

## 4 Day Mombasa Rendezvous

Ideally suited to those staying in Mombasa, this short safari travels through East Tsavo, Amboseli and Taita Hills. It is a compact trip but provides an excellent opportunity to view a diverse variety of wildlife and the overshadowing snow-capped peaks of Mount Kilimanjaro.

### Day 1 Mombasa – Tsavo East

After an early breakfast, pick up from your North/South coast beach hotel and depart. Drive north, along the main highway towards Nairobi, following the route of the railway line built by the British late in the nineteenth century. The road passes through the warehouses and workshops on the outskirts of Mombasa, climbing steadily and soon the vast plains of Tsavo become visible in the distance, with the rolling Taita Hills on the horizon. Enter Tsavo East National Park (12,000 sq kms) at Buchuma Gate, here the driver will open the roof of your bus, so you can stand up with the wind in your hair. Welcome to Africa, the safari has begun! Tsavo is the largest national park in Kenya and is split into East and West by the highway. You will arrive at your lodge in time for lunch and later enjoy time for relaxation before setting off back into the park for your afternoon game drive. Return to the lodge as the sun sets.

**Overnight Voi Safari Lodge or similar on a full board basis.**

### VOI SAFARI LODGE - TSAVO EAST

Strategically located in Tsavo East National Park the 50 room Voi Safari Lodge stands high above the town of Voi, and overlooks a vast expanse of African bush.

With its large herds of elephant and buffalo and wide diversity of animal, bird and plant life, Tsavo is an ideal stop-over en route to/from Mombasa.

From the lodge, you can look out onto the two water holes and see the ever-changing panorama of Africa unfold right before your eyes. There is a special viewing hide for camera enthusiasts, affording close-ups and excellent pictures of the wild animals as they come to drink.

The comfortable lodge is easily reached by car from Voi, on the Nairobi-Mombasa Road and only a few minutes drive takes you to the lodge itself.

## **Day 2 Tsavo East - Amboseli**

After an early breakfast, depart to Amboseli National Park. Join the main highway and continue northwards, passing Hunters Lodge, the sight of the infamous 'Man eaters of Tsavo' incident where lions attacked the workers building the railway, made famous in a Hollywood movie. Reach the township of Emali, here you stop to rest and enjoy your picnic lunch. You will leave the main road and head south into the national park. If the weather is clear you'll catch sight of the majestic Mount Kilimanjaro directly ahead. Enjoy a game drive through Amboseli (392 sq kms) taking you across this vast lakebed - often dry, but still very swampy in areas. Amboseli is best known for its great herds of elephant - you'll often find many of them standing knee-deep in the water, spraying themselves to keep cool. But there's a lot of other game here too - cheetah, buffalo, giraffe, many types of gazelle and other plains game - and it's all set against the amazing backdrop of majestic Mount Kilimanjaro showing all its glory. Arrive at your lodge as the sun sets.

**Overnight at Amboseli Sopa Lodge or similar on a full board basis.**

### **Amboseli Sopa Lodge**

Set on 200 acres of private land on the foothills of Africa's highest mountain, Mount Kilimanjaro, the lodge is perfectly poised to provide a luxurious base from which to explore the park and get some great pictures of this incredible mountain. The lodge is also close to where Ernest Hemingway lived whilst writing his famous novel, The Snows of Kilimanjaro. Each of the 47 rooms has their own private veranda on which to relax, sunbathe and take in the views. All rooms are en suite, with walk-in shower, lavatory, wash basin and shaving socket – they're all modern, spacious and comfortable. Meals are a cosmopolitan combination of European, African and Asian dishes, all made with fresh produce and served from the colourful buffet. There are also several bars, a great pool, TV lounge and many other small niceties that make this a superb location.

## **Day 3 Amboseli – Tsavo West**

An early departure after breakfast takes you east, across the spectacular Shetani lava flow, reminder of the molten outpouring that spilled down the scenic slopes of the nearby Chyulu Hills over the last three centuries. A zig-zagging road through scrub thorn and acacia leads you into Tsavo National Park, which together (East and West) form the largest of Kenya's parks. Spotting game as you go, especially gerenuk, Lunch at Kilaguni Lodge, after lunch there will be a game drive in the park and a visit to Mzima Springs with its underwater viewing holes and arrive at your lodge as the sun sets.

**Overnight at Sarova Taita Hills Safari Lodge on a full board basis.**

### **Sarova Taita Hills Safari Lodge**

Taita Wildlife Sanctuary is spectacularly located at the foot of the Taita Hills and adjacent to Tsavo National Park, approximately 210 kms from Mombasa.

The sanctuary has been privately owned and managed for more than 40 years and has developed an excellent reputation as one of the leading wildlife areas in the region and for its committed approach to wildlife conservation. More than 50 species of large mammals inhabit the 28,000 acre sanctuary, and these include lion, cheetah, elephant, leopard, buffalo and giraffe. Most of the sanctuary is unfenced and therefore wildlife numbers vary throughout the year depending on natural environmental factors. Habitat varies from woodland, riverine forest to open acacia grasslands. The sanctuary has over 300 resident and migrant species of birds. Such variety makes each game drive a unique and unforgettable experience.

### **Taita Hills Lodge**

Situated at the entrance to the wildlife sanctuary and recently refurbished to a high standard the accommodation is spacious and consists of 62 rooms (32 standard twins, 20 standard double 8 three bedded rooms and 2 suites). All with en suite facilities, balcony and views across the gardens to the hills beyond. Public area offers a lounge, dining room, bar, shop and conference room for groups up to 100. The flooring in the main complex is parka wood, with huge central fireplace with its funnel going all the way to the roof. There is also a good use of natural ornamental stone and impressive African artefacts decorating the walls. Delightful gardens with sun-beds around a refreshing swimming pool provide peaceful relaxation in between safari game drives.

### **Day 4 Taita Hill - Mombasa**

After breakfast enjoy a morning game drive in the sanctuary returning to the lodge for lunch before continuing your journey to Mombasa, aiming to reach your beach hotel late afternoon.

### **Cost Includes**

- Meet and greet services with assistance at your North or South Coast hotel
- All transport and game drives on road safaris will be in a modern safari cruiser (with seven window seats) with an English speaking driver-guide on shared basis
- Meals and accommodation as specified
- All park fees and government taxes
- ½ litre bottle mineral water per person per day on game drives

### **Cost Excludes**

- Visas and international flights
- International Airport taxes (clients pay direct)
- Driver-guide gratuities
- Drinks, dining rooms tips, portorage
- Personal travel, baggage and medical insurance
- Telephone bill, laundry and any items of a personal nature

### **Additional remarks**

- Cancellation policy as per agent's agreement or as per our printed Price Guide if no fixed contract is in place. Please request any further information on this if required.
- We may have to re-route the itinerary or accommodate in similar lodges in case of non-availability.
- Prices for domestic flights, airport taxes or park fees may be changed without prior notice. This is beyond our control and any increase levied will be passed to you.

### **Passenger Information**

- Passengers should bring only soft sided bags on safaris.
- This is a seat in bus programme and may form part of other programmes, other clients may therefore be joining or departing the safari at any time