# Walking in the Maasai Lands of Kenya

Trip Code: KML

Version:

| WALK & TREK | GUIDED GROUP | LEISURELY |
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## HIGHLIGHTS

- Unique 3 day trek through the rural Chyulu Hills with Maasai guides and unrivalled views of nearby Kilimanjaro
- Simply stunning African wildlife in Amboseli National Park, famous for its elephant population
- Walk in the Loita Hills with the charismatic Maasai warriors and learn about their culture and traditions at a remote tented camp

- Experience the jewel of Kenya's safaris at the Masai Mara Game Reserve home to the African Big 5

### AT A GLANCE

- 3 day trek / 3 day walks
- 4 days with safari game drives or boat trips / sightseeing and cultural visits
- Max altitude 2000m
- Join at Nairobi

### ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

# Introduction

Bringing Kenya to life we present our new walking and safari trip in magnificent East Africa. We walk with the Maasai on a three day trek across the rural and rolling Chyulu Hills. These are the foothills of the mighty Kilimanjaro, which is never far out of our sight. The tall and colourfully dressed Maasai will guide us along paths usually only reserved for the wildlife. Wild camping for these nights offers a true adventure. Passing Lake Magadi allows us to spot flamingo and hippo and in the Loita Hills we walk and spend time with the charismatic Maasai warriors of the Loita tribe. In a remote tented camp we will learn about their culture and help to support their livelihoods. The icing on our Kenyan cake are the safaris in Amboseli National Park and the Masai Mara, which are in a class of their own. It is likely that we will see all manner of African wildlife including the big 5: elephant, lion, buffalo, rhino and leopard as well as numerous zebra, giraffe and antelope. Wildebeest of course feature greatly during their migration through the Mara. This is no ordinary safari, but a real adventure across the heart of East Africa. It's unique and will not disappoint.

## Is this holiday for you?

We have a 3 day trek which involves walks of 4-5 hours. There are no set paths in the Chyulu Hills so we walk on wildlife trails. We wild camp for 2 nights, which is vehicle supported with our main baggage and a cheerful crew (they sing and smile a lot in this area!). When in the Chyulu Hills we will be escorted by an armed ranger. We have a further 3 day walks throughout the trip which are also between 3-5 hours. One of these walks will carry our overnight belongings (no bedding, just toothbrush, PJ's etc). We have several long journeys in the minibus and in our 4WD vehicle of up to a max of 8 hours in one day. It is likely that these 4WD journeys will be bumpy and dusty. The distances are not enormous but the road conditions are not the best, especially when we access the exciting remote places. Estimated drive times at the end of each day include rest stops. For the during of our game drives we are also in the vehicles travelling slowly or at a standstill looking at lions, elephants, wildebeest...

# Itinerary

Version:

# Holiday Information

## What's Included

- A professional and qualified tour leader
- Specialist Maasai guides for days as specified
- Single timed airport transfers on arrival and departure
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as per the Meal Plan
- All land transport involved in the itinerary
- Parks fees
- All activities/excursions mentioned except where specified as 'optional'

## What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Visas
- Some meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as 'optional'
- Tips
- Miscellaneous personal expenditure - drinks and souvenirs etc

## Joining Arrangements & Transfers

A single transfer from Nairobi International Airport to the first nights lodge is provided in the morning of Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary. This transfer is timed to meet passengers arriving on the Kenyan Airlines flights which arrives first thing in the morning from London Heathrow Airport. As this is a 3 hour journey there is not an option for a private transfer. You can arrive the day before and overnight at an additional cost.

On the last day of the Land Only itinerary, there will be a single transfer back to Nairobi Airport timed for the check in of the morning return Kenya Airways flight to London.

On the return, if your flight schedules do not fit with these single timed airport transfers we can provide private transfers at an additional cost. Taxis are also readily available.

## Meal Plan

All meals (from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 14) except for 1 lunch and 1 dinner in Nairobi, are included in the holiday price.

## Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide for special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your meals with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

## Food & Water

### Drinking Water

It is not recommended to drink untreated water from the taps. If you are on a trekking or cycling holiday, water is supplied to fill up your individual bottles. This will be boiled, filtered or provided in large jerry cans or 5 litre bottles. Additionally you should take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a Water-To-Go bottle) to treat your water when in towns or where water is not supplied. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

Traditional dishes can be delicious and flavoursome and include beans, corn, kale, stews, coconut rice, Kenyan chapatis and bhajias (influences from India) and of course we need to taste the Mandazi which are Kenyan doughnuts. Yum! In the larger lodges which we stay in there is usually a variety of food for all tastes including international cuisine such as chips, burger, fruit and ice cream. Breakfasts are usually cereals, coffee and toast or the occasional fried eggs etc. Lunches are cheese, cold meats, salads on bread or rolls. We do cater for some special dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian or allergies.). However it is essential that you inform us of any dietary requirements on booking. All beverages will be at your own expense.

## Accommodation

This holiday has 9 nights staying at variety of different guesthouses, lodges, tented lodges and hotels. Often they have an African style to them with colourful traditional blankets, ornaments and smiling friendly staff. The rooms are twin/double and mainly with en suite facilities. Some of the accommodations have a bar and a swimming pool.

When at a tented lodge you will stay in classic canvas safari tents usually with twin beds and en suite facilities. It is built on a permanent base (concrete or wood platform) and might have a thatch roof, or just be canvas.

When in the Chyulu Hills we wild camp in the bush for 2 nights. Tents will be erected and a full camping service is provided, all equipment except for sleeping bags is included. We use 3 person dome tents on a twin share bases. Facilities are basic with a toilet tent, and a 'bush shower' (essentially a bag of water heated in the sun with a shower head) and campfires. We can only have campfires here at certain times of the year, if the weather is too dry then we cannot due to safety.

The 1 night at the guesthouse at Nguruman escarpment is simple as there is little accommodation in this remote village. The rooms are twin or single and are en suite.

The 2 nights at the Maasai Olkoroi camp in the Loita Hills is very special, as it is a remote Maasai camp with outdoor and simple living. This is a fixed camp arrangement with simple Africa style, twin or triple tents, permanently erected on platforms. The facilities not en suite and are basic, with bucket showers with warm water and a compost toilet. There are a limited number of the fixed tents available and we will take our own tents (which we used in the Chyulu Hills) as well. Sundowners of beers, G&T and soft drinks are always available. All the staff are local Maasai from the nearby village, and the camp is fully community owned.

Below are examples of the accommodation that we intend to use. However all accommodation is subject to change without prior warning.
1 night at Hunters Lodge in Kikobo, 2 nights wild camping (no ensuite), 1 night at Kibo Slopes Guest House in Loitokitok, 1 night Kibo Safari camp outside Amboseli, 1 night Lerruat Log Resort in Kumpa, 1 night at the simple Nguruman Guest house, 2 nights at the unique Olkoroi Camp (no ensuite), 2 nights at Osero Camp at the Masai Mara, 1 night at Elsamere camp at Lake Naivasha and in Nairobi at Heron Hotel.

If you are travelling by yourself, you will be paired up with another single client of the same sex. Single hotel rooms and a limited number of single tents are available for a supplementary cost. If you are planning on extending your holiday additional nights at the group hotel are available on request.

## Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be accompanied by a local English speaking professional guide. In addition at various places the group will also have a local area expert. These include the individual Maasai guides, who wear their traditional dress, in the Chyulu Hills, Nguruman and the Loita Hills.

## Altitude

This holiday does not involve any significant ascent to altitude and we would not expect any altitude issues with this trip.

## Spending Money

Approximately £150 per person (or equivalent in US dollars or Euros) should be allowed for non-included meals, tips, soft drinks and miscellaneous expenses. Visas, alcoholic drinks, souvenirs and optional activities are additional so you may wish to budget for these. You can choose to take your money in Pounds Sterling, Dollars or Euros, however US Dollars are the preferred currency. There will be the opportunity to change money into local currency on arrival at the airport and your leader will advise the best places to change money en-route. Credit cards are useful and it is a good idea to carry one in case of emergency.

## Optional extras:

All prices are subject to change without prior notice.

- Maasai porter to carry your rucksack (max 10kg) for the 3-4 hr walk on day 8: Approximately $30
- Giraffe Centre: $10
- Karen Blixen Museum: $12

## Guidance on Tipping

Tips are the accepted way of saying ‘thank you’ to your local guides. They do not form part of their wages, any tips they receive are seen as a personal thank you from group members. We suggest around $10-15 per day per group, for each of the following: main guide, local Maasai guide, driver and cook.

## Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. You should bring a soft bag, as these are more suitable to pack in the vehicle. There is one day when you will have to carry your overnight belongings (no sleeping equipment, just toothbrush, spare socks, PJ’s etc). The walk is only 3-4 hrs. You should have a suitable rucksack for this. It is possible to hire a porter for this short walk if you wish. For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

Please be aware that plastic/polythene bags are illegal in Kenya. The law says that they are not allowed to be manufactured, imported, used or sold in Kenya (since Aug 2017).

## Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in the ‘Dates and Prices’ table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

# General Information

## Passport & Visas

**The information that we provide is for UK passport holders.**

A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required**,** and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

For other nationalities, please refer to your own Government website for the latest information.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates** *(see Health & Vaccinations below),* **and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check the FCDO for the latest advice for **each country visited** before travel.

**Visas Kenya**

You need a visa to enter Kenya. This is obtained online as an e-visa, prior to departure via the Kenyan Government e-visa portal. Visas are not available on arrival.

If you are travelling overland from Kenya into Tanzania, and then back into Kenya (and not leaving East Africa) you will only require a single entry visa for Kenya.

If you are travelling to Zanzibar you will also need to purchase specific insurance (as well as your standard travel insurance), through the Visit Zanzibar website - Visit Zanzibar

If the children (under 18yrs) with whom you are travelling have a different surname to yours, you should consider taking with you the child's full birth certificate. It is not a requirement, but some border personnel in Kenya as well as the UK, may request to see it when travelling to/from Africa.

## Health & Vaccinations

**Vaccinations:**

You should be up to date with the routine vaccinations recommended in the UK for overseas travel.

You must also contact your doctor or travel clinic to check if there are specific vaccinations or other preventive measures that you need for the area you are visiting, in good time before you are due to depart.

Please ensure you are looking at the recommendations for all countries visited on your holiday plus recommendations for any borders you cross.

On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dental check-up.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates.**

**Please check the FCDO and Travel Health Pro. For all of your intended destinations for up-to-date advice.**

**Severe Allergies:**

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips.

## Currency

The unit of currency in Kenya is the Kenyan Shilling.

Do not take $100 bills, take $50 bills instead. All USD bills pre-2013 are not welcome. They prefer 2017 and onwards.

## Preparing for your Holiday

Getting some additional exercise before coming on an active holiday makes a lot of sense. The fitter you are, after all, the more enjoyable you will find the experience.

## Climate

Rainy season from November through May, with peak rainfall in December-January and April-May. Dry season from June-November. Often sunny mornings with cloud build-up in the afternoons - during the rains this develops into thunderstorms in the afternoon and evening. Max temperatures up to 30°C and min temperatures around 20°C.

## Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's **'Travel Aware'** campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. All other nationalities should check their government websites for relevant information.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

## Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

## Private Groups Information

**Make this KE Adventure holiday your own!**

- Do our normal group departure dates not fit?
- Would you prefer to travel with just friends and/or family?
- Are you looking to organise a trip for your local walking, biking or mountaineering club?

It's really easy to make a trip your own. Simply select from our full range of adventure holidays and choose the dates that work for you and your group.

We are experts in creating holidays for groups of friends, families, charities and clubs. Our personal service means you'll be fully involved as we make the arrangements for your perfect adventure holiday.

**Independence with Security**

Travelling as a KE Private Group allows you more flexibility and choice, but still with the peace of mind that everything is pre-planned and arranged for your group by a reputable adventure travel company.

To take your first step to an amazing adventure with your friends and family complete the private group enquiry form, or call our **Sales Experts on: 017687 73966**

### Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our Travel Insurance page for further information and to get a quote.

# Equipment Information

### Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

### You should bring the following items:

- Comfortable walking shoes or boots
- Trainers and/or sandals
- Lightweight trousers / shorts / skirt
- T-shirts and/or casual shirts (wicking ones are good for the heat, and long sleeved shirts with collars for sun protection are recommended)
- Socks & Underwear
- Fleece jacket
- Lightweight waterproof jacket & trousers
- Sunhat with wide brim
- Warm hat
- Sunglasses
- Daypack 20 to 30 litres
- Sleeping bag (comfort rating 0C).**
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Water bottles 1 Litre x2 (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Washbag and toiletries
- Antibacterial handwash
- Insect repellent
- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Small camp towel
- Swimwear
- Binoculars
- Basic First Aid Kit including : Antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters, blister treatment, antihistamine cream and tablets, and re-hydration salts

## The following items are optional:

- Thermarest
- Sleeping bag liner (essential if using a hired sleeping bag)
- Pen-knife (note: always pack sharp objects in hold baggage)
- Camera
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

## Notes:

*A 3cm thick roll-matt or karri-matt is provided for the 2 camping nights, however you may wish to supplement this with your own thermarest.

**A limited number of sleeping bags are available for hire free of charge in country. If you are happy to bring your own then please do. Please contact the office for further information.

Please be aware that plastic/polythene bags are illegal in Kenya. The law says that they are not allowed to be manufactured, imported, used or sold in Kenya (since Aug 2017).

Mosquito nets are provided at all accommodations.

## Land Only Information

Please refer to the 'Joining Arrangements & Transfers' within Holiday Information for further details.

Flights and other transport to your destination should not be booked until you have received your booking confirmation and the departure is showing 'Guaranteed to Run' or 'Limited'.

## Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary joining in Nairobi, Kenya. For clients making their own flight arrangements, Nairobi Jomo Kenyatta International Airport is the most convenient for transfers to the group hotel. Please refer to the 'Joining arrangements & transfers' for further details.

Flights SHOULD NOT be booked until you have received your booking confirmation and the departure is showing 'Guaranteed to Run' or 'Limited'.

## Flight Inclusive Information

Limited seats are available at the advertised flight price, please book as early as you can. If we are unable to secure seats at the price shown, or you have requested regional departures and/or upgrades, we will provide you with an alternative quote. It is likely that flight payment will be in advance of your final holiday balance. Booking a flight inclusive package means you will benefit from full financial protection, eases your holiday planning, and leaves us to deal with airlines and schedule changes. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will offset the carbon of your flight.

Regional departures and/or alternative carriers are available on request.

### Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London (Heathrow) to Nairobi with Kenyan Airways. Outbound flights will depart from the UK in the evening, arriving in the morning of the following day (Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary). Return flights will depart in the morning of the last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK later than afternoon. Regional departures and/or alternative carriers are available on request.

To avoid paying more for your flight, we recommend that you book as early as possible, especially during peak times as there are only a limited number of seats available at the advertised price. If we are unable to secure seats at the price shown, or you have requested regional departures, we will contact you with an alternative quote. We are also able to quote for premium, business and first class seats. Please be aware that you may be asked to pay for your flights in advance of your final holiday balance. Remember if you book a package including flights with KE you will benefit from full financial protection.

# Why Choose KE

### Why KE

This is a unique guided group trip in the UK market. Walking with the Maasai guides and warriors helps support their traditional livelihoods. We visit remote and rural areas allowing us special cultural interactions. And also including the splendid wildlife of Amboseli NP and the Mara.

**Please Note** This document was downloaded on 12/11/2026 and the trip is subject to change