

DESTINATION ITINERARY

Kenya + Tanzania

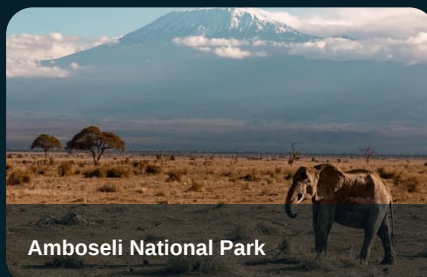
9-12 Days

From INR 4,70,000 per person

Best: Jan, Feb, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Dec

This route follows two halves of a single ecosystem. The grasslands of Kenya's Maasai Mara run without a break into Tanzania's Serengeti, and the wildebeest herds that define the region cross the border twice a year without regard for it.

FEATURED IN THIS JOURNEY



INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAY PLANNING BRIEF

Destination overview

This route follows two halves of a single ecosystem. The grasslands of Kenya's Maasai Mara run without a break into Tanzania's Serengeti, and the wildebeest herds that define the region cross the border twice a year without regard for it. Adding Tanzania brings in the Ngorongoro Crater, a collapsed volcanic caldera holding a resident population of game on its floor, the baobab country of Tarangire, and the option of finishing on Zanzibar, where Stone Town's coral-rag lanes and spice plantations lie an hour's flight from the plains. It is a long trip with border formalities, light-aircraft hops and early starts, and it asks more in time and stamina than a single country. It suits committed wildlife travellers, photographers and couples who would rather go deep once than sample twice.

PACKAGE DURATION

9-12 Days

STARTING PRICE

From INR 4,70,000 per person

BEST TIME

Peak: Jan, Feb, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Dec | Shoulder: Mar, Nov | Avoid: Apr, May

TRIP TYPES

wildlife, beach

8 APPROVED SUBLOCATIONS

Places you'll visit


Maasai Mara National Reserve
NATIONAL PARK | FULL DAY

Kenya's flagship reserve, a mix of open grassland and riverine forest in the country's south-west. Morning and evening drives search for big cats, elephant and rhino, and the Mara River crossings draw crowds when migrating herds arrive. Conservancies bordering the reserve permit walking and night drives that the reserve itself does not.


Amboseli National Park
NATIONAL PARK | FULL DAY

A dry basin of alkaline flats and spring-fed swamps beneath Kilimanjaro, close to the Tanzanian border. Elephants gather in the marshes through the day and are unusually easy to watch at close range, and the mountain is generally clearest at dawn before cloud builds over its summit.


Lake Nakuru
LAKE | HALF DAY

A soda lake on the floor of the Great Rift Valley, enclosed by a compact national park. Flamingo numbers fluctuate with water level and are no longer dependable, but the park is a stronghold for both black and white rhino and holds buffalo, giraffe and lions that rest in the acacias.



Serengeti National Park

NATIONAL PARK | FULL DAY

Tanzania's vast plains reserve, the southern extension of the same grassland system as the Maasai Mara. Game viewing shifts with the season as the herds move north and south, while the central Seronera valley holds resident predators year-round. Balloon flights over the plains launch before sunrise.



Ngorongoro Crater

NATURE RESERVE | FULL DAY

The floor of a collapsed volcanic caldera in northern Tanzania, reached by a steep descent road from the forested rim. The enclosed grassland, soda lake and swamp support a dense resident population of game, including some of the region's last black rhino. Drives on the floor are usually limited to part of a day.



Zanzibar (Stone Town and beaches)

ISLAND | FULL DAY

An Indian Ocean island off the Tanzanian coast. Stone Town's narrow lanes hold carved doors, the former slave market site and a seafront night market, reflecting Omani, Indian and Swahili influence, while the east and north coasts offer white sand, reefs and tidal flats where seaweed is farmed.



Tarangire National Park

NATIONAL PARK | FULL DAY

A park along the Tarangire River in northern Tanzania, recognisable by its broad baobabs and tall termite mounds. In the dry months game concentrates along the river, with large elephant herds; birdlife is exceptional, and the park usually falls between Arusha and the crater on a northern circuit.



Stone Town, Zanzibar

HISTORIC DISTRICT | HALF TO FULL DAY

Stone Town's lanes, carved doors and trading history add an urban cultural chapter to a wildlife-led journey. It is usually sequenced after the mainland safari and paired with a beach stay on Zanzibar.

7 DAYS

Suggested day-by-day plan

01

DAY 1

Maasai Mara National Reserve

Visit Maasai Mara National Reserve.

02

DAY 2

Amboseli National Park

Visit Amboseli National Park.

03

DAY 3

Lake Nakuru

Visit Lake Nakuru.

04

DAY 4

Serengeti National Park

Visit Serengeti National Park.

05

DAY 5

Ngorongoro Crater

Visit Ngorongoro Crater.

06

DAY 6

Zanzibar (Stone Town and beaches)

Visit Zanzibar (Stone Town and beaches).

07

DAY 7

Tarangire National Park

Visit Tarangire National Park.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Travel essentials

CURRENCY

Kenya uses the Kenyan shilling and Tanzania the Tanzanian shilling. Cards work at larger lodges, while cash is useful for tips and curio markets.

LANGUAGE

Swahili is spoken across both countries and English is widely used in lodges, guiding and signage, so language is rarely a barrier.

TIME DIFFERENCE

Kenya and Tanzania are both 2 hours 30 minutes behind Indian Standard Time (IST).

WEATHER

Warm days and cool nights across the highland reserves and crater rim, with long rains around March to May and shorter rains falling in November.

CONNECTIVITY

Local SIMs are cheap in both countries and eSIMs are supported, though coverage thins inside the Serengeti and Mara, where lodges provide Wi-Fi.

VISA AND PERMITS

Ordinary Indian passport holders should obtain Kenya's approved Electronic Travel Authorisation before travel unless exempt. Tanzania permits eligible Indian passport holders to apply online and also lists visa-on-arrival access, but online completion is recommended; confirm the border sequence for both countries.

Food and culture

Everyday meals across Kenya and Tanzania pair ugali with greens, beans or grilled meat; Zanzibar and the coast add coconut, tamarind, pilau and biryani. Vegetarian food is manageable with notice, and halal food is standard along the Swahili coast. Dress modestly in Stone Town and ask before photographing people.

AIR, RAIL AND ROAD

Getting there from India

AIR

Nairobi and Kilimanjaro are practical gateways, with Zanzibar or Dar es Salaam useful for coastal extensions. Flights from India may require a connection.

RAIL

There is no practical rail route from India. Rail within East Africa does not replace the border and safari transfers required by this circuit.

ROAD

The two-country route uses road border crossings and/or regional flights. Confirm the crossing, vehicle change and visa sequence before finalising the itinerary.

Official guidance: Kenya official eTA portal - <https://etakenya.go.ke/how-to-apply> (checked 2026-08-30)

Official guidance: Tanzania Immigration visa guidelines - <https://visa.immigration.go.tz/guidelines> (checked 2026-08-30)

FROM OUR PLANNERS

Practical notes

- Two currencies apply - Kenyan and Tanzanian shillings - while newer US dollar notes are widely accepted for park fees and tips.
- Both countries drive on the left, but the Namanga and Isebania border posts cost hours, so many itineraries use a light-aircraft hop between the Mara and the Serengeti instead.
- Bush flights impose strict baggage limits, usually soft-sided bags of around fifteen kilogrammes, so leave hard suitcases behind in Nairobi or Arusha.
- Tip the driver-guide separately from the lodge staff box; a daily amount per guest is the convention across East Africa.
- June to October is the driest and the classic safari window; the long rains from March to May make park tracks difficult and close some seasonal camps.
- Cover shoulders and knees in Stone Town, where the population is largely Muslim, and keep beachwear to the resort strips on the east coast.

**PLAN WITH ORBITZ HOLIDAYS**

Orbitz Holidays Pvt. Ltd.
B-7/37(S) Central Park, Kalyani, West Bengal 741235, India
Phone: +91 98304 89892
Email: info@orbitzholidays.com
Website: www.orbitzholidays.com

Explore
Experience
Remember

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