

Tribes and Great Migration

TANZANIA

12 days
23 June - 04 July 2027
English speaking tour leader



The 'unforgettable' of the trip:

- The reddish waters of **Lake Natron** and the imposing volcano **Ol Doinyo Lengai**
- The dances and flashy necklaces of the **Maasai women**
- **Safari in the Serengeti, Ngorongoro and Tarangire parks**, in search of the 'big 5'
- The **Great Migration**, following the eternal spectacle of nature
- In the baobab-studded savannah with hunters from the **Hadzabe tribe**
- The facial scarifications of the **Datoga** and **Barabaig** women
- In search of the roots of man, in the **Olduvai Gorge** and among the **Kondoa rock paintings**
- The **Cultural Heritage Centre in Arusha**, an impressive museum-gallery of African art






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It's a trip to discover the north of Tanzania: safaris in the world's most famous parks (Serengeti, Ngorongoro, Tarangire) in search of the 'big 5', encounters with ethnic groups (Masai, Hadzabe, Datoga, Barabaig) that follow traditional lifestyles, UNESCO World Heritage archaeological sites (the hominid fossils of the Olduvai Gorge and the rock paintings of Kondoa Irangi).

Moreover, in this special departure accompanied by Leonardo Francesco Paoluzzi, we will experience one of the most intense emotions that the African continent can offer: witnessing the eternal cycle of nature during the Great Migration*.

It isn't just any safari, but a unique experience in the world, in close contact with the wildest and most exuberant nature of the myriads of herds of herbivores that seasonally plough these sun-drenched and windswept savannahs, expanses bathed in light and overwhelmed, in the truest sense of the word, by the rhythms of migration. To be able to observe the passage of thousands upon thousands of large herbivores, covering the vast expanses of grass as far as the eye can see, followed by predators in search of food, is a unique experience that will engage all the senses and remain forever etched in the memory.

*The Great Migration in the Serengeti

The movements of the Great Migration are linked to the rains, because they determine the growth of the fresh grass that the animals need. The Great Migration is always present in the parks between Masai Mara (Kenya), Serengeti and Ngorongoro and depending on the period the herds will be more or less aggregated. Typically in May-June the large herds of migrating wildebeest and zebra leave for the western Serengeti region known as the Western Corridor, where they will have to cross the Nile crocodile-infested Grumeti River. From July onwards, the large herds continue their trek northwards in the northern Serengeti region known as the Mara Triangle, which lies between the Mara River and the Kenyan border. Our visits will therefore have to adapt to the unpredictable pace of nature, and the two nights planned within the Serengeti park will help us to have more flexibility to witness this unique spectacle.





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Day 1: Wednesday 23 June

Outward flight

Overnight flight to Kilimanjaro airport.

Day 2: Thursday 24 June

Outward flight/Kilimanjaro (JRO)/Arusha

Late morning arrival at Kilimanjaro airport. Meeting with Kanaga Africa Tours staff, assistance with the exchange of Euros and the possible purchase of a local phone card. Transfer to Arusha, accommodation at Hotel Africa Safari Arusha or similar, time to relax. In the afternoon, you will have the opportunity to visit ARUSHA and its surroundings. You can stroll through the streets of the town, where the clouds often allow you to catch a glimpse of the imposing Mount Meru, with its more than 4,500 metres above sea level, or take part in a guided tour (optional) of a coffee plantation, where you can learn all the secrets of one of the country's most renowned export products. Overnight stay in a hotel in double rooms with services.

Day 3: Friday 25 June

Arusha/Engaresero (Lake Natron)

After breakfast we depart north to the Kenyan border to the town of Longido. From here a comfortable track through volcano-dotted savannah will take us to the Maasai village of ENGARESERO, at the foot of the monumental Ol Doinyo Lengai volcano, which will be our base for exploration over the next few days. Accommodation at Giraffe Masai Lodge, lunch and relaxation in its spring water pool. In the afternoon, the first exploration of the area on foot, among boma (groups of huts) of the Maasai ethnic group and Maasai giraffes (Giraffa camelopardalis tippelskirchi) characteristic for their serrated-edged spots. For those who wish, it will be possible to make a trek (about 1h30/2h00 round trip) to the Engaresero waterfalls, on a route that follows the bed of the river of the same name (which on several occasions must be forded) through wide gorges that lead to a mighty waterfall and a natural pool at its foot, where you can bathe or simply cool off. Return to the lodge, dinner and overnight stay in double rooms with services.





Welcome to Tanzania!



Coffee processing



Giraffes under the Ol Doinyo Lengai volcano



Maasai

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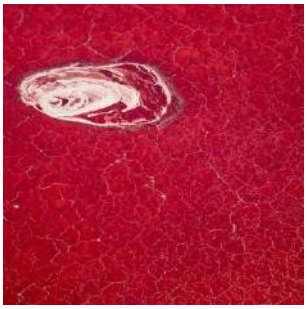
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Day 4: Saturday 26 June

Engaresero (Lake Natron)

After breakfast we will head for the shores of LAKE NATRON, an alkaline lake located in the Great Rift Valley, with its characteristic dark red colour and whitish surface streaks due to the accumulation of sodium, lethal for many animals but not for the micro-organisms (cyanobacteria) that determine its colour, and for the lesser flamingo, which inhabits this lake in large colonies (about 2 million during the peak of the annual migration). The natron makes the waters of the lake resemble ammonia, which is responsible for the petrification of the animals that come into contact with it, immortalised by Nick Brandt's famous shots. In addition to flamingos, we can spot colonies of pelicans, herds of cranes and elusive jackals. We will also visit an archaeological site where Homo sapiens footprints have been found, presumed to be 120,000 years old. Return to the lodge for lunch and relaxation. In the afternoon we will visit some boma of the MASAI (or Maasai) people of transhumant, nomadic or semi-nomadic herders, who inhabit the plains of present-day Tanzania and Kenya. They are the most southerly Nilotic people in Africa, following migration in the 16th century. These pastoralists devote their lives to caring for their livestock, their greatest wealth and which they consider to be on a par with the family, and their culture revolves around the material tasks that the various members, divided into age groups, must perform for the good of the community and the herd. We will admire the shuka, the characteristic red and black blankets, the peculiar piercings of the earlobes, the countless bracelets and necklaces worn by the women, and watch a traditional dance. Return to the lodge, dinner and overnight.


Towards Lake Natron


Lake Natron


Flamingos

Day 5: Sunday 27 June

Engaresero (Lake Natron)/Serengeti

After breakfast we leave the Maasai lands to reach the SERENGETI PARK, one of the world's best reserves for viewing safaris, with its more than 14,000 square kilometres of savannah where we encounter numerous predators (lions, cheetahs, leopards, hyenas, jackals) in search of prey (buffaloes, zebras, giraffes, wildebeests, gazelles), imposing pachyderms and rare black rhinoceroses. Lunch box on the way. In the afternoon, first safari in search of the animals. Accommodation in one of the Tanzania Bush Camps or Wild Camps (depending on the location of the migrating herds), dinner and overnight in double safari tents equipped with beds and private bathrooms.


Youth Maasai



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Day 6: Monday 28 June

Serengeti Park (Great Migration)

Early in the morning, before sunrise, breakfast at the lodge and departure for a day's exploration of the SERENGETI PARK to participate, with a bit of luck, in the GREAT MIGRATION show. Depending on information on the location of the zebra and wildebeest herds, we will either head towards the Western Corridor and the Grumeti River, or north to the Kenyan border and the Mara River. This will be an excellent opportunity not only to spot these large herds of herbivores, but also to meet the predators travelling in their wake. Lunch box, dinner and overnight stay at the camp*.

**To best participate in the Great Migration, the fixed tented camp may be different from the first night, but always in tents equipped with beds and private facilities.*


Great migration


Lioness on the hunt

Day 7: Tuesday 29 June

Serengeti Park/Olduvai/Lake Eyasi

Early in the morning, before sunrise, breakfast at the lodge and departure for a final safari in the SERENGETI PARK, in search of the 'big 5'. Lunch en route with lunch box.
In the afternoon, we will arrive at the OLDUVAI Gorge, a 40-kilometre-long depression enclosed by steep walls, considered one of the most important archaeological sites in Africa, whose artefacts have played a fundamental role in understanding the origins and development of the human species. Among the earliest finds at Olduvai are small stone tools, 'choppers' and bifaces, but fossils of ancestors of the human species dating back some two and a half million years have also been found, such as the so-called Australopithecus boisei (or Zinjanthropus) and the famous fossilised footprints of Laetoli hominids. We visit the interesting museum, which showcases the priceless finds from the area and palaeoanthropological research. Continue to LAKE EYASI, accommodation at Eyasi Lodge or similar. Weather permitting, walk along the shores of the lake at sunset to admire the beautiful scenery and, with a bit of luck, groups of hippos. Dinner and overnight at the Lodge, in double rooms with services.


Crossing the Grumeti River


Olduvai museum


Cheetahs in the Savannah

Day 8: Wednesday 30 June

Lake Eyasi/Ngorongoro Park/Karatu

Early in the morning, before sunrise, breakfast at the lodge and departure for an encounter with the HADZABE bushmen, a nomadic hunter-gatherer group. We visit their camp, made up of rudimentary huts built from branches and leaves, and shelters carved inside huge baobab trees. We accompany the men, dressed in a baboon skin, for hunting in the savannah, armed with a bow and arrows (different depending on the type of prey) impregnated with poison made from the 'desert rose'. For these hunters, all animals are potential prey (the most common birds, gazelles, galagons; the most coveted baboons), with the exception of snakes (except for the python) and hyenas, 'sacred' animals to which the corpses are offered, which are not buried but left on the ground, and the camp must move. We also meet the women, who are mostly dedicated to gathering wild fruits, berries and honey. Afterwards, we will leave for a DATOGA VILLAGE, where we will meet this ethnic group of iron workers, who shape by means of two types of fire, one at high temperature made from coal, the other made from elephant or cow dung for the fine workings of the metal. We will also meet the women of this ethnic group, recognisable by the facial tattoos created through small scarifications. Afterwards, entry into NGORONGORO PARK, located in a 19-kilometre-wide caldera with a surface area of 264 square kilometres, which is accessed via a 500-metre descent by car, to admire what is described as 'the paradise of wild animals'. Lunch box near a waterhole where it is easy to spot hippos. This is followed by a safari in this magnificent park, which is home to an incredible number of animals, including the 'big five' (elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo and rhinoceros), as well as wildebeest, buffalo, cheetahs, zebras, hyenas and a wide variety of birds, including thousands of pink flamingos, buzzards, hawks, ostriches and eagles. Before sunset continue to the nearby town of Karatu, accommodation at Tanzanice Farm Lodge or similar. Dinner and overnight at the lodge in double rooms with services.


Young Hadzabe


Traditional hunting


Hunters with baboon skins


Ngorongoro Crater


Wildebeest in the Ngorongoro

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Day 9: Thursday 01 July

Karatu/Tarangire Park/Babati

After breakfast, assistance in carrying out the PCR test. Afterwards, departure for TARANGIRE PARK, in an environment of savannahs dotted with huge baobabs and termite mounds, floodplains, forests and swamps, where the scene is dominated by large groups of elephants, which abound in the park (more than 100 can be spotted on a single safari, and at very close quarters), and the birdlife is particularly diverse (more than 550 species). Lunch box. Late afternoon drive to Babati, accommodation at Asmorein Lodge or similar, dinner and overnight in double rooms with services.


Elephants in the Tarangire

Day 10: Friday 02 July

Babati/Kondoa Irangi/Babati

After breakfast, depart south in the direction of the capital Dodoma, through a landscape of rocky hills enlivened by caves and ravines. Isolated and hidden places, where thousands of years ago the ancestors of today's populations took refuge, leaving behind a multitude of testimonies of rock art, among the most fascinating and mysterious in Africa, those of KONDOA IRANGI, rightly listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. An exceptional artistic and archaeological repertoire, this immense collection of rock paintings is also a precious iconographic heritage on the anthropological evolution of the local populations, at first simple hunters and gatherers, and later organised into more complex and sedentary agro-pastoral societies. Some theories assume that the earliest examples were made by ancestors, of San-Bushman stock, of the Sandawe, while the most recent are probably attributable to later populations of Bantu origin. We visit the sites of Pahi and Kolo and here, with any luck, we will be able to witness authentic animist ceremonies, which are regularly performed among the ancestral rocks of the site. Lunch box. In the afternoon, we visit a camp of the BARABAIG TRIBE, a semi-nomadic Nilotic ethnic group dedicated to cattle breeding and characterised by an acephalous social organisation, speaking a language similar to that of the Datoga.
Return to Babati, dinner and overnight at the lodge.


Rock paintings in Pahi


Rock paintings in Kolo


Animist ceremony


Barabaig Woman

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Day 11: Saturday 03 July

Babati/Arusha/Kilimanjaro (JRO)/Flight

After breakfast, we depart for Arusha, with a stop at the MAKUYUNI MARKET, which takes place every Saturday and where various Maasai groups flock to the town, to haggle for livestock or simply to buy 'typical' sandals, made from used tyres. Arrive in ARUSHA and visit the Cultural Heritage Centre, one of the largest and most prestigious art and craft galleries on the continent, a veritable museum housing the treasures of the various African ethnic groups in one place. Afterwards, transfer to Kilimanjaro airport in time for your return flight. End of services.



Arusha



Cultural Heritage Centre in Arusha

Day 12: Sunday 04 July

Return flight

Arrival at the destination airport. Return to Babati, dinner and overnight at the lodge.



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Individual participation fee in double room/tent (min. 3/max. 12 pax)

3,990 €/pax

in promotion at € 3,790
for booking before 18/12/2026

Supplements:

- Enrollment fee: **free!**
- Single room: **360 €**
- Tranfer extra Airport/Arusha: **50 €/transfer**
- Visit Coffee farm Arusha (min. 2 pax): **40 €/pax**
- Day use: **80 €/room**
- Mt. Meru or Kilimanjaro trek: **ask for itineraries**
- Extensions on request: **Zanzibar, Mafia, Pemba**

The fee includes:

- English speaking tour leader (8 to 16 pax);
- English-speaking local drivers/guides;
- Visits and excursions as scheduled;
- The visit of the ethnic groups mentioned in the itinerary (including photo and video rights);
- Entrances to the Serengeti, Ngorongoro and Tarangire parks;
- Transfers in 4x4 Toyota safari cars or similar (max 7 clients/car), including diesel;
- Transfers to/from airport (schedules recommended company);
- Full board meals as specified in the itinerary, except in Arusha;
- 9 overnight stays as mentioned in the itinerary.

The fee doesn't include:

- Tanzania visa (incoming 50 USD);
- The cancellation/health/baggage/covid. insurance;
- Air flights;
- Transfers to/from airport (timetables with other companies);
- Drinks and mineral water;
- Non-programme photographic and video tips;
- Meals in Arusha;
- Possible day use in Arusha;
- Tips and expenses of a personal nature;
- Everything mentioned in 'supplements';
- Anything not expressly mentioned in 'the fee includes'.

Recommended airlines: ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES
Arrival in Kilimanjaro JRO: 24/06/27 10h40
Departure from Kilimanjaro JRO: 03/07/27 19h10

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