

# WILDLIFE TRAVEL

12th-23rd April 2026 (12 days)

## TANZANIA

### "The Great Migration" Serengeti safari

"amazing spectacle...  
a fascinating experience,  
with the animals at close  
quarters"

"wonderful"

Tanzania 2017

**Enjoy a classic East African safari, following one of the world's great wildlife spectacles, the migration of millions of grazing animals.**

The centrepiece of this holiday will be our time spent in the Serengeti National Park. Here, with the plains stretching to the horizon, we will watch the annual migration of vast herds of Blue Wildebeest, together with Plains Zebra and both Thomson's and Grant's Gazelles as they move in search of fresh grazing. The herds in turn attract predators, and we should enjoy memorable encounters with Lions, Cheetahs and Leopards.

Our journey starts in the shadow of two impressive volcanic mountains, Meru and Kilimanjaro. We will spend some time in Arusha National Park, where the montane forest is home to charismatic colobus monkeys. From here we head west, visiting Tarangire National Park, where African Elephants browse beneath bizarre, 'upside down' baobab trees. At Lake Manyara we will find thousands of Lesser Flamingos, a sea of pink in this Rift Valley lake. And we will end our tour of northern Tanzania with a stay on the rim of the famous Ngorongoro Crater. The crater is home to an estimated 25,000 large mammals, including the highest density of Lions in the world, as well as Black Rhinoceros.

While an obvious focus of our trip will be the iconic big mammals, we will also be paying plenty of attention to the smaller fayre, including butterflies, reptiles and, of course, the birds, with impressive local specialties including African Pygmy Falcon, Fischer's and Yellow-collared Lovebirds, Schalow's and Hartlaub's Turacos.

The **ultimate wildlife holiday**, a must-see destination, staying in top quality lodges in some stunning locations.



#### Price

£7,225

#### Single Room Supplement

£540

#### Full board

**Day 1** flight to Kilimanjaro  
**Day 2** Arusha National Park  
**Day 3-4** Tarangire National Park  
**Day 5** travel to Nduvu  
**Day 6** Nduvu  
**Day 7-9** Serengeti National Park  
**Day 10** Olduvai Gorge  
**Day 11** Ngorongoro Crater  
**Day 12** travel back to Arusha, back to UK

#### Leaders

Laurie Jackson  
with local guides

#### Group size

min 4, max 12

classic East African safari

migrating herds, iconic East  
African megafauna,  
big cats, easy birding



## ITINERARY

**Please note that we may change the itinerary to suit local weather and road conditions or for other practical reasons, at the leader's discretion.**

**Day 1** Our early morning flight takes us from London to Amsterdam and on to Kilimanjaro, where we will meet our local guides and transfer to our lodge nearby, where we will catch up on sleep in preparation for the forthcoming excitement. o/n Arusha

**Day 2** After some morning birding around our lodge, we travel southwards. We will take our picnic lunch out on an area of dry plains close to Oldonyosambu, rather aptly known as 'lark plains', where we will look for one of Africa's rarest birds. Fewer than 100 Beesley's Larks are thought to exist, with the total world range covering less than 10km<sup>2</sup>.

From here, we continue towards our lodge, situated in a conservation area that links Lake Manyara and Tarangire National Parks. o/n Manyara/Tarangire

**Day 3** An early start takes us into **Tarangire National Park**, home to the greatest concentration of wildlife outside of the Serengeti ecosystem, including large herds of **African Elephant** browsing amongst the stately baobab trees and all three of Tanzania's big cats: Cheetah, Lion and Leopard. At the other extreme, locally endemic Yellow-collared Lovebirds and Rufous-tailed Weaver should be amongst the birds we find. o/n Manyara/Tarangire.

**Day 4** Today we head north into the Serengeti, via one of the most spectacular journeys we are likely to make. We will travel along the Lake Manyara escarpment, enjoying the concentration of flamingos on the lake, and then climb to the rim of the famous Ngorongoro crater. Montane forest and heathland surrounds us, with views down into the caldera, and westwards out across the **Serengeti** flatlands. We will be back here towards the end of the trip to explore the crater: for now we head down onto the plains, with our first encounters with the wildebeest herds likely to come this afternoon. o/n Ndutu.

**Day 5** We will spend the day exploring the woodlands and lakes around Ndutu. There is always the possibility of bumping into a pride of Lions, while smaller predators in the area could include the delightful Bat-eared Fox. Impala and Waterbuck graze the scrublands, and we can expect to find Kori Bustard, the world's heaviest flying bird. o/n Ndutu.

**Days 6-8** We will spend three days out on the plains of the central Serengeti, where the spectacle of '**the Great Migration**' is almost impossible to describe. The rains early in the year trigger the calving season in the south of the ecosystem in February. As the rains come to an end, the animals begin to move north-west, passing our way. The 'Great Migration' involves upwards of 1.2 million Blue Wildebeest, 750,000 Plains Zebra and hundreds of thousands of other game, including Thomson's and Grant's Gazelles, Eland, Topi, Kongoni and large herds of African Buffalo.

With the herbivores come the predators. Lion, Leopard and Cheetah will all be out in force, hoping to take advantage of the passing herds, while five species of vulture, Marabou Stork, Spotted Hyena and two species of jackal will all be hoping to join in the buffet! A wildlife spectacle, and one certainly not to be missed. o/n Serengeti.

**Day 9** Finally, we return to the spectacular **Ngorongoro Crater**, stopping on the way to visit the **Olduvai Gorge**, the archaeological site where the Leakeys worked for many years, studying early human evolution. We will arrive on the rim in the late afternoon, to be greeted by the spectacular view across the crater, with Schalow's Turaco and Malachite Sunbirds adding a splash of colour around the lodge. o/n Ngorongoro rim

**Day 10** Today we will spend in the famous crater, a World Heritage Site, home to a reputed 25,000 large animals, including the highest density of predators in Africa and the critically endangered **Black Rhinoceros**. In the centre, the crater lake is home to thousands of flamingos. We will return to the crater rim for our final '**sun downer**' staring out across the crater, home to one of the greatest shows on earth, before being lulled to sleep by the calling Montane Nightjars and Tree Hyrax. o/n Ngorongoro rim

**Day 11** We leave our lodge and return westwards to the escarpment above Lake Manyara where we will enjoy the heathland and look down into the surrounding forests, hoping to catch sight of **Blue Monkeys** or Silver-cheeked Hornbills. But alas we must drag ourselves away, with a three hour drive taking us back to Kilimanjaro in time to board our evening flights home, via Amsterdam, arriving back in London early on **Day 12**.



## Accommodation & Transport

We will stay in a mix of comfortable to excellent safari lodges, hotels and permanent tented camps, hand-picked by our guides from Birding Africa. All rooms have en-suite facilities. Meals are a mixture of local and international cuisine: special diets can be catered for. We will be travelling by mini-coach and purpose built four wheel drive safari trucks.



## Weather

The weather is tropical year-round, although April is relatively cool, with late rains still possible. Temperatures range from 10° to 30° C. Average day temperatures are 20°-25°C, lower if there is cloud or mist in the hills. We can expect the landscape to be green and lush after the rains of April. Mornings can be surprisingly cold, with warm layers and long trousers needed on early morning drives.



## Health and Fitness

You will need to have a **reasonable level of general fitness** to make the most of the holiday. Travelling in the tropics can be tiring if you are not used to it. We will be taking safari drives in high-clearance, open-sided vehicles: you will need to be able to step up into the vehicles, and sit comfortably as we travel over dusty and uneven ground. There may be occasions when we travel for two or three hours without the chance to step out of the vehicle.

There is a high risk of malaria throughout Tanzania, and prophylaxis is recommended.

There is low potential for exposure to Yellow Fever, and vaccination is generally not recommended for travel to Tanzania.

Vaccines against Hepatitis A, Tetanus and Typhoid are recommended, and you might also want to consider Cholera, Hepatitis B, Rabies and Tuberculosis vaccines.

Travellers should arrange an appointment with their health professional at least eight weeks before travel to assess health risks. Up-to-date information on travel health can be found at [travelhealthpro.org.uk](http://travelhealthpro.org.uk)



## Leader and guide

**Laurie Jackson** is an excellent naturalist and professional ecologist, who will be familiar to many of our travellers, having led over 40 of our holidays since 2013. We will be accompanied throughout by an experienced Tanzanian safari guide/driver.

## Flights

Group flights are with KLM from London Heathrow, as follows:

12th April      depart **London Heathrow 06.30**, arrive Amsterdam 08.50  
                    depart Amsterdam 10.05, arrive Kilimanjaro 19.55

22nd April      depart Kilimanjaro 21.05, arrive Amsterdam 07.50 (23rd)  
23rd April      depart Amsterdam 10.20, arrive **London Heathrow 10.45**

If you prefer a lazier start to your holiday, you might want to fly out to Amsterdam on 11th April, where it is possible to spend the night in a hotel at the airport ready for the morning connection on 12th April. KLM links several regional airports to Amsterdam, including Manchester, Norwich and London City: speak to us about flight options.

## Entry Requirements

For UK passport holders, to enter Tanzania your passport must have an 'expiry date' at least 6 months after the date you arrive, and at least one blank page.

You need to have a tourist visa to enter Tanzania: the visa fee is \$50 US. You can apply for an e-visa before you travel, at [visa.immigration.go.tz](http://visa.immigration.go.tz)

Alternatively, you can get a tourist visa for a single entry on arrival at Kilimanjaro, subject to meeting all immigration requirements. You must be ready to show your return ticket at border control.

For up-to-date information, check [www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/tanzania](http://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/tanzania)

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**TO BOOK:** Contact us to check availability and reserve a place. Then complete the Booking Form and send to Sunvil Holidays (CAA-ATOL Licence 808, ABTA V6218), our tour operator, with your deposit. All details about booking are given in the Booking Pack.

**DEPOSIT PER PERSON £1,800, SECOND INSTALMENT ON  
CONFIRMATION OF HOLIDAY £2,500 (to cover committed costs)  
BALANCE DUE BY 11/01/2026**

**INCLUDED:** Return flights as described, London to Kilimanjaro, via Amsterdam. Local transport as specified in itinerary. 10 nights' accommodation (1 night extra on overnight flight), full board basis (all meals from breakfast day 2 to lunch day 11). Entry fees. Services of leader and local guides.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Drinks with evening meals, refreshments. Gratuities. Travel insurance. Visas and associated costs.

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## WILDLIFE TRAVEL

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**Photos:** All photos from previous Wildlife Travel holidays. Front: Blue Wildebeest, Hildebrandt's Starling, Lion, Cheetah, Grey Crowned Crane. Inside: Plains Zebra, Black Rhinoceros, African Elephant, Leopard.

Trip reports from our previous holidays to Tanzania can be found on our website.