

# 12-Day Tanzania Big Cats Photographic Safari

📍 Serengeti, Ngorongoro, Tarangire



Experience the ultimate **Tanzania Big Cats Photographic Safari**, a 12-day journey designed for wildlife photographers. This safari focuses on capturing Africa's most iconic predators in their natural habitats. You will explore **Tarangire National Park, Northern and Central Serengeti, and Ngorongoro Crater**, staying in **luxury photographic lodges and camps** strategically located near predator hotspots.

The adventure begins in **Arusha**, where you spend the first night at **Arusha Coffee Lodge**. This boutique retreat is ideal for resting, preparing gear, and reviewing photography techniques. The next morning, transfer to **Tarangire National Park**. You will stay 3 nights at **Sanctuary Swala Camp**, positioned near prime predator areas. Here, you can photograph **lions, elephants, and other wildlife** against the park's iconic baobab-studded landscapes.

Then, journey to the **Northern Serengeti**, staying 3 nights at **Lemala Kuria Hills**. This exclusive camp sits in a predator-rich area. Open plains, kopjes, and riverine forests offer excellent backdrops for photographing **lions, leopards, and cheetahs**. Sunrise and sunset drives maximize golden-hour lighting. Off-road access allows for **close and creative shots**.

Next, explore the **Central Serengeti**, staying 3 nights at **Namiri Plains Camp** in the Seronera region. This area is renowned for its **high predator density**. Capture dramatic hunting scenes, playful cubs, and iconic African landscapes. Your guides assist in tracking wildlife and framing perfect shots.

Finally, spend 2 nights at **Sanctuary Ngorongoro Crater Lodge**, perched on the crater rim. Photograph lions, hyenas, and herbivores in the dramatic crater floor, while enjoying panoramic views.

With expert guides, daily game drives, and carefully chosen accommodations, this safari ensures you leave with a **comprehensive portfolio of Africa's big cats and landscapes**, making it an unforgettable photographic adventure.

## Tour Facts

Group Size:  
**2-6**

Duration:  
**12**

Language:  
**English, France, Germany, Spain**

Tour Type:  
**continuous**

## Tour Itinerary

### Day 1 : Arrival in Arusha – Preparing for the Safari



Upon arrival at **Jomo Kenyatta International Airport** or **Kilimanjaro International Airport**, you will be met by our representative and transferred to **Arusha Coffee Lodge**, a boutique lodge surrounded by lush gardens. This elegant retreat provides a calm environment to **rest after your flight, check your camera gear, and prepare for the adventure ahead.**

Spend the afternoon relaxing, reviewing photography techniques, and getting familiar with your equipment. The lodge offers beautiful grounds and scenic views of the Ngong Hills, allowing for **preliminary wildlife or landscape practice shots** in a tranquil setting.

In the evening, enjoy a **welcome dinner** with your safari guide. They will brief you on the itinerary, photography tips, and expectations for your time in Tanzania’s top predator regions. This preparation ensures you are fully ready to maximize your photographic opportunities in Tarangire, Serengeti, and Ngorongoro.

**Accommodation:** Arusha Coffee Lodge (Bed & Breakfast)

Meals Included  
**LUNCH, BREAKFAST,**

Duration  
**8 Hours**

### Day 2 : Transfer to Tarangire National Park – First Photographic Game Drive



After breakfast at **Arusha Coffee Lodge**, transfer by road or light aircraft to **Tarangire National Park**, famous for its large lion prides, elephants, and iconic baobab trees. Upon arrival, settle into **Sanctuary Swala Camp**, a luxury photographic camp perfectly positioned near prime predator areas.

After lunch, embark on your **first game drive**. Tarangire’s open plains and riverine areas are ideal for photographing **lions, leopards, and other wildlife**. Your guide will assist in spotting predators and

positioning your vehicle for **unobstructed, low-angle shots**. Take advantage of the **late afternoon golden hour**, when light enhances textures, colors, and animal behavior for stunning photography.

Return to camp in the evening for dinner. Take time to **review your images**, discuss photographic techniques with your guide, and plan for the following day's early morning game drive. Tarangire's high concentration of big cats and scenic landscapes makes it a perfect start to your photography-focused safari.

**Accommodation:** Sanctuary Swala Camp (Full Board)

Meals Included <b>LUNCH, DINNER, BREAKFAST,</b>	Duration <b>8 Hours</b>
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### Day 3 : Full-Day Photographic Safari in Tarangire National Park



Begin the day with an **early morning game drive**, as predators are most active at dawn. Lions and leopards often emerge from their night-time dens, while elephants, giraffes, and zebras move across the plains in search of food and water. Capture **behavioral moments** such as hunting, stalking, or playful interactions.

Pause mid-morning for a **bush breakfast** in the park. This is also an opportunity to review your images and adjust camera settings. Your guide will scout areas with **high predator activity**, ensuring you maximize photographic opportunities. Tarangire's iconic baobabs provide dramatic backdrops, perfect for wide-angle landscape shots with wildlife in the foreground.

In the afternoon, continue exploring riverine forests and open savannahs. Cheetahs and leopards are often spotted near water sources, offering excellent chances for **intimate close-up portraits**. Return to camp before sunset, capturing **golden-hour silhouettes** of wildlife against the iconic Tarangire landscape.

In the evening, enjoy dinner at **Sanctuary Swala Camp**, and discuss photography techniques with your guide, including tips for composition, light, and predator behavior. This full-day experience ensures you capture **diverse and dynamic wildlife images** in a scenic, predator-rich environment.

**Accommodation:** Sanctuary Swala Camp (Full Board)

Meals Included <b>LUNCH, DINNER, BREAKFAST,</b>	Duration <b>7 Hours</b>
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### Day 4 : Morning Game Drive and Transfer to Northern Serengeti - Lemala Kuria Hills



Begin the day with an **early morning game drive in Tarangire National Park**. The golden light of dawn illuminates the park's iconic baobabs, while lions and leopards start their day. Photograph **lions stretching after a night hunt**, elephants drinking at the river, and zebras or wildebeest crossing open plains. Focus on **composition and lighting**, using trees, tall grasses, and the rising sun as natural framing elements.

After breakfast, prepare for your transfer to the **Northern Serengeti**. If flying, enjoy a **scenic flight over the Rift Valley escarpments** and endless savannah plains. Upon arrival, you will be welcomed at **Lemala Kuria Hills**, a luxury photographic camp situated in **predator-rich areas**. The camp offers **exclusive off-road access, elevated viewing platforms, and unobstructed horizons**, perfect for capturing lions, cheetahs, and leopards in their natural environment.

After settling into your tented suite, enjoy lunch while watching the surrounding plains for wildlife activity. In the afternoon, set out for your **first Serengeti photographic game drive**. Your guide will locate **predator hotspots**, including lion prides lounging on kopjes or cheetahs hunting in open plains. Use **wide-angle lenses for dramatic landscapes** and telephoto lenses for intimate predator portraits.

As the sun sets, return to camp for a **golden-hour photography session** from the lodge's elevated decks. The soft light enhances textures and colors of the savannah and wildlife, ideal for silhouettes and panoramic shots. Afterward, enjoy a sumptuous dinner and review your photographs, preparing for a **full day of predator-focused photography in the Northern Serengeti** tomorrow.

**Accommodation:** Lemala Kuria Hills (Full Board)

Meals Included  
**LUNCH, DINNER, BREAKFAST,**

Duration  
**8 Hours**

## Day 5 : Full-Day Photographic Safari in Northern Serengeti -



Wake up at dawn for an **early morning game drive**, the best time for **photographing active predators**. The Northern Serengeti is renowned for **lion prides, cheetahs, and leopards**, often found near kopjes and riverine forests. Capture **behavioral moments** such as lions grooming, cubs playing, cheetahs stretching or stalking prey, and leopards resting in acacia trees.

Pause mid-morning for a **bush breakfast**, reviewing your early shots and adjusting camera settings. Your guide will scout the area for predator activity and suggest **creative angles and compositions**. Northern Serengeti's open plains, scattered kopjes, and gently rolling hills provide **dramatic backdrops** for both wide-angle and telephoto shots.

After lunch at Lemala Kuria Hills, continue your **afternoon game drive**. Focus on **photographing big cats during the golden hour**, when soft light highlights textures, colors, and movement. Elephants, giraffes, and zebras often add depth to your predator compositions.

The camp's **exclusive off-road access** allows you to position vehicles for low-angle shots and intimate portraits without disturbing the animals. Capture **silhouettes of lions or giraffes against the sunset**, or frame a cheetah poised on a kopje with the Serengeti plains stretching behind.

Return to camp at sunset for dinner and an optional **review session with your guide**, discussing tips on predator behavior, framing, and lighting. This day ensures you capture **dynamic, professional-quality images of Tanzania's big cats** in one of the continent's most iconic wildlife regions.

**Accommodation:** Lemala Kuria Hills (Full Board)

Meals Included  
**LUNCH, DINNER, BREAKFAST,**

Duration  
**8 Hours**

## Day 5 : Full-Day Photographic Safari in Lamai



Wake up at dawn for your **early morning game drive**, focusing on **the Lamai area near the Mara River**, a hotspot for lions, leopards, and cheetahs. This region is famous for **high predator activity**, especially during early morning when hunting or territorial behaviors occur. Capture **lions lounging on kopjes, cheetahs stretching before a hunt, or leopards resting in riverine trees**.

Pause mid-morning for a **bush breakfast**, reviewing your shots and adjusting camera settings. Your expert guide will scout the area for **rare predator interactions**, helping you frame **intimate portraits and dramatic action sequences**. The Lamai plains offer **open landscapes, rocky outcrops, and the Mara River** as a natural backdrop, creating perfect photographic compositions.

After lunch at Lemala Kuria Hills, head out for your **afternoon game drive**. Focus on **predator behavior and interactions** - lions teaching cubs to hunt, cheetahs stalking prey, or leopards moving stealthily through the grass. Golden-hour lighting enhances the scene, emphasizing textures, colors, and dramatic shadows for professional-quality photos.

The **exclusive off-road access** from Lemala Kuria Hills allows you to position the vehicle creatively for **low-angle shots, wide panoramas, and unique predator perspectives**. Return to camp at sunset, capturing **silhouettes of lions or giraffes against the fiery sky**.

Enjoy dinner at camp and review the day's images with your guide. Today provides a **full immersive photographic experience in Lamai**, ensuring your portfolio includes **intimate predator moments and dramatic Northern Serengeti landscapes**.

**Accommodation:** Lemala Kuria Hills (Full Board)

Meals Included  
**LUNCH, DINNER, BREAKFAST,**

Duration  
**8 Hours**

## Day 6 : Full-Day Photographic Safari in Lamai -



Start the day with a **pre-dawn wake-up**, heading straight into the **Lamai region near the Mara River**, a prime area for **lion prides, cheetahs, and leopards**. The early morning light enhances colors and shadows, making it perfect for **dramatic predator shots**. Photograph lions on kopjes, cheetahs scanning the plains, and leopards resting or moving stealthily in riverine trees.

Mid-morning, pause for a **bush breakfast** amidst the Serengeti plains. Use this time to **review your images, adjust camera settings, and plan your afternoon session**. Your guide will track **predator hotspots**, providing opportunities to photograph **unique interactions**, such as cub play, hunting behaviors, or territorial displays.

After lunch at Lemala Kuria Hills, continue with an **afternoon game drive**. Lamai offers **open grasslands and kopjes**, ideal for wide-angle shots that combine landscape and wildlife. Capture **cheetahs sprinting, lions grooming, or dramatic silhouettes** as the sun lowers toward the horizon.

With **exclusive off-road access**, your guide can position the vehicle for **eye-level predator portraits** and uninterrupted action shots. Golden-hour light provides a magical atmosphere for photographing big cats and surrounding landscapes.

Return to Lemala Kuria Hills in the evening for dinner, and optionally review your day's photographs with your guide. **Day 6 ensures a full, immersive experience in Lamai**, maximizing your opportunities to capture **predators in action and the stunning Northern Serengeti scenery**.

**Accommodation:** Lemala Kuria Hills (Full Board)

Meals Included  
**LUNCH, DINNER, BREAKFAST,**

Duration  
**8 Hours**

## Day 7 : Transfer to Central Serengeti - Namiri Plains Camp



After an **early breakfast at Lemala Kuria Hills**, enjoy a **morning game drive in Lamai**, capturing any last predator activity along the Mara River. Lions, leopards, and cheetahs often remain active, offering **final opportunities for intimate close-ups and dramatic action shots**.

Late morning, transfer to the **Central Serengeti (Seronera area)**, either by scenic road or light aircraft. Arrive at **Namiri Plains Camp**, a **luxury photographic camp** strategically located in the Seronera region, renowned for its **high density of lions, leopards, and cheetahs**. The camp provides **private roads, open plains, and kopjes**, perfect for unobstructed photography.

After settling in, enjoy lunch at the camp while scanning the surrounding plains for wildlife. In the afternoon, embark on your **first Central Serengeti game drive**. Focus on **cheetahs stalking prey, leopards in trees, and lion prides on kopjes**. The Seronera River and open savannah provide **stunning backdrops** for wide-angle and telephoto compositions alike.

As sunset approaches, capture the **golden-hour light** on the landscape and wildlife, creating dramatic silhouettes and vivid textures. Return to Namiri Plains Camp for dinner and a **photography review session** with your guide, discussing the day's highlights and planning for **tomorrow's full-day predator-focused drives**.

**Accommodation:** Namiri Plains Camp (Full Board)

Meals Included  
**LUNCH, DINNER, BREAKFAST,**

Duration  
**8 Hours**

## Day 8 : Full-Day Photographic Safari in Central Serengeti – Namiri Plains



Wake up before dawn for an **early morning game drive**, the prime time for photographing predators. The **Seronera region** is renowned for **high densities of lions, leopards, and cheetahs**, often seen near the riverbanks, kopjes, and open plains. Capture **intimate moments** such as lion cubs playing, leopards resting in acacia trees, or cheetahs preparing for a hunt.

Mid-morning, pause for a **bush breakfast** in a scenic location, reviewing your shots and adjusting camera settings. Your guide will track **active predator areas**, ensuring you have the best opportunities to photograph **unique interactions and hunting behavior**. The Seronera River adds a dramatic element to your compositions, reflecting light and wildlife activity.

In the afternoon, continue your **photographic safari**. Use **wide-angle lenses** to include dramatic landscapes with predators, or telephoto lenses for close-ups without disturbing the animals. The **open plains, kopjes, and occasional termite mounds** provide natural frames for creative shots. Capture the **golden-hour light**, enhancing the colors and textures of both wildlife and the Serengeti scenery.

Return to **Namiri Plains Camp** at sunset. The camp's **viewing decks and photography hides** allow for additional evening shots of predators or the expansive plains. Enjoy dinner while discussing your photographs with your guide, focusing on techniques for lighting, framing, and capturing predator behavior.

**Accommodation:** Namiri Plains Camp (Full Board)

Meals Included  
**LUNCH, DINNER, BREAKFAST,**

Duration  
**8 Hours**

## Day 9 : Full-Day Photographic Safari in Central Serengeti – Namiri Plains



Begin the day with a **pre-dawn game drive**, one of the best times to capture predators in action. The **Seronera region** remains one of the Serengeti’s most productive areas for photographing **lions, leopards, and cheetahs**. Focus on **lions on kopjes, leopards in trees, and cheetahs scanning the plains for prey**. Use the soft morning light for **dramatic shadows, textures, and intimate wildlife portraits**.

Pause mid-morning for a **bush breakfast**, reviewing your early shots and preparing for the afternoon session. Your expert guide will track **predator hotspots**, ensuring you maximize opportunities to capture **unique behaviors**, including hunting, social interactions, and territorial displays.

After lunch at Namiri Plains Camp, set out for an **afternoon game drive**. Take advantage of the **open savannahs and scattered kopjes** to create **wide-angle shots that include dramatic landscapes with predators in the foreground**. Capture **golden-hour lighting** on lions lounging, cheetahs moving stealthily, or leopards resting on acacia branches. The camp’s **off-road access** allows for creative positioning without disturbing wildlife.

Return to Namiri Plains Camp at sunset. Take additional shots from the **viewing decks**, capturing silhouettes and panoramic landscapes. Enjoy dinner and a photography review session, planning strategies for your **final predator-focused drives in the Serengeti**.

**Accommodation:** Namiri Plains Camp (Full Board)

Meals Included  
**LUNCH, DINNER, BREAKFAST,**

Duration  
**8 Hours**

## Day 10 : Transfer to Ngorongoro Crater – Sanctuary Ngorongoro Lodge



Wake up early at **Namiri Plains Camp** for a **final morning game drive in the Central Serengeti**. Capture predators one last time in the Seronera region, including **lions lounging on kopjes, cheetahs scanning the plains, and leopards resting in trees**. The morning light provides **dramatic shadows and vibrant colors**, ideal for both wide-angle landscapes and intimate wildlife portraits.

After breakfast, transfer to **Ngorongoro Crater**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its **high density of predators and scenic landscapes**. Upon arrival, settle into **Sanctuary Ngorongoro Crater Lodge**, perched on the crater rim. The lodge’s elevated position offers **panoramic views of the crater floor**, perfect for photographing lions, hyenas, and other wildlife from a unique perspective.

In the afternoon, embark on a **photographic game drive along the crater floor**. Focus on **lions resting near waterholes, hyenas interacting with prey, and elephants or zebras grazing nearby**. The crater’s steep walls and diverse habitats provide **dramatic backdrops for wildlife photography**, making every shot visually striking.

Golden-hour light transforms the crater into a photographer's paradise. Capture **silhouettes of predators against the setting sun**, or frame your subjects with the crater's unique geology in the background. Your guide will help position the vehicle for **low-angle, unobstructed shots**, ensuring maximum photographic opportunities.

Return to **Sanctuary Ngorongoro Lodge** for dinner. Review the day's images and discuss photographic techniques with your guide, focusing on composition, light, and behavior observation for your final days in Tanzania.

**Accommodation:** Sanctuary Ngorongoro Crater Lodge (Full Board)

Meals Included

**LUNCH, DINNER, BREAKFAST,**

Duration

**8 Hours**

## Day 11 : Full-Day Photographic Safari in Ngorongoro Crater



Wake up early for an **exciting sunrise game drive along the Ngorongoro Crater floor**. The crater's **concentrated predator populations** make it one of the best places in Tanzania to photograph **lions, leopards, and hyenas** in a dramatic landscape. Capture **lion prides interacting, hyenas scavenging, and leopards moving stealthily among the bushes**.

After a **bush breakfast**, continue your photographic exploration. The crater floor offers **diverse backdrops**: open savannah, waterholes, and crater walls, perfect for **creative wide-angle and telephoto compositions**. Focus on **behavioral moments**, such as lions hunting or playing, cheetahs observing their surroundings, and birds interacting with predators or prey.

In the afternoon, explore additional areas of the crater, including **Lake Magadi and surrounding grasslands**, which often attract **herds of wildebeest, zebras, and elephants**, adding depth and scale to your predator shots. Use the soft afternoon light for **golden-hour photography**, highlighting textures, contrasts, and the vibrant colors of the crater landscape.

Return to **Sanctuary Ngorongoro Lodge** at sunset. The lodge's elevated decks offer **panoramic views**, allowing for additional photography of predators against the dramatic crater backdrop. After dinner, review your images with your guide, refining your compositions and techniques in preparation for your **final day in Tanzania**.

**Accommodation:** Sanctuary Ngorongoro Crater Lodge (Full Board)

Meals Included

**LUNCH, DINNER, BREAKFAST,**

Duration

**8 Hours**

## Day 12 : Morning Game Drive and Departure - Sanctuary Ngorongoro Lodge



Wake up early for a **final sunrise game drive on the Ngorongoro Crater floor**. Capture **lions, leopards, cheetahs, and hyenas** as the morning light casts long shadows across the grassy plains. Focus on **intimate predator portraits, dramatic silhouettes, and wide-angle landscapes** combining wildlife with the crater's iconic backdrop.

After the morning drive, return to **Sanctuary Ngorongoro Lodge** for a **leisurely breakfast**. Take some time to photograph the lodge's **panoramic views of the crater rim**, ensuring you capture a few last memorable images of Tanzania's wildlife and scenery.

Following breakfast, check out and transfer to **Arusha** via road or light aircraft, depending on your departure schedule. On the way, you may have optional **quick wildlife spotting stops** for final photographs, including zebras, wildebeest, or grazing elephants along the route.

Arrive in **Arusha** in time for onward flights, whether to **Kilimanjaro International Airport** or **Jomo Kenyatta International Airport** in Nairobi. Reflect on your journey, reviewing your **extensive portfolio of big cats and African landscapes**, which includes rare predator interactions, intimate portraits, and breathtaking scenery.

This marks the conclusion of a **12-day immersive, photography-focused safari** through Tarangire, Northern and Central Serengeti, and Ngorongoro Crater, leaving you with unforgettable images and memories.

**Accommodation:** None (Departure Day - transfers to airport included)

Meals Included  
**LUNCH, BREAKFAST,**

Duration  
**8 Hours**