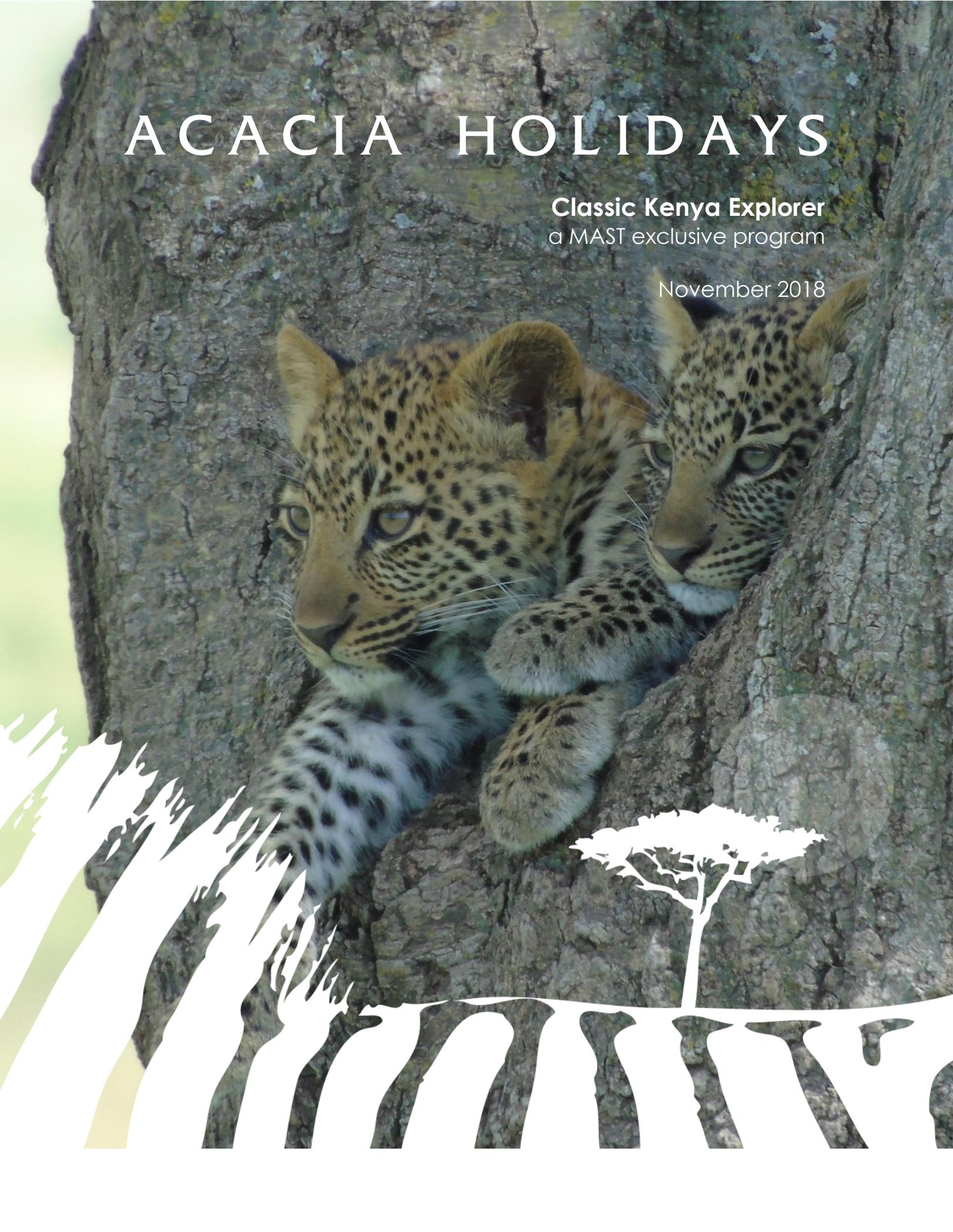


ACACIA HOLIDAYS

Classic Kenya Explorer
a MAST exclusive program

November 2018



ITINERARY

Classic Kenya Explorer • a MAST exclusive program • November 2018

DAY 1

ARRIVAL & WELCOME

NOV 01

You will be met upon arrival at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport by an Acacia Holidays representative who will transfer you and your luggage to the Nairobi Serena Hotel. Our representative will assist you with check-in formalities so you can relax and recharge after your journey. Overnight at Nairobi Serena Hotel.



OVERNIGHT: NAIROBI SERENA HOTEL

MEALS: ON OWN ACCOUNT

DAY 2

MOUNT KENYA NATIONAL PARK

02 NOV

After breakfast, we set off from Nairobi on safari! A three-hour drive through coffee and tea plantations brings you to the unique Serena Mountain Lodge inside Mount Kenya National Park. An ancient and long-extinct volcano, the legendary Mount Kenya is Africa's second tallest mountain. Its jagged central peaks are a stunning sight as we approach from the south. Situated nearly 7,000 feet above sea level on the lower slopes of the mountain, the timbered **Serena Mountain Lodge** is nestled deep within the primordial rainforest.

Perched on stilts high above its own water hole and salt lick, the lodge affords guests a treetop view of wildlife from their rooms, several decks, and even from a secret viewing hide by the water's edge. Imagine the awesome thrill of being mere feet away from some of the most massive animals on earth! After our arrival around lunchtime, spend the rest of the day enjoying the view from your room or other viewing areas around the lodge or, take an optional hike through the forests of Mount Kenya and take afternoon tea in the wild. This evening, you'll enjoy a leisurely dinner featuring fresh Kenyan-grown produce and take in the excellent game viewing just below the lodge. Tonight, fall asleep to the symphony of the African forest or simply sit in stillness watching as the animals arrive to drink, bathe, spar, and forage around the water hole. It is an experience you will never forget.



OVERNIGHT: SERENA MOUNTAIN LODGE

MEALS: B/L/D

DAY 3**SWEETWATERS & OL PEJETA****03 NOV**

After breakfast this morning, we drive to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, a private game sanctuary situated on the Laikipia Plains near Mount Kenya, arriving in time for lunch at the Sweetwaters Tented Camp.

Built on the grounds of a colonial-era farm inside the conservancy itself, Sweetwaters is the perfect base for exploring Ol Pejeta. After settling into your accommodations, set out into the bush for your first game-viewing drive. Later this afternoon, you will tour Sweetwater's Chimpanzee Sanctuary - the only facility of its kind in Kenya. The sanctuary provides an authentic habitat for rescued chimpanzees who cannot otherwise be re-introduced into the wild. It's a powerful and memorable experience that highlights the challenges and responsibilities of wildlife protection and conservation.

Upon your return to camp, you can relax on your private verandah overlooking the camp's extensive and lighted water hole, take a dip in the pool, or catalog the day's haul of wildlife photographs. After dinner, relax by the fire or retire to the wonderful ambiance of your tent. The camp's luxurious tents all feature comfortable beds, electricity, hot/cold running water, and full in-suite bathroom with shower. Overnight at Sweetwaters Tented Camp.

**OVERNIGHT: SWEETWATERS TENTED CAMP****MEALS: B/L/D**

DAY 4**SWEETWATERS & OL PEJETA****04 NOV**

Enjoy the entire day on game drives in Sweetwaters with morning and afternoon game drives through the Ol Pejeta Conservancy. Boasting an incredible density of wildlife within its borders, the conservancy is also home to a host of endangered species. Ol Pejeta is especially known for its huge population of black rhinoceros. We return to camp for dinner and another pleasant evening. All meals are included with overnight at Sweetwaters Tented Camp. You may also partake in an optional game drive run by the camp that departs after dinner and explore the bush under cover of night when animals are grazing, sleeping, and hunting.

**OVERNIGHT: SWEETWATERS TENTED CAMP****MEALS: B/L/D**

DAY 5**LAKE NAKURU NATIONAL PARK****05 NOV**

This morning, you may find yourself awakened by the trumpeting of elephants who have come for their morning visit to the water hole. After breakfast, we drive to Lake Nakuru National Park arriving in time for lunch at Lake Nakuru Lodge. Enjoy an afternoon game drive in the park, returning to the lodge for dinner and overnight. Among its wide variety of wildlife, Lake Nakuru is especially famous for its vast flocks of flamingoes. In some months, these birds are so abundant that they seem to form a pink band along the lakeshore. Other notable inhabitants of the park include giraffe, buffalo, waterbuck, lion, and rhinoceros.

**OVERNIGHT: LAKE NAKURU LODGE****MEALS: B/L/D**

DAY 6**MAASAI MARA****06 NOV**

Setting out again after breakfast, we drive across the Great Rift Valley to the Maasai Mara, arriving in time for lunch at Mara Serena Safari Lodge. Set high on a hilltop above the Mara, the lodge is blessed with sweeping views of the savannah below. In the distance you can see the meandering coils of the hippo-filled *Mara* river.

The **Maasai Mara Game Reserve** is widely considered to be one of Africa's greatest reserves, where the Maasai community co-exists in harmony with the local fauna. The co-existence of man and wildlife makes this one of the world's most unique wilderness regions. The Mara is home to a breathtaking array of life. The vast grasslands are teeming with herds of zebra, giraffe, gazelle, and topi. The acacia forests abound with monkeys and bird life. Elephants and buffalo wallow in the wide Musiara Swamp while the *Mara* and *Talek* rivers brim with hippos and crocodiles. From July through October, the Mara plays host to one of the greatest spectacles on the planet as millions of wildebeest, zebra, gazelle and topi head north from Tanzania into Kenya. Those fortunate enough to witness **The Great Migration** are treated to spectacular viewing and photographic opportunities. Enjoy an afternoon game drive in this natural paradise, returning to the lodge for dinner, relaxation around the fire pit, and overnight.

**OVERNIGHT: MARA SERENA SAFARI LODGE****MEALS: B/L/D**

DAY 7

MAASAI MARA

07 NOV

Enjoy the entire day exploring the splendors of the Mara with morning and afternoon game-viewing drives, returning to the lodge for lunch and dinner.

Tonight, enjoy a special and unforgettable experience – an al-fresco dinner in the African wilderness along the banks of the Mara river. Nothing is quite so essentially 'Safari' as the traditional 'bush dinner', especially when it is enlivened by the presence by a group of scarlet-clad Maasai warriors. Located on the banks of the river, just 3 km from the lodge, your lantern-lit dinner begins with cocktails around the campfire. Dinner will then be cooked on a roaring barbeque, accompanied by a wide range of salads and vegetables. While dessert and coffee is served, the Maasai will entertain you with songs, chants and dance displays.

OVERNIGHT: MARA SERENA SAFARI LODGE

MEALS: B/L/D

OPTIONAL

BALLOON SAFARI ADD-ON

07 NOV

The Balloon Safari is a very popular excursion among visitors and can be added to a safari that includes a night at any of the camps/lodges in the Mara. Meeting your pilot early this morning, you will receive a briefing and watch as the balloon is inflated. You lift-off at dawn, rising with the sun and gently float in whichever direction the winds of the morning take you. Below are the majestic plains of the African savannah, teeming with life. At times, your balloon will be piloted at treetop level, offering unique perspectives of the wildlife and many great photo opportunities. Other times, the pilot will ascend to nearly 1,000 feet, offering a breathtaking perspective of the Mara, allowing you to appreciate its profound size. On landing, enjoy a delicious champagne breakfast served in the bush under an acacia tree. Total flight time from lift-off until touch-down is approximately one to two hours, depending on prevailing winds.



We hit the road once again after breakfast for our drive back to Nairobi. Arrive in the afternoon and check in to your dayroom at the Nairobi Serena Hotel which has been reserved until 1800hrs. You will be transferred to the Carnivore Restaurant for a farewell dinner before heading to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport where you embark for home.

The Carnivore Restaurant is renowned for its variety of exotic meats and famous “dawa” cocktails. A uniquely Kenyan take on the Brazilian *churrascaria*, an enormous variety of meat is roasted on huge metal spears over a hot coal fire and carved at your table onto piping hot plates. Fresh salads, unusual side dishes, and assorted sauces accompany beef, pork, lamb, goat, sausages, chicken, ostrich, and occasionally crocodile.



DAY ROOM: NAIROBI SERENA HOTEL



MEALS: B/L/D

S U M M A R Y

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ITINERARY: Nairobi | Mount Kenya | Ol Pejeta | Lake Nakuru | Maasai Mara | Nairobi

DURATION: 8 Days / 7 Nights

LAND ONLY (USD)

CUSTOM DEPARTURE

01 NOV – 08 NOV

Per Person Sharing	\$4,630
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Single Room Supplement	\$925
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Optional Supplements: Balloon Safari: \$599 per person | Walking Safari: \$100 per person | 4x4 Land Cruiser: <INCLUDED>

Accommodations listed are subject to availability.

Costs Include

From the moment you arrive until your departure, we make sure you are free to relax and enjoy your safari!

- Exclusive use of an English-speaking chauffeur/guide
- Exclusive use of a 4x4 Land Cruiser
- Bottled mineral water while on safari
- Transfers to/from airport upon arrival/departure
- Full board accommodation while on safari
- Overnight accommodation and breakfast in Nairobi (Day 1)
- Dayroom in Nairobi (Day 8)
- Bush dinner in Maasai Mara (Day 7)
- Farewell dinner at the Carnivore (Day 8)
- All park entrance fees
- Game drives as specified in the itinerary
- All Kenyan government taxes & service charges
- Flying Doctors evacuation service

Costs Exclude

- International flights to/from Nairobi (NBO)
- All items of a personal nature
- Laundry
- Tips and gratuities
- Telephone calls
- Visas
- Travel insurance
- Add-ons and supplements (balloon safari, walking safari)
- All other items not mentioned in inclusions



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