

#### DAY 1: ARUSHA, TANZANIA

Arrive at Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO) in Arusha this evening and transfer to your hotel.

Accommodations: Rivertrees Country Inn

#### DAY 2: LAKE MANYARA NATIONAL PARK

Drive to Lake Manyara National Park, famous for its elephants, hippos, giraffes, flamingos and tree-climbing lions. Set out on your first safari to discover East Africa's legendary wildlife amid the stunning Rift Valley landscape.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: Plantation Lodge

#### DAY 3: LAKE MANYARA NATIONAL PARK

On a morning game drive, observe the wildlife that congregates on the shores of Lake Manyara. Enjoy a guided walk around the lodge's grounds and gardens before hiking to a nearby coffee plantation. Meet with a conservationist from KopeLion, founded by field biologist and National Geographic grantee Ingela Jansson, to learn about National Geographic-funded work aimed at preventing human-lion conflict in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: Plantation Lodge

#### DAY 4: NGORONGORO CRATER

After breakfast, travel to the Ngorongoro Highlands, where you will meet with Massai community members. Far from the tourist circuit, enjoy a rare opportunity to view traditional singing and dancing, witness an initiation ritual and learn about this fascinating culture from the village chief and his wives. After lunch, descend 2,000 feet (610 m) to the floor of the Ngorongoro Crater, where volcanic slopes shelter almost 25,000 animals. Observe the interactions between predator and prey; spot colorful birdlife, from superb starlings to crowned cranes; and track elephants, rare black rhinos, cheetahs and more.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: Ngorongoro Lodge Meliá Collection

#### DAY 5: NGORONGORO CRATER

Return to the crater floor for breakfast and a morning safari. Enjoy an afternoon to relax and watch the sun set over the crater from the lodge. This evening, National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Louise Leakey or Dr. Fidelis Masao, co-director of the Olduvai Landscape Paleoarchaeology Project, will join you for dinner and a discussion about the groundbreaking paleontological finds in the region.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: Ngorongoro Lodge Meliá Collection

#### DAY 6: OLDUVAI GORGE / SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

Drive to the Olduvai Gorge where, on a National Geographic-sponsored expedition in 1960, Louis and Mary Leakey discovered *Homo habilis*, one of the earliest members of the human genus. This morning, the Leakeys' granddaughter Louise or Dr. Masao will discuss the family's legacy and ongoing work at Olduvai Gorge. Then take a private tour of the site or accompany Dr. Masao on a walk through the area where much of his life's research has been conducted. This afternoon, drive to a lodge in the southern Serengeti, looking for lions, giraffes and leopards along the way.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: Serengeti Explorer

#### DAYS 7-8: SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

Rise early for a morning game drive before flying to the northern Serengeti. With luck, you will witness the dramatic river crossings of the wildebeest migration. Take in the region's spectacular array of wildlife on morning and afternoon game drives. On your last evening, gather for a candlelit farewell dinner in the bush.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Daily

Accommodations: Sayari Camp

#### DAY 9: SERENGETI / ARUSHA

After a final early morning safari, fly back to Arusha. Relax for the day at the Rivertrees Country Inn before transferring to the Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO) to connect with your flight home.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodations: Rivertrees Country Inn (day-use accommodation only)