



OBDC Luxury Tanzania Migration Safari 2018 - 11 Days - 13 - 23 July 2018



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Arusha - Ngorongoro Region - Northern Serengeti

11 Days / 10 Nights

21 Persons

Date of Issue: June 25, 2018

July 13, 2018 - July 23, 2018



[Click here to view your Digital Itinerary](#)

Introduction

This luxury 11 day safari blends the best of Tanzania's Northern migration circuit. It follows a routing via Lake Manyara to the amazing Ngorongoro Crater and then tracks the annual wildebeest and zebra migration through the central and then northern Serengeti National Park where God willing the migratory herds of wildebeest and zebra will be in huge numbers at this time of year.

The annual wildebeest Migration is a drama in two acts: the arresting dash for freedom as the herds swarm across the Mara and other rivers in the north – braving enormous Nile crocodiles, lion, hyena, cheetah and leopard – in search of water and new grazing, followed by the remarkable months of calving in the lush grasslands of the south.

It is the largest herd movement of animals on the planet. In fact, with up to 1 000 animals per km², it can be seen from space. The numbers are astonishing: over 1,2 million wildebeest and 300 000 zebra along with topi and other gazelle move in a constant cycle through the Serengeti-Mara ecosystem in search of nutritious grass and water. Guided by survival instinct, each wildebeest will cover 800 to 1 000 km on its individual journey along age-old migration routes. Hungry predators – lion, leopard, cheetah, hyena, wild dog and crocs – make sure only the strongest survive.

It is thought that rainfall over 50km away can trigger the start of the mass movement – perhaps through smell or the recognition of thunder and lightening on the horizon. The circuit takes the animals from the Ngongorogoro Conservation Area in the south of the Serengeti in Tanzania, up through the Serengeti and across into the Masai Mara, and back again. The journey is beset with danger: young calves are snatched by predators, the slow are brought down by prides of lion, brave beasts break legs on steep river slopes, crocodiles take their share of the stragglers, and the weak and exhausted drown.

Accommodation	Destination	Start	End	Basis	Duration
Mount Meru Hotel	Arusha	Jul 13	Jul 14	DB&B	1 Night
Gibb's Farm	Ngorongoro Region	Jul 14	Jul 17	FI	3 Nights
Elewana Serengeti Migration Camp	Northern Serengeti	Jul 17	Jul 20	FI	3 Nights
Sayari Camp	Northern Serengeti	Jul 20	Jul 23	FI	3 Nights

Key

DB&B: Bed and Breakfast

FI: Fully Inclusive

Included

All transfers and transportation from international arrival and departure flights

All regional flights listed on itemized itinerary

All park and concession fees listed on itemized itinerary

Professional safari guides in safari vehicles including built in fridges with unlimited amount of water (additional \$20 supplement if clients prefer soft drinks and juices in fridge)

Medical evacuation insurance

Mount Meru includes dinner and breakfast only

Gibbs Farm, Migration Camp and Sayari Camp includes full board accommodation, all drinks (except champagne, cellar wines, premium brand spirits), TANAPA camping fees (subject to change), laundry and lodge and guide gratuities.

Excluded

International flights & airport taxes, items of personal nature

Day 1: Mount Meru Hotel, Arusha (Fri, July 13)

Arusha

Resting at the foot of Mount Meru, the sprawling city of Arusha is known as the safari capital of northern Tanzania. It serves as an excellent base from which to explore the remarkably scenic surrounding area which includes majestic Mount Kilimanjaro, as well as the Manyara, Tarangire and Ngorongoro National Parks. Arusha is a good spot to take a day or two off from the safari circuit as it features a temperate climate and lush surrounds. Visitors can look forward to exploring the wildlife-abundant Serengeti National Park; the magnificent Arusha National Park; and taking on the challenge of climbing Mount Meru, Africa's fifth highest mountain.

Day Itinerary

On arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO) you will be met by an Edge Travel representative and transferred to your hotel in the center of Arusha town.

Guests arrive throughout the day and will be at leisure at Mount Meru Hotel after check in until dinner.

Dinner has been arranged for 8pm. It will be buffet style, casual. Venue to be advised. Meal included, drinks for your own account.

Overnight Mount Meru Hotel

Overnight: Mount Meru Hotel

Situated at the foothills of Mount Meru in the city of Arusha, Tanzania, the Mount Meru Hotel lies on 15 acres of lush landscape. As the topographic centrepiece of the Arusha National Park, the Hotel is also surrounded by some of Africa's most breath taking vistas, rich with a diverse array of wildlife, etched against the fertile slopes of this beautiful mountain, the fifth highest peak in Africa. The Hotel is nestled against one of the most majestic backdrops ever imagined, the picturesque Mount Meru, sister peak to Africa's highest summit, Mount Kilimanjaro. Keeper of myths and legends for centuries, this magnificent mountain is a photographer's Mecca.



Basis

Dinner Bed & Breakfast

Included

Accommodation, breakfast and dinner on arrival

Day 2: Gibb's Farm, Ngorongoro Region (Sat, July 14)

Ngorongoro Region

Bordering Kenya to the north, the Ngorongoro Region is known for its abundance of beautiful natural features. It encompasses the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, a UNESCO World Heritage Site; the spectacular Ngorongoro Crater, and the active Ol Doinyo Lengai volcano. Visitors can look forward to a variety of activities such as viewing the epic Serengeti wildebeest migration, visiting a local Maasai village, soaking up the remarkably diverse scenery and catching a glimpse of the magnificent bird and wildlife including over 500 bird species, all of the Big Five, as well as crocodile, hippo, zebra, antelope, lion, leopard, and cheetah. Don't miss the opportunity to join a walking safari, enjoy thrilling mountain biking adventures and scenic trekking.

Day Itinerary

8:30am - After breakfast, we check out and hit the road early in our closed safari vehicles heading to Lake Manyara. Enjoy a packed lunch en route or in the park depending on time. Game Drive in the national park taking in the magnificent scenery and wildlife. We then exit the park and continue up the steep Rift Valley escarpment, into the small town of Karatu and to Gibbs Farm arriving in the late afternoon.

After checking in, relax and freshen up in your beautiful room.

Gather for cocktails before sitting down to a marvellous dinner with local produce from the farm.

Overnight Gibbs Farm, Karatu

Overnight: Gibb's Farm [View iBrochure](#)

Gibb's Farm is located on the forested outside slopes of the Ngorongoro Crater in Northern Tanzania, overlooking the centuries old Great Rift Valley. It is the ideal base from which to explore the Crater and Lake Manyara.

Named Best Safari Lodge and #5 of The Top 100 Hotels in the Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards 2017 readers' survey, this working Tanzanian coffee farm was established in the late 1920's and refurbished as a warm, rustic luxury inn. 21 well-appointed cottages overlook the magnificent gardens where guests can relax and savour the tranquil environment.

Discover a sense of wellbeing, tranquillity and history, deeply rooted in East African culture and community, a welcome retreat for a few days' respite while on safari or extended vacation.

Each cottage features a unique theme, richly appointed with eucalyptus floors and handcrafted furniture. A cottage with a common living area and two ensuite bedrooms is available for families or couples travelling together.

Beautiful architectural details, such as the farmhouse's original wooden beams and colourful artworks, are inspired by local African artists. The farm's organic vegetable and terraced flower gardens provide a wonderful setting for afternoon tea or a quiet walk to impart a sense of contentment.



Basis

Fully Inclusive

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

FULL BOARD: includes Room, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

- Beverages – standard non-alcoholic, standard spirits, selection of house wine and local beer
- Farm based and local cultural activities as per the activities rate sheet
- Wi-Fi & Laundry

Day 3: Gibb's Farm, Ngorongoro Region (Sun, July 15)

Day Itinerary

An early start to the day is best in order to avoid the later influx of tourists into the Ngorongoro Crater. The park gate opens at 0600, so it is best to be there as close to this time as possible.

Enjoy a packed lunch under the trees on the crater floor, but keep an eye out for the monkey's which are always keen to take advantage of an opportunistic moment.

In the afternoon, drive up and out of the crater, and back to Gibbs farm arriving in time for a well deserved cocktail.

Dinner and overnight Gibbs Farm, Karatu

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

FULL BOARD: includes Room, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

- Beverages – standard non-alcoholic, standard spirits, selection of house wine and local beer
- Farm based and local cultural activities as per the activities rate sheet
- Wi-Fi & Laundry

Day 4: **Gibb's Farm, Ngorongoro Region (Mon, July 16)**

Day Itinerary

After breakfast we visit the vibrant and colorful town of Karatu to experience some of the local culture. Visit traditional market, spend time at a local school and visit a traditional Maasai village. Enjoy a packed lunch en route.

In the afternoon return to unwind and relax amidst the peace and tranquility of Gibb's Farm. They offer guests a variety of activities, adventures and opportunities to rejuvenate. Whether you wish to relax and recharge, explore the diverse natural surroundings or learn more about the local culture and traditions, you have many experiences to choose from.

Dinner and overnight at Gibbs Farm

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

FULL BOARD: includes Room, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

- Beverages – standard non-alcoholic, standard spirits, selection of house wine and local beer
- Farm based and local cultural activities as per the activities rate sheet
- Wi-Fi & Laundry

Day 5: **Elewana Serengeti Migration Camp, Northern Serengeti (Tue, July 17)**

Northern Serengeti

The vast, rolling savannah of the Northern Serengeti, is known as the hub of the great migration. The landscape is characterised by vast stretches of savannah interspersed with acacia trees and riverine woodlands. Wildlife can be seen along the banks of the Mara River and visitors can view the annual spectacle of the half a million migrating wildebeest. Commonly spotted wildlife include: a multitude of plains game such as buffalo, zebra, gazelles, impala, giraffe as well as lion and leopard. Visitors can look forward to bird watching, hot air ballooning, game safaris and guided bush walks.

Day Itinerary

6:30am - After an early breakfast, depart from Gibbs farm making our way by road to Manyara Airstrip.

Here you connect with your 8:20am flight to Lobo Airstrip in the Central Serengeti arriving at around 9:45am.

On arrival you will be met by guides from Migration Camp. Depending on your preference, you may enjoy a short game drive or head directly for camp.

After lunch, there is time to unwind and relax before heading out for a late afternoon game drive in an open safari vehicle. The afternoon culminates with the sunset sliding into the Serengeti plains whilst you enjoy your drink of choice.

Return to Camp for dinner

Overnight Migration Camp, Lobo area, Serengeti

Overnight: Elewana Serengeti Migration Camp [View iBrochure](#)

Internationally renowned for the greatest wildlife spectacle on the planet, The Serengeti National Park located in north-west Tanzania is the ultimate 'wildlife show' on earth. Across the globe authors and filmmakers have come to document the Annual Migration of hundreds of thousands of animals, but there is still only one way to understand and experience the true magnificence of this natural phenomena and that is to be part of it. Serengeti Migration Camp is the embodiment of the 'camp' experience. Located next to the famous Grumeti River which is home to resident hippos that bark and wallow their days away, Serengeti Migration Camp has become synonymous with low-impact high-action game viewing in a landscape that is untouched since the dawn of time. Hidden among the rocky outcrops Serengeti Migration Camp is located at the starting point of the Migration. Comprising of 20 luxurious elevated tents, each with spacious and richly furnished bedrooms, Serengeti Migration Camp blends seamlessly into the environment. Each of the tents is surrounded by its own 360-degree verandah deck, which in turn creates your very own private sanctuary to enjoy the constant game sightings and the ever-present sounds of the bush.



Basis

Fully Inclusive

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

Full board accommodation, soft drinks, beer, house wines & selected spirits.

Safari activities including game drives, bush hamper breakfast or lunch, sundowners and Dinner under the Stars

Local airstrip transfers

Laundry

Day 6: Elewana Serengeti Migration Camp, Northern Serengeti (Wed, July 18)

Day Itinerary

Day-long game drives are a must in the Serengeti. You can set-off early with champagne picnic breakfast and stay out all day carrying your delectable picnic lunch. You will be delighted and awed by the sheer numbers of game including the big-five.

Return to camp in the afternoon to relax and enjoy the facilities

Dinner and overnight Migration Camp, Lobo area, Serengeti

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

Full board accommodation, soft drinks, beer, house wines & selected spirits.

Safari activities including game drives, bush hamper breakfast or lunch, sundowners and Dinner under the Stars

Local airstrip transfers, Laundry

Day 7: Elewana Serengeti Migration Camp, Northern Serengeti (Thu, July 19)

Day Itinerary

4:45am (TBC) - This morning, we have 20 people signed up for hot air ballooning. Vehicles will collect our group and drive approximately 1 hour 15 minutes to the balloon launch site.

It is still dark and you may be fortunate to see nocturnal animals on the way to the launch site.

6:00am - When you arrive, you will meet your pilot and witness the balloon being inflated and prepared for launch.

6:30am - After a thorough safety briefing and demonstration of boarding and landing position you board your balloon and lift off! Rising as the sun rises your balloon floats in whatever direction the winds of the day are heading over this wonderful area .

Nobody can predict, no two flights are ever the same and your balloon safari will be unique. We aim to fly for about an hour, depending on conditions. On landing, the balloon crew set up a full champagne breakfast complete with “Bloody Marys”. Each passenger receives a certificate from their pilot as a special memoir of their flight.

Return to Migration Camp, arriving back around 11am

Lunch will be served in camp followed by time at leisure. Game drive in the afternoon around 4pm.

Dinner and overnight Migration Camp, Lobo area, Serengeti

Activities

Hot Air Balloon Safari Serengeti National Park

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

Full board accommodation, soft drinks, beer, house wines & selected spirits.

Safari activities including game drives, bush hamper breakfast or lunch, sundowners and Dinner under the Stars

Local airstrip transfers
Laundry

Day 8: Sayari Camp, Northern Serengeti (Fri, July 20)

Northern Serengeti

See Above

Day Itinerary

After an early breakfast, we check out and continue with packed lunch in our safari vehicles from Migration Camp making our way to the Northern Serengeti. Enjoy a picnic lunch out in the Serengeti arriving at Sayari Camp in the late afternoon.

Enjoy dinner followed by a night cap around the camp fire.

Overnight Sayari Camp, Mara area, Northern Serengeti

Overnight: Sayari Camp [View iBrochure](#)

The award-winning Sayari Camp is renowned for extraordinary wildlife sightings and supreme comfort. Set on the unspoilt plains of the Northern Serengeti, close to the famous Lamai Wedge, Sayari gives you easy access to the Mara River and multiple river crossing points.

Sayari Camp offers some of the world's finest game viewing – and it does so in remarkable style. Relax in your extra-comfortable hillside suite after a day on safari, or take a dip in the glorious rim-flow swimming pool with dramatic views over the northern plains. Intimate, contemporary and elegant, it is no surprise that this permanent camp is regularly voted one of the top safari escapes on the planet.



Basis

Fully Inclusive

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

Full board accommodation, all drinks (except premium), TANAPA concession fee, laundry service, scheduled open vehicle game drives, short walking safaris, transfers to/from nearest airstrip (Kogatende).

Day 9: Sayari Camp, Northern Serengeti (Sat, July 21)**Day Itinerary**

Full day on safari in the Northern Serengeti area. The award-winning Sayari Camp is renowned for extraordinary wildlife sightings and supreme comfort. Set on the unspoilt plains of the Northern Serengeti, close to the famous Lamai Wedge, Sayari gives you easy access to the Mara River and multiple river crossing points.

Depending on your preference, there are a couple of options with regards to how your day is structured. One option is to break camp early and head out with a picnic breakfast, returning to camp in time for lunch. Alternatively, you can eat breakfast in camp and head out with a picnic lunch, returning in the mid afternoon.

Return to Sayari for overnight

Overnight Sayari Camp, Mara area, Northern Serengeti

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

Full board accommodation, all drinks (except premium), TANAPA concession fee, laundry service, scheduled open vehicle game drives, short walking safaris, transfers to/from nearest airstrip (Kogatende).

Day 10: Sayari Camp, Northern Serengeti (Sun, July 22)**Day Itinerary**

Today enjoy a full day out on safari.

Sayari Camp offers some of the world's finest game viewing – and it does so in remarkable style. Relax in your extra-comfortable hillside suite after a day on safari, or take a dip in the glorious rim-flow swimming pool with dramatic views over the northern plains. Intimate, contemporary and elegant, it is no surprise that this permanent camp is regularly voted one of the top safari escapes on the planet.

Return to Sayari Camp for overnight

Overnight Sayari Camp, Mara area, Northern Serengeti

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Included

Full board accommodation, all drinks (except premium), TANAPA concession fee (\$30 ppp 24 hrs, subject to change), laundry service, scheduled open vehicle game drives, short walking safaris, transfers to/from nearest airstrip (Kogatende).

Day 11: End of Itinerary (Mon, July 23)

Day Itinerary

8:20am (TBC) - After breakfast check out and transfer to Kogatende airstrip for your scheduled 9:25am flight to Arusha Airport, arriving at approximately 11:45am

On arrival you will be met transferred through Arusha, stopping for lunch en route (drinks excluded). Then continue to Kilimanjaro International Airport.

Connect to your international flight home, except for those staying on.

Included

Breakfast and lunch

Travel Information



The name Tanzania conjures up images of wildebeest stampeding across vast savannah, rain forests teeming with monkeys and birdlife, and great plains brimming with legions of game. All of these natural wonders and more are on offer in this exceptionally diverse African nation. Visitors typically visit Tanzania to partake in at least one of the four well known Tanzanian tourist experiences: a relaxing seaside vacation on the picturesque island paradise of Zanzibar, an underwater tour of some of the world's most renowned dive sites around the gorgeous Spice Islands, a safari adventure in some of Africa's most impressive game reserves, or a hiking excursion around Mount Kilimanjaro National Park. Whichever of these incredible holidays you choose, you will undoubtedly be welcomed by some fabulously friendly and peaceful inhabitants who, despite being divided into 120 different ethnic groups and cultures, live in harmony with one another and provide some of the most wonderfully exotic local cuisine you could imagine. With all of this diversity on offer, the most difficult part of your Tanzanian holiday experience is likely to be deciding where to go!

Banking and Currency

Currency

In Tanzania, the unit of currency is the Tanzanian Shilling, which is divided into 100 Cents. Notes are issued in denominations of 500, 1000, 2000, 5000, and 10000 Shillings. Coins are issued in denominations of 50, 100 and 200 Shillings.

Banking

Banks are open from 9:00am to 3:00pm Monday to Friday. Many banks are equipped with 24 hour ATM machines.

Credit cards and travellers checks are not widely accepted in Tanzania. Where they are accepted can high service fees and poor exchange rates be expected. Major foreign currencies - particularly US \$ - are accepted in Tanzania and are convertible at banks and bureau de changes in the main towns and tourist areas. If bringing cash in US \$, please make sure bank notes are in good condition, with no cuts or damage and are not older than 2004. Most banks offer higher exchange rates for US \$ 100 / US \$ 50 bank notes compared to US \$ 20 / US \$ 10 or US \$ 5 bank notes.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

If you are visiting a number of parks and reserves in Tanzania, you can either drive or fly between them. Roads in most of the wilderness areas are in poor condition and unmarked, and self-driving is not recommended. Operators will supply you with a driver who doubles as an informal guide; alternatively, you can arrange to fly to your destination and utilize a car and driver supplied by the lodgings. Elsewhere in Tanzania, towns and cities are linked by a steady stream of buses

and *dala-dalas* (minibuses), and in the cities, there is public transport in the way of buses, *dala-dalas*, taxis, and, in some places, bicycles or *tuk-tuks*.

Precision Air run regular services, mostly via Dar es Salaam, Kilimanjaro or Zanzibar, to all main towns and other destinations in East Africa and beyond. All national parks and some of the top-end luxury lodges have airstrips and Coastal Air operates between these and the main airports on the mainland and the islands of Zanzibar, Pemba and Mafia. ZanAir has frequent connections between Zanzibar, Pemba and the mainland.

Driving is on the left hand side of the road

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Most camps, lodges or hotels cater specifically to tourists and serve Western-style food, ranging in standard, but generally are excellent. Game lodges tend to offer a daily set menu with a limited selection, so it is advisable to have your tour operator specify in advance if you are a vegetarian or have other specific dietary requirements. First-time visitors to Africa might take note that most game lodges in and around the national parks have isolated locations, and driving within the parks is neither permitted nor advisable after dark, so that there is no realistic alternative to eating at your lodge.

Tap water in Tanzania is generally not safe to drink, and most travellers try to stick to mineral water. Filtered and bottled water can be difficult to find you are travelling outside of main town and so it is advisable to stock up. Most camps, lodges and hotels have bottled water readily available.

Climate and Weather

Just south of the equator, Tanzania is huge and its sheer size means that the climate varies considerably within it. However, generally the main rainy season, or the 'long rains', lasts during about **March, April and May**. Afternoon tropical downpours are the norm – which are heavier and more predictable beside the coast and on the islands. The humidity is high and daily temperatures reach the low-mid 30°s.

The long dry season lasts throughout **June, July, August, September and October** is when rainfall is unusual, even on the islands. Temperatures vary hugely with altitude and location, but it's usually a fine, clear sky and sunny weather – it's a great time to visit Tanzania. During **November and December** there's another rainy season: the 'short rains'. These are much lighter than the main rains and less reliable.

If it has rained during the short rains, then it normally dries up for a few months, **January and February**, which is Tanzania's 'short dry season', before starting to rain again in earnest in **March**.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

It never gets really cold in Tanzania so lightweight clothing, preferably cotton or linen, is recommended. While on a game viewing safari, avoid brightly coloured clothing, stick to whites, beiges, khakis and browns. There may be long days sitting in safari vehicles, so it is advisable to wear light comfortable clothing such as short sleeved shirts and cotton/linen trousers or shorts. Denim will become too hot and extremely uncomfortable. Walking shoes and socks will be required.

The evenings will be chilly, so long sleeved shirts and trousers should be worn. A sweater may be needed. These will also prevent you being bitten by insects. A hat should be worn at all times outside. The sun may sometimes not feel hot, but it can still easily burn, especially if it is cloudy and overcast.

If visiting Zanzibar or any coastal town don't forget to take a swimsuit, as it is invariably warm. Ladies are recommended to take cotton skirts, blouses and dresses. Sandals are a must for this environment! On the beaches and within the confines of hotels, normal swimwear is acceptable but nudity is not.

As over a third of the population in Tanzania is Muslim, it is therefore not etiquette for ladies to walk around in public displaying their legs and shoulders. Remember to dress modestly as short shorts, miniskirts, vests and tank tops will be frowned upon.

Electricity and Plug Standards

The electricity supply in Tanzania is 220/240 volts at 50Hz. Plugs are 3 point square (UK Type). Adapters are available at major airports.
