



## 12 Day Best of Serengeti to Zanzibar Camping Tour

Overland 12-day eastern Africa experience, all the way to Zanzibar. Whether you're spotting lions deep in the Serengeti, hiking a lush mountain trail in the Usambara Mountains, cruising on a traditional dhow in the Indian Ocean's azure waters or interacting with local communities near Mto wa Mbu, you're set to learn a thing or two about the wonders of these lands and its people. Travel with an expert local leader and a group of likeminded adventurers keen to scour every inch of the Ngorongoro Crater for the Big Five and share travel stories over a seafood meal in Zanzibar.



### HIGHLIGHTS

Explore the Serengeti, a wildlife arena like no other, and look for lions, leopards, elephants and giraffes in this iconic park.

Take a mind-blowing safari across the floor of the Ngorongoro Crater in an open-roof 4WD vehicle for a chance to see endangered black rhinoceros.

Embark on a hike through the Usambara Mountains to the Irente viewpoint, then stop at a farm on the way back for a picnic lunch.

Wander around Stone Town's bustling bazaars and fragrant spice markets and consider heading on an optional guided tour of the island's spice plantations.

Accompanied by a local crew — a leader, driver and cook — you'll be in excellent hands for the duration of your adventure.



# ITINERARY

**12 Days**  
**Kenya, Tanzania**

## DAY 1 NAIROBI

Jambo! Welcome to Kenya.

Your adventure begins with a welcome meeting at 6pm on Day 1.

You can arrive at any time as there are no activities planned until this important meeting; please ask the hotel reception where it will take place. If your flight arrives too late, we recommend that you consider arriving a day early and book a night's accommodation prior to the trip so you are able to attend. If you are going to be late please inform the hotel reception. We'll be collecting your insurance details and next of kin information at this meeting so please ensure you have all details on hand to provide to your leader.

Nairobi - which takes its name from a Masai phrase *Enkare Nyrobi* meaning 'place of cool waters' - has a cosmopolitan atmosphere. There are plenty of good bars and restaurants, while markets and shops have most things you could want or need, as well as various arts and crafts from the region.

If you arrive early, you can head out and explore the National Museum of Kenya, the Karen Blixen Museum (author of *Out of Africa*) or Bomas of Kenya where traditional homesteads of several Kenyan tribes are displayed in an outdoor village.

### Optional Activities

From Farm to Feast In Focus Urban Adventure - USD86

A Day with the Maasai Urban Adventure - USD140

City Experience Urban Adventure - USD55

Giraffes & Elephants Urban Adventure - USD70

Hell's Gate National Park Urban Adventure - USD160

### Meals Included

None

### Accommodation

Hotel (1 nt)

### Nairobi

Nairobi is the capital and largest city in Kenya. The name "Nairobi" comes from the Maasai phrase *Enkare Nyrobi*, which translates to "the place of cool waters". However, it is popularly known as the "Green City in the Sun" and is surrounded by several expanding villa suburbs.

Founded in 1899 as a simple rail depot on the railway linking Mombasa to Uganda, the town quickly grew to become the capital of British East Africa in 1907 and eventually the capital of a free Kenyan republic in 1963. During Kenya's colonial period, the city became a center for the colony's coffee, tea and sisal industry. Nairobi is the most populated city in East Africa, with a current estimated population of about 3 million.

Nairobi is now one of the most prominent cities in Africa politically and financially. Home to many companies and organizations, including the United Nations Environment Programme and the UN Office in Africa, Nairobi is a hub for business and culture. The Nairobi Stock Exchange (NSE) is one of the largest in Africa, ranked fourth in terms of trading volume and capable of making 10 million trades a day. The Globalization and World Cities Study Group and Network (GaWC) defines Nairobi as a prominent social centre.

## DAY 2 MTO WA MBU

Depart early for Mto wa Mbu in your overland truck (approximately 10 hours). The trip includes a border crossing



from Kenya into Tanzania, so be sure to have your passport handy. While you're on the road, there will be a stop at an ATM and a market or shop to stock up on any supplies you might need for the coming days. Arrive in Mto wa Mbu and acquaint yourself with this delightful small village – it's a fascinating snapshot of small-town African life, situated well off the tourist trail.

#### **Meals Included**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### **Accommodation**

Camping (with facilities) (1 nt)

### **DAY 3**

#### **NGORONGORO CRATER/SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK**

Get up early, put your camping and personal gear into a six-person jeep and head out for an excursion into the Serengeti via the Ngorongoro Crater. Enjoy a safari in the crater, spending 3–4 hours exploring this incredible, perfectly intact volcanic caldera. Watch for black rhinos, lions, leopards, elephants, impalas, zebras and hippos. The crater floor offers excellent game viewing all year round (some 30,000 animals live here) and the photo opportunities are unrivalled. Next, it's on to the wide-open plains of the Serengeti. Green after the rains, brown and burnt in the dry season, this is perhaps the quintessential image of Africa – the home of thousands of hooved animals and fierce predators. Your campsite is within the Serengeti itself, so listen out for the sounds of nocturnal animals as you drift off to sleep.

#### **Included Activities**

Ngorongoro Crater – 4 x 4 Game Drive  
Serengeti National Park – 4 x 4 Game Drive

#### **Meals Included**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### **Accommodation**

Camping (with basic facilities) (1 nt)

*You will notice some Masai villages in the region of the Ngorongoro crater offering a cultural experience. We recommend avoiding these villages, as they can impact negatively on the Masai culture and travellers' perceptions of it by selling an artificial experience.*

*Our camp within the Serengeti National Park does not have a fence to separate the camp from the animals. This is quite the experience as animals such as buffalo and hyenas often come close to camp after sundown. On arrival at the camp your leader will give a detailed safety briefing on what is required to ensure the safety of the group.*

#### **Serengeti National Park**

The Serengeti is most famous for the largest and longest overland migration in the world. This migration is one of the ten natural travel wonders of the world. Around October, nearly 2 million herbivores travel from the northern hills toward the southern plains, crossing the Mara River, in pursuit of the rains. In April, they then return to the north through the west, once again crossing the Mara River. This phenomenon is sometimes called the Circular Migration. Over 250 000 wildebeest alone will die along the journey from Tanzania to Masai Mara Reserve in upper Kenya, a total of 800 km. Death is often caused by injury, exhaustion, or predation.

Approximately 70 larger mammal and some 500 avifauna species are found there. This high diversity in terms of species is a function of diverse habitats ranging from riverine forests, swamps, kopjes, grasslands and woodlands. Blue Wildebeests, gazelles, zebras and buffalos are some of the commonly found large mammals in the region.

The Ngorongoro area is part of the Serengeti ecosystem, and to the north-west it adjoins the Serengeti NP and is contiguous with the southern Serengeti plains. These plains also extend to the north into the unprotected Loliondo division and are kept open to wildlife through transhuman pastoralism practiced by Masaai. The south and west of the area are volcanic highlands and the southern and eastern boundaries are approximately defined by the rim of the Great Rift Valley wall, which also prevents animal migration in these directions.



**DAY 4**  
**SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK**

Awake at dawn and embark on a game drive. You will head out while the animals are at their most active, then head back to camp for brunch at around 11 am. After spending the middle of the day relaxing, just like the animals do, head out again as the day begins to cool. You'll return from this second game drive in time for dinner. There's also the option of a balloon ride over the park this morning – in place of some of today's game drives. If you have pre-booked this activity, you will be picked up before dawn and driven to the launch site. After a safety briefing, glide through the dawn, sometimes at tree height, getting some amazing photo opportunities. Sometimes you will ascend, getting an overview of the enormity of the plains and the early morning movements of the teeming herds. After landing, indulge in a five-star bush breakfast, then be returned to camp.

**Optional Activities**

Serengeti National Park – Balloon Ride (from price) – USD599

**Included Activities**

Serengeti National Park – 4 x 4 Game Drive

**Meals Included**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation**

Camping (with basic facilities) (1 nt)

*The balloon ride is offered as a pre-booked service which will guarantee you a place. If you would rather wait and get a better price by booking this locally on the ground, you are welcome to, but keep in mind that this is a popular activity and places are limited. If you participate in this activity you will miss the morning half of the included game drive.*

**DAY 5**  
**SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK/MTO WA MBU**

Rise with the sun and enjoy another game drive as you exit the Serengeti. Jump back into your overland vehicle and head for Mto wa Mbu. Once camp is set-up join the local community for a guided stroll around the farming areas, milling machine, and local homes and farmlands, before a local meal in town.

**Included Activities**

Serengeti National Park – 4 x 4 Game Drive  
Mto Wa Mbu – Village Walk & Local Dinner

**Meals Included**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation**

Camping (with facilities) (1 nt)

**DAY 6**  
**USUMBARA MOUNTAINS**

Prepare yourself for a long travel day heading for the Usambara Mountains (approximately ten hours). Stretch your legs during a brief supply stop in Arusha, then jump back in the vehicle and watch the ever-changing scenery, read your favourite book or get to really know your fellow travellers. Your base will be Lushoto, an old German colony and home to the Wasambaa people. This highland town sits at approximately 1400 metres and this evening you'll camp in the grounds of one of the oldest hotels in Africa.



**Meals Included**

1 Breakfast, 1 Dinner

**Accommodation**

Camping (with facilities) (1nt)

**DAY 7  
USAMBARA MOUNTAINS**

Explore the beautiful Usambara Mountains, a lovely unspoilt area of Tanzania. Unlike the coast and the north, very few tourists visit this part of the country, so it has a freshness that can be hard to find elsewhere. As beautiful as the surrounding mountains and rainforests are, however, the real jewels here are the local people and villages. You'll experience some gentle hospitality on a visit to some of the small local communities. From your base, you will take a walk out to the gorgeous Irente viewpoint. It's best to pack some water and snacks in a day pack for this trip. On your way back, visit a local cultural project based at Irente farm and enjoy a picnic lunch.

**Included Activities**

Irente – Lushoto hike & local lunch

**Meals Included**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation**

Camping (with facilities) (1nt)

**DAY 8  
DAR ES SALAAM**

Leaving the mountains behind, travel still further south to the coastal town of Kipepeo Beach in Dar es Salaam (380km, approximately 8-9 hours). Your camp at Kipepeo is by the beach, so make the most of it – perhaps take a stroll along the shore after you arrive and settle in. The camp is on the grounds of a hotel with upgrades usually possible

**Meals Included**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation**

Camping (with facilities) 1 night

**DAY 9  
STONE TOWN**

Catch a ferry to Africa's 'Spice Island' of Zanzibar. Filled with pristine white-sand beaches, winding cobblestone alleyways and fragrant bazaars, Zanzibar has had a colourful history – everything from slave traders to Arabian sultans and fruit exporters. The sight of traditional dhows sailing along the coast evokes what the island must have been like in centuries ago. The old part of Zanzibar's main city is known as Stone Town, and the best way to see this is on foot, exploring the markets, shops, mosques, palaces and courtyards. When the sun is setting, why not grab a drink from a bar overlooking the seafront. A seafood curry at a local restaurant is also a great choice. You'll spend the night in Stone Town at a basic inn.

**Meals Included**

Breakfast

**Accommodation**

Hotel (1 nt)

**Optional Activities**

Stone Town Tour – Dharajani Market, Joseph's Cathedral, Palace Museum, Forodhani Food Market – USD20



### Special Information

As this is a combination trip the composition of your group may change at this location. There will be a group meeting to discuss the next stage of your itinerary and meet your new fellow travellers.

## DAY 10 ZANZIBAR NORTHERN BEACHES

Once checked out of your Stone Town accommodation, consider booking in to an optional guided tour of the island's spice plantations, learning all about the history of this town's spice trade. You will have the opportunity to smell and taste various spices, such as cinnamon, vanilla and ginger, plus sample some teas made with these spices too. After lunch, head to the Northern Beaches, where white sands and sparkling blue seas await. This is the Indian Ocean at its best.

### Optional Activities

Zanzibar – Spice Tour – USD25

### Meals Included

Breakfast

### Accommodation

Bungalow (1 nt)

## DAY 11 ZANZIBAR NORTHERN BEACHES

Enjoy free time in this beautiful archipelago today. There are many ways you can spend your day – perhaps talk to your leader for any recommendations they might have. Snorkelling in search of exotic fish is an excellent option, or you could take a traditional dhow boat on the water. You might also like to feast on a sumptuous lunch of grilled local seafood, or just relax in a hammock underneath a coconut tree with a good book. It's totally up to you!

### Optional Activities

Zanzibar – Dhow Trip – USD60

Zanzibar – Snorkeling – USD60

### Meals Included

Breakfast

### Accommodation

Bungalow (1 nt)

## DAY 12 STONE TOWN

After checking out of your accommodation this morning, you will make your way back to Stone Town, arriving at a centrally-located hotel around 12 pm. With no activities planned for today, you are free to leave at any time. That doesn't mean your adventure has to come to an end! If you wish to stay on in Zanzibar, either at the Northern Beaches beach resort or in Stone Town, we'll be happy to organise additional accommodation (subject to availability).

### Meals Included

Breakfast

### Special Information

If you wish to organise onward transfers today, please note that the easiest option is to fly out of Zanzibar Airport. However, if you have arranged to fly out of Dar es Salaam Airport, ferries depart Zanzibar at 7.30 am, 9.30 am, 12.30 pm and 3.30 pm. It's important to allow enough time to get back to mainland Africa if you need to catch your departing flight from Dar es Salaam. Speak to your group leader earlier in your trip for more



## Tour Information

### **Pre Departure Information Booklet:**

Once booking has been confirmed we will send you a full and detailed pre-departure Booklet to help you prepare, below is some basic tour information

### **Joining point**

Kenya Comfort Hotel Suites  
junction of Milimani/Ralph Bunche, Milimani, Nairobi,  
Nairobi  
KENYA  
Phone: 254 737 111 111

The Kenya Comfort Hotel Suites is simple but clean and comfortable. All rooms have en-suites with hot water, TV's, and WiFi is available. Hotel facilities include a swimming pool, bar & restaurant.

### **Finish point**

Shangani Hotel  
Kenyatta Street  
Shangani  
Stone Town,  
TANZANIA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF  
Phone: +255 777411703

### **Accommodation**

Camping (with basic facilities) (2 nights), Camping (with facilities) (5 nights), Hotel (2 nights), Bungalow (2 night)

Accommodation on this trip is mainly in two-person canvas dome tents with camping mattresses supplied.

The type and variety of accommodation is determined by conditions on each of our routes. Each route is different - on some we use a mixture of campsites and wild camps; on others we also use hotels. In Africa it's not usually practical to camp when staying in towns and cities so we use hotel accommodation and eat out in local restaurants.

There may be the occasional night stop, when we stay in the grounds of a hotel or at a campsite which may also have cabins available. In this case there may be a choice of camping or upgrading to a room (at additional cost). Keep in mind that if we are staying in dormitory accommodation, you may have to share with other passengers or be split into same sex rooms.

Campsites do have facilities but they usually aren't to the same standard you would find in western countries. Some are more basic than others.

### **Meals**

Most meals are included while camping on our overland safaris.

For lunches not included, a budget of USD10 to USD15 per meal will be more than sufficient.

For dinners not included, your leader will normally recommend options and restaurants where you can safely try the local specialties of the region. Expect meals to cost between USD12 to USD25 for a main.

These are indicative prices only. If you are in a tight budget and are happy to try local food, you can eat cheaper than this.

By travelling on an Overland trip you have chosen a participation camping tour. This means that you will be helping your cook prepare meals for the group. You may also get the chance to help with the shopping.

Your cook (East Africa only) will come up with meal ideas and quantities needed for large groups. Participating in the camp is usually done on a duty roster system with group of 5 or 6 people (depending on group size) having a different camp job each day. If you have any dietary requirements please tell us at the time of booking, and also remind your crew at your welcome meeting.

A typical camp breakfast might be toast with spreads, cereal, something hot such as eggs or pancakes, as well as tea and coffee.



Lunch is almost always a sandwich with healthy salad and assorted fillings, sometimes with fruit to follow. There may be a chance on occasion to buy your lunch. Dinner might be a BBQ, rice dish or pasta dish and there is always the chance to try some African food such as ugali and stew.

One thing is sure - you definitely won't go hungry or lose weight on your safari! When you aren't camping you will have the freedom to decide where, what and with whom you eat.

### **Transport**

Overland vehicle, 4 x4 Safari Vehicle, Ferry, Minibus

The trucks are purpose-built, self-contained safari vehicles.

There are many long hours spent driving on rough roads on all African itineraries.

African conditions are extremely tough on vehicles. While we fastidiously maintain our vehicles at our workshops, you should not expect Africa to be your traditional touring experience. While it's certainly our aim to avoid them, it's important that you set off on your trip knowing that the occasional breakdown can happen and are best treated as part of the African adventure. Due to wet weather there may be times when we have to take an alternative route which will mean longer travel times.

### **Luggage**

We advise clients to be as light as possible when travelling through Africa. It is not a destination where you want to lug suitcases and heavy bags around. Lodges rarely have suitcase ramps meaning wheels are sometimes more of a hindrance and also impact on the case fitting in the lockers. On booking the pre-departure info will have a packing guide to help you prepare.

**Should you have further questions, please feel free to contact us on the below details.**

**General Enquiries & Reservations** - [info@detourafrica.co.za](mailto:info@detourafrica.co.za)

**Toll Free US/Canada** - **1-800-287-0823**

**Toll Free UK** - **0-808-134-9963**

**Toll Free Australia** - **1-800-897-833**

**Other Countries** - **+ 27 21 424 1115**

**SAFARI NJEMA**

