

Africa Dream

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HANDBOOK



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THE NATIONAL PARKS: SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

The Serengeti National Park quite simply offers the finest game viewing anywhere in Africa. Unrivaled concentrations of wildlife, stunningly beautiful landscapes and vast pristine areas make the Serengeti our pick for the best national park in the whole of Africa. With so much hype and praise surrounding the Serengeti, you might expect to be disappointed upon finally visiting this infamous park. It really is this good and you will undoubtedly fall in love with this last great wilderness (we certainly did). Even in the dry season (July – October) when the great herds have retreated into the woodlands from the plains, game viewing still rivals that of any park in Africa.

The Serengeti National Park is a massive park encompassing 5,700 square miles. As one of our customers best said it, 'even during the high season there are only several hundred vehicles roaming around an area the size of Connecticut.' The greater Serengeti ecosystem encompasses 10,395 square miles (the size of Massachusetts) and includes many other game reserves and conservation areas including the Ngorongoro, Masai Mara, Loliondo, Masawa, Grumeti and Ikorongo reserves. This is a more relevant figure as there are no fences and many of the animals freely migrate in and out of the official park borders. Additionally, many of our safari itineraries

include some time in these adjacent game reserves and conservation areas as game viewing can be just as rewarding during certain times of year. The Serengeti National Park takes the shape of a T fallen over to its right and is about 90 miles wide (west to east) and about 120 miles long (north to south). The surrounding Serengeti National Park ecosystem is roughly double this size.

The Serengeti ecosystem supports not only the largest herds of migrating ungulates but also the highest concentrations of large predators in the world. At a quick glance, the numbers are astonishing. Estimates put the wildebeest at about 1.7 million, zebras at 250,000 and Thomson's gazelles at about 440,000. Hyenas are the most numerous of the large carnivores at about 9,000, lions at 2,800 and leopards at about 1,000. In general, cheetahs live at much lower densities than other large predators. However, the Serengeti boasts the highest density of cheetah in Africa (at certain times of year) with up to 40 animals per 60 square miles found on short grass plains during the wet season.

The Serengeti is the most famous national park in Africa and is the best place for wildlife viewing for a variety of reasons. First, the variety and abundance of animals you will likely encounter exploring the Serengeti is far greater than any other park in Africa. With a couple well-planned days (adjusted for seasonal wildlife movements), you will likely encounter representatives of just about every large and medium sized animal in East Africa. Every day, every game drive and every horizon brings new, exciting and unexpected wildlife encounters.

Second, the Serengeti offers exceptional year round game viewing. Though much of the wildlife in the Serengeti is migratory, abundant wildlife concentrations can be found throughout the year by

basing yourself in the appropriate areas depending on your specific month of travel. Additionally, resident animals are plentiful. Regardless of when you travel, both resident and migratory animals can be found due to the size and nature of the Serengeti.

Third, the Serengeti encompasses a massive and pristine wilderness area. Thousands of square miles filled with plentiful wildlife beckon your exploration. Because of its large size, the Serengeti has retained a raw and wild feel that many of the other parks in Africa have lost. There are a few areas of the Serengeti including the Seronera Valley that may feel congested during peak travel months. Once outside these tourist areas and off the main arteries, you will likely encounter very few other visitors. The unpredictability of such a large area filled with so many large carnivores and herbivores makes for an adventure of the grandest proportion.

Fourth, the Serengeti ecosystem encompasses a variety of habitats providing for a diverse and well-rounded safari. There are short grass plains, long grass savannahs, riverine areas, open woodlands, thick bush, wetlands, mountains and lakes. The south and east are home to the famous Serengeti plains where over two million animals congregate in the wet season. The central areas are home to the Serengeti's famous lion prides and resident leopards. The remote western and northern corridors are home to the woodlands and offer wild and off the beaten path game viewing.

Lastly, the Serengeti rests on huge plateau situated at an altitude ranging from 6,000 feet in the east to 4,000 feet in the west. This means that the strong equatorial sun is tempered and conditions are ideal for comfortable game viewing. The weather is generally pleasant and temperatures rarely exceed 85 degrees. This is in stark contrast to the many hot and humid areas found in low-lying areas throughout Africa.

WILDLIFE CENSUS

The Serengeti ecosystem contains the greatest remaining concentration of plains animals in the world. The below data is based upon the latest census data available, which was conducted from 1989 – 1991. The counts are for the entire Serengeti Ecosystem including adjacent game reserves.

LARGE AND MEDIUM SIZE ANIMALS IN THE SERENGETI ECOSYSTEM:

Herbivores:

Wildebeest: 1,686,079

Zebra: 257,387

Thomson's gazelle: 440,845

Grant's gazelle: 31,276

Eland: 13,813

Impala: 109,677

Topi: 77,966

Buffalo: 67,339

Hartbeest: 22,771

Giraffe: 12,450

Warthog: 5,624

Waterbuck: 1,418

Ostrich: 6,604

Elephant: 2,000 – 4,000

Black Rhinoceros: 12

PREDATORS:

Lion: 2,800

Hyena: 9,000

Leopard: 1,000

Cheetah: 500

Wild Dog: Rare (1-2 transient packs)

Black Back Jackal: 6,300

Mongoose (all species): 130,000

THE MIGRATION

The Serengeti is particularly famous for the great migration, which describes the annual cycle of movements made by wildebeest, zebra, Thomson's gazelle and eland. The movements of the dominant migrant, the wildebeest, define the borders of the Serengeti ecosystem. The migratory movements are slightly different for each animal. However, the general pattern is that the migrants use the plains in the wet season from December to May. As the plains dry out in May, the migratory animals retreat to the woodlands and remain there from June to October. The famous migratory movements usually occur in May-June (northward migration) and October-November (southward migration).

The great herds of wildebeest follow a fairly predictable route (though less predictable in timing) around the Serengeti ecosystem on a never-ending quest for fresh green grass and water. At roughly 1.7 million strong, this giant lawnmower quickly exhausts pastures. During the wet season from December to mid May, the highest proportions of wildebeest are located on southern and eastern plains. Specifically, the larger herds are generally found just south or east

of the Serengeti in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCA). The heart of this area lies around Lake Ndutu and Olduvai.

Typically in late May (the beginning of the dry season), the great herds depart the plains and follow the Mbalageti and Seronera Rivers into the western corridor. A smaller population heads directly north through the central areas. The western corridor is the wildebeest's wet/dry transitional zone. The vast herds will remain here until about July when the dry season completely parches the land and they must venture north towards Kenya and its greener pastures. The movement through the northern Serengeti fluctuates from year to year but the herds usually reach the Mara watershed in Kenya by early August.

During the heart of the dry season from August through mid October, the wildebeest herds usually reside in the extreme north of the Serengeti with the greater proportions being located in the Masai Mara. A few showers usually begin in mid October, heralding the beginning of the wet season, and trigger the wildebeest to migrate southwards along the eastern boundary of the park. The front-runners usually begin appearing on the southern plains sometime in November as the cycle begins once again.

The zebra follow a similar migration route except for a few differences. During the wet season, zebra occur further to north and northeast of the wildebeest. They are more concentrated in the central plains around Naabi Hill while the wildebeest concentrate to the south and east in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Toward the end of the wet season, zebra move more directly north through the central Serengeti and reach the northern Serengeti and Masai Mara earlier than the wildebeest.

Thomson's gazelles show a somewhat different migratory movement. They do use the plains during the wet season but are found more on the eastern plains rather than the central or southern plains. Their main movements are between the plains and the central Serengeti and western areas and they do not occupy the northern areas.

SOUTHERN SERENGETI

The southern Serengeti including the northern Ngorongoro Conservation Area consists of the famous Serengeti plains. These short grass and nutrient rich plains are home to the enormous migratory herds of wildebeest and zebra during the wet season. During the dry season, the southern plains are transformed into a semi desert and only a few hearty Grant's gazelles and Thomson's gazelles survive.

The green season is a wonderful time to be on safari in the southern Serengeti and the northern Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Rain means game in the Serengeti and wildlife should be prolific on the southern Serengeti Plains. The southern plains encompass a massive area so it's best to locate yourself in more than one area if time allows. The wildebeest migration will most likely be spread across the green plains of the northern Ngorongoro Conservation Area and the southern Serengeti from December to May.

Game viewing is spectacular during wet season in the southern Serengeti, as over two million animals will be spread across the open plains. In addition to the large migratory herds, predators will be abundant and easily seen. Cheetah densities will be at their

highest as many have followed the migratory Thomson's gazelles onto the southern and eastern plains.

Lions should be easily visible, both resident prides and the nomads which have followed the wildebeest and zebra onto the plains. The most abundant predator, the hyena, will be in large numbers as many clan members will have commuted to the plains from their den areas located along the woodland/plains border. However, the game-viewing highlight in the wet season will undoubtedly be the immense herds of migratory animals.

During the dry season (June to November) many of the animals have indeed dispersed but the southern Serengeti still remains a fascinating place. There are several resident herbivores in this area that are seen year round including grants gazelle and giraffe. Elephant and impala are also seen year round but mainly in the wooded Ndotu area. Predators are certainly not as prolific in the dry season but there are a few resident lion prides in the southern and eastern plains including Ndotu, Naabi Hill and Gol Kopjes. As the southern plains do support a few resident gazelles, a few cheetahs can usually be seen in the dry season anywhere from Ndotu to Nasera Rock and around the Gol Kopjes.

CENTRAL SERENGETI

The central Serengeti consists of the plains woodland border and transition zone. In this area, the great Serengeti plains gradually diffuse into gentle rolling hills and the woodland habitat that dominates the western and northern regions of the park. The lions share of the lodges are located in this region as well as the park

headquarters and the various research facilities. All these facilities are located here for good reason as not only is this area centrally located but it also supports an amazing abundance of year round, resident wildlife.

The central Serengeti is home to the beautiful Seronera valley. Several perennial rivers run through this valley enabling many resident animals to thrive year round. The combination of location and resident prey attracts the largest populations of predators in Africa. It is this amazing abundance and diversity of easily seen large predators that attracts thousands of visitors and hundreds of researchers to the Seronera river valley each year. There is simply no better place in Africa to observe these large carnivores and since many are resident, excellent encounters are available year round regardless of the season or where the great migratory herds are located. It is not unusual to see all four large predators (lion, hyena, leopard and cheetah) during the course of a day in the central Serengeti.

Game viewing in central Serengeti is at its best during the dry season (June – November) as resident animals are more concentrated in the immediate area due to the lack of water on the plains. Resident herbivores include impala, buffalo, hippo, warthog, topi, hartebeest and giraffe. Resident carnivores include lion and leopard. In addition to the resident wildlife, significant concentrations of migratory animals are found in the Central Serengeti during the dry season including cheetah, Thomson's gazelle and hyena.

During the wet season, there is still plenty of resident animal action but most of the migratory gazelles, cheetahs and hyenas have left for the plains. There are 12 documented resident lion prides within a one-hour game drive radius from Seronera. All these prides are resident and can be seen year round. The Seronera Valley

in the Central Serengeti is also one of the best areas in Africa to spot the elusive leopard.

The only draw back with game viewing in the central Serengeti is the fact that the majority of the lodging is located in this area. The immediate game circuits around the Seronera valley are well traveled and, depending on the month, you will likely encounter several other vehicles. The months of July, August and December see the most visitors and careful planning is important if you are traveling during these months.

WESTERN SERENGETI

The western corridor of the Serengeti is a special place seldom explored by those visiting the Serengeti. It is a remote and unique part of the famous Serengeti. The corridor stretches west from Seronera in the central Serengeti to almost Lake Victoria. The relatively narrow corridor is roughly 50 miles long and is characterized by dense stands of acacia tress interspersed with broken woodlands and open plains. The dominant feature is the Grumeti River, which runs almost the entire length of the corridor.

The western corridor straddles the northward migration route of the enormous wildebeest herds. Typically in mid May (the beginning of the dry season), the great herds begin to depart the plains and follow the Mbalageti and Seronera Rivers into the western corridor. The western corridor is the wildebeest's wet/dry transitional zone. The vast herds will remain here until about July when the dry season completely parches the land and they must venture north towards Kenya and its greener pastures.

The pinnacle of the northward wildebeest migration takes place in the western corridor with the famous Grumeti River crossing. The river is infested with the Nile crocodile, the world's largest crocodile. For some of these prehistoric animals, it has been a year since they have last eaten and they eagerly await the wildebeest river crossing. Additionally, The Grumeti River also supports a unique riverine forest, which is home to the beautiful black and white colobus monkey.

The western corridor is also home to significant numbers of resident wildlife. There are large populations of resident wildebeest and zebra that do not join their migratory cousins as they pass through every year on their journey northwards. Other resident animals include giraffe, buffalo, eland, topi, impala, waterbuck and Thomson's gazelle. These resident animals support large concentrations of predators including lion, leopard, cheetah and hyena. The big cats are frequently sighted but not to the extent as seen in the central Serengeti. However, there is simply no other area in Africa that could compete with the central Serengeti's localized predator densities.

The best time to visit the western Serengeti is from late May to mid July, which coincides with the northward wildebeest migration. Additionally, mid to late November is a good time to catch the southward migration when a significant portion of the wildebeest herds gather in the west before making their final movement to the southern plains.

NORTHERN SERENGETI

The northern region of the Serengeti is a vast pristine area of wooded rolling hills interspersed with open grassy patches and large granite outcrops. This region extends north about 55 miles

from Seronera in the central Serengeti to the Masai Mara Game Reserve in Kenya. Most visitors to the Serengeti never see the northern region. It is only rarely visited and remains an unexplored and untouched wilderness packed with stunning landscapes and abundant wildlife.

We find it ironic that the most popular game viewing regions in East Africa are the central Serengeti in Tanzania and the Masai Mara reserve in Kenya. Thousands of visitors a year flock to these two great areas, which belong to same ecosystem. Located right in between these two areas is the northern Serengeti, which receives very few visitors. Wildlife concentrations are a little lower in the northern Serengeti and the thick woodlands do make game harder to see but this is more than compensated by the beautiful landscapes and the fact you will have the majority of wildlife sightings all to yourself.

The northern Serengeti supports a good number of resident herbivores including hippo, giraffe, eland, topi, impala and Thomson's gazelle. This area is home to the largest remaining concentrations of elephants in the Serengeti. These graceful giants were poached heavily in the 1980s and less than a hundred remained by 1987 in the northern Serengeti. With the world ban on the ivory trade imposed in 1989, poaching came to an abrupt halt. Since the ivory ban was enacted, elephant numbers have been slowly rising in the northern Serengeti through immigration from the Mara, natural recruitment and from expansion of agricultural communities outside the park forcing those animals inside the Serengeti. The great buffalo herds of the north faced a similar fate but they too are returning and a few large herds are usually sighted around Lobo in the northern Serengeti. Predators are also abundant in the northern Serengeti, though not to the extent seen in the Central Serengeti. The thick bush and woodlands of the northern Serengeti do make it more difficult

to spot predators. However, lions and hyenas are regularly seen. Cheetahs are distributed fairly thinly in the northern woodlands but they are commonly seen since they are active during the day. Leopards are spread fairly constant throughout the woodlands but they are more elusive here in the northern Serengeti.

The northern woodlands of the Serengeti ecosystem are home to the enormous migratory herds of wildebeest and zebra during the dry season. However, the great herds usually reside in the extreme north of the park spilling over into the Masai Mara during the height of the dry season. The smaller wildebeest herds can usually be accessed with game drives to the extreme north. The zebra herds are more dispersed and are more easily seen. Game viewing is at its best in the northern Serengeti when the great herds are migrating through the area to and from the Masai Mara and the extreme northern Serengeti. The northern migration usually makes its way through the northern Serengeti in late July and early August appearing on the Mara watershed in Kenya in early August. The southern migration through the northern region usually takes place in mid to late October. However, the exact timing of these events fluctuates from year to year and is entirely dependent upon current rainfall patterns.

EASTERN SERENGETI

The eastern plains of the Serengeti ecosystem encompass a massive area. They begin roughly just east of Naabi Hill. They extend east through the Gol Kopjes, Lemuta Hill, Nasera Rock, Angata Kiti, the Salei Plains and all the way to the Ngorongoro Highlands and the active volcano Mount Lengai. This area is approximately 50 miles wide from west to east. The southern border of eastern plains

is roughly Olduvai Gorge and the northern border reaches into the Loliondo game controlled area.

The eastern plains are similar to the southern plains in that they are extremely seasonal. During the dry season, the eastern plains are transformed into a semi desert and only a few hearty Grant's and Thomson's gazelles survive. However, the eastern plains come to life in the wet season from about November through May and offer prolific wildlife viewing for certain species of animals. A day trip at the minimum should be included in every green season itinerary.

The Gol Kopjes, located on the Eastern Plains, boast the highest concentrations of cheetahs in Africa during the wet season. The majority of the cheetahs in the Serengeti are migratory in that many of them follow the Thomson's Gazelle migration to the eastern short grass plains during the wet season and then back to the Central Serengeti (plains/woodland border) during the dry season. During the wet season, the eastern plains offer the best cheetah viewing in the Serengeti and in all of Africa. On a full day game drive to the GOL kopjes, you will likely encounter several groups of cheetahs. Cheetahs are strictly diurnal (daytime) hunters and with a little luck you will witness the fastest land animal in the world in action.

In addition to cheetahs, the eastern plains are home to the largest concentrations of hyenas during the green season. Large clans of hyenas numbering up to 30 individuals are regularly spotted from Naabi Hill east through the Gol kopjes and Lemuta Hill. Hyenas, the most abundant predator in the entire ecosystem, are semi-nomadic and 'commute' to the Eastern Plains during the wet season from their den sites located in the Central Serengeti. Lion numbers are also high on the eastern plains during the wet season. The majority of the lions in the Serengeti are resident but a significant

portion is nomadic (roughly 20%) and they do follow the migratory animals to the plains each wet season. However, lions are rarely encountered east of Lemuta and they are much more readily seen inside the Serengeti proper including the Gol Kopjes area.

The Thomson's gazelle and eland migration differs from the wildebeest and zebra migration in that the gazelles and elands utilize the eastern plains much more than the southern plains of the Serengeti ecosystem. You will likely encounter thousands of gazelles and hundreds of elands on the eastern plains during the wet season.

During the wet season, the eastern plains play host to a somewhat separate population of the wildebeest migration that can number into the hundreds of thousands. You will likely encounter thousands of wildebeest from the GOL Kopjes, east through Angata Kiti and into the Salei Plains by the active volcano Mount Lengai. The Salei Plains receive the least amount of rainfall in the Serengeti ecosystem. However, when the Salei plains do receive enough rain to produce fresh green grass, massive wildebeest herds will congregate here. It is not uncommon to see two or three hundred thousand wildebeest on the Salei Plains when they are green. The wildebeest prefer the fresh green grass on these eastern plains, as they are closest to the volcanic highlands that produced the nutrient rich and fertile soils millions of years ago. This is an extremely beautiful and remote area of the Eastern Plains and if you are adventurous enough to visit you will be rewarded with the best off the beaten track game viewing available in Northern Tanzania.

GOL KOPJE CHEETAH (PLEASE CAUTION)

You are allowed to off road drive in the GOL Kopjes but please always remain a respectable distance to Cheetahs especially if they look to be hunting, there is a kill, or if there are cubs present. Cheetahs are extremely fragile and will often abandon an uneaten gazelle or even their own cubs if they are harassed by an over eager vehicle. Please do not urge your driver to get too close, as he will be always striving to impress you and by doing so may unintentionally stress these wonderful animals.

NGORONGORO CRATER

The Ngorongoro Crater is a world heritage site, the world's largest intact volcanic caldera and is commonly referred to as the 8th wonder of the world. The 2,000 feet high walls of the approximately 10 mile wide crater create a natural amphitheatre for the densest populations of large animals anywhere. It is a microcosm of the vast Serengeti National Park and in one day it is possible to see a staggering array of East African wildlife including all the big carnivores.

The crater lives up to its infamous reputation with abundant and easily accessible wildlife and offers a reasonable chance to see lion, hyena or cheetah in action. The Crater is truly awe-inspiring and will surely be one of the highlights of your safari. The rim of the Ngorongoro Crater ranges in altitude from about 7,000 feet to 8,000 feet. Down below, the relatively flat floor of the Crater rests at an elevation of about 5,500 feet.

The Ngorongoro Crater's rich soils and abundant, year-round water provide an ideal habitat for a variety of animals. The Crater is not a self-contained ecosystem and some animals do migrate in and out but only in small numbers. Most of the animals in the Crater are resident and remain year-round. There are approximately 20,000 large mammals at any given time within the Crater walls. Herbivores that you will likely encounter include elephant, black rhino, hippo, buffalo, eland, zebra, wildebeest, hartebeest, waterbuck, warthog,

Grant's gazelle and Thomson's gazelle. Giraffe, impala and topi are strangely absent from the Crater floor, though they are common in the nearby Serengeti. Although giraffes may find the descent into the Crater difficult, it is more likely that they are absent because there is not enough acacia to browse. It is not clear why topi or impala are missing. Primates include baboons and vervet monkeys.

Carnivores that you will likely encounter include lion, cheetah, hyena and jackal. Leopards, servals, bat eared foxes and ratels are also resident within the Crater but are much more elusive.

Over the past 40 years since the early 1960s when long term studies began, the Crater has undergone drastic changes. Wildebeest have historically made up at least half of the large animal population. However, their numbers have been declining since the 1970s. Alternatively, buffalo have been on the rise as wildebeest numbers have decreased. It is thought the departure of the Maasai and their livestock in the mid 1970s triggered this shift in wildebeest and buffalo populations. Maasai regularly burned the grass in the Crater creating fresh green grass for their cattle, which may have benefited the wildebeest. Now that the Maasai have departed, the grass is longer and coarser favoring the buffaloes. This fluctuation in large herbivores may have led to a decrease in lion and hyena numbers, which in turn allowed cheetahs to thrive. The one thing that is for certain is that the Crater is truly a dynamic and ever changing ecosystem.

The Ngorongoro Crater is sometimes called a microcosm of the Serengeti because there are five distinct habitats located in the relatively small area of the crater floor (100 square miles) that mirror the major habitats of its enormous neighbor, the Serengeti ecosystem (15,000 square miles). These habitats are as follows:

Lerai Forest is located in the southwestern section of the crater. Lerai is a Maasai word referring to the tall yellow barked acacias that dominate the forest. The forest is beautiful and is home to an array of animals including baboons, vervet monkeys, waterbucks and bushbucks. The forest is especially well known for its small population of giant tusker bull elephants. Lerai Forest is also home to the only leopards in the Crater. The leopards here are spotted on occasion but remain very much elusive. The best time to visit Lerai Forest is in the early morning.

In the central-western area is Lake Magadi (also known as Lake Makat), which plays host to thousands of migratory flamingos. The lake can be full of water or a dry expanse of white soda depending on the season.

The southeastern and northwestern sections of the crater are home to two large seasonal swamps. These areas are excellent for hippo and many species of water birds.

Spread throughout the central area of the crater is the short grass plains. These plains are home to thousands of wildebeest, zebra and Thomson's gazelle. In the eastern section of the Crater are the longer grasslands where thousands of buffalo roam. One of smallest carnivores, the serval cat, is commonly found here in the tall grass.

The elephants in the Ngorongoro Crater are very impressive and will be the largest you encounter on your safari. All the elephants are predominately old bulls flaunting giant ivory tusks. These elephants survived the pre-ivory ban days in the 1980s when many large tusked elephants outside the relative safety of the Crater were poached. There are no breeding herds in the Crater and no females are known to inhabit the Crater floor. The best place to see these mas-

sive elephants is in the early morning in Lerai Forest.

Black Rhinos are highly endangered and have been poached to near extinction. The Ngorongoro Crater is one of the last places in Tanzania where you can still reliably see wild black rhinos. In 1965 there were 100 rhinos in the Crater. By the mid 1980s, poaching had reduced the population to just a couple remaining animals. The rhinos are now under 24-hour ranger watch and numbers have been increasing, though slowly because of the rhino's long gestation period. As of 2004, the number of rhinos in the Crater stands at 17. The only other spot to see rhinos in northern Tanzania is the Moru Kopjes area of the Serengeti, which as of 2004, is home to 12 rhinos. However, the rhinos in the Moru area are very difficult to see.

The black rhinos are regularly seen just east of Lerai Forest, specifically in the area between Lerai and Gorogor Swamp. It is likely that you will see one on a single game drive and with two separate game drives, your chances are very good. The best way to track down the rhinos is with an early AM game drive, which all of our safaris incorporate. Once down on the floor in the early morning, head immediately through Lerai Forest to its eastern outskirts. The rhinos usually spend the night in Lerai Forest and the move to the area immediately to the east in the early morning.

The Ngorongoro Crater is the second best place in Tanzania (perhaps all of Africa) to view the large carnivores. The Serengeti is significantly better for large carnivores but nothing can simply compete with the Serengeti. Lion, cheetah, leopard, hyena, serval, ratel, jackal and bat eared fox all inhabit the Ngorongoro Crater. Lions, cheetahs, hyenas and jackals can usually be spotted but the other predators are much more elusive. As of 2004, it was estimated that there are 25-30 lions, 10-12 cheetahs and 50-60 hyenas

inhabiting the Ngorongoro Crater. Note that these numbers do not include any cubs but refer strictly to adults, which are much easier to estimate. There are four prides of lions and six clans of hyenas on the Crater floor. It is interesting to note that all of today's crater lions are descended from only 15 lions that either survived or invaded the crater after a plague of biting flies in 1961.

As discussed, the Crater is a dynamic place and populations of certain species fluctuate widely over time. The increase of buffaloes and decrease in wildebeest may have had a detrimental impact on both lions and hyenas, as buffalo have been known to trample the young of both species. This has in turn allowed cheetahs to thrive in the Crater, as lions are the number one cause of cheetah cub mortality. Typically in the past, cheetahs have not regularly settled in the Crater and lion and hyena numbers have been historically higher.

LAKE MANYARA

Lake Manyara is a beautiful little park and is well known for its tree-climbing lions, elephants and large troops of baboons. The park is home to an amazing variety of birds and animals considering its small size. A short visit to this serene park will greatly diversify your safari experience as the lush green jungle habitat is of stark contrast to the other parks you will visit during your safari.

Lake Manyara National Park is roughly 125 square miles but the shallow, alkaline lake consumes the majority of this area. The land portion of the park is tucked between the lake and the sheer rock walls of the rift valley escarpment that tower 2,000 feet above. The park is home to three distinct habitats including a lush groundwater forest, open floodplains and acacia woodlands. In just a two-hour round trip foray into the park, it is possible to see all the main highlights in the groundwater forest and the floodplains leading up to the lake. The acacia woodlands further to the south may not be worth the longer drive as more wildlife prolific acacia woodlands await you in either Tarangire or the northern and western Serengeti woodlands.

Resident herbivores that you will likely encounter include elephant, hippo, giraffe, wildebeest, buffalo, warthog and impala. Primates include vervet monkey and baboon. Lake Manyara boasts

one of highest concentrations of baboons in Africa. The baboons are among the more exciting animals to watch in the park as they squabble and feud in their large extended family groups.

The baboons, elephants and impala can be found in the groundwater forest in the immediate area around the park gate. This lush green forest of giant fig trees and mahoganies is fed from underground springs that are constantly replenished from the crater highlands directly above the Manyara basin. The forest gives way to floodplains that lead up to the lake about 30 minutes from the gate. On the flood plains and fringes you will encounter buffalo, wildebeest and giraffe. There are also several pools supporting large concentrations of hippos.

Carnivores include lion and leopard. There are several resident lion prides in the park but they are much more difficult to see as compared with their cousins in the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater. The leopards of Manyara, though abundant, are elusive and only the occasional lucky visitor ever glimpses one in Manyara. If your keen on seeing a leopard, make sure to spend two nights in the Central Serengeti as the Seronera River Valley is your best place to see if leopard in perhaps all of Africa.

It is commonly said that Lake Manyara is one of best the parks in Africa for birdwatchers. With over 300 species including migratory birds, even the most seasoned bird enthusiast will not be disappointed. The lake itself attracts thousands of greater and lesser flamingos along with many other aquatic species. Two of the more interesting species commonly seen are the long-crested eagle and the grey-headed kingfisher (pictured to the right).

In every tour and guidebook you will undoubtedly find a description of Lake Manyara that references 'the famous tree climbing

lions'. Most of these publications and write-ups seem to indicate that Manyara is a very special place as you can easily see these rare tree-climbing lions. It is true that there are lions in Manyara and they have been known to climb trees. However, this behavior is not special or endemic to Manyara. Lions are commonly known to and seen climbing trees in both the Serengeti and Tarangire. Additionally, lions in Lake Manyara are generally very difficult to spot. The truth is that you will generally have a better chance of seeing lions in trees in the Serengeti as opposed to Lake Manyara. It is thought that tree climbing behavior may be related to the avoidance of parasites and diseases from biting insects and wet and muddy conditions on the ground.

TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK

Tarangire National Park measures 1,600 square miles and is Tanzania's fifth largest park. The park is named after the Tarangire River that provides the only permanent water for wildlife in the area. The river is a magnet for wildlife during the dry season when massive concentrations of elephant, buffalo, wildebeest and zebra congregate along its banks. During the wet season, many of the migratory animals disperse into the surrounding areas of the greater ecosystem. The Tarangire River runs up the center of the park through diverse habitats and varied topography. Gentle rolling hills interspersed with giant baobab trees, open acacia woodlands and seasonal swamps provide a spectacular and picturesque setting.

Tarangire National Park is particularly well known for its large population of elephants. These graceful giants were poached heavily during the 1980s in the Tarangire ecosystem, but their numbers are now dramatically rebounding. Approximately 3,000 elephants were counted during the last census in the year 2000. Since 2000, the elephant population has continued to rise at an increasing rate as Tarangire is currently experiencing an elephant 'baby boom'. While out on safari, you will notice that a large proportion of the elephants encountered are less than 10 years old and baby elephants are abundant. Elephant viewing in Tarangire is outstanding and it is likely that you will see between 100 to 400 elephants in a single day depending upon the month visited. Set against stunning

scenery, elephant viewing will undoubtedly prove to be one of the biggest highlights for a safari in Tarangire.

In addition to the migrating herbivores including elephant, buffalo, wildebeest and zebra, there are numerous resident animals that remain inside Tarangire National Park year round. Resident herbivores that you will likely encounter are banded mongoose, giraffe, bushbuck, rock hyrax, hartebeest, dik-dik, impala, waterbuck, warthog and reedbuck. Elephants are both migratory and resident and some do not migrate outside the park during the wet season. Some of the rare antelope species that with a little luck you may encounter include lesser kudu, eland, fringe-eared oryx and gerenuk. Primates include olive baboon, vervet monkey and bushbaby. Hippo and black rhino have been poached to local extinction in Tarangire but you will see both of these animals in the Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti.

Carnivores include lion, leopard, cheetah, hyena and jackal. Lions are abundant in Tarangire and are regularly encountered. It is possible to see large prides during the drier months when they are more stationary by the Tarangire River and swamps. Leopards are also plentiful but they are elusive and difficult to spot because of their superb camouflage. Cheetahs live at low densities in Tarangire and they are rarely seen. It is suspected that there are a couple transient wild dog packs that may occupy Tarangire from time to time as well as the surrounding areas in the Maasai Steppe. The wild dog is critically endangered and has rarely been seen in any of the northern parks of Tanzania since the mid 1990s.

Tarangire boasts one of the most diversified parks in East Africa for birding. The park is especially good for raptors and even the non-birding enthusiast will be astounded by the abundance and di-

versity of these powerful air borne predators. Raptors regularly seen include the bateleur eagle, tawny eagle, long-crested eagle, martial eagle, fish eagle and spotted eagle owl.

Tarangire National Park encompasses just a small portion of the total area of the Tarangire ecosystem. The Tarangire ecosystem is 13 times the size of the park. The borders of the ecosystem are defined by the migrating herbivores. The migrating animals use Tarangire during the dry season and migrate to the surrounding ecosystem during the wet season. The main migratory herbivores are elephant, buffalo, zebra and wildebeest. These animals migrate out of the park and disperse east in November or December at the beginning of the wet season. The migrating herds start to return from the greater ecosystem and make their way back into the park around June at the beginning of the dry season.

The migration takes place because the areas inside the park provide poor conditions (low quality grazing & wet, muddy ground) during the wet season while the areas to the east of the park provide better conditions. The zebra and wildebeest (elephant to a lesser extent) dislike for wet and muddy ground as is typically found in the woodlands of Tarangire during the wet season may be related to the avoidance of parasites and diseases. During the dry season, the migrating herds are forced inside the park due to the lack of permanent sources of water outside the park. The park has large areas of wetlands including the Gursi and Silale swamps that act as sponges and supply the Tarangire River during the dry season.

The wildlife rhythms of Tarangire are almost directly opposite to those of the Serengeti. Tarangire comes into its own during the dry season (July - November) when enormous populations of elephants and other animals are drawn to the Tarangire River and

other sources of permanent water within the park. During the wet season, many of the animals disperse into the surrounding areas of the greater ecosystem.

The wildlife season begins in June at the beginning of the dry season. During June and July, the surrounding areas begin to dry out and many of the animals begin to migrate back into Tarangire from the greater ecosystem. During August, September and October, the outlying areas are completely parched. This is the best time to visit Tarangire. Massive herds of buffalo, wildebeest, zebra and elephant will congregate around the remaining rivers and swamps inside Tarangire.

Sporadic showers are expected in Tarangire in late October. These showers and the continued light rains in November disperse the large herds of zebra and wildebeest into the surrounding ecosystem. It takes a few heavier rains in either November or December to disperse the larger elephant herds. During January and February, many of the animals will have dispersed into the greater ecosystem. Wildlife viewing will be fair to good as there are still moderate numbers of resident animals around. Game viewing in March, April and May is generally poor to fair, as this is the period of heavy rains.

USEFUL INFORMATION:

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS ON NORTHWEST / DELTA / KLM AIRLINES

The most convenient, efficient and safest point of entry into Tanzania is Kilimanjaro Airport via Amsterdam on the daily Northwest / Delta / KLM Airlines flight. Kilimanjaro Airport, which is next to the small town of Arusha, is the origination point for all Northern Tanzania safaris. The only major airline serving Kilimanjaro is KLM Airlines, a code share partner of Northwest Airlines (NWA) and Delta. NWA / Delta / KLM flights can easily be booked directly at www.nwa.com or www.delta.com. Airport codes for major East African cities are Kilimanjaro (JRO), Dar es Salaam (DAR), Nairobi (NBO), Entebbe (EBB) and Zanzibar (ZNZ).

KLM/ Delta/ Northwest Airlines offer daily flights from most major cities in the U.S. to Kilimanjaro International Airport. The flight consists of two segments. The first segment is from your departure city in the U.S. direct to Amsterdam. The second segment is from Amsterdam non-stop to Kilimanjaro. The daily flight from Amsterdam to Kilimanjaro arrives into Kilimanjaro in the late evening. Accordingly, we highly recommend Arumeru River Lodge, which is located close to the airport, on your arrival night.

Our signature fly in and drive back safaris begin early the following morning with a short flight to the Serengeti. On the outbound flight from Kilimanjaro to Amsterdam, the KLM flight departs late at night and we normally incorporate a day room at Arumeru River Lodge to relax before your departing flight.

For planning purposes, if you were to depart the U.S. on a Monday, you would arrive Kilimanjaro on Tuesday night. On the contrary, a departure from Kilimanjaro on a Monday would yield a Tuesday afternoon arrival back in the U.S. You may wish to add a layover in Amsterdam for a night or two to help break up the long flight. If you do choose a layover in Amsterdam, it is recommended that you incorporate the layover at the beginning of your trip. Additionally, you may wish to add a 2nd night in the Arusha/ Kilimanjaro area at the beginning of your trip to recuperate from the flight and before beginning your safari.

KLM operates 747-400s on its U.S. to Amsterdam routes. From Amsterdam to Kilimanjaro, KLM operates 767-200s, which are comfortable wide body aircraft. Flight time from the east coast to Amsterdam is about 7 hours while it is about 10 hours from the west coast. Flight time from Amsterdam to Kilimanjaro is about 8 hours. The return flight times are a little longer. Please note that there is a 45-minute stop over in Dar es Salaam on the return flight from Kilimanjaro to Amsterdam though you are not permitted to leave the aircraft.

For those individuals adding an extension to Zanzibar after a safari, it is more optimal to depart from Dar es Salaam (15-minute flight from Zanzibar) as opposed to Kilimanjaro (1-hour and 15-minute flight from Zanzibar). Additionally and as discussed above, the daily return KLM flight from Kilimanjaro stops in Dar es Salaam

before continuing on to Amsterdam. In conclusion, for those adding a Zanzibar extension, we recommend a Kilimanjaro arrival and a Dar es Salaam departure. This routing is not considered an ‘open jaw’ ticket and can easily be arranged. For those individuals adding a Kenya or Uganda safari extension, we recommend a Kilimanjaro arrival with a Nairobi departure. Again, this is not considered an ‘open jaw’ ticket and can easily be arranged.

Some of the flight connections from the U.S. to Kilimanjaro on Northwest / KLM Airlines may have significant layovers (2 – 6 hours) in the Amsterdam airport before the connecting flight. Accordingly, you may wish to consider this great little hotel inside the Amsterdam airport (no clearing immigration or security) that you can book by the hour (or overnight) – Yotel Hotel (<http://www.yotel.com/>). The cost is about 65 Euros for 4 hours for a premium room and you get a cozy little cabin (air con, comfy bed, shower, toilet, sink, tv, wifi, pull out desk & room service).

ARRIVAL PROCEDURES ON NORTHWEST / DELTA / KLM AIRLINES

Tanzania Visa fees are included in your safari price and are prepaid for all KLM arrivals into Kilimanjaro. Our dedicated Visa specialist will meet you in the customs area upon arrival into Kilimanjaro International Airport at about 8.00pm on the daily NWA/ Delta/ KLM flight arrival. He will have your name posted on a sign and will issue your Tanzania Visas enabling you to avoid the long custom lines. Each person will simply need to provide a passport valid for at least six months past your arrival date. Please make sure you have at least 2 blank pages in your passport. You will be

immediately transferred to Arumeru Lodge, which is only 30-minutes from the airport, for a late dinner and a good nights sleep. The next morning you will be transferred to the domestic airport for your short flight to the Serengeti to begin your safari. Upon arrival in the Serengeti, your driver-guide will welcome you to the most prolific wildlife viewing area in the world. Your expert guide will accompany you from this point forward until your departure from Kilimanjaro Airport at the conclusion of your safari. All Africa Dream Safaris are 100% escorted.

The non-stop KLM flight from Amsterdam to Kilimanjaro qualifies for the Yellow Fever Vaccination Exemption. All travelers flying this ‘non-stop’ KLM flight from the U.S./Europe to Tanzania such as they do not transit through a Yellow Fever Infected Country are NOT required to have the Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate. Please see the health section for further information.

ALTERNATIVE INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS ON BRITISH AIRWAYS, SWISS AIR, EMIRATES AND SAA

As discussed above, the most convenient and efficient way of getting to Tanzania is on the daily NWA / Delta / KLM flight directly into Kilimanjaro via Amsterdam. Again, the Kilimanjaro-Arusha area is the launching point for all Tanzania safaris. If a direct Kilimanjaro arrival on NWA / Delta / KLM is not possible, there are several good alternatives on British Airways, Swiss Air and Emirates Airlines. Each of these airlines has arrivals into Nairobi, Kenya and/or Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Besides our main Africa Dream Safaris office in Arusha, we have satellite offices in both Nairobi and Dar es Salaam to facilitate transfers, overnight layovers and connecting flights to Kilimanjaro to begin your safari. The flight time from Nairobi to Kilimanjaro is 50-minutes and the flight time from Dar es Salaam to Kilimanjaro is 1-hour and 15-minutes. Upon arrival into Nairobi or Dar es Salaam, we can provide connecting flights to Kilimanjaro. Depending on your specific flight schedule, an overnight may be required in Nairobi or Dar es Salaam before connecting onwards to Kilimanjaro. If this is the case, we can also arrange hotels and corresponding transfers in both Kenya and Tanzania.

Please note that we are able to issue visas at Nairobi Airport (Kenya Visas) and Kilimanjaro Airport (Tanzania Visas). We are unable to issue Tanzania visas at the Dar es Salaam airport. For those persons arriving into Dar es Salaam, you will need to obtain your own individual Tanzania Visas upon arrival at a cost of \$100 per person. Simply fill out the short form upon arrival into Dar es Salaam.

Please note that all travelers flying to Tanzania via or in transit through a Yellow Fever Infected Country such as Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda are required to show proof of the Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate. For example, this would include those persons flying to Tanzania through Nairobi, Kenya on British Airways, Virgin Atlantic Airways, Swiss Air, Kenya Airways, Brussels Airlines, KLM and Emirates. Please see the health section for further information.

BRITISH AIRWAYS ALTERNATIVE

British Airways offers flights to both Nairobi (NBO) and Dar es Salaam (DAR) where you can connect to Kilimanjaro on a regional

flight to begin your safari. There are 3 flights a week from the U.S. to Dar es Salaam and daily flights from the U.S. to Nairobi via London.

The British Airways Dar es Salaam flight arrives about 7.00am into Dar es Salaam. Upon arrival we can provide transfers to the domestic terminal and a Precision Air flight departing Dar es Salaam at 8.20am and arriving Kilimanjaro at 9.35am or a Coastal Aviation flight departing Dar es Salaam at 9.00am and arriving Arusha at 11.00am. Upon arrival at Kilimanjaro or Arusha, we can either fly you to the Serengeti (Coastal Aviation Arusha to Serengeti 12.30pm - 2.10pm) to immediately begin your safari or you may wish to spend the night in Kilimanjaro-Arusha before flying to the Serengeti the following morning. We highly recommend the latter. The return flight departs Dar es Salaam at about 8.35am and an overnight stay in Dar es Salaam is required the night before. The afternoon before your return flight we would fly you on Precision Air from Kilimanjaro to Dar es Salaam at 3.50pm to 5.40pm or Air Excel from Arusha to Dar es Salaam at 12.30pm to 2.35pm. We would then provide transfers and accommodations at the charming Royal Palm Hotel in Dar es Salaam. The following morning we would transfer you back to the Dar es Salaam Airport for your morning British Airways departure.

The British Airways daily Nairobi flight arrives about 9.00pm requiring an overnight in Nairobi. Upon arrival we can issue Kenya visas and provide transfers and hotel accommodations at the charming Palacina Hotel in Nairobi. The following morning we would transfer you back to the Nairobi airport for a 50-minute flight to Kilimanjaro on Precision Air at 8.00am to 8.50am or 10.00am to 10.50am. Upon arrival at Kilimanjaro, we would issue your Tanzania visas and fly you to the Serengeti to begin your safari. There are two flights from Arusha to the Serengeti that

you could connect with including Coastal Aviation at 12.30pm to 2.10pm or Regional Air at 3.00pm to 4.05pm. The return flight departs Nairobi at about 11.00pm, which conveniently lines up with a Precision Air flight from Kilimanjaro to Nairobi at 7.40pm to 8.30pm. When routing through either Nairobi or Dar es Salaam, the beginning and ending of your safari itinerary will be adjusted accordingly to provide the most efficient logistics.

SWISS AIR ALTERNATIVE

Swiss Air has several flights a week between the U.S. and East Africa via Zurich, Switzerland. The second leg of the flight departs Zurich in the morning and arrives Nairobi at about 6.30pm and then continues onwards to Dar es Salaam arriving at about 8.30pm. The return flight departs Dar es Salaam at about 9.30pm to Nairobi and then departs Nairobi at about 11.30pm arriving Zurich the following morning. When using Swiss Air, we recommend flying into Dar es Salaam and out of Nairobi. This is the less expensive option as you avoid Kenya visa requirements.

Upon your evening Swiss Air arrival into Dar es Salaam we can provide transfers and accommodations at the charming Royal Palm Hotel. The following morning we would transfer you back to the Dar es Salaam Airport for your Coastal Aviation flight departing Dar es Salaam at 9.00am and arriving Arusha at 11.00am. We can then fly you to the Serengeti to begin your safari on Coastal Aviation departing Arusha at 12.30pm and arriving Serengeti at 2.10pm. The return flight on Swiss Air departs Nairobi at about 11.30pm, which conveniently lines up with a Precision Air flight from Kilimanjaro to Nairobi at 7.40pm to 8.30pm.

EMIRATES AIRLINES ALTERNATIVE

Emirates Airlines has daily flights from New York (JFK) to Dar es Salaam or Nairobi via Dubai using the brand new A340-500 aircraft. Emirates Airlines consistently receives the highest ratings and awards for service and comfort. The economy seats are a little larger than most other airlines and each comes equipped with a personal entertainment system with video on demand. The flight consists of two non-stop segments with the first from JFK to Dubai and the second from Dubai to Dar es Salaam or Nairobi.

SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS ALTERNATIVE

South African Airways offers daily flights from Johannesburg (JNB), South Africa to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. This is a good option for those individuals routing through South Africa for any number of reasons or for those adding a South African extension to Cape Town or Victoria Falls. The daily flight (approximately 4-hours in duration) departs Johannesburg at 9.50am and arrives Dar es Salaam at 2.20pm.

Upon arrival into Dar es Salaam, we can provide transfers to the domestic terminal and a Precision Air flight departing Dar es Salaam at 6.00pm and arriving Kilimanjaro at 7.15pm or an Air Excel flight departing Dar es Salaam at 4.20pm and arriving Arusha at 6.25pm. The return flight on SAA departs Dar es Salaam at 3.20pm and arrives Johannesburg at 6.05pm. To facilitate this return flight at the end of your safari, we would fly you on Precision Air departing Kilimanjaro at 9.15am and arriving Dar es Salaam at 10.30am or departing Kilimanjaro at 11.00am and arriving Dar es Salaam at 12.50pm via Zanzibar. An overnight at one of the lodges in the Arusha-Kilimanjaro area is required the night before.

The South African immigration authorities require that all travelers have two blank pages, clearly marked “VISA” and free of any other entry/exit stamps reserved in your passport for the exclusive use of South African Immigration stamps. Travelers who do not have the required two pages may be denied boarding at the point of departure from the United States. Clients traveling to both Kenya and South Africa require 4 blank pages.

CONFIRMING INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT RESERVATIONS

Please make sure to confirm your international flight reservations prior to departure and obtain seat assignments (window, aisle, etc).

EAST AFRICA ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A passport and visa are required for U.S. citizens traveling to Tanzania, Kenya or Uganda. Your passport should be valid for at least six months past your arrival date. Please make sure you have at least 2 blank pages in your passport.

Please note that all travelers flying to Tanzania via or in transit through a Yellow Fever Infected Country such as Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda are required to show proof of the Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate. For example, this would include those persons flying to Tanzania through Nairobi, Kenya on British Airways, Virgin Atlantic Airways, Swiss Air, Kenya Airways, Brussels Airlines, KLM and Emirates. Please see the health section for further information.

TANZANIA VISAS

Africa Dream Safaris is proud to offer VIP Tanzania visa service to all of our clients arriving into Kilimanjaro Airport. All Tanzania visa fees are included in the price of our safaris and your Tanzania visa will be issued immediately upon arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport. Our dedicated visa specialist will meet you in the customs area upon arrival. He will have your name posted on a sign and will stamp your passport with your Tanzania Visa enabling you to avoid the long lines and confusion at customs. Each person will simply need to provide a valid passport and we will take care of everything else. Please make sure you have at least 2 blank pages in your passport. After your visa is issued, you will be escorted outside of customs and immediately transferred to your hotel.

We are unable to issue Tanzania visas at the Dar es Salaam airport. For those persons arriving into Dar es Salaam, you will need to obtain your own individual Tanzania Visas upon arrival at a cost of \$100 per person. Simply fill out the short form upon arrival into Dar es Salaam.

KENYA VISAS

Kenya visas may or may not be included in your safari price depending upon your safari itinerary. Besides our main Africa Dream Safaris office in Arusha, we have a satellite office in Nairobi to facilitate obtaining your Kenya visas with a similar process as our Tanzania VIP visa service described above. If you will be arriving into Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (NBO) and will be leaving the airport for a layover, we can include Kenya visas in your safari price and obtain them for you upon arrival. Please make sure

you have at least 2 blank pages in your passport. Alternatively, you may obtain your Kenya visa directly at the airport upon arrival by filling out a short form and paying US \$50 per person. Lastly, you may obtain your Kenya visas prior to your departure by mailing your passport and required information to the Kenya Embassy in Washington D.C. (see discussion below).

For those individuals including a Masai Mara safari extension, you are required to obtain your Kenya visa prior to departure by mailing your passport and required information to the Kenya Embassy. The Masai Mara extension routes through Nairobi Wilson Airport and it is difficult to obtain your Kenya visa upon arrival at this specific Nairobi airport. Please contact us for instructions on how to obtain your Kenya visa prior to departure.

The Kenyan immigration authorities require that all travelers have two blank pages, clearly marked "VISA" and free of any other entry/exit stamps reserved in your passport for the exclusive use of Kenya Immigration stamps. Travelers who do not have the required two pages may be denied boarding at the point of departure from the United States. Clients traveling to both Kenya and South Africa require 4 blank pages.

UGANDA VISAS

Those individuals traveling to Uganda on a gorilla and/or chimpanzee safari extension will be required to pay for Uganda visas upon arrival. Uganda visas cost \$50 per person (US dollars) and are easily obtained upon arrival at Entebbe International Airport by filling out a simple and short customs card. As soon as you walk into the customs hall, there will be several desks with blank reg-

istration cards. Simply fill out the card with your personal details (address, passport number, date of birth, etc.) and proceed to the kiosks to submit the \$50 per person visa fee.

NORTHERN TANZANIA CLIMATE

The majority of the famous wildlife parks of Northern Tanzania (situated just south of the equator) rest upon an elevated plateau creating a wonderfully temperate climate. Average highs are in the low 80s and average lows are in the 50s and 60s. The temperatures are very comfortable and there is little humidity due to the high elevation. The moderate climate creates a comfortable environment for wildlife viewing throughout the entire day. Even during mid-day it is rarely too hot for game viewing and many animals remain active. Wildlife viewing is a year round event due to the equatorial climate and there really is no preferred season in terms of weather though some individuals prefer the green season as it's not as dry or dusty. Full rainy days are rare and even during the green season (November to May), there is a greater proportion of sunshine and only brief and refreshing showers are the norm.

The Serengeti National Park ranges in altitude from about 5,000 - 6,000 feet while Tarangire and Lake Manyara (situated in the rift valley) are lower in elevation (approximately 3,500 feet) and a little warmer. On the other hand, the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater is situated at 7,500 – 8,000 feet and is significantly colder especially in the early morning. During the slightly warmer months from October to March, the average high is 84 degrees while the average low is 60 degrees in the Serengeti. During the slightly cooler months from April to September, expect an average high of 81

degrees and an average low of 55 degrees in the Serengeti. However, the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater can get significantly colder due to the high elevation and one needs a heavy sweater here year round. June, July and August are the coldest months and lows can sometimes drop into the 30s and 40s at the Ngorongoro Crater though daily high temperatures are unaffected. Make sure to bring a heavy sweater, gloves and warm hat during June, July and August for those early morning game drives in the Ngorongoro Crater.

There are two pronounced seasons in Tanzania including a green season from late November to early May and a dry season from mid May to mid November. In most regions of East Africa, rainfall is usually higher in November and December (the short rains) than in January and February (the short dry season) and then rain falls again in March, April and May (the long rains). However, this is not the case in Northern Tanzania and especially in the Serengeti National Park! The so-called 'short rains' and 'long rains' in Northern Tanzania are significantly less pronounced and rain tends to fall sporadically from mid November to late April or early May. It has been completely unpredictable during the last ten years as to which green season month or months receive the most rain. In any event, the sporadic rain showers do not hamper your ability to game drive and, in fact, only enhance wildlife viewing. There is an old adage in the Serengeti that 'rain means game' and this definitely rings true during the green season when the herds are on the vibrant green plains especially in March and April.

Please keep in mind that most guidebooks are not destination specific and their data is not representative of Northern Tanzania but rather East Africa as a whole, which can be very misleading due to the unique climatic and geographic features of Northern Tanzania (Ngorongoro Highlands, Lake Victoria, etc.).

AVERAGE SERENGETI MONTHLY RAINFALL

	<i>South East Serengeti Olduvai Gauge</i>	<i>South Central Serengeti Naabi Hill Gauge</i>	<i>South Serengeti Ndutu Gauge</i>	<i>Central Serengeti Seronera Gauge</i>
January	1.7	2.8	3.9	4.1
February	3.2	3.4	3.2	4.9
March	3.0	2.1	4.6	4.4
April	2.2	3.9	2.8	5.9
May	1.3	1.6	2.0	2.4
June	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.3
July	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.5
August	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5
September	0.2	0.7	0.4	0.6
October	0.8	0.8	0.7	1.4
November	1.7	2.4	2.0	3.0
December	2.7	2.4	3.9	5.9
TOTAL	16.7	21.1	24.3	33.7

(amounts in inches)

Rainfall gauges in Northern Tanzania (specifically in the Serengeti where most people spend the majority of their safari), indicate that the rains typically start in mid to late November and continue to fall sporadically or irregularly until early May. Toward late April or the beginning of May, a northeasterly wind springs up, signaling the start of the long dry season. Please keep in mind that rain showers do not hinder your ability to game drive and few years are typical and the onset and severity of seasons vary widely.

WHEN TO GO ON SAFARI

The ideal time to go on safari will differ for every individual as much of it comes down to personal taste and specific interests. It completely depends on what you want to see and do. Wildlife concentrations are extremely seasonal and careful planning is required to provide you with best experience possible. Many of the animals do move vast distances each month but we will always tailor your itinerary to your specific month of travel to assure that you are located in the best area for wildlife viewing. Some factors that may influence your decision on ‘when to go’ are as follows:

- *The parks and reserves you wish to visit*
- *The length of your safari*
- *Special animal interests*
- *Lodging preferences*
- *Group composition (family, couple or friends)*
- *Safari style (adventure or luxury)*
- *Personality (off the beaten path or main game circuits)*

Based upon the above factors we can have an open and meaningful

dialogue and provide you with some suggestions on the most optimal time. If you are limited to a specific travel time, we can always tailor your itinerary to meet your expectations and requirements regardless of the month of travel.

Wildlife viewing in Northern Tanzania is superb year round due to presence of large concentrations of resident animals. However and if you do have flexibility with your travel dates, the green season (late November to early May) can offer the overall best wildlife viewing. There is an old adage in the Serengeti that ‘rain means game’ and this definitely rings true during the green season. The reason the green season is advantageous is that the famous wildebeest and zebra migration is concentrated in massive numbers on the open Southern and Eastern Serengeti Plains. This in turn attracts large numbers of predators including lion, cheetah, hyena and jackal. Additionally, the plains are a beautiful shade of bright green, dust levels are minimal, animals are in the open and easy to spot and you are permitted to off road drive on the open plains. It’s a great season to get ‘off the beaten path’ and explore the remote corners of the parks. Please keep in mind that all green season months are not ‘created’ equal. Game viewing tends to be better towards the end of the green season (February, March and April) when the migration and all the large carnivores are at their highest densities.

The northward migration (early May to mid June) and the southward migration (October through November) are also optimal times for a safari and wildlife viewing. Game viewing can be tremendous when the migration is on the move during these two periods! During the northward migration in May, the great herds bottle neck at the Moru Kopjes attracting all the large carnivores. May is the time of the wildebeest rut and a synchronized mating pandemonium ensues as the migration comes together and marches off

the plains. Male wildebeest madly dash about rounding up females and chasing off other males. After an 8.5-month gestation period, the synchronized calving takes place in early February. During the southward migration (October through November), the great herds stream through the woodlands and flood onto the plains as stunning thunderclouds form in anticipation of the approaching green season. It is an amazing spectacle to see hundreds and thousands of wildebeest, zebra and gazelle thundering southwards with lion, cheetah and spotted hyena in close pursuit.

The dry season (July to October) is also a great time for wildlife viewing. Massive herds of elephants congregate around the Tarangire River in Tarangire National Park while resident herbivores (impala, buffalo, gazelle and giraffe) flock to the Seronera River in the Central Serengeti. The dry season is a great time for predators and especially good for viewing large prides of lions along the rivers. The migration is located in the remote woodlands of the Northern Serengeti and this is the time of the famous river crossings along the Mara River. Superb off the beaten path drives are available in the Serengeti during the dry season with the favorite being the Mara River adventure game drive.

Regardless of when you travel, one will always have superb game viewing in Northern Tanzania. Resident (non-migratory) animals including leopard, elephant, rhino, giraffe, hippo, resident lion prides and several species of non-migratory antelope are always abundant (particularly in the Central Serengeti). However, there are certain months and even weeks that may be preferable to you based upon your specific wildlife interests. Talk it over with your ADS specialist and decide upon the most optimal time for your safari.

WHAT TO BRING ON SAFARI

Safaris are extremely informal vacations and the main goal is to pack lightly and smartly. Most lodges and camps will launder your clothes for free or a small fee (\$2 - \$3 per item) within 24-hours. Loose fitting, casual and comfortable clothing is recommended, as you will be spending the majority of your safari wildlife viewing in a vehicle. Be prepared for daily highs ranging from the mid 70's to the mid 80's and lows in the 50's and 60's except during the cold season (June, July and August) when the lows can drop down into the 40's. The rim of the Ngorongoro Crater can get significantly colder during the night and early mornings due to the high elevation (7,500 – 8,000 feet).

There is little or no opportunity for fashion while on safari though you may wish to bring a nice outfit for a special dinner. All the lodges allow casual clothing and traditional safari wear while dining. There is a large temperature range each day and it is recommended to wear layers enabling you to adjust to the varying temperatures. It can be quite cold on early morning game drives and long pants and a warm sweater are needed. In contrast, shorts and t-shirts can be worn on afternoon game drives as it can get hot during midday especially with the strong equatorial sun shining down in a convertible vehicle. It is important that you wear a wide brimmed hat and apply sun block frequently to all exposed areas.

Dark colors do tend to attract unwanted attention from certain insects. The tsetse fly (active only during the day) is attracted to dark colors (primarily dark blue) so these should be avoided when game driving tsetse areas including the woodlands of the West Serengeti, Tarangire and a few parts of the North Serengeti. The plains of

the south and east Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater and the southern areas of the Central Serengeti are tsetse fly free. It is recommended to wear long pants and shirts when game driving an area known for concentrations of tsetse flies. Lighter and more natural colors such as khaki, brown, beige, olive and green should be worn during the day. During the nights, the color of your clothing is irrelevant. From dusk to dawn, it is recommended that you protect yourself from mosquitoes by wearing pants, long sleeved shirts, socks and shoes plus insect repellent.

Please see below for a recommended African safari packing list:

SAFARI CLOTHING

- *One pair of comfortable walking shoes (i.e. sneakers, cross training or light hiking shoes)*
- *One pair of sandals or flip-flops*
- *Casual, comfortable and loose fitting clothing in khaki, brown, beige, green and olive colors made of natural fabrics such as cotton*
- *T-shirts and light tops*
- *Long-sleeved shirts/blouses*
- *Shorts*
- *Light long pants or convertible long-short pants*
- *One warm fleece or sweater*
- *One Swimsuit*
- *Cotton socks and underwear*
- *Pajamas*
- *Hat and bandana*
- *Heavy sweater, warm gloves, knit hat and scarf for the cold season (June – August)*
- *Optional: lightweight jacket or windbreaker*

OTHER ITEMS

- *Passport, plane tickets, safari itinerary and emergency contact document*
- *U.S. dollars in large and small denominations and credit cards*
- *small flashlight*
- *Sunglasses*
- *Sunscreen and lip balm*
- *Insect repellent*
- *Contact lens solution, spare glasses and extra contact lenses, if applicable*
- *Waterless anti-bacterial gel, hand wipes and Kleenex*
- *Camera, plenty of film, extra batteries and charger, if applicable*
- *UK plug adapter and transformer/voltage converter, if applicable*
- *Small battery operated alarm clock or watch*
- *Playing cards, small games and reading material (see safari reading list)*
- *Journal or notebook for recording daily observations and pens*
- *Snacks – nutrition bars, nuts, candy, etc.*
- *Zip lock bags for toiletries, camera equipment, snacks, etc. and small trash bags*
- *Personal toiletries (all rooms at each lodge/camp have soap though some may not have shampoo)*
- *Small medical kit including aspirin, antimalarial pills, cold and allergy medicine, cream for itches and rashes (i.e. Benadryl itch relief stick), band-aids, stomachache medicine (i.e. Pepto-Bismol), antibiotic ointment (i.e. Neosporin), multi-vitamins, diarrhea medicine (i.e. Imodium), prescription antibiotic effective against a broad range of bacteria including travelers diarrhea (i.e. Ciprofloxacin commonly known as Cipro) and any prescription medications.*

Most internal Tanzania flights have a baggage restriction of 33

pounds per person. Excess luggage is charged at \$2 per pound if it can be accommodated on the flight. Flights in Uganda have even stricter weight requirements. Please refer to your separate Uganda guidelines, if applicable.

We recommend packing light as no formal clothes are needed and laundry services are available at most lodges and camps either free of charge or for a small fee (\$2 - \$3 per item).

IMPORTANT: Please note that delayed or lost checked luggage is common on international air carriers (i.e. KLM and British Airways) arriving into Kilimanjaro, Nairobi or Dar es Salaam. Accordingly, it is recommended that you carry-on all luggage including one carry-on 22-inch suitcase (normal carry-on size which fits in typical overhead bins) and one separate camera bag and/or shoulder bag per person. If you do choose to check in your luggage, it is essential that you carry-on ALL important items, including but not limited to: prescription medicines, camera equipment, essential toiletries, and at least two separate changes of clothes. You are allowed to carry-on 3 oz containers of any toiletries you may need such as sunscreen or contact lens solution in a single, quart-size, zip-top, clear plastic bag. Remember, you are flying to a remote location where it may be impossible to purchase such items in the event your luggage is lost or delayed. As you pack, ask yourself “would my trip be ruined if I did not have this item?” If the answer is yes, pack it in your carry-on bag!!!

Please read below an excerpt from KLM Airlines regarding carry-on luggage:

‘When luggage is carried on-board the aircraft, it must be of a size and shape to allow for storage in aircraft overhead compartments, or underneath the seat in front of the passenger. Each person is allowed to carry on-board the aircraft one piece of luggage. This

piece of luggage must not exceed 45 linear inches (9 inches by 14 inches by 22 inches) and also must not exceed 40 pounds. In addition to this one piece of carry-on luggage, customers may also carry on-board a purse or briefcase or laptop computer. In addition, each passenger may carry a coat, umbrella, or other “special” items.’

Please keep all critical items and valuables in your carry-on shoulder bag or on you including passport, tickets, wallet, medications, toiletries, camera, glasses, etc. Never pack any camera equipment or film in your check in luggage. If you do decide to check in your luggage, please protect yourself from the consequences of the airline losing your luggage by packing critical items as described above and also two changes of clothes in a carry-on bag.

Please note that you may leave extra suitcases at our office in Arusha upon arrival and we can redeliver to you after your safari. This is particularly useful for those individuals combining their safari with vacations in Europe or other destinations where the clothing requirements and climates are different (especially in the winter). We can securely store all non-safari related items at our office. Some guests prefer packing two different suitcases with one to take on the safari and a second one for Europe or other destinations.

Note: This is applicable for Zanzibar only. If you are traveling to Zanzibar, please ensure that you dress modestly when not at the beach or at the beach resorts. When away from the beach and beach resorts, women should not wear sleeveless tops and short skirts (pants or at least knee-length shorts are fine). Men should wear shirts, pants or knee-length shorts. During Ramadan, take particular care with dress and show respect by not eating or drinking in the street or other public places. Ramadan dates are different every year. 2009 dates are August 21, 2009 to September 19, 2009.

SAFARI HEALTH

Participation on a safari requires that you be in generally good health. All guests must understand that while a high level of fitness is not required, a measure of physical activity is involved in all African Safaris. It is essential that persons with any medical problems and/or related dietary restrictions make them known to us well before departure.

You must seek medical advice from your doctor or a travel clinic before you depart on your safari. It is important to plan ahead as you may need vaccinations. For detailed health information for travelers to Tanzania visit <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/eafrica.htm>.

Malaria is one of the greatest potential health risks in Tanzania and antimalarial drugs are recommended. The antimalarial drug named Malarone may be the best choice and it should be strongly considered as opposed to other types of antimalarial drugs – consult your doctor or travel clinic. Other antimalarial drugs include Larium and Doxycycline. For a detailed discussion on malaria and the different antimalarial drugs available, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/regional-malaria/eafrica.htm>.

Whether or not you are taking antimalarial drugs, it is important to protect yourself from mosquito bites from dusk till dawn. This is when the type of mosquito whose bite transmits malaria is active. Precautionary measures include using DEET based insect repellent, covering up before dusk and wearing long sleeved shirts, trousers, socks and shoes in the evenings. You should certainly cover up and use insect repellent before going to dinner each evening. Pay particular attention to your ankles and legs as mosquitoes, if present, tend to hover at ankle level. For more detailed information on how to protect

yourself from mosquitoes please refer to the ‘Safari Annoyances’ section under the ‘Insects’ heading for some tips and recommendations.

Travelers should be informed that regardless of the methods employed (antimalarial pills, other protective measures, etc.), malaria still might be contracted. The Northern Parks and Reserves of Tanzania are not particularly high risk areas, however, it certainly does exist. Malaria does not pose a significant risk above 5,900 feet. The Ngorongoro Crater (altitude of 7,500 – 8,000 feet) is Malaria free and there are few mosquitoes in most regions of the Serengeti (altitude of 5,000 – 6,000 feet). There is a higher risk of Malaria on Zanzibar and other low-lying regions in Tanzania. Malaria symptoms can develop as early as about a week after initial exposure in a malaria-infested area and as long as 1 year after departure from an area, after preventative medication has been completed. Travelers should understand that malaria can be treated effectively early in the course of the disease, but delay of therapy can have serious or even fatal consequences. Individuals who have symptoms of malaria should seek prompt evaluation as soon as possible. All vaccinations (with the exception of the Yellow Fever Vaccination for some individuals as described below) are completely voluntary for entry into Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda or Zanzibar.

IMPORTANT: The Tanzania government has issued new rules that require some individuals to receive a Yellow Fever Vaccination for entry into Tanzania. Those individuals (as described below) will need to show their Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate upon arrival into Tanzania. You would get this certificate from the travel clinic where you received the Yellow Fever Vaccination. Those individuals that are required to show proof of the Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate are as follows:

1. All travelers flying to Tanzania via or in transit through a Yellow Fever Infected Country (listed below) such as Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda. For example, this would include those persons flying to Tanzania through Nairobi, Kenya on British Airways, Virgin Atlantic Airways, Swiss Air, Kenya Airways, Brussels Airlines, KLM and Emirates. This would also include those persons flying to Tanzania through Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on Ethiopian Airlines. Even if you do not leave the Nairobi or Addis Ababa Airport and remain in transit, you are still required to show the Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate upon arrival into Tanzania. For those clients affected, please make sure you have a Yellow Fever Vaccination Card to prove the vaccine was given. Please pack this certificate in your carry-on along with your passport.

Those individuals that are NOT required to have the Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate are:

1. All travelers flying ‘non-stop’ from the U.S./Europe to Tanzania such as they do not transit through a Yellow Fever Infected Country. For example, this includes the KLM non-stop flight from Amsterdam to Kilimanjaro and the British Airways non-stop flight from London to Dar es Salaam.

We recommend that all clients, if possible, book the daily NWA / Delta / KLM flight from the U.S. to Kilimanjaro (via Amsterdam). It is the most convenient and efficient flight routing available and the non-stop segment from Amsterdam to Kilimanjaro qualifies for the Yellow Fever Vaccination Exemption. Vaccination recommendations to discuss with your doctor or travel clinic are as follows:

- *Hepatitis A*
- *Yellow fever*

- *As needed, booster doses for tetanus-diphtheria and a one-time dose of polio vaccine*
- *Antimalarial drugs*
- *Broad-spectrum antibiotic (i.e. Cipro) - be sure to know if any of your antibiotics will cause hypersensitivity to the sun*
- *Diarrhea medicine, both over the counter (brand name Imodium) and prescription as per your doctor's recommendations*
- *Infant, children and pregnant women require special consideration – consult your doctor.*

When you pack, make certain that you have all your medications in your carry-on luggage.

Below is a listing of healthy ‘To Do’s’:

- *Wash hands often with soap and water*
- *Use hand wipes, waterless anti-bacterial gel frequently*
- *Drink plenty of bottled water*
- *Protect yourself from mosquito bites and from sun burns*
- *To prevent fungal and parasitic infections, keep feet clean and dry, and do not go barefoot*

Stomach upsets are the most common traveler’s complaint. They range from mild discomfort to diarrhea. The vast majorities are harmless and quickly pass. Some digestive upset is probably inevitable for most people. Simple things like a change of water, food or climate can all cause a minor bout of diarrhea. When diarrhea occurs, there are basically two things you can do, stop it with drugs or let it run its course. The most common over the counter drug is Imodium. Your doctor may prescribe another drug for bacterial diarrhea. Some doctors argue that diarrhea is nature’s way of ridding the system of harmful poisons and therefore should not be

stopped prematurely. You should consult your doctor on whether, and under what conditions you should take diarrhea medicine. Dehydration is the main danger with any diarrhea, as dehydration can occur quite quickly. Under all circumstances fluid replacement (at least equal to the volume being lost) is the most important thing to remember. Urine is the best guide to the adequacy of replacement – if you have small amounts of concentrated urine, you need to drink more. Drink plenty of water if you have diarrhea and stick to a bland diet as you recover.

DIABETICS ON SAFARI

Traveling with Type 1 and Type II diabetes is a common concern with many travelers. In general there is no reason why diabetics can't safely travel on safari! Here are a few travel tips to help ensure you have a successful safari experience.

Be sure to travel with a letter from your doctor stating which supplies you will be carrying (insulin, syringes, etc.) Having a copy of the actual prescription is a good idea too. Pack this, along with your prescription medication, in your carry-on luggage or keep it with your passport.

Bring hard candy or glucose tablets along in your carry-on luggage as well. Always carry some hard candy or glucose tablets with you on game drives, hot air ballooning, walking safaris or any other safari activities.

The meals you enjoy while on safari will probably be a lot like the food you are used to eating at home – salad, soup, chicken or beef or pork, fruit, etc. In fact, many people find it is easier to stay on a

healthy diet while on safari then when they are at home! Eating in the restaurants at the lodges is fairly easy, as there are always lots of items to choose from. When you are out on safari during the day, some days you might bring a picnic lunch with you; be aware there are usually a lot of high-carb items like bread and fruit or fruit juice in the picnic boxes, but there are always other high-protein items too like hard boiled eggs and chicken. Just choose to eat the items that fit best within your diet regimen.

If you are insulin-dependent be sure to bring along more than one bottle of insulin. If you are on a pump, bring plenty of extra pump-supplies along with you including extra reservoirs and infusion sets (you can't buy them in Tanzania). Bring along some syringes as a back-up method to deliver your insulin in case your pump malfunctions. Always pack the insulin and back-up syringes in your carry-on. Bring along an extra battery for your pump. Don't forget your blood sugar testing meter and plenty of testing strips. Bring along an extra battery for your testing meter.

You'll want to protect your insulin from getting too warm in the African sun, but please be careful about the electric "cool boxes" inside some of the safari vehicles; they cannot be trusted for insulin storage because they sometimes drop below freezing. This is also true for some of the coolers and "refrigerators" (run on generator) used at the Private Luxury Camp. We recommend bringing along a Frio cooling packet to protect your insulin from getting too warm during the day. The Frio cooler is small, lightweight, and easy to use because it is activated by water and will keep your insulin cool for several hours. See the link below:

<http://www.lifesolutionsplus.com/frio-insulin-travel-wallet-extra-small-p-422.html>

If you have any other questions or concerns don't hesitate to let your ADS travel consultant know. Once on safari you can just relax without stress because of all your careful pre-planning. Good luck, don't worry and have fun!

WATER

Drink plenty of bottled water while you are on safari and on the long international flight. Dehydration is one of the biggest causes of travel fatigue and jet lag. Most major airlines allow you to carry on your own fluids. You should not drink any other water (tap, etc.) other than bottled water. You should not even brush your teeth with water from the tap. There is unlimited bottled water stocked in your private vehicle for your consumption and there are usually several free bottles of water in your room at each lodge and camp. Additionally, bottled water is available at all the lodges and camps for purchase. Please note that ice cubes and fruits and vegetables at all of our recommended lodges and camps are prepared using purified water and are safe for consumption.

SAFARI SAFETY

Tanzania is a very safe, secure and tourist friendly country. Tanzania has enjoyed a remarkable period of stability and growth since independence back in 1961 and is one of the safest countries in Africa.

Tanzania has more than 132 distinct tribes that have lived in harmony for centuries. Tanzania has a founding philosophy from its first President, Julius Nyerere (a man who Nelson Mandela called his

mentor and inspiration), which emphasized tolerance and the idea of a nation coming before any sense of tribal loyalty. His belief that "we are Tanzanians first and foremost", helped to create and encourage a national character of tribal, racial and religious tolerance. Tanzanians are very proud that they have never had a civil war and as they watch what happens in neighboring countries (Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and now Kenya), they are even more committed to the ideas of tolerance and peace. Nyerere insisted on a national language (Swahili) and insisted that the ruling power never show preference for their own tribal history. Power is shared most equitably in Tanzania and no one tribe is favored or has the majority of power.

There are currently no travel warnings issued on Tanzania by the U.S. State Department. Kenya currently has a travel warning issued and those travelers seeking to add a safari extension to Kenya are advised to read the warning at <http://travel.state.gov/>. Travel Warnings are issued when the State Department recommends that Americans avoid travel to a certain country.

Though the risk of crime is minimal in Tanzania, some common sense precautions are recommended:

- *Leave your expensive jewelry and watches at home*
- *Keep all your valuables (passport, wallet, etc.) in a money belt that you can hide under your clothes*
- *Make copies of all documentation (passport, air itinerary, traveler checks etc.) and keep segregated from the originals*
- *Carry a few dollars for spending money in an accessible pocket rather than accessing your money belt when shopping*
- *The majority of the costs on safari are included in your package see your inclusions and exclusions section*

To be 100% safe, carry your wallet, money, traveler checks, etc.

with you at all times. Do not leave these items in your room while out on game drives, eating at the lodge, etc.

Please be aware of your surroundings at all times. When on your safari, you will be in a new, unfamiliar and exciting place. You will likely be distracted, enthusiastic or tired enough to make mistakes and forget the little hazards around you. For example, watch your step when walking and avoid brushing up against thorny bushes and trees. Additionally, watch your fingers when the vehicle doors are being closed. Please be especially cautious when standing up game viewing in the open top vehicles. It is always dangerous to stand up in the vehicle while driving – please watch out for branches and other potential hazards. And don't assume any of the animals are tame.

WILD ANIMALS

Please be aware that our safaris may take you into close contact with wild animals. Attacks by wild animals are rare, but no safari into the African wilderness can guarantee that this will not occur. Please note that many safari lodges and camps are not fenced and that wildlife does move freely in and around these areas. Always follow the safety instructions from the lodge or camp's staff with regards to moving to and from your tent and while on game activities throughout your safari.

Please be especially cautious and informed when staying at a private camp or the smaller tented lodges. Please make sure that if you have small children with you, to not let them out of your sight or wander alone. There will be a security briefing at most tented lodges upon arrival but do not hesitate to voice your concerns to the staff or your guide. Many of the smaller tented lodges will escort you to and from your tent for dinner. Under no circumstances

should you move to and from your tent/room during the night without being escorted. When staying at a private camp, you must not wander out of the campsite and you must always be escorted to and from your tent.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Your upcoming trip is a significant investment, which involves risks. For this reason, Africa Dream Safaris urges all its clients to purchase a comprehensive travel insurance plan valid for the entire duration of their trip. This insurance should cover you for events such as trip cancellation, delay or interruption, lost or delayed baggage, emergency accident, illness and evacuation, 24-hour medical assistance and traveler's assistance.

For coverage, we recommend the travel insurance product developed specifically for Africa Dream Safaris by Travel Guard Insurance. Our Africa Dream Safaris Travel Protection Plan, developed in conjunction with Travel Guard, offers an affordable, broad package of benefits and services to help you enjoy your trip. You can add this valuable coverage up until your final trip payment. To review the coverage's and pricing, please access the information via the following website, www.travelguard.com/africadreamsafaris. The total premium will be based on total per person trip price, including airfares. You may purchase a policy by either calling Travel Guard at 1-877-862-0394 (refer to product 008698 5/10), or from www.travelguard.com/africadreamsafaris.

Please note that you must return this completed form to Africa Dream Safaris before your final trip payment. A completed Travel Insurance

Acceptance Form is a condition of travel. Please be aware that many insurance plans provide extra coverage when the travel insurance is purchased within *15 days* of making the initial trip payment. Please read the Travel Guard brochure / application, or access information via the website www.travelguard.com/africadreamsafaris for a complete description of the travel insurance benefits and assistance services.

MONEY

The currency in Tanzania is the Tanzania Shilling though the U.S. dollar is the most convenient and readily acceptable currency. Visa and MasterCard are accepted at some lodges and larger shops. Traveler checks are difficult to cash and are not recommended but you may wish to bring for emergency purposes. It is recommended to bring enough US dollars plus an additional cushion amount to cover all additional expenses just to be on the safe side. Please make sure to bring crisp, new vintage bills as many shops, hotels and banks in Tanzania will not accept older bills due to counterfeiting problems.

The majority of the costs on your trip are included in your package. See your inclusions and exclusions section on the last page of your itinerary along with the tipping guidelines below for a gauge to determine the amount of money you will need to bring. You should bring U.S. dollars in both large and small denominations to pay for any additional expenses. Change for large denominations may be difficult. It is recommended that you bring approximately fifty one-dollar bills in a separate accessible envelope. Most of the extras on your safari including drinks (\$1 - \$3 per bottled water, soft drink, beer, wine or spirit where not included), laundry (\$2 - \$3 per item where not included), souvenirs (many under \$5)

and miscellaneous tips (see tipping section below) are individually under \$5. Accordingly, carrying on you an envelope of one-dollar bills comes in handy. Please note that all drinks and laundry are included at Migration Camp, Private Luxury Camp, Kusini Camp, Ngorongoro Crater Lodge, Swala Camp, Tarangire Treetops, Mne-mba Island Lodge and The Palms Zanzibar. Bottled water at meals served from the lodge or camp is considered a bar item and not included at those lodges and camps that do not include all drinks.

TIPPING ON YOUR SAFARI

Tipping is just one way for guests to “give back” to the local people of Tanzania. It’s true that tipping has become a customary and integral part of the safari industry, but it remains an excellent way to recognize one’s appreciation for excellent service. Many guests express a desire to understand ahead of time what amounts and methods are appropriate or customary, which is the reason for the suggested guidelines expressed here. Please see below for recommended tipping guidelines for your safari:

- *Driver-Guide: \$30 to \$60 per vehicle per day*
- *Private Luxury Camping: \$30 to \$60 per vehicle per day*
- *Walking Safaris: \$20 per vehicle per walk*
- *Maasai Boma Visit: \$20 per vehicle*
- *Ranger tip for Mara River: \$20 per group*
- *Meet and Greet Staff tip in Arusha: \$10 to \$20 per group*
- *Porterage/Baggage Handling: \$2 to \$4 per group per lodge*
- *Lodge/Camp Staff Gratuity boxes: See below*

The biggest tip on your safari will most likely be to your driver guide. It is most appropriate to provide the tip to your driver-

guide all in one lump sum amount during the last day of your safari. Large denomination bills (\$50 or \$100) are suitable for your driver-guide tip. Please make sure to bring crisp, new vintage bills as many shops, hotels and banks in Tanzania will not accept older bills due to counterfeiting problems.

The Meet and Greet Staff tip suggested above refers to ADS staff in Arusha, specifically the representative picking you up at the airport and transferring you to your arrival hotel; this person will also give you a “pre-safari briefing” and will ensure all your initial questions are answered. However, you do NOT need to tip the representative that meets you inside customs at the Kilimanjaro Airport to issue your Tanzania Visa.

At each lodge and camp there are gratuity boxes located in the reception area. We recommend using these gratuity boxes in lieu of providing a tip to the people that assist you directly (waiter, bartender, etc). By using the gratuity box, your tip is divided fairly among all the staff members including the ones behind the scenes such as the cooks, room attendants, house keepers, security guards, etc. Providing a tip in each lodge’s or camp’s gratuity box is by no means mandatory but if you feel that you have received excellent service and are inclined to provide a tip, then a \$10 per group per night tip would be sufficient. Please note that all Lemala Camp properties may have information sheets located inside your room which suggest tipping the Lemala staff \$15 per person per day. These tipping guidelines are NOT applicable to guests on a private safari with ADS and are strictly intended for guests on a game package (group safari) basis. At most lodges and camps, someone will bring your luggage in from your vehicle to your room. You may wish to provide a \$2 to \$4 per group tip for this service. It is recommended that you bring one-dollar bills to cover tipping de-

scribed above and various other inexpensive small items (souvenirs, incidentals, etc) as change is not readily available at most properties. Other discretionary tips include tipping your private butler at the Ngorongoro Crater Lodge or Mbalageti Presidential Suite (suggested at \$10 to \$20 per couple per stay).

COMMUNICATIONS

The majority of the lodges and camps in Tanzania have a telephone on the premises that can be used if you need to communicate with someone from home. Additionally, many of the lodges have email access including the Arumeru, Serena, Sopa, Mbalageti, Mbulizi Mawe, Nduku, Bilila, Wildlife and the Ngorongoro Crater Lodge properties. You may also access email at one of the high-speed Internet cafes in the small town of Karatu, which is between the Ngorongoro Crater and Lake Manyara or in the city of Arusha. The Internet cafe in Karatu has four high-speed computers and is conveniently located on the main road (feel free to ask your driver-guide to stop there for a break from driving, a cold drink and a chance to access your yahoo, hotmail, etc. email account). A good idea is to create a free yahoo or hotmail account before you leave so you can keep in touch with family and friends via email while on your safari.

You will be provided with emergency contact information to give to your family and friends on how to contact you in the bush. In case of an emergency, a family member can contact our emergency mobile phone, which is carried by a member in Los Angeles 24 hours a day. We will then immediately relay the message to our Arusha office and they will contact your driver guide by long distance radio. We will also try telephoning the lodge or camp where you will be staying.

Whether you are out game driving in the bush or residing at a lodge, we will be able to contact you in case of an emergency.

Every vehicle is equipped with a long distance radio. These radios are used for communication between other driver-guides for game reports and with our main operational office in Arusha. If there is any problem on safari, your driver-guide can immediately handle the situation as he is trained and has the experience to handle any problem. He also can use his long distance radio to communicate with our operational office in Arusha.

You will also be provided with our in-country emergency contact listing before your departure. This listing includes our office numbers in Arusha as well as several emergency mobile numbers that our senior staff in Arusha carry on them 24 hours a day. If you encounter a problem while in Africa when your driver-guide is not with you (i.e. on Zanzibar or in transit), the quickest solution would be to call one of these local numbers and you will be immediately assisted.

SATELLITE AND CELL PHONES

For those individuals that require the regular use of a phone while in Africa for business or other purposes, you may wish to either rent a satellite phone in the U.S. before departure or purchase a cell phone in Tanzania. An iridium satellite phone can be rented in the U.S. before your departure and you can use anywhere in Africa as long as you have a direct line of sight to the sky. A recommended satellite phone rental company is <http://www.mobalrental.com>. Mobal Rental will mail you the satellite phone and all equipment (charger, batteries, plug adapter, instruction book, etc.) a few days prior to your departure and will include a return envelope for use when you

return. Alternatively, you can purchase a Tanzania cell phone while in Arusha but please make sure you have at least a half-day in Arusha before your safari to purchase. A cell phone (i.e. Nokia or similar) costs about \$60 and you can buy prepaid minutes on 'Celtel' cards ranging from \$5 to \$50. You can then make and receive international calls instantly at very reasonable rates, which will be deducted from your prepaid Celtel card. Celtel is the major cell and mobile carrier in Tanzania and reception is good throughout Tanzania including Arusha, Ngorongoro Crater, Tarangire, Lake Manyara, Zanzibar and the central and southern regions of the Serengeti. There is no reception in the northern and western regions of the Serengeti.

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

A 3 rectangular pin UK plug adapter (pictured below) is required to use electrical appliances including video cameras, digital cameras, battery chargers, etc.. Please note that Tanzania electrical sockets are identical to those found in the United Kingdom. The 3 rectangular pin UK plug adapter is placed onto your appliance plug so that it will fit into the 3 rectangular pin electrical sockets. You may wish to consider bringing along a multiple outlet device (a.k.a. 3-way splitter) to plug into the adapter, allowing charging of more than one battery or device at a time.

The electrical voltage in Tanzania is 220V while the electrical voltage in the United States is 120V. If you have a dual voltage appliance or a universal power supply capable of operating safely with either 120V or 220V, all you will need is the plug adapter mentioned above. Most newer laptops, digital cameras and video cameras come equipped with a dual voltage power supply. Check

to make sure that the input reads 100V – 240V or 120V – 240V.

If you do not have a dual voltage power supply, then in addition to the plug adapter, you will need to purchase a transformer/converter.

For more information, please visit <http://www.kropla.com/electric.htm>

Please be aware that many of the lodges in Tanzania do not operate their electricity generators 24 hours a day. Some lodges turn off their generators after dinner until just before dawn. Please inquire upon arrival at each lodge as policies differ widely. It is always a good idea to be prepared with one or two extra batteries for digital cameras, camcorders and laptops.

Guests can charge their camera or video batteries directly in the vehicle. There are sockets in every vehicle BUT an inverter as described below or something similar is required. This one below called the Enercell 350 watt power inverter can charge batteries and is rated high enough for a lap top. It also has a USB so it can charge iphones, ipods, etc. too. Enercell™ 350W High-Power Inverter with USB: <http://www.radioshack.com/product/index.jsp?productId=3896267>

The following lodges have hairdryers available: Migration Tented Lodge, Kirawira Tented Lodge, Bilila Lodge, Mountain Village Lodge, Arusha Coffee Lodge, Lake Duluti Lodge, Buffalo Springs Lodge, Lake Masek Camp, Serengeti Serena Lodge, Mbuluzi Mawe Tented Lodge, Crater Lodge, Ngorongoro Manor and Ngorongoro Serena Lodge.

The following lodges have wifi: Bilila Lodge, Mountain Village Lodge, Arusha Coffee Lodge, Lake Duluti Lodge, Ngorongoro Manor and Mbuluzi Mawe Tented Lodge. There is also a high

speed internet cafe in the town of Karatu, which is on the road between the Ngorongoro Crater and Lake Manyara.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The below discussion in the following paragraphs assumes that you are somewhat serious about wildlife photography. Of course, many people are not and a simple point and shoot camera will suffice. You may indeed get more out of simply watching the animals than trying to photograph them. Having a camera and feeling that you must use it at every opportunity may seriously interfere with your enjoyment of the experience.

To take good, close up pictures of wild animals, you will need a telephoto lens. Regular fixed lens cameras and even many of the newer ones with smaller zoom lens will prove to be inadequate in many situations. If you have a 35mm single lens reflex camera (SLR), like most serious photographers, you will need a telephoto or zoom lens big enough to capture distant images and fill the frame with images of medium distances. A 300 mm lens at the minimum will accomplish this. Two different lenses should be adequate for your safari: a telephoto lens 300 mm or greater and a smaller lens that is standard on most cameras for landscape and portrait type pictures.

Using a telephoto lens is often the best way to capture the most compelling wildlife photos. If you have an SLR camera but purchasing a telephoto lens is not in your budget, or you think your safari might be the only time you'll ever need one, you might consider renting a lens instead. There are quite a few places offering lenses for rent, but one of our favorites is an online store

called LensPro ToGo. The owner Paul Friedman is very helpful and friendly, and their prices are competitive. LensPro ToGo will FedEx you the lens to you almost anywhere in the United States, and they provide prepaid shipping labels and packaging so you can easily FedEx the lens back to them when you are done.

LensPro ToGo
Phone: 978-263-7277
Website: <http://www.lensprotogo.com/>

Carry twice as much film as you think you will use and extra batteries. If you are using a digital camera, make sure to bring extra batteries, compact flash/memory cards and your charger with the appropriate adapter. It would also be a good idea to bring along a laptop to download your pictures and clear your cards. Film is fairly common at lodges but camera batteries are harder to find. Many photo worthy moments will happen in lower light conditions such as the early morning and late afternoon. Low light conditions combined with the fact you might be using a telephoto lens, makes it a good idea to shoot with higher speed film such as 400 ISO.

The majority of the pictures you see on our website were taken with either a 300 mm telephoto lens or a 28-90 mm lens for landscapes and portraits on the Canon Digital Rebel SLR.

Please be aware that many of the lodges in Tanzania do not operate their electricity generators 24 hours a day. See the 'Electrical Appliances' section for further information. You should not take pictures of people without asking your driver guide for his advice. Your driver guide knows a great deal about the various tribes and their customs and traditions. Please ask him to teach you about these matters.

BINOCULARS

Nikon Action 7 x 35 Ultra Wide View Binoculars are available for each person to use while on safari in Northern Tanzania. Your safari vehicle will be stocked with enough binoculars so that everyone will have their own pair. Binoculars are essential for game viewing. You need them to see small or distant animals clearly and they greatly increase your ability to observe behavior of larger animals. In addition, binoculars enable you to see much better in dim light. Binoculars between 7 and 12-power are suitable for game viewing. The higher the number, the greater the magnification will be. However, unless you have very steady hands, you may have trouble seeing clearly with a 10 or 12-power binoculars. Accordingly, we recommend 7 power binoculars for the average person. The second number on binoculars refers to the diameter of the larger, objective lens. The larger the objective lens, the more light is transmitted and the greater the relative brightness of the image. At the same time, though, the field of view becomes much smaller and the binoculars need to be much bigger. A good compromise is somewhere in the 30's. Putting both numbers together, we recommend a 7x35 or perhaps an 8x32.

For those seeking more powerful binoculars, we recommend that you purchase a pair of binoculars with image stabilization (IS). The more powerful the binoculars, the more vibrations are magnified and even a slight movement of your hands will shake the image. With higher magnification binoculars, the image shake may quickly become intolerable. However, image stabilized binoculars offer a solution to this problem and even powerful 12x binoculars become instantly sharp and steady once the 'IS' is initiated. Our personal favorite 'IS' binoculars are the Canon 10x30 IS Image

Stabilized binocular and especially the Canon 12x36 IS Image Stabilized binocular. These binoculars are powerful enough to spot a leopard at 500 meters while at the same time remaining perfectly steady so that you can enjoy hours of wildlife watching. We find that www.binoculars.com seems to have the best prices on these Canon Image Stabilized binoculars.

TRAVELING WITH CHILDREN

Tanzania is a very child friendly and makes a great safari destination for families. A safari to the African wilderness of Tanzania can be the single most rewarding family vacation experience. The educational opportunities and enriching activities are endless. The guides and lodge staff love children and they will receive lots of extra attention and careful looking after. However, special consideration must be given to safety when traveling with young children. Please note that many safari lodges and camps are not fenced and that wildlife does move freely in and around these areas. Under no circumstances should you let your child wander alone or out of your sight. When traveling with children it is important to follow the safety instructions of your guide and from the lodge and camp staff with regard to moving to and from your tent and while on wildlife game drives. You should not move to and from your tent/room during the night without being escorted. Some specific recommendations to make your family safari more rewarding are noted below:

- *Diversify your safari experience with cultural activities including visiting a Maasai village and a local Tanzanian school (come prepared with school supplies) along with traditional wildlife game*

drives. It's an enlightening experience for children to see how other children live including both the Maasai and rural children.

- *Incorporate educational nature walks guided by traditional Maasai warriors where kids can track footprints and learn about the little things like dung beetles and various medicinal plants.*
- *Plan a diverse itinerary including lodges with swimming pools and try to group lodges in two night bundles where feasible. One or two nights private camping makes a wonderful family experience with roaring campfires, bush dinners and thrilling nocturnal sounds. We do recommend our private luxury camp for young children, as the bathrooms are ensuite.*
- *Zanzibar makes a great post safari extension including some time on the beach and a historical and cultural walking tour of ancient Stone Town.*
- *Have your driver-guide teach a few Swahili words each day.*
- *Please let us know any special dietary requirements in advance. We recommend to pack snacks and other comfort foods to supplement meals and they also come in handy on longer game drives. Some suggestions include granola bars, trail mix, crackers, candy, nuts and fruit rolls. Additionally, you can purchase chips, candy bars and crackers at the various ranger stations and visitors centers throughout the national park system.*
- *Bring small games like hand held video games, walkmans and other items to pass the time in transit.*
- *Dehydration and sunburns can be a problem so make sure they drink lots of water and use ample amounts of sun block*
- *Walkie-talkies (two-way radios) are a good idea to keep in contact between rooms and tents.*
- *Request adjoining rooms and family suites. Mbalageti Safari Camp (ideal for a family of four) offers the best family suite with two bedrooms, two bathrooms, dinning room and a family room with TV.*
- *Its good idea for each child to have their own camera and binocu-*

lars as this makes things more interesting and interactive.

- *Provide each child with an animal checklist (see the ADS animal checklist) to record their sightings including the animal names in Swahili.*
- *Buy field guides and other safari related books (see the ADS reading list)*

WILDLIFE VIEWING RECOMMENDATIONS

This is a discussion of some general wildlife viewing recommendations that we think will provide you with an overall better game viewing experience in terms of quality and quantity of wildlife seen. A good start is your detailed day-by-day safari itinerary, which includes recommendations for duration and areas of game drives based upon the month you will be traveling. Your driver-guide will also provide daily suggestions for game drives and other activities based upon current wildlife concentrations and weather. However, please keep in mind that your private safari is completely flexible and you have the freedom each day to choose your activities and game drives including number, duration and areas of exploration.

The first thing to keep in mind is that the moderate climate in Tanzania creates a comfortable environment for wildlife viewing throughout the entire day. In many parts of Africa, animals are not active during the afternoon because of the excessive heat. This is not the case in Tanzania due to temperate climate and some of the most amazing sightings do happen in the afternoon. However, the overall best time for wildlife viewing is certainly in the early morning from 6.00am to 9.00am when many animals are most active. It is a magical feeling to be game driving during the still dawn as the sun breaks

the horizon while a pride of lion stirs to go hunting or a family of elephants begins their daily migration for water and forage.

We highly recommend early morning game drives each day and especially in the Serengeti National Park and Crater. All lodges and camps can prepare breakfast boxes to go (versus breakfast at the lodge) so you can maximize wildlife viewing during these critical early morning hours. Your driver-guide will certainly recommend early morning game drives each day but feel free to decline if you would rather have a more leisurely morning. Additionally, some of the more adventurous may wish to embark on full day game drives to the most remote areas of the Serengeti which will require a lunch box, as well.

It is also important to be patient with wildlife viewing. Instead of racing off to each animal sighting, it can be more rewarding to find an animal that interests you and stick close for an hour or longer watching different behaviors and learning about the specific animal. Something exciting will just about always happen and ultimately, you will be pleasantly surprised. Most safaris eventually offer quality-viewing opportunities of all the major large and small mammals. Lastly, please communicate with your driver-guide your specific animal interests and what level of game drives fits your specific requirements. Your guide will bend over backwards to make sure that your expectations are met and exceeded.

LANGUAGE

The official language in Tanzania is Swahili but there are hundreds of other local dialects. English is the second official language and the country's commercial language. It is also the main teaching language used for all higher education institutions. You will find that the majority of the people that you come in contact with are fluent in English and have a surprisingly good command of the language. Some useful and fun Swahili words and phrases are as follows:

ENGLISH	SWAHILI
Hello	Jambo
Response to Jambo	Jambo or SiJambo
How are you?	Habari?
Good	Nzuri
How's things? (fun slang)	Mambo?
Good (fun reply to Mambo)	Poa
Have a good trip (safe journey)	Safari Njema
Thank You	Asante Sana
You're Welcome	Karibu Sana
Yes	Ndiyo
No	Hapana
OK	Sawa
No Problem	Hakuna Noma
Good Night	La La Salama

CULTURE

Tanzania's culture is a result of African, European, Arabic and Indian influences. The mainland population is comprised of over 100 tribal groups. The Tanzanians are friendly people (especially to foreigners). Politeness, respect and modesty are highly valued. Handshakes are very important and it is also kind if you learn a few basic Swahili greetings before you arrive. Immodest attire or tattered clothing and open anger are disrespectful to the Tanzanian people.

MAASAI VILLAGES

The "Maasai Village visit" is an optional activity we offer to enhance the cultural aspect of a client's safari. It is fairly easy to incorporate a visit to a Maasai village on a traditional wildlife safari, as there are several villages dotting the NCA landscape on the drive between the Serengeti National Park and the Ngorongoro Crater. However, based on recent feedback from returning clients, the Maasai village seems to be falling short of most visitors' expectations.

Although the villages we take our clients to are authentic, residents are beginning to get used to tourists stopping by. Tourists are often willing to pay money in exchange for Maasai jewelry and other wares. As a result, many of the Maasai residents have started soliciting our guests for such transactions. Although completely harmless and without foul intention, such solicitations can still make many guests feel uncomfortable. In an effort to mitigate our clients' exposure to such behavior, we have strived to take our clients further and further off the beaten path to more remote villages where the residents are less likely to solicit our guests. It was only a matter of

time, however, before residents of the more remote villages started soliciting behaviors as well.

We will continue to offer a visit to a Maasai Village to all interested clients. However it is important that all guests' expectations are in line with reality before making the choice about how to best spend their time on safari. If you choose to incorporate a village visit, you can expect to see real Maasai residents in an authentic setting. You can expect to see how these unique people live, where they sleep, and maybe even see a school in session. However, you should also expect to be approached by at least some residents selling their wares. If this type of solicitation makes you uncomfortable, we recommend skipping the optional visit to a Maasai village. Please don't hesitate to discuss with your driver-guide if you have additional questions or concerns about the option of incorporating a Maasai Village visit into your safari.

GIFTS

School supplies are in great need in Tanzania. You may wish to bring school supplies with you and present to a local school while on your safari. There are schools between the Ngorongoro Crater and Lake Manyara as well as in Arusha. Some items you may wish to consider bringing include pens, crayons, exercise books, composition/spiral books, small back packs, coloring books, colored markers, chalk, chalk board and world maps (inflatable globes are always a big hit). Please note that our guests are increasingly being hassled to pay duty upon arrival at Kilimanjaro on donated school supplies. Accordingly, we recommend distributing school supplies among your regular clothes and luggage to reduce the change of being asked to pay duty. A better

alternative to bringing school supplies to Tanzania would be to bring a little extra cash and we can take you to a school supply shop in Arusha to purchase supplies and then assist you with delivering them.

Some individuals like to bring a small gift for their driver-guide. A good option for this would be a t-shirt or hat with a logo of your local sports team of any other item identifying with your hometown. If bringing a t-shirt, a large size is usually appropriate.

You will find that your driver guide quickly becomes your best friend in the bush and it is very natural to want to continue to communicate with him after your safari ends. As a safari outfitter, we have guidelines for maintaining communication so that the professionalism of our company remains intact. All communication should be sent to our main office in the US with the driver guide's name clearly in the "subject". We will forward all emails on your behalf and the driver guides will communicate back to you in the same way. This is very similar to the policies of other US companies making sure that employees maintain appropriate relationships with customers. While it might be appealing to write to a driver guide's private email, it is not permitted for a driver guide to provide their personal information and we want to be sure none of our staff are put in a compromising position. A driver guide will not ask for your private email and we hope that our clients will not ask the driver guide for this information either. Tanzanians are very friendly people and if asked for an email, they are often uncomfortable to say no, despite the company policy.

We also will assist in shipping small gifts to your driver guide, if you are inclined to want to send them something after your return. Our gift policy allows for staff to accept gifts of not more than \$50 in total and including items such as books, candy, clothing.

Our staff are not permitted to accept more expensive gifts such as electronics. If there is something that you want to send, please don't hesitate to contact the ADS office and we will be happy to talk with you about it.

SHOPPING

There are plenty of opportunities for shopping during the course of your safari. Some popular souvenir items in Tanzania include wooden animal carvings, postcards, African masks and picture frames, hand woven baskets, dining sets with table-clothes, local paintings, jewelry, safari books, and Maasai arts and crafts (bead-work, shields, spears, jewelry, etc.). Tsavorite and Tanzanite are two popular gemstones in East Africa. Tanzanite, a bluish gemstone, is mined only in Tanzania (next to Kilimanjaro Airport).

Most lodges and camps have gift shops and some accept credit card. There are also a myriad of shops and markets in and around Arusha. One shop that we recommend is called 'Cultural Heritage'. You can negotiate at most shops and roadside stands except Cultural Heritage and many lodge gift shops, which have fixed prices. Cultural Heritage accepts credit cards and they can reliably ship large items.

Some of the best deals and selections can actually be found at the airports including Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO). There are several shops at JRO that you can peruse while waiting for your flight. Zanzibar also has great shopping opportunities and some good bargains. For unique items like tribal jewelry, small authentic carvings, etc., we recommend to purchase at one of the Maasai Villages you can

visit in the Southern Serengeti / Ngorongoro Conservation Area or at the Esalali Women's Project in Karatu (between Lake Manyara and the Crater). Both places help the local economy including the Maasai and you can also help support the Women's Cooperative.

Currently, the cheapest and widest selection of traditional souvenir items such as carvings, masks, baskets, jewelry, arts and crafts, etc. can be found at the Kilima Tembo Shop, which is near the town of Karatu on the road between the Ngorongoro Crater and Lake Manyara. We would typically recommend shopping here instead of the more expensive shops found in Arusha. Please make sure your guide negotiates the prices at Kilima Tembo on your behalf as he will be able to obtain substantial discounts.

BUSH BATHROOMS

There are two options for bathrooms while on game drives. Since you will be conducting a private safari with plenty of opportunities where there will be no other vehicles in sight, the easiest, safest and most private spot is directly behind the vehicle. At any time, your driver-guide can find a safe and private area and you may simply just exit the vehicle and walk to the rear. There are large double spare tires at the back of each vehicle blocking the view from anyone else within the vehicle. Alternatively, you may also use a bush bathroom away from the vehicle that your guide checks first and deems safe. Every vehicle does come equipped with a roll of toilet paper but it's a good idea to pack a few miniature travel type rolls. Please act in an eco-friendly manner and bring small bags with you to carry out any tissue paper. There are small scented bags you may purchase at most travel stores in the U.S.

The second option would be to plan each day with your driver-guide to make sure that you pass by a bathroom every hour or when needed. This can easily be accommodated as there are ranger stations, lodges, camps, museums, visitor centers, etc. spaced throughout the various areas of your safari and each has public bathroom facilities. You might want to bring a zip lock bag with a bar of soap as some places are sometimes missing soap.

Our driver-guides are extremely sympathetic to the bathroom dilemma and will bend over backwards to make sure you are completely comfortable and accommodated with your bathroom needs. Most folks are a bit shy at first but then quickly adapt and become comfortable with bush bathrooms. Others are more inclined towards proper facilities. Regardless of your personal preferences, please rest assured that your requirements will be completely accommodated by our courteous and professional guides.

VEHICLES

Africa Dream Safaris maintains a fleet of specially outfitted 4-wheel drive Stretched Land Cruisers providing for maximum flexibility, adventure, and wildlife viewing. Our spacious Stretched Land Cruisers are the most ideal safari vehicle and come equipped with a total of nine seats with seven of those seats in the back under the canvas top. All vehicles have a canvas convertible top, which can be rolled completely back so that you may view scenery and wildlife, unhindered by obstructions, while standing from any of the seats.

We do not employ 'pop up top' vehicles or vehicles with 'roof hatches'. All vehicles have a canvas top, which can be rolled back

completely so that you may game view standing from any of the seats. There is nothing like the feeling of freedom you get when exploring the secluded wilderness, surrounded by expansive views of vast horizons, underneath the unobstructed dome of a brilliant blue sky.

We strongly believe that a convertible canvas top provides the best possible game viewing experience and is much more enjoyable than game viewing in a vehicle with a 'pop up top'. Pop up tops tend to inhibit your freedom and obstruct your views, especially with regards to some of the more spectacular sightings whether it be a leopard in a tree or a pride of lions resting on top of a kopje. Roof hatches also impede your comfort when game viewing as the narrow hatch restricts your movement. In contrast to these less favorable options, our canvas convertible tops allow you to view wildlife with the fewest imposed constraints and in the most open and raw format possible. Some additional reasons why we do NOT employ 'pop up tops' are noted below:

1. Pop up tops cannot be safely kept up while traveling. They have a tendency to fall down when traveling and can cause injury.
2. Pop up tops obstruct viewing in the vehicle because it narrows the opening through which people can stand up and view something interesting.
3. Pop up tops do not allow for padding to be added around the opening, making it more difficult for photography.

Please note that our convertible canvas tops do have one significant disadvantage in that you will be completely exposed when game viewing. Accordingly, it is critical that you wear a hat and apply sun block frequently to all exposed areas. You may roll back the canvas top half way in order to provide shade for the first set of seats and sun for the back seats. Please do not hesitate to ask your

driver guide to roll the top back up partially if you require less sun.

Every vehicle is equipped with a long distance radio. These radios are used for communication between your vehicle and other driver-guides for game reports, as well as communication with our main operational office in Arusha. If there is any problem on safari, your driver-guide can immediately handle the situation as he is trained and has the expertise. He also can use his long distance radio to communicate with our operational office in Arusha or any ranger station for additional support.

Flat tires are fairly common when game driving the rough tracks in the national parks. Tire changes are handled quickly by your driver-guide with little inconvenience. Vehicle break-downs are extremely rare as our vehicles are rigorously maintained. However, in the unusual event of a vehicle breakdown, a replacement vehicle would be immediately sent and would likely arrive within 2 - 4 hours as support vehicles are always on stand by. With our excellent contingency planning and communication systems you'll never have to worry about being stranded (or even significantly inconvenienced) while on safari.

ITINERARY CHANGES AND FLIGHT DELAYS

If a client initiates a last minute change to the safari itinerary including accommodations, flights, services, etc., the client is responsible for any additional expenses occurring as a result of that change; the same is true for changes occurring as the result of a flight delay or airline schedule change. It is usually impossible for Africa Dream Safaris (ADS) to get refunds for accommodations, flights and other services

that have already been arranged and paid for, and then canceled under 30 days prior notice. These additional expenses are the responsibility of the client to pay for directly in Tanzania. We will, of course, endeavor our level best to minimize the costs of any changes.

Should you fail to join a tour, or join it after departure, or leave it prior to its completion, no tour fare refund will be made. Airfare may also be non refundable. There will be no refunds from ADS for any unused portions of the tour. The above policy applies to all travel arrangements made via ADS.

Furthermore, ADS is not responsible for any airline changes or costs incurred as a result of those changes, including airline schedules, fares, cancellations, over-bookings or damage to or loss of baggage and property. Any and all claims for any loss or injury suffered on any airline must be made directly with the airline involved. Air schedule changes may necessitate additional nights being added to your tour. Again, these schedule changes are beyond the control of ADS and any additional costs resulting from such changes are the responsibility of the client. ADS shall not be held liable for any delays or additional costs incurred as a result of airlines not running to schedule.

SAFARI ANNOYANCES

INSECTS

The fear of bugs and insects is generally much greater than the reality of what you will encounter. However, tolerances differ widely from individual to individual. The temperate climate and high

elevation of Tanzania's Northern Parks mean that insect concentrations are significantly less than other areas of Africa. Please be aware though that insects can be present in significant numbers depending upon your location and current weather patterns. This could pose to be an annoyance for some individuals.

Mosquitoes are present but they are generally not active during the day. The African Mosquito is most active from dusk to dawn. To combat mosquitoes in the evenings, we recommend bringing along something with at least 10% DEET; whether you use a lotion or spray is simply a personal preference, but some find that lotions are easier to pack. There are any number of products on the market that all work great. One particular lotion called "Sawyer Premium Controlled Release Insect Repellent Lotion" seems to work very well and is available online at Amazon.com.

You might also consider some of these disposable towelettes that are now on the market - they seem to be really convenient to pack and use. Past clients have had good luck with them.

<http://www.offprotects.com/insect-bites/>

<http://www.scs-mall.com/insect-repellents/prodinfo.asp?number=T7085>

A further option to consider is to spray your clothes (a couple nights before packing them) with a product called "Repel Permanent Clothing and Gear Insect Repellent." It is probably not necessary to do this, but then again we've had very few insect bites on safari, so we must be doing something right!

Flies can be more of a nuisance than mosquitoes, especially when

you're near the wildebeest migration. Flies are attracted to animals and the droppings of herd animals, so you don't get one without the other. You will undoubtedly know when you have found the larger migratory wildebeest herds (100,000 plus!)

Tsetse flies are worse than the average fly and they are mainly found in the woodlands, and their bite does hurt. There is no insect repellent that is effective against the tsetse fly. The best protection is to wear long sleeves, pants and socks and to roll the windows up when you are driving through a tsetse fly infested area. Additionally, dark blue and black colors attract tsetse flies and it is recommended not to wear these colors when game driving in tsetse areas. Tsetse flies require the thick bush and woodlands to breed and survive. The open plains of the Southern and Eastern Serengeti as well as the Ngorongoro Crater and the southerly parts of the Central Serengeti are tsetse free. The highest concentrations of tsetse flies are found in Tarangire National Park and the Western Serengeti.

Please keep in mind that if it weren't for the tsetse fly, many of the parks and reserves in Tanzania would simply not exist in their current capacity. The tsetse fly is commonly referred to as the 'greatest conservationist in Africa!' The tsetse fly transmits a blood parasite that causes the 'sleeping sickness' in cattle but is very rarely transmitted to humans in East Africa. Wild animals are immune to this disease. The tsetse fly has inadvertently forced ranchers and their cattle out of areas like the Serengeti and Tarangire leaving these important refuges ecologically intact for use by their native and wild inhabitants.

It is hard to avoid being bitten by Tsetse fly on any safari but keep in mind that they do not spread diseases like mosquitoes. Most people have no adverse reactions but some individuals have

an allergic reaction and the area around the bite mark swells and becomes itchy and irritated. Benadryl makes a product called the 'Benadryl Itch Relief Stick'. This handy little stick can relieve the itch of bites and is highly recommended.

SNAKES

Snakes are common throughout Africa but they are seldom encountered on safaris. There are a few python sightings reported in the trees that line Silale Swamp in Tarangire but that is the normal extent of snake sightings. The vast majority of tourists never see a snake while on safari.

BUMPY ROADS

Please be aware that game driving can be very bumpy and may pose a problem for some individuals including those with back problems. Please inform us well in advance if you have any conditions that may be adversely affected by bumpy roads and we will plan accordingly. The most comfortable seat is the passenger seat at the front of the vehicle next to the driver-guide. This seat offers the smoothest ride and is highly recommended (especially on longer game drives) for those individuals experiencing discomfort due to poor road conditions.

The roads to and from Arusha/Kilimajaro leading up to Tarangire, Lake Manyara and the Ngorongoro Gate were completed in 2004 and are completely paved. However, the tracks in the national parks and conservations areas are not paved. Many game drives (especially in the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Conservation Area) will be entirely

off road/cross country. Game driving off road and on poor tracks, which are found in most areas, can be aggravating and exhausting for some individuals. This is compounded on longer game drives where you may be on rough roads for several hours at a time.

LODGE PICNIC BOXES

One of the key privileges you gain by choosing a private safari is flexibility in how you spend your time. Every day brings choices and one of the most important decisions you can make is whether to have breakfast and lunch at the lodge or rather a picnic box in the bush.

Early morning game drives at the first light of dawn are pure magic, and we strongly encourage you to partake in them! And there will likely be times you want to stay out on safari all day, either for an adventure game drive to a remote area of the park or to simply maximize each golden moment you are in "the bush". But even the most die-hard safari enthusiast still needs to eat! One way to get it all in without starving is to bring along a picnic *to go*. A picnic allows you to maximize your time wildlife viewing rather than delay your departure from the lodge or be forced to return to the lodge for a meal.

"Picnic boxes" (both breakfast and lunch boxes) are prepared on a daily basis by the kitchens at each respective lodge or camp on your itinerary. A typical breakfast box consists of a hard boiled egg, bacon or sausage, bread or pastries, juice and a banana or apple. A typical lunch box consists of a piece of chicken, bread, hard boiled egg, banana or apple, muffin, juice and bottle of water. These picnic boxes

can be picked up from the kitchen before sunrise by your driver-guide.

Feedback from our returning clients suggests the quality of these picnic boxes is falling short of client expectations. Recent complaints include a lack of variety in the food choices, redundancy and over-cooked meats. Although we have committed substantial resources to lobby the various lodges and camps to improve the quality of their picnics, in the end we have little control over what food they prepare for the to-go boxes on a daily basis. We believe our efforts have been successful in working with some of smaller proprietors, though the larger lodges have proved more difficult to influence.

Although you can always choose a hot breakfast or hot lunch at the lodge, we still feel picnics are critical for maximizing the quality and quantity of your wildlife viewing experiences. Let's face it – a hot meal at the lodge will almost certainly result in a better culinary experience, but you can miss a lot with regards to wildlife viewing! So please keep that in mind when choosing breakfast or lunch (or both) at the lodge versus a picnic box to go.

With that being said, there are some days when it will be easier than others to return to the lodge for a hot meal should you desire to do so, and there is no reason you can't vary your decisions from day to day. Discuss the plan for each day's activities with your driver guide the night before so he can make appropriate arrangements. Your guide will certainly have suggestions, but the final decision about how to spend your time is ultimately up to you!

For those individuals who anticipate utilizing more picnic boxes, you may wish to consider bringing snacks (nutritional bars, turkey or beef jerky, dried fruit, granola, nuts, trail mix, etc.) to supplement your picnic boxes.

GAME DRIVES AND TRANSIT TIME

Please be aware that the majority of time on safari is spent in a vehicle game driving and wildlife viewing. Please advise us well in advance of any potential problems with long duration game drives and we will plan your itinerary accordingly and alert your driver of the situation in order to minimize any negative impact. Our private safaris are completely flexible and if need be we can shorten game drives and transit times, add additional flights and eliminate areas of rough terrain from your itinerary.

DUST

Even in the green season, dusty conditions can be aggravating while out on game drives. The Serengeti Plains are especially prone to dusty conditions due to the shallow soil base and lack of long grass roots. During the dry season, dusty conditions are significantly worse. Please be prepared for dusty conditions and let us know in advance if you're especially sensitive to dust and we will adjust your itinerary accordingly to help minimize any negative impacts. All guests sensitive to dust are advised to bring bandanas.

Photography and video equipment may be especially prone to dusty conditions. It is a good idea to bring a bag that can be easily opened and completely sealed so you may store your equipment when not immediately needed. Bring a couple photo soft cloths to wipe dust from the lenses. Contact lens wearers may be especially sensitive. Please plan accordingly and bring an ample supply of lens lubricant.

COMPLIMENTARY LAUNDRY & BEVERAGE LISTING

	<i>Laundry</i>	<i>Bottled Water</i>	<i>Soft Drinks</i>	<i>Local Beer*</i>	<i>House Wine*</i>	<i>House Spirits*</i>
Your Safari Vehicle		X	X			
Arumeru River Lodge						
Arusha Coffee Lodge						
Arusha Hotel						
Bilila Lodge						
Bougainvillea Lodge						
Buffalo Luxury Camp		X	X			
Gibbs Farm Lodge						
Kikoti Tented Lodge						
Kirawira Tented Lodge						
Kusini Tented Lodge	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lake Duluti Lodge	X	X	X	X	X	
Lake Manyara Tree Lodge	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lake Masek Tented Lodge		X	X	X	X	
Lemala Camps	X	X	X	X	X	X
Maramboi Tented Camp						
Mbalageti Tented Lodge						
Mbuzi Mawe Tented Lodge						
Migration Tented Lodge	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mountain Village Lodge						

Complimentary (Inclusive) = X

	<i>Laundry</i>	<i>Bottled Water</i>	<i>Soft Drinks</i>	<i>Local Beer*</i>	<i>House Wine*</i>	<i>House Spirits*</i>
Mount Meru Lodge						
Ndutu Lodge						
Ngorongoro Crater Lodge	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ngorongoro Farm House						
Ngorongoro Manor Lodge	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ngorongoro Naurei Camp		X				
Plantation Lodge						
Private Classic Camping						
Private Luxury Camping	X	X	X	X	X	X
Serena Lodges						
Serengeti BushTops Lodge	X	X	X	X	X	X
Serengeti Soroi Lodge	X	3/day	3/day			
Seronera Sametu Camp (2011)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Seronera Sametu Camp (2012)		X	X			
Sopa Lodges						
Swala Tented Lodge	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tarangire River Camp						
Tarangire TreeTops Lodge	X	X	X	X	X	X
Wildlife Lodges						

* Note that some premium brand drinks may incur additional charges

* Champagne is charged directly at all properties

SUN BURN

Tanzania resides just south of the equator. The strong equatorial sun combined with the fact that you are at elevation can lead to sunburn and sun poisoning quickly. The vehicles have a convertible canvas top, which means that you will be completely exposed when game viewing. You may of course quickly close the canvas top as needed. The canvas top may also be rolled back half way in order to provide shade for the first set of seats and sun for the back seats. It is important that you wear a hat and apply sun block frequently to all exposed areas.

VISITOR CONCENTRATIONS

The secret is out with Northern Tanzania and most of the general public is now aware that this area offers the very finest wildlife viewing in all of Africa. Tourists from all over the world are flocking to the famous northern safari circuit to enjoy its beautiful scenery and abundant wildlife. Please note that high vehicle concentrations in many high use areas including the Central Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater may pose an inconvenience. To combat this potential problem, we highly recommend early morning game drives and adventure game drives to some of the more remote areas of the Serengeti, which can be even more rewarding. Please keep in mind that by departing at 6.00am each morning, you will have most areas all to yourself until about 10.00am when the package tours begin. Our expert guides know many secret spots and strategies to get you off the beaten path and avoid vehicle concentrations. The Serengeti, in particular, is a massive park and there are plenty of areas where you will likely encounter very few other

vehicles. Make sure to communicate to your driver-guide your interest in adventure and exploring the more remote areas.

BUSH FIRES

Fire plays a number of important roles in any savannah ecosystem. In the Serengeti ecosystem, fire enhances the quality and productivity of the grasslands by removing mature, coarser grasses to make room for more palatable grasses that the Serengeti's great herds of grazers prefer. However, out of control fires that burn too hot can be damaging to critical and sensitive habitats. Accordingly, the Serengeti park authorities have implemented a comprehensive fire management plan that balances these opposing forces by initiating controlled burning at the beginning of the dry season to reduce the risk of larger wildlife fires at the end of the dry season. Throughout the dry season (June to October), smoke filled air along with dust may pose an annoyance or health risk for guests and especially those with asthma. We advise all guests travelling in the dry season to bring bandanas.

FLIGHTS TO THE SERENGETI

Most flights within East Africa including the flight from Arusha to the Serengeti have a baggage restriction of 33 pounds per person. Excess luggage is charged at \$2 per pound if it can be accommodated on the flight. Please carry-on all valuables and do NOT check in any luggage containing items such as camera equipment, iPods, laptops, etc. to avoid theft. Please note that the flight to the Seren-

geti may make multiple stops before arriving at your destination airstrip depending upon the destinations of the other passengers. This can be an inconvenience. The pilot will know each guest's destination airstrip and he or she will make sure you disembark at the correct airstrip. The flights can be quite loud and you may wish to bring disposable ear plugs.

You will be briefed upon arrival as to the exact pick up time for your transfer to the Arusha Airstrip for your internal flight to the Serengeti. Pick up time from your hotel in Arusha will vary based upon the location of your hotel, current traffic conditions and flight departure time (usually 8.00am but it can vary by as much as 60-minutes). It is critical that you be ready and on time for this airport transfer as the morning Serengeti flights board and depart promptly.

READING LIST

FIELD GUIDES

1. East African Wildlife (Bradt Travel Guide) by Philip Briggs

The 'East African Wildlife' is the most practical and useful field guide available on the flora and fauna of East Africa. It is a must for every wildlife enthusiast embarking on a safari to Tanzania! This new visitor's guide provides a colorful overview of the region's variety of large mammals together with an insight into their habits and habitats. The book also provides an excellent introduction to the region's less heralded variety of 'small stuff' – including 1,500 bird species and butterflies. Accessible and beautifully illustrated, the guide will appeal both to the first-time visitor and to the serious naturalist seeking a

compact volume to carry around. Our favorite aspect of this field guide is the fact that all photos were taken in East Africa and 'stock' photos or photos from other regions in Africa were not used.

2. Wildlife of East Africa by Martin B. Withers and David Hosiking

This handy little field guide is the perfect match for those mainly interested in animal identification and short descriptions on each species behavior and ecology. This is a compact and concise field guide with beautiful color photographs and descriptions identifying each animal. The 'Wildlife of East Africa' includes mammals, birds, plants and reptiles and focuses on East Africa making it extremely useful while out on safari in Tanzania, Kenya or Uganda. The color pictures and easy to read descriptions are extremely helpful in terms of identifying similar appearing and common animal species. For example, there are several species of regularly encountered antelopes that look similar to each other at first glance including the Grant's Gazelle, Thomson's Gazelle, Steenbok, Oribi, Reedbuck, Klipspringer, Duiker and Dik-Dik. Your safari guide will certainly be impressed as you call out each species with the use of this handy little field guide by your side.

3. The Safari Companion by Richard D. Estes

The 'Safari Companion' is the most comprehensive field guide on African mammals. A detailed analysis is provided on each mammal (excludes birds, reptiles and plants) that you will encounter on your safari. Black and white sketches and descriptions are provided for each animal as well as information on each particular animal's social / mating system, reproduction, communication and ecology. There is also a superb and fascinating discussion on each animal's behavior. A downside with this guide is the poor black and white sketches with

regards to identifying common animals species. Another minor problem with the 'Safari Companion' is that it covers all of Africa and can be a bit complicated for first time visitor to East Africa.

RESEARCH BOOKS AND FIELD STUDY'S

1. Serengeti: Dynamics of an Ecosystem by A.R.E. Sinclair and M. Nortons-Griffiths
2. Serengeti II: Dynamics, Management and Conservation of an Ecosystem

The 'Serengeti' and 'Serengeti II' combine to form the authoritative literature on the Serengeti Ecosystem, which is the most famous, abundant and diverse ecosystem in all of Africa. Both are a product of over 40 years of research and a collaboration of dozens of field biologists and researchers who have spent their lives studying and documenting just about everything (from dung beetles to lions) that inhabits the Serengeti. The books are a collection of short essays including such topics as the wildebeest, zebra and gazelle migration, the Serengeti environment, plants and herbivory, herbivores and predation, predator demography and behavior and conservation and management. The 'Serengeti' and 'Serengeti II' are best purchased together and are highly recommended.

3. The Serengeti Lion by George B. Schaller

This legendary and groundbreaking book details George Schaller's observations and conclusions from his long-term study of the Serengeti lions from 1966 to 1969. Schaller's study was groundbreaking in that he was able to explain many aspects of lion society. However, the most

important aspect of his study was that his findings proved that predators (mainly lion, hyena, leopard, cheetah and wild dog) did not limit the population sizes of their prey species. This may seem a minor conclusion but keep in mind that for decades park game wardens used to shoot predators, particularly wild dogs, as it was believed that they would decimate prey populations (wildebeest, zebra, gazelles, etc.) if not eradicated. We now know, as Schaller clearly showed in his study, that it is not necessary to regulate carnivores to ensure large populations of herbivores. Most herbivore populations are indeed limited by dry season forage and not carnivores.

The Serengeti lions that inhabit the area around Seronera have been continuously studied since 1966 when Schaller began his work. Though there have been significant changes to the Serengeti since the 1960's (most notably the increase in wildebeest and the disappearance of the disease Rinderpest), the research and conclusions remain valid and the book is still the authoritative literature on the Serengeti lion. You will find references to Schaller's work in just about every subsequent research study in the Serengeti. The pride structure, behavior and hunting tactics and much more are described in detail. Additionally, a few of the Serengeti's other predators are described in lesser detail including the Leopard, Cheetah, Hyena and the now locally extinct Wild Dog. 'The Serengeti Lion' is a must read for every lion fanatic.

4. Cheetahs of the Serengeti Plains by T.M. Caro

T.M. Caro documents nine years of research (1980 – 1989) in this book about the cheetahs that inhabit the Serengeti National Park. This Serengeti cheetah is notably different then the cheetahs that inhabit other parts of Africa in that the majority of the cheetahs found in the Serengeti are migratory. Most of the Serengeti cheetahs

follow the Thomson's gazelle migration from the western and central woodlands in the dry season to the eastern and southern plains during the green season. This book describes in detail cheetah behavior, reproduction, range, hunting tactics and conservation. This is a superb book and reading it will greatly enhance your enjoyment of cheetah viewing.

5. The Spotted Hyena – A Study of Predation and Social Behavior by Hans Kruuk

Hans Kruuk lived in the Serengeti between 1964 and 1968 and spent 4- years studying spotted hyenas in the Serengeti National Park as well as the nearby Ngorongoro Crater. This was the first study ever conducted on hyenas and remains the most comprehensive and authoritative literature on hyenas. This is a wonderful book and the discussions about hunting behavior, clan society and mating rituals are captivating. Spotted hyenas are fascinating animals and completely misunderstood. Hans Kruuk's well-written book offers a glimpse into the hyena's mysterious life and his findings are enlightening.

Hyenas are capable hunters and in fact this study showed that they killed 70% of their food in the Serengeti and an astonishing 96% of their food in the Ngorongoro Crater. Hyenas are the most successful predator in the Serengeti and truly fascinating to watch if you know their behavior. They live in complex societies like lions called clans but the females are at the top and are actually larger than males and possess external genitalia. Most people tend to think of them as scavengers. Though they are well adapted to scavenging, they are more likely to kill their own food (even adult zebras) and lions actually scavenge more from hyenas than vice versa.

SAFARI MEMOIRS AND JOURNALS

1. My Serengeti Years – Memoirs of an African Game Warden by Myles Turner

'My Serengeti Years' is arguable the best book ever written about the Serengeti. This is wonderful first hand account of the Serengeti from the unique perspective of an ex big game hunter turned stern conservationist. Myles account of his 16 year tenure as chief game warden of the Serengeti is packed full of fascinating wildlife stories including close encounters with infuriated rhinos, fearless honey badgers and deadly poachers. It's hard to resist the pull of the Serengeti once you've finished 'My Serengeti Years' and you will undoubtedly be planning your Serengeti safari or returning for another one shortly thereafter.

Myles Turner was chief game warden of the Serengeti National Park from 1956 to 1972. Myles Turner took on his post just after the inception of the park. These early years were among the darkest and most uncertain days in the Serengeti's history. Poaching was widespread, unchecked and threatened the survival of the entire ecosystem. Due to Myles Turner's untiring and dedicated conservation and anti-poaching efforts, the great herds of Africa's finest wildlife sanctuary still roam free today. Norman Myers eloquently writes, 'Myles Turner epitomized Serengeti. Others visited it, he was part of it; others observed it, he knew it; others analyzed it, he comprehended it; others enjoyed it, he loved it.'

2. Serengeti Home by Kay Turner

'Serengeti Home' is another must read before, during or after your safari and is a great companion book to Myles Turner's 'My

Serengeti Years'. Kay Turner lived in the Serengeti with her husband, Myles Turner, who was chief game warden for 16 years. Kay Turner's book details her adventures including raising her family in the Serengeti (chapter is charming titled 'Bush Babies'), humorous stories about her wild pets including 'Chuta' the bat-eared fox, 'Gussie' the grants gazelle and 'Prince and 'Pixie' the serval cats and wild adventures both living and going on safari in the Serengeti. The chapter about camping in the Serengeti will undoubtedly have you excited for your private camp.

One eloquent passage reads 'After a long day out in the sun amongst the game, we would return to camp...then, stretching our feet towards the campfire with drinks in hand, we enjoyed seeing the sun sink slowly towards the horizon and the stars appear in the thousands, until it seemed there was no space in the sky for more. The sky at night felt close on those treeless plains, and it glowed with a soft and enveloping radiance that inspired a feeling of harmony with the universe. We were alone in that immense open country, and it seemed the stars displayed their brilliance solely for us. After an early supper, we would be lulled to sleep by the rhythmic sound of the wildebeest bleating, interspersed by the off-key moan of a hyena or the plaintive cry of a stone curlew'.

3. Into Africa by Craig Packer

Craig Packer, professor in the Department of Ecology at the University of Minnesota and well-known field biologist, has been conducting research in Tanzania since 1972. He began his work studying chimpanzees and baboons at Gombe National Park with Jane Goodall. Later he became director of the Serengeti Lion Project and, following in the footsteps of George Schaller, continued and expanded the lion research in the Serengeti National Park.

In this outstanding book, Craig Packer provides a day-by-day account of his latest 52-day trip to Tanzania where he orients the new Serengeti lion researchers for their turn at cracking the many mysteries of lion behavior. Packer grapples with several unanswered questions on lion behavior and draws fascinating conclusions on the most interesting aspects of the lion pride society. The biggest mystery is why do lions form groups (prides) while all other cat species are solitary. The traditional belief was that lions came together for cooperative hunting. It was thought that two or more lions would surely have more to eat if they hunted together and thus they formed prides. Craig Packer's lion study disproved this theory as he showed that solitary lions feed just as well as lions in a pride by measuring food intake of hundreds of lions over a 2-year study period. Furthermore, Packer deduces the actual cause of sociality among lions and it may surprise you. Read pages 90-100 to solve the mystery!

4. Serengeti Shall Not Die by Bernhard and Michael Grzimek (pronounced Jimkek)

Bernhard and Michael Grzimek's (father and son) conducted a pioneering field survey of the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Conservation Area from 1957 to 1959. This was the first scientific study conducted in the Serengeti and the film they created entitled 'Serengeti Shall Not Die' created awareness for one of the world's most important wildlife areas and spurred a much needed conservation movement to help preserve the Serengeti. Sadly, Michael Grzimek was killed when his plane collided with a vulture above the Salei plains (between the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater) on October 1, 1959 towards the end of the filming. There is a stone marker and plaque paying tribute to Michael Grzimek on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater.

5. The Tree Where Man Was Born by Peter Matthiessen

‘The Tree Where Man Was Born’ is a superbly written journal by Peter Matthiessen describing his safari through East Africa including the Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro Conservation Area and Lake Manyara. Matthiessen presents enlightening discussions about the history of East Africa as well as detailing his adventures on safari with George Schaller, Myles Turner and Iain Douglas-Hamilton. Especially interesting are his discussions and interactions with two fascinating cultures in Tanzania including the Maasai pastoralists and the Hadza hunter-gatherers.

6. Among the Elephants by Iain and Oria Douglas-Hamilton

‘Among the Elephants’ details the first long-term study of elephants in the wild. The study was conducted in Lake Manyara National Park, which contains the highest concentration of elephants in Africa. Iain and Oria Douglas-Hamilton spent several years living in Lake Manyara and gradually became accepted by many of Manyara’s estimated 600 elephants. Elephant behavior and biology are discussed in detail along with Iain and Oria’s adventures in Manyara as they become intertwined in the trials and tribulations of various resident elephant families. This pioneering field study is a must read for any elephant enthusiast and will greatly increase your enjoyment when elephant watching in Lake Manyara National Park.

HISTORY

1. The Penguin Atlas of African History by Colin McEvedy

‘The Penguin Atlas of African History’ provides an easy to read

summary of Africa’s fascinating history from the first appearance of Man to the development of modern African society. The book begins with the super-continent Pangaea some 175 million years ago and describes the formation of the African continent and its unique geological features including the Rift Valley. The book then discusses the development of hominids and the great apes on either side of the rift valley including the archaeological finds at Olduvai Gorge. The development of modern African history is also wonderfully detailed in a simple and clear format (not an easy achievement) including the exploration of Africa and the various kingdoms and empires. Finally, European colonialism of Africa is discussed as well as the subsequent independence for the various countries of Africa. With over fifty illustrative maps, this is a great little handbook and a quick and enlightening read.

OTHER BOOKS

1. Lions Share – The Story of a Serengeti Pride by Jeanette Handby

‘Lions Share’ is a charming book written from the unique perspective of the members of a Serengeti lion pride. Jeanette Handy, a field biologist, worked for the Serengeti Lion Project with her husband David Bygott in the 1970s. They spent several years following and studying lions in the Serengeti National Park. One particular pride called the Sametu lion pride captivated their interest and this book is the story of the Sametu pride including how it came into existence and the struggles the individual lions endured protecting their territory and raising cubs. This is a wonderful book and an ADS favorite.

The Sametu Lion Pride (named after the Sametu Kopjes in the eastern Serengeti) is a powerful plains pride that somehow man-

ages to squeeze out an existing on the harsh Serengeti Plains. Life is great in the green season when the wildebeest migration is in 'town' but during the dry season it is daily struggle and the pride is forced to subsist on sparse plains game including warthog, gazelle and the occasional topi. Though the 'Lions Share' was written in the 1970s, the Sametu pride is still intact today and the great, great granddaughters of the lions written about in the book still rule the Sametu area. As of fall 2005, the Sametu pride consisted of six adult females, twelve cubs of various ages and three resident males. If you do read this book, have your driver-guide take you to the Sametu Kopjes (45-minute drive southeast from Seronera) and with a little luck you will spot some members of the Sametu Pride.

2. Swahili Phrase Book by Lonely Planet

PICTURE BOOKS

1. Serengeti A Kingdom of Predators by George Schaller
2. Nomads of the Serengeti by Robyn Stewart
3. The Serengeti's Great Migration by Carlo Mari and Harvey Croze
4. The Great Migration by Jonathan Scott
5. African Odyssey by Anup and Manoj Shah

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

1. We All Went on Safari: A Counting Journey through Tanzania by Laurie Krebs
2. Serengeti – Information, Puzzles and Games by Jeannette Handby and David Bygott

MOVIES

1. Africa – The Serengeti.
'Africa – The Serengeti' is a stunning IMAX wildlife documentary filmed in the Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro Crater and Masai Mara. The documentary, narrated by James Earl Jones, chronicles the Serengeti's great wildebeest migration and also beautifully captures the Ngorongoro Crater.

2. Superpride - A story of a large lion pride in the Central Serengeti filmed from May 2007 to July 2007.

NOTE: All of the above books and movies are available new or used on Abebooks.com or Amazon.com.

A FINAL WORD

You are about to embark on the adventure of a lifetime! You have made excellent decisions to bring you this far. Tanzania is one of the most beautiful and pristine places left on this earth, and no one will work harder to make your experience unforgettable than your family here at Africa Dream Safaris. So get ready for one of the most rewarding and life-changing experiences you may ever have.

But...whatever you do, please don't forget you are on a safari. An adventure. In an inherently uncontrolled environment. And that is precisely at the heart of why it is so special. Having the right perspective is paramount to your enjoyment of the experience. Don't expect a zoo. Don't expect an interstate. You won't find Walmart or Disneyland or McDonald's french fries. This is a third world country, with all the rugged beauty and charm of a wilderness unspoiled by civilization. It's difficult to believe that less than 50 years ago, exploration of this remote wilderness was practically impossible! Today you are one of the lucky few who will have the opportunity to (safely) witness its pristine majesty first hand. But keep in mind this is still Africa. Bush planes don't always run exactly on schedule, wireless internet may not be available at your campsite and the lodge kitchen may not stock the brand of margarine you are used to. You will soon see the culture here is laid-back and un-hurried. Not a pace most of us are used to! But give Africa time, and it will seep into your soul and change you forever.

It is rare, but every once in a while we see a client who, sadly, *misses the point*. They are so bummed about not having their morning Starbucks that they miss enjoying morning sunrise over the Serengeti. Or they get so frustrated when their favorite soda

isn't available they miss the opportunity to point out to their children that the kids in the local orphanage have never even had a soda. Or they get so disappointed over a few minutes spent by their guide changing a flat tire that they miss seeing a beautiful leopard perched in the distant tree. When you are in Africa, magic is all around you, all the time. Sometimes it's the very imperfections that make an adventure like this so perfect. So be prepared to roll with the punches and don't sweat the small stuff, and you certainly won't miss the magic. With the right mindset, this trip can change your life. "I know this all sounds a bit much, but if I have ever seen magic, it has been in Africa." – John Hemingway

Again, thank you for choosing Africa Dream Safaris and enjoy your safari adventure!

Warm Regards,

Africa Dream Safaris
The Entire Team at Africa Dream Safaris

ANIMAL CHECKLIST

CARNIVORES		
ENGLISH NAME	SWAHILI NAME	✓
Lion	Simba	
Spotted Hyena	Fisi	
Leopard	Chui	
Cheetah	Duma	
Caracal	<i>None</i>	
Serval	Mondo	
African Wild Dog	Mbwa Mwitu	
Black-backed Jackal	Bwcha	
Golden Jackal	Bwcha	
Side-striped Jackal	Bwcha	
Bat-eared Fox	Bwcha Masikio	
Honey Badger	Nyegere	
Banded Mongoose	Nguchiro	
Dwarf Mongoose	Nguchiro	
Large-spotted Genet	Kanu	
Striped Hyena	Fisi	

PRIMATES		
ENGLISH NAME	SWAHILI NAME	✓
Baboon	Nyani	
Vervey Monkey	Tmbili	
Bushbaby	Komba	
Sykes/Blue Monkey	<i>None</i>	
Black & White Colobus	<i>None</i>	
REPTILES		
ENGLISH NAME	SWAHILI NAME	✓
Nile Crocodile	Mamba	
Python	Chatu	
Monitor Lizard	Kenge	
Agama Lizard	Mjusi Kafiri	
Leopard Tortoise	Kobe	
RAPTORS		
ENGLISH NAME	SWAHILI NAME	✓
Tawny Eagle	Tai Mzoga	
Eagle Owl	<i>None</i>	
Bateleur Eagle	<i>None</i>	
Augur Buzzard	<i>None</i>	
Fish Eagle	<i>None</i>	

Black Kite	<i>None</i>	
Long-crested Eagle	<i>None</i>	
African Crowned Eagle	<i>None</i>	
Martial Eagle	<i>None</i>	
ANTELOPES & OTHER RUMINANTS		
ENGLISH NAME	SWAHILI NAME	✓
Eland	Pofu	
Wildebeest	Nyumbu	
Topi	Nyamera	
Hartebeest	Kongoni	
Reedbuck	Tohe	
Grant's Gazelle	Swala Granti	
Thomson's Gazelle	Swala Tomi	
Impala	Swala Pala	
Oribi	None	
Steinbok	None	
Waterbuck	None	
Klipspringer	Mbuzi Mawa	
Dik Dik	Digi Digi	
Kudu	Tandala	
Oryx	Choroa	

OTHER HOOFED MAMMALS		
ENGLISH NAME	SWAHILI NAME	✓
Elephant	Tembo	
Hippopotamus	Kiboko	
Black Rhinoceros	Kirafu	
Masai Giraffe	Twiga	
Buffalo	Nyati	
Zebra	Punda Milia	
Warthog	Ngiri	
Rock Hyrax	Pimbi	
TREES		
ENGLISH NAME	SWAHILI NAME	✓
Baobab Tree	<i>None</i>	
Candelabra Tree	<i>None</i>	
Sausage Tree	<i>None</i>	
Tamarind Tree	<i>None</i>	
Sycamore Fig	<i>None</i>	
Yellow Barked Acacia	<i>None</i>	
Strangler Fig	<i>None</i>	
African Ebony	<i>None</i>	
Umbrella Thorn Acacia	<i>None</i>	

Flat-top Acacia	<i>None</i>	
Whistling Thorn Acacia	<i>None</i>	
BIRDS		
ENGLISH NAME	SWAHILI NAME	✓
Ostrich	Mbuni	
Kori Bustard	Tandawala	
Secretary Bird	Ndege Karani	
Marabou Stork	Ndege Nuru	
Crowned Crane	Taji	
Guinea Fowl	Kanga	
Cattle Egret	<i>None</i>	
Goliath Heron	<i>None</i>	
Hamerkop	<i>None</i>	
Saddle-billed Stork	<i>None</i>	
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>None</i>	
Sared Ibis	<i>None</i>	
Flamingo	<i>None</i>	
Eqyptian Goose	<i>None</i>	
Fisher's Lovebird	<i>None</i>	
Giant Kingfisher	<i>None</i>	

Woodland Kingfisher	<i>None</i>	
Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>None</i>	
Hoopoe	<i>None</i>	
Red & Yellow Barbet	<i>None</i>	
Ground Hornbill	<i>None</i>	
Masked Weaver	<i>None</i>	
Superb Starling	<i>None</i>	
Ruppell's Griffon Vulture	<i>None</i>	
Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>None</i>	
White-headed Vulture	<i>None</i>	
Hooded Vulture	<i>None</i>	
Egyptian Vulture	<i>None</i>	

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