

FINDERS & KEEPERS SAFARIS

A LIFE OF MAKING MEMORIES

SMALL GROUP JOURNEY

The Serengeti Grand Migration

“Small-group & private departures available year-round”

12

DAYS

5

DESTINATIONS

7

GUESTS (MAX)

FROM

\$12,800

PER PERSON

PREPARED EXCLUSIVELY FOR YOU · FINDERSANDKEEPERS.COM

Overview

This twelve-day journey follows one of the greatest wildlife spectacles on earth — the Great Migration of more than 1.5 million wildebeest, zebra and gazelle across the plains of Tanzania. From the elephant and baobab landscapes of Tarangire to the volcanic grandeur of the Ngorongoro Crater, the endless golden plains of the central Serengeti and the dramatic river crossings of the north, this circuit is the definitive East African safari, combining legendary wildlife with exceptional camps and intimate small-group access.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Witness river crossings in the northern Serengeti — wildebeest in their tens of thousands surging across the Mara River
- Hot air balloon safari over the Serengeti at sunrise, followed by a champagne breakfast on the golden plains
- Tarangire National Park — home to Tanzania's largest elephant herds and ancient baobab trees
- Walking safari in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area with an armed Maasai ranger
- Descend into the Ngorongoro Crater — a UNESCO World Heritage Site sheltering the world's densest concentration of predators
- Three nights in the northern Serengeti — the migration's prime crossing zone — in an exclusive mobile tented camp
- Night game drives in the Serengeti — leopards, lions and aardvarks in the beam of the spotlight
- Private 4x4 Land Cruiser with pop-up roof and professional guide throughout — all park and conservancy fees included

Small-group & private departures available year-round

The Itinerary

01

ARUSHA, TANZANIA

Day 1 | Arrive Arusha — Gateway to the Serengeti

Touch down at Kilimanjaro International Airport. Your Finders & Keepers Safaris representative meets you in the arrivals hall — no searching, no queuing. You are escorted through formalities and into a waiting transfer vehicle for the short journey to your Arusha lodge, set on the slopes of Mount Meru. If your flight arrives before midday, enjoy a complimentary afternoon excursion to a Maasai market or a coffee plantation tour showcasing Tanzania's celebrated Arabica coffee from harvest to cup. As evening approaches, the group gathers for a welcome briefing and dinner. Your guide spreads maps on the table, outlines the route and shares what to expect from the migration. Mount Kilimanjaro gleams in the late light. Tomorrow, the wilderness begins.

- Arusha Coffee Lodge or Rivertrees Country Inn »
- Dinner

02

TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK

Day 2 | Arusha » Tarangire — Elephants & Ancient Baobabs

After breakfast, depart Arusha by road for Tarangire National Park (approximately 2.5 hours). The drive carries you across the wide Masai Steppe and through the towns of Makuyuni and Kwa Kuchinja. Enter Tarangire through its northern gate. Tarangire is perhaps the most underestimated park in Tanzania — and that is its greatest gift. The Tarangire River draws the largest concentration of wildlife outside the Serengeti during the dry season, with elephant populations rivalling anything on earth. The ancient baobab trees — some more than a thousand years old — dominate the skyline, their vast girth evidence of centuries of survival. An afternoon game drive explores the river circuit: elephants in their hundreds wading into the shallows, lion prides resting in the shade, oryx, eland, lesser kudu and fringe-eared oryx moving through the woodland. Arrive at your camp in time for a sundowner and dinner under the stars.

- Oliver's Camp »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

03

TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK

Day 3 | Tarangire — Full Day Safari & Walking Safari

A dawn game drive through Tarangire's southern sector, into the Silale Swamp — a mosaic of swamp, riverine forest and open grassland that harbours unusual species rarely seen elsewhere: greater kudu, fringe-eared oryx and the elusive gerenuk. Mid-morning, your vehicle pulls into a shaded clearing for a walking safari with an armed ranger. On foot, the scale of the bush becomes tangible. Your guide reads tracks in the dust — a pride of lions passed here at dawn, an elephant bull rested under this fig tree, a leopard dragged its kill across this path three days ago. Return to camp for lunch and a siesta. A late afternoon game drive explores the river flats as elephants gather to drink in the golden light. Sundowner on the river escarpment as the sun sinks behind the baobabs. Dinner by firelight.

- Oliver's Camp »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

04

NGORONGORO CONSERVATION AREA

Day 4 | Tarangire » Ngorongoro — The World's Greatest Caldera

After breakfast, check out and depart for the Ngorongoro Conservation Area (approximately 4 hours via Karatu). The road climbs through the fertile farmlands of the Crater Highlands — coffee, tea and banana plantations clinging to the steep slopes. Arrive at the crater rim in the late morning. The view from the rim is one of the most breathtaking in Africa: a perfectly circular caldera 19 kilometres across, its floor a mosaic of grassland, lake and acacia woodland, enclosing an entire ecosystem within its walls. The crater shelters some 25,000 large animals — lions, leopards, elephants, buffalo, hippos, hyenas, black rhinos and an extraordinary concentration of wildebeest and zebra. Check into your rim lodge — perched on the crater's edge, with uninterrupted views across the caldera. Lunch at the lodge. A late afternoon game drive on the crater rim, watching the light fade over one of Africa's most extraordinary landscapes. Dinner at the lodge.

- &Beyond Ngorongoro Crater Lodge or The Manor at Ngorongoro »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

05

NGORONGORO CONSERVATION AREA

Day 5 | Ngorongoro — Full Day Crater Descent & Walking Safari

An early morning descent into the crater. The road drops steeply through the forest zone — a micro-climate of dense vegetation where elephant and buffalo move between the trees. Reach the crater floor as the morning mist lifts. The crater is a predator's paradise. Within the first hour: a pride of lions at a kill, hyenas circling at a respectful distance. Your guide drives toward Lake Magadi — a shallow soda lake tinged pink by hundreds of flamingos. Black rhinos — among the rarest animals in Africa — move across the crater floor in the middle distance. In the afternoon, a walking safari with an armed Maasai ranger on the outer slopes of the crater, descending into the acacia woodland where buffalo and elephant roam freely. Return to the rim at sunset. A final bonfire dinner on the crater rim.

- &Beyond Ngorongoro Crater Lodge or The Manor at Ngorongoro »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

06

CENTRAL SERENGETI

Day 6 | Ngorongoro » Central Serengeti — The Endless Plains

After breakfast, depart the crater rim for the Serengeti (approximately 3 hours including game drive en route). The road descends from the highlands into the vast open grasslands of the Serengeti. Cross the Naabi Hill Gate and the landscape opens up in every direction — the Serengeti is, in Maasai, "the place where the land runs on forever." And it does. The central Serengeti's Seronera Valley is the year-round heartland of the ecosystem — resident lion prides, leopards draped across riverine fig trees, cheetahs on termite mounds scanning the plain. En route to camp, a game drive through the valley: a large lion coalition near the Seronera River, a leopard with a kill in the fig trees above, a cheetah making a high-speed pursuit across the open plains. Arrive at your camp in time for sundowners. Dinner by torchlight on the open plains. The sound of hyenas in the darkness.

- Singita Milele »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

07

CENTRAL SERENGETI

Day 7 | Central Serengeti — Hot Air Balloon Safari & Full Day on the Plains

The alarm comes at 4:30 AM. A short drive to the launch site on the open plains. The balloon inflates in the darkness — the burners lighting the fabric orange in the pre-dawn. You climb in. The ground falls away. Below you, the Serengeti stretches to every horizon — an ocean of grass under a sky full of fading stars. As the sun rises over the escarpment to the east, the plains ignite in gold and amber. Wildebeest columns move across the plain in their thousands. Lions pad back from a night hunt. A cheetah moves through the long grass. The balloon drifts for over an hour. You descend to a champagne breakfast on the open plains — white linen, silver, a chef working at a bush kitchen as the day warms. A full morning game drive follows. An afternoon at leisure at the camp before a final Seronera Valley drive as the light turns amber. Sundowner. Night game drive. Bonfire dinner.

- Singita Milele »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

08

CENTRAL SERENGETI

Day 8 | Central Serengeti — Predator Safari & Big Cat Tracking

A full day dedicated to the Serengeti's legendary predator population. The Seronera Valley holds one of the highest densities of big cats on earth. Your guide connects via radio with the Serengeti Lion Project researchers, who share the morning's big cat locations. Dawn game drive: a coalition of four male lions at a buffalo kill, hyenas and vultures queuing at a respectful distance. Mid-morning: a mother cheetah with three cubs on a termite mound, scanning the plain. After a bush lunch in the shade of an acacia, an afternoon in search of the valley's resident leopards — some of the most habituated and photographed leopards anywhere in Africa. Sundowner at a kopje — a granite outcrop beloved by lions and hyrax alike, offering a 360-degree view across the endless plain. Night game drive. Dinner by starlight.

- Singita Milele »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

09

NORTHERN SERENGETI

Day 9 | Central » Northern Serengeti — The Migration Awaits

After breakfast, a game drive north through the Serengeti. The landscape shifts as you move north: the short grass plains of the centre give way to longer, golden savannah, rolling hills and the acacia woodlands of the Lobo Valley. And then you see them. A column of wildebeest — tens of thousands of them — moving north in single file, their distinctive grunting filling the air. The Great Migration. More than 1.5 million animals following their ancient instinct, moving toward the Mara River and the pastures beyond. Arrive at your northern Serengeti camp in time for lunch — a mobile tented camp positioned to provide the best possible access to the crossing points. An afternoon game drive to the Mara River: the river is high, fast-moving. Wildebeest cluster on the far bank, milling nervously. The question is when, not if. Return to camp as the sun sets over the Mara. Dinner under the stars, the rumble of the migration audible in the distance.

- Lamai Camp »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

10

NORTHERN SERENGETI

Day 10 | Northern Serengeti — The River Crossing

The day begins before dawn. You are at the Mara River before first light, positioned at a crossing point your guide has identified the previous evening. The sun rises. The wildebeest mass on the far bank — thousands of them, pressing forward. Then a leader plunges in. And then the world erupts. A torrent of wildebeest surges into the water. The river churns white. Crocodiles explode from the shallows. The noise is overwhelming — hooves, grunting, the sound of ten thousand animals driven by instinct toward the far bank. Some make it. Some do not. The crossing lasts twenty minutes. You watch in silence. A full day follows along the Mara River circuit, watching for repeat crossings and tracking the predators — lions, leopards and cheetahs — that shadow the migration. Return to camp. Sundowner on a river bluff, the migration stretching to the horizon. Bonfire dinner. This is the moment people come to Africa for.

- Lamai Camp »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

11

NORTHERN SERENGETI

Day 11 | Northern Serengeti — A Final Day with the Migration

A final full day in the northern Serengeti. Your guide asks what you most wish to see or revisit: the crossing points, the predator corridors or the vast herds moving through the Lamai Wedge to the north. You choose the river one last time. The morning brings another crossing — perhaps smaller than yesterday's, but no less extraordinary. Lions have followed the herds and made a kill on the near bank: a pride of eight lionesses and two large males, gorging while vultures wheel above and jackals wait at the edges. A bush lunch in the shade. Afternoon: the migration columns on the move north, the sound of a hundred thousand hooves on dry earth. Your guide sets up a sundowner on a kopje as the sun descends over the Mara. A farewell bonfire dinner back at camp. Tomorrow, you return south — but you carry the crossing with you for life.

- Lamai Camp »
- Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

12

ARUSHA / DEPARTURE

Day 12 | Northern Serengeti » Arusha — Farewell to the Plains

An early morning game drive through the northern Serengeti — the light is extraordinary at this hour and the plains are active. Breakfast at camp. Then a bush flight from the Kogatende or Lamai airstrip to Arusha's Kilimanjaro International Airport (approximately 1 hour 30 minutes). From above, the Serengeti stretches away below you — the wildebeest columns visible from the air, tiny dark rivers moving across an ocean of gold. You land at Kilimanjaro and are transferred to the airport for your international departure. Your guide hands you a small gift — a memento of twelve extraordinary days. You promise to return. You know you will. Meals Included on Departure Day: Breakfast

- International Departure »
- Breakfast

INVESTMENT

Pricing & Inclusions

PER PERSON SHARING

\$14,200

SINGLE TRAVELLER SUPPLEMENT

On Request

Prices are per person based on double/twin sharing accommodation. Single travellers pay the supplement shown above. Best migration timing: June–October for river crossings in the north; January–March for calving season in the south. Speak to a specialist for the right month for you.

SEASONAL PRICING

Jan – May	BEST VALUE	\$12,800
Green season — newborn wildlife, quiet camps		
May – Sep	PEAK SEASON	\$16,350
Peak dry season & the Great Migration		
Sep – Dec	SHOULDER SEASON	\$14,500
Migration moves south, short rains begin		

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- » All accommodation, Full Board
- » All alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages
- » All national park fees
- » Hot air balloon safari (Serengeti)
- » Night game drives
- » Walking safari (Tarangire & Ngorongoro)
- » Ngorongoro Crater descent
- » Bush breakfasts & bush lunches
- » Sundowners & bonfire dinners
- » All internal flights (Lamai/Kogatende » Kilimanjaro)
- » Private 4x4 Land Cruiser & driver-guide
- » Airport transfers (Arusha)
- » Bottled water
- » Tanzania visa fees

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International flights to/from Kilimanjaro
- Gratuities for guides & camp staff
- Optional additional activities
- Items of a personal nature

FINDERS & KEEPERS SAFARIS

Tell us what you have in mind.

This itinerary is a starting point, not a fixed departure. The pace, the lodges, the length, the dates and the party travelling can all be reshaped around you.

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The Serengeti Grand Migration