

Karibu



TANZANIA

Exclusive Safari Trekking and Beach Deal



KILIMANJARO CLASSIC SAFARIS

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ABOUT Kilimanjaro Classic Safaris

Kilimanjaro Classic Safari's offers tailor-made safaris in Tanzania that bring your safari dreams to life. We love to show you the famous natural wonders of this country, but also the hidden treasures. We take you from the best wildlife spots in northern Tanzania to the raw authentic wilderness in the south and from the top of the Kilimanjaro to the endless stretches of white sandy beaches in tropical Zanzibar.

Why Choose Kilimanjaro Classic Safari's?



1. Private safaris

Everyone is different and has other Swishes and interests, therefore no itinerary should be the same. You prefer to visit the famous national parks in the north or take the road less travelled in the south or west? Spotting the Big Five is on your bucket-list or bird watching or a walking safari in the Serengeti? Private safaris offer you a huge freedom. You can travel on your own terms and at your own pace, since you have a private guide and vehicle. If you love to stop at the river for an hour to see herds of elephants bathing, that's possible. Or if you want to relax at the pool instead of a full day game viewing, it's up to you. We create a tailor-made safari that meets your expectations and brings your safari dreams to life.

2. Local tour operator

We are a local tour operator and take care of you from the time you arrive at the airport, right up until you fly home. Kilimanjaro Classic Safari's is owned and staffed by Tanzanian people who were born and raised in Tanzania and live here. We know everything about this country and can tell you all about the culture, nature, wildlife and hidden treasures. We believe it offers you a richer, more interesting experience. Another

advantage of choosing a local tour operator is that locals benefit directly from your presence. Our office is based in Arusha (Tanzania) and we have over 10 years of experience in the safari business.

3. Experienced multilingual guides

Safari guides are a crucial part of a successful safari. A great safari guide understands what makes a safari special and will turn every game drive into an exciting adventure. That is why our team only consists of skilled and experienced guides who speak from their own personal experience. Been there, done that. All our guides are wildlife experts and great spotters. They are fluent in English and most are multilingual - speaking more foreign languages- including German, Spanish, Italian, Russian and Chinese.

4. Safari vehicles

We have our own safari vehicles; the latest modified Land Cruisers (4 wheel drive). These vehicles are comfortable with high backed seats and plenty of leg space. The roof hatches allow optimal wildlife viewing since this roof can flip to the front, back and even taken off completely from the vehicle. This way you can stand up, out of the top of the vehicle or even sit on the roof. During long travel distances the roof will be closed. Our

vehicles are fully equipped with first aid kits, built-in fridge and long range radio system for easy communication.

5. Personal Service

We believe the best way to create your dream safari is working together. You tell us your wishes, expectations and interests and we give you a personal advice when to go, where to stay and the things you can see. We blend it into an amazing handcrafted safari itinerary that brings your safari dreams to life. With over 10 years of experience in planning unique safari itineraries, we know the importance of personal service and attention to detail.

6. Competitive prices

As a local safari company based in Arusha we have competitive rates which we can pass to our customers, so you have a price advantage when booking with us. We offer competitive rates for every budget, from low-end to ultra-luxurious safaris. You can also ask us for personal advice on where to save and where to spend.

1. MOUNTAIN TREKKING/HIKING

✓ Mount Kilimanjaro OR Kilimanjaro national park

Park History

The park was gazetted in 1973, officially opened for tourism in 1977, declared as World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1987 and Natural Wonder of Africa in 2013. Its size is 1712 Km².

Attractions

The Park is endowed with a diverse variety of attractions ranging from terrestrial wilderness to permanent glaciers on the mountain peaks.

Three Peaks

Kibo, the highest peak [5,895m] is covered by snow throughout the year though located near the equator and to many climbers, conquering this peak is an adventure of their lifetime. Mawenzi [5,149m] is rugged and opened for technical climb. Shira [3,962m] is the oldest peak that collapsed and forms a shira plateau with outstanding scenic beauty on the mountain habited with several kinds of migratory large mammals such as buffaloes, elephants and elands.



The highest free-standing mountain in the world - has been enticing adventure-seekers for over a century. Glacier-covered peaks dissolve into alpine meadows, which, in turn, contrast the formidable mass of verdant

rainforests and darker gorges that cover the slopes of this volcano. Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro is an unforgettable experience. Here,

trekkers enjoy the wonders of African nature through varying climatic zones and the experience culminates as the morning sun gleams off the snow-covered glaciers at the summit of the highest point of the African continent.

For most of the trekkers reaching the summit is a pivotal lifetime achievement. Many of them put a great deal of thought into the decision to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. After all, it is a long trip to a remote country in Africa. Also, compared to other hiking trips all over the world, Mt Kilimanjaro adventures are more expensive. Together combined, all these things make it necessary to plan your trip carefully.

There are many things to consider while planning your Mount Kilimanjaro climb. Lack of information, and, consequently, failure to make proper preparations is the main reason why even young and fit trekkers sometimes fail to reach the summit. On the other hand, armed with the right information, climbers of all ages and physical fitness levels confidently make their way to the top.

In addition to that, numerous operators market Mt Kilimanjaro too aggressively, often failing to inform the hikers about the required safety measures and preparation. The Kilimanjaro hiking challenge is often described as “easy” and hardly a thing is ever told about high-altitude acclimatization and its impact on climbers. Everything is made to maximize the number of clients, while safety aspects are often forgotten. As the number of those eager to climb Kilimanjaro is rising, we decided to make this guide so that future adventurers can avoid common pitfalls. It answers the most frequently asked questions: what is “high altitude acclimatization”; what equipment is needed; what is the best time for a comfortable and safe Kilimanjaro hike and how to get to Kilimanjaro. Our guide also explains the differences between Kilimanjaro climbing routes, gives you a sneak peek into the inner workings of a successful climbing expedition and prepares you for the camping experience.

In short, the best time to visit Mt. Kilimanjaro is from early June to late September and from late December to late February. These times are short on rain and sunny most of the time, which goes a long way to ensuring the best views and a comfortable climb.

Tanzania has two rainy seasons and two dry seasons. The first dry season starts in the middle of December and lasts until early March. After a period of long rains, dry weather returns in the late June or early July. The second dry season lasts until the middle of October to complete the annual cycle.

Dry seasons are the time when there are a lot of trekkers on Kilimanjaro, especially on Machame and Marangu routes. If you want a more private experience of summiting Kilimanjaro, you should opt for Lemosho, Rongai or Northern Circuit routes.

Though Kilimanjaro climbing is more challenging during the rainy season, this choice has a number of fair advantages. First, the number of other trekkers is minimal. Secondly, everything around is lush green. Thirdly, it is the only time to see the snow-capped peak of Kilimanjaro. The photographers will enjoy the time!

Getting there

The park can be accessed by road or flight via Kilimanjaro International Airport – about 45 km to the west. Marangu gate is the Park Headquarters and one of the ascending route is located 41 km from Moshi town and 86 km from Kilimanjaro International Airport. The other seven gates of Rongai, Machame, Londorosi, Lemosho, Kilema, Mweka and Umbwe are located around the mountain base and can be reached by road.

Mount Kilimanjaro Map and Routes

While parts of some of Kilimanjaro climbing routes overlap, each has its own attraction. Varying degrees of physical challenge and acclimatisation opportunities are offset by magnificent views and, sometimes, traded off for greater privacy on the less frequented treks. Choosing the right route is critical for your summit success. Below we are giving a short description of each route, examining their pros and cons.

Machame Route Machame is the second most popular route on Kilimanjaro. It is often busy during high season. Featuring excellent acclimatization and great views it is a really good route to consider. Make sure to choose the 7-day program. A shortened 6-day version of Machame, while cheaper, has one of the lowest success rates.

Marangu Route The most popular and difficult route for a Kilimanjaro climb. Though crowded at times, it is the only route that offers huts- rather than tents- for your overnights. The fact that ascent and descent follow the same path will not be felt as a disadvantage, as the views are ever-changing under the African sky.



Lemosho Route Lemosho route combines excellent acclimatization and high scenic value. Because the route trailhead is quite remote very few local operators run this Kilimanjaro trek. 7-day option is highly recommended.

Northern Circuit Route This newest trekking route on Kilimanjaro will be ideal for those keen on seeing the northern, rarely visited slopes. This option is the longest on Kilimanjaro but you will never see crowds on Northern Circuit.

Rongai Route Rongai is the only route with a trailhead in the northern part of Kilimanjaro. It features great views and a moderate altitude acclimatization transition. Those seeking a more private experience of communing with nature away from the crowds will find this less-frequented trek an excellent option.

Umbwe Route Umbwe is the shortest way to Uhuru with the steepest ascent. Acclimatization there is challenging. Recommended for the experienced mountaineer only.

Tourism Activities

• Climbing to the Summit

Climbing to Kibo peak takes 5 – 9 days depending on the route.

Seven mountain trails can take a climber to the mountain peak, each route offering different attractions and challenges.

• Mountain Cycling

On two wheels tourist has a chance of cycling to the roof of Africa. There are two routes which are used for cycling, one for summit bound visitors (Kilema route) and second one for non summit visitors (Shira plateau).

• Crater Camping

Camping in the crater provides unique visitors' night

experience. While at the crater tourists can visit the unique bench-shaped like glaciers, the formation that can only be found at Mount Kilimanjaro

Paragliding

Tourists can fly from the top of Mount Kilimanjaro and may use parachutes or wingsuits while undertaking this activity.

• Mawenzi Technical Climbing

Mawenzi is the second highest peak on Mount Kilimanjaro.

Technical climbers can hike the present seven sub-peaks while enjoying the view of cliffs, complexity of gullies and rock faces.

• Non summit tourism activities

includes, visit to the water falls, walking on nature trails, visiting maundi crater and cultural sites such as kifinika [in the park] and cultural camps in the villages around.

Available tourism facilities

• Huts

The park provides huts accommodation for mountain climbers using Marangu route at Mandara, Horombo and Kibo mountain stations.

• Camping

There are professionally designated camping sites with toilet facilities on the wilderness routes of Rongai, Mweka, Umbwe, Machame, Lemosho, Kilema and Londorosi. Also rescue services for the sick and injured including first aid and radio communications are available in all mountain stations.

• Trail Network

The network of nature trails offers a spectacular scenic beauty of the vegetation zones. Each trail represents distinct flora and fauna with a view of the mountain peaks, geological features and physical challenge to climb differs significantly between

the trails.

It's all about proper planning

A Kilimanjaro climb is a very special type of adventure, beyond a traditional vacation. Unlike popular beach vacations or simple hiking tours, climbing Mount Kilimanjaro requires certain preparations. After all, this adventure takes hikers to the highest point of Africa at 5,895 m/19,340 f. This is often the highest altitude many climbers to ever achieve, making this trip a true adventure of a lifetime. In this way, Kilimanjaro adventures are dangerous and unless the trekking party is staffed by the professional guides and equipped with proper equipment, the hikers are exposed to certain high altitude-related risks.

Please note, a set of proper gear is critical - you can't climb Kilimanjaro in your usual hiking outfit.

There are some other important moments to keep in mind when preparing for this mind-blowing adventure in the heart of Africa. In this article we've summarized the key recommendation tips for a successful and hassle-free Kilimanjaro adventure.

Choose the right operator

As far as planning your trip is concerned, this is perhaps the most important part. Booking with Kilimanjaro classic safari's is infallibly the best way to ensure that you are booking with the right people. Every year

we take over a thousand trekkers to the Roof of Africa. Our office and climbing base are right at the foothills of Kilimanjaro and we personally manage, control and supervise each and every departure. Some notable perks of booking with us are:

Local presence - we are a fully registered company operating from Arusha Tanzania. We don't subcontract our climbs. We organize each and every climb ourselves, so you can rest assured all the details will be professionally handled and any questions or concerns we will address directly - no third parties!

We are one of the few operators in the country **our own vehicles, and other facilities for running adventures**. This makes it possible for us to keep control over each and every part of your trip.

We have **proper gear and equipment** from the North Face, Black Diamond, Red Fox, and other respected brands for mountain climbing. We are also one of the largest tourism employers in the country. There are over 1500 professionals (guides, porters, cooks, etc.) in our Kilimanjaro guiding crew.

Most importantly - **we have exclusively positive feedback** from our travellers. Trust the reviews of our satisfied customers and what they have to say about their experience with Kilimanjaro classic safari's on our TripAdvisor page.

If, however, you are planning to book with another trekking service, we recommend you paying attention to the following:

Read the reviews about operators, but DON'T make them the only criteria for your final choice. We are friends with some great operators, who don't have a high rating on TripAdvisor, and, regrettably, we know some high-ranked companies, whose operations are notoriously poor. Some companies over-encourage their clients to leave a good review in exchange for payment, future discounts and other perks. Those leaving bad reviews are sometimes even offered money to remove negative reviews.

Ask about the guides' qualifications and porters treatment practices. The maltreatment of porters is a growing problem within the tourism industry for Kilimanjaro climbs. Often, porters are from impoverished backgrounds without advanced education. Unfortunately, some operators take advantage of porter's vulnerable positions by offering very low pay, poor working conditions and inadequate diet during their time working on a Kilimanjaro climbing crew. Not only does it put them at risk, but it also means that although they are employed, they do not receive a fair income, and thus often remain in poverty. When considering a tour operator for your Kilimanjaro trek, we encourage you to ask about treatment of porters, including specific actions each operator takes. Do not be satisfied with an easy answer of "we treat them well", but request to know actual company guidelines for payment and treatment of porters during Kilimanjaro treks

You may read about Kilimanjaro classic safari's guides and porters on this page. And feel free to ask us about how we care for all members of our climbing crews, including porters! We are most happy to share about these valuable members of our climbing teams.

Don't send deposits by Western Union - use only card transactions or wire transfers. Reputable companies always accept payment through bank transactions or with credit cards. This form of payment protects you, too. But, if something goes wrong, retrieving payment made through Western Union is impossible.

Choose longer itineraries for your trip

You've probably read on the internet that Kilimanjaro itineraries vary from short 5-day treks to longer 7 and 8-day adventures. Some trips with Crater Camping may even take 10 days or more. It may be tempting to choose a shorter itinerary, because anyway, don't all of them lead you to the peak of Africa? So what is the reason for paying more and spending more time on the slopes of Kilimanjaro?

Well, there are two main reasons:

Better acclimatization. The higher you ascend on your trek, the lower oxygen saturation level in the air becomes. It happens because the atmospheric pressure drops and tiny molecules of oxygen become dispersed. Basically, every breath you take at higher altitudes results in less oxygen getting to your body. However, your body can adapt to this through more intense and deeper breathing, and faster transmission of oxygen through the body by red blood cells and other bodily transformations. However, your body needs time and energy for this transformation. That is why staying longer on the mountain is important. You may read more about acclimatization in this article.

It is also important to note that 'rushing' up Kilimanjaro, and not allowing sufficient time for acclimatization (your body's adaptation to lower oxygen levels at higher altitudes) could result in altitude sickness and risk you needing to return to a lower altitude before successfully reaching the summit of Kilimanjaro.

Basically, a shorter itinerary decreases your chances of successfully climbing Kilimanjaro. You can read more about that in this article.

Better scenic experiences. When rushing forward to the next camp before sunset, one can easily skip the most picturesque areas of Kilimanjaro. It is certainly a bad idea - Kilimanjaro is one of the most beautiful places on the planet! Why not linger a little on Shira Plateau or Barranco Wall to enjoy a beautiful view and take stunning pictures? Or just make a little siesta with a cup of tea in the company of your friends right in the middle of a hike from one camp to another?

Climbing the highest mountain in Africa is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, rushing through it isn't the best way to savour this amazing opportunity. Really, when you consider the investment of a Kilimanjaro climb, there is not much difference between a 6-day or 7-day trek, but the difference for your overall experience and adventure will certainly be noticeable. A longer version is much more rewarding, not to mention that it is safer. You will truly enjoy Kilimanjaro and most likely, won't feel any discomfort.

Did we mention longer itineraries have higher success rates? Check out these 7-day Kilimanjaro itineraries that have the highest success rate of all.

Choose the right time for your adventure

Tanzania is an East African country that lies on the equator and Mount Kilimanjaro is just 205 miles from the equatorial line. Because of this, there are no traditional seasons here, but dry and rainy seasons instead.

The dry seasons are:

From late December to early March - because it is also the Christmas holidays period, this time is especially popular among tourists.

From early June till early October - though it is surprisingly cooler than in the “winter” dry season, the weather is sunny and the sky is clear.

The rainy seasons are:

From mid-March till late May is the “big” rainy season. It is called like this not because of the intensity, but because it lasts longer than the “small” one, which, in its turn, starts in **late October and lasts till mid-December.**

Although the majority of climbers prefer the dry season for their Kilimanjaro adventure, the rainy season has several distinct advantages.

You may read about them and other interesting facts about seasons in Tanzania in our special article [here](#).

ALSO REMEMBER: dry season does not necessarily mean that there are no rains at all - Kilimanjaro is a mountain, after all, and like all significant peaks, the weather may change at any moment. Having a rain poncho in your daypack at all times is essential. Similarly, the rainy season doesn't mean that it is showering the whole day - normally, it starts drizzling at midday, and the rain grows stronger by evening. Sometimes, there may be no rains at all.

Thus, one shouldn't expect a clean sky in January and rains in May as something inevitable - the weather will likely be like this, but it is not certain. Because of that, whatever date you chose for your adventure it is essential that you have a full set of Kilimanjaro gear for all types of weather.

Spend some time training for Kilimanjaro

One needs to hike an average of three to five miles every day through a rugged terrain on a Kilimanjaro climb. This requires good stamina, and a strong cardiovascular system. If you currently spend most of your time sitting in an office, there are several things you can do to get ready for your Kilimanjaro adventure:

Running and bike-riding are excellent exercises to prepare for Kilimanjaro. A 3-mile run or a 5-mile bike ride every other day is a

good start. Swimming is also an excellent activity to strengthen your heart and blood vessels.

If you have a gym membership, running on a treadmill will be helpful. Also, performing some planks and squats will make your legs stronger and better prepared for long Kilimanjaro hikes.

While working out in the gym, it is important to focus more on aerobic and cardio activities than on muscle building. For Kilimanjaro, stamina is much more important than physical strength.

If you live close to the countryside, long (6-10 miles) hikes cross-country are the best way to get ready for the future mountain climb. This is something similar to what you will be doing on Mount Kilimanjaro. Focus on hills and steep inclines to prepare your body for the slopes of Kilimanjaro.

Also, if you bought new hiking boots for the Kilimanjaro tour, **a cross-country hike** is an excellent opportunity to break them in. Taking new, unused boots for a Kilimanjaro trip is certainly not a good idea. You are likely to get painful blisters and calluses with brand-new boots, and this could turn what originally seemed to be an exhilarating adventure into a torturous walk. If you ‘break in’ your new hiking boots through training exercises, they should be comfortable and ready in time for your Kilimanjaro climb.

We recommend to start exercising physically for Kilimanjaro 3-4 months before the start of your Kilimanjaro adventure. We also suggest that you

take a break from doing workouts and walks the two weeks before you arrive in Tanzania so that your body can fully rest and re-energize before the Kilimanjaro climb.

We have a special article on our website for those who want to know more about a proper training plan for Kilimanjaro.

Pack the right gear

You will traverse several climatic zones as you make your way from the starting trailhead to Kilimanjaro’s summit. In fact, the Kilimanjaro trip is like a journey from the tropics to the Arctic over the course of seven days. The weather, vegetation and environment will change dramatically and a hiker should be ready for this.

Primarily, **one needs to take proper clothes and footwear** for this trip. The list includes hiking pants, a fleece jacket, membrane pants and jacket, storm pants and jacket, synthetic T-shirts, hiking boots and many other things.

Have a look at our detailed packing guide to understand what is required for this epic adventure.

At the core of proper Kilimanjaro outfitting is the idea of “layering”. This technique helps to keep your bodily temperature well-regulated, while providing good insulation ventilation. There are special types of layering for warm weather in lower camps, and for the colder conditions

at the higher elevations. You will read more about this in detail in our guide.

Also, sometimes we see hikers in jeans and training sneakers attempting to climb Kilimanjaro. Either they weren't instructed properly by their guides or decided to ignore the advice. Either way, hiking in jeans is always a very, very bad idea. Jeans should be left at home, together with everything made of cotton or other fabric with bad wicking for sweat.

Vaccinations for Kilimanjaro

A very popular question we get from tourists is whether there are any mandatory vaccinations for visiting Tanzania. In short, the answer is “no” - **one does not need any specific vaccines to enter Tanzania.** There is a small reservation though - people arriving from the countries with high risk of Yellow Fever transmission should have a certificate as proof of vaccination against this disease.

The list of countries with high risk of yellow fever can be checked at the WHO website here.

At the same time, there are some vaccines which we recommend having, not because of a visit to Tanzania, but for travel in general. Sadly, certain diseases are still present and can be contracted everywhere, even well-developed countries of the western world are not an exception.

Recommended vaccinations are as follows:

- Tetanus
- Hepatitis of A and B type
- Typhoid
- Poliomyelitis

Prepare documents

You will need a passport valid for international travel to pass immigration and officially arrive in Tanzania. Make sure that your passport is at least six months valid from the day of your scheduled arrival date to Tanzania, and that it has at least two blank pages for visa and an entry stamp.

Our team will also require your passport information to process the entry permits to the National Park. Please be assured that all your personal and identity information is kept in strict confidentiality.

Kilimanjaro Diet

Proper nutrition is very important for a comfortable and safe Kilimanjaro adventure. Your body will need many additional calories for you to reach the peak of Kilimanjaro. Energy consumption on a Kilimanjaro hike is about double one's usual amount and eating well is very important.

Here at Kilimanjaro classic safari's we've designed our special Kilimanjaro menu that is both tasty and energy-rich. Our mountain cooks have been trained by restaurant professionals and they will surprise you with a variety of meals offered every day in the dining tent. We normally serve beef, chicken, salads, vegetables, fruits, mushrooms, potatoes, beans, spaghetti and cheese, and other popular continental meals.

Halal, vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free meal plans are available at no extra charge.

Please let us know if you have any allergies or dietary restrictions before the start of your adventure. Our team will make sure that proper adjustments are made to the supply lists and that the cooks get properly instructed.

Book your tickets to Kilimanjaro International Airport

Tanzania is the largest East African nation, and has several international airports for arrivals from other countries. These are: Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam, Abeid Amani Karume International Airport in Zanzibar, and Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO).

You need to pick the last in this list - Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO). Mount Kilimanjaro National Park is just 80 km from this airport, and many hotels are conveniently located nearby. Flying directly here is a better option than taking a connection flight from Dar es Salaam or Zanzibar airports. Once you book your flight, please let us know. We will

arrange a comfortable transfer for you with one of our air-conditioned Toyota Alphards at any time your flight arrives, day or night.

Contact us with any questions!

If you have any further questions, please feel free to get in touch with our team. Our experts are always ready to help you with planning your adventure, not only are our team members passionate about Kilimanjaro adventures, each of them regularly climbs Mount Kilimanjaro and are able to provide you with accurate and timely travel advice.

✓ **Mount Meru trekking or Arusha national park**

Welcome to the home of second highest mountain in Tanzania that offers unforgettable experience and serves as acclimatization refuge before climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. The park is rich in game animals that can be viewed at a very close distance and it's an ideal place for a day trip with a variety of tourism activities like game drive, mountain climbing, walking safaris, canoeing, cycling and horse riding

Brief History of the Park

Conservation of the area goes back to 1907 when it was a cattle ranch but in 1960 the area was set aside as Ngurdoto Crater National Park and after annexation of Mt. Meru the park name was changed to Arusha National Park with an area of 322 km².

Getting there

The park can be accessed from Arusha town by road, which is about 32 Kilometers away. It is about 40km from Kilimanjaro International airport.

Climate

The Park can be visited throughout the year; however the best time is between June to September and from December to early March. The short rainy period is from October to November and the heavy rain season is from March to May.

Attractions

The Park is gifted with variety of attractions ranging from wildlife inhabiting the wilderness to craters and mountain peaks.

• Serengeti Ndogo

The name which means “Little Serengeti”, describes the open grassland, a place in the park where various animals in large numbers can easily be seen such as buffaloes, warthogs zebras, waterbucks, giraffes, etc.

• The “Uwanja wa mbogo” (Buffalos Glade)

This open area is a natural glade consisting of marsh, bushes and Streams. It attracts animals such as Buffalos, Warthogs and Giraffes. The first two species spend their day – light grazing, resting and wallowing in the present mud-holes. .

• Ngurdoto Forest

A dense forest surrounding Ngurdoto crater with many varieties of tree species and it’s a home of the Black and White Colobus monkey.

• Ngurdoto and Meru Craters

This pear-shape Ngurdoto resembling just like a miniature of Ngorongoro crater comprises of five viewing points of mikindu,

the Rock, Buffalo, the glade and Leitong being the highest point. From this point the snowy peak of Mt. Kilimanjaro, Momella lakes and lower slope with human settlement can be easily seen.

• Tululusia Hill and waterfall

Tululusia hill meaning “look out point” is a view point that provides an excellent view of the lower areas of Arusha National Park, Mount Meru and the majestic Kilimanjaro. Tululusia Waterfall is found on a narrow sided valley formed as a result of erosion of a soft volcanic soil leaving behind a steep gorge with the height of 28m (84ft). It’s a home of nesting Red-winged Starlings and having a chance of getting your photos around this natural environment are usually spectacular!

• Lake Longil and Momella lakes

Lake Longil is the only fresh water lake in the park, inhabited with Tilapia fish and also there are Papyrus and Mace reed floating as Islands and changes their positions following the wind directions. The Momella Lakes are largely fed from under-ground streams

and are not very deep. Because of their different in mineral contents each lake supports a different type of algae growth and this gives each lake a different color

• Fig Tree Arch

A striking feature of the Fig Tree Arch (*Ficus thoningii*) with its roots reaching the ground while leaving behind an arch enough for a car to drive through.

• Ngarenanyuki River (Engare Nanyokie)

This river originating from the montane forest and Meru crater contains a brackish resulting from brown/alkaline water sources from the streams which joins the main river outside the park.

Tourism Activities

• Game Drive

With its open glades, grasslands and montane forest, the Momella lakes and fig tree arch, a game drive inside the park is inspirational to many visitors.

• **Walking Safari (Day Hikes)**

“Nature’s on foot”; is one of the popular tourism activities within the park. Walking Safari offers unusual recreational opportunities, environmental education and sense of touch with nature and natural treasures. Currently there are six nature trails used for walking safari each with its different attractions, scenery and experiences.

• **Canoeing safari**

This activity is conducted on “Small Momella” (one of the seven Momella lakes). Canoeing Safari has enabled visitors to experience aspects of nature that are inaccessible during Game drive and Walking Safaris. While canoeing, one is afforded a closer watch of animals such as hippopotamus, waterbuck, occasional elephant emerging from vegetation around the lake and also a chance to explore water bird-life.

• **Horse riding**

Horse riding safaris give visitors the ultimate feeling of being in the wild and closer to the wildlife. This riding provides a unique experience that differs from other tourism activities.

• **Cycling Tour**

Cycling in the Park is a fun and thrilling way to experience, often overlooked by safari goers. This opportunity offers to explore attractive diversity of habitats within a few hours while exploring beautiful areas giving you the ultimate wilderness experience.

• **Trail Network**

It requires 3 - 4 days to conquer Mount Meru summit. The park recommends 4 days to allow for acclimatization and to avoid high altitude sickness visitors spend the first night at Miriakamba Accommodation Centre (2500m), the second night at saddle area and third night at Miriakamba then descending to the exit gate on

the fourth day.

Also there are six natural trails which are used for walking safaris namely; Momella gate- Itikoni, Kitoto View Point-Njeku View Point, Momella gate - Tululusia Waterfall, Momella gate - Campsite no. 3 via Tululusia Waterfall, Ngurdoto Crater Rim Laitong - Buffalo and Nagy -Trappe Forest.

Available Tourism facilities

• **Park accommodation facilities**

Public campsites: Nos. 1, 2 and 3, Special campsites: Ngongongare Spring Nasula and the Seasonal campsite of Itikoni. Rest House: Three self-contained rooms with two beds each. Kitchen and cooking utensils are available. Mountain accommodation centers of Miriakamba (96 beds) and Saddle (112 beds) Clean flush/pit toilets and showers are available at both centers.

• **Lodges in the Park**

Momella Wildlife lodge: 150 beds (self contained rooms) and one suite. Hatari Lodge: 8 beds (self contained rooms).

NB: There are several other hotels and lodges outside the park including the famous Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge. Also booking for park owned facility (campsite and rest house) is mandatory. house) is mandatory

THE GREAT MIGRATION

The Great Wildebeest Migration is the largest animal migration in the world.



Around 1.2 million wildebeest (also known as gnu) and 300,000 zebra move in a constant 800 kilometres/500 miles cycle, mixing with the local topi, Grant's gazelle,

Thomson's gazelle, eland and impala in each region they pass through. One of the most sought-after experiences for wildlife and nature enthusiasts, the animals follow the age-old route in search of nutritious grass and fresh water.

Two million animals, moving together.

The largest herd movement of animals on the planet is rife with drama. Along the journey, thousands of animals are lost to predators and thousands more are born, replenishing the numbers and sustaining the circle of life. More than 2 million animals have to cross crocodile-infested rivers and face natural disasters such as droughts and flooding in a daily struggle for survival. Guided by survival instinct, each wildebeest will cover 800 to 1,000 kilometers on its individual journey. The migration is beset with danger: young calves are snatched by predators, the slow are brought down by prides of lion, brave wildebeest break legs on steep river slopes, crocodiles take their share of the

stragglers, and the weak and exhausted drown. Hungry predators including lion, leopard, cheetah, hyena, wild dog and crocodile make sure only the strongest survive in this natural spectacle.

A journey dictated by nature.

It is unclear how the wildebeest know which way to go, but it is generally believed that their journey is dictated primarily by their response to the weather; they follow the rains and the growth of new grass. While there is no scientific proof of it, some experts believe that animals react to lightning and thunderstorms in the distance. It has even been suggested that wildebeest can locate rain more than 50 kilometers away.

WHY GO ON

A GREAT MIGRATION SAFARI OVER OTHER TYPES OF SAFARIS.?

Often referred to as 'The Greatest Show on Earth,' it is no

wonder that the thousands of guests who flock to Kenya and Tanzania each year in the hopes of seeing this natural event arrive with big expectations!

With up to 1,000 animals per kilometers squared, the great columns of wildebeest can even be seen from space.

Because the Great Migration can only be experienced in Kenya and Tanzania, these serve as more unique safari destinations than the more standard safaris in southern African destinations. The sought-after safari travel experience gets visitors up close to view animals in an age-old migratory pattern. Since it happens year-round, there's never a dull moment and visitors receive an up-close experience at any time of year.

THE WILDLIFE YOU WILL ENCOUNTER ON A GREAT MIGRATION SAFARI

The Great Migration takes place in some of the most wildlife-dense regions on the planet: the Serengeti and Masai Mara. It provides opportunities to see wildebeest, zebra, topi, Grant's gazelle, Thomson's gazelle, eland and impala. You can think of the animals as two groups: the travelers and the locals. Wildebeest and zebra are the migratory, and the other animals live in the territory that the migration passes through. Beyond the unique dramatic spectacle of the huge herd of animals moving across the continent, you also see an immense variety of plains game, predators, river-based animals and birds.

The predator-prey relationship is on active display. The migration passes through lion, leopard and cheetah territories, providing Hunting scenes. When crossing the river, wildebeest fight with crocodile in the water, while other predators wait on the plains attempting to ambush the game. During calving season, predators are attracted from far and wide as they seek the chance of easy pickings.

The miracle of birth is also observable, as you can witness calves being dropped and learning to walk and run within minutes.

{ PREDATORS ARE ATTRACTED FROM FAR AND WIDE
AS THEY SEEK THE CHANCE OF
EASY PICKINGS.. }

WHERE & WHEN CAN YOU GO TO SEE THE GREAT MIGRATION?

DECEMBER – MARCH

The calving: *An estimated 400,000 calves are born which can draw a staggering number of predators eager to pray on the vulnerable young.*

APRIL

The trek north: *Herds move slowly northwards to fresh grazing.*

MAY – JUNE

The rut: *May is the mating season but still the journey continues, some herds move west towards the Grumeti River, and this is the first point on the route where river crossings can be seen.*

JULY – OCTOBER

River crossings: *The river crossings usually start in July, but the timing all depends on the rains. Although never guaranteed, crossings can regularly be seen at the Mara and Talek rivers.*

NOVEMBER

The trek south: *When the rains begin in November, the herds usually cross back to the Serengeti from the Masai Mara and head*



back towards the now fertile southern Serengeti. By the beginning of December, Ndotu starts seeing the herds return to calve, and the whole process begins again.

THE BEST TIME TO SEE THE GREAT MIGRATION EACH MONTH

Since the Great Migration is an eternal annual cycle from place to place, year in and year out, there is no single time of year to experience it. However, depending on either the aspect of the Great Migration you want to witness (such as river crossings), or the time of year that you prefer to travel, your safari can be tailored to give you the best chance of seeing what you desire.

GOOD NEWS
You can enjoy the
Great migration any time of year

THE GREAT MIGRATION IN DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH CALVING SEASON



Around December or January each year, the migration finishes a southward trek, moving along the eastern edge of the Serengeti and into the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Here the plains are rich in nutritious

grass, providing the herds with the best conditions for raising their newborn calves. Although there is no real beginning or end to this migratory circuit — other than birth and death — it seems reasonable to call the wildebeests' birthing season the start of the migration. Around late January or February, the herds occupy the short-grass plains that spread over the lower northern slopes of the Ngorongoro Crater highlands and around Olduvai Gorge. Some 400,000 calves are born here within a period of two to three weeks, or nearly 8,000 new calves every day. The

abundance of vulnerable young calves means the surrounding predators also spring into action, hunting with ease due to the sheer numbers of wildebeest.

THE GREAT MIGRATION IN

APRIL, MAY AND EARLY JUNE

THE TREK NORTH AND THE RUT

April:



As the rains come to an end and the ground dries, the herds start making their way north into the central Serengeti where the grass is still fresh and they can graze and tend to their young, drawing with them thousands of zebra and smaller groups of antelope.

Moving slowly, they graze as they go, making the most of the fresh grass.

May:

By May, impressive columns of wildebeest stretch for several kilometres as the animals start to congregate by the Moru Kopjes, close to Dunia Camp, one of the few camps in the Serengeti that offers migration viewing at this time of year. Mating season begins toward the end of May and male wildebeest battle head-to-head. Throughout 'the rut,' the journey continues at leisure with the wildebeest and zebra grazing as they go along.

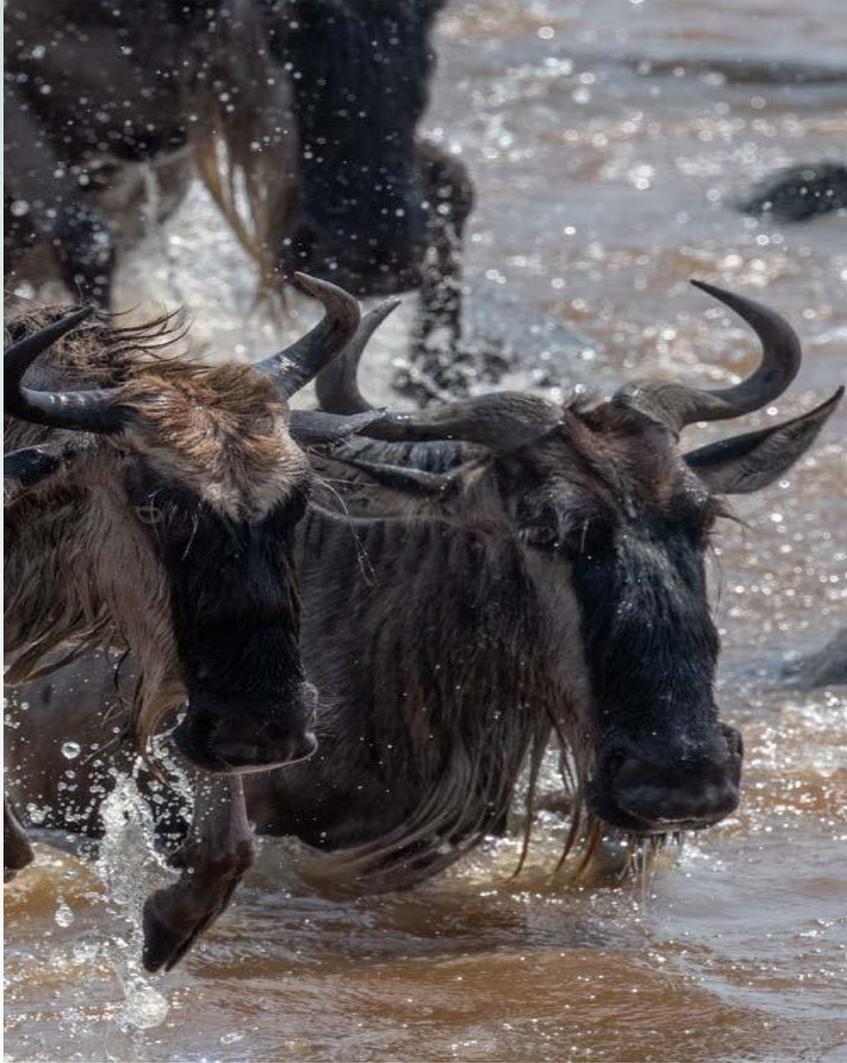
First half of June:

Gradually, the movement gathers momentum and the wildebeest start to mass in the Serengeti's Western Corridor. At this time of year, the wildebeest face their first challenge of crossing the crocodile-infested Grumeti River. The herds form in huge numbers along the pools and channels of the river, which they have to cross in order to continue on their journey.

This may not be as spectacular as the famous Mara crossings, but there are still enough wildebeest to provide The Grumeti crocodiles with a veritable feast. It is worth noting that since May and June are low season at many camps, this time offers lower accommodation rates, since there are relatively low numbers of tourists in the Serengeti, yet the wildlife viewings remain excellent.

THE RUT
WHERE MALE WILDEBEEST
BATTLE HEAD TO HEAD

THE GREAT MIGRATION IN LATE JUNE AND JULY



RIVER CROSSING SEASON BEGINS

The herds head toward the north of the Serengeti. The river crossings, considered by some to be the most exciting events of the Great Migration, usually start in July, but timing all depends on the rains.

June:

During June, the dry season starts with large concentrations of wildebeest in the western Serengeti and on the southern banks of the Grumeti River. Each migrating animal must face the challenge of crossing the river, filled with crocodiles — the first of many daunting and tense river encounters.

July:

As June moves into July, the migration gathers momentum and huge herds of wildebeest can be seen spread out across the Western Corridor as they continue the journey north. These hundreds of thousands of wildebeest and zebra move along the western edge of the park toward an even riskier barrier: the Mara River in the north of the Serengeti. These river crossings are arguably one of the most exciting wildlife events on Earth. They usually begin at the onset of high season in July, but timing all depends on nature. The herds will typically be found in the northern Serengeti in the month of July, where access is provided by Kilimanjaro classic safari's two mobile migration camps as well as Sayari Camp (enviably positioned as the closest camp

to the Mara River crossing points in the northern Serengeti). Later in July, those animals that have successfully made it across the Mara River will also be found in Kenya's Masai Mara, where guests of Rekeru Camp can watch river crossings right from the main deck of the camp. At this time, daily river crossings can be seen at the Mara and Talek rivers, both often central to incredible scenes.

THE GREAT MIGRATION IN AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER RIVER CROSSINGS CONTINUE



August:

By August, the herds have faced the challenge of crossing the Mara River and are spread throughout the Masai Mara's northern region, with many remaining in the northern Serengeti. In years when the river is in full flow, the panic and confusion at the crossings combined with waiting predators and surging

currents — can cause massive loss of life. Many will perish but the thousands of calves that are born more than make

up the numbers. Nevertheless, in years of relatively gently flowing water, the crocodile take their toll, not to mention the lion and other large predators that patrol the banks, ready to ambush any wildebeest that make it to the other side. There is no single crossing: at some spots, there are just a few individuals, while others see a mass of animals moving without break for hours.

September:

By September/October, the main chaos has ended and the migrating columns have gradually moved eastward. The herds are mostly concentrated in the Maasai Mara in Kenya, the northernmost range of the trek, but many still remain in the Serengeti.

October:



The wildebeest face the swollen waters of the Mara River once more as they prepare to cross again on their return journey back south. One of the best views of the herds migrating out of Kenya across the treacherous Mara River can be found at Olakira

Migration Camp.

THE GREAT MIGRATION IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

CALVING SEASON BEGINS

November:

After the East African short rains in late October and early November, the wildebeest move down from Kenya and into the rejuvenated grasses and eastern limits of the Serengeti past Namiri Plains, an area known for outstanding cheetah sightings.

December:

By December, the wildebeest are spread throughout the eastern and southern reaches. The Southern Plains are lush with fresh, sweet grasses for the wildebeest to graze on. The areas around Ndotu and the northern Ngorongoro Conservation Area are where the herds will spend some time enjoying the abundant grazing in preparation for the birth of the new calves in the early months of the new year. The cycle continues as the calving season starts once again

{ THE SOUTHERN PLAINS
ARE LUSH WITH FRESH
SWEET GRASSES }

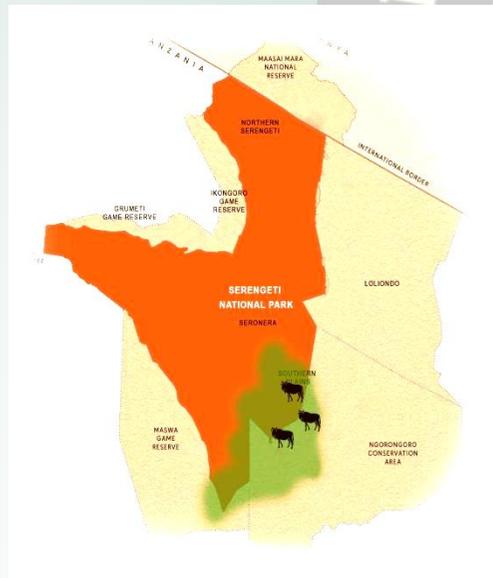


GREAT WILDEBEEST MIGRATION MAP

EXPERIENCE

Tanzania & Kenya

Every year, millions of wildebeests, zebras, antelopes, gazelles, elands, and impalas move through a fairly predictable clockwise movement around the Serengeti-Masai Mara ecosystem in search for better grazing and fresh water. Although their every movement depends on the rainfall patterns, this map will allow you to peek through the flux of the famous Great Wildebeest Migration.



January

The herds are on the short grass plains of southern Serengeti, Ndotu area and the northern part of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area in Tanzania. By the end of the month, the calving season begins. Approximately 8,000 wildebeests are born

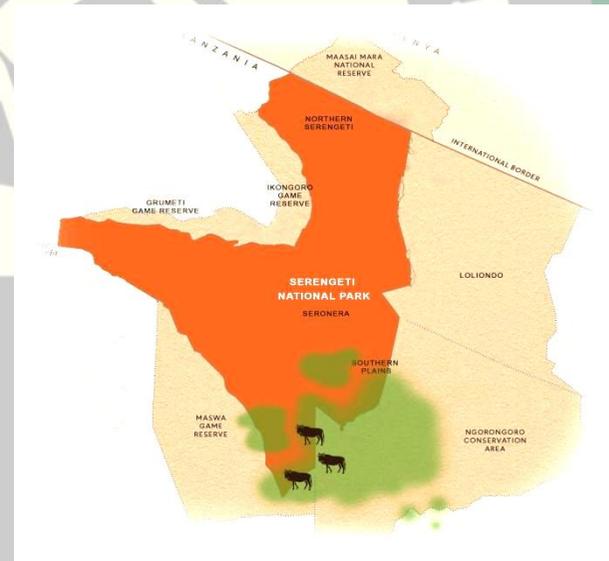
every day during the height of this season. With thousands

of feeble calves, predators are at large while adult wildebeests protect their young.

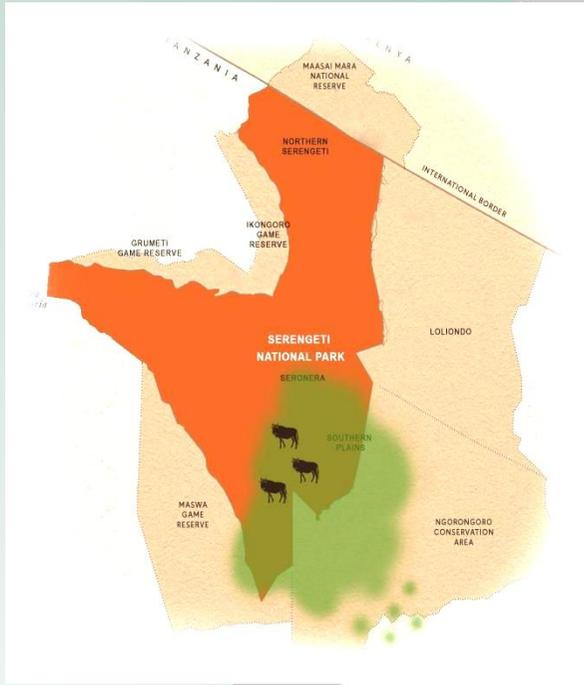
February

The calving season continues. You can see mother wildebeests making some sort of a barricade around their young to protect from large opportunists like lions, hyenas, and cheetahs. You can also see baby wildebeests taking off just minutes after being born and even little cubs being trained by adult lions to make a kill. This season is certainly one for the

books — lots of action, lots of drama, lots of wonders.



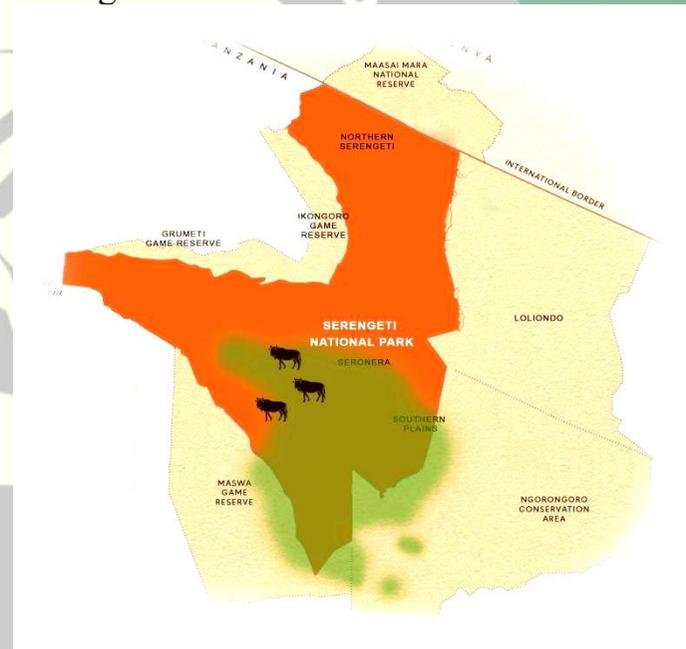
March



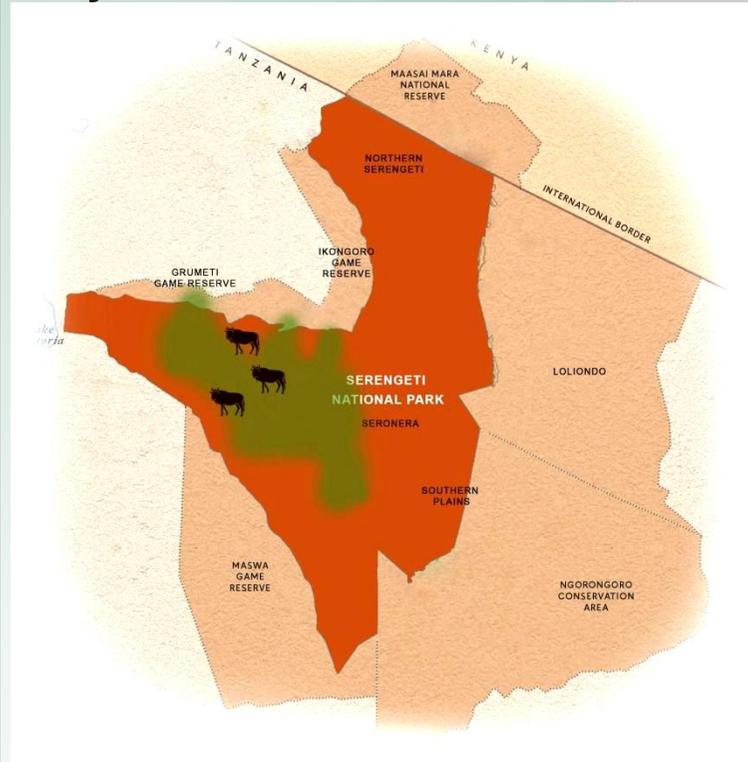
The herds remain dispersed across the plains of the southern region of the Serengeti area. They feed on leftover fresh grasses, the last batch of calves are born and then they start to gather around for their next journey heading north.

April

The wildebeest herds start to move northward to seek fresh grazing and water. Some have left early and are already in the central and western regions of the Serengeti.

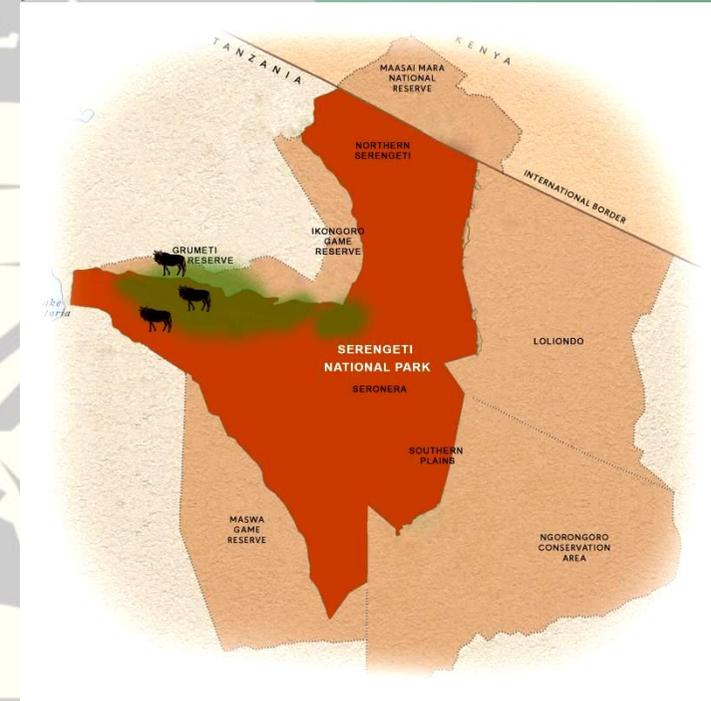


May



The massive herds funnel up into the central and western Serengeti. You can see hundreds and thousands of animals in the areas surrounding Moru Kopjes and western Seronera as the huge wildebeest herds are joined by plenty of zebras as well as Thomson's and Grant's gazelles.

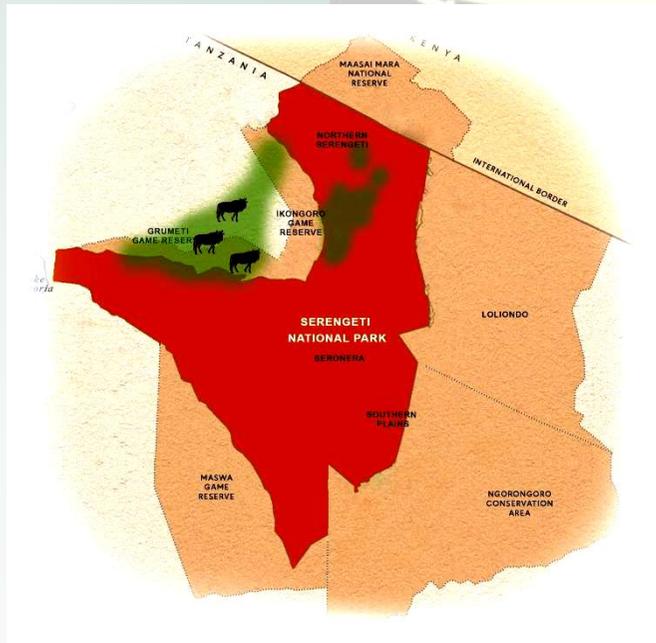
June



The migration usually slows down as herds reach the south side of the Grumeti River. They congregate around the Western Corridor where they pile up to cross the series of pools and channels. Large crocodiles await as they do so, but since the river is not continuous, the crossing is not usually as bloody and challenging as the one they're about to face on their journey further north.

July

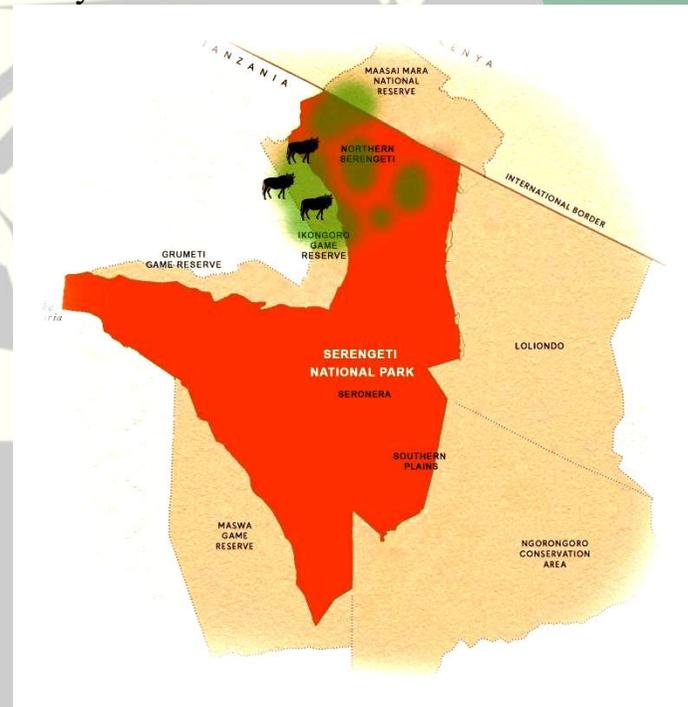
Migration continues as most herds scatter around Grumeti Reserve and Ikorongo while a few spread out to the heart of the Serengeti National Park. Prepare yourself because around the end of this month, the incredibly dramatic Mara River crossing ensues. As migrant animals struggle for survival, a wealth of huge Nile crocodiles and mighty hippos await in the brown waters of the river. This spectacular event, known as the “World Cup of Wildlife”, is



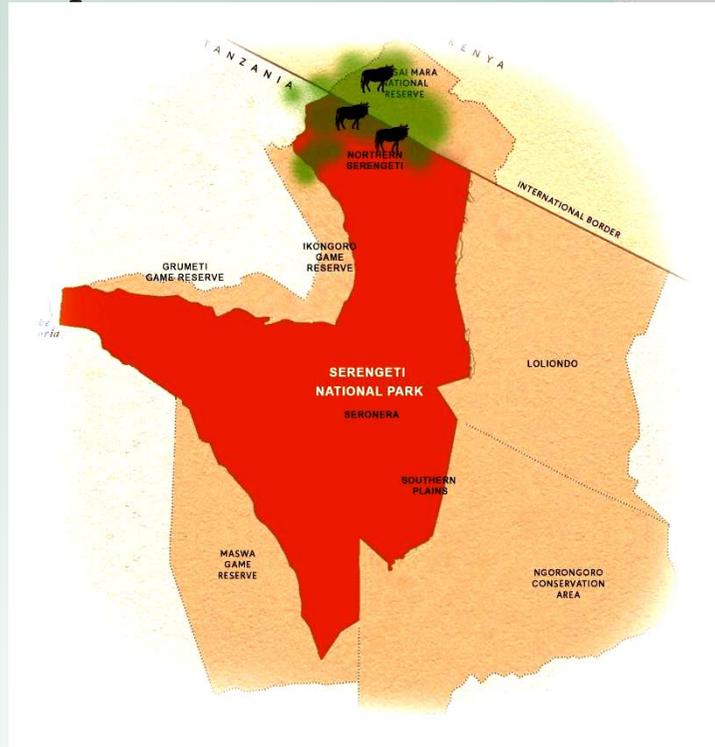
often deemed “the greatest show on earth.”

August

The action-packed river crossing continues as millions of wildebeests along with thousands of zebras, gazelles, and kudus rush frantically through the river and into the adjacent Masai Mara Game Reserve in Kenya.



September

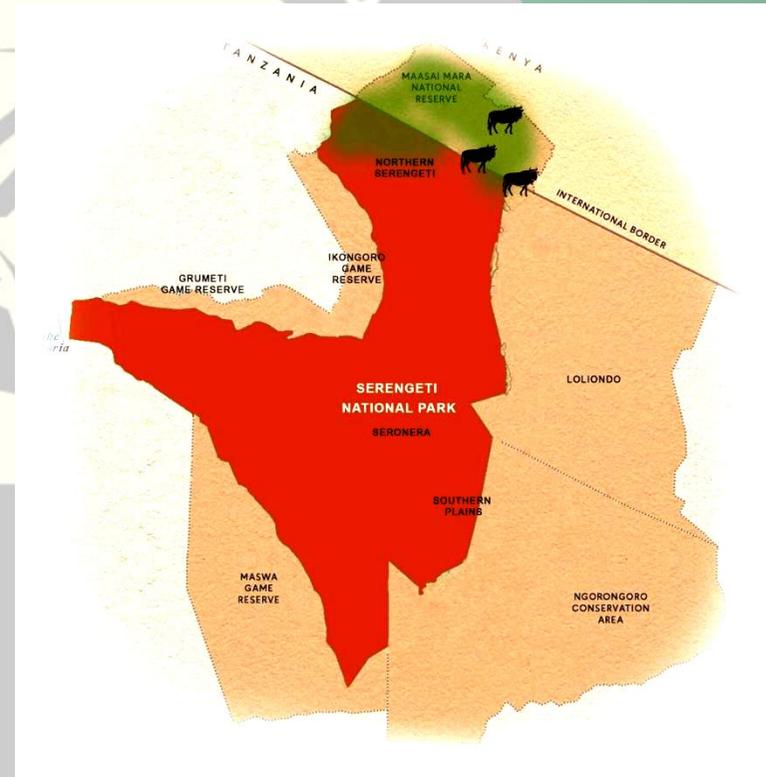


The survivors celebrate in the northern plains of the Serengeti while others feast on the lush grasses in Masai Mara. Sometimes, depending

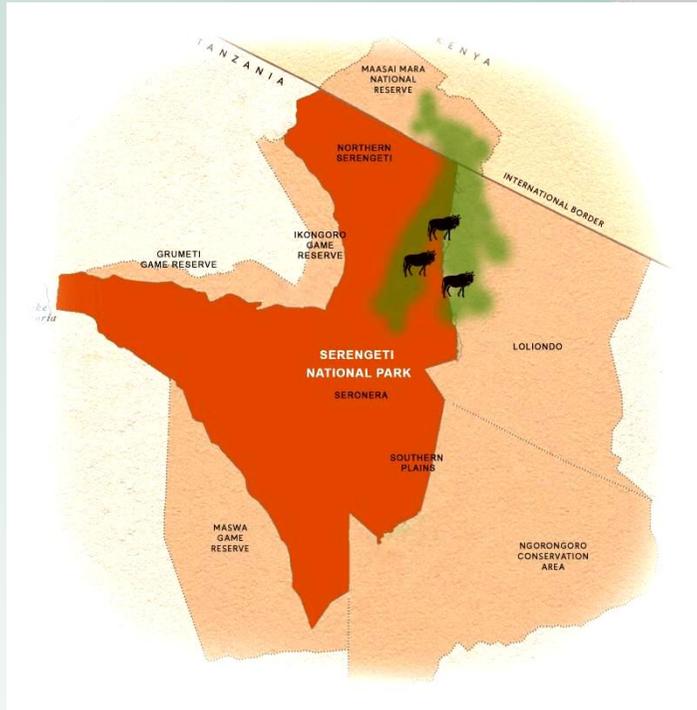
on the rains, the movement of the migration extends and the river crossing happens in August and until the first weeks of September.

October

You will see large herds of wildebeests, zebras, antelopes, kudus, and gazelles in Masai Mara Game Reserve. Some of them just stay in the Mara for a few days and move south afterwards.



November

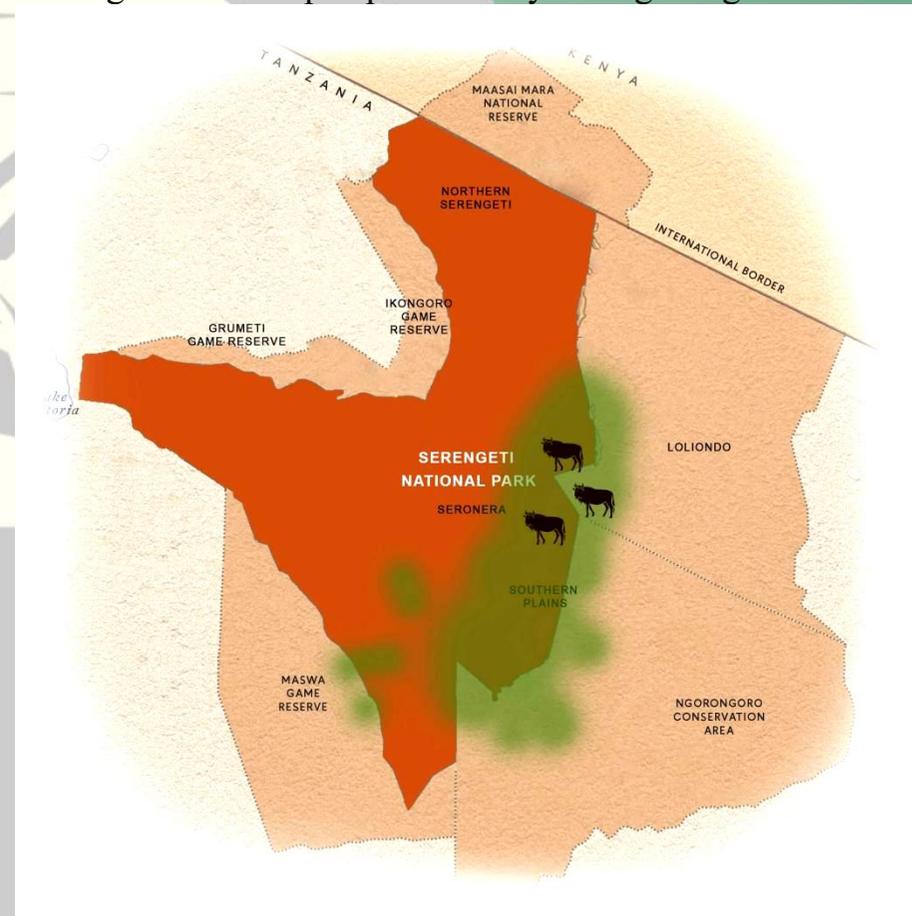


Rains begin and the herds start moving down south, leaving Masai Mara. Passing through western Loliondo as well as Serengeti's Lobo area, the herds move in accord as

they move back into the fertile plains of the Serengeti.

December

The herds cluster around the northeastern and southern regions of the Serengeti. They all disperse through the plains and feed on fresh grasses as the calving season creeps up and the cycle begins again.



TOP TIPS WHILE PREPARING FOR A GREAT MIGRATION SAFARI

Plan ahead

Viewing the Great Migration is one of the most popular requests for East African safari itineraries. To secure your first choice of accommodation in your preferred location, you may need to book your trip 12-18 months in advance.

Budget appropriately

River crossings occur during peak season — typically the most expensive months to go on safari. Consider a starting price for a basic safari at US\$800 per person, per night (accommodation cost only, excludes park fees). An alternative approach is to travel outside of the high season, which has its own advantages. This time of year will still offer the Great Migration, but costs will lower to around US\$600 per person, per night (accommodation cost only, excludes park fees), and the parks will have fewer tourists and vehicles.

Set aside time

To improve the likelihood of seeing the herds, you will want to spend time in more than one location, so make sure your trip is long enough to do so. We'd recommend

staying at two to three camps for a few nights each, and choosing good combinations where the transfers between the camps can be practical and even an enjoyable part of the experience

Consider a private vehicle

Surprisingly, not everyone who is on safari will be interested in seeing the migration. If you share a vehicle with other travelers who have different interests, you might need to compromise with what they'd like to do and see. With a private vehicle, you'll have total flexibility. If you want to spend the full day camped out at the river waiting for a crossing, you can do so without having to consider anyone else.

Most importantly, get advice from a safari expert

There are many ways to see the Great Migration, and each traveller will have their own unique requirements around what they would like to see and how they like to travel. An experienced safari expert can save you hours of time sifting through overwhelming amounts of information to help you narrow down your best options. On the ground experts, like the ones at Kilimanjaro classic safari's, have years of experience coordinating incredible safaris. Kilimanjaro classic safari's has a combination of sales and ground operations, so our sales teams are in daily conversation with our expert guides and camp staff who live in the area. Lean on experts to advise you and help you book. Beyond getting the best advice on accommodation and regions to visit, the logistics of a safari, such as park

permits and arranging regional flights and transfers, are also best arranged through local operators.

CHECKLIST FOR CHOOSING YOUR BEST SAFARI COMPANY:

- Is the specialist an expert on East Africa specifically?
- Do they have their own operations and logistics on the ground?
- Do they offer a range of accommodation, with a high level of quality throughout?
- Do they have a good reputation for safari quality and reliability, with good safety and COVID-19 hygiene protocols in place?
- Do they support responsible, sustainable tourism?
- Are past guest reviews favourable?

WANT MORE INFO?

We're here to help, with expert information just a click away.

Kilimanjaro Classic Safari's is one of East Africa's premier safari companies and was built by passionate people with deep roots in East Africa's original family-run safaris. We seek to offer safari experiences paired with conservation efforts that bring meaningful change to the region. Kilimanjaro Classic Safari's believes in tourism as a positive driving force in both the conservation and development of East Africa.

We would love to help you plan a safari experience that supports these efforts and other conservation initiatives.

- Let us help you plan your dream Great Migration safari.

Consult with our experts today:

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