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Kenya Safari for the Woodsmall Group of 5

**Featuring: Amboseli National Park > Aberdares National Park > Sweetwaters Wildlife Sanctuary > Lake Nakuru National Park > Maasai Mara National Reserve
(September 20 - 28, 2010)**

Safari Participants:

- 1) **David Woodsmall**
- 2) **Joan Woodsmall**
- 3) **Mary**
- 4) **John**
- 5) **Frances**

Detailed Itinerary:

Day1~Monday, 20-Sep: Arrive in Nairobi, Kenya (Airport code NBO)

Confirmed Accommodation: Nairobi Safari Club (Upgrade)

Meal Plan: Bed & Breakfast

Activity: Airport Arrival on KQ#761 at 4.20pm

Meet, Greet & Assist.

Transfer to hotel

Rest & Relax.

Long haul flights can be tedious - airports, crowds, lines, luggage, irritating snafus. But once you arrive at the airport, your guide will meet you and drive you to the Nairobi Safari Club in the center of Nairobi where you can rest, relax and unwind.

Day2~Tuesday, 21-Sep: Amboseli National Park

Confirmed Accommodation: Ol Tukai Lodge (Upgrade)

Meal Plan: Full Board - Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Activity: Transfer to Amboseli. Afternoon Game Drive

Drive to Amboseli National Park on the border with Tanzania begins your exploration of Kenya. Mount Kilimanjaro provides a dramatic backdrop to Amboseli as it rises almost 20,000 feet above the plain and the concentration of wildlife drawn to the park in the dry season.

Amboseli boasts a variety of ecosystems - marshland, scrubby plain, acacia woodlands - supporting a diverse range of wildlife. Following lunch, you'll spend the afternoon viewing some of this diversity, notably the park's elephants, which are numerous, and giraffes, and predators including lions and cheetahs.

Day3~Wednesday, 22-Sep: Amboseli National Park
Confirmed Accommodation: Ol Tukai Lodge (Upgrade)
Meal Plan: Full Board - Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Activity: Morning and Afternoon Game Drives.

Day Three features morning and afternoon game drives over the park's dusty roads (some of these are impassable during the rainy season due to the ashy soil), and you're likely to spot wildebeest and zebra attracted to the marshes and swamps fed by the melting snows of Kilimanjaro. You may also spot white rhinos on the fringes of the marshes as well as a great variety of birdlife (some 425 species of bird populate the park). With Kilimanjaro providing a dramatic backdrop, your photographs will be stunning. East Africa game avoids the mid-day heat by dozing in the shade. You can avoid the mid-day heat in the lodge's pool, at the bar, or like the beasts of the savannah, with a nap in the shade.

Day4~Thursday, 23-Sep: Aberdares National Park
Confirmed Accommodation: The Ark (Upgrade)
Meal Plan: Full Board - Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Activity: Transfer to Aberdares National Park
Afternoon Game Drive

Following Breakfast we drive to Aberdares Mountains on the eastern wall of the Great Rift Valley. We arrive at Aberdares National Park in time for lunch. The Aberdares are probably not what visitors imagine when they imagine an East African safari; nowhere in the park does one find golden plains populated by nervous gazelles, hungry cheetahs, and napping lions. One does find high mountains, dense rain forest, and thickets of bamboo, rushing rivers, cascading waterfalls, abundant birdlife, rare monkeys, and the opportunity to spot elephants, leopards, and lions sipping water from a forest waterhole from a vantage-point high in the forest. The best spot in the Aberdares National Park to view the abundant wildlife is from the comfort of one of the lodge. The Ark overlooks a waterhole and a saltlick to which wildlife is attracted, day and night. Elephants are frequent visitors, as are lions and hyenas. Leopards are among those that turn up overnight, and lodge rooms include bells that inform guests of the presence of visitors below, the number of rings corresponding to the species of visitor.

Day5~Friday, 24-Sep: Sweetwaters Wildlife Sanctuary
Confirmed accommodation: Sweetwaters Tented Camp (Free extra)
Meal Plan: Full Board - Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Activity: Transfer to Sweetwaters Wildlife Sanctuary.
Private afternoon Game Drive
Optional: Walking Safari and Night game drive

We continue our exploration with a scenic drive north through coffee, pineapple and tea plantations of central Kenya arriving in time for lunch the Sweetwaters Wildlife Sanctuary. This is a beautiful private game reserve and home to rare species such as Beisa Oryx, Rothschild's giraffe and black rhino. Game drives here reveal the full range of African wildlife including lion, leopard, cheetah, elephant and hippo. Enjoy a private visit with the tame animals at the wildlife orphanage. Observe chimps from the Jane Goodall Institute at the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary. Optional activities include walking safaris escorted by a local ranger, bird walks with several hundred species to observe, horseback and camel rides.

Day6~Saturday, 25-Sep: Lake Nakuru National Park
Confirmed Accommodation: Sarova Lion Hill Lodge
Meal Plan: Full Board - Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Activity: Transfer to Lake Nakuru. Afternoon Game Drive

After breakfast we travel to Lake Nakuru National Park. Here we spend a delightful day exploring the extra ordinary bird life for which Lake Nakuru is internationally renowned. This is the ultimate ornithologist's paradise with over 450 species of birds. Apart from its thousands and sometimes millions of flamingos nesting along the shores, the surface of the shallow lake is often hard to recognize due to the continually shifting mass of pink. The number of flamingoes on the lake varies with water and food conditions and the best vantage point is from Baboon Cliff Lake Nakuru houses Kenya's first rhino sanctuary and one of the largest concentrations of black rhinoceros in the world a large population of white rhino. The park features the picturesque Malaika Waterfalls.

Also of interest is an area of 188 km around the lake fenced off as a sanctuary to protect Rothschild giraffes. Among predators are lion, leopard and large pythons hiding in the dense woodlands which may occasionally be seen crossing roads or dangling from trees. Others game include Thomson's and Grant gazelle, the long-eared leaf-nosed bat, colobus monkey, rock hyrax, hippo, and waterbuck; Impala, striped hyena, bat-eared fox, wildcat, reedbuck and golden cat.

Day7~Sunday, 26-Sep: Maasai Mara National Reserve
Confirmed Accommodation: Keekorok Lodge (Upgrade)
Meal Plan: Full Board - Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Activity: Transfer to Maasai Mara.
Afternoon Game Drive

This remarkable day takes you to the Maasai Mara National Reserve and into the domain of the Maasai, Kenya's cattle-herding nomads determined to preserve their traditions. The Mara is magnificent, home to Kenya's richest concentration of wildlife, and regarded by many travelers as an essential stop on any tour of Africa. When westerners think of Africa and safari, this is place they imagine - golden grassland plains pocked with acacia, wildebeests, zebras, lions, and jackals bound by together by the cycle of life and death. Three days here will only scratch at the surface of the wonders of the Mara.

Day8~Monday, 27-Sep: Maasai Mara National Reserve
Confirmed Accommodation: Keekorok Lodge (Upgrade)
Meal Plan: Full Board - Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Activity: Morning and Afternoon Game Drives
Visit to tribal village

Morning and afternoon game drives will lead you to some of Africa's largest lion prides, herds of zebra, antelopes, buffaloes, wildebeest, giraffes, cheetahs, and hyenas. Accommodations include en suite restroom facilities and secluded verandahs. In between game drives, lounge at the pool or bar.

Day9~Tuesday, 28-Sep: Maasai Mara > Nairobi City
Meal Plan: Breakfast and Dinner at the Carnivore Restaurant
Activity: Predawn Game drive
Breakfast
Transfer to Nairobi at Leisure.
Optional Activities include Souvenir shopping.
Farewell Dinner at the Carnivore Restaurant
Departure airport transfer for flight #KQ#102 at 11.45pm

An early morning game drive is followed by a breakfast feast. Take your time to say Kwaheri to simba and his friends. We leave when you're ready. In the evening we enjoy a complimentary farewell dinner at the famous Carnivore Restaurant. We then transfer to the airport and bid you bon voyage as you catch your flight home.

Included with this package:

- Accommodation as detailed in the itinerary
- All meals noted in the itinerary. Each day generally includes Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner buffets consisting of both western and local dishes.
- Transportation in a minivan fitted with a pop-up roof for game-viewing and photography.
- Every passenger is guaranteed a window seat.
- Your driver/guide speaks English and has in-depth knowledge of the flora, fauna, landscape, and Kenyan culture.
- A private minivan outfitted with two-way, long range high frequency radio communications equipment.
- Each minivan carries safari accessories including wildlife books, beanbags to support cameras on car doors and window sills, binoculars, a first-aid kit, an ice-chest, and a fire extinguisher.
- Bottled mineral water during game drives.
- Park entrance fees and game drives as noted in the itinerary.
- All government taxes, levies, and fees.
- All arrival and departure transfer fees between airports, hotels, parks, etc.
- Twenty-four hours stand-by contact telephone number.

Not included:

- Domestic and international airfares and departures taxes.
- Personal communications charges for telephone calls, faxes, email, etc.
- Tips and gratuities for hotel, lodge and camp staff and for your driver/guide.
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. (Bottled mineral water is provided in the minivan while on game drives.)
- Laundry services.
- Between meal snacks, additional entrance fees to reserves, parks, attractions, and events not included in your itinerary.