



HARVARD
Alumni Travels

TANZANIA FAMILY SAFARI

DECEMBER 22, 2019–JANUARY 3, 2020

This classic family safari heads deep into the wilds of northern Tanzania, where you'll experience an unmatched blend of world-class wildlife viewing, exhilarating nature walks, and intimate encounters with tribal culture. The adventure begins with a safari to Tarangire National Park, which is famous for its ancient baobab trees and large herds of elephant. Next, board a charter flight to a 10,000-acre private nature refuge in the Eastern Serengeti. There you will enjoy night wildlife drives, guided walks, and meetings with local Maasai people. Continue to the iconic Serengeti, where you will spend days exploring the untamed wilderness that lion, cheetah, leopard, and millions of hoofed animals call home. Observe an integral part of Tanzania's ecology in the verdant hills and farmlands of the Ngorongoro Highlands. In the Highlands, you will reside at Gibbs Farm, one of the oldest working farms in East Africa, which has been converted into an award winning eco-lodge. While at Gibbs Farm, you may explore over 50 acres of coffee fields, historic gardens, and forest—all on foot. You will also engage in a community development project with a local village.

GROUP SIZE: Up to 20 guests

PRICING: (Land only-price does not include airfare)

Adults: \$9,795 / **Teens** (12–15 years old): \$8,995 / **Children** (6–11 years old): \$8,795 /
Single Supplement: \$900

All prices include the \$360 per person Tanzania Value Added Tax

STUDY LEADER: To be announced

SCHEDULE BY DAY

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 DEPART U.S. FOR TANZANIA

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23 ARRIVAL INTO ARUSHA

Arrive this evening into Arusha, where you will be warmly welcomed. Transfer with the group to the comfortable Rivertrees Country Inn. Have a snack at Rivertrees and enjoy the serenity of the surrounding forests and streams.

Overnight: *Rivertrees Country Inn* (Snack)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 ARUSHA / TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK

This morning, you will be welcomed by your local guide who will accompany you throughout your safari, offering cultural insights, wildlife spotting expertise, and in-depth knowledge of wildlife behavior. The guide will brief you on your itinerary and review the expectation for your safari, giving you a taste of what's to come. Please ask the guide questions at this time and as they arise.

Depart for Tarangire National Park. Cross the Maasai Steppe and arrive at the park within two hours,

This afternoon, explore the banks of the Tarangire River, where large families of elephant often gather. Also spend time exploring the baobab-studded plains and the miombo woodlands, where you'll surely find baboon and vervet monkey,

This evening, enjoy a welcome dinner and the full Tanzanian hospitality that comes with it.

Overnight: *Tarangire Nyumba* (B, L, D)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK

Spend the morning wildlife viewing in Tarangire, searching for animals and birdlife among Tarangire's river valley and the surrounding plains.

Enjoy lunch and great vistas of the Tarangire River from the verandah at Tarangire Safari Lodge.

Later, explore more of the park. Guinea fowl scurry alongside your vehicle and leopard sometimes lurk in the grasses near the road. You never know what's around the next corner.

Tonight, listen to the hypnotic sounds of the wilderness around you as you rest at your camp.

Overnight: *Tarangire Nyumba* (B, L, D)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26 TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK / ENASHIVA NATURE RESERVE

This morning, take a brief scenic flight from Tarangire to the Eastern Serengeti Ecosystem.

Upon arrival at the airstrip, your guide will give you a brief tour and history of the 10,000 refuge as you make your way to camp. Enjoy wildlife viewing along the way, one of the tangible results of conservation efforts in the area.

After lunch at your Nyumba, enjoy wildlife viewing in the Eastern Serengeti Ecosystem. Be on the lookout for rarer species, such as the bat-eared fox and the smaller animals that are sometimes overlooked, such as the mongoose, hyrax, dik dik, and klipspringer.

Stretch your legs on a brief but scenic walk this afternoon. The nature refuge is a magical place of peace and beauty and there is no better way to experience it than on foot. A local wildlife scout will accompany you and your guide.

Overnight: *Eastern Serengeti Nyumba* (B, L, D)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

EASTERN SERENGETI ECOSYSTEM

Enjoy a light breakfast before heading out on a morning hike. The terrain will be fairly mild, but make sure that you have comfortable shoes with good traction. Being out on the plains on foot at this time of day is magical.

Next, visit a school, teachers' housing, or medical dispensary to learn how tourism can impact the community in positive ways through collaboration and understanding.

Enjoy a relaxing lunch at camp.

Tonight, a group of local Maasai warriors visit the camp to perform a traditional rhythmical dance. This is a great opportunity to exchange ideas and ask questions. Nothing is scripted or planned, so enjoy the twists and turns that this conversation may take. Maasai elder Nekaaki Kioki is a feisty grandmother and a fantastic storyteller. She knows hundreds of Maasai folktales and tells them in a truly dramatic fashion. Travelers gather around the campfire to listen to her tales, which are translated into English.

Take to the plains and wilds after dark for a night drive in the Eastern Serengeti Ecosystem. Night drives offer thrills and possible sightings of nocturnal creatures, such as spring hares, aardvarks, and porcupines. More than anything, the night drive offers an adventure few travelers in Tanzania have the chance to experience.

Overnight: *Eastern Serengeti Nyumba* (B, L, D)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

EASTERN SERENGETI ECOSYSTEM / SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

This morning, enjoy a visit to the Enjipai Women's Group. This small group of Maasai women have paired their skills as artisans and homemakers with their desire to help their own families and greater community. They are enjoying brisk sales of their intricately beaded crafts to visitors. A portion of all sales goes into a community fund established for education and health care initiatives.

Enjoy a boxed lunch as you continue to Serengeti National Park.

As you arrive at the park, note the wooded knolls around Klein's Gate that mark the Serengeti's official entrance. As you make your way south through rolling hills and wooded grasslands, you will more and more wildlife.

Here, you'll spend the afternoon wildlife viewing. The big cats often spend these hours lying drowsily about the plains and up in the trees while many antelope and other animals continue to graze. Pick up a few useful Swahili expressions and words from your guide. Just trying out a few of them while on safari will make your experience all the more remarkable.

Conclude the day with a relaxing evening at your Nyumba.

Overnight: *Southern Serengeti Nyumba* (B, L, D)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

Those with advance reservations will have a pre-dawn wake-up call to spend the morning riding in a balloon across the plains. Take to the skies just as the sun rises, then glide over the plains and acacia treetops, taking in spectacular views of the Seronera River Valley and the surrounding plains. After your descent, enjoy a magnificent champagne breakfast right in the midst of the Serengeti wilderness.

In the afternoon, continue your exploration of the Serengeti by touring the pristine landscapes with your guide leading the way. Expansive plains, rolling hills, dramatic granite outcrops, and riverine valleys are home to an endless variety of fascinating creatures, from the lowly dung beetle to the impressive elephant.

Once you return from wildlife viewing, take time to sit by the fire and relax. Exchange stories of the day, write in your journals, or simply enjoy the fresh evening breeze.

Overnight: *Southern Serengeti Nyumba* (B, L, D)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK / NGORONGORO HIGHLANDS

As you follow the meandering path out of Serengeti National Park this morning, take in the gorgeous scenery and wildlife.

On the way to the next part on your adventure, make a short stop at Olduvai Gorge, a deep ravine and site of fossilized remains of animals and hominids that date as far back as two million years. A brief lecture and small museum tour are included. Enjoy a boxed lunch as you continue to your Nyumba.

Tonight, settle into your Nyumba. With millions of stars overhead and a gentle evening breeze, sit by the fire and enjoy the pristine surroundings.

Enjoy a traditional Tanzanian dinner this evening. Rich with spices and fresh local vegetables, this is a chance to sample the best of local cuisine.

Overnight: *Ngorongoro Nyumba* (B, L, D)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

NGORONGORO HIGHLANDS

This morning, visit the Ngorongoro Crater, where you are likely to find an abundance of wildlife. With luck, you might even see rhinoceros and big cats, such as lion and cheetah. The diversity of species often inspires awe, from baboons and elephants in the Leraï Forest to wildebeest and mountain reedbuck over the crater's grassy floor. Enjoy your picnic lunch near a hippo pool on the crater floor.

This evening, relax at the Tembo Fire, an open-air seating area nestled at the foot of the organic gardens. Once a nightly tradition to keep the elephants—or “tembo” in Swahili—from feasting in the organic gardens, the Tembo Fire makes a wonderful place for conversation, storytelling, or star-gazing.

Take a moment to observe the resident bush babies that live in the trees just outside the Main House at Gibb's Farm. These fascinating nocturnal creatures are typically shy, but will make an appearance if there is any ripe fruit

nearby. At night, their unique call sounds just like a baby.

Overnight: *Gibb's Farm – Cottage Room* (B, L, D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

NGORONGORO HIGHLANDS

For the first half of the day, work side-by-side with local students at the large vegetable garden that the Harvard Alumni Association sponsored at Haymu Primary School in Karatu. The garden provides the local school with fresh green vegetables used for the school lunch. Also, the students learn important farming skills. Afterward, lunch will be served at the school followed by a spirited game of soccer for young travelers and the students.

Return to Gibb's Farm with plenty of time of freshen up, relax, and unwind before the farewell dinner this evening.

You may choose to spend the afternoon relaxing on the verandah with tea or taking advantage of the innumerable optional activities including a farm or garden tour, bird watching, coffee roasting, and more.

Tonight, enjoy your farewell dinner in Tanzania, giving you time to reflect on the many sights, adventures, and experiences that you will remember for years to come.

Overnight: *Gibb's Farm – Cottage Room* (B, L, D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

DEPART FROM ARUSHA

In the morning, return to Arusha and stop at the Shanga Workshop, an art center where physically challenged artisans create remarkable jewelry, learn glass-blowing, and sell their work. This extraordinary project was created in order to mentor and empower those who are often marginalized in Tanzanian society. You will be surprised and inspired by the quality and beauty of their creations.

During a special farewell lunch, you will have time to say goodbye to your safari companions as you prepare for your

departures. Following lunch, enjoy a day room in Arusha, resting up and readying yourself for your flights.

Transfer as a group to the airport.

Day Room: *Rivertrees Country Inn (B, L, Snack)*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

ARRIVE U.S.