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SAFARI · LINDO TRAVEL & TOURS

9-Day Tanzania Northern Circuit Safari – A Journey Through Africa's Greatest Wilderness

Tarangire, Manyara, Ngorongoro, Serengeti · 9 days

Discover the extraordinary beauty of Tanzania on this 10-day Northern Circuit safari, carefully designed to bring you closer to Africa's most remarkable wildlife and wilderness landscapes.

Your adventure begins among the ancient baobab trees and impressive elephant herds of Tarangire National Park before continuing to the beautiful surroundings of Lake Manyara. From there, journey into the legendary Serengeti, where endless golden plains provide a home to lions, leopards, cheetahs, elephants, giraffes and vast herds of wildebeest and zebras.

Spend several days exploring different parts of the Serengeti ecosystem, including the remote Northern Serengeti, where the Great Migration may be witnessed at the Mara River during the appropriate season. Your journey concludes with an unforgettable game drive inside the Ngorongoro Crater, a remarkable natural sanctuary renowned for its exceptional concentration of wildlife.

Whether you are visiting Tanzania for the first time, travelling as a couple, or fulfilling a lifelong dream of an African safari, this experience combines spectacular wildlife encounters, scenic drives and comfortable

accommodation into one memorable adventure.

With a private safari vehicle and an experienced local guide, you will have the freedom to explore at your own pace, stop for incredible photographic opportunities and enjoy the wilderness beyond the ordinary tourist experience.

Safari highlights

- Explore Tarangire National Park, famous for its elephants and magnificent baobab trees.
- Discover Lake Manyara's diverse landscapes, forests and abundant birdlife.
- Experience extended wildlife viewing across the Serengeti plains.
- Explore the remote Northern Serengeti and its seasonal Great Migration routes.
- Search for lions, leopards, cheetahs, elephants, buffaloes and other iconic African wildlife.
- Enjoy a spectacular full-day game drive in Ngorongoro Crater.
- Travel with a professional local safari guide in a private 4x4 safari vehicle.

Arrival

ARRIVAL

Arrival Day: Welcome to Tanzania

Upon arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport, you will be warmly welcomed by your Lindo Travel & Tours representative, who will assist you with your luggage before transferring you to your hotel in Arusha. Located beneath the impressive slopes of Mount Meru, Arusha is a charming safari gateway surrounded by beautiful landscapes, coffee plantations and the natural beauty of northern Tanzania.

Depending on your arrival time, you can spend the afternoon relaxing at your hotel, enjoying the peaceful surroundings or simply recovering from your international journey. Later, your safari guide will meet you for a short safari briefing, introducing you to the exciting adventure ahead and answering any questions about your upcoming journey through Tanzania's famous national parks.

Arrival accommodation options

Midrange: Kibo Palace Hotel Moshi

Day-by-day itinerary

DAY 1

Arusha – Tarangire National Park – Manyara



After breakfast, depart Arusha and travel towards Tarangire National Park, one of Tanzania's most rewarding wildlife destinations. The journey takes you through beautiful countryside, traditional villages and open landscapes before reaching the park, famous for its enormous elephant herds and impressive concentration of ancient baobab trees. The Tarangire River, which flows through the park, serves as an important water source, particularly during the dry season when wildlife gathers along its banks.

Enjoy an exciting game drive through the park's diverse habitats, where you may encounter elephants moving through the woodland, giraffes feeding on acacia trees, zebras grazing across open grasslands and large herds of buffalo. Tarangire is also home to lions, leopards, cheetahs and numerous bird species, making it an excellent destination for wildlife photography. After a rewarding day exploring the park, continue towards Karatu or the Mto wa Mbu area, where you will settle into your lodge and enjoy dinner.

Accommodation options

Luxury: Escarpment Lodge

DAY 2

Lake Manyara National Park – Exploring the Great Rift Valley



After breakfast, head towards Lake Manyara National Park, a beautiful and compact wilderness located beneath the dramatic escarpment of the Great Rift Valley. Despite its relatively small size, the park offers an impressive variety of landscapes, ranging from lush groundwater forests and open grasslands to acacia woodlands and the shallow alkaline lake that attracts thousands of birds. The contrast between the green vegetation, surrounding cliffs and open lake creates a particularly scenic setting for a safari.

During your game drive, look out for elephants wandering through the forest, large troops of baboons, giraffes, zebras, wildebeest and various antelope species. Lake Manyara is also known for its tree-climbing lions, although sightings are never guaranteed. Bird enthusiasts will appreciate the opportunity to observe pelicans, storks, flamingos and many other waterbirds, depending on the season and water conditions. In the afternoon, enjoy the return journey to your lodge in Karatu, where you can relax and prepare for the exciting Serengeti adventure ahead.

Accommodation options

Luxury: Escarpment Lodge

DAY 3

Karatu – Ngorongoro Conservation Area – Serengeti National Park



After an early breakfast, depart Karatu and travel towards Serengeti National Park through the remarkable Ngorongoro Conservation Area. This journey is an adventure in itself, taking you through changing landscapes, traditional Maasai communities and spectacular highland scenery. As you approach the Serengeti, the vegetation gradually gives way to vast open grasslands, creating the iconic African wilderness landscape that has made this destination famous around the world.

Enter Serengeti National Park and begin your first game drive across its magnificent plains. The park is home to one of the greatest concentrations of large mammals in Africa, offering opportunities to encounter lions resting beneath acacia trees, elephants crossing the plains, giraffes moving gracefully through the grasslands and cheetahs scanning the horizon for potential prey. Your guide will help you explore the most promising wildlife areas along the route to your camp. Arrive at your accommodation in the Central Serengeti in the afternoon, where you can enjoy dinner and the atmosphere of the African wilderness.

Accommodation options

Luxury: Serengeti Baobab Luxury Camp

DAY 4

Full-Day Game Drive in Central Serengeti National Park



Today is dedicated entirely to exploring the magnificent Central Serengeti, particularly the Seronera region, which is renowned for its exceptional wildlife viewing opportunities throughout much of the year. After breakfast, set out with your safari guide for an extensive game drive through open plains, rocky kopjes and river valleys. The permanent water sources in this region attract wildlife throughout the seasons, making it an excellent place to search for predators and large herbivores.

The Central Serengeti is particularly famous for its lion population and offers opportunities to encounter leopards resting in sausage trees, cheetahs hunting across the open plains and hyenas moving through the grasslands. You may also spot elephants, hippos, crocodiles, warthogs and numerous antelope species. Enjoy a picnic lunch in the wilderness, allowing you to spend more time exploring without returning to camp during the middle of the day. Continue your wildlife adventure in the afternoon before returning to your camp for a relaxing evening surrounded by the sounds of the African bush.

Accommodation options

Luxury: Baobab Central Serengeti Camp

DAY 5

Central Serengeti – Northern Serengeti National Park



After breakfast, leave the Central Serengeti and journey towards the remote Northern Serengeti, enjoying wildlife viewing along the way. This part of the park offers a different atmosphere from the central plains, with rolling hills, open grasslands, rocky outcrops and riverine forests creating a beautiful and varied landscape. The journey provides excellent opportunities to encounter wildlife as you gradually approach the Mara River ecosystem.

The Northern Serengeti is particularly celebrated for its seasonal role in the Great Wildebeest Migration. During the migration months, enormous herds of wildebeest and zebras move through the region in search of fresh grazing, sometimes gathering along the banks of the Mara River before attempting to cross. Crocodiles inhabit the river, while hippos can often be seen resting in its waters. Even outside the migration season, the northern region offers rewarding wildlife viewing, including elephants, giraffes, lions and other resident animals. Arrive at your tented camp in the afternoon and enjoy dinner in this remote wilderness setting.

Accommodation options

Luxury: Mara Mara Tented Lodge

DAY 6

Full-Day Safari in Northern Serengeti – Following the Great Migration



Wake up to the sounds of the African wilderness and enjoy breakfast before heading out for a full day of exploration in Northern Serengeti. Your guide will take you towards promising wildlife areas around the Mara River and surrounding grasslands, where seasonal wildlife movements create some of the most fascinating safari experiences in East Africa. During the Great Migration season, you may have the opportunity to observe large herds of wildebeest gathering near the riverbanks, sometimes hesitating for hours before making the dramatic crossing.

Beyond the migration, Northern Serengeti is a wonderful destination for observing resident wildlife in a less crowded environment. The open landscapes provide excellent opportunities to search for lions, leopards, elephants, giraffes and various antelope species. Enjoy a picnic lunch during your game drive, allowing you to spend the entire day immersed in the wilderness. As the afternoon light softens across the plains, continue exploring before returning to your camp for dinner and another peaceful night in the Serengeti.

Accommodation options

Luxury: Mara Mara Tented Lodge

DAY 7

Northern Serengeti – Central Serengeti National Park



After breakfast, begin your journey back towards Central Serengeti, enjoying another opportunity to experience the park's remarkable landscapes and wildlife. Rather than treating this as simply a transfer day, your safari guide will make the most of the journey by incorporating game viewing along the way. The changing scenery offers a fascinating perspective of the Serengeti ecosystem, from the northern river valleys and rolling hills to the vast open plains of the central region.

Keep your camera ready as you travel through different wildlife habitats, where you may encounter elephants, buffaloes, giraffes, zebras and various predators. Depending on wildlife movements, your guide may explore selected areas for further sightings before arriving at your Central Serengeti accommodation. Spend the remainder of the afternoon relaxing at camp, enjoying the surrounding wilderness and reflecting on the incredible wildlife encounters of the previous days.

Accommodation options

Luxury: Baobab Central Serengeti Camp

DAY 8

Central Serengeti – Ngorongoro Crater – Karatu



Enjoy an early breakfast before departing the Serengeti and travelling towards the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Today brings another remarkable highlight as you descend approximately 600 metres into the Ngorongoro Crater, one of the world's most extraordinary natural wildlife destinations. Formed through ancient volcanic activity, the crater is home to a remarkable variety of animals within its enclosed ecosystem, offering excellent opportunities for wildlife viewing throughout the year.

Explore the crater floor during an extensive game drive, passing open grasslands, freshwater pools, woodland areas and the seasonal Lake Magadi. This remarkable habitat supports large populations of zebras, wildebeest, buffaloes, elephants and hippos, alongside predators such as lions and hyenas. The crater is also one of the best places in Tanzania to look for the endangered black rhinoceros, although sightings cannot be guaranteed. Enjoy a picnic lunch in the crater before ascending its steep walls and continuing to your lodge in Karatu for a relaxing final evening of your safari.

Accommodation options

Luxury: Acacia Farm Lodge

DAY 9

Karatu – Arusha – Departure from Tanzania



After breakfast, enjoy your final morning in the beautiful Karatu highlands before beginning the journey back towards Arusha. The drive offers one last opportunity to appreciate Tanzania's countryside, with rolling hills, agricultural landscapes and traditional villages providing a pleasant contrast to the wildlife-rich national parks you have explored over the past nine days.

Upon arrival in Arusha, your guide will arrange your onward transfer to Kilimanjaro International Airport for your international departure, depending on your flight schedule. If you have additional time before your flight, arrangements can be made for lunch or a short visit in Arusha. As you leave Tanzania, take with you wonderful memories of spectacular wildlife encounters, breathtaking landscapes and the unforgettable hospitality of East Africa. Your 9-day Northern Circuit safari with Lindo Travel & Tours comes to an end.

Trip details

Included

- Accommodation and meals as specified
- Bottled drinking water during the safari
- Park and conservation fees as specified
- Private 4x4 safari vehicle with pop-up roof
- Professional English-speaking safari guide

Not included

- International flights and visas
- Optional activities not listed
- Tips and personal expenses
- Travel insurance