

19 Days Mara Photographer Safari

📍 Masai Mara, Lake Nakuru, Great Rift Valley, Greater Mara Reserve



Experience the ultimate 19 Days Mara Photographer Safari in one of Africa's greatest wildlife locations, the Masai Mara. Nestled in the northern Serengeti ecosystem, this region is renowned for its exceptional habitats for lions and cheetahs. You will spend 14 days focusing on the intricate dynamics between predators and their prey while enjoying stunning landscapes. Birdwatching is also a highlight, where you can marvel at lilac-breasted rollers, saddle-billed storks, hawks, and eagles. Plus, you may witness vultures squabbling over a carcass, adding excitement to your experience. Our tour coincides with the peak migration season, where thousands of zebras and wildebeests cross the Mara River. This creates a dramatic interaction with resident Nile crocodiles. Although timing can vary, we stand a good chance of witnessing this spectacular wildlife phenomenon during our stay. With only two people in a private vehicle, excellent accommodations, and knowledgeable local guides, your safari will be a productive and unforgettable photographic adventure. The Masai Mara offers a comfortable climate, featuring mild daytime temperatures and cooler evenings. The region experiences two rainy seasons: March to June and November to December. Regardless, the Mara presents panoramic beauty year-round. We recommend bringing a zoom lens ranging from 100-400mm to capture distant scenes, such as cheetahs hunting. A 400mm lens works well since we get fairly close to animals. If you own a 400mm or 500mm prime lens, bring it along. These lenses perform excellently in low-light conditions, ideal for early mornings and late afternoons. Enjoy bush lunches and ample space for equipment in our safari vehicles. Additionally, plug points allow you to charge batteries or edit photos while waiting for wildlife encounters. Join us for this unforgettable 19 Days Mara Photographer Safari!

Tour Facts

Language:
English

Duration:
18

Tour Type:
continuous

Tour Itinerary

Day 1 : Arrival in Nairobi, Kenya



Most international flights arrive in Nairobi in the late afternoon or early evening. Upon your arrival at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, our representative will meet you and arrange for your transfer to a comfortable hotel near Wilson Airport (domestic), where you will depart for Nakuru the following morning.

We select hotels that are clean, offer good food, hot showers, and comfy beds, ensuring a pleasant stay. Each hotel is conveniently located within a 15-minute drive of Wilson Airport, making it easy for you to catch your morning flight to Masai Mara in North Mara.

Accommodation: Acacia Tree Lodge, including dinner.

Meals Included
Dinner ,

Duration
1 Hour

Day 2 : Nairobi - Nakuru



After an early breakfast at 6:30 AM, we will pick you up from your hotel. Following check-out, we'll embark on a scenic drive down the escarpment through the Great Rift Valley. We'll stop at the Great Rift Valley viewpoint, where you'll learn about the fascinating geological formation of the valley. This is also a perfect opportunity to stretch your legs and use the facilities.

Continuing our journey, we'll drive for another 1.5 hours to Lake Nakuru. Upon arrival, we'll check into the park, and park fees will be settled at the entrance. Your adventure begins immediately with a game drive from the gate, where you may be greeted by the friendly Columbus monkeys. Please remember that feeding them is not allowed.

After a short game drive, we'll head to the hotel for lunch. Following lunch, you'll have the chance to enjoy an afternoon game drive, lasting until approximately 6:30 PM. We will then return to the hotel for dinner and your overnight stay.

Accommodation: Sarova Lion Hill Game Lodge
[Explore Sarova Lion Hill](#)

Meals Included
Breakfast , Lunch , Dinner ,

Duration
8 Hours

Day 3 : Nakuru - Nairobi



After breakfast, you will check out of the hotel and spend the day game viewing in Lake Nakuru National Park. This park is home to a unique sanctuary for endangered rhinoceroses and Rothschild giraffes. You'll have the opportunity to see waterbucks, as well as predators such as lions and leopards. The park is also a birdwatcher's paradise, featuring a diverse array of birdlife, including large flocks of

flamingos.

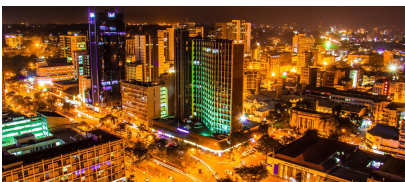
For lunch, we'll stop at a scenic viewpoint on the cliff, where you can enjoy a stunning panorama of the entire park. Afterward, we'll depart for Nairobi in the afternoon.

You will be dropped off at your hotel of choice or directly at the airport to catch your flight to your next destination.

Meals Included
Breakfast , Lunch , Dinner ,

Duration
7 Hours

Day 4 : Free Day in Nairobi



Morning: Relax and Leisurely Breakfast

After enjoying a leisurely breakfast at your hotel, take your time to relax and recharge for the day.

11:00 AM - Explore Giraffe Centre (Optional)

Head to the Giraffe Centre to learn about the endangered Rothschild giraffe. You'll even have the chance to feed them!

12:30 PM - Lunch in Karen

Enjoy lunch at a restaurant in the Karen area. Recommended options include Talisman or The Karen Blixen Coffee Garden.

2:00 PM - Visit David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust

After lunch, visit the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, where you can see orphaned elephants and learn about their important conservation efforts.

4:00 PM - Shopping and Souvenir Hunting

Explore local markets or shops in Nairobi, such as Maasai Market or Kazuri Beads, to pick up souvenirs or gifts.

5:30 PM - Return to Hotel

Head back to your hotel to rest and prepare for your flight the next day.

7:00 PM - Dinner

Enjoy dinner at your hotel or a local restaurant, considering trying some traditional Kenyan cuisine.

Evening: Pack and Prepare

Spend the evening packing for your trip to Northern Mara. Double-check your gear, camera equipment, and any necessary documents.

Tips for Your Day:

- Stay hydrated and ensure you have your flight tickets and identification ready for tomorrow.
- Keep some local currency on hand for shopping.

Enjoy your free day in Nairobi and get ready for an exciting adventure in the Masai Mara!

Meals Included

Breakfast , Lunch , Dinner ,

Duration

12 Hours

Day 5-8 : Fly to Masai Mara - Mara Northern Conservancy

This morning, we will be transferred to Wilson Airport, where we will catch a light aircraft flight to the Masai Mara. The flight will offer stunning views of the Great Rift Valley below. After touching down in the Mara, we will be transferred to our accommodation at Neptune Mara Luxury Camp, followed by a vehicle safari as we explore the wealth of wildlife in the Mara Northern Conservancy.

Accommodation for all nights will be at Neptune Mara Luxury Camp for 4 nights. Each day will begin with an early morning wake-up call around 5:30 AM to 6:00 AM. We will meet around the campfire for a quick coffee or tea before departing at approximately 6:15 AM for the morning game drive.

Neptune Mara Camp will be our base for the next four nights. From here, we will explore the 30,000 acres of a private concession, seeking photographic opportunities with iconic wildlife such as lions, cheetahs, and leopards, along with general game like buffalo, elephants, topis, and various gazelles, which will be plentiful.

We will return to camp for lunch at 1:00 PM, either enjoying a sit-down meal or opting for a picnic lunch in the bush on full-day game drives. Our evening game drive will commence around 3:30 PM, allowing us to capture the stunning African sunset and observe the night creatures as we return to camp after dark. Night photography will also be possible upon request.

With the use of a private vehicle, there are no strict rules regarding game drive duration; our schedule will be dictated by the photographic encounters that present themselves. Dinner will be served by candlelight, either al-fresco under the stars or in the dining tent, depending on the weather.

During the following days, we will be awakened with tea, coffee, or hot chocolate before heading out on our daily sunrise game drives in search of the "Perfect Moments." Throughout your stay, four full-day game drives are included, designed to maximize our opportunities during the famous Mara River crossings.

There will be ample time for casual photo talks, one-on-one tuition, and workshops during relaxed hours for those interested. Nothing is mandatory during this safari, allowing you to dictate the pace of your adventure. Enjoy a full four days in the North Mara, immersed in the beauty of the landscape and the thrill of wildlife photography!

Additional Tips for Your Masai Mara Safari

- **Photography Gear:** Ensure you bring extra batteries and memory cards. A zoom lens (100-400mm) is ideal for capturing wildlife shots.
- **Clothing:** Dress in layers, as mornings can be chilly, but it warms up during the day. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended.
- **Health Precautions:** Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water, and don't forget to apply sunscreen to protect against the sun.
- **Flexible Schedule:** Communicate with your guide about your interests and feel free to adjust the schedule as needed. Your experience is tailored to you!
- **Enjoy the Experience:** Embrace the beauty of the Masai Mara and take time to savor every moment of your incredible safari adventure!

If you need more details or any other information, just let me know!

Meals Included Breakfast , Lunch , Dinner ,	Duration 12 Hours
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Day 9-12 : Transfer to Mara Triangle - Full Days of Safari



Following another morning vehicle safari, we will depart for our next camp in the Masai Mara Triangle. This transfer will continue in the same vehicle, providing yet another opportunity to photograph the incredible wildlife of the Mara Triangle over the next four days.

We are expected to arrive at our new camp in the early afternoon, allowing some time to settle in before lunch. After enjoying a meal, we'll head out for our afternoon game drive, exploring the rich biodiversity of the Mara Triangle. Each day will conclude with dinner back at camp.

Accommodation

For the next four nights, we will stay at **andBeyond Kichwa Tembo Tented Camp**, which offers spectacular views of the Masai Mara. The camp features a variety of tent options: 12 Classic tents, 20 Superior tents, and 8 Superior View tents. Some tents offer views over the bush, while others are nestled in the grounds. The Classic tents embody a traditional safari feel, complete with private verandas and ensuite bathrooms.

Wildlife Experience

The Masai Mara is renowned for its diverse wildlife. Large herds of gazelle, wildebeest, and zebra roam the plains, attracting predators like the famous black-maned Mara lions. The area is also famous for the Great Migration, where wildebeest and zebra traverse the plains from the Serengeti.

For the next three days, we will enjoy morning and late afternoon vehicle safaris, exploring both the Mara Triangle and surrounding areas in search of wildlife and photographic opportunities. Our expert guide will be available for those interested in discussing photography techniques and processing during our downtime at camp.

Throughout our itinerary, you will have the chance to review your images with our expert, who will provide informal workshops and personalized tips to enhance your photography skills.

Wildlife to Expect

We aim to capture stunning images of lions, leopards, and cheetahs, as well as a variety of other wildlife including African elephants, olive baboons, spotted hyenas, bat-eared foxes, black-backed jackals, and possibly servals. The birdlife is equally diverse, offering opportunities to photograph unique African species.

Evenings will be spent back at camp for dinner and relaxation, reflecting on the day's adventures and preparing for more unforgettable experiences ahead in the Masai Mara Triangle.

Meals Included
Breakfast , Lunch , Dinner ,

Duration
12 Hours

Day 13-18 : Greater Mara Reserve



We will depart and transfer to our next camp, **Ilkeliani Camp**, located in the Greater Mara Reserve. Upon arrival in time for lunch, we'll head out on our first vehicle safari, providing an excellent introduction to the incredible wildlife of this region. This will be a fantastic opportunity for photography, with an array of subjects to capture throughout our stay.

Accommodation: We will spend 6 nights at **Ilkeliani Camp**, with all meals included. This elegant oasis in the heart of the Maasai Mara features stylish tented suites and several viewing decks, allowing guests to relax and enjoy the stunning surroundings. The camp is intimate, accommodating a maximum of twelve guests in ensuite tents, dedicated to providing a personal and sophisticated safari experience.

During our time at Ilkeliani, guests can engage in a variety of activities or simply relax at the camp. Early morning drives will take us into the game-filled plains, where we can witness the awakening wildlife before returning for breakfast. For those interested in a more immersive experience, we can spend full days in the reserve, pausing for lunch at picturesque viewpoints.

Additional activities include leisurely strolls along riverbanks to observe birdlife, visits to local Maasai villages to learn about their culture and medicinal plants, horseback riding across the savannah, or even hot air balloon rides for a bird's-eye view of the landscape.

Over these six days, our primary focus will be on the area's populations of big cats. While we'll make every effort to accommodate requests for specific species, the long grasses and warm light of the 'golden hour' during this season create perfect conditions for capturing stunning wildlife photographs.

An expert will be available throughout our vehicle safaris to provide photographic guidance, working closely with our guides to position us optimally for the best light and backgrounds. With extensive experience photographing big cats in Africa, our expert will help us maximize our opportunities in this

breathtaking landscape.

After morning game drives, we'll return to the camp for a relaxing midday interlude. For those interested, we'll have the chance to review images with our expert and discuss processing techniques.

In the afternoons, we'll venture out for another safari, taking advantage of the beautiful light conditions. As the sun sets, we'll have the opportunity to capture incredible silhouettes of wildlife against the backdrop of the open plains. After our evening drives, we'll return to the comfort of the camp for delightful starlit dinners, stories around the fire, and the serene ambiance of the African bush.

All nights will be spent at **Ilkeliani Camp**, with meals provided each day.

Meals Included

Breakfast , Lunch , Dinner ,

Duration

12 Hours

Day 19 : Masai Mara - Nairobi



On your final day in the Masai Mara, we'll embark on one last early morning drive, offering a final chance to spot wildlife and capture those unforgettable moments. After our drive, we'll return to camp for a hearty breakfast, savoring the flavors of the region one last time.

Following breakfast, we'll be transferred to the airstrip for our chartered flight back to Wilson Airport in Nairobi. Upon arrival, you'll be taken to **Acacia Tree Lodge** for a comfortable overnight stay, where dinner will be served.

The next day evening, you'll be transferred to Nairobi International Airport to connect with your flights back home, carrying with you cherished memories and stunning photographs from your incredible safari adventure.

Meals Included

Breakfast , Lunch , Dinner ,

Duration

6 Hours