INCENTIVE ITINERARY: KENYA

INCENTIVE GROUP – KENYA: NAIROBI, MASSAI MARA & MOMBASA

Group of 65 PAX for February 2014

5 nights / 6 days

Itinerary at a glance:

- 1 night Nairobi – The Boma Hotel 5*
- 2 nights Massai Mara – Keekorok Safari Lodge 4*
- 2 nights Mombasa – Sarova Whiteland’s 4*

For more information on incentive program approved hotels please check on:

DETAILED PROGRAM

Day 0: Departure from home.

Depart from home and take your preferable airline to Kenya, Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (NBO).

- Jomo Kenyatta International Airport hosts international airlines such as KLM Royal Dutch Airlines (KL) code sharing with Air France (AF), Qatar Airways (QR), Turkish Airlines (TK), Ethiopian Airlines (ET), Kenya Airways (KQ), Emirates Airlines (EK) and several domestic and regional flights.

- KLM Royal Dutch Airlines (KL), code sharing with Air France (AF) has daily flights from Amsterdam to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport. This would be the easiest connection from Europe. Alternatively, clients from Europe can take Turkish Airlines that land at Jomo Kenyatta via Istanbul. However, Ethiopian Airlines (ET) and Qatar Airways (QR) or Emirates Airlines (EK) could be the cheapest option in both destinations.

We can advise flight options and air fares on request to avoid incorrect or complicated flight bookings.

Day 01: Arrival | Nairobi City

Arrival at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, our representatives will warmly meet you and welcome you to Kenya... We then transfer to our hotel, located in a serene environment away from the busy central business district; offering peace of heart and mind, a nice place to relax and unwind before you begin your safari. Nairobi is Kenya’s principal economic, administrative, and cultural center and is one of the largest and fastest growing cities in Africa. Nairobi means ‘place of cool waters’ in the Masai language. Our representative will help you through check-in and make sure you settled in well.

Dinner and overnight at Boma Hotel Nairobi (DBB)

*The below is a list of optional activities that are available which clients can opt to book for. Please note they cannot be booked on ground as they have to be pre-arranged.*

- Private uses of VIP lounge at the airport
- Welcome Beverages at airport
- Cold towels at the Airport
- Massai dancers to welcome the group
- Luggage to travel with luggage vans
Day 02: Nairobi City | Massai Mara Game Reserve

Wake up call. Breakfast will be served. Clients check-out and pay for incidental expenses before departure. Depart to the Massai Mara National Reserve, offering wonderful scenery and plenty of game.

Arrival at the lodge to a very warm welcome with a cold drink and wet towels. Go through check-in procedures and settle in your rooms. Buffet lunch at your lodge, this afternoon is the moment we have been longing for – we depart on an exciting game viewing drive.

The Rolling plains and grasslands, stretching far into the horizons as far as the eye can see is home to the black-manned lion, the savannah elephant, the Cape buffalo, wildebeests, the elusive leopard, cheetah, the spotted & striped hyena, the rhino, topi, Burchell’s zebra, the Massai giraffe among many others. The Mara game reserve is one that can never disappoint. One is spoilt by the variety of bird and wildlife species in this national reserve..... For a long time, Mara National Reserve has stubbed her authority as the ‘granary’ of wildlife in Kenya. Drive back to the lodge Dinner at the main restaurant.

All meals and overnight at **Keekorok Lodge (LDBB)**

Day 03: Massai Mara Game Reserve

Wake-up call Breakfast at the lodge. Depart for a morning game drive - We are right in time for the greatest spectacle on earth; the eighth wonder of the world – the wildebeest migration.

From July to October, the fields are awash with thousands of wildebeests that yearly migrate from the Serengeti National park in Tanzania to Massai Mara in search of pasture. They cross the Nile crocodile invested Mara River. Tens of them drawn in the raging waters, others are captured and killed by the giant crocodiles. The wildebeests are closely followed by Burchell’s zebras and impalas. Predators too in their hundreds also follow and lay in wait for those animals that become weak or incapacitated during the long journey for a kill.

Be on the look-out for the big five that Massai Mara is famous for. These include the lion, savannah (African) elephant, the Cape buffalo, the leopard and the black rhino. In the early 20th century, Kenya was a famous hunting destination. Killing any of the big five game one pride, a sense of class, a feeling of heroism. We may even be so lucky to witness a leopard or a cheetah sprint and make a kill.

Lunch at the lodge. Depart for yet another exciting moment in the bush with guidance from our experienced guide. Drive back to the lodge. Dinner at the lodge

All meals and overnight at **Keekorok Lodge (LDBB)**
Day 04: Massai Mara Game Reserve | Mombasa

Wake up call, Breakfast at leisure. Guest check-out (and pay incidental expenses). Depart to Nairobi not empty handed though - With us are photographs – a capture of the special moments we have had on this tour to immortalize the experience. Arrive Nairobi and proceed to the Carnivore restaurant for lunch.

Transfer to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in time for your scheduled flight to Mombasa: Fly Nairobi Mombasa, Arrival at Moi International Airport Mombasa, you will be met and transferred to the comfort of your beach hotel.

Arrival at the hotel to a very warm welcome with a cold drink and wet towels. Go through check-in procedures and settle in your rooms. Dinner at your hotel.

Overnight at Sarova Whitesands Hotel (DBB)

Day 05: Mombasa

Breakfast will be served at your beach hotel, Full day spent at the beach enjoying the sun sand & sea. Lunch at the hotel.

20h00: Farewell Gala Dinner served at the beach Dinner and overnight at the hotel

Overnight at Sarova Whitesands Hotel (LDBB)

Day 06: Mombasa | Nairobi | Departure

0900Hrs: Breakfast will be served at your beach hotel
1000Hrs: Guest check-out (and pay incidental expenses)
1030Hrs: Transfer to Moi International Airport Mombasa in time for your scheduled flight to Nairobi
1300Hrs: Fly Mombasa Nairobi
1400Hrs: On arrival in Nairobi you will assisted to transit into your onward international flight.

End of our services.
KENYA HOTELS:

THE BOMA HOTEL

www.theboma.co.ke
SAROVA WHITE SANDS HOTEL

www.sarovahotels.com
OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

BALOON SAFARI IN MASSAI MARA

Today’s adventure begins just before dawn. Flames from the hot air balloon burners light the darkness as the crew inflate their craft. The first, pink tongues of sunlight flicker across the skies and the hot air balloon fills then rises. Suspended in a basket beneath the rainbow-coloured canopy, you’re off for a game-viewing adventure with an entirely different perspective. Apart from the occasional hiss of the burners, a lion’s roar, elephants crashing through the bush, baboons perched in the tips of the trees startled and screeching to see something above them, the flight above the Massai Mara plains is magically silent. At the end of the flight, the passengers are treated to a champagne breakfast in the bush, complete with flowers. China and crystal are set out on the table that is placed under a convenient acacia tree. The finishing touch to the flight is a game drive back to the camp, and the possibility of seeing the same pride of lions, or herd of elephants that had been viewed while ballooning. A flight certificate is issued on completion of the balloon safari.
VISIT TO AN AUTHENTIC MASSAI VILLAGE

Give yourself an opportunity to visit a local Massai village; you will be intrigued by the Massai people who stand out in their characteristic red wraps as they herd their cows amongst the wild animals of the vast plains. The Massai people have resisted the influence of Western civilization, however, some are adapting to the new modernized world. This Massai Village tour will make you understand their story and indulge ourselves a little in their way of life. Most Massai villages are set in a few acres with 8 foot high thicket grown fence with small entrance – this is to ensure their cattle which are kept inside the village remain safe from wild predators. You will be met by a young Massai Moran (warrior) who is almost all the village happen to speak some ‘tribal’ English - but our tour guide will be there to ensure conversation flows and stories are exchanged. As you approach the village more people will appear, greetings will be exchanged between you and the villagers and you will be invited to join in the singing and dancing - a warrior dance which consists of singing and energetic jumping, a stretch of your leg muscles. You will then be welcomed into one of the village huts to see how the inside looks like. You will be shown the Kitchen, the children sleeping area, the traditional bedding which is a soft goat skin. Later you will go out and be shown how the Massai make fire using very soft grass, dried elephant poop and pieces of soft and very hard wood. You will be informed on how a true Massai must be trained as warriors in case of threat and for protection. In this case you may be given an arrow to try and fire it!
One of the classic safari highlights, the bush breakfast is an experience not to be missed. Typically, guests are awakened by a very early morning cup of tea; they then set off on a game drive, which is timed to offer the very best chance of spotting 'The Big Five' (lion, elephant, rhino, buffalo and leopard). Setting off ahead of the guests, our hospitality team will arrive at the chosen breakfast spot in time to set up table, chairs, campfire and 'bush kitchen'. Upon arrival, the guests sit down to enjoy a uniquely scenic full English breakfast. Meanwhile, our chef will cook their choice of sausage, bacon, eggs, tomatoes and toast. After breakfast, there's another game drive back to the lodge.
NAIROBI CITY TOUR

The tour covers the main areas of interest in the city - the colourful market and shopping bazaars, the historic areas like the Parliament buildings and Mausoleum. Some time is spent at the renowned National Museum, where there are spellbinding displays of early man, tribal regalia and flora and fauna of Kenya. The tour also includes a visit to the adjacent Snake Park.
Truly a must for all 'Out of Africa' fans. Begin with a visit to the former home of famous novelist Karen von Blixen – author of “Out of Africa”. Now a Museum and explore the beautiful house and grounds at leisure. The story of Karen Blixen was made famous in the film “Out of Africa”. The Karen Blixen Museum is located in the house where Karen Christence Blixen-Fenecke lived from 1914 to 1931. It is a beautiful colonial house that along with the gardens have been restored to their former glory. It The house used to be a coffee plantation and contains many of her original art pieces along with some pieces donated by the makers of the film “Out of Africa”. Stop at the Kazuri Bead factory where you have an opportunity to see how the beads are made. Then continue to the Giraffe Centre where you feed the Giraffe from an elevated platform. In 1974 Jock Leslie-Melville and his wife Betty bought the land and moved five baby endangered Rothschild Giraffe onto the property where they successfully reared them. The original giraffes have subsequently had their own offspring that now live on the property. It is now open to visitors and guests can feed and photograph the tame Giraffes and Warthogs that wander around the Giraffe Manor gardens.
Only 7 km. south of the city of Nairobi lies the Nairobi Safari Walk, Kenya's new conservation based recreation facility. The combination of skilled and creative landscape design, unique wildlife species and detailed interpretation, renders the facility supremacy in tourism and conservation education. The Nairobi Safari Walk is the eye opener to Kenya's Parks and Reserves. It offers you an opportunity to learn what you expect to see across the country. Introductory talks on Kenya's parks and reserves can be arranged for you by the naturalists. You will have a taste of Kenya's rich Animal collection including the rare bongo, white rhino, albino zebra, a collection of cats, antelopes and primates. NSW is also home to a collection of about 150 species of local trees. Get to learn their varied traditional uses too.
Lantern-lit dinner begins with cocktails around the campfire. Dinner is then prepared on a blazing BBQ, accompanied by a wide range of salads and vegetables. While dessert and coffee is served, our cultural entertainers may entertain you with songs, chants and dance displays. Dine in the wild and taste safari-life at its best.
Nairobi Animal Orphanage is about 20 minutes drive from Nairobi’s city centre. Located only about 7 kilometers from the city centre, animal orphanage is easily accessible on tarmac roads, off Lang’ata Road, Kenya Wildlife Service Headquarters. The orphanage is a wider part of the Nairobi National Park – the first to be established in East Africa on the 16th of December 1946. The park makes Nairobi a special capital as it is the only city in world where wild animals live naturally in the wild transforming Nairobi into Africa’s prime safari capital. Nairobi Animal Orphanage, which was established in 1964, as a refuge for wild animals found abandoned, orphaned or injured throughout Kenya.
The aims of the orphanage were to release the animals into the wild whenever possible, provide conservation education to Kenyans and visitors from all over the world. Animals seen include Lion, cheetah, hyena, jackal, serval very rare sokoke cats, warthog, ostrich, leopard, various monkeys, baboon, buffalo. Nairobi Animal Orphanage today remains the most visited wildlife facility in Kenya and especially by Kenyans because it allows guests up-close viewing of wildlife. The Orphanage is home to deeply traumatized, often injured, suffering from shock and grief having lost their mother and family- orphaned animals from all over Kenya. The orphanage is not big - in fact, it is rather small, but this helps make it very intimate and easy to wander around. What adds to its charm and sense of personalization is that every enclosure has a notice describing the animals which allows you to relate to them. The Orphanage educates the public about wildlife and environmental conservation in Kenya. One can read the life history of each animal - whether it was rescued or born in captivity. Between 2.00 to 3.00 pm is a good time to see the animals as they are fed. The animals here include cheetahs, Lions, Leopards and Hyenas among others.
KENYA MAP, LOCATION AND PARKS INFORMATION
It is impossible to believe that just over 100 years ago the only visitors to the area which is now Nairobi were the Maasai tribe, who used to water their cattle at a "boggy waterhole". They called it Enkare Nyarobi – literally 'the place of cold water'. In the dying years of the 19th century as the Uganga railway forged its way through Kenya, the area became a railhead for the assault on the eastern wall of the escarpment. Because of the swampy surroundings, the railway workers camps rapidly turned into a shanty town, inhabited by rats which brought the plague, and it is doubtful if anyone could envisage that one day this would become the 'City in the Sun'.

Between the 1903 and 1908 potential settlers arrived in Kenya responding to the promise of cheap agricultural land (which did not strictly belong to the government to give away) and many wealthy sportsmen arrived to hunt the game. Hotels sprang up to cater for the visitors and the base for the valuable tourist industry was laid during those early years. In 1950 Nairobi became a City by Royal Charter, the streets ablaze with flowering trees and to this day the flowering jacaranda trees in the later months of the year are one of Nairobi's great attractions.

Nairobi is now a city of around 3 million people and the heart of the commerce and industry for the whole of East Africa. Over the years the city has developed with modern infrastructure, the expected high rise buildings, tourist hotels and many places of entertainment. Additionally Nairobi has a near perfect climate, lying 144 km south of the equator at an altitude of 5451ft (1662m) and 494 km from the shores of the Indian Ocean. The city has maintained its cosmopolitan ambience which is apparent, not only in the different races and communities who work in and around the city, but also in the architecture and variety of religious buildings, churches, temples, mosques, synagogues.

The range of attractions and places to visit are amazing. A typical day could perhaps start with a tour of the city, including visits to the excellent Railway Museum with its records of the history of the railway which is also the history of the country. Here visitors may see the carriage from which an unfortunate Superintendent for the Railway was dragged by a man-eating lion in the year 1900. The National Museum of Kenya has fine exhibits of East African fauna, birds, fish and reptiles as well as collection of cultural merit. An organised tour may also include visits to the City Hall and Law Courts, the bazaars and the markets with their colourful displays of locally grown fruit and flowers as well as handicrafts and many different centres of worship, including the spectacular Jamia Mosque. A visit should be paid to the Memorial Park, created in memory of the many victims of the inhumane bombing of the American Embassy and nearby buildings on 7 August 1998. This is the only city in the world which has a National Park on its doorstep, and within a short drive visitors enter completely a different world – the Nairobi National Park. Lion, cheetah, buffalo and rhino as well as more common plains game like gazelles, zebra, ostrich and giraffe live within the park.

Many will have heard of the film 'Out of Africa' which starred Meryl Streep as Karen Blixen and Robert Redford as her lover, Denys Finch Hatton.
The well developed suburb of Karen takes its name from the author, and any visit to this area should include a visit to her old home set 'in Africa, at the foot of the Ngong Hills'. A short distance away, the Giraffe Centre, where the history of the endangered Rothschild Giraffe (which include the famous "Daisy Rothschild") can be studied and the descendants of the family can be fed, will also appeal. A morning visit can be paid to the famous Daphne Sheldrake orphans, tiny elephant, rhino and occasionally a kudu which have been rescued from the wilds and are brought up until they are capable of returning to the bush.

Within the environs of Nairobi there are several excellent golf courses (one running alongside the main highway opposite the city centre); a proliferation of social clubs offering facilities for cricket, tennis, field hockey, squash, rugby and swimming and a popular race course set alongside the indigenous forest. The unique and popular Carnivore spit roast complex on the edge of the game park offers game meat as a speciality, in addition to the more normal roasts expected by dedicated meat-eaters. As a 'Safari capital' of East Africa, Nairobi has more than enough to entertain any visitor for several days, either before or after their planned safari.

**MASSAI MARA GAME RESERVE**

Probably the most famous of the reserves, the Masai Mara, in Kenya's south western corner, boasts an astonishing amount of game. Unfenced, the Mara is bounded in the east by the Ngama Hills and in the west by the Oloololo or Siria Escarpment. Gazelle, wildebeest and zebra graze in large numbers and where prey is found so are predators. Not only is this a great place in which to find game, but the wide greeny-gold savannahs spotted with thorn trees make it ideal for photography. The Mara, as it is known in Kenya, is ravishingly beautiful and also offers long, undisturbed views and utterly dramatic panoramas. The weather really means something here. The sun may beat down unforgivingly, huge clouds in fabulous shapes may sweep across the widest of skies, the wind ripples the grasses as though they are stroked by a giant hand. The landscape is stunning.

The famously black-manned Mara lions are possibly the stars of the Mara show, but cheetah, elephant, kongoni, topi, Thompson's gazelle, waterbuck, hyena, and primates are all here too. As with the rest of Kenya, the birding is good. There is no settlement within the reserve however; the Mara is in theory owned by the Maasai, pastoralists and, in earlier times, renowned lion-killers. Lodges and hotels offer the opportunity to buy their beadwork, checked cloths and copies of their spears. It is said that if lions scent approaching Maasai on the breeze they move swiftly in the opposite direction.

Famously, the Mara is the northerly end of the Great Migration, that great primeval surge of wildebeest, zebra and antelope that sweeps in from Tanzania's Serengeti to Kenya's Masai Mara as the Tanzanian grass starts to fail. They are tracked by the large predators who pick off the weak, the stragglers and the young. The great herds, nearing their destination by July, mass along the Mara River, pushing, shoving and fantastically noisy, just waiting for the first animal to cross so that they can all follow, lemming-like, on the final leg of the journey. However, crocodiles lie in wait, sluggishly cruising the waters, fully prepared for their best meal of the year. Many fail in the life-and-death struggle - drowned, eaten by the crocodiles or, made careless or weak by their stressful swim, brought down by lions. The Masai Mara is terrible yet wonderful, and not to be missed.
MOMBASA

Mombasa is a place steeped in history, yet at the same time fascinating commercial and cosmopolitan port town. Mombasa is an island connected to the mainland by bridges and ferries. The town overlooks a wide harbor, where commercial shipping mingles with traditional sailing dhows. Mombasa is a place steeped in history, yet at the same time fascinating commercial and cosmopolitan port town. Mombasa is an island connected to the mainland by bridges and ferries. The town overlooks a wide harbor, where commercial shipping mingles with traditional sailing dhows.

The true heart of Mombasa is found in the exotic old town, among the narrow winding streets and Arab architecture. The air here is always heavy with the scent of spices. Women wearing the traditional bui bui fill the narrow streets and busy markets. At the dhow docks fresh fish and goods from all along the coast arrive daily.

The streets are alive with the bright colours of the traditional coastal khanga and kikoy, the all purpose wrap around cloth worn by both men and women. At the water’s edge is Fort Jesus, an imposing fort that stands watch over the harbor. The high gun turrets, battlements and underground passages of this 16th Century Fort were the centre of a historic struggle for control of the Kenya coast between the Portuguese army and the Shirazi Arabs.

This war was waged around Mombasa over hundreds of years and countless battles, and the Fort stands as a testament to this tumultuous past. Modern Mombasa is a city of great diversity and life. This is a town were all are welcomed and quickly absorbed into this great coastal melting pot. Mosques, Hindu Temples and Christian churches surround streets that thrive with a world of cultures. Mombasa is a place where both history and progress are greatly valued, where a busy harbor existence is lived at its own unique, tropical pace.

KENYA CLIMATE

Average min and max temperatures in Mombasa, Kenya. Copyright © 2013 www.weatherconditionslive.com