

# ACACIA HOLIDAYS

Tanzania Classic

Small Group Journeys  
2022



# ITINERARY

Tanzania Classic • Acacia Holidays • 2022

## FLIGHT INFORMATION

### DAY 1

### ARRIVAL & WELCOME

Upon arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport you will be greeted by an Acacia Holidays representative who will transfer you and your luggage to Serena Mountain Village near Arusha. Afterwards, relax and unwind after your long journey. Arusha is a vibrant and bustling town as it is the gateway to Tanzania's national parks and game reserves. Tomorrow, you set out on safari. Nestled in the foothills of Mt Meru, your accommodations are set among the evergreen coffee fields of this former coffee plantation. Designed to echo the style of the colonial coffee farm that once stood on the site, your accommodations consist of tastefully-styled rooms set amid extensively landscaped grounds.

The nation of **Tanzania** conjures excitement and adventure. Its landscape is stunning and its beauty unmatched. Natural resources abound: Mt. Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain; Lake Tanganyika, Africa's deepest lake; and Lake Victoria, the world's second largest lake and the source of the Nile. Tanzania's riches also include game parks of international fame: Ngorongoro Crater, Serengeti, Lake Manyara, plus the less-frequented Selous, Ruaha, Mikumi, Gombe where wildlife roams in teeming numbers. Nearly one quarter of Tanzania's 938,000 km<sup>2</sup> has been reserved for game and national parks. Extensions to the nearby exotic Zanzibar can easily be added.



**OVERNIGHT: ARUSHA SERENA HOTEL**

**MEALS: UNDER OWN ARRANGEMENTS**

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**DAY 2****LAKE MANYARA NATIONAL PARK**

This morning, you wake to your first Tanzanian sunrise. After breakfast, we drive to Lake Manyara National Park, viewing game enroute to our lodge. We arrive at the park in time for a picnic lunch then set out for an afternoon game drive and hope to see the park's famous tree-climbing lions. A wealth of bird life and large game roam the park and its lake, with the cliffs of the Great Rift Valley forming a stunning backdrop to it all. We shall head on to Lake Manyara Serena Lodge arriving in time for dinner. The lodge is perched high above the lake with magnificent views from your room and the grounds. Dinner and overnight at Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge. The beautiful **Lake Manyara** covers two thirds of this national park; the rest consists of steep mountainside, swamps, dense woodlands, open grassy areas and hot springs. One of the many alkaline lakes of the Great Rift Valley, it was formed three million years ago and is quite shallow – a perfect habitat for the 350 species of birds including pelicans, ibises, storks, Egyptian geese, and flamingoes. Baboons and black monkeys can be heard chattering in the woodlands near the park's entrance and a multitude of large game can be found traversing the low, grassy areas near the lake's shore.

**OVERNIGHT: LAKE MANYARA SERENA SAFARI LODGE****MEALS: B/L/D**

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**DAY 3****THE SERENGETI**

After an early morning breakfast collect your picnic lunches and depart into the early morning game viewing drives at the Serengeti National park where the spectacle of predator versus prey dominates this Tanzania's greatest and oldest park. Enjoy your Lunch in the bush listening to the multitude of bird songs and soaking in the beauty of the landscape. Game drives end just before dusk when you are returned to the familiar surroundings of your lodge pleasantly tired but brimming with excitement about your experiences during the day.

The **Serengeti National Park**, at 5,700 mi<sup>2</sup>, is larger than the state of Connecticut. Protected since the 1940s, the area was made a national park in 1951 and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Fantastic in its natural beauty and unequalled in its scientific value, this vast expanse of land is home to more than four million different types of animals. Large herds of antelope of every description can be found here: Patterson's eland, klipspringer, dikdik, impala, zebra, gazelle, water buck, topi, kongoni, Cotton's oribi, grey bush duiker, roan antelope, buffalo, and wildebeest. Storks, flamingoes, vultures, fish eagles, and ostrich are among the nearly five hundred species of birds that also call the Serengeti home. Include cheetah, lion, leopard, giraffe, hippopotamus, and rhinoceros, and there are precious few animals that cannot be seen in this ecological wonderland. From open grass plains in the south, savannah and scattered acacia in the center, hilly wooded grasslands in the north, and black clay plains in the west, the landscape is as varied as the wildlife that lives upon it. The Serengeti's low vegetation means that game viewing is relatively easy. Small rivers, lakes, and swamps dot this magnificent landscape where animals roam in complete freedom. Vast herds of ungulates arrive from the Maasai Mara and begin to congregate in December, culminating in the calving of half a million wildebeest in early February. This southern portion of **The Great Migration** lasts from December until May, when the herds head out of the Serengeti and into the Mara once more.

**OVERNIGHT: SERENGETI SERENA SAFARI LODGE****MEALS: B/L/D**

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**DAYS 4****THE SERENGETI**

Each morning, we set out after an early breakfast amongst the splendor of an African sunrise for a full day of game viewing. Negotiating the roads and tracks away from the lodge, you are transported into a world of timeless natural wonder; one where the sights, sounds, and pageantry of life continue on just as they have for thousands of years. As the day progresses, your driver's deep knowledge of the land becomes apparent as he leads you to one spot of outstanding beauty after the next, allowing you to observe the wildlife quietly and at your leisure. As the animals take refuge from the hot mid-day sun, we find a secluded spot to stop and enjoy a picnic lunch before pressing on. You arrive back at the lodge at dusk, pleasantly tired after an exhilarating day. After a well-deserved hot shower, you head to the main lodge for dinner. Take your after-dinner drink on your verandah if you wish, watching the wildlife grazing nearby. The atmosphere is remarkably peaceful as night falls, leaving you with dreams of this diverse and wonderful country.

**OVERNIGHT: SERENGETI SERENA SAFARI LODGE****MEALS: B/L/D**

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**BALLOON SAFARI ADD-ON**

Optional but highly recommended, the Balloon Safari is a very popular excursion among visitors and can be added to a safari that includes a night at any of the camps/lodges in the Serengeti. Meeting your pilot early this morning, you will receive a briefing and watch as the balloon is inflated. You lift-off at dawn, rising with the sun and gently float in whichever direction the winds of the morning take you. Below are the majestic plains of the African savannah, teeming with life. At times, your balloon will be piloted at treetop level, offering unique perspectives of the wildlife and many great photo opportunities. Other times, the pilot will ascend to nearly 1,000 feet, offering a breathtaking perspective of the Serengeti, allowing you to appreciate its profound size. On landing, enjoy a delicious champagne breakfast served in the bush under an acacia tree. Total flight time from lift-off until touch-down is approximately one to two hours.



**DAY 5****OLDUVAI GORGE & NGORONGORO CRATER**

After breakfast this morning drive to Ngorongoro Conservation Area via the Olduvai Gorge, site of Louis and Mary Leakey's renowned archaeological discoveries. Their findings include some of the man's earliest known ancestral remains, Picnic lunches will be provided. We arrive at the lodge in time for a scenic dinner at the lodge overlooking the crater.

**Ngorongoro Crater** was an ancient active volcano whose cone collapsed some three million years ago, leaving a deep crater. It is the largest unbroken caldera in the world, the second largest extinct crater, and today shelters arguably the most beautiful wildlife haven left on earth with a spectacular concentration of animals and stunning views. Known as "Africa's Garden of Eden", the crater is undoubtedly the best place in Tanzania to see black rhinos as well as prides of lions with magnificent black-maned males. Elephant, leopard, buffalo, cheetah, zebra, warthog, a dozen antelope species, and nearly one hundred species of birds not found even in the Serengeti also live within its walls. The crater rim is wooded with mountain forest vegetation and is abloom in acres of pink, blue, and white lupines, candle white lilies, and blue hyacinth. The short grasses on the crater's floor make game easy to spot and photograph

**OVERNIGHT: NGORONGORO SERENA SAFARI LODGE****MEALS: B/L/D****DAY 6****NGORONGORO CRATER**

After breakfast, the driver guides your vehicle nearly 2,000 feet down into Ngorongoro Crater for a full day of exploration. In addition to viewing larger game, we will drive across the dense forest on the rim to the soda lake to view the outstanding bird life. Today, we enjoy a picnic lunch in the crater itself and ascend back to the lodge for dinner and relaxation.

**OVERNIGHT: NGORONGORO SERENA SAFARI LODGE****MEALS: B/L/D**

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**DAY 7****TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK**

After breakfast this morning, we embark on the drive to Tarangire National Park, arriving in time for lunch at Tarangire Sopa Lodge. The lodge lies hidden among the kopjes, ancient baobab and grasses of Tarangire National Park. After an afternoon game drive, return to camp for dinner, relaxation and overnight.

**Tarangire National Park** is situated in the south of the large open grass plains of Masailand. The park takes its name from the Tarangire River, which runs through the park and provides year-round water for wildlife. As a result, Tarangire has a high concentration of wildlife in the dry season, second only to Ngorongoro Crater. Animals found in Tarangire include lion, leopard, elephant, oryx, gnu and greater and lesser kudu. Wildebeest, zebras, Thompson's gazelle, Grant's gazelle, buffalo, elephant, impala, and eland are also frequent visitors to the park.

**OVERNIGHT: TARANGIRE ACACIA LUXURY CAMP****MEALS: B/L/D**

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**DAY 8****ARUSHA AND DEPART**

After breakfast this morning, you will be driven to Arusha arriving in time for lunch at Lake Duluti Serena Hotel. After lunch you will be transferred to Kilimanjaro International Airport where you embark for home. Sadly, the adventure comes to an end, but the memories are forever.

**DAYROOMS: IF NEEDED****MEALS: B/L****\*\* END ACACIA HOLIDAYS ARRANGEMENTS \*\***

# S U M M A R Y

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**ITINERARY:** Arusha | Lake Manyara | Serengeti | Olduvai Gorge | Ngorongoro Crater | Tarangire | Nairobi

**DURATION:** 8 days / 7 nights safari

## LAND ONLY (USD)

	05 JAN – 28 FEB 01 JUL- 31 OCT	01-31 MAR 01 NOV- 15 DEC	01 APR- 30 MAY	01-30 JUN
Per Person Sharing	\$6,960	\$5,650	\$4,860	\$6,455
Single Room Supplement	\$1,015	\$855	\$185	\$1,005

**Optional Supplements:** Balloon Safari: \$600 pp in the Serengeti

Accommodations listed are subject to availability.

Add 3.5% to all credit card payments

### Costs Include

- English-speaking driver/guide
- Exclusive use of a 4x4 Land Cruiser
- Bottled mineral water while on safari
- All airport transfers
- Full board accommodation while on safari
- Overnight accommodation and breakfast in Arusha (Day 1)
- Day Room in Arusha (Day 8) (If needed)
- All park entrance fees
- Game drives as specified in the itinerary
- All Tanzanian government taxes & service charges
- Flying Doctors evacuation service

### Costs Exclude

- International flights to & from Arusha (JRO)
- All items of a personal nature
- Laundry
- Tips and gratuities
- Telephone calls
- Visas
- Travel insurance
- Add-ons and supplements (balloon safari)
- All other items not mentioned in inclusions

