



Kenya Under Canvas & Mountain Gorillas of Rwanda Extension

February 11 - February 24, 2016 14 Days and 11 Nights

Experience **Kenya Under Canvas and The Mountain Gorillas of Rwanda** with **TRIPS** on this Lifetime Moments Safari! In Rwanda, very few people will ever have a close encounter with the endangered Mountain Gorilla, one of the most poignant and memorable experiences of a lifetime!

In Kenya, visit sanctuaries where you'll see the endangered Rhino and Chimpanzees. If you've never been to East Africa with TRIPS, get ready for the ultimate Safari experience! If you've traveled with us before, experience what draws you back with a new and exciting itinerary. The seasoned Safari traveler knows the thrill of a tented camp environment.

Imagine spending five nights 'Under Canvas' during your lifetime adventure! From Serena's luxury camp, the flagship Sarova in the heart of the Maasai to iconic Sweetwaters, your night's 'camping' will be like nothing you've experienced. As your Safari unfolds, the impact of two amazing women, and their conservation efforts will be seen and felt. Jane Goodall, and her influence at Sweetwaters, your first Safari stop; later the author of "Gorilla's in the Mist", Dian Fossey and her time spent in Rwanda where your journey ends.

From game drives in Kenya providing amazing opportunities to see the "Big Five" to the beauty of Rwanda - Home Of A Thousand Hills, this is truly an opportunity that comes just once in a lifetime.

Special note from TRIPS: For those of you who may have joined our exciting Kenya and Tanzania safari programs, we are pleased and excited to announce that our dear friend and TRIPS Safari Director Alloys Batsinduka (Batsi) is onboard to escort us on this trip of a lifetime to his native country of Rwanda! This experience, especially having Batsi with us, will create some life changing moments we are quite sure.

Itinerary

February 11, 2016- Your Journey of a Lifetime Begins!

Today, depart for Kenya with a connecting flight, beginning the trip of a lifetime!

February 12, 2016 - Jambo Kenya!

On arrival in Nairobi, you are met by your safari director and assisted with your transfer to your five star hotel.

Overnight: Nairobi Serena Hotel

February 13, 2016 - An Elephant Orphanage!

This morning after breakfast, your safari team hosts a pre-safari briefing at the hotel before you depart for **Sheldrick Wildlife Elephant Orphanage**. Learn about the most successful orphan-elephant rescue program in the world. Tiny new-born elephants that have been orphaned, are brought here, raised and learn how to be 'elephants' again before integrating back into the wild. This hugely successful program has saved nearly 200 baby elephants and you'll be touched by this remarkable effort. Then visit the home of Karen Blixen of "Out of Africa" fame. You'll hear fascinating stories about her

life, while enjoying a guided tour. Your final stop today is the **Kazuri Bead Factory**, started as a tiny workshop with two local women hand-making beads. Blossoming into a 'factory' employing mostly single mothers, watch as each bead is hand made, fired and assembled into stunning bracelets and necklaces. Sold around the world at prices upward of \$90.00, you'll be able to buy beautiful creations for a fraction of the retail price. Return to

the Serena with time to refresh before departing for a Welcome-to-Africa dinner at the famous Carnivore Restaurant!

Overnight: Nairobi Serena Hotel

(B/D)

February 14, 2016 - Sweetwaters: Home to the Big Five!

After breakfast depart Nairobi traveling through the countryside of Kenya where you'll stop along the way at the **Girls School in Nanyuki**. Return travelers will remember this heartwarming stop as the girls put on a bit of show for you, singing and dancing. Continue to the **Sweetwater Sanctuary** and your 'camp,' a sheltered oasis with luxury tents clustered around a water hole and saltlick. Enjoy spectacular views of the lush and golden plains toward the snow-capped peaks of **Mount Kenya**. After checking in and enjoying lunch, set out on an afternoon game drive. Home to the 'Big Five', the private conservancy is home to nearly 100 Black Rhino, several hundred bird species, giraffe, zebra, cheetah, jackal and more! Back at camp, enjoy a charming blend of under-canvas ambiance and safari luxury! Dine tonight in the Rhino Restaurant housed in the former manager's home of this once colonial farm located in central Kenya.

Overnight: Serena Sweetwaters Tented Camp

(B/L/D)

February 15, 2016 - Chimps and Rhinos!

Today experience two game drives in the **Oi Pejeta Conservancy** with the highest ratio of game to area of park or reserve in Kenya. This 90,000 acre conservancy boasts not only an amazing opportunity to view wildlife, but sanctuaries as well. You'll have two lifetime moment sanctuary visits! First at the **Chimpanzee Sanctuary** established in cooperation with the **Jane Goodall Institute**. This is the only sanctuary of its kind in Kenya, and it focuses on rescuing chimps from traumatic situations. Watch these highly social creatures from the raised platform and learn about the efforts to save them. Next, at the **Morani Center** you'll see one of the most endangered species on earth, the Rhino. Less than 300 of these rhino can be found in Kenya, and you'll have an opportunity to see them and learn about the breeding program at the conservancy. Between drives, relax on the deck of your tented camp or take a dip in the pool.

Overnight: Serena Sweetwaters Tented Camp

(B/L/D)

February 16, 2016 - Falls and Flamingos!

After breakfast, depart for the **Great Rift Valley**, stopping along the way at **Thomson's Falls**. This spectacular waterfall plunges nearly 250 feet into the Ewaso Ng'iro river. On arrival at your tented camp, uniquely situated on the shoreline of sapphire blue **Lake Elementeita**, check-in and enjoy lunch. The lake's rocky islands are the only East African nesting site for great white pelicans and with its algae and plankton, provides food for vast flocks of flamingos! During your game drive this afternoon, in the **Soysambu Conservancy**, you might spot the endangered Rothschild giraffe, herds of giant eland as well as tiny dik-diks.

Overnight: Lake Elementaita Serena Tented Camp

(B/L/D)

February 17, 2016 - The Great Rift Valley and the Maasai Mara!

You depart this morning driving along the floor of the **Rift Valley** bound for the world famous **Maasai Mara**. Arrive at the Sarova Mara game camp, and after check-in, enjoy lunch. Located in the heart of the Maasai Mara Game Reserve, your tent provides magnificent views from the deck as you sit and listen to the sounds of nature! Your game drive this afternoon takes you into the **Maasai Mara Game Reserve**, a habitat for lions, elephants, leopards, cheetahs, hippo, buffalo, zebra, giraffe and more! You'll experience truly memorable game drives during your time in 'The Mara'.

Overnight: Sarova Mara Game Camp

(B/L/D)

February 18, 2016 - A Spectacular Day in the Mara!

Today, you experience **two extensive game** drives in the Mara, Africa's most diverse, incredible and spectacular eco-system. Your safari in the **Maasai Mara** is without a doubt among the best you'll experience. The wildlife here is abundant and the gentle rolling grasslands ensure that animals are never out of sight. A pride of lions can be spotted ready to make a run for a gazelle, a cheetah and her cub might be napping on a rock, a pair of ostriches walk the open stretches of savannah or a 'tower' of giraffes snacking on tender leaves. Between game drives, you'll have an opportunity to visit a traditional Maasai Mara village, another lifetime moments experience!

Overnight: Sarova Mara Game Camp

(B/L/D)

February 19, 2016 - Maasai Mara to Nairobi and Your Flight Home!

After a final early morning game drive in the famous Maasai Mara, transfer to the airstrip for your flight to Nairobi. **For those ending their Kenya Under Canvas Safari, return to the Nairobi Serena where your day room awaits.** Relax, enjoy lunch on your own, and this evening your Safari team will transport

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you to the Nairobi airport for your overnight flight home.

February 19, 2016 - On to Rwanda for Mountain Gorilla Extension!

After a final early morning game drive, transfer to the airstrip for your flight to Nairobi. Enjoy **lunch at a local restaurant** in Nairobi before returning to the airport for your onward flight to Kigali, Rwanda. Arrive at your hotel early evening. After a briefing by your Safari Director, the remainder of the day is at leisure.

Overnight: Kigali Serena Hotel

(B/L)

February 20, 2016 - The Story of Rwanda!

Your day begins with a visit to the **Kigali Memorial Centre**, a permanent memorial to those who fell victim to the Rwandan Genocide. In 100 days, more than 1,000,000 people were murdered, and this beautiful country of a thousand rolling hills experienced enormous change. You'll find a meaningful tribute to those who perished and a powerful educational exhibit for the next generation. Next, travel to the **Mountain Gorilla View Lodge** arriving for lunch followed by an afternoon visit to the **Iby'Iwacu Cultural Village**. This is a place "where people, culture and nature come together" providing a rare chance to meet local people, in own their environment and being genuinely welcomed as a special guest. Watch an authentic medicine man prepare herbal mixtures, enjoy cultural dances and listen to village elders explain their traditions and practices. After a full day, return to the lodge for dinner.

Overnight: Mountain Gorilla View Lodge

(B/L/D)

February 21, 2016 - Lifetime Moments With The Mountain Gorillas!

Today, experience a Lifetime Moment as you transfer to **Volcanoes National Park, home to the Mountain Gorilla**, the world's most endangered ape. Your gorilla trek offers a magical encounter that transcends any other 'wildlife' experience you might have had! An average of just 3,000 Americans per year join the elite band of travelers who trek to see the gorillas here. And just 80 travelers per day are allotted expensive trekking permits, in groups of no more than 8. (*As you can imagine, permits sell out far in advance.*) Each group learns about the gorilla family they'll be seeing and you learn about the differences between the elder statesmen (silverbacks), the young, troublemaking adolescent males (blackbacks) and the playful youngsters who are totally reliant on their mother for the first three years of their life. Learn a few words of gorilla language and gorilla etiquette and you're off. (*At TRIPS, we have access to get you to gorilla families that aren't as difficult a trek.*) When you spot 'your' gorilla family, you'll no doubt be utterly amazed. To stand within feet of these remarkable animals, to hear them, smell them and look into their eyes sure that they are wondering about you as much as you are wondering about them will no doubt be awe-inspiring, humbling and may move you to tears! After too short a time, return to Park

Headquarters to receive your Trek Certificate, then it's back to the lodge for lunch. The afternoon is yours to reflect on an experience like non other. This amazing day wraps up with a special dinner and entertainment.

Overnight: Mountain Gorilla View Lodge (B/L/D)

February 22, 2016 - Kings and Kigali!

Check out of your lodge this morning and travel through the beautiful countryside of Rwanda bound for Nyanza where you visit the old **Royal Palace of the Rwandan monarchy**. Traditionally built, the Palace provides an interesting look into how the Rwandan King lived. After stopping for lunch, you visit the

Ethnographic Museum with galleries displaying historical, artistic and archaeological artifacts providing a rich insight into the Rwandan culture. You arrive back in Kigali late this afternoon and check in to your hotel where you'll have dinner on your own.

Overnight: Kigali Serena Hotel

(B/L)

February 23 and 24, 2016 - Homeward Bound!

After breakfast today, transfer to the Kigali Airport for your flight to Nairobi. Then on to your overnight flight to Europe connecting to the US. **Memories of Kenya Under Canvas and Mountain Gorillas, A Lifetime Moments Safari will live with you forever!**

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Inclusions

- Round trip airport transfers
- Round trip international airfare to Nairobi, Kenya (checked baggage fees are not included)
- 7 nights accommodations in Kenya with 4 nights in Rwanda at the finest luxury hotels & tented camps
- All sightseeing and admissions as detailed in the attached itinerary
- Fees for all parks and conservancies are included, at a cost of \$1,750.00. Sweetwaters, Maasai Mara, Soysambu Conservancy and Volcanoes National Park including your Gorilla Trek Permit in Rwanda
- 7 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches and 6 Dinners for Kenya Under Canvas travelers with an additional 5 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches and 2 Dinners for those including Rwanda Extension. This includes a Welcome to Africa dinner at the famed Carnivore Restaurant in Nairobi
- Two Intra Kenya Flights or Three Inter-Africa flights for those traveling to Kenya and Rwanda
- Transportation by Safari Cruiser
- Services of an expert safari driver/guide in each safari cruiser
- Portage of one full size suitcase per person
- TRIPS safari bag, ticket wallet and luggage tags
- All government taxes and fees

Kenya Under Canvas

\$6,998.00

per person, double occupancy

Single Supplement is an additional \$998.00

Passports are required.

East African Cross

Border Visa of

\$150.00 is not

included.

Mountain Gorillas of Rwanda Extension

\$4,998.00

per person, double occupancy

Single Supplement is an additional \$998.00



Proof of Yellow Fever Vaccination is required to enter Rwanda.

Call today to reserve your space for **“Kenya Under Canvas - The Mountain Gorillas of Rwanda Extension”** with **TRIPS !!!**

An initial **\$1,000.00** deposit is required to hold space on this tour on a first come/first served basis.

This deposit is fully refundable up to November 3, 2015. Final Payment is due on or before November 3, 2015.

50% non-refundable as of November 4, 2015 and 100% non-refundable as of December 11, 2015.

Contact Linda Mattingly at 877-903-2265 (toll free) extension 6707 or email lmatingly@alliancebank.com.

We accept all major credit cards.

Make checks payable to Alliance Bank c/o Linda Mattingly

PO Box 500 Sulphur Springs, TX 75483-0500

Passport Name: _____ DOB: _____

Credit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

CST # 2057913-10

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