobi, through some of the best African wildlife parks before a relaxing finale on the Kenyan Coast. It is designed to give the complete experience of African wildlife safari, show the colour and character of the local Maasai people and reveal the wild landscape of off-the-beaten track mountains. In Nairobi we visit the Giraffe Centre where we can feed these quirky loveable animals and learn more about endangered species and conservation in East Africa, and we also visit the Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage. Leaving the city we travel south to overnight in a traditional Maasai village before transferring to the relatively unknown, green Chyulu Hills just north of the Tanzanian border from where there are distant views of Kilimanjaro. Here we wild camp for 2 nights in the bush, a magical experience and enjoy some walking safaris.

It is then onto Amboseli National Park. Famous for its large elephant herds we will enjoy an exciting game safari in the shadow of Kilimanjaro. The wildlife of the plains such as impala and zebra graze the grasslands under the shade of acacia trees, and if we are lucky we may even see some prowling lions and cheetah! Our next stop is one of the largest national parks in East Africa - Tsavo at 22,000km² in size. Here we visit the hippos and crocodiles at the oasis haven of Mzima Springs and go on game safaris. Our finale at the end is the wonderful beaches of the Kenyan Coast. Here we have four nights to totally relax enjoying swimming and watersports on the beautiful coast. East Africa is an amazing destination for a family holiday and there is so much more to see than just the wildlife; this itinerary captures it all.

Is this holiday for you?

Suitable for children aged from 7yrs

The purpose of this itinerary is to ensure you and your family have the complete African experience. Everyone will be educated in Nairobi about rehabilitation and endangered species before we actually see these animals in the wild on our safaris. A visit to the fun-loving Maasai people will be an education on their way of life, and we will get off the beaten track for a practical geography lesson.

As we are covering a reasonable distance during the itinerary there are a few drives of 3-4hrs and a couple of full day drives. All drives are interspersed with frequent stops and interesting stories from our guide. The wildlife game viewing safaris are designed not to be lengthy so as to ensure that the children are kept interested. Note that some of these park roads can be bumpy, especially if it has rained. The three walks in the bush are on small tracks or paths through grasslands, on the flat or gentle inclines.

The walking is not technical or difficult, perfect for younger legs.

There is a large variety of accommodation; hotels with swimming pools, permanent tented safari camps, wild camping, traditional Maasai mud hut and a beach hotel surrounded by gardens on the coast. For the 2 nights wild camping tents will be erected and full camping service provided, the facilities will be basic but the feeling of being in the wild more than makes up for this. All equipment except for sleeping bags is provided. The guides are all experienced at working with adults and children alike, and will always go the extra mile to ensure that everyone is happy and entertained.

Itinerary

Version:

Holiday Information

What's Included

- A professional and qualified tour leader
- Single timed airport transfers on arrival and departure
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as per the Meal Plan
- Park fees
- All land transport involved in the itinerary
- All activities/excursions mentioned except where specified as 'optional'

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Visas
- Departure Taxes (if applicable)
- Some meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as 'optional'
- Tips
- Miscellaneous personal expenditure - drinks and souvenirs etc

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The group will meet at the group hotel in Nairobi.

A single timed transfer from Nairobi Airport to the group hotel is provided in the morning on Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary.

On the last day of the Land Only itinerary, there will be a single timed transfer to Mombasa Airport for flights departing in the late afternoon.

Anyone may join the group transfers by prior arrangement. Travelling as a group saves energy. If this is not practical, we can provide private transfers at an additional cost.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

Meal Plan

All breakfasts, 9 lunches and 12 dinners are included in the holiday. You should budget \$15-20 per person for dinners.

Food & Water

It is not recommended to drink untreated water from the taps. You should take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a [Water-To-Go bottle](#)) to treat your water. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

Traditional dishes can be delicious and flavoursome and include beans, corn, kale, stews, coconut rice, Kenyan chapatis and bhajias (influences from India) and of course we need to taste the Mandazi which are Kenyan doughnuts. Yum! In the hotels which we stay in there is usually a variety of food for all tastes including international cuisine such as chips, burger, fruit and ice cream. Breakfasts are usually cereals, coffee and toast or the occasional fried eggs etc. Lunches are cheese, cold meats, salads on bread or rolls. We do cater for some special dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian or allergies.). However it is essential that you inform us of any dietary requirements on booking. All beverages will be at your own expense. When meals are not included there will be a restaurant or choice of restaurants nearby.

Accommodation

There is a large variety of accommodation on this holiday. There is a reasonable amount of moving around, but we try to stay at each the accommodation for at least 2 nights. For the night in Nairobi we stay in a small and simple hotel about 45mins transfer from the airport in a quiet neighbourhood. It is surrounded by tropical gardens and has a swimming pool. Meals are often served in the gardens.

Our traditional Maasai Manyatta hut is a basic mud hut with a galana stone floor. Each hut has 2 beds and all bedding and pillows are provided. A third bed is added for families of 3. Each hut has a flush toilet and a shower (although we are asked to limit the water use), and lights powered by solar panels. A super experience.

When in the Chyulu Hills we wild camp in the bush for 2 nights. Tents will be erected and a full camping service is provided, all equipment except for sleeping bags is included. We use 3 person dome tents on a twin share bases. Facilities are basic, but the children usually love the 'bush showers' (essentially a bag of water heated in the sun with a shower head) and campfires. We can only have campfires here at certain times of the year, if the weather is too dry then we cannot due to safety. There are a few elephants, buffalo, giraffes and some other wildlife in the park, however these are (sadly) very rare now and keep a good distance from humans, but to ensure safety a guard stays up throughout the night when camping here.

In Loitokitok we have 2 nights at a simple guesthouse with separate cottages on the outskirts of town. They are surrounded by gardens and some great views of Kilimanjaro.

When in Tsavo West National Park we have 2 nights in a beautiful permanent tented camp with swimming pool - a classic African camp with safari style tents on platforms. You will love the sundowners watching the African Plains and wildlife.

At the beach our hotel rooms first floor or ground floor rooms with balcony or a garden room. They are set in beautiful gardens which also house a swimming pool, several thatched buildings, and is situated next to the beach. Mosquito nets are provided at all locations.

All hotels are subject to availability and can change without notice.

As a general rule children of 11yrs and under will share with parents in a triple for a family of 3. Children over 12 yrs will share with parents in a triple for a family of 3. For a family of 4 you would require 2 rooms at most locations. At the beach hotel a few family rooms are available. Please request your rooming type on booking and we will do everything to ensure that you are happy with your rooming allocation.

Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be accompanied by a local English speaking professional guide from day 1 to day 9 on arrival at Diani Beach. In addition at various places the group will also have a local area expert. There will also be a driver with the group until day 9. When staying at the hotel on the beach the group will not have a guide. You will be assisted by the hotel staff who can arrange the optional excursions and activities.

Park Fees & Permits

Park fees are included in the holiday costs.

Spending Money

Approximately £400 per family of 4 persons (or equivalent in US dollars or Euros) should be allowed for non-included meals, tips, soft drinks and miscellaneous expenses. Visas, alcoholic drinks, souvenirs and optional activities are additional so you may wish to budget for these. You can choose to take your money in Pounds Sterling, Dollars or Euros, however US Dollars are the preferred currency. There will be the opportunity to change money into local currency on arrival at the airport and your leader will advise the best places to change money en-route. Credit cards are useful and it is a good idea to carry one in case of emergency.

Guidance on Tipping

Tips are the accepted way of saying 'thank you' to your local guides. They do not form part of their wages, any tips they receive are seen as a personal thank you from group members. We suggest around USD \$50-60 per person (client) and these should be split into proportional amounts to the main guide, driver and other guides along the route.

Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. You should bring a soft bag as these are more suitable to pack in the vehicle.

Please be aware that plastic/polythene bags are illegal in Kenya. The law says that they are not allowed to be manufactured, imported, used or sold in Kenya (since Aug 2017).

Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in the 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

General Information

Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday. Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

Visas Kenya

You need a visa to enter Kenya. This is obtained online as an e-visa, prior to departure via the Kenyan Government [e-visa portal](#). Visas are not available on arrival.

If you are travelling overland from Kenya into Tanzania, and then back into Kenya (and not leaving East Africa) you will only require a single entry visa for Kenya.

If you are travelling to Zanzibar you will also need to purchase specific insurance (as well as your standard travel insurance), through the Visit Zanzibar website - [Visit Zanzibar](#)

If the children (under 18yrs) with whom you are travelling have a different surname to yours, you should consider taking with you the child's full birth certificate. It is not a requirement, but some border personnel in Kenya as well as the UK, may request to see it when travelling to/from Africa.

Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

Dengue fever is a known risk in places visited. It is a tropical viral disease spread by daytime biting mosquitoes. There is currently no vaccine or prophylaxis available and therefore the best form of prevention is to avoid being bitten. We recommend you [take precautions to avoid mosquito bites](#).

VACCINATIONS

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you specific require any vaccinations or other preventive measures. You should be up to date with routine courses and boosters as recommended in the UK e.g. diphtheria-tetanus-polio and measles-mumps-rubella), along with hepatitis A and typhoid. Malarial prophylaxis are required. There is risk of yellow fever and you must carry a current vaccination certificate. On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dentist check up. A good online resource is [Travel Health Pro](#).

Currency

The unit of currency in Kenya is the Kenyan Shilling.

Do not take \$100 bills, take \$50 bills instead. All USD bills pre-2013 are not welcome. They prefer 2017 and onwards.

Climate

The highland areas of East Africa, including the parts of Kenya which we will be visiting have a pleasant, temperate climate throughout the year. The daytime temperatures will be around 25 to 30°C, dropping to around 15°C at night. Although it might be a bit cooler in the hills. There are two rainy seasons from mid March to June and from October to mid December. The rainy season is very green and clearer as there is little dust. The rains usually fall for a couple of hours in the morning and then clears.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: www.travel.state.gov for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

FAQ's about our family holidays

We welcome all family dynamics and we will try to accommodate you in the roomings of your choice. The only stipulation for joining a family group holiday is that 1 party member is 17yrs or under, and they are accompanied by an adult. An average group size is around 10 members in total. Further general information and FAQ's are available here: [KE Family Adventure Holidays general information](#).

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

Equipment Information

Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

You should bring the following items:

- Comfortable walking shoes or boots
- Trainers and/or sandals
- Lightweight trousers / shorts / skirt
- T-shirts and/or casual shirts (wicking ones are good for the heat, and long sleeved shirts with collars for sun protection are recommended)
- Socks & Underwear
- Fleece jacket
- Lightweight waterproof jacket
- Sunhat with wide brim
- Warm hat
- Sunglasses
- Daypack 20 to 30 litres (depending on how much of the kids' stuff you need to carry)
- Sleeping bag (comfort rating 0C)
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Water bottles 1 Litre x2 (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Washbag and toiletries
- Antibacterial handwash
- Insect repellent
- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Small camp towel
- Swimwear
- Binoculars
- Basic First Aid Kit including : Antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters, blister treatment, antihistamine cream and tablets, and re-hydration salts

The following items are optional:

- Thermarest
- Sleeping bag liner
- Pen-knife (note: always pack sharp objects in hold baggage)
- Camera
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

Notes:

*A roll-matt or karri-matt is provided for the 2 camping nights, however you may wish to supplement this with your own thermarest.

Please be aware that plastic/polythene bags are illegal in Kenya. The law says that they are not allowed to be manufactured, imported, used or sold in Kenya (since Aug 2017).

Mosquito nets are provided at all accommodations.

The orphanage have asked that presents are not brought for the children. They prefer visitors to talk and interact with the children. Something like a photo of your child in their school uniform would be a good starting point for a conversation. During the tour they will talk about how to support the orphanage.

Cotswold Outdoor

Many of the equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive a 12.5% discount with Cotswold Outdoor, Snow+Rock and Runners Need. The discount code can be downloaded from your MyKE account and you can use this code at the checkout, either in store or online.

Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary joining Nairobi and ending in Mombasa. Single timed airport transfers are included.

Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Nairobi Airport and returning from Mombasa Airport.

Outbound flights depart the UK in the evening, arriving in the morning of the following day (day 1 of the land only itinerary). Return flights will depart from Mombasa Airport in the afternoon of last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK in the morning of the following day.

Why Choose KE

Why KE

An incredible family holiday in East Africa, with an itinerary unique to KE, that will be forever embedded in family memories.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 21/11/2024 and the trip is subject to change