

Essence of Tanzania Scheduled Safari

Tarangire National Park – Ngorongoro Crater – Serengeti National Park
7 Days / 6 Nights



Unwind under vast African skies and discover the wild spirit of Tanzania on this leisurely safari. From Tarangire – famed for its elephant population and impressive baobab trees – to the world famous Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti National Park, we invite you to explore with us.

Our Serengeti Wilderness Camps - intimate tented camps offering great food and excellent hospitality - are located in pristine areas of the Serengeti/Ndutu eco-system.

Our guides are experienced professionals committed to ensuring optimal game-viewing throughout your safari. In our specially customised, extended land cruisers the windows are enlarged and the roof height raised to allow ease of photography and game-viewing through the 360 degree view hatches, with plenty of room to stretch your legs.

We aim to get you as close to the migration as possible. From January-mid March we include nights at Ndutu for the wildebeest calving in the south. Between April – June the central Serengeti is well located for the herds moving through, while from July -October we include time in the north – for anticipated Mara River crossings.



Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Duration
Tarangire Ndovu Tented Lodge	Tarangire National Park	Full board	2 Nights
The Retreat at Ngorongoro	Karatu	Full board	1 Night
Ndutu Wilderness Camp/ Serengeti Wilderness Camp/ Serengeti North Wilderness Camp	Ndutu/ Serengeti	All meals and local drinks	3 Nights

2024 Scheduled departure dates: *(this is a small group departure with min 2, max 7 guests)*

05 Jan/ 17 Feb/ 26 Feb/ 30 Mar/ 04 May/ 22 Jun/ 13 Jul/ 03 Aug/ 07 Sep/ 28 Sep/ 26 Oct/ 09 Nov/ 14 Dec



Brief itinerary:

Day 1	Depart from your Arusha Hotel to Tarangire National Park. Balance of day enjoying game drives in the area, with picnic lunch included. Overnight at Tarangire Ndovu Tented Lodge or similar.
Day 2	Full day exploring Tarangire. Overnight Tarangire Ndovu Tented Lodge or similar.
Day 3	Morning depart Tarangire. Continue to the highlands of Karatu, stopping on the way to view Manyara and the escarpment below. Crater tour. Overnight at a lodge either crater rim or Karatu.
Day 4	Continue onto the Serengeti eco-system to overnight at Serengeti/Ndutu Wilderness camp.
Day 5	Full day exploring the Serengeti. Overnight at a Serengeti Wilderness Camp, or similar.
Day 6	A full day exploring the Serengeti. Overnight as above.
Day 7	From Serengeti Central/Ndutu camp either drive or fly back to Arusha. From Serengeti NORTH, compulsory flight to Arusha/Kilimanjaro. End services in Arusha.

Departure dates and Serengeti camps:

2024 Departures – 7-Day Safari		
Fri 05 January Sat 17 February Mon 26 February	Ndutu x 3 nights	View Digital Itinerary
Sat 30 March Sat 04 May	Central Serengeti x 3nights	View Digital Itinerary
Sat 22 June Sat 13 July Sat 03 August Sat 07 September Sat 28 September Sat 26 October	Central Serengeti x 1 night / Ser North x 2 nights FLY from Kogatende	View Digital Itinerary
Sat 09 November	Central Serengeti x 3nights	View Digital Itinerary
Sat 14 December	Ndutu x 2 nights / Central x 1 night	View Digital Itinerary

Please note: Camps may vary slightly depending on time of year in order to give you the best possible game viewing experience. Please note that on rare occasions changes may be implemented and final itinerary will be confirmed at time of booking.



Detailed itinerary:

Day 1: Arusha - Tarangire Ndovu Tented Lodge, Tarangire National Park

An early morning briefing at your Arusha hotel kick starts your safari, before you head off away from the main safari route of the northern circuit, to Tarangire National Park, a true wildlife gem known primarily for its vast elephant population and impressive baobab trees. (Driving time 90 mins - 2 hours)

Highly underrated, yet bursting with a dense wildlife population, it won't take you long to appreciate just why we love Tarangire.

During the dry season (June to September) thousands of animals including elephant, buffalo, giraffe, wildebeest, kudu, and the rarely seen oryx migrate from the dry Maasai steppe to the Tarangire River in search of water.

Lion, leopard and other predators follow, so be sure to charge your camera battery and empty your memory stick as some unique memories are waiting to be made. With impressive landscapes dominated by baobab trees, an enormous elephant population and over 550 varieties of bird, Tarangire offers secluded game viewing and loads of game – a winning combination in anyone's book!

Spend the day enjoying game drives, with picnic lunch included.

Overnight: Tarangire Ndovu Tented Lodge (or similar)

Tarangire Ndovu Tented Lodge is located in the heart of Tarangire, 45 minutes from Kuro airstrip. This delightful permanent tented camp offers ten standard suites, and 2 x two bedroom inter-connected family suites. The entrance to the spacious tents comprises double sliding doors with mosquito netting, while the netted windows with roll up canvas allow the breeze to flow through the tent.

With polished concrete floors, elegant furnishing in natural tones and great views out over the plains, it may be hard to believe you are in a safari tent. Enjoy simple but wholesome meals in the thatched main area, or beside the swimming pool – and wind down the day around the campfire, sundowner in hand of course! The camp operates on solar and generator power, and free Wifi is available.

Activities include game drives, guided walking safaris, bush breakfasts, community and cultural visits.



Day 2: Tarangire Ndovu Tented Lodge, Tarangire National Park

Enjoy a leisurely day on game drives exploring Tarangire National Park.

Overnight: Tarangire Ndovu Tented Lodge (or similar)

Day 3: The Retreat, Ngorongoro

Morning game drive in Tarangire. Head to the highlands of Karatu, stopping on the way to view Manyara and the escarpment below.

Overnight: The Retreat at Ngorongoro (or similar)

The Retreat at Ngorongoro is an oasis in rural Karatu, bordering the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. When creating this lodge, a serious tree planting project that would serve to off-set its our carbon footprint was embarked on. Planting over 40,000 indigenous trees wasn't an easy task, but with persistence, success followed. This tree planting brought in numerous bird species(hence the bird-themed concept of the lodge), insects and other small animals. Indigenous flowers blossom here, while the vegetable garden & orchard produce fresh food served at the Kipepeo Restaurant. The Retreat proudly harvests their own honey, roasts their own coffee, makes their own jams and juices, and uses firewood from the pruned branches of the trees they planted. Solar panels are used to heat water.

The 25 cottages are tastefully decorated and spacious - offering a generous 90 square meters, as well as a deck overlooking the Ngorongoro forest. Guests can relax in The Nest Lounge, or get active in the fitness room. There is also a lovely swimming pool in which to cool off and soak up the tranquil surroundings of this delightful property.



Days 4-6: Ngorongoro Crater - Serengeti Wilderness Camps

An early start today, but one we're sure you've been itching to tick off your African travel bucket list. Enjoy a full morning and picnic lunch in the Ngorongoro Crater, one of the natural wonders of the world. The volcanic caldera of Ngorongoro offers spectacular game viewing in the crater. We can almost guarantee you four of the Big Five will show up, as well as a rich variety of birds, all viewed against the backdrop of the thickly forested crater walls. Varied terrains and dramatic landscapes consisting of forest, grasslands and both freshwater and soda lakes make the Ngorongoro Crater a true marvel of creation.



(On some Essence of Tanzania itineraries, your crater visit may take place on Day 3, in the afternoon. The timing of this activity will be confirmed by your guide when commencing this safari)

Continue onto the Serengeti, home to more than three million large mammals spread over vast endless plains. It is here that we may encounter the fascinating spectacle of the annual wildebeest migration, where one and quarter million wildebeest trek in columns of up to forty kilometres long in search of grazing, drawing with them plenty predators and numerous other species of game.

From January to March the herds can largely be found birthing their young in the southern area around Ndotu, before proceeding north through the centre and Western Corridor during June and July, eventually splitting to the west and north as they continue their way toward the Mara River. August to October sees dramatic river crossings which can only be considered Africa's "greatest leap of faith", before the herds return south in November to repeat this amazing instinctive procession all over again.

Overnight for 3 nights at one, or a combination of, the below Serengeti Wilderness Camps (or similar) depending on the time of year.

Overnight: Ndotu Wilderness Camp

[View iBrochure](#)

Ndotu Wilderness Camp available in the Ndotu area of the Serengeti ecosystem typically from December—March, which coincides with the 'calving season'. It is placed in a private site, in the heart of the Ndotu plains – nestled under shady trees. Plenty of predators can be found year round in this area. The diverse eco-systems, from woodlands, to plains, to soda lakes, within the Ndotu area make it a unique place for bird watching.



OR

Overnight: Serengeti Wilderness Camp

[View iBrochure](#)

Serengeti Wilderness camp is set on a beautiful section of river with great views and resident game. The site is exceptional! Lion, leopard, cheetah, gazelle, impala, buffalo, baboon and some great birds including pygmy falcon can all be spotted in the area. We are tucked away from other lodges and camps, without the disturbance of noise or other lights. It's incredibly peaceful at night.



OR

Overnight: Serengeti North Wilderness Camp [View iBrochure](#)

Serengeti North Wilderness Camp is a 'seasonal' camp located in the north of the Serengeti National Park, a short distance from the Mara River. This is *the* place to be between June and November when masses of migrating Wildebeest and Zebra cross over the Mara River.



Spend the following few days enjoying half or full day game drives in the Serengeti.

We highly recommend booking a **Hot Air Balloon trip** (optional extra).

A hot air balloon safari over one of Africa's most famous and majestic national parks is not easily captured in words. The quiet of floating over plains, the exhilaration of climbing into the pink-blue of the early dawn on invisible currents, the breathless awe of peering over the basket's edge at this vast swathe of wild Africa. Take off is at dawn and a champagne bush breakfast completes this must-do adventure.



Day 7: End of Itinerary

After breakfast, return by road to Arusha (driving time +- 6-8 hours depending on which camp you are staying at and game viewing en route). Or, transfer to airstrip for your optional return flight back to Arusha/ Kilimanjaro airport. It is an exceptionally scenic flight across the vast expanse of the Rift Valley escarpments and the highlands of Ngorongoro.

If you are staying in NORTHERN Serengeti, the flight back is COMPULSORY as the distance back to Arusha/ Kilimanjaro is too far to cover in one day.

End of safari.

Package price:

ESSENCE OF TANZANIA Seven day/six nights	2024 Prices Scheduled Departures Guaranteed minimum two guests		Single room supp
January – mid March HIGH Season mid December 2024	Ndutu x 3 nights Ndutu x 2/ SWC x 1	USD 4269 pps Including park/camp fees of USD 804	USD 550
Mid March, May, June & November	Serengeti Central x 3 nights	USD 3407 pps Including park/camp fees of USD 826	USD 40
Mid June – October PEAK season	Central Serengeti x 1 night / Serengeti North x 2 nights	USD 4667 pps Including park/camp fees of USD 862 INCLUDING flight +/- USD 405	USD 750
One way flight SER-ARS/JRO KOGA-ARS/JRO NDUTU-ARS/JRO	Prices: (Depends on airline used please use as a guideline) USD 265 / 330 USD 370 / 405 USD 345 / 415		

This safari can also be booked on a private basis at an additional cost.

Included:

- Services of a Wild Frontiers guide
- Game drives in Tarangire National Park (including picnic lunch), Serengeti National Park & Ngorongoro
- 2 night accommodation at Tarangire Ndovu Tented Lodge or similar including dinner and breakfast
- 1 night accommodation at The Retreat at Ngorongoro or similar on a full board basis
- Ngorongoro Crater Visit
- 3 nights accommodation at Ndutu Wilderness Camp/ Serengeti Wilderness Camp/ Serengeti North Wilderness Camp including all meals, local beer, house wine and soft drinks
- Flight from Kogatende to Arusha if staying in northern Serengeti
- Park and camp/ concession fees
- Bottled water in safari vehicle
- Full liability insurance cover and 24-hour emergency contact

Excluded:

- All flights, visas, travel insurance, health requirements including Yellow Fever inoculation & Covid testing if applicable, all items of a personal nature including gratuities.

We also specialise in designing private tailor made trips throughout Tanzania and East/ Central/ Southern Africa to meet your exact personal interests.

THE MIGRATION EXPLAINED:

The following should be used as a guideline when planning your safari to East Africa – movement of wildlife depends on a great many aspects. The following migration calendar helps to explain the seasonality of game viewing. Remember there is resident game throughout the year in the Serengeti/Ngorongoro eco-systems.

JAN / FEB / MARCH

The large herds of wildebeest are generally in the southern plains of the Serengeti eco-system, calving takes place over approximately two weeks. An abundance of predators, good visibility of game, mix of open plains and some woodland.

APRIL / MAY

The herds start moving toward central Serengeti. This is typically the rainy season, however, game viewing is still

excellent and there are some great discounts available at lodges and camps. It generally doesn't rain all day. Conditions for photography are generally superb with moody skies and good depth of colour.

JUNE / JULY / AUGUST

The wildebeest move from the central area and split to the west and north, continuing their trek toward the Mara River. River crossings may be seen in both the western corridor (Grumeti area) and north (Mara River).

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

Whilst some of the wildebeest successfully reach the Masai Mara, there are still hundreds of thousands remaining in the northern region of Serengeti, offering those with guests with loads of patience the chance to see exciting river crossings (the Mara River runs through the Serengeti).

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER

The massive herds start to return from the north, to the southern plains, before the cycle repeats again!



VISA REQUIREMENTS: All visitors to Tanzania must have a valid passport which needs to be valid for 6 months after return date of travel and have at least 3 blank pages in it. Except for exempted countries all visitors require a visa to enter Tanzania. South Africans visiting on holiday currently do not require a visa. Visas are currently US\$ 50 per person, single entry for most other nationalities. An exception is US citizens for whom a single-entry visa is US\$100

Visitors should apply via the e-visa portal: <https://eservices.immigration.go.tz/visa>.

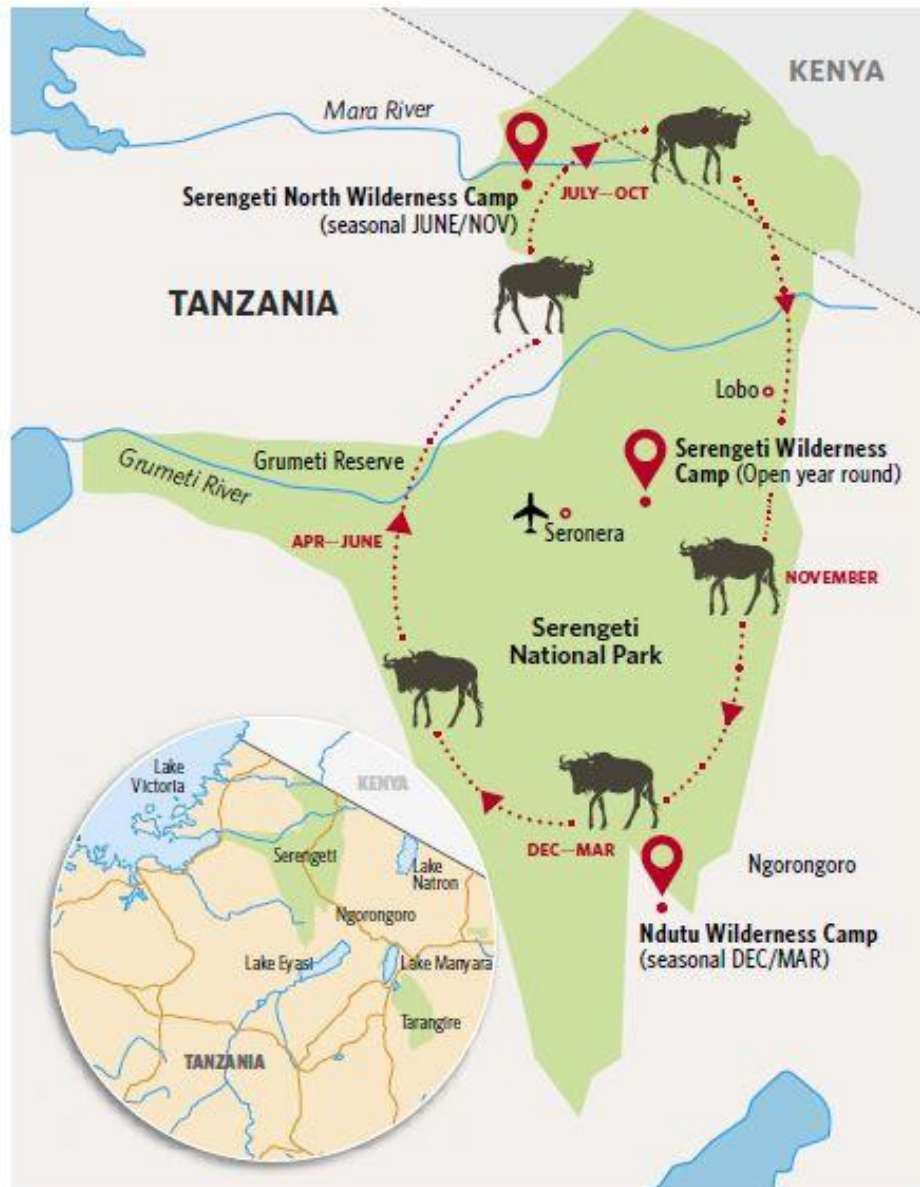
Visas are issued within 2 - 3 weeks.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: Please contact us for the latest Covid travel/ entry requirements.

Yellow fever vaccines are no longer required to enter Tanzania unless you have been via an endemic area. However, on the ground, it often differs and you are likely to be asked for Yellow Fever certificate, even if you have only been in transit via Nairobi. We strongly suggest you have a Yellow Fever vaccination, as regulations can change and often staff at border posts have the incorrect information on this, which can cause delays. (For a list of countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and countries requiring yellow fever vaccination click [here](#))

Precautions against Malaria are also recommended.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Is compulsory for all guests travelling with Wild Frontiers.



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*All prices are subject to change due to rate of exchange fluctuation or any unforeseen price increase.
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Updated Jun23/JC

PCM: 2024 Essence of Tanzania NWCx3 RACK/ 2024 Essence of Tanzania NWC & SWC RACK/ 2024 Essence of Tanzania NWCx3 RACK/

WETU: 2024 Essence of Tanzania Itinerary & Rates (various)



TANZANIA | UGANDA | KENYA | RWANDA | ZAMBIA | BOTSWANA | NAMIBIA | ETHIOPIA
VICTORIA FALLS MARATHON | KILIMANJARO MARATHON

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