



July/August 2017 - The Great Migration & Gorillas of Rwanda Safari
*Sample Dates- Choose your own dates for this safari**

July 12/Day 01 - Depart the USA for your overnight flight to Tanzania, East Africa. Depending on what route you would like or Airline will determine your exact flight path and arrival time. We will assist you in planning this once we are 10 months prior to the date.

July 13/Day 02 - Welcome to Tanzania, East Africa! You will de-plane on the tarmac walk to the arrivals hall where you will need your Yellow Fever Vaccine booklet (ONLY IF YOUR FLYING THROUGH ADDIS ABABA) and then proceed to customs where you will pay \$100 for your Visa. After customs you will collect your luggage and exit the airport where my team (Including Aenea and Myself) will be there to welcome you to Tanzania. We will drive around 70 minutes to Arusha Town where we will stay the next two nights.

Overnight: [Mount Meru Hotel](#)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

July 14/Day 03 - This morning you can sleep in, have a wonderful breakfast with the best coffee around, check some email as WIFI is available or just enjoy the lovely grounds of the hotel. Either way today is a very leisure day. We will make a visit to the upcountry on Meru Mountain where we will visit Aenea's Father and Bebe (Grandmother) for a little while. We will show you how local life goes and just how peaceful and content the people live. We can then drop by the Tumannini Orphanage where we are adopting our Son and see the 50+ children before making our way back to the Hotel to freshen up. Later that evening will be treated to a home cooked feast at Aenea's home where you will get to meet his lovely wife and children. This is always a highlight of our clients trip and

nothing you will get booking with a retailer. Our goal is personalization and this truly defines that. After dinner we will head back to the Hotel and get some rest as the next morning we start our journey to the Bush.



July 15/Day 04- Arusha - Tarangire National Park

This morning we will have breakfast at the hotel before heading out to Tarangire for the next two nights. The drive is around 3 hours with most being tarmac highway. The drive is very scenic and builds as we go until we reach the gates of the National Park. We will stop and have a nice picnic lunch and game drive until late afternoon where we

will make our way to the Lodge. Depending on the time we may drive straight to the Lodge in time for a hot lunch and then game drive the late afternoon until dark. The beauty of going with Gerling Safaris is we have the flexibility to make our own schedule as we go.

Overnight: [Sopa Tarangire Lodge](#)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner



July 16/Day 05- Tarangire National Park

This morning we will have breakfast at the Lodge and then head out for a full day game drive. We will pack a picnic lunch so we can maximize our time in the bush looking for the wildlife. This National Park is a great place for Elephant, Lion, and Cheetah and we have seen many Leopards here as well. The area is

simply gorgeous and we will travel quite a bit of ground so we can experience the diversity of Tarangire. Since the National Park's close at 6:00PM we will always begin heading towards the Lodge around that time so we will be back for showers and dinner at a decent hour. Life in the bush can be exhausting as your sensory receptors are constantly being challenged by the diverse beauty of the flora and fauna and wildlife. A good night's rest is always in order!

Overnight: [Sopa Tarangire Lodge](#)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

July 17/Day 06- Tarangire - Lake Manyara - Ngorongoro Crater

Today we will have a full breakfast at the lodge before heading out to Lake Manyara for a day trip through this beautiful hidden gem. We will have a nice picnic lunch inside the Park at a designated picnic site. We will game drive for the day and in the late afternoon make our way up to Ngorongoro. This is one of my all time favorite destinations in Africa. The highlands are incredibly beautiful and we will ascend up to 8000 feet on the East Rim of the Crater. The Ngorongoro Crater is the largest intact caldera on Earth with the floor covering 100 square miles of space. Home to some 20,000 animals the “crater” is one of the seven natural wonders of Africa. We will have a brief stop at the Entracne gate where our drivers will collect our permits for the 2 days we will spend inside the Conservation area. Once we reach the Rim we will stop for a picture overlooking the floor of the crater and then proceed another 45 minutes to the Lodge. Upon arrival we will be greeted with a wet towel and a welcome smile by the amazing staff. I will get your room keys and a Porter will escort you to your room. After taking a well deserved hot shower we can meet in the bar for a drink or a few minutes of WIFI and then onto dinner in the dining room.

Overnight: [Sopa Ngorongoro](#)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner



July 18/Day 07 - Ngorongoro Crater

This morning we will start off very early as the gates open at 06:00 AM which is imperative we arrive at this time to get down to the floor before sunrise. There is a 2000 foot descent down to the floor where we will spend the entire day game driving. The Crater is home to more than 20000 resident game and has a two distinct pride of lions and a several clans of the Spotted Hyena. We will take a picnic breakfast and lunch with us to maximize our game viewing time. At the end of the day we will have the option to visit a local Maasai Village which is back on the rim or we may do this on the way to the Serengeti the following day. Once again having the flexibility to make decisions day to day is wonderful. Dinner will be at the Lodge.

Overnight: [Sopa Ngorongoro](#)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

July 19/Day 08 - Ngorongoro - Serengeti National Park

This morning we will say goodbye to this amazing destination and start our journey to the Serengeti National Park, home to the [World's largest mammal migration](#). We will game drive through the Ngorongoro Highlands, have a brief stop at the Oldupai Gorge, and a picnic lunch before arriving at the Naabi Hill gate of the Serengeti. At the gate we will have a few minutes to kill while the drivers obtain the necessary permit permits. As this can take up to an hour there is a nice walking path around the area and a few gift shops we can check out. I will be having my traditional Red Bull energy drink and a coconut chocolate bar and you are welcome to join me on this Gerling Safari tradition! We will game drive a few hours and begin learning about the Serengeti. We will make our way to camp for an arrival before dusk. This will be a stopover night as our ultimate destination is the far Northern Serengeti which is too far to drive to in one day. Dinner will be at the Camp. Our accommodation will be a rustic canvas bush tent which has a flush toilet and bush shower. This is a very traditional style of lodging for the Serengeti and preferred by most.

Overnight: [Wilderness Camp](#)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

July 20/21/22/Days 09/10/11: Seronera Serengeti - Kogatende Serengeti

This morning we will have an early hot breakfast before making our way through the Serengeti which is a game drive in the making. We will head Northwest until we reach the imaginary border of the Serengeti where we will then exit the Park and drive through a few local villages. We will reach the northern border of the Park and have lunch before driving into the Park and ultimately arriving at our tented camp. This terrain will be vastly different than the Central (Seronera) region of the Serengeti and this is the highest plateau of the Serengeti. Up here we will be patrolling the banks of the Crocodile infested Mara River in search of a Migration herd crossing the river. Our camp will be the same set up as the previous night. The wildlife is truly awesome in this remote land. We will spend the next 3 nights here in search of the Great Migration herds of Wildebeest and

predators that hunt them. We will huddle around the fire every night sharing stories and enjoying the sounds of the bush and star gazing the crystal clear African night.

Overnight: [Wilderness Camp](#)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

July 23/Day 12: Kogatende Serengeti - Arusha

This morning we will say our farewells to our amazing drivers as they drop us off at the Airstrip for our short flight back to Arusha. We will be picked up and driven to a local shopping center where we can purchase any last minute curios, art and Tanzanite. We will have a farewell lunch at my partners home where we will be treated to one last amazing African meal. We will then head to the International Airport for your flights back to the USA. (ANYONE interested in going to see the Mountain Gorillas in Rwanda would depart to Kigali from Kogatende)

RWANDA OPTIONAL EXTENSION

July 23/Day 12 – You would still fly from the Northern Serengeti but instead of going back to Arusha you would fly to Mwanza, Tanzania and then onto Kigali, Rwanda. Upon arrival at Kigali International Airport, we will be met by our drivers, outside the airport arrivals section and transferred to your hotel.

Accommodation: [Kigali Serena](#)

Meals: Breakfast and Lunch on own this evening for dinner

July 24/Day 13: Kigali/ Parc National de Volcans

This morning we can relax, sleep in and make our way to breakfast at the hotel.

Sometime in the morning we will enjoy a City Tour of Kigali.

The history of Rwanda dates back centuries, Kigali has been a part of it for 100 years. Founded in 1907 as a German settlement, Kigali did not become the capital until Rwanda's independence in 1962 when it replaced the colonial seat of power in Butare.

Visit the Kandt museum, see old Kigali and the craft centres then visit the genocide memorial site. Learn about Rwanda's history from pre-colonial times to the 1994 genocide; learn about other genocides in the world and how this country has dealt with that past. Tour more and see the new developments in Rwanda; the recovery has been incredible, a testament to humankind's resilience.

We will depart on a scenic drive North West through the beautiful terraced hillsides that display Rwanda's landscape.

Arrive at Ruhengeri, the base for Gorilla trekking at the Parc National des Volcans. The town itself is located only 25km from Uganda boarder, is relatively a small city of about 70,000 people. The constant flow of humanity is quite remarkable. The Town has great views of the surrounding volcanoes. People are very friendly here and although a former Belgian colony (and thus French-speaking), many people speak English here.

Overnight: [Mountain Gorilla View Lodge](#)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

July 26/Day 14 - Parc National de Volcans – Golden Monkey Trekking –



Early breakfast at our lodge.

0630 hrs: transfer to the Volcanoes National Park HQs

07:00 Arrive Park Headquarters. The trekking for the Monkeys is only in the lower bamboo forest of the Mountain so we will walk through the fields and cross into the Bamboo Forest. We will find the Monkeys and hang with them for an hour.

These beautiful primates are very passive and will show no aggression to the tourist. This will be a nice introduction into the Forest as the next morning we will go higher and deeper to see the Gorillas.

We will return to the Lodge in time for lunch. In the afternoon we will take a ride and visit the Burera and Ruhondo lakes and take a hike to see some local people. We will have a cold beverage at Virunga Lodge before heading back to our Lodge. This is optional.

OPTIONAL In the evening, we can partake in an Intore, Cultural Dancers troupe will spice your stay with memorable Rwandan dances. (\$40 per person paid in cash onsite)

Overnight: [Mountain Gorilla View Lodge](#)



July 27/Day 16: *Parc National de Volcans – Mountain Gorilla Trekking*

Early breakfast at your lodge.

0630 hrs: transfer to the Volcanoes National Park HQs

0700 hrs: Registration, where the park staff determines which group of gorillas you will visit. The park staff discusses your fitness level and advises you of the trekking times and conditions to the

various groups based upon their location in the park the previous evening. There are a total of 80 gorilla permits available each day with a maximum of eight trekkers visiting any one group.

Once the trekkers are put into groups, each group's Lead Guide briefs the trekkers of the trekking procedures as well as the "do's and don'ts" while in the presence of gorillas. After the briefing, trekkers return to their respective vehicles for the drive up the mountain to the starting point. Porters will be hired for the trek to carry your backpack and gear.

Trekking can take from two to six or more hours if the gorillas move before the park rangers locate them the next morning. The guides stop frequently to allow trekkers a chance to rest and take photos along the way.

Depending on how long it takes you to Trek for the Gorillas will determine how our afternoon goes. Ultimately we will all have lunch at the lodge when we are done.

Overnight: [Mountain Gorilla View lodge](#)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

July 27/Day 17: *Parc National de Volcans – Kigali – Depart to USA*

This morning we will have breakfast at the lodge and a leisure morning before driving back to Kigali. We will book your return flight to the USA for

the evening time but if your flight ends up being earlier we will deal with those on an individual basis. The driver will stop somewhere for a lunch break which will be on your own cost and if you want to do any shopping before leaving we can arrange that as well. My suggested flight on Ethiopian Airlines departs around 10:00PM. This will end your time in East Africa and we know you will have loved every minute of this One of a Kind adventure.

SAFARI INCLUDES:

- **Deluxe Hotels, Lodges and Bush Camps per itinerary**
- **All Internal flights in Tanzania (& Rwanda if applicable)**
- **All Meals per itinerary plus coffee and tea service in the mornings and afternoon**
- **All transfers to and from airports in Africa with private vehicles**
- **Private drivers with two custom Land Cruisers**
- **One Gorilla permit per person, One Golden Monkey permit per person (IF applicable)**
- **All excursions, tours, cultural outings, Maasai visit per Itinerary where stated**
- **Unlimited Game drives per itinerary**
- **Bottled Waters, Sodas and Beer in our vehicles in TANZANIA
Bottled Water and snacks while in Rwanda.**
- **Gerling Safaris T-Shirt, luggage tags and travel kit**
- **Gerling Safari suggested packing list**

EXCLUDES:

- **Travel Insurance is mandatory (Gerling Safaris can assist)**
- **International Airfare to and From Africa (Gerling Safaris can assist)**
- **Hot Air Balloon Ride in Serengeti (Add \$499 pp)**
- **Drinks at the lodges, camps, hotels are additional (Sodas, Beer, wine spirits)**

- Any purchases at the lodges for gifts, spa services etc...

Required Vaccines:

Yellow Fever - Can be obtained through the County Health Department. (If flying through Addis Ababa) not required if your coming directly from Europe.)

Malaria Pills are highly recommended (doxycycline is my choice)

- **Safari Cost** is based **PER PERSON** with two sharing a room:

\$5600.00

RWANDA EXTENSION COST is based **PER PERSON** with two sharing a room:

\$3600.00

- We require a **\$2000 Deposit** per person paid by check to Gerling Travel.
- Balance is paid at 60 days prior to your departure by check.
- Any Cancellations made you forfeit the deposit. If you cancel after the 60 days there are no refunds but you can claim your loss through your Travel Insurance.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you and your friends with this truly life changing experience in East Africa. Feel free to compare my quote to any other using the SAME lodging