



YOUR ACTIVITIES AT KILIMA CAMP

Dear Guest,

Welcome to Kilima Camp. Several bush activities will be proposed to you by our manager, as to make your stay at Kilima Camp even more interesting, enjoyable and rewarding. Traditionally, our manager will discuss with you, before or after your dinner in the main tent area, the programme for your next day, as to better respond to your specific interests and wishes.

Please note that you can as well spend half a day or even a full day relaxing at camp, simply enjoying the unique scenery that extends in front of you...

GAME DRIVES

Game drives are one of the two main activities at Kilima Camp.

On board of one of our specially designed and equipped 4x4 vehicles, you will search for wild animals while exploring the wilderness of the Mara. Our drivers will bring you to different places during every game drive, as to give you a good idea of the different natural habitats: the vast open plains covered with tall red oat grass and scattered acacia trees, the rolling hills covered with short grass and interspersed with rocky inselbergs, the patches of woodland, the extensive marshes and swampy areas, the mighty Mara river with its dense riverine forests...

Their knowledge of the area thanks to their daily presence in the reserve will give you the best chances of observing the 'Big Five' of the African fauna (elephant, rhinoceros, buffalo, lion and leopard) as well as the vast array of other gazelles, antelopes and predators, smaller and larger. Birdlife is also prolific, with over 300 species recorded in the Mara. And the crocodiles in the rivers are among the largest in Africa!

Game drives are conducted at the most appropriate hours, when animals are most active.

The morning game drives start at sunrise. After gathering at 6.00 a.m. in the main tent to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and homemade cookies, you board your vehicle and descent the Siria escarpment to reach the entry gate of the reserve. You are back at camp between 9.00 and 9.30 for breakfast.

The afternoon game drives start at 3.30 p.m. After a cup of tea or coffee, you board your vehicle and descent the Siria escarpment to reach the entry gate of the reserve. You are back at camp between 6.30 and 7.00, to enjoy your sundowner before having dinner.

You can also prefer to embark on a full-day game drive. Leaving Kilima Camp at around 8.00 a.m. (after breakfast), you spend the whole day in the bush. This will enable you to discover other areas of the game reserve up to the Mara Bridge, at the border with the famous Serengeti National Park in Tanzania, more than 40 km away from Kilima Camp. At noon, you enjoy your packed picnic lunch in the vastness of the Mara. Your driver will make a few stops along the banks of the scenic Mara River, as to allow you to stretch your legs. And you can also ask him to bring you to Serena Lodge after your picnic lunch, for a drink and more extensive toilet facilities.

For your game drives: you should bring and wear the following:

- sun hat, sun cream and sun glasses: the sun can be very strong (you are at an altitude of 1500 to 1750 metres).
- a warm jacket: it can be pretty cool in the Mara in the early morning or late afternoon (Maasai blankets are also available in your vehicle).
- a raincoat (in the case of a possible afternoon rain shower).
- your camera or video camera.



- your binoculars (essential!).
- drinking water (ask our staff on duty for a bottle).

BUSH WALKS

Bush walks are the other favourite activity at Kilima Camp, which are making Kilima renowned in all the Mara area. Being situated at the edge of the game reserve, we can offer what camps situated inside the protected area can not propose: experiencing the African bush on foot. Escape the confined space of a vehicle to encounter wildlife in a totally different way, under the expert guidance of your guide and your Maasai escort.

Most of our walks take place in our exclusive concession area, for even more intimacy... Our guided walks offer you the unique opportunity to observe big game animals on foot, but also to discover smaller species present in the area as well as the prolific birdlife, and to learn a lot about the way of life of the local Maasai people. Add to this the superb scenery and you have the ideal cocktail for an unforgettable experience!

Our guided bush walks are preferably conducted in the morning. They take 1 to 4 hours, according to the specific walk you will choose for and the number of breaks you will make. There are 3 main walks from Kilima Camp: from a gentle stroll in the hills (Kilima Walk) to more sportive hikes across the valleys (Forest Walk) or down the escarpment and along the Mara River (River Walk).

We also organize day visits to Dupoto Forest, the largest (almost) intact primary forest left in the Mara area. Discover an unexpected world completely different from the open plains, at less than 20 kilometres (as the crow flies) from the famous Maasai Mara National Reserve! Walk in the forest escorted by Maasai nature guides, enjoy the fantastic bird watching opportunities (with dozens of species typical for tall tropical forests), discover giant trees and feel the very special atmosphere of this closed world.

For your bush walks: same as above what you should bring and wear for game drive + comfortable hiking shoes.

For more details about all these activities, please consult the leaflet "*Bush Walks at Kilima Camp*" available at our reception desk.

VISIT TO MAASAI MANYATTA

Discover the traditional way of life of the local Maasai people... The *Manyatta* you will be invited into is not an artificial tourist trap! As the exclusive guests of Kilima Camp, you are invited into the settlement where the family of our landowner still lives.

After a gentle downhill stroll of 10 to 15 minutes, your guide and Maasai escort will lead you into the family settlement surrounded by a fence made of thorny tree branches. You will discover the way of life of the Maasai, one of the few peoples in the world that preferred to stick to the traditional way of life instead of succumbing to the lures of modern life.

You visit the houses in the settlement and the *boma* (or kraal) where the precious cattle (cows, sheep and goats) are sheltered every night. Maasai handicraft items are offered for sale by the women: feel entirely free to buy or not...

The duration of the activity is between 1 and 1 ½ hour in total; the visit can be arranged at any time of the day during your stay.

ARCHERY

During our nature walks or the Manyatta visit, your Maasai Moran (guerrier) will be happy to initiate you to the use of the traditional Maasai weapons: spear, bow and arrows. Would you be a good *moran*?



SUNDOWNERS

A true Kenyan tradition... In the middle of the bush, not far away from our camp, enjoy our appetizers and aperitif while watching the sun come down and touch the horizon behind the hills. A peaceful moment of relaxation with the superb scenery of the Mara all around you...

Sundowners are arranged for you on request at around 6.00 p.m. any day during your stay. The ideal way of finishing the day after a game drive in the Maasai Mara!

HOT BALLONNING

Early morning is the ideal time to see wild animals on the plains. You also have better chance to spot a leopard on your way to the site. In the Masai Mara Game Reserve in Kenya the balloon safari is an experience you will never forget.

You will leave the camp around 5:30 a.m. And the hot air balloon safari starts around 6.30a.m.. Your adventure begins just before dawn. Optimum atmospheric conditions for hot air balloon flights are very early in the morning. Your anticipation begins the evening before as you look forward to the thrill of the following morning.

As the sun's golden glow tinges the eastern horizon, the crew completes the necessary preparations to ensure a safe and enjoyable flight. Your pilot gives you a last minute briefing on safety procedures and the powerful burners are ignited to bring the colourful craft to life.

The aerostat is heated up and as you are airborne the stunning panorama unfolds. The Balloon silently soars over the vast Masai Mara eco-system and the snaking Mara River - The wilds of Africa!

Your pilot gently lands on the open plains of the Masai Mara. You return to earth -Celebration! As the crew scurries to set up your buffet breakfast near your landing site champagne corks pop into the air to toast your return.

SCHOOL VISIT

In 2009, Kilima Camp has decided to support Il Toshi Junior School, a local Community based School from Nursery to Class 3. There are up to 100 children. Kilima Camp is paying the salary of one teacher. The school has been in operation since 4 years

Our guests and their children can visit the school and the children on holiday can also spend half day with some new Kenyan friends at School. There is need for desks, pens, notebooks, books, etc... It will be an interesting opportunity for your children to share something different with the local community.

BUSH LUNCHEON AND BUSH CAMP EXPERIENCE

An exclusive bush experience including overnight camping in the bush with dinner can be arranged. The camping is a great opportunity to admire the amazing African sunset and listen to the sounds of nocturnal animals, while breakfast is a chance to watch hippos as they laze in the Mara River. It won't be as comfortable as Kilima Camp but it will be unforgettable, dining and sleeping on the banks of the Mara River.

LAKE VICTORIA – MFANGANO ISLAND

Mfangano Island is situated on the unspoilt island of Mfangano in Lake Victoria and occupies an entire secluded bay on the western shores of the island. This great lake has romantic associations as the source of the River Nile, ever since explorers such as Speke and Burton came to the area at the end of the last century.

40 minutes charter flight from the Masai Mara followed by a relaxing 15 minutes boat ride along the tropical shoreline and you reach Mfangano Island Camp for your excursion.



This excursion provides a unique opportunity to see the colourful life on the lake, where enchanting Luo fishing villages have not changed in centuries. For those interested in fishing, it is excellent, the bird life is unsurpassed and seeing the families of otters is an added bonus. You can also enjoy walks through lush vegetation on top of the hills or along the lake shore.

Enjoy your stay at Kilima Camp !