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# EAST AFRICA

KENYA AND TANZANIA | SMALL GROUP  
SEP 16 - OCT 2, 2025 | 17 DAYS | 40 MEALS

**JOURNEY LEADERS: BRIAN AND DEB TILSON**

*Up close with nature: zebras roam freely as we explore the wild from our safari jeep*

Step into an unforgettable East African adventure, the ultimate haven for wildlife enthusiasts. Discover world-renowned national parks such as Sweetwaters, the Masai Mara, and the Serengeti, and this year, we're thrilled to add Tarangire National Park to the experience. In this region, we'll witness the spectacular Great Migration, the last major migratory herds of wildebeest and zebra that traverse between the Masai Mara and the Serengeti annually. Our journey ensures ample time in the Mara during peak season, providing the opportunity to witness the largest herds in the pristine wilderness. With its expansive plains, majestic mountains, and breathtaking scenery, it's no surprise that visitors find East Africa unforgettable.

For bird enthusiasts, East Africa is paradise, hosting the world's highest concentration of bird species. Each day of our journey reveals new, breathtaking landscapes: the sweeping grasslands of the Masai Mara and the Serengeti, the dramatic peaks of Mount Kenya and Mt. Kilimanjaro, the unique Ngorongoro Crater, and bushlands alive with diverse wildlife and vibrant birdlife.

With limited spots available for this exclusive small-group adventure, we encourage early enrollment to secure your place and avoid disappointment.



### SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

LIMITED TO ONLY 20 MEMBERS

#### Highlights

- Embark on thrilling safari adventures in Kenya and Tanzania in special 4x4 safari vehicles
- In Nairobi, visit the Karen Blixen Museum, the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, and the Giraffe Centre
- Discover the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary, housing 26 orphaned chimps
- Experience the thrill of encountering the legendary Big Five in the Serengeti and Tarangire National Park
- Experience Masai Mara's Great Migration, marveling at thousands of wildebeests and zebras
- Revel in the awe-inspiring Ngorongoro Crater (2 nights) known for the density and variety of its game
- Indulge in a delightful lunch at Gibb's Farm and explore the underground homes of the Iraqw people
- Drive to Olduvai Gorge, offering fascinating insights into early human existence and evolution

#### Journey Leader

**Deb and Brian Tilson** lead an active lifestyle of hiking, biking and playing pickleball, and spend their time visiting family between Rockwood, Ontario and Terrace, British Columbia.



Their love of travel has taken them to New Zealand, Ireland, Costa Rica, England, Alaska, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama, as well as Canada and the United States from coast to coast. Brian is an avid photographer, who has been published in Canadian Geographic. He is looking forward to sharing tips and techniques on this amazing journey. Deb is a recently retired music teacher, and has been singing and entertaining on stage for many years. They joined the Craig Travel Team in 2017 and are thrilled to be able to share their passion for travel with you.

#### Inclusive Features

- Return economy group airfare from Canada, and internal flights
- First class hotels and lodges as indicated or similar
- All game drives as indicated
- All entrance fees and sightseeing as described
- 40 meals as noted in the itinerary (B - 14 breakfasts, L - 14 lunches, D - 12 dinners)
- Visa fees for Kenya and Tanzania for Canadian passport holders
- All gratuities, surcharges, taxes and fees for included services
- Airport transfers in Canada or equivalent value with purchase of group airfare
- Services of your Canadian journey leaders plus professional drivers/guides in Kenya and Tanzania

#### SEP 16, Tuesday

Tour members gather in Toronto for the overnight flights to Nairobi.

#### DEPART CANADA

#### SEP 17, Wednesday

Upon our late arrival in Nairobi, we'll be greeted and swiftly transported to our ideally located hotel near the city center. **Double Tree by Hilton** (2 nights)

#### NAIROBI, KENYA

#### SEP 18, Thursday

We'll begin the day at the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, where we'll have an up-close experience with adorable orphaned baby elephants and rhinos. Following a delightful welcome lunch there will be an opportunity to feed endangered Rothschild giraffes at the Giraffe Centre. Then, enjoy a guided tour of the historic Karen Blixen Museum, dating back to 1914, offering a fascinating glimpse into Kenya's earlier days.

#### NAIROBI

BL

**SEP 19, Friday MOUNT KENYA / SWEETWATERS**

Heading north, we traverse a rich agricultural region, home to the Kikuyu tribe, before entering a transitional zone that separates the populous central region from the arid north. Here, around the base of Mount Kenya, we discover an area known for its extensive game. Our camp, overlooking a floodlit waterhole, provides unforgettable opportunities to observe and capture photographs of animals in their natural habitat. After settling in, embark on your first thrilling game drive in this reserve, home to herds of impalas, lions, leopards, elephants, and crocodiles.

**Sweetwaters Luxury Tented Camp (2 nights) BLD**

**SEP 20, Saturday SWEETWATERS RESERVE**

Enjoy a thrilling full day of game viewing, commencing with an early morning drive when the light is optimal and wildlife is exceptionally active. Our route will trace the Ewaso Nyiro River, a renowned habitat teeming with game, drawn to the area's dry plains despite the ever-present predators. A standout feature of our stay awaits at the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary, a unique haven established through collaboration between the OI Pejeta Conservancy, the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), and the Jane Goodall Institute. Nestled within the riverine forest and savannah grassland, this sanctuary is home to 26 orphaned chimps, promising an unforgettable highlight of your journey. BLD

**SEP 21, Sunday LAKE NAKURU**

Venture through the Aberdare Mountains and into the Great Rift Valley, a complex rift system that extends through the heart of Africa and is considered the cradle of mankind. Today the region is known as a birder's paradise. Lake Nakuru National Park hosts vibrant flocks of Lesser Flamingos and diverse game, including lions, leopards, rhinos, and hyenas. After lunch, indulge in a game drive around the lake before a comfortable overnight stay.

**Lion Hill Lodge (1 night) BLD**

**SEP 22, Monday MASAI MARA**

Continue your journey down the valley into the heart of the Masai Mara, Kenya's renowned national reserve. Timed with the Great Migration, witness thousands of wildebeests and zebras roaming the extensive grasslands. Enjoy a late afternoon drive through this exciting reserve, home to a huge population of nomadic animals.

**Mara Serena Lodge (3 nights) BLD**

**SEP 23 / 24, Tuesday / Wednesday MASAI MARA**

Explore the park's abundance of game, blessed with permanent water. At this time of year, you may witness vast herds of zebra and wildebeest, along with the predators that follow them. Usually, these herds arrive to feast on fresh grass and give birth to their young. Optional hot air balloon rides (at an additional cost) offer a unique perspective. BLD/BLD

**SEP 25, Thursday ISIBANIA / SERENGETI**

A short flight brings you to Isibania, where we cross into Tanzania. Another flight takes us to the heart of the Serengeti, where we meet our new drivers/guides. Experience an afternoon game drive and unwind in a deluxe lodge overlooking the vast plains for the next three nights. **Kubu Kubu Tented Lodge (3 nights) BLD**



*Overlooking the Kubu Kubu Tented Lodge, credit Tanganyika Wilderness Camps*



*Wildebeest crossing the Mara River during the great migration*



*The King of East Africa's vast wilderness, captured by Craig Liddle.*



*Maasai women adorned in vibrant, colorful garments*

**SEP 26 / 27, Friday / Saturday SERENGETI, TANZANIA**

Enjoy exhilarating 4x4 safari drives, featuring open tops for optimal game viewing, twice daily. Seek out diverse wildlife, from predators like cheetahs and hyenas to the renowned Big Five: elephants, buffalos, lions, leopards, and perhaps even the occasional rhino. Relax by the pool during breaks between drives, immersing yourself in the captivating African ambiance. BLD/BLD

**SEP 28, Sunday OLDUVAI / NGORONGORO**

Embark on a captivating game drive to Olduvai Gorge, a significant paleoanthropological site nestled within the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Delve into the remnants of ancient history, with footprints dating back over three million years, offering compelling evidence of early human existence. This site has unearthed fossil remains of over sixty hominins, tracing the most continuous and extensive known record of human evolution spanning the past two million years. It also boasts the lengthiest archaeological record of the evolution of stone-tool industries. This amazing caldera, located some 2,000 feet below the surrounding plains and covering just over 100 square miles, is home to an unbelievable density and variety of game. **Ngorongoro Farm House Lodge** (1 night) BLD

**SEP 29, Monday TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK**

This morning we explore the unique underground homes of the Iraqw people. We continue onto Gibbs Farm for lunch, a remnant of the colonial era, and a lush tropical oasis. Later this afternoon we continue to Tarangire National Park and our lodge. **Tarangire Sopa Lodge** (2 nights) BLD

**SEP 30, Tuesday TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK**

Enjoy a full day of exploration in our national park. We hope to catch some last sightings of the big five during our morning and afternoon game drives. BLD

**OCT 1, Wednesday KILIMANJARO / CANADA**

After a leisurely morning, bid farewell to Tanzania as we transfer to Kilimanjaro Airport for evening flights back to Canada. BL

**OCT 2, Thursday ARRIVE CANADA**

Arriving Toronto this afternoon, we make connections to our homes across Canada.

 **Book by April 30, 2025**  
**and save \$500 per person** 

**CT Rating 3.5/5 - Challenging:** While we will be staying in superior lodges and hotels throughout this journey, members should be aware that travel in Africa is often over very rough dusty roads, in small 4x4 vehicles with difficult access. Members will require immunization against yellow fever and should take precautions against malaria. A yellow fever certification may be required to enter Tanzania. The itinerary may be affected by local conditions and late adjustments may be required. All participants must be in good physical condition to fully enjoy this adventure.



*Serene African vistas*

**Tour Cost in Canadian Dollars Per Person**

Land Only* (Join at first hotel / Leave at last hotel).....	\$14,795
Toronto .....	\$16,575
Ottawa / Montreal .....	\$16,695
Halifax / Winnipeg.....	\$16,895
St. John's.....	\$16,995
Regina / Saskatoon .....	\$17,045
Calgary / Edmonton / Vancouver .....	\$16,995
Victoria.....	\$17,045
Single Supplement .....	\$1,895

\*Land-only price is based on joining the group at the first hotel in Nairobi and leaving the group at the last hotel in Tarangire National Park, including internal flights, related taxes and fees.


Airfares from other gateways are available on request. Airfares and carrier are subject to change and will be confirmed prior to final payment. Refer to inclusive features for details.

Tour price is based on sharing a twin-bedded room. Prices are based on a minimum of 15 members and on rates, taxes, and fees effective October 2024, and are subject to change due to factors beyond our control.

Insurance is NOT INCLUDED but is highly recommended. Premiums are calculated based on the individual's age, destination (country), trip length, and trip booking window – please contact our staff to receive a quote. Your coverage starts on the effective date of your confirmation of coverage. Please discuss your insurance coverage prior to booking. Check our website for the most current information. Refer to the enrollment form for terms and conditions.

**Final payment is due on June 12, 2025**  
**Deposit is \$1,000 per person**

To reserve your place on this tour, simply complete the enclosed enrollment form, indicating the tour you wish to join and your home city, and forward it with your deposit to:

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