

EGYPT, THE GORILLAS & ZANZIBAR, (ECZ)

Cairo to Zanzibar 105 Days, departing 15th November 2022



TRIP OVERVIEW

Trip Style: Overlanding

Route: Cairo to Zanzibar

Duration: 105 Days

Transport: Overland Expedition Vehicle, Private Bus, Ferry, Boat, Jeep

Accommodation: Comfortable Hotel 27 nights
 Basic Hotel 19 nights
 Camping 36 nights
 Multishare Hostel 7 nights
 Overnight Boat 1 night
 Camping without facilities 11 nights
 Guesthouse 3 nights

Meals: Breakfasts x 99, Lunches x 49, Dinners x 49

Physical Challenge:

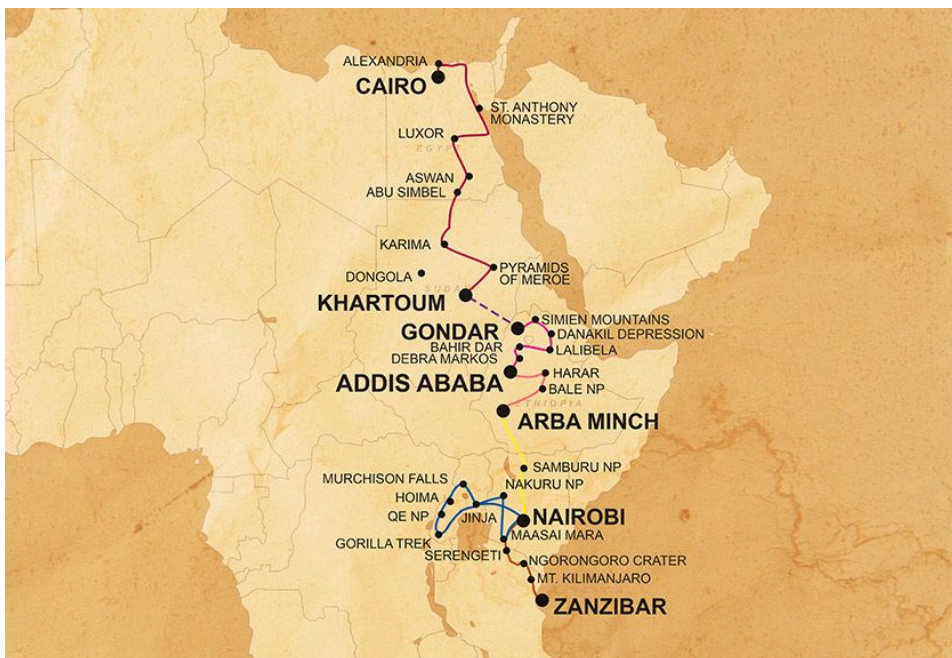


Depending on the trip, activities may include treks of 3-4 hours at altitude or across hilly terrain, multi-day treks at sea level, horseback riding, canoeing and other adventurous activities. A moderate level of fitness is required.

Lifestyle Challenge:



This is a trip for people with a real sense of adventure. You will be camping for the majority of the trip and the trip will include many long drive days and wild camps. The terrain may be very rough and the roads and facilities may be very basic or non-existent. The itinerary may be very flexible.



DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1 - Cairo (15th November 2022)

Border Information: if joining in Cairo, you will most likely enter Egypt at Cairo International Airport (IATA code: CAI).

There will be an important group meeting at 10:00am at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this important meeting. Your leader will need to check your Sudanese visa or make sure the necessary preparations have been done to pick your visa up in Cairo or Aswan. They will also need to check the Ethiopian visas of anyone going beyond Khartoum.

In the afternoon we will have an included half-day guided visit to the Egyptian Museum. We will go to the museum by metro or by taxi, and be shown around the vast and breathtaking collection of historical relics and treasures, including the sarcophagus of Akhenaten, the mummy of Ramses II and of course the incredible golden mask of Tutankhamun!

Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in Cairo before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring Cairo.

Accommodation: King Hotel A'''

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Guided tour of the Cairo Egyptian Museum

Included

Optional Activities

Entrance to the Mummy Room in the Egyptian Museum which displays the mummies of some very important Pharaohs such as Akenaten Ramses II and Hatshepsut

Entrance: 100 EGP

Visit The Pharonic Village - a showcase of various scenes of everyday life in Ancient Egypt

Entrance: 150 EGP

Explore the medieval Islamic fortress of the Cario Citadel built by the warrior Saladin and the beautiful Ottoman Mosque of Muhammed Ali Pasha

Entrance: 50 EGP

Visit the collection of Egyptian Coptic Christian heritage at the Coptic Museum and the nearby Hanging Church

Entrance to museum: 50 EGP

See the 9th-century Nileometer on Rhoda Island which was once used for carefully measuring the height of the Nile during the annual flood

Entrance: 15 EGP

Entrance to the distinctive Cairo Tower the tallest building in North Africa (when open)

Entrance: 70 EGP

Explore the scenic Al Azhar Park an oasis of beautiful greenery within Cairo built in tradition Islamic style

Entrance: 7 EGP

Discover the exceptional collection of art from all over the Islamic world at Cairo\'s Museum of Islamic Art

Entrance: 50 EGP

Day 2 - Cairo (16th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will set off in a local chartered minibus for an included full-day guided tour to Memphis, the pyramids at Saqqara, the Great Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx.

We will aim to be back in Cairo for around 4:00pm today.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Explore the interior of the Pyramids at Giza.

Entrance to Khufu Pyramid interior: 120 EGP

Entrance to Menkaure Pyramid interior: 40 EGP

Entrance to boat reconstruction: 40 EGP

See the stunning Sound and Light show at the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx

Price: 120 EGP

Day 3 - Alexandria (17th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will start our journey by travelling up to the Mediterranean coast to the bustling city of Alexandria, where we will spend 2 nights exploring the sights.

Day 4 - Alexandria (18th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have the chance to visit the beautiful modern Alexandria Library, explore various historical sites, and to go diving in the Mediterranean.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take a trip out to the incredibly moving war cemeteries of El Alamein the site of one of the most influential battles of World War II

Entrance to cemetery (not incl transport to and from Alexandria): 50 EGP

Scuba diving around the incredible submerged port of Heracleion in the Mediterranean Sea

2 dives: 800 EGP

Visit the Bibliotheca Alexandria the incredible modern Library of Alexandria

Entrance: 70 EGP

See the interesting collections and exhibits at the Alexandria National Museum located in a restored Italian-style palace

Entrance (incl camera permit): 65 EGP

Explore the incredible 2nd-century Roman amphitheatre of Kom El Dikka

Entrance to main site: 15 EGP

Entrance to the Villa of Birds: 10 EGP

Visit the incredible Citadel of Qaitbey a 15th-century defensive fortress on the mouth of the Eastern Harbour

Entrance: 25 EGP

Explore the ancient underground catacombs of Kom El Shoqafa

Entrance: 35 EGP

Visit Pompey's Pillar, one of the largest columns ever constructed in the Roman era.

Entrance: 20 EGP

Stroll through Montaza Palace and extensive gardens in the Montaza district of Alexandria.

Entrance to the gardens: 5 EGP

Head to the Mustafa Kamal Necropolis with tombs from the 2nd and 3rd centuries BC.

Entrance: 15 EGP

Day 5 - Port Said (19th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will follow the Mediterranean coast across the Nile Delta to reach Port Said, the town at the northern outflow of the Suez Canal.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

See the famous and influential Suez Canal near Port Said

Price: Free

Visit the Military Museum

Entrance incl camera permit: 7 EGP

Day 6 - Zafarana (20th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will travel south following the Suez Canal, then branch out into the Eastern Deserts, visiting the ancient Coptic Monastery of St. Anthony en route.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the ancient Coptic Monastery of St. Anthony in Egypt's Eastern Deserts

Included

Day 7 - El Quseir (21st November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will travel down the stunning coast of the Red Sea to explore the Ottoman fort at El Quseir.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Explore the Ottoman Fort at El Quseir

Included

Day 8 - Marsa Alam (22nd November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will complete our drive to the beautiful southern Red Sea village of Marsa Alam.

We will have 2 full days in Marsa Alam to relax on the beaches, enjoy many optional activities on the Red Sea, or to take an optional overnight camel safari out into the nearby deserts of Wadi-el-Gamal!

Day 9 - Marsa Alam (23rd November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will continue to enjoy the activities on offer in Marsa Alam. There are plenty of options for once in a lifetime experiences, both on land and in the sea!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Head out scuba-diving through the coral reefs of the Red Sea

Price: 60 EUR

Take an evening camel safari in the Wadi-El-Gamal desert with the option of sleeping out under the stars

Day trip: 100 EGP

Overnight trip: 300 EGP

Snorkel through the crystal clear waters of the Red Sea searching for dolphins and other marine life

Sharm El Luli or Dolphin House: 60 EUR

Abu Dabab: 15 EUR

Visit the fascinating traditional camel markets of Shalateen on the remote coastal border with Sudan

Visit to camel market: 33 EUR

Head out on a small yacht for a fishing trip on the idyllic waters of the Red Sea

Price: 70 EUR

Head out for a sunset quad biking trip into the deserts near Marsa Alam

Half-day super safari (jeep, quads, camels): 60 EUR

Sunset quad biking trip: 35 EUR

Explore the coral reefs of the Red Sea from a 'semi-submarine', a boat designed with huge underwater viewing windows

Price: 40 EUR

Surfing or kite-surfing on the Red Sea near Marsa Alam

Kite surfing bay fee per day: 60 EUR

Kite surfing equipment rental per day: 79 EUR

Day 10 - Marsa Alam (24th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Our final day in Marsa Alam. This is the time to enjoy relaxation on the beach before we continue our journey towards Luxor.

Day 11 - Luxor (25th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will head to Luxor, a beautiful modern town built on the site of the Ancient Egyptian capital of Thebes, where we will spend 3 nights exploring the incredible historical sites here. We will also try to visit the Temple of Hathor at Dendara en route (if accessible).

Daily Activities

Included Activities

See the remarkably well-preserved painted murals in the Temple of Hathor in Dendara

Included

Day 12 - Luxor (26th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

On the second day we will have an included guided tour around the world-famous Karnak Temple, which is walking distance from our hotel. This temple contains some remarkably preserved painted walls and many awe-inspiring pillars and obelisks, and was the centre of religious life in Thebes. Our tour will last about 2 hours, and then we will have free time for the rest of the day to explore the temple independently, and to visit the other sites in Luxor such as the smaller Luxor Temple in the town centre, and the small but beautiful Luxor Museum, which is filled with priceless treasures from the area.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Guided tour of Karnak Temple Luxor

Included

Optional Activities

Explore the colossal 18th-Dynasty Temple of Luxor

Entrance: 65 EGP

See the Sound and Light show at the Karnak Temple

Entrance: 100 EGP

Visit the fascinating Luxor Museum of Antiquities

Entrance: 80 EGP

Learn all about the process and techniques of mummification at the Luxor Mummification Museum

Entrance: 60 EGP

Day 13 - Luxor (27th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

On the third day we will have an included tour to the West Bank, which will encompass the Hatshepsut Temple and the phenomenal Valley of the Kings, the location of the tombs of the Pharaohs of the New Kingdom of Ancient Egypt.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Explore the phenomenal royal tombs at the Valley of the Kings on the West Bank of the Nile

Included

Visit the impressive Temple of Hatshepsut, built to honour one of Egypt's most influential Pharaohs

Included

Optional Activities

Visit the world-famous tomb of the Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings the only Egyptian royal tomb ever discovered undisturbed

Entrance: 150 EGP

Day 14 - Aswan (28th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we leave Luxor and visit the incredible Temple of Edfu, an awe-inspiring temple dedicated to Horus built during the Ptolomaic era, which is considered to be the best-preserved cult temple in Egypt.

We will then continue on to the southern city of Aswan - here is where we will pick up the Sudanese visas of anyone who has arranged them to be processed here in advance.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Take a guided tour of the Ptolomaic-era Temple of Horus at Edfu considered to be the best preserved temple in Egypt

Included

Day 15 - Nile Felucca (29th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will board a traditional felucca sailboat for an overnight adventure exploring the Nile by boat.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Discover the River Nile by boat on an afternoon and overnight felucca trip

Included

Day 16 - Aswan (30th November 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

We will return from the felucca to Aswan, where we will have 2 full days to enjoy to wealth of history and culture that Aswan has to offer, and to make optional visits to the Philae Temple, Elephantine Island, the Nubian Museum, and the Aswan Dam. If the group are keen to extend the felucca trip, we also have time to allow this possibility.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Visit the Philae Temple a beautiful Ptolomaic-era temple to Osiris on an island near Aswan

Boat and Entrance: 110 EGP

See the spectacular Sound and Light show at the Philae Temple

Price: 33 EGP

Visit the controversial Aswan High Dam

Entrance: 30 EGP

Take a boat trip out to Elephantine Island to explore its ruins and Nileometers, and to the beautiful botanical gardens on Elnabatat's Island

Trip: 90 EGP

Explore the Tombs of the Nobles near Aswan the rock-hewn tombs of nobility all the way from the Old Kingdom to the Roman era

Entrance: 40 EGP

Visit the the fortress-like 7th-century Monastery of St. Simeon

Entrance: 25 EGP

Visit the Nubian Museum a fantastic showcase of Nubian culture and civilisation

Entrance: 20 EGP

See the colossal Unfinished Obelisk near Aswan, which would have been the largest obelisk in the world had it been completed

Entrance: 30 EGP

Explore the nearby Fatimid cemetery a rare window into the 10th and 11th-century Fatimid Caliphate era

Entrance: Free

Visit the incredible Roman-era Temple of Kalabsha constructed in tribute to Mandulis the Nubian sun god

Entrance: 50 EGP

Explore the locally-made abstract sculptures showcased at the Aswan Sculpture Park

Entrance: 40 EGP

Enjoy more time on a Nile felucca

Sunset felucca cruise: 25 USD

2-day felucca trip to Kom Ombo: 100 USD

Day 17 - Aswan (1st December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we have full day in Aswan to visit as many of the historical sites as possible! Museums, Obelisks, Tombs and Temples are commonplace here. Which ones will you choose to visit?!

Day 18 - Abu Simbel (2nd December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will drive to the small village of Abu Simbel, where we will have an included visit to the phenomenal Temples of Ramses and Nefertari, with a possibility to visit the sound and light show after sunset (if it is running).

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the awe-inspiring world-famous Temple of Ramses II and Temple of Nefertari in Abu Simbel

Included

Optional Activities

Watch the fantastic Sound and Light show at the Abu Simbel Temples

Entrance: 60 EGP

Day 19 - Wadi Halfa (3rd December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Border Information: Exit Egypt at Qustol, enter Sudan at Qustol.

Today we will take an early transport ferry across to the east side of Lake Nasser, and then head across the border where we meet our local facilitator who will accompany us in Sudan. We will then drive a short distance to the dusty northern Sudanese frontier town of Wadi Halfa, where we will spend the night.

Day 20 - Wawa (4th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Over the next 2 days we will journey through the remote areas of Northern Sudan and the vast Sahara Desert. En route we will visit many ruined temples of the Kushite era, including the Temple of Soleb near Wawa, the Deffufa of Kerma near Dongola, and the pyramids at Jebel Barkal mountain near the town of Karima.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Explore the ruins of the Temple of Soleb

Included

Day 21 - Karima (5th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we continue on our journey visiting the relics of the Kushite era on our way.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit to the Kushite temples and climb to the summit of the distinctive Jebel Barkal mountain

Included

Visit the pre-Kushite Temple of Deffufa a 5500 year old Nubian archaeological site built by the Kerma civilisation

Included

Day 22 - Naqa (6th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Over these days we continue our journey into the heart of Sudan, visiting the incredible and haunting Nuri pyramids and Meroe pyramids of the Kushite era. We will then continue south to visit the Kushite ruins at the sites of Naqa and Musawwarat.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Explore the ancient Kushite Royal Pyramids at Nuri near Karima

Included

Day 23 - Naqa (7th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We have the luxury of taking our time here. As we work our way towards Khartoum you can really feel yourself becoming one with Sudan as you spend time wandering through the ruins of bygone ages.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Guided visit of Meroe Pyramids

Included

Day 24 - Naqa (8th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Our final day travelling through the desert of Sudan. It will not be long until we are in the hustle and bustle of Khartoum. Enjoy the final hours of desolation and the final night of sleeping under the stars.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the Meroitic temple complex of Musawwarat

Included

Explore the ancient Kushite temple of Naqa

Included

Day 25 - Khartoum (9th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will complete our journey to the Sudanese capital of Khartoum, where your tour leader will have to collect the passports of everyone in the group to register our visas.

Day 26 - Khartoum (10th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

We will have the whole day to freely explore Khartoum, including possible optional trips to the impressive Grand Mosque and the bustling Omdurman market.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Learn all about the Islamic Mahdist era with a visit to the Khalifa House Museum and the Mahdi's Tomb in Omdurman

Visit: 15 USD

Witness the confluence of the Blue and White Niles at 'The Mogran' near Khartoum

Visit: Free

Visit the various interesting museums of Khartoum - the Presidential Palace Museum the National Museum and the Ethnographic Museum

Entrance Presidential Palace Museum: Free
Entrance Ethnographic Museum: 1,000 SDG
Entrance National Museum: 1,000 SDG

Explore Omdurman market in Khartoum

Visit: Free

Witness the spectacular Whirling Dervishes of Omdurman

Entrance: 1,000 SDG
Minibus for up to 10 people out to the site: 500 SDG

Day 27 - Gedaref (11th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will drive from Khartoum to the small town of Gedaref, en route to the Ethiopian border.

Day 28 - Gondar (12th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Border Information: Exit Sudan at Metema, enter Ethiopia at Metema.

Today we have a full day's drive to cross the border into Ethiopia and reach the ancient royal city of Gondar.

Day 29 - Gondar (13th December 2022)

Border Information: if joining in Gondar, you will most likely enter Ethiopia at Gondar Atse Tewodros Airport (IATA code: GDQ).

There will be a group meeting at the joining hotel at 6:00pm. Please look out for a note from your tour leader at the reception when you arrive giving more details about this important meeting. If you are continuing to Kenya or beyond, your leader will need to check the validity dates of your Ethiopian visa.

Day 30 - Gondar (14th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today, we will have an included half day guided tour of the historical sites of Gondar, including Gondar Castle, the King Fasilades' Baths and the Debre Birhan Selassie church.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Learn all about medieval Ethiopia on a half-day guided tour of the castles churches and baths of Gondar

Included

Optional Activities

Enjoy a tour of the local Dashen brewery in Gondar

Tour: 8 USD

Day 31 - Simien Mountains NP (15th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today marks the start of our 3-day excursion into the Simien Mountains NP. We will first drive to Debark, where we will have a briefing from our local mountain guide explaining the various trekking options we will have during our excursion, before heading into the NP.

The area is home to some of Africa's most jaw-dropping mountain scenery and is a great opportunity to enjoy some incredibly beautiful treks and breathtaking views!

The area is also home many indigenous animals, and during our time here we hope to spot Lammargeyer vultures, geladas, Walia ibex, and (if we are very lucky) klipspringers and Ethiopian wolves.

We will spend 3 nights in the incredible Simien Mountains NP. On each day we aim to provide an option for a long trek (of 5-8 hours), a short trek (2-5 hours) or no trekking.

On our first day, we aim to wild camp at the area of Sankaber. On our second and third days, we aim to wild camp at the area of Chenek (underneath Ras Bwahit, the second-highest mountain in the Simiens, which we hope to get the opportunity to summit).

Please note that we must keep a flexible itinerary in the Simien Mountains, as our options will largely be determined by the weather.

Please also note that the camping areas in the NP are very basic, and are essentially wild camps with long drop toilets. Please also note that the food and provisions available in Debark and the NP are very limited, and it is also likely to be very cold at night (often dropping below freezing), so please be prepared! You will need to bring a suitable sleeping bag and mat with you from home to ensure you are ready for this environment.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

2 days of guided treks in the Simien Mountains National Park

Included

Day 32 - Simien Mountains NP (16th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we once again have the choice between joining a short trek or a long trek. Each one will have a guide and a superb route showing off the best the Simiens have to offer.

Day 33 - Simien Mountains NP (17th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This is our final day of trekking in the National Park. Once again there will be a choice between short and long routes as we soak in the final moments of the mountains.

Day 34 - Simien Mountains NP (18th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today is our final day in the Simien Mountains NP, and we make our way back to Debarq for the night.

Day 35 - Axum (19th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Leaving Debarq behind us, we continue our journey with a full day of driving through the foothills of the Simien Mountains to reach the ancient town of Axum in the far north of Ethiopia. The roads here are very tough, but we are rewarded with more truly breathtaking scenery!

Day 36 - Axum (20th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have an included half day guided tour of the incredible historical sites of Axum, the capital of the once-mighty Axumite Empire - included in this tour will be seeing the Stelae Field, the Tomb of King Kaleb, and the Palace of the Queen of Sheba.

We will have a free afternoon to have the time to optionally visit other places such as the Church of St. Mary of Zion, the supposed resting place of the Ark of the Covenant.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Guided tour of palaces and temples in historic Axum

Included

Optional Activities

Visit the Church of St Mary of Zion at Axum

Entrance: 200 ETB

Visit the ancient temple in Yeha, the oldest standing structure in Ethiopia

Entrance: 100 ETB

Day 37 - Mekele (21st December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will continue through the breathtaking mountain scenery of the Adwa mountains and visit one of the famous rock-hewn churches of Tigray (either the Abraha Atsbeha or Wukro Chirkos church) near to Mekele.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Explore the Tigray rock-hewn churches at Mekele

Included

Day 38 - Danakil Depression (22nd December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

After breakfast meet your 4 x 4 vehicles and drive to Hamed Ella. On the way you will pass through the beautiful Tigre Villages and the escarpment of the Afar depression, this is commonly known as the cradle of mankind and is part of the Great East African Rift Valley. Along the way you will see camel caravans going to the traditional salt mine or to the North Eastern highlands of the country, loaded with salt bars in the old traditional way. We will also stop at Brehalle where we will get our permits and scouts for the trip into the Danakil Depression.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Journey out on an incredible 2 day/1 night excursion to the Danakil Depression

Included

Day 39 - Mekele (23rd December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

On the second day we drive to Dallol. Here in Dallol you will visit the beautiful land covered by salt, sulfur and different minerals that gives the area a spectacular colour. We will then continue on to Lake Asale to witness the beautiful salt flats.

This is an extremely intense environment and a very adventurous three days, certainly a once in a lifetime experience. However, if you feel like your personal fitness can not withstand this pressure then there is a chance this may not be the trip for you.

Today we will make our way back to Mekele ending our time in the stunning Danakil Depression.

Day 40 - Lalibela (24th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have a full day drive to the town of Lalibela.

Day 41 - Lalibela (25th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

On our first day in Lalibela, we will have an included full-day guided tour of its world-famous 13th-century rock churches. Our guide will be able to explain the fascinating history of Lalibela and its churches, and there will be plenty of time to explore, absorb the haunting atmosphere inside the churches, and take plenty of photographs of the incredible architecture and the religious rituals within.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Guided tour of the ancient rock churches and monasteries at Lalibela

Included

Day 42 - Lalibela (26th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

On our second day, we will have a free day for further exploration or optional activities. We will have opportunity to hike up the nearby mountains to the Asheten Monastery, visit the Yemrehana Kristos cave church outside the town, or freely explore the Lalibela churches again at your own pace.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Explore the highlands of Lalibela on foot possibly walking to the nearby Asheten Monastery

Mule, Guide and Entrance: 500 ETB

Take a tour to visit Yemrehana Krestos, an 11th-century stone and wood church, built in the Axumite style

Entrance: 300 ETB

Guiding for half day (cost per group): 100 ETB

Transport: 300 ETB

Day 43 - Awra Amba (27th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will drive to the ideological village of Awra Amba. Run by the infamous Zumra Nuru the village operates with the belief that everyone is equal and should have a say in how their home is run. We will take a tour of the village and camp on the outskirts.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the Utopian village or Awra Amba and see a place where all people are seen as equal

Included

Day 44 - Bahir Dar (28th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will drive to Bahir Dar, a small town on Lake Tana, the source of the mighty Blue Nile.

Day 45 - Bahir Dar (29th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

On our first day in Bahir Dar, we will have an included boat trip on Lake Tana to visit the famous old monastery of Gabriel Ure Kideth and to visit the spot where the lake outflows into the start of the Blue Nile.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Boat trip on Lake Tana from Bahir Dar to visit the monasteries

Included

Day 46 - Bahir Dar (30th December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

On our second full day, we will head off in the truck to visit the Blue Nile Falls and take a short walk around the area to the historic Portuguese Bridge. We will have some free time in the afternoon to visit some other spots around Bahir Dar such as the 'Hippo bridge' and the Tigray war memorial.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Explore the stunning Blue Nile Falls just downstream of Bahir Dar

Included

Day 47 - Debre Markos (31st December 2022)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will continue our journey south towards Addis Ababa. We will break the journey with a nightstop in a basic local hotel in the small town of Debre Markos en route.

Day 48 - Addis Ababa (1st January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will complete our journey to the bustling Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa. En route we will drive to the bottom of the dramatic Blue Nile Gorge and up the other side!

Day 49 - Addis Ababa (2nd January 2023)

Border Information: If joining in Addis Ababa, you will most likely enter Ethiopia at Addis Ababa Bole International Airport (IATA code: ADD).

There will be a group meeting at the joining hotel at 6:00pm. Please look out for a note from your tour leader at the reception when you arrive giving more details about this important meeting.

The rest of the day before this meeting will be free to explore Addis Ababa and visit the city's many museums - we recommend that you arrive early (or the night before) if you would like the chance to fully explore the sights of Addis Ababa. Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in Addis Ababa before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring Addis Ababa.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Visit Africa Hall - a symbol of African independence and optimism

Entrance: Free

Explore the fascinating Ethnological Museum one of the best museums in Africa set in a former palace of Haile Selassie

Entrance: 100 ETB

Visit the Menelik Mausoleum, built to serve as the tombs of emperors and princes

Entrance: Free

Stroll through the Addis Ababa Mercato - one of the largest markets in Africa

Entrance: Free

Visit "Lucy" one of the oldest complete hominid skeletons ever found at the National Museum

Entrance: 10 ETB

Visit the St. George's Cathedral (Giorgis Cathedral), built to commemorate Ethiopia's victory over the Italians in 1896

Entrance: 100 ETB

Day 50 - Addis Ababa (3rd January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we have a free day in Addis Ababa and will organise an included guided tour of the city including visiting St. George's Cathedral, The Menelik Mausoleum, The National Museum and the colourful city market.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Enjoy a full day city tour of Addis Ababa

Included

Day 51 - Harar (4th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will leave Addis Ababa and we will have a long drive east through the mountains to the ancient trading city of Harar. We will stay in a charming small hotel in the old city itself.

Day 52 - Harar (5th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we have a free day in ancient Harar and will have an included guided city tour of the walled city of Harar (Harar Jugol). Enjoy its colourful markets, mosques and shrines. In the evening you can visit the Hyena Men who feed the hyenas every night just outside the walls of the city.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Take a guided tour for half of the day through the winding streets of this ancient city.

Included

Witness Harar's tradition of feeding wild Hyenas by hand each evening just outside the city walls

Included

Day 53 - Harar (6th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we have a free day to explore this amazing city on your own. It is one of the most important historic sites in Ethiopia.

Day 54 - Awash NP (7th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will drive to Awash and overnight in the lovely Awash Falls Lodge. Who said luxury was not part of overlanding! This is a stunning place to experience a great little NP.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Head out with a scout to explore the trails of this National Park.

Included

Day 55 - Lake Ziway (8th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

In the morning we will take a park scout out with us to explore the Awash NP and to try to find game or just to enjoy the stunning scenery of this lovely National Park.

Then we will head to Lake Ziway for the night.

Day 56 - Lake Ziway (9th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today, we will take an optional boat trip across Lake Ziway to Tulu Gudo Island, where we will have a short guided tour of the ancient monastery there and view some of the old religious manuscripts.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take a boat trip across Lake Ziway to Tulu Gudo Island and explore the old Coptic monastery on the island

Tulo Gudo Island trip (price per 10 pax): 3,700 ETB

Monastery entrance: 1,000 ETB

Day 57 - Bale Mountains NP (10th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will leave Ziway and drive to the stunning Bale Mountains NP.

We will enjoy 2 full days to explore the NP.

Day 58 - Bale Mountains NP (11th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We will keep today completely free to head out for optional guided walks - there are several possibilities for routes, including highland routes up the hills and moorlands searching for mountain nyalas, or lowland walks through the forest areas to look for Bale monkeys!

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Horse/mule treks or guided hikes through Bale Mountain National Park

Included

Day 59 - Bale Mountains NP (12th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will drive in the truck up to the Sanetti Plateau, all the way to the fourth-highest point in Ethiopia (the 4359m summit of Tulu Dimtu) to explore the primeval landscape and search for Ethiopian wolves.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Head up to the incredible Sanetti Plateau on a day trip with our overland truck stopping to explore the area on foot and search for Ethiopian Wolves

Included

Day 60 - Awasa (13th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will head north to the small town of Awasa, where we can visit the local fish market.

After our visit we will head to Wendo Genet, a small town in the hills above Awasa, where we will stay for the night.

During our stay here we may have time to explore the region, go on an optional walk to some nearby waterfalls, or take a dip in the nearby hot springs.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Experience the true local culture at this fish market. If you would like to try the soup make sure you bring your own bowl!

Included

Day 61 - Arba Minch (14th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will travel to the town of Arba Minch, a small town overlooking Lake Chamo.

Day 62 - Arba Minch (15th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have a free day to relax and explore the scenic area, or to take an optional boat trip on Lake Chamo to view the crocodiles that reside there, known locally as the crocodile market.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Hire bicycles to explore the stunning surrounds of Arba Minch

Hire, Guide and Park fee: 400 ETB

Visit the fascinating village of Chincha to learn all about the culture of the Dorze people

Entrance: 300 ETB

Guide cost (per group): 200 ETB

Day 63 - Arba Minch (16th January 2023)

Border Information: If joining in Arba Minch, you will most likely enter Ethiopia at Arba Minch Airport (IATA code: AMH).

There will be a group meeting at the joining hotel at 6:00pm. Please look out for a note from your tour leader at the reception when you arrive giving more details about this important meeting.

The rest of the day before this meeting will be free to explore Arba Minch. Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in Arba Minch before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring Arba Minch.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Hire bicycles to explore the stunning surrounds of Arba Minch

Hire, Guide and Park fee: 400 ETB

Visit the fascinating village of Chincha to learn all about the culture of the Dorze people

Entrance: 300 ETB

Guide cost (per group): 200 ETB

Day 64 - Konso (17th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will arrive in the town of Konso, we will visit the Konzo Village and Cultural centre on route today..

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit this traditional village and see how locals have lived there for hundreds of years. Soak in the calm atmosphere of a village that has stood the test of time.

Included

Day 65 - Moyale (18th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Continuing south we will have a full drive day across the Kenyan border to Moyale.

Border Information: Exit Ethiopia at Moyale, enter Kenya at Moyale.

Day 66 - Samburu Village (19th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will have an early start and travel through the very rarely-visited region of northern Kenya, crossing the infamous Moyale-Marsabit road to the central Samburu region. The scenery along this route is spectacular, as you travel through the black lunar landscapes near Marsabit and pass mountain greenery, spectacular craters, watercourses, bush country and termite mounds.

We will reach the Samburu region near to the small town of Archer's Post this evening, where we will visit a Samburu village - this evening there will be fantastic display of traditional singing and dancing from the Samburu villagers, and a chat around the camp fire with the locals to ask them all about their way of life.

We will camp in the village in the heart of the community tonight, where there are no toilet or washing facilities.

Please note that due to security issues in this particular area, we will sometimes be accompanied by two armed police escorts between Moyale and Archer's Post.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit to Samburu tribal community and cultural project

Included

Day 67 - Samburu National Reserve (20th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we will enter the Samburu National Reserve, where we will enjoy game drives in the truck (breaking for a long lunch during the heat of the day).

Samburu is a stunning National Reserve and is a great opportunity to spot big game such as cheetah, leopards, lions, and buffalo. The Reserve is also home to other animals rarely seen in the NPs further south, such as Grevy's zebras, Somali ostriches and gerenuk ('giraffe-necked antelopes').

Please note that during very wet conditions we may need to use locally-chartered 4x4 jeeps rather than our truck to get a good game drive in - in this instance we may make this option available at extra cost.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Wildlife safari in Samburu National Reserve

Included

Day 68 - Naro Moru (21st January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will get up early to spend the morning enjoying some more excellent game driving in our truck through the Samburu National Reserve. When the animals start to take shelter from the heat of the midday, we will exit the reserve and drive to the small village of Naro Moru at the base of Mount Kenya.

Day 69 - Naro Moru (22nd January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today, we will have a free day in Naro Moru to take optional walks around the lower slopes of Mount Kenya, explore the nearby Mau Mau caves, or take an optional game drive in the nearby Sweetwaters National Reserve.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Head out horse riding in the forests around Naro Moru

Riding: 25 USD

Guided walk to the Naylori Caves in the foothills of Mt. Kenya used by the Mau Mau during the rebellion against British colonial rule

Caves: 20 USD

Game driving in the wildlife-packed private reserve of Ol Pejeta Conservancy and Sweetwaters Game Reserve

Game drive: 190 USD

Visit the spectacular Thomson Falls at Nyahururu

Price: Free

Nature walks around the base of Mt. Kenya searching for birdlife and Colobus monkeys

Nature Trail: 20 USD

Day 70 - Naivasha (23rd January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we make our way to Naivasha, on the edge of a beautiful calm lake in the Great Rift Valley. Here we will have the chance to take an optional boat trip on the lake to spot hippos and African fish eagles, and also to visit the Elsamere Born Free Foundation at the old home of Joy Adamson.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Naivasha Elsamere

Included

Optional Activities

Visit to Lake Naivasha

Price per boat (7pax): 4,000 KES

Day 71 - Nairobi (24th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

We will have free time in the morning to enjoy some excellent optional activities around Naivasha. Naivasha is the base for exploring the Crater Lake Game Sanctuary and the Hell's Gate NP, two scenic areas that are some of the only places in East Africa where you can safely explore and look for wildlife on foot.

Then we will drive to the bustling Kenyan capital of Nairobi, where we will have free time on arrival.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Horseriding at Hells Gate NP

Riding: 1,500 USD

Naivasha Walking Safari

Walking safari: 45 USD

Visit the David Sheldrick animal orphanage

Entrance donations: 500 KES

Learn all about the different tribal groups of Kenya at the Bomas of Kenya cultural centre in Nairobi

Entrance: 10 USD

Visit the Langata Giraffe Centre in Nairobi

Entrance: 1,000 KES

Explore the museum at the site of the former home of Karen Blixen, the author of 'Out of Africa'

Entrance: 1,200 KES

Discover some of Kenya's ancient hominids at the National Museum in Nairobi

Entrance: 1,200 KES

Day 72 - Nairobi (25th January 2023)

Border Information: If joining the trip in Nairobi, you will most likely enter Kenya at Nairobi Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (IATA code: NBO).

Welcome to Kenya! There will be a group meeting at the joining hotel at 6:00pm. Please do not be alarmed if there is no welcome note, as this will often be a travelling day for the crew who will be joining you.

Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in Nairobi before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring Nairobi.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Visit the David Sheldrick animal orphanage

Entrance donations: 500 KES

Learn all about the different tribal groups of Kenya at the Bomas of Kenya cultural centre in Nairobi

Entrance: 10 USD

Visit the Langata Giraffe Centre in Nairobi

Entrance: 1,000 KES

Explore the museum at the site of the former home of Karen Blixen, the author of 'Out of Africa'

Entrance: 1,200 KES

Discover some of Kenya's ancient hominids at the National Museum in Nairobi

Entrance: 1,200 KES

Head out on a guided safari walk in Nairobi National Park

Entrance and walk: 50 USD

Day 73 - Kericho (26th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we will drive on to Kericho, throughout this drive you will have sights of the world famous tea plantations in the area.

Day 74 - Jinja (27th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Border Information: Exit Kenya at Busia, enter Uganda at Busia.

Today we have a full day's drive across the border into Uganda as we travel to Jinja, the adventure capital of East Africa!

Day 75 - Jinja (28th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will have a free day to get involved in the many optional adventure activities available here, such as white water rafting, bungee jumping and boat trips on the White Nile!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Go on a boat trip to discover the source of the Nile where the river outflows from Lake Victoria

1.5 hours: 20 USD

Head out horse riding along the banks of the White Nile

3 hours: 80 USD

Full Day rafting Jinja

Full day tour: 140 USD

Shoebill tour with the Ugandan Rhino Fund

Shoebill: 35 USD

Day 76 - Nakitoma (29th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we continue our journey and head north to the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary close to the town of Nakitoma. Here we will have the chance to track rhinos on foot with a local ranger!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Bird watching tour in Ziwa searching for shoebills

3hrs: 35 USD

Nakitoma Ziwa Night Walk

Night Safari: 35 USD

Rhino tracking with the Ugandan Rhino Fund

2hrs: 45 USD

Day 77 - Kaniyo Pabidi (30th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we continue to Kaniyo Pabidi in the Budongo Forest, in the southern part of the Murchison Falls NP. Here we will head out for our included chimpanzee tracking walk in the afternoon!

Please note that for conservation reasons the maximum group size to track the chimpanzees is 12 people, so if we have a large group we will split in half, one half going on the walk this afternoon and the other half going tomorrow morning.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Trek on foot in the Budongo Forest in search of habituated chimpanzees

Included

Day 78 - Murchison Falls NP (31st January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

If we had to split the group for chimpanzee tracking, the other half of the group will head out for the walk this morning. When we are ready to continue, we will drive to the central region of Murchison Falls NP to reach our campsite.

Please note that the roads leading into and around Murchison Falls are very poor and can be hazardous in wet conditions. If there has been heavy rain recently, it may not be possible to go into the NP beyond Kaniyo Pabidi - this is firstly for safety reasons on the drive in, and secondly due to the risk of extreme bogging that could cause us to miss the gorilla treks further along in our trip. We will always endeavour to reach the NP as per the itinerary; but when this is occasionally not possible, please respect the tour leader's decision in this matter. On these occasions we will be able to utilise this time with spending longer in Lake Bunyonyi.

Day 79 - Murchison Falls NP (1st February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today, we will head out early in the truck for a included morning of game driving around the northern area of the NP - we will take a local vehicle barge to get over the Nile and pick up a ranger to show us around in search of wildlife!

We will return to our campsite for lunch, and then embark on an included launch cruise on the Nile to spot wildlife from the water and to see the spectacularly-powerful Murchison Falls.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Launch cruise on the River Nile to the mighty Murchison Falls

Included

Head out game driving in our overland truck in Murchison Falls National Park

Included

Day 80 - Mpanga Forest (2nd February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we will make our way out of the NP and head South to Mpanga Forest via Kampala. This is a chance to experience a new environment as we camp in the forest near traditional communities. We will hopefully be able to visit the Mpambire drum making village to experience their ancient traditions and culture.

Day 81 - Queen Elizabeth NP (3rd February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we travel to the Queen Elizabeth NP, beautifully set between the Great Rift Valley lakes of Lake Edward and Lake George, undertaking a game drive on our way to the campsite.

During our time in the park we hope to see elephants, lions, leopards, buffaloes, Ugandan kobs and waterbucks.

Day 82 - Queen Elizabeth NP (4th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we are up early to go on a full day game drive making our way to visit the volcanoes and salt mines on the edge of the park. We will experience areas of the NP that are impossible to reach without a full day's excursion!

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Safari in QEII National Park

Included

Optional Activities

Queen Elizabeth NP Night Safari

Cost per vehicle: 100 USD

Day 83 - Bwindi Impenetrable NP (5th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we prepare for our Gorilla tracking by heading to Bunyoni and taking jeeps up into the mountains of Bwindi.

Day 84 - Bwindi Impenetrable NP (6th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Here we will go on what is undoubtedly the highlight of the trip - trekking to see the Mountain Gorillas in their natural forest habitat.

This region is one of the last remaining sanctuaries for the mountain gorilla. No more than 8 people per day can visit any one habituated family, and visits are strictly controlled to minimise the possibility of disturbance or transmission of disease to the animals.

Tracking gorillas in the dense forest can sometimes be wet, muddy and uncomfortable. The terrain is by no means easy either, so it can be pretty strenuous and often humid; however, the sheer thrill of coming across a habituated group of gorillas, dominated by a great male silverback, more than outweighs any difficulty. You need to be prepared and fit enough to walk at least 4 hours - uphill and downhill. We can usually get very close to the mountain gorillas, who are placid and gentle, and watching their movements is like seeing a mirror image of yourself! Once you find them, you will stay with the gorillas for one unforgettable hour!

When visiting the gorillas you will be assigned a trekking group and time on your permit. The group may be split up into different trekking groups during the day.

In Bwindi we will stay in a campsite that occasionally has some very special visitors, the incredible mountain gorillas!

Please note that the gorilla permits are paid for in full by the trip kitty - however, we have to purchase the permits in advance on the customers' behalf, so a higher deposit is charged on the trip price to protect us from losing this money in the event of cancellation - please see the notes at the end for further detail.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Trek out for this once in a lifetime experience - Gorilla Tracking with the endangered Mountain Gorillas in the Impenetrable Forest

Included

Day 85 - Lake Mburo (7th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we will make our way into the stunning Lake Mburo NP. This drive will take us across the equator - a prime moment for some photos!

In the afternoon we may have time for a walking safari or even a boat trip on Lake Mburo.

We will stay in an incredible campsite close to the lake where you may be lucky enough to see hippos leaving the water in the evening.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Boat trip on Lake Mburo

2 hours: 15 USD

Walking safari in Lake Mburo National Park

2 hours: 30 USD

Day 86 - Jinja (8th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

After waking up in the beautiful Lake Mburo NP it is time to head back to Jinja and all of the comforts that it has to offer. You may even have time for an evening activity here.

Day 87 - Nakuru NP (9th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Border Information: Exit Uganda at Malaba, enter Kenya at Malaba.

This is our base for tomorrow's excursion into Nakuru NP. If we make good time on the drive we may have the opportunity to take a walk around the working dairy farm where our campsite is, and to visit a local women's knitting collective.

Day 88 - Nakuru NP (10th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we head into Nakuru NP for an included half-day game drive in local safari trucks. Nakuru is a beautiful park with a large lake and many forested areas - it is teeming with wildlife and there is an excellent chance to see both black and white rhinos.

In the afternoon we will have the opportunity to take a walk around the working dairy farm where our campsite is, and to visit a local women's knitting collective.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Safari in Lake Nakuru National Park

Included

Optional Activities

Walk to explore a colonial dairy farm and visit a local women's knitting collective

Entrance: 5 USD

Day 89 - Masai Mara (11th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will be met by our 6-person 4x4 jeeps that will take us on our 2-night excursion to the Maasai Mara. We will load the jeeps with our personal gear and camping equipment and then head off to Maasai Mara, leaving our truck behind.

We will also be leaving our large bags behind (where they will be stored in a secure location in Nairobi), and advise you to bring along a smaller daypack for your personal gear for this trip that will need to be packed soon after the group meeting before we set off. You should pack clothing for 3 days (including a warm jumper or fleece and long trousers), a waterproof jacket, toiletries (including sun screen and insect repellent), your camera and charger, sleeping mat, sleeping bag, a small towel, a head torch, a water bottle, books and personal snacks, etc.

On arrival, we will have the chance for a short evening game drive in the Maasai Mara NP before heading to our campsite. The Maasai Mara is an incredibly scenic area and is one of the world's greatest places for wildlife spotting which is absolutely teeming with giraffe, buffalo, zebra, elephants, lions, cheetah, leopards, and other big game!

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Head out on a phenomenal safari in 4x4s into the Maasai Mara - one of the best areas in Africa for wildlife and scenery

Included

Day 90 - Masai Mara (12th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will go out for the full day game driving in the NP before returning to our campsite for a second night. There is also the opportunity for a balloon flight over the savannah - demand for this activity is very high so you must reserve this at the time of booking your trip to avoid disappointment.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take a hot air balloon flight to see the sunrise over the incredible scenery of the Maasai Mara (alternative to the scheduled game drive). This must be pre-booked through your sales consultant.

Balloon: 595 USD

Day 91 - Nairobi (13th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will have a final game drive in the Maasai Mara in the early morning, before heading back to Nairobi and our campsite in Karen, arriving at about 4:00pm or 5:00pm. This is where we will meet our overland truck and start using the truck's camping equipment.

Day 92 - Nairobi (14th February 2023)

Border Information: If you are joining the trip in Nairobi, you will most likely enter Kenya at Nairobi Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (IATA code: NBO).

Welcome to Nairobi! There will be a group meeting today at our joining hotel at 10:00am - your tour leader will meet you at the hotel reception or will leave a note at reception telling you where this important meeting will take place.

You will then have time to explore Nairobi fully - possible activities include visiting the Karen Blixen Museum, the National Museum and the Langata Giraffe Centre. Your tour leader will let you know some of our recommendations however you are more than welcome to move through the city independently for the day!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Learn all about the different tribal groups of Kenya at the Bomas of Kenya cultural centre in Nairobi

Entrance: 10 USD

Visit the Langata Giraffe Centre in Nairobi

Entrance: 1,000 KES

Explore the museum at the site of the former home of Karen Blixen, the author of 'Out of Africa'

Entrance: 1,200 KES

Discover some of Kenya's ancient hominids at the National Museum in Nairobi

Entrance: 1,200 KES

Day 93 - Amboseli NP (15th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will head to Amboseli NP. Here you can experience the iconic view of the African plain with Mount Kilimanjaro standing majestically in the background. We will drive through the park in our truck keeping a keen eye out for all of the animals we will pass.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Spend the afternoon out on a game drive hopefully witnessing the huge herds of elephants that roam here

Included

Day 94 - Arusha (16th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Border Information: Exit Kenya at Namanga, enter Tanzania at Namanga.

We will have an early start as we head south to cross the border into Tanzania. We will go to the town of Arusha, where we will stop for food shopping in preparation for our excursion to the Serengeti NP.

We will then head to our campsite on the outskirts of Arusha. On arrival we should have time to go on an optional walk to a nearby Maasai village, or visit a reptile house and snake-bite clinic that are run by the campsite. We will also prepare and re-pack for the Serengeti excursion starting the following day.

In Arusha we stay in a well equipped campsite.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take a short walk to a nearby Maasai village to learn all about the life and culture of the Maasai people

Camel ride to Maasai villages including visit to the Maasai cultural museum: 10 USD

Walk to the Maasai villages including visit to the Maasai cultural museum: 7 USD

Day 95 - Tarangire NP (17th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will be met by our fleet of 6-person 4x4 jeeps - we will load the jeeps with our camping and personal gear, and then head out for our 4-day excursion to the Tarangire NP, Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater, leaving our truck behind.

We will also be leaving our large bags behind (where they will be stored in a secure location), and advise you to bring along a smaller daypack for your personal gear for this trip that will need to be packed soon after the group meeting before we set off. You should pack clothing for 4 days (including a warm jumper or fleece and long trousers), a waterproof jacket, toiletries (including sun screen and insect repellent), your camera and charger, a small towel, a head torch, a water bottle (as there are no single use plastics or bottles available during this excursion), books and personal snacks, etc.

We will have a safety talk with our safari guides and then on to a day drive within Tarangire NP followed by a treetop walkway in the afternoon. You should have many opportunities for photographs so remember your cameras!

Once we make it into our camp site we will have our evening meal before the opportunity for a night game drive to Lake Manyara.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Head on an unforgettable safari in 4x4s into the Serengeti, Tarangire and Ngorongoro Crater National Reserves - three of the world's most incredible areas for wildlife spotting

Included

Day 96 - Serengeti NP (18th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we will make our way down into the plains of the Serengeti. We will take an evening game drive around the savanna before heading to our campsite - the area is one of the world's premier spots for wildlife viewing and we hope to be able to find elephants, lions, leopards, giraffe and other big game during our time here!

Tonight we will stay at a campsite within the Serengeti NP. The camp where we stay is very basic (with showers and flush toilets, but no other facilities) but is located right in the middle of the plains, surrounded by animals and their nocturnal noises! Your leader will outline the basic safety rules to be followed when camping in an unfenced location where wild animals are present.

We will return to our campsite for lunch, and then aim to exit the Serengeti early afternoon. We will head back through the conservation area to our next campsite, on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater, where we will arrive in the early evening.

Again, the campsite tonight is very basic and unfenced. It can often be quite cold on the crater rim so it is recommended that you take some warm clothes for this night.

Day 97 - Serengeti NP (19th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

The next morning we will get up very early and we set off in our jeeps for an early morning game drive in the heart of the Serengeti plains. The early morning is the best time of day for wildlife viewing, as many of the animals are at their most active while it is still cool.

There is an option this morning to take a hot air balloon flight over the Serengeti instead of the game drive - demand is high for this activity, so this must be pre-booked at the time that you booked your trip with us.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Hot Air Balloon ride in the Serengeti (this must be pre booked through your sales consultant)

Optional Balloon Safari: 700 USD

Day 98 - Arusha (20th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we will have another early start to descend into the world-famous Ngorongoro Crater for a morning game drive. Again, the Ngorongoro Crater is an outstanding area for wildlife spotting, often described as a 'natural wildlife enclosure'. This is the best chance on the excursion to spot black rhinos as well as a myriad of other big game.

We will spend as long as our entry tickets allow in the Ngorongoro Crater before departing, which will usually give us about 3-4 hours of game driving. We will then be dropped off at our campsite back in Arusha, where we are re-united with our truck.

We will have a well-deserved free afternoon to relax at our excellent campsite or to do some of the optional activities on offer here.

Day 99 - Lushoto (21st February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we will set off again in our overland truck and head east to Lushoto via Marangu, where we have a nightstop camping in the grounds of a beautiful colonial hotel at the base of Mount Kilimanjaro. We will go past the whole length of Mount Kilimanjaro where we'll hope for clear skies and fantastic views of the mountain from the road.

Day 100 - Lushoto (22nd February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

In Lushoto we will camp in the grounds of a hotel. We have 2 nights here. Today we can go on a mountain walk for the morning and visit some great viewpoints. We have time to recharge before we are on the move again!

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Half day trek out to the stunning Irete view point and community visit to the Irete villages

Included

Day 101 - Dar es Salaam (23rd February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a long travel day south to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania's largest city on the coast of the Indian Ocean.

In Dar es Salaam we stay at a beautiful and well-equipped beach camp on the southern side of the bay across from the city. If we have time on arrival we can do some optional activities such as kayaking and snorkelling.

Please note that, as of tonight, this trip overlaps with our "YDF - Zanzibar to Victoria Falls" trip, so you may have other customers joining your existing group once you arrive in Zanzibar. This is because Zanzibar is part of both trips, so it means customers going all the way through do not do our Zanzibar itinerary twice!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Snorkelling and Sailing Experience

Beach activities: 35 USD

Day 102 - Zanzibar (24th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

This morning we will head to the exotic and beautiful island of Zanzibar! We will travel on the local commuter barge from Kigamboni to the city centre of Dar es Salaam, and then take a ferry from Dar es Salaam centre to Zanzibar. The ferry will take about 2 hours and 30 minutes.

When we reach Zanzibar we will meet our local guide, who will help us check in to our hotel in Stone Town and then give a quick orientation of the town before we branch off and head to lunch! We will have a free afternoon to explore the atmospheric streets of the historic centre of Stone Town, with the option of meeting for sunset drinks at Africa House and heading out to the night markets for a local dinner.

In Stone Town we will stay in a good local hotel.

Day 103 - Zanzibar (25th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

On our second day on Zanzibar we will join our local guide for a very interesting and informative tour around the sights of Stone Town and learn about the history of the island. We will then head away from town and take in a tour of a spice plantation, enjoy a local lunch with our guide, then head to Nungwi beach at the very north of the island. Nungwi is the Indian Ocean at its best - bright white sand, sparkling blue sea, outstanding seafood and a fantastic chilled atmosphere.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Guided tour of Spice Plantations and local lunch on the spice island of Zanzibar

Included

Take a guided tour of the beautiful and historic streets of Zanzibar's Stone Town

Included

Day 104 - Zanzibar (26th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

On our third day on Zanzibar, we will have free time to enjoy Nungwi beach and relax, or to try snorkeling, diving, or other beach activities, or maybe go further afield looking for Red Colobus monkeys in the Jozani Forest.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Enjoy a sunset trip in a traditional dhow

Beach activities: 20 USD

Scuba diving in the incredible waters of the Indian Ocean near Zanzibar (per dive)

Beach activities: 55 USD

Head out on a boat trip out of Zanzibar in search of the local dolphins

Beach activities: 30 USD

Walk through the Jozani Forest in search of the very rare Red Colobus monkeys

Tour: 40 USD

Explore the beautiful 'Prison' Island near Zanzibar

Beach activities: 35 USD

Go on a snorkelling trip in the turquoise waters off Zanzibar

Snorkelling Trip: 40 USD

Day 105 - Zanzibar (27th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Border information: If leaving at Zanzibar, you will most likely exit Tanzania from Zanzibar Abeid Amani Karume International Airport (IATA code: ZNZ), however some customers prefer to return to Dar es Salaam and then exit from Dar Es Salaam Julius Nyerere International Airport (IATA code: DAR).

Today is the end day for passengers finishing their trip in Zanzibar. Please note there is no accommodation included on the trip tonight - please contact the Sales Team if you are interested in booking extra nights of accommodation in order to fully explore and take part in some of the optional activities listed.

Accommodation:

ITINERARY DISCLAIMER

The routes, activities and places visited described in these notes are intentions and are meant as a rough guide only. By their very nature, overland itineraries need to be flexible and the regions that we are travelling through are often unpredictable. We intend to follow the planned route but exact night stops and inclusions cannot be guaranteed and it sometimes happens that we decide to make a change to our planned itinerary. This may be for a variety of reasons; climatic, road or bureaucratic conditions may demand it. Changes to the itinerary may occur with little notice so please be prepared for modifications to your trip.

Drive Times

Drive times are listed in the day-to-day itinerary. These are the approximate number of hours that the vehicle will be in motion, and does not include any time taken for coffee or lunch stops, border crossings, photo stops, activities en route, comfort breaks, shopping stops, toilet stops, etc. The times given are approximate estimates only and whilst given with the best of intentions, the drive times are heavily dependent on traffic, road conditions, weather, police roadblocks, and many other factors.

Accommodation and Meals Included

The type of accommodation and included meals are listed for each day of the itinerary. These listings show our intention and on most departures the listings will be accurate. However due to the flexible nature of overland itineraries, climatic, bureaucratic or road conditions may demand changes to our listed intentions or groups may simply decide to amend the plans from time to time.

Optional Activities

A selection of optional activities is listed in the day-to-day itinerary. This list is designed to be a helpful guide as to what is commonly available in each location, and is neither an exhaustive list, a guarantee that the activity is available, or an endorsement or recommendation. Certain activities may not be available on your particular visit and it may not be possible to do all the activities listed in the time available at each destination. It is recommended to give yourself extra time in your joining or ending city if you would like to participate in some optional activities there. Prices listed are for entrance only and do not include transport costs to and from the sites or local guides unless indicated. The prices are displayed according to our latest information and in the best faith, but prices do fluctuate due to exchange rates, season, numbers of participants, and simple increases from the operator, and therefore any prices listed are a guide only and cannot be guaranteed. If you partake in any optional activities, you do so at your own risk and it must be clearly understood that your participation is your own decision and does not form part of your contract with Dragoman. You may be required to sign/complete a waiver form or optional activity form for some optional activities. For more information around activity safety and insurance, please see the Essential Information document.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In the event of a real emergency once you have left your home country, please contact us on our out of office hours number. If you cannot get through on the phone, please leave a message with your name, reference number, contact details and a message with the help that you need and we will get back to you. Please bear in mind that real progress or action may not be possible until normal office hours, depending on the issue.

If your flight is delayed, please inform us as soon as you can and then make your way to the joining hotel as instructed in the Joining Point section of these notes.

Out of hours Number: +44 (0) 7985 106564

A FEW RULES

We expect all group members to act respectfully towards our staff and other group members. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Engaging in commercial or exploitative sexual activities, committing acts of violence or threatening violence towards local people, other group members or any member of our staff is not allowed. Any customer engaging in such activities will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

You must at all times comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations of all countries visited and conduct yourself in accordance with our responsible travel policy. Any customer found contravening such laws or regulations will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

Although we are aware that in some parts of the world taking, carrying or selling drugs, or carrying weapons may be legal, it is not acceptable for Dragoman customers and our tour leaders have the right to ask you to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price if you are found to be engaging in such activities.

ISSUES ON THE TRIP

While we always endeavour to provide the best possible holiday experience, due to the nature of travel and the areas we visit sometimes things can and do go wrong. Should any issue occur while you are on your trip, it is imperative that you discuss this with your group leader or our local partner straight away so that they can do their best to rectify the problem and save any potential negative impact on the rest of your trip.

We recognise that there may be times when your group leader may not be able to resolve a situation to your satisfaction. If this is the case please contact our customer relations department on customer-relations@dragoman.co.uk.

You may also choose to provide details in your feedback questionnaire which we ask you to complete at the end of your trip, but we do ask you to be aware that it is very difficult for us to provide any practical help after the trip is complete.

IMPORTANT NOTES

OVERLANDING LIFESTYLE

Dragoman was founded in 1981, and has had many years of experience of leading overland trips across 4 continents. Overlanding is all about sharing a great travelling experience with like-minded people. On your trip you'll travel in one of Dragoman's purpose-built iconic expedition vehicles on an off-the-beaten-track adventure along rugged roads, experiencing the sights, sounds and smells of the world up-close. Your journey will be overland, sometimes across vast distances, so some long days spent driving are inevitable - but these will be interspersed with breaks of a day or two at a destination or activity.

On an overland journey, you are more than just a passenger and everyone gets involved setting up camp - we supply the tent but it's up to you to pitch it! As part of your trip, you will be assigned a truck job which could be collecting firewood or water, luggage loading, organising food, stores, etc. Like all great adventures, the more you put in the more you'll get out! For more details of how an overlanding trip works, please see the Essential Information document.

SAFETY STANDARDS

We run adventure journeys in off the beaten track areas, which often have poor infrastructure. You should expect that some of these areas do not adhere to 'Western' safety standards. For more information, please see the Essential Information document

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN REMOTE AREAS

We will be travelling to areas in remote locations where medical assistance will not be available, and communications may be sparse. We do not carry satellite phones on our regular trips. Therefore, if you have a medical condition such as a heart condition that would put you at risk, we would suggest that this is not the trip for you. Also, please be aware that should an emergency occur, there is likely to be a considerable delay in accessing medical care, and by joining our trip you accept this risk.

VISAS, HEALTH, INSURANCE & MONEY

Before you travel there are vital things to consider such as:

- Any visas needed for your trip
- Any vaccinations needed (please consult your GP or travel clinic)
- Organising your local payment (the kitty)
- Buying travel insurance (insurance is compulsory to be allowed to join our trips)

For more information on these topics, please see the Essential Information Document.

ALTITUDE WARNING

Warning - this trip goes above 2800m.

Please note that this trip spends time above 2800 metres/9200 feet where it is possible for travellers to experience some adverse effects on your health due to the altitude, potentially including Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS), High Altitude Cerebral Edema (HACE) and High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE). Because of this it is very important that you make yourself aware of the cause and effects of travelling at altitude and monitor your health during this trip.

For further information please [download our AMS information sheet](#) or refer to the following website: www.high-altitude-medicine.com. If you are starting your trip in a destination above 2800m/9200ft we strongly advise reading this information prior to arrival. Your leader will also hand you a copy of the AMS information sheet during your trip as well as holding a short meeting prior to travelling to altitudes above 2800m/9200ft for the first time.

Some travel insurance companies will stipulate a maximum altitude limit. Please ensure that you are covered and if necessary pay the additional premium of extended cover.

GORILLA TREK NOTES

To track the gorillas you will need a permit. In order for us to confirm this permit we require the following:

1. Passport details at the time of booking
2. A non refundable trip deposit payment of GBP500 at the time of booking (higher than our usual trip deposit)

Please be aware that we cannot confirm your place on a gorilla trip without your passport details. Please also note that the cost of the permit is still covered entirely by the kitty as is normal for a cost of this type. The deposit mentioned is simply a higher trip deposit to protect Dragoman against cancellations, as we have to pay for the permits in full in advance and our tour leaders collect this amount back from the kitty.

The likelihood of seeing gorillas is virtually guaranteed; however, they are wild animals so we can never say that the chance is 100%.

EGYPT NOTES

SUDAN NOTES

SUDAN NOTE

The British Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) currently has no travel warnings in place that will affect this trip for British clients.

Non-UK clients should check the travel advice of their own governments, as this may be different to the British FCO advice. Australia and New Zealand currently advise 'against all travel' to all areas of Sudan outside of Khartoum. Canada advises against all travel to Sudan and the U.S asks travellers to carefully consider the risks of travel to Sudan.

We therefore ask that all non UK travellers check their insurance policy carefully to ensure they are still covered for this trip (as travel to these areas may invalidate some insurance policies). All non UK clients will need insurance that will remain valid throughout the entire trip before they are able to travel with us.

Please note that there are no ATMs in Sudan (at least none that will work for non-Sudanese cards), so please bring plenty of USD cash with you.

ETHIOPIA NOTES

ETHIOPIA NOTE

Please note that accommodation prices in Ethiopia may significantly increase during late December and January due to several national holidays surrounding Coptic Christmas; this may push the price of the kitty up an extra **USD50** per person. We will endeavour to negotiate and save money on the ground where possible, but please be aware that we are likely to need extra money in the kitty for trips over this time.

Please also note that we must keep a flexible itinerary in the Simien Mountains, as our options will largely be determined by the weather. The camping areas in the Simien Mountains National Park are very basic, and are essentially wild camps with long drop toilets. The food and provisions available in Debark and the National Park are very limited, and it is also likely to be very cold at night (often dropping below freezing), so please be prepared by bringing suitably warm clothes, and a 4-season sleeping bag and sleeping mat.

KENYA NOTES

UGANDA NOTES

TANZANIA NOTES

Please ensure you have an up to date version of these notes. **These notes were printed on the 22nd April 2021**