

“Giraffes” & More



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This 14-day, 13-night safari adventure spotlights Kenya's graceful giraffes across various subspecies and habitats, while exploring other diverse wildlife in iconic parks and reserves. The itinerary incorporates flights for longer transfers and drives for shorter ones, based on typical safari logistics. Activities feature game drives, wildlife viewing, cultural immersions, and giraffe-focused encounters at each location with stays in comfortable lodges or tented-camps offering full-board meals unless specified. The journey begins and ends in Nairobi, timed for international flight connections on Day 1 arrival and Day 14 departure.



Reticulated Giraffes Photo © David Kalama Mwadime – Kalama Safaris

Day 1: Arrival in Nairobi (Sunday)

On arrival at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi, Kenya's vibrant capital, a Kalama Safaris' representative will greet and transfer you to your hotel for check-in and downtime.

- **Location:** Nairobi
- **Accommodation:** Nairobi Serena Hotel (1 night)
- **Meals:** Meals (dependent upon arrival time)
- **Highlights:** City orientation

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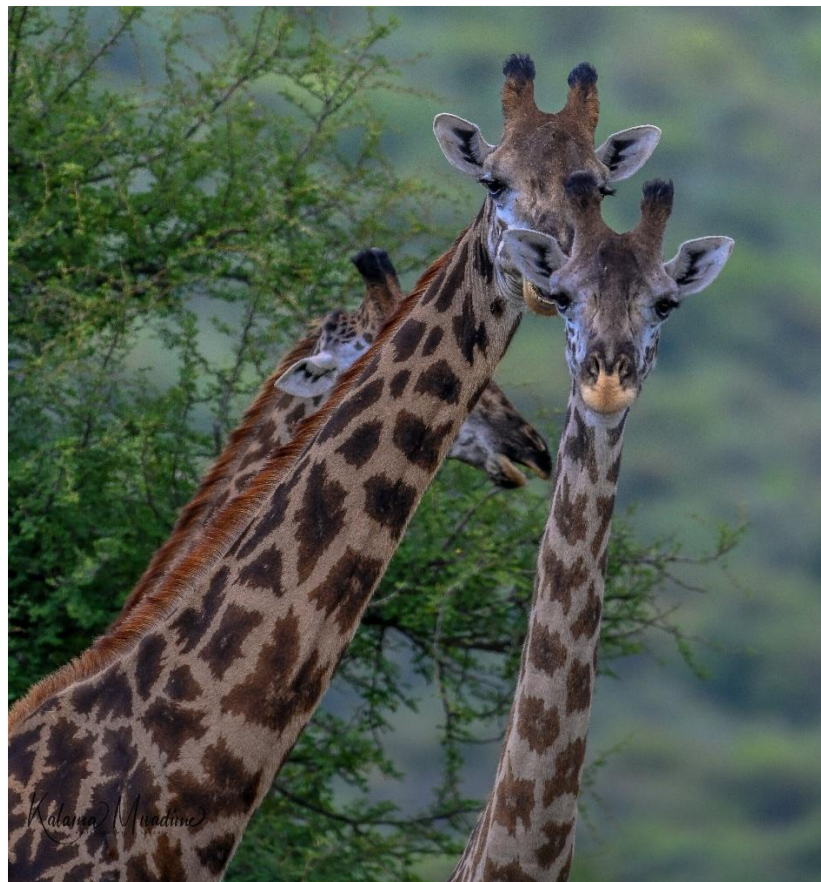


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Days 2-3: Tsavo National Park West (Monday-Tuesday)

After breakfast, fly to Tsavo West (about 1 hour). This rugged park boasts dramatic landscapes, including volcanic hills and the Shetani Lava Flows. Embark on morning and late afternoon game drives focusing on spotting **Masai** giraffes browsing acacia trees amid diverse wildlife like lions, leopards, and elephants dusted in red soil. Embark on morning/afternoon game drives. Explore Mzima Springs for underwater views of hippos and crocodiles.

- **Location:** Tsavo National Park West
- **Accommodation:** Ngulia Serena Lodge (2 nights) – hillside views over the plains
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** Masai giraffes in small groups, Mzima Springs oasis, red elephants and birdwatching



Masai Giraffes Photo © David Kalama Mwadime – Kalama Safaris

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Days 4-5: Amboseli National Park (Wednesday-Thursday)

Drive to Amboseli (approximately 2 hours). Amboseli National Park is known for its panoramic views of Mount Kilimanjaro. The park's swamps and plains host large herds of elephants and **Masai** giraffes striding elegantly against the mountain backdrop. Game drives offer chances to see lions, cheetahs, and flamingos. Optional Maasai village visit for cultural exchange.

- **Location:** Amboseli National Park
- **Accommodation:** Amboseli Serena Lodge (2 nights) – sustainable lodge with Kilimanjaro vistas
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** Masai giraffes with Kilimanjaro, Observation Hill for scenic overlooks, swamp birdlife and predators



Amboseli National Park Photo © David Kalama Mwadime – Kalama Safaris

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Days 6-7: Samburu National Reserve (Friday-Saturday)

After breakfast, fly north to Samburu (around 1.5 hours). During the flight, view iconic Mt. Kenya and its monumental cloud that seems to drift up from its 17,000-foot summit. This arid reserve, along the Ewaso Nyiro River, is prime for the "Samburu Special Five," including the striking **reticulated** giraffe with its net-like patterns, Grevy's zebra, Somali ostrich, gerenuk, and beisa oryx. Riverbanks may reveal elephants and crocodiles; leopards may be seen relaxing on large boulders near the mountainous areas.

- **Location:** Samburu National Reserve
- **Accommodation:** Soroi Larsens Camp (2 nights) – luxury tents overlooking the river
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** **Reticulated** giraffes, Grevy's zebra and Somali ostrich, riverine wildlife and cultural tours, Reteti elephant sanctuary



Grevy's Zebras Photo © David Kalama Mwadime – Kalama Safaris

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Days 8-9: Ol Pejeta Conservancy (Sunday-Monday)

Next, take a short 1-hour drive to Ol Pejeta Conservancy located on the Equator. This private conservancy is a haven for endangered species, including **reticulated** giraffes roaming alongside northern and southern white rhinos and black rhinos. Chimpanzees may be seen at their conservancy sanctuary. Night game drives are available for an extra fee. Visit the last northern white rhinos in the world for a poignant conservation story.

- **Location:** Ol Pejeta Conservancy
- **Accommodation:** Sweetwaters Serena Camp (2 nights) – tented camp with waterhole views
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** **Reticulated** giraffes, black and white rhinos, chimpanzee sanctuary, guided walks and rhino tracking



One of the Last Two Northern White Rhinos in the World

Photo © David Kalama Mwadime – Kalama Safaris

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Days 10-11: Lake Nakuru National Park (Tuesday-Wednesday)

Today, enjoy a scenic drive through mountains and farmlands to Nakuru (about 3-4 hours). The soda lake attracts birdlife including flamingos and pelicans while the surrounding woodlands host **Rothschild's** giraffes, white and black rhinos, and lions. Game drives focus on giraffe herds and birdlife.

- **Location:** Lake Nakuru National Park
- **Accommodation:** The Cliff (2 nights) – boutique tented lodge with lake vistas
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** **Rothschild's** giraffes, flamingos, rhinos



Rothschild's Giraffe Lake Nakuru Photo © Barbara Foster – Kalama Safaris

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Days 12-13: Masai Mara National Reserve (Thursday-Friday)

Drive to the renowned Masai Mara (around 4-5 hours) with its vast plains and the Great Migration (July-October). On morning and late afternoon game drives while in search of the “Big Five” (elephants, rhinos, buffaloes, lions, and leopards) spot **Masai** giraffes amid lions, cheetahs, and massive herbivore herds. You might want to take a hot-air balloon ride for aerial perspectives followed by champagne bush breakfast (optional, with fee ~\$500). Engage with Maasai warriors.

- **Location:** Masai Mara National Reserve
- **Accommodation:** Ilkeliani Tented Luxury Camp, Mara Serena Lodge, or Sarova Mara Tented Game Camp (2 nights) – authentic Maasai-inspired lodging
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** **Masai** giraffes on the plains, Big Five encounters, balloon safaris and Maasai Culture



Photo © David Kalama Mwadie – Kalama Safaris

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Day 14: Masai Mara to Nairobi (Saturday)

After breakfast, fly back to Nairobi (45 minutes). If time permits, visit the Giraffe Centre for close-up interactions with Rothchild's giraffes. Savor a farewell dinner and the use of a day room for relaxation before your airport transfer. Reminisce about your giraffe sightings and adventures. Airport transfer for your flight home. Farewell to Kenya!

- **Location:** Masai Mara to Nairobi
- **Accommodation:** Four Points by Sheraton (day room)
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner
- **Highlights:** Giraffe Centre visit, close-up giraffe interactions, educational talks on giraffe conservation, souvenir shopping



Giraffe Centre Photo © David Kalama Mwadime – Kalama Safaris

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Additional Notes

- **Transportation:** Internal flights on transfer days (Days 2, 6, 14) use light aircraft; otherwise drives use 4x4 land cruisers with an open roof for viewing.
- **Inclusions:** Accommodations, meals as noted, game drives, park fees, transfers. Hot-sit balloon rides (~\$500/person) are optional.
- **Customizations:** This itinerary can be tailored for a group.
- **Gorilla Trekking:** This 4-day extension to Rwanda can be added to this itinerary.

NOTE: When reservations are made well in advance, you might be lucky enough to get a dayroom at Giraffe Manor where Rothchild's giraffes roam the manor and might even pop their heads through a window.



[Giraffe Manor](#) - Updated 2025 Lodge Reviews (Nairobi, Kenya)