



Zebras in Maasai Mara

Veterinary Study tour to Kenya

16 – 28 June 2019



Jon Baines
tours



Lion in the Maasai Mara

Kenya is a country of vast landscapes, myriad cultures and rich bio-diversity. Its landscapes range from savannahs - home to immense herds of wildlife - to snowcapped equatorial mountains and the Great Rift Valley, while tribes such as the Maasai maintain their traditions in the modern world.

This tour will take you from Nairobi, a city perched on the edge of a National Park, into the Maasai Mara, where you will experience the great Kenyan safari. Travel north through the Rift Valley to the Lakes of Nakuru and the lesser visited Baringo, before heading south to Mt Kenya and the Aberdares. Throughout this tour you will meet with local vets, conservationists and rangers to learn about veterinary science in Kenya.

Arrive in Nairobi and check into your hotel to settle in before a welcome dinner in evening with the group.

The next morning start with a panoramic tour of Nairobi, East Africa's most cosmopolitan city, before visiting a domestic veterinary clinic and its staff. Learn about how clinics operate, what challenges they face and what are the

most common treatments. From here visit the University of Nairobi and its Veterinary School, where you will meet staff and hear about veterinary education in Kenya.

The following day will be an all-day visit with TNR Trust, who work to enhance community health through a manageable healthy pet population. Techniques include neutering and rabies campaigns, community education and an enforced legal framework. A recent focus has been the dog and cat population explosion,



A view of Nairobi from the National Park



Maasai farmers herding cattle

which brings suffering and diseases to both the animal and human populations. Meet with the vets and students who work for the Trust, learn about their projects and their plans for the future.

After an early breakfast leave Nairobi behind and drive to the world famous Maasai Mara National Reserve. The drive will take you over the eastern wall of the Great Rift Valley, where you will stop to admire the views across the valley expanse below. Descend into the valley floor and continue to the Mara, where you will have lunch before taking your your first game drive in the National Park later in the afternoon.

Rise early next day for a game drive before breakfast. Later in the morning head to the Mara Elephant Project (MEP) Headquarters in Lemek Conservancy to learn about the work they are doing to protect elephants. Meet rangers, see the elephant collars they use for tracking and hear about their unmanned aerial vehicle operations. This will be a first hand glimpse into the day to day lives of the people working on the front line to save these beautiful animals from extinction. Return to the camp late afternoon.

Rise early for another morning game drive before visiting a Maasai village. Meet with cattle farmers to learn about their life and how the advent of commercial farming has affected their traditional approach, and hear how how they

treat their cattle with traditional medicines. In the afternoon return to the camp to relax before an evening game drive.

Next day journey through the Great Rift Valley to Lake Nakuru, looking out for endangered white rhinos and other wildlife en route. Drive via Lake Bogoria, known for its spectacular bubbling hot springs (where the water is hot enough to boil an egg), beautiful landscapes, flamingoes and pelicans. Enjoy the the scenery and wildlife before continuing to the Flamingo Hill Camp.

The following day travel north to beautiful Lake Baringo, the most remote of the Rift Valley lakes. This area is famed for its birdwatching, with more than 460 species of bird around the lake. The next day you will visit the Rift Valley Wildlife Clinics (RVWC), a not for profit organisation dedicated to improving the welfare of domestic animals, wildlife and the environment through veterinary care, education and conservation. The RVWC aims to establish additional permanent



Flamingoes at Lake Bogoria (top);
African fish eagle, Lake Baringo (above)



veterinary clinics in rural areas to service domestic animals outside of the natural reserves. Meet with the staff and hear about their work and projects.

The following morning travel through the wetter region of Kenya into the Aberdare Mountains - the home of Mt Kenya. See how the scenery changes during your day's journey and stop at Thompson Falls on the way. Arrive and check into the Aberdare Country Club.

The next day visit the Mt Kenya Wildlife Conservancy, which is involved in a range of conservation, veterinary and animal rehabilitation projects. This is an excellent opportunity to meet the staff and compare their work to those in different regions, and how they face both similar and quite unique challenges.

After breakfast there is an optional game drive at the Solio Ranch, a conservancy at the forefront of breeding rhinos in the wild. Continue to Nairobi for the final night of the tour and enjoy a farewell dinner with the group.



Thompson Falls (top);
White rhinoceros mother and calf, Solio Ranch (above)

Itinerary 16 – 28 June 2019

B = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **D** = Dinner

3 nights Nairobi – 3 nights Maasai Mara – 1 night Lake Nakuru – 2 nights Lake Baringo
– 2 nights Mt Kenya & the Aberdares – 1 night Nairobi

16 Jun (Sun) Nairobi **B D**
Pm Arrive and transfer to the Southern Sun Mayfair Hotel
Eve Welcome dinner

17 Jun (Mon) Nairobi **B D**
Am Enjoy a panoramic view of the city on a short city tour, before visiting a domestic veterinary clinic and meeting their staff
Pm Visit the University of Nairobi and the Veterinary School

18 Jun (Tue) Nairobi **B L**
Am A day visit to the TNR Trust, who work to enhance community health through manageable health pet population with neutering and rabies campaigns
Pm Meet with the Trust vets and Claire, who runs the Trust. Learn about the work they do and meet the communities they work with

19 Jun (Wed) Nairobi / Maasai Mara **B L D**
Am After breakfast drive to the world famous Maasai Mara
Pm Lunch at the camp. Afternoon and early evening game drive

20 Jun (Thur) Maasai Mara **B L D**
Am Enjoy a morning game drive before breakfast. Later drive out with a picnic lunch to the Mara Elephant project. Visit the MEP HQ in Lemek Conservancy
Pm Meet with MEP rangers, learn about the collar tracking systems and unmanned aerial vehicle operation before returning to the camp for dinner

21 Jun (Fri) Maasai Mara **B L D**
Am Enjoy a morning game drive before visiting a Maasai village to see how the Maasai cattle farmers treat their cattle and use natural medicine for treatment
Pm Return to the lodge mid-afternoon and enjoy a game drive before dinner

22 Jun (Sat) Maasai Mara / Lake Nakuru **B L D**
Am Today travel down the Great Rift Valley to Lake Nakuru, which will give you a good opportunity to see endangered white rhino and other wildlife
Pm Arrive at the lodge and relax before dinner

23 Jun (Sun) Lake Nakuru / Lake Baringo **B L D**
Am Travel via Lake Bogoria to Lake Baringo; the most remote of the Rift Valley Lakes
Pm Lunch and a relaxed afternoon with optional lake excursions

24 Jun (Mon) Lake Baringo **B D**
Am Visit the Rift Valley Wildlife Clinics. Whole day veterinary experience - participation in clinic programme

25 Jun (Tue) Lake Baringo/ Mt Kenya & the Aberdares **B D**
Am Depart after breakfast and drive to Mt Kenya via Thompson Falls
Pm Arrive at Aberdares Country Club and at leisure

26 Jun (Wed) Mt Kenya & the Aberdares **B D**
Am A day visiting the Mt Kenya Wildlife Conservancy, which is involved in a wide range of conservancy, veterinary and animal rehabilitation programs

27 Jun (Thur) Mt Kenya & the Aberdares / Nairobi **B D**
Am Morning at leisure or optional game drive at Solio Ranch, a conservancy at the forefront of breeding rhinos in the wild
Pm Drive back to Nairobi
Eve Farewell dinner

28 Jun (Fri) Nairobi **B**
Am Morning at leisure before departing for airport



Lilac breasted roller, Lake Nakuru



Aberdare Country Club

Hotels

The Southern Sun Mayfair (Nairobi)

Located in the heart of Nairobi on a beautiful landscaped 5 acre estate, the hotel architecture echoes an Out of Africa theme and offers visitors the opportunity to enjoy authentic Africa hospitality. The rooms are spacious and modern with a host of facilities. The hotel has a pool and gym as well as a bar and two restaurants.

Mara Leisure Camp (Maasai Mara National Reserve)

Located along the Talek River, the camp is located within one of the most spectacular locations in the entire game reserve. Rooms are set in safari style fixed canvas tents, with wooden floors and comfortable beds, along with en suite bathrooms. The camp has a pool, bar and restaurant.

Flamingo Hills Hotel (Lake Nakuru)

Flamingo Hills Camp is situated within the famous Lake Nakuru National Park. The eco friendly camp offers fixed tents furnished with understated luxury decorated in safari tones. All tents have en suite bathrooms and private verandah. The camp also has a pool, bar and restaurant.

Tumbili Cliff Lodge (Lake Baringo)

Located on the banks of Lake Baringo, the lodge offers wonderful views of the breathtaking

countryside. Rooms are located in thatched roof buildings, with ensuite bathrooms.

Aberdare Country Club (Mt Kenya & the Aberdares)

The Aberdare Country Club is nestled on a slope of Mweiga Hill in the Aberdare Highlands. This captivating site was originally the homestead of an English family - almost a half century later it was renamed the Aberdare Country Club and opened for guests. Considered a heritage property in Kenya, it retains the charm of a private home with the simple comforts of a country inn. Facilities include a pool, spa, gym and sauna and Wifi throughout.



Mara Leisure Camp reception

Tour Leader

Agustina Fitte is originally from Argentina, where she received her degree at the University of Buenos Aires and worked at the Buenos Aires Zoo. Later she worked at Temaiken Animal Park, where she participated in the zoo design and translocation of African animals into the park. Coming from a farmland environment her professional experience encompasses a wide variety of animals such as cattle, horses and small animals, as well as zoo animals. She moved to South Africa in 2013 to begin her MSc looking at the consequences of capturing and immobilising wild antelope. Fitte was then offered a post as a clinical assistant at the Faculty of Veterinary Science, Onderstepoort in South Africa in 2017. She is currently completing a MMed Vet degree in wildlife diseases, which is her specialty.



Warthog (top); Sunset safari (above)

**Cost of tour: USD \$3,908
(excluding international
flights and transfers)**

The cost includes:

- 12 nights accommodation in twin bedded rooms with private facilities in hotels, lodges and tented camps

The single room supplement is: USD \$782

- Tour leader
- Meals as per the itinerary
- A full programme of cultural and professional visits as per the itinerary
- Admission fees where applicable
- Local English speaking guide
- Tips

The cost excludes:

- International flights and airport transfers
- All personal extras such as portorage, laundry, inoculation fees and drinks with meals
- Meals not mentioned
- All optional excursions, tours and visits
- Travel insurance
- Visa

Flights

If you require help booking flights to Kenya please contact the London office on **+44 (0) 207 223 5618** or the Melbourne office on **+61 (0)3 9343 6367**.

Elephants in Maasai Mara



About Us

To travel with us is to dig below the surface, revealing the deeper destination. Of course, you will visit the great historical sites; marvel at the wonders of architecture and engineering; be moved by the riches of culture and art; and experience the most spectacular landscapes in the world. What we also do is make sure that you see the country as it is today, giving you privileged access that independent travel and other tour companies rarely get close to. We give you a variety of experiences, from the sublime to the humble, in the company of intelligent, curious, like-minded people. And while we can be worthy, we also make sure that you have a lot of fun.



Mount Kenya (top); Giraffes at sunset;
Lilac breasted roller; Maasai people (above)

All the flights and flight-inclusive holidays in this brochure are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. When you pay you will be supplied with an ATOL Certificate. Please ask for it and check to ensure that everything you booked (flights, hotels and other services) is listed on it. Please see our booking conditions for further information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to:
www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate

Jon Baines Tours (London)
Hyde Park House, 5 Manfred Road,
London, SW15 2RS
Tel: +44 (0) 207 223 9485 / 5618
Email: info@jonbainestours.co.uk
www.jonbainestours.co.uk

Jon Baines Tours (Melbourne)
PO Box 68, South Brunswick,
Victoria 3055
Tel: +61 (0) 3 9343 6367
Fax: +61 (0) 3 9012 4228
Email: info@jonbainestours.com.au
www.jonbainestours.com



Jon Baines
tours

