



An African Odyssey

Act One —

Day 1 - Arrive - Nairobi

*"I never knew of
a morning in
Africa when I
woke up, that I
was not happy."
Ernest Hemingway*

Likely you will have an evening arrival if you are traveling from a European gateway. You'll be met by a representative from **Ololo Safari Lodge**, taken to an awaiting Land Cruiser, where your driver/guide will get you settled, then whisk you away.

A 30 minute ride will take you to the main gates of Nairobi National Park. Weather permitting, he will pop the top of your Landi, and you'll begin the first game drive of your safari.

You may see leopard, lion, or simply enjoy sounds of the African night. When you come to the entrance to Ololo, you will be led by Askari across a bridge, over the Mbagathi River, which separates Nairobi National Park, from the Lodge.



Nairobi National Park, Kenya

A gentle ascent by foot to the lodge will bring you to the lounge area where you will be welcomed, receive a brief orientation, and enjoy a light, late evening meal before being escorted to the Terrace Room for a much needed rest.

Lala Salama!

Ololo Safari Lodge - <https://www.olololodge.com>

Nairobi National Park - <http://kws.go.ke/parks/nairobi-national-park>

Kenya - <https://magicalkenya.com>

Days 2 and 3...

Nairobi – Ololo Safari Lodge

Skip the early AM game drive, have a leisurely breakfast by the pool, then explore the grounds of this delightful property!

Tour the farm, have an Askari walk you to the nearby glass studio.

In the afternoon, go kiss a Giraffe in Langata, at the Giraffe Center, then join a select few to witness putting the babies, (elephants) to bed at the near-by Sheldrick Wildlife Trust. Game drive your way back to Ololo, marveling at the juxtaposition of teeming wildlife, and skyscrapers in the background.



*"You know you
are truly alive
when you are
living among
lions."*

Karen Blixen

Anselm Kitengela Hot Glass - <https://www.kitengela.com>

African Fund for Endangered Wildlife (AFEW) - <https://www.giraffecentre.org>

Sheldrick Wildlife Trust - <https://www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org>

Try the early game drive! After breakfast, a massage may be the order of the morning, or a few laps in the pool. This afternoon, tour around Karen, shop... Or, read a book on your terrace – Do as much, or as little as you please.

Day 4 ...

Nairobi - Samburu National Reserve

An early morning departure from Ololo, to Wilson Airport for your 1 hour Safarilink flight to Samburu National Reserve.



You'll be met by your driver guide, then have a leisurely game drive to your home for the next 4 nights, **Elephant Bedroom Camp**. This is an intimate, 14 tented camp, set on the banks of the Ewaso Nyiro River, Ellies are the order of the day here... Often wandering through camp, napping between the tents, snoring softly, sometimes resting a trunk on your deck railing.

Samburu, is where I know I'll always be amongst herds of elephants, up close, personal – in such a stunning setting. Additionally, the Samburu "Special 5" ... Grevy's zebra, gerenuk, reticulated giraffe, Somali ostrich, and Beisa oryx are marvels to be seen only in this part of the country.

Elephant Bedroom Camp - <https://www.atua-enkop.com>



Days 5, 6, & 7 ...

Samburu National Reserve

Daily game drives, when you please. Journal from your deck as you watch herds of elephants in the river. . Game drive with breakfast on the bonnet of your Landi – Your vehicle, and driver are just for you, to do as directed...

You may wish to plan a visit to the neighboring Namunyak Wildlife Conservancy, and Retiti Elephant Rescue. Retiti was just opened in late 2016. Here you will have a chance to spend time with a keeper, watch their young charges come in for a bottle and mud bath, and experience behind the scene workings of an elephant rescue.

Retiti Elephant Sanctuary - retitielephants.org

Samburu National Reserve - samburu.net

Day 8 ...

Samburu National Reserve to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy

This morning you will transfer to the airstrip for your flight to the 65,000 acre world renown conservancy pioneered by the Craig Family – Royalty of Kenya conservation, they have been integral in saving Rhino, about 12% of Kenya's black rhino population thrive here, as well as the same percent of the highly endangered Grevy's zebra.

The big 5 can all be found here, along with 350 bird species – Speaking of royalty, this has been a favorite



place for the Windsor family – In 2009, this is where Prince William proposed to Kate.

Your accommodations will be a cottage close to the thatched main house,

Lewa Wilderness - <https://www.lewawilderness.com>

Lewa House - <https://lewahouse.com>

*"...for tawny
lions will forever
prowl in our
memory and
great herds
throng our
imagination."
George Schaffer*



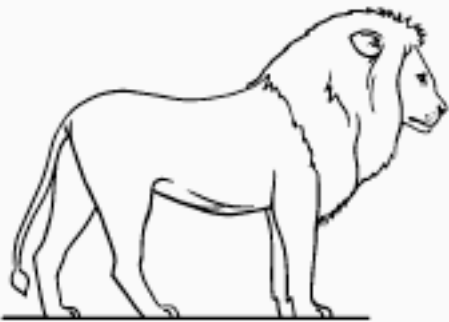
Days 8 & 9 ...

Lewa Wilderness Conservancy

There is so much to do here!

Game drives, walks, camel, or horse rides. What about game viewing from the seat of a biplane?

An experienced bush pilot will take you on an unforgettable sunrise flight aboard a replica of the Yellow Gipsy Moth aircraft that flew Robert Redford & Meryl Streep, in the iconic "Out Of Africa"...



Day 10 ...

Lewa Wilderness Conservancy - Masai Mara Game Reserve

After an early breakfast, head to the airstrip for your morning flight to the Masai Mara.

Though your experience at Lewa will have been amazing, there is nothing like the greatest show on earth, the Mara.



You'll be met at the Mara airstrip by your personal guide, Joseph Njapit. My friend, Joseph is a much sought-after Masai driver guide. He is respectful of the land, animals, will always see to the best angle for your photo, and comfort.

Game drive your way to **Entim Camp**, where a brief orientation, and lunch follow. Entim is a perfectly situated 12 tent camp. The drama of the Mara River can be seen from your veranda. Hippo, wildebeest, lions are often heard through the night.

High standards of comfort, and dining prevail.

Entim Camp - <http://entim-mara.com>

Days 11, 12 & 13 ...

Masai Mara

There will be 3 glorious days to explore the Mara. Bush breakfasts, sundowners, full-day game drives allowing you to pop over to the Tanzania side of the Serengeti.

*"I believe there
is no sickness of
the heart too
great it cannot
be cured by a
dose of Africa."
John Hemingway*

Walks about camp, cultural visits, massage, lingering over a great book, napping to the poetry of nature. Here, as in your other camps, you'll have a private vehicle, and personal guide, maximizing choice, and serendipity.

This corner of the Mara is known for cats – Lion prides, Leopard, Cheetah are known by name – Joseph will love sharing their history.

Days 14, & 15 ...

Masai Mara – Nairobi

Bid a reluctant farewell to the Mara. You'll have a morning flight back to Nairobi, where you'll be met like an old friend, George, and the staff at **Ololo Safari Lodge**. After lunch, linger by the pool, relax till your afternoon game drive.



Your last full day in Kenya may begin with a quiet poolside breakfast, watching the antics of the resident Rock Hyrax, as you sip your coffee.

Venture into the Karen, Langata area for a bit of shopping, enjoy a quick lunch, then back to Sheldrick Wildlife Trust where a private visit for the 2 of you has been arranged with a keeper, and a few little charges.

Game drive your way back to Ololo, arriving in time to toast your Kenyan safari, and sunset over the Ngong Hills.



Day 16 ...

Nairobi – Johannesburg or Nairobi – Home

We can contemplate this adventure as a play...

Act 1, Kenya.

Day 16 is the "Intermission" as you journey to Jo'Burg, Act II is your Southern Africa safari. Or, these can stand alone as single Act pieces...

The choice is yours....

If the decision is to return home, you'll have the better part of the day to relax, and enjoy Ololo, before your departure to Jomo Kenyatta for the flight to your European gateway, and, ultimate arrival back in Chicago the next day.

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Intermission —

