



WinWin Vacations *Africa Safari Specialist*

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MIMI's CUSTOM EAST AFRICAN SAFARI July 16 - August 2, 2009

Timed to coincide with the height of the Big Migration in the Serengeti and the Masai Mara



What is a safari?

An expedition involving wildlife observation and tracking
Travel as a life experience
A journey of discovery
A pilgrimage

Safari in Kiswahili, the language of East Africa, simply means a journey. Today it is synonymous in English with a wildlife viewing adventure in Africa. Africa is the only place in the world where you can still experience the joy of viewing vast herds of wildlife in their natural setting.

**The best way to see the wonders of Africa is by going on a safari.
East Africa is where it all began.**

Osa and Martin Johnson put Kenya on the map in the 1920's with their wildlife films and their books: **“I Married Adventure”** and **“Four Years in Paradise”**.

The writings of Karen Blixen and the adaptation of her classic book **“Out of Africa”** into a motion picture starring Robert Redford and Meryl Streep helped establish Kenya as a great safari destination in the modern era.

Joy Adamson was among the group of expatriates in the 1960s and 1970s, whose endeavors to conserve African wildlife captured the world's attention communicated through her books about Elsa, the Lioness and her cubs beginning with **“Born Free”**.

Hemingway immortalized the safari experience with his **“Green Hills of Africa”** and **“The Snows of Kilimanjaro”**, although he was a sport and trophy hunter rather than a naturalist or photographer.

Other classic books of interest include:

“West with the Night” by Beryl Markham,

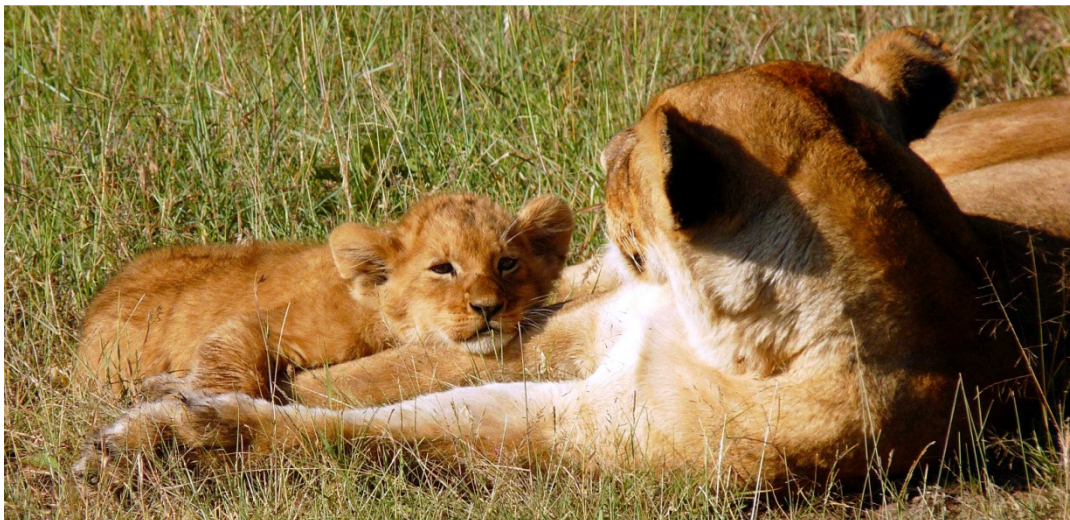
“The Flame Trees of Thika: Memories of an African Childhood” by Elspeth Huxley, **“I Dreamed of Africa”** by Kuki Gallman.

East Africa is best known for the magnificent Great Migration in the Masai Mara and the Serengeti, where up to 2 million wildebeest, zebra and gazelle are followed by their predators, mainly lions on their annual trek around this magnificent eco-system.

East Africa is also known for their colorful Maasai and Samburu people and other tribes that contribute so much to making this a top safari destination.

In addition, East Africa has one of the most diverse and majestic landscapes on the African continent. The Great Rift Valley, with the steep-walled valley floor dropping as much as 2-3,000 feet (610–915 m) from the surrounding countryside, is breathtakingly dramatic.

There is no other vacation or travel experience that can beat the thrills, the wonders and the everlasting memories of an African safari.



[Itinerary overview](#)

July 16, Day 1 – Thursday: Depart USA on Northwest Airlines/KLM

Overnight flight – Set your clocks ahead 6 hours from the East Coast and 9 hours from Seattle to Europe!! Then add 2 more hours for East Africa.

July 17, Day 2 - Friday: Arrive early morning in Amsterdam

Depart on KLM 569 / Northwest Airlines 8383

Depart Amsterdam 10:30am / Arrive Kilimanjaro 7:55pm (8hr 25min flight), local time

Overnight at Mount Meru Game Lodge, Arusha, Tanzania

July 18, Day 3 – Saturday: Full day safari in Arusha National Park with picnic lunch. Dinner and overnight at Mt. Meru Game Lodge; all meals

July 19-20, Day 4 & 5 – Sunday & Monday: 8:00am flight to Grumeti airfield in the Western Serengeti; 2 nights at The Mbalageti Serengeti Tented Camp, all meals

July 21 & 22, Days 6 & 7 – Tuesday & Wednesday: Game drive on route to Northern Serengeti; 2 nights at Migration Camp, fully inclusive of meals, local drinks and laundry

July 23, Day 8 - Thursday: Drive to Ngorongoro Crater via Olduvai Gorge (all day drive); 1 night at Ngorongoro Crater Sopa Lodge, all meals

July 24 & 25, Day 9 & 10 – Friday & Saturday: Game drive in the Ngorongoro Crater; drive to Lake Manyara; 2 nights at Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge, all meals

July 26, Day 11 - Sunday: Drive to the Namanga border with stop in Arusha for lunch, (4 hours including immigration) then 2 hours to Amboseli's Ol Tukai Lodge, all meals

July 26-28, Day 11, 12 & 13 – Sunday, Monday & Tuesday: 3 nights at Ol Tukai Lodge, Amboseli, Kenya; game drives in Amboseli NP, all meals

July 29, Day 14 - Wednesday:

Early morning flight via Wilson airport, Nairobi to the OlKiombo airstrip, Masai Mara

July 29-31, Day 14, 15 & 16 – Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 3 nights at the Mara Intrepids, Masai Mara, all meals

August 1, Day 17 - Saturday: Afternoon flight to Nairobi; dinner at Pampas Grill Restaurant before your check-in at 7pm

Depart KLM 566 / Northwest 8566 at 10:10pm

August 2, Day 18 - Sunday: arrive Amsterdam at 5:30am

Depart for the USA on your respective flights

!!! What a safari !!!!

[The details of your safari](#)

July 17, Day 2 – Friday: Arrive Tanzania

You will be met on arrival at Kilimanjaro Airport and transferred to the **Mount Meru Game Lodge and Sanctuary** located midway between Kilimanjaro International Airport and Arusha, in Tanzania. Tom & Kristina will meet you here.



Accommodation at Mount Meru Game Lodge comprises 17 double or twin en-suite bedrooms, individual in design and character. All rooms have 4-poster, wrought iron beds with fitted mosquito nets and continental quilts. Each room also has a veranda with comfortable chairs where you can sit during the late afternoons enjoying the peaceful surroundings and watching the animal and birdlife.



Mount Meru Game Lodge & Sanctuary is set within 33 acres of carefully tended gardens bordered on one side by the Usa River and on the other by the Animal Sanctuary. The sanctuary provides a safe haven to African plains game and birds, as well as offering refuge to orphaned and injured animals while preparing them for their return to the wild. Wildlife found here includes eland, ostriches, waterbuck, zebra, buffalo, small wild cats and an enormous variety of birdlife.

[What A Special Place to Stay](#)

Throughout the 1970's and early 1980's, the Lodge and Sanctuary were run by Dr. Andreas Von Nagy and members of his family. They became a very popular stop over for many VIP's and Government

visitors. Various Presidents of African Countries, celebrities, and members of European Royal Families stayed at the Lodge and a visit to the Sanctuary was always included in the official itineraries of Government visitors when in Arusha.

Although Dr. Von Nagy is no longer with us, his son continues to live nearby to the Lodge and to manage the Sanctuary which his father started some 35 years ago.

He, together with the Management and Staff of 'Intimate Places' look forward to welcoming you to Mount Meru Game Lodge & Sanctuary in a time-honored tradition.

At Mount Meru Game Lodge and Sanctuary you can relax on the terrace, shaded by enormous old mango trees, and enjoy the views over the gardens to the sanctuary beyond. In the evening you can curl up with a good book in the comfortable armchairs by the lounge fireplace. A variety of beauty treatments is also available including massages, manicures & pedicures, threading and waxing, as well as haircuts, coloring and styling, all in the comfort of the lodge.

There is a wide selection of activities for you to enjoy. You can explore the surrounding area, including taking part in cultural and educational visits to local villages and farms, as well as sightseeing tours to some of the natural forests and scenic spots. Walks are offered free of charge and longer safaris and excursions can also be arranged, such as game drives at Lake Manyara and Tarangire National Park, or even a camel safari.

Mount Meru Game Lodge & Sanctuary has an a la carte menu and the dining room is the perfect setting for a relaxing meal. On Sundays you can relax on the private terrace and enjoy the traditional English roast lunch buffets which are extremely popular with both guests and Arusha residents alike.



The main emphasis of the Game Sanctuary is to provide safe haven to African plains game and birds. These include eland, ostriches, waterbucks, zebras, buffalo, small carnivores such as Monitor lizards, small wild cats and of course the enormous variety of birdlife who come to feed, breed and enjoy the unique freedom offered by our very safe environment.

In a specially designed, enclosed area of the grounds of the lodge are also to be found magnificent old owls, porcupine, turtle and even a crocodile.

The majority of the animals were once either orphaned or badly injured and were brought to the sanctuary for rehabilitation. By choosing to stay here, you will also therefore be playing a very important role in helping these animals since the Sanctuary is supported entirely by the Lodge.



Evans is briefing the group on what to expect on this safari. Everyone is attentive!!!



July 18, Day 3 - Saturday: full day game drive in Arusha National Park

Arusha National Park is a relatively small park, covering an area of 137 square kilometers or 52.9 square miles. Established in 1960, the park was originally called Ngurdoto Crater National Park, but after the mountain was annexed in 1967 it became known as Mt. Meru National Park. Today it is named for the Warusha people who once lived in this area. The Masai also lived here, which is why many of the names for sights within the park are Swahili.

Arusha National Park is located 32km outside the city of Arusha, an easy day trip and the perfect place to start your safari. It offers an abundance of flora and fauna along with Momello Lakes, Ngurdoto Crater and Meru Crater. Here you have the opportunity to see antelope, giraffe, leopard, hyena, rhino, elephant, baboon and the colobus monkey, ensuring a well-rounded day of game viewing. It is a bird watchers paradise.

Three distinct areas are to be found within Arusha National Park: Ngurdoto Crater, the Momella Lakes and the rugged Mt. Meru. Altitudes range from 1,500 meters (4,921 feet) above sea level at Momela to over 4,500 meters (14,764 feet) at the summit of Meru.



The vegetation which occurs in the Park is correlated to the altitude and geology of the area. Ngurdoto Crater is surrounded by forest whilst the crater floor is a swampy area. The Momella Lakes, like many in the Rift Valley, are alkaline, and Mt. Meru is a mixture of lush forests and bare rocks.

Dominic, Ellson & Ally



Associated with these different vegetation zones and places are different types of animals: migrating water birds settle on the lakes, waterbuck and reedbuck are found near water, while shy bushbuck and duikers keep to the forested areas. It is obviously impossible to say exactly where different species will be encountered but it is possible to build up a picture of the most likely species to be found in any area. Within this wide range of habitats almost 400 species of birds have been recorded in the Park. Some of these are migratory and present between October and April, others are permanently resident in the forests.