

## **AFRICA'S EDEN**



### **INTRODUCTION:**

Africa's Eden is a fantastic Safari staying at good quality, reasonably priced accommodation where you will experience two of Africa's greatest wildlife spectacles.

This superb safari starts with a few days in Rwanda where we will visit and spend time with some of the last seven hundred Mountain Gorillas left on earth. It is a very special and rare privilege to spend time with these great apes, one of our closest relatives and undoubtedly one of the finest wildlife experiences possible.

The second stage of our thrilling wildlife tour is a luxury safari to the Maasai Mara staying at the internationally renowned Governors Camp, home of BBC's "Big Cat Diary" and located in one of the richest areas of the Maasai Mara for wildlife. The lodge is close to the Mara River crossing points for the migration between late July and the end of October.

There is far more to the Maasai Mara than just the wildebeest migration, many animals are resident throughout the year and the game viewing is spectacular at any time with all the big five in residence and excellent big cat viewing.

This varied safari can be enjoyed as a stand alone safari but also combines very well with a few days blissful relaxation on the palm fringed white sands of the Kenya coast or one of the more remote and less well known of Kenya's outstanding game reserves.

### **Day 1**

You will be met off your flight in Kigali by your personal driver and vehicle, you will receive a briefing and after lunch you will be transferred to the Parc National Des Volcans by road.

Rwanda is a fascinating and charming country and you will find the two hour journey from Kigali a fascinating experience as you pass through small towns and villages on roads that traverse this steeply undulating country. You will be based for the next three nights at Mountain Gorilla View Lodge. Your stay here is on a full board basis and includes one gorilla permit per person to visit the gorillas tomorrow.

**Special Note:**

During your stay in Rwanda you will have a vehicle and driver at your disposal which you can use for additional excursions you wish to make. (entrance fees payable locally). We have included a permit to visit the Golden Monkeys.

**Day 2**

Today we track the Gorillas in the park, National Park trackers will have been out in the early morning to locate one of the gorilla groups for you to visit. The walk is uphill and can be quite strenuous so a reasonable level of fitness is required. It is possible to hire the services of a porter for US\$ 10 approx who will carry your things for you. Once located you are permitted to spend 45 minutes with the Gorillas before you return to your lodge.

**Day 3**

You will have the day at leisure and your driver and vehicle at your disposal to visit the Golden Monkeys and also any other sights which may interest you in Rwanda. In the early evening you will return to your lodge for your last night at Mountain Gorilla Lodge.

**The Mountain Gorilla View Lodge** is a new mid range lodge at a reasonable price and possibly the best value option for guests wanting to trek Gorillas in Rwanda.

The 30 stone and thatch cottages are well positioned to give some privacy and each has en-suite facilities and a small lounge with a fire place and a private veranda. There is a separate restaurant and bar area where meals are served. Mountain Gorilla View Lodge is a good base from which to explore the area and organise treks to see the Golden monkeys and, of course, the mountain gorillas.

In our opinion Mountain Gorilla View Lodge provides comfortable but basic accommodation and good value for money at the same time as great views and easy access to Parc National des Volcans.

<http://www.safari-club.co.uk/rwanda/park-national-des-volcanes/mountain-gorilla-view-lodge/>

**Day 4**

You will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the Kigali where you will be staying for one night at the Hotel Des Milles Collines.

View at <http://www.millecollines.net/>

**Day 5**

Transfer to the airport for your flight to the Nairobi. You will be met off the flight and transferred to the Ole Sereni where you will be staying for one night on a bed and breakfast basis in a superior room.

View at <http://www.ole-serenihotel.com/>

### **Day 6**

You will be collected after breakfast and transferred to the domestic airport for your flight to the Maasai Mara. You will be met on arrival and transferred to Governors Camp where you will be staying for the next three nights on a full board basis.

### **Days 7 to 8**

You may if you wish take a hot air balloon flight over the plains following on with a game drive. If you prefer you can just take early, mid morning or afternoon game drives with breaks back at the camp for meals and siesta's. You have three full nights at Governors Camp to enjoy this wonderful part of the Maasai Mara and its fabulous wildlife.

**Governors camp** is situated on the banks of the Mara River in the west of the Maasai Mara Game Reserve. When built it set new standards in luxury as a tented camp, putting particular emphasis on comfort and service, complimented by the sort of good food, which would have been impossible in the bygone days of the grand safari.

Maintaining these unique qualities as a tradition, Governors camp has been refined and improved through the years. Special care has been taken to preserve an atmosphere at Governors Camp in which today's traveller can share the same elemental landscape that inspired Hemingway and magnetised adventurers the world over.

The Maasai Mara is a unique area with a constant and unrivalled flow of wildlife throughout the year. From July to October the Mara becomes a backdrop for one of the last great natural wonders of the world, when 1.4 million Wildebeest and Zebra surge up from the Serengeti plains in their annual search for the seasonal grasses that sustain them. Witness this on your stay at Governors camp.

The spectacle as the vast herds cross rivers and sweep through the golden grasses, is punctuated by individual struggles with the predators, which in turn are drawn to take their part in this dramatic event. Whilst the migration is spectacular, game viewing at all other times of the year remains almost unrivalled anywhere in Africa, here at Governors Camp

There are various activities on offer, game drives in open Land Rovers, game walks or balloon flights over the wide plains of the Masai Mara.

The full spectrum of Kenyan wildlife can be found in this area including all the big cats, elephant, rhino, buffalo, eland, giraffe and all the usual plains game.

View at <http://www.governorscamp.com/>

### **Day 9**

Early morning game activity, then, after breakfast transfer to the airstrip for your flight to Wilson Airport where you will be met and transferred to the International airport in time for your outbound flight.

**TOTAL PRICE PER PERSON SHARING ON A KIGALI TO KIGALI AND NAIROBI TO NAIROBI BASIS**

1 st January to 31 st March 2012	US\$5084 (£3390)
1 st November to 14 th December 2012	US\$5084 (£3390)
1 st July to 31 st October 2012	US\$5333 (£3555)
16 th December to 31 st December 2012	US\$5333 (£3555)
1 st April to 31 st May 2012	US\$4747 (£3164)

**Special notes:**

The above price is based on two people sharing.

The itinerary may be varied according to International Flight timings.

**What's Included:**

Private Vehicle and driver at your disposal whilst in Rwanda

One Gorilla Permit per Person

One Golden Monkey Permit Per Person

All park, crater and other entry fees as per itinerary

Full board accommodation at all properties except Hotel Des Mille Collines and Ole Sereni

Game drives and treks as per itinerary

Internal Flights

Road transfers where required

**What's not included:**

Drinks and beverages at any property

Bed and Breakfast at Hotel Mille Collines and Ole Sereni

Local Airport Departure Taxes

Visa Fees

Tips and Gratuities for Camp Staff and your Guide

Purchases of a personal nature

Additional Gorilla Permits at US\$500 per permit.

International Flights London/Kigali/Nairobi/London (From £600 per person economy)

**Wildlife Sightings**

Africa's wildlife is free ranging and moves according to seasonal availability of food and water therefore no sighting is guaranteed. The following species can be found in the areas visited on this safari and guests can expect to see many of them.

Mountain Gorilla, Golden Monkey, Elephant, Giraffe, Black Rhino, Lion, Leopard, Cheetah, Spotted Hyena, Jackal, African Wildcat, Serval, Caracal, Wild dog, Various baboon and primate species, Genet, Mongoose, Porcupine, Aardvark, Cape Buffalo, Zebra, Wildebeest, Impala, Grants Gazelle, Thompsons Gazelle, Eland, Duiker, Kongoni, Topi, Oribi, Dik Dik, Waterbuck, Lesser Kudu, Crocodile, Hippopotamus, Monitor Lizard, Ostrich, Flamingo, Bat Eared Fox, Honey Badger and mongoose.

**When to go:**

This Safari is available year round and the wildlife sightings are good at any time April and May can be wet. The annual migration takes place between late July and end of October.

**Who should go?**

This safari is a holiday of a lifetime, great for couples, older families or groups of friends which anyone who loves wildlife will enjoy. This safari is particularly suitable for clients who

have a more modest budget and limited time and want concentrated game viewing. A reasonable level of fitness is required for the Gorilla Trekking.

**We Say:**

This is a superb, high quality safari experience featuring two of nature's finest wildlife experiences. It is always a great privilege to spend time with the Mountain Gorillas and the Maasai Mara is without doubt one of the richest ecosystems in all of Africa. Wonderful scenery and top quality big five game viewing whilst staying in comfortable accommodation make this a special experience.

Why not take a hot air balloon flight in the Maasai Mara to make your safari really special or maybe add a few days in Zanzibar or on the Kenya coast to round off your experience with a few lazy days on a picture postcard beach.

**SAFARI CLUB PROMISE:**

Our consultants are dedicated to providing you, our clients, with the safari holiday of your dreams, we will always endeavour to offer you the best value safari and beach holiday in line with the time available and budget guidelines you have supplied.

The camps, lodges and hotels included in our trips are regularly vetted by our consultants to ensure the highest standards are maintained and that every safari and associated beach stay is a unique and authentic African experience.

Safari Club will never compromise the quality of our safaris by offering a knowingly inferior product in the interests of price.

**“Our Air Travel Organisers Licence, (ATOL 9991), is issued by the Civil Aviation Authority in the United Kingdom and provides you with the guarantee that your money is safe with us. We are fully bonded to give you the financial security you are entitled to.”**



[www.safari-club.co.uk](http://www.safari-club.co.uk)

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