



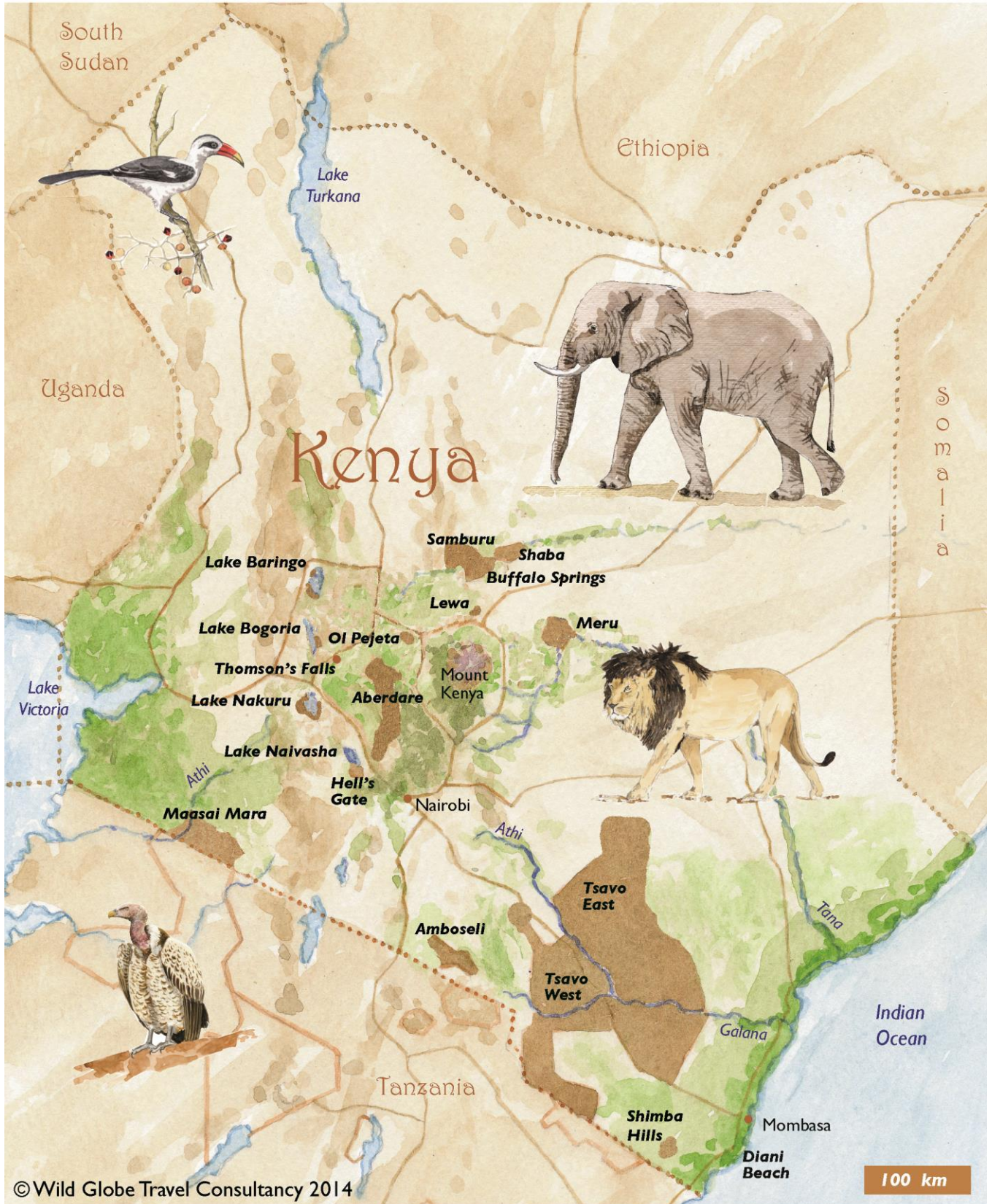
# Wild Globe Travel Consultancy

*Tailored Wildlife, Wilderness and Adventure Travel Across the Globe.*

14 Greenfield Road, Eastbourne,  
East Sussex BN21 1JJ, UK

Tel: +44 (0)1323 731865  
Mob: +44 (0)7821 640118

Email: [jason.woolgar@btinternet.com](mailto:jason.woolgar@btinternet.com)  
Website: [www.wildglobetours.com](http://www.wildglobetours.com)



## Kenya In Depth - 60 Days

### Major Destinations

Nairobi - Nairobi National Park - The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust - Maasai Mara National Reserve - Lake Naivasha - Crescent Island Game Park - Crater Lake Game Sanctuary - Hell's Gate National Park - Mount Longonot National Park - Aberdare National Park - Lake Nakuru National Park - Lake Bogoria National Reserve - Lake Baringo - Ol Pejeta Conservancy - Lewa Wildlife Conservancy - Samburu National Reserve - Buffalo Springs National Reserve - Shaba National Reserve - Meru National Park - Tsavo West National Park - Tsavo East National Park - Mombasa - Diani Beach - Kisite Mpunguti Marine Park - Shimba Hills National Reserve - Amboseli National Park



### Tour Highlights and Activities

This is a tremendously exciting tour, full of natural beauty, gorgeous animals and epic landscapes, including memorable views of the two highest mountains in Africa, Mount Kilimanjaro and Mount Kenya. In the Maasai Mara and the combined wonders of Tsavo East and West, our journey encompasses two of the richest wildlife areas on the continent and each carefully selected destination will provide its own special highlights and memories. The activities are almost limitless and feature thrilling balloon, biplane and helicopter flights, intimate horse safaris, world class snorkelling and diving and numerous exceptional boat trips and hikes. We will observe the natural behaviour of literally hundreds of different mammals, reptiles and birds and the time that we spend at each location will allow us to better adjust to the timeless rhythms of nature in this vibrant, captivating land.

### Day 1 - Nairobi

Arrive in the capital Nairobi and transfer to our hotel for the first three nights of our adventure.

### Day 2 - Nairobi

As an introduction to the wildlife of Kenya, we will today visit Nairobi National Park for one of the strangest wildlife experiences in all of Africa, as the main gate of Nairobi National Park lies just 7km from the city centre and it is possible to photograph any number of impressive and varied mammal populations against a rather disconcerting backdrop of skyscrapers. Despite its location, the park is an essential habitat for migrating herbivores during the dry season and the southern sections of the park are unfenced to allow the free movement of wildlife to the Kitengela Conservation Area and Athi-Kapiti Plains. We will make an early start and spend the entire day in the park, where we can reasonably expect to see a large number of the major mammals that we will become familiar with over the coming weeks.

### Day 3 - Nairobi

After a more leisurely morning we will enjoy another real highlight of Nairobi, a visit to the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust. Established as a charity in 1977, the Trust rescues, protects and raises orphan elephants until they can be reintroduced to the wild at



Tsavo East. In addition to their amazing work with elephants, they also care for orphaned rhinos and manage six fully equipped de-snaring teams, as well as two mobile veterinary units. At a time of increased commercial poaching and inevitable pressure from human populations, their work is of course vital and a visit to the Nairobi nursery will not only support their efforts and help raise their profile, but will also provide a wonderfully intimate hour with some of the most sociable and intelligent large mammals on the planet. The nursery is open between 11am and 12 noon, when the elephants are given their daily mud bath and the younger ones are fed huge bottles of milk. In the afternoon we will take a short drive to another important conservation project, the Giraffe Centre, which protects, breeds and translocates the

rothschild's giraffe subspecies to various suitable locations across Kenya. In addition to supporting their efforts and the education programmes that they also run, this is an immensely enjoyable and relaxing afternoon and we will have the opportunity to meet a few of the giraffes at close quarters and to explore the peaceful sanctuary forest.

### Day 4 - Nairobi to Maasai Mara National Reserve

We leave Nairobi this morning for an easy drive south west to the Maasai Mara National Reserve, one of the most iconic wildlife destinations in Africa and our home for the next six nights. The Maasai Mara is basically the northern extension of the Serengeti plains in Tanzania and annually plays host to one of the greatest wildlife spectacles on the planet, the migration of up to two million wildebeest, zebra and thomson's gazelle from the Serengeti in search of fresh grazing. With an abundance of predators following the vast herds and thousands of wildebeest crossing crocodile infested rivers, the migration is one of nature's great wonders and is certainly an event to be experienced at least once.

### Days 5 to 9 - Maasai Mara National Reserve

Whether our visit is during the migration or not, we will spend five full days exploring two of the best wildlife areas within the reserve, which is particularly renowned for its populations of lion, cheetah and spotted hyena, as well as some of the smaller carnivores including both black-backed and side-striped jackal, bat-eared fox and several species of mongoose. The vast rolling plains and acacia forests support large numbers of elephant, buffalo, zebra, giraffe, warthog, blue wildebeest, topi, eland, impala, hartebeest and both thompson's and grant's gazelle. Leopard and black rhino can also be observed here, although they are harder to see, as well as large numbers of hippos and crocodiles and almost 500 species of bird. In addition to our game drives during the day, guided game walks are also available, as well as exciting night game drives, when we will use a spotlight to search for some of the less frequently seen nocturnal creatures. One morning will be reserved for one of the highlights of this or any other trip, a breathtaking dawn balloon flight over the African bush. In addition to the astounding views of the rolling savannah, as we float gently towards Tanzania and the Serengeti, we will see a



huge number of plains animals and will have time to savour this legendary natural theatre from a totally different and spectacular perspective.

### Day 10 - Maasai Mara National Reserve to Lake Naivasha

Today we say farewell to the Maasai Mara and transfer north to the refreshing pool and lush gardens of our accommodation on the shore of Lake Naivasha, the attractive environs of which we will spend the next three days exploring. Although it has been severely

reduced in size over the previous two decades, largely as a result of the burgeoning local horticultural industry and serious mismanagement, the freshwater lake is still regarded as one of the jewels of Kenya's glorious Rift Valley lakes and is a massively important ecosystem for a huge variety of birds and other wildlife.

### **Days 11 to 13 - Lake Naivasha**

We will enjoy a very peaceful morning boat trip on the lake to observe some of the numerous species of water birds, including kingfishers, pelicans, herons, storks, egrets and Egyptian geese, as well as fish eagles gliding gracefully over the shimmering water in search of prey and a healthy population of very entertaining hippos. Our boat trip will culminate in a visit to Crescent Island Game



Sanctuary, a picturesque spot where much of Out of Africa was filmed and it is possible to walk with zebra, giraffe, impala, waterbuck and blue wildebeest. It is also one of the best places in East Africa to see python. There are plenty of excellent hiking options in the area and one day will be reserved for the immensely enjoyable trek through Njorowa Gorge in the visually impressive, but less frequently visited, Hell's Gate National Park. One of Kenya's many little gems, Hell's Gate is situated about 5km from Lake Naivasha and is one of the few parks that you can walk and cycle unaccompanied in. The Naivasha area is also home to the dormant volcano Mount Longonot, one of the most rewarding short hikes north of South Africa's Drakensberg range. Whilst the ascent is not particularly demanding, the stunning panoramas at the summit will certainly take

your breath away, with the Great Rift Valley on one side and the enormous forested crater on the other. We will spend the majority of the day here, as the best part of the hike by far is the magnificent walk around the crater rim. Our stay at Naivasha will also include a trip to the Crater Lake Game Sanctuary, where we can see the flamingo and take an easy hike for a wonderful view of the equally stunning Green Crater Lake, as well as a visit to Elsamere, the former home of the Born Free author Joy Adamson and now a great destination to spend some time with an inquisitive troop of black and white colobus monkeys. During the evenings we will have the opportunity to spotlight at Crater Lake, with the possibility of seeing, amongst others, spotted hyena, aardvark, genet, African civet, porcupine, springhare and zorilla, a highly secretive member of the weasel family.

### **Day 14 - Lake Naivasha to Aberdare National Park**

Transfer north east by road to the heavily forested Aberdare mountains, home to the world-famous Aberdare National Park and the equally famous Treetops and Ark lodges, both of which are more notable for their superb waterholes and viewing platforms than for their actual game viewing activities.

### **Days 15 to 17 - Aberdare National Park and Solio Ranch**

Regardless of whether we are staying at one of the two landmark lodges within the national park, we will spend time looking for two animals more commonly found in Central Africa, the African golden cat and the bongo, the largest and heaviest of all forest antelope. Elephant and buffalo, fairly easily observed in the open clearings of the dense forest, are a more likely prospect and we can also expect to see defassa waterbuck, giant forest hog, bushbuck, spotted hyena, sykes monkey and olive baboon, with a realistic chance of encountering lion, leopard and serval. Depending on whether we are staying within Aberdare or locally, we may spend at least one night at Solio Ranch and will certainly take time to game drive within one of the most successful and significant private rhino breeding reserves in Kenya. Not surprisingly, both black and white rhinos are routinely encountered here, as are most of the major predators and a host of grazers, including eland, the largest of all antelope, beisa oryx and the diminutive suni antelope. Solio is actually a great destination in terms of exploring the region, as thrilling helicopter flights are available over the Central Highlands to Mount Kenya and much further afield to the gorgeous jade waters of Lake Turkana to the north. Other options include night game drives and expertly guided horseback and walking safaris.



## Day 18 - Aberdare National Park to Lake Nakuru National Park

After a final morning activity in or around Aberdare, we will transfer by road to our lodge within Lake Nakuru National Park, a moderately sized reserve, but by far the best national park in East Africa to see both black and white rhino.

## Days 19 to 20 - Lake Nakuru National Park

Although the park is not large enough to support elephants, it is home to a decent number of relatively easy to spot leopards, as well



as black and white colobus monkeys, fair-sized herds of buffalo and the solitary and rarely seen striped hyena. Lions are also present and spotted hyena can often be seen cooling themselves on the edge of the large alkaline or soda lake that dominates the northern section of the park and at one time supported huge flocks of flamingo. They do still appear here, although in vastly reduced numbers having more or less abandoned their traditional home in favour of Lake Bogoria to the north, and Nakuru is still renowned for both the number and variety of birds that make this area their home. Given its size, the park could easily be traversed in a day, but we will devote two leisurely days to looking for languid leopards sprawled along the smooth branches of willow fever trees and to really appreciate just what a wonderful wildlife destination this is. The staggering view of the lake from Baboon Cliff is as outstanding as

any in the country and the freshwater spring is a particularly memorable spot to observe graceful giraffe feeding delicately on the acacia trees.

## Day 21 - Lake Nakuru National Park to Lake Bogoria National Reserve to Lake Baringo

We will depart Nakuru after breakfast for one of the most interesting travel days of our trip, during which we will enjoy the sweeping Rift Valley view at Subukia, cross the equator into the Northern Hemisphere and visit Thomson's Falls at Nyahururu. All of these are but a preliminary to the main focus of our day, the extremely alkaline waters of Lake Bogoria and one of the largest populations of flamingos on the planet. If the vast sea of these gregarious pink and white birds is not impressive enough, Lake Bogoria is one of the few destination in the whole of Kenya at which you are likely to encounter greater kudu and is also famous for the scalding hot springs and geysers that continually bubble and erupt, most notably on the western shore of the lake. Our busy day will finally end with a short journey north to Lake Baringo, where we will overnight at our delightful lakeside accommodation.



## Day 22 - Lake Baringo

Lake Baringo has the look and feel of a country retreat and our day here will unfold in an equally serene manner. After breakfast we will take a boat trip around the shore of the freshwater lake, which is famous for its profuse birdlife. Jacana, stork, cormorant, kingfisher, spoonbill, ibis, heron, pelican, hammerkop, bee-eater and hoopoe are just a few of the birds that we will see, as well as some of the many fish eagles that nest in the area and are easily observed perched around the lake. We will take to the water again in the late afternoon for a short cruise to Lesukut Island and the vantage point known as Gibraltar Rock, from where we will enjoy cool drinks and a perfect view as the sun slips away behind the lake.

## Day 23 - Lake Baringo to Ol Pejeta Conservancy Area

Fully rested, today we travel east into the Laikipia region, which hosts a number of outstanding and very important wildlife conservancies, where conservation and the needs of local communities meet, generally with impressive results. We will visit two of the most successful and well established on this trip, the Ol Pejeta Conservancy Area and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy.

## Days 24 to 25 - Ol Pejeta Conservancy Area

Ol Pejeta is a 'not-for-profit' conservancy which directly funds a number of community health, education, water and agriculture initiatives. For many, this type of essential partnership with the local people represents the future of wildlife conservation and over the next two days we will experience the tangible rewards in terms of the wildlife that is protected here. Not only does Ol Pejeta safeguard the largest black rhino population in East Africa, it is home to four of the last eight surviving northern white rhinos on the



planet, which were translocated from a zoo in the Czech Republic in 2009 in an attempt to bring this subspecies of the white rhino back from the very edge of extinction. Regardless of whether we will be fortunate enough to chance upon one of these celebrated creatures, we will almost certainly see both black and white rhino species here, as well as lion, spotted hyena, black-backed jackal, beisa oryx and grevy's zebra, another seriously endangered animal that differs greatly in appearance to the plains zebra that we will have encountered previously. Cheetah, leopard, and caracal are also resident and elephants make good use of the open wildlife corridors that link the conservancy to the Laikipia and Samburu ecosystem. Our evenings will combine relaxing at the frequently visited waterhole and spotlighting with one of the knowledgeable conservancy guides, who will happily point out a lesser galago when these tiny bushbabies appear in the trees around our palatial tents after dark. We will also reserve a couple of hours for a visit to the chimpanzee sanctuary, which currently cares for over 40 rescued chimps in an attractive natural environment.

### **Day 26 - Ol Pejeta Conservancy Area to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy**

After breakfast we will depart for Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, where we will be met at the conservancy gate and introduced to one of the most enchanting wildlife locations in Kenya.



### **Days 27 to 30 - Lewa Wildlife Conservancy**

As with Ol Pejeta, Lewa funds several community projects and is also very much at the forefront of rhino conservation. Over 100 black and white rhinos roam this majestic landscape and a number have been successfully translocated to destinations across Kenya, including to Ol Pejeta. The game drives here will be in open-sided vehicles and the ever enthusiastic guides will always make every effort to ensure that you see a particular animal or bird. However, it is not the sightings alone that make Lewa so special, it is the

backdrop against which these encounters take place, that will live long in the memory. Apart from leopard, which are shy and difficult to see here, over the next four days you can realistically expect to photograph, generally at close quarters, all of the large resident mammals, as well as a dazzling array of birds.

Grey crowned cranes and saddle-billed storks adorn the lush, green marsh areas that are also home to the incredibly rare sitatunga, an aquatic antelope that is notoriously hard to see in most countries. Until recently, when sadly the eldest of the three was killed by lions, guests at Lewa were able to spend time with the Three Brothers, probably the most famous cheetahs in wildlife filmmaking, due to their habit of hunting as a pack and bringing down prey much larger than a single cheetah would consider tackling. We are still likely to see cheetah and possibly a pack of hunting dog that migrate in and out of the conservancy. We will have the option of participating in a number of varied activities during our stay, including game watching from hides, exhilarating bush walks, horse-riding and, for a real Out of Africa experience, an open cockpit flight in a biplane. This is the only flight of its kind in East Africa and the views of Lewa and the surrounding area are as intoxicating as the place itself.



### **Day 31 - Lewa Wildlife Conservancy to Samburu National Reserve**

After a final morning game drive at Lewa, we transfer to Samburu, which, along with Buffalo Springs and Shaba, is one of three reserves situated around the Ewaso Ngiro River about 330kms north of Nairobi. All three reserves, as well as Meru National Park to the south-east, are part of a rugged, semi-arid ecosystem and are home to species not commonly found in the rest of the country, including beisa oryx, reticulated giraffe, grevy's zebra, Somali ostrich and the gerenuk, a long-necked antelope that spends a great deal of its time grazing in bushes on its hind legs. Samburu was also the home of Kamunyak, a young, solitary lioness famous for adopting and attempting to raise an oryx calf. An incredible story, Kamunyak, or Blessed One in the local language, spent more than two weeks with the oryx before it was eventually killed by a male lion. Clearly starving because she would not leave the oryx to hunt, Kamunyak went on to adopt another five calves before she disappeared in early 2004.

### **Days 32 to 37 - Samburu, Buffalo Springs and Shaba National Reserves**

We will split our time between the three reserves and stay at two lovely riverside lodges, the first of which will be in the main game



viewing area at Samburu. The second, constructed around a natural spring which runs directly through the pretty lodge and into the Ewaso Ngiro River, is situated between Buffalo Springs and Shaba, providing easy access to both reserves. We will dedicate the majority of our time here to Samburu, which is the most visited of the three protected areas, principally because it has a well deserved reputation for excellent sightings of all of the major predators. Lion and leopard are common, cheetah and spotted hyena are seen with regularity and packs of hunting dog are also often encountered. Not surprisingly, in such an arid environment, much of our game viewing will be centred around the river that acts as a natural boundary between the Samburu and Buffalo Springs reserves. We will undoubtedly see large crocodiles and monitor lizards lying along the river bank, as well as herds of elephants drinking and playing in the

water in the heat of the afternoon sun. We will spend a full day exploring Shaba, where the scenery compensates for the fact that the animals are more elusive, and will have our own opportunity to take a refreshing afternoon swim in the African bush, when we visit the springs after which Buffalo Springs is named.

### **Day 38 - Shaba National Reserve to Meru National Park**

Today we drive a short distance south to our final destination in this unique region, Meru National Park, where the legendary lioness Elsa was reintroduced to the wild by George and Joy Adamson. Straddling the equator at the base of the Nyambene Hills and bisected by several meandering rivers, the landscape at Meru is an impressively diverse mixture of riverine forest, imposing kopjes, lush swamp and open, long grass plains.

### **Days 39 to 40 - Meru National Park**

As the wildlife is sometimes more difficult to see here than at many of the other national parks across the country, Meru attracts few



visitors and we will therefore enjoy the luxury of exploring this tranquil wilderness in almost total solitude. Given patience and a little good fortune, we can reasonably anticipate seeing elephant, rhino, buffalo, lion, cheetah, giraffe, zebra, eland, lesser kudu, waterbuck and vervet monkeys, which are frequent visitors to our lodge at mealtimes. All of the other major predators can also be found here, including spotted and striped hyena, and we will take time to look for these when we go spotlighting in the evening. Game walks are available and we can journey to the southern section of the park to discover the beautiful area around the Tana River, the longest river in Kenya, which rises in the Aberdare mountains and runs 708km to the Indian Ocean. From here we can visit Adamson's Falls and take a peaceful cruise along the Tana to view the wallowing hippos and prolific birdlife.

### **Day 41 - Meru National Park to Tsavo National Park**

Today we leave Meru early for the longest drive of our trip, back to Nairobi and south east to Tsavo National Park, which is separated into two sections by the main road between Mombasa on the coast and the capital Nairobi. Known independently as Tsavo East and Tsavo West, the combined area of the two is almost twelve times the size of the Maasai Mara and is one of the largest protected habitats in Africa. It is also one of the best places in Kenya to see both cheetah and leopard and is fast becoming a hunting dog hot spot. These beautiful and much maligned creatures are spotted regularly in certain areas, including from the restaurant of our first lodge at Tsavo West, which overlooks arguably the most spectacular and most visited waterhole in all of East Africa. Lion, leopard, spotted hyena and jackal can all be seen here at different times, as well as a multitude of plains animals waiting patiently to take their turn at the water's edge.

### **Days 42 to 48 - Tsavo West and Tsavo East**

Including the easy transfer between the western and eastern sections, we have seven days to admire the abundant wildlife and soak in the raw beauty of an immense and extraordinarily varied landscape. Tsavo East is the larger of the two areas and is more arid, but it is also less visited and we have an excellent chance of seeing cheetah and lion in this region, as well as beisa oryx. If leopard or rhino are your priority, we are more likely to be successful in Tsavo West, as leopards prefer the rocky outcrops and acacia forests that dominate this area and the majority of the park's black rhino population are protected here within the Ngulia Rhino Sanctuary. Given their penchant for rocky terrain, klipspringer are also common in the western section, as are yellow baboon, lesser kudu and some of the dwarf antelope, most notably dik dik, oribi and suni. We will see elephants everywhere, although a large number of the Tsavo variety will be coloured a very distinctive red hue, due to their predilection for rolling and bathing in the park's famous iron-rich red soil. One of the highlights of our stay will be the night game drives, which are always incredibly rewarding here given the contrasting habitats and large number of predators. We will also visit Mzima Springs, a beautiful crystal-clear oasis with an underwater viewing chamber to take an entirely different perspective of the resident crocodiles and hippos, and the remarkable black expanse of the Shetani lava flow in the Chyulu Hills, which is another excellent area to look for hunting dog.



### **Day 49 - Tsavo National Park to Mombasa**

After a final morning game drive we will drive west to the historic coastal city of Mombasa and its fascinating blend of Swahili, Arab and European cultures, influences and architecture.

### **Day 50 - Mombasa**

Today we will take a tour of this exotic city, including the huge iconic 'elephant tusks' on Moi Avenue, Fort Jesus, built by the Portuguese in the 16th century to protect the harbour, and Haller Park, a former limestone quarry that has been painstakingly transformed into something of an ecological oasis for a variety of animals and plants. In the evening we will better appreciate what a substantial coastal defence Fort Jesus must have been, when we take an enchanting dhow cruise past the Mombasa Old Town area, before mooring for a sumptuous dinner.

### **Day 51 - Mombasa to Diani Beach**

We have the option today of spending another morning exploring the sights of Mombasa or departing immediately after breakfast for the short drive south to the dreamlike Diani Beach, a paradise of endless white beaches and warm turquoise waters and a superb location for both snorkelling and diving. We will have four nights at a fabulous hotel on the beach, set amid beautiful manicured gardens and a myriad of connecting pools and fountains.

### **Days 52 to 54 - Diani Beach**

You can do as little or as much as you want at Diani, but one of the highlights of the area is a full-day dhow safari in Kisite Marine National Park, which includes a delicious Swahili lunch on Wasini Island and the opportunity to safely snorkel and dive the pristine coral reefs with experienced guides. Playful bottlenose dolphins are almost always encountered on the relaxing voyage to the diving area and majestic humpback whales are also spotted fairly regularly if your visit coincides with their southerly migration. Whale sharks are less common, but are seen here and if you do choose to either snorkel or dive, you can expect to see a huge variety of marine life, including turtle, octopus and any number of the 360 species of fish that thrive in this protected area. In addition to the varied boat and snorkelling trips available, other options at Diani include canoeing, horse-riding and walks in Jadini Forest, which is an important habitat for one of the last remaining populations of the Kenyan subspecies of Angola colobus monkey. The caves at Shimoni are also certainly worth visiting, not only in terms of the interesting stalactite formations and colony of bats that have made their home here, but also as a reminder of the horrendous slave trade that once flourished all over Africa. The caves at Shimoni were used as holding pens where slaves were detained in appalling conditions before being shipped further South to be sold in Zanzibar. The chains that once shackled the slaves, many of whom never survived to reach Zanzibar, still hang from the cave walls and are a particularly grim reminder of one of the most ignoble episodes in human history.



### **Day 55 - Diani Beach to Shimba Hills National Park**

Today we say a somewhat reluctant farewell to our Indian Ocean idyll and drive inland for less than an hour to Shimba Hills National Park, which protects the last population of sable antelope in Kenya. These strikingly elegant animals can be seen relatively easily, but the real secret of Shimba Hills is the tree lodge that has been built overlooking a stunning waterhole set against the forest. A nesting pair of fish eagles have taken up residence here and it is a rare treat indeed to watch these magnificent raptors swoop across the water from the terrace restaurant. The lodge also attracts, admittedly with the assistance of a few titbits, a host of nocturnal visitors including the African civet, marsh mongoose, genets and the thick-tailed greater galago, a type of large bushbaby which can often be seen

running across the restaurant tables grabbing fruit. We will almost certainly find the sable as we game drive during the day and in the late afternoon we will enjoy a short hike to a truly delightful spot to watch the sun slide gently down behind the hills.

### **Day 56 - Shimba Hills National Park**

Our only full day at Shimba Hills will include a walk to Sheldrick Falls, where we can refresh ourselves under the invigorating cascades of these relatively small, but picturesque falls, and an afternoon visit to the Mwaluganje Elephant Sanctuary, a large protected area which was established to resolve the growing conflict between the needs of the local farmers and the large number of elephants in the region.

### **Day 57 - Shimba Hills National Park to Amboseli National Park**

Today we have a long drive back through Tsavo to Amboseli National Park, where visitors for decades have photographed the wildlife and each other against probably the finest background in Africa, the mighty snow-capped Mount Kilimanjaro. In addition to providing a truly breathtaking view, the waters from Kilimanjaro feed the springs and swamps of Amboseli and ensure a high concentration of animals, including large herds of elephants.

### **Days 58 to 59 - Amboseli National Park**

Fittingly enough, the last two days of our tour will unfold under the timeless gaze of Kilimanjaro, one of Africa's great wonders. Given the predominantly arid terrain, we will concentrate our efforts on the fertile areas of swamp, where we will certainly see elephant, buffalo and hippo. Although there are not a great number of them, we are also likely to have at least one final encounter with lions and this is unquestionably the best reserve in Kenya in which you can see spotted hyena during the day, no doubt as a result of the low density of lions. Cheetah are also occasionally glimpsed and the park is a good one for both serval and caracal, two of the smaller, more elusive cats. On your final night an unforgettable bush dinner will be arranged, where you will dine by lantern light in the heart of the African bush, as local maasai warriors entertain you with a display of traditional dance.

### **Day 60 - Amboseli National Park to Nairobi**

After breakfast we drive back to Nairobi where our exciting journey finally ends. Overnight accommodation can be arranged in Nairobi depending on the departure time of your international flight.



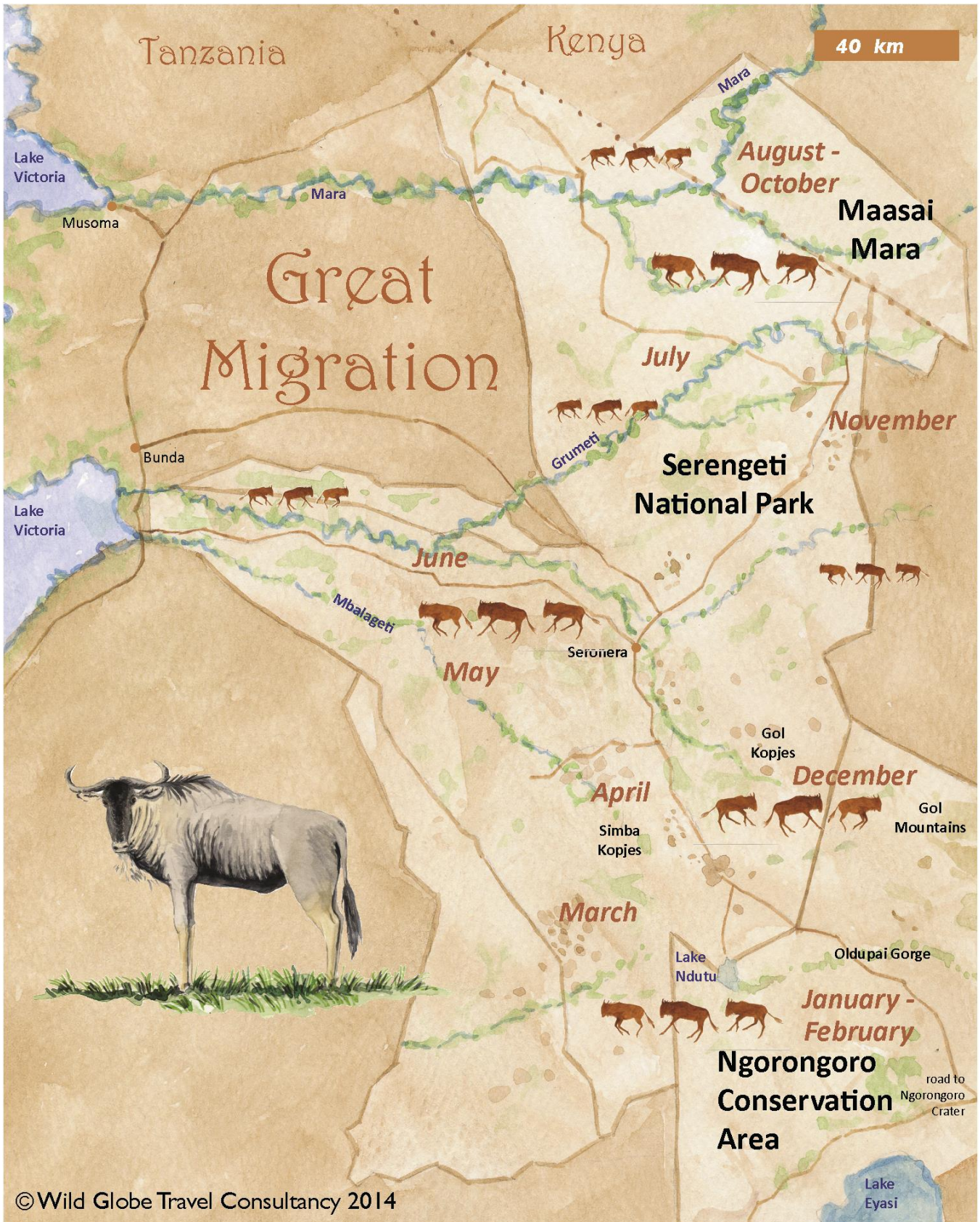
### **Additional Options**

As with all of the sample itineraries that I produce, this trip has been designed to introduce some of the options available in this beguiling country and there are of course many other absorbing destinations waiting to be discovered across Kenya, from the game reserves and lakes in the north towards Ethiopia, to the famous ruins of a sophisticated Swahili town at Gedi on the coast. With more or less something for everyone in between, Kenya is an immensely alluring land, brimming with distinct cultures, resourceful, friendly people and wonderful hospitality wherever you visit. If you prefer more time relaxing on dream-like beaches, Kenya has some of the best in the world and much the same can be said of the coral reefs and varied diving opportunities. The beaches and

islands to the north of Mombasa, most notably Watamu, Malindi, Lamu and Kiwaiyu, are particularly special. Watamu and Malindi are both marine national parks and the area between the two is a marine reserve. As such the diving and snorkelling is outstanding, with the protected coral reefs and clear waters providing an amazingly colourful spectacle for divers of every level. Whale sharks are regular visitors to the area, green and hawksbill turtles nest on the beaches and the array of different species and colours is truly remarkable. If you want to try something slightly more demanding, at 5,199m, Mount Kenya is the second highest mountain in Africa after Kilimanjaro and it offers a variety of challenging and diverse climbing possibilities on rock, snow and ice. Trips of up to eight days can be arranged for experienced climbers, but there are also shorter options for hikers with no technical climbing ability. Kenya is also easily combined with a tour of the famous Northern Circuit in Tanzania, including the Serengeti, Lake Manyara and Arusha National Parks, as well as the stunning Ngorongoro Conservation Area.







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14 Greenfield Road, Eastbourne,  
East Sussex BN21 1JJ, UK

Tel: +44 (0)1323 731865  
Mob: +44 (0)7821 640118

Email: [jason.woolgar@btinternet.com](mailto:jason.woolgar@btinternet.com)  
Website: [www.wildglobetours.com](http://www.wildglobetours.com)

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