

CINCINNATI ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDEN
ULTIMATE KENYA SAFARI

JUNE 8-21, 2025



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Join Executive Director Thane Maynard on the ultimate safari adventure and delve into Kenya's premier wildlife havens. Venture into Samburu, encountering rare northern species and immerse yourself in the awe-inspiring spectacle of the Great Migration in the iconic Masai Mara. Experience the unparalleled beauty and rich biodiversity of Kenya's most celebrated wilderness. Cap your safari with a warm welcome in the Shompole Conservancy, set in the heart of Southern Maasailand, where the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden has supported community-based conservation for over fifteen years. Enjoy well-appointed accommodations in luxury lodges and tented camps perfectly situated to maximize wildlife viewing.



YOUR HOST

THANE MAYNARD

Thane Maynard is the Executive Director of the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, dedicated to celebrating and promoting wildlife conservation. He has authored over a dozen books, including "Hope For Animals & Their World" with Jane Goodall, and hosts the public radio program "The 90-Second Naturalist." Maynard's work has taken him to five continents, earning him membership in the Explorers Club. He is active in the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and serves on the Board of Trustees for the Margo Marsh Biodiversity Foundation. Born in central Florida, Thane holds a bachelor's degree in environmental studies from Rollins College and a master's in wildlife ecology from the University of Michigan.



ITINERARY SUMMARY

- **Nairobi**
Emara Ole-Serini Hotel, 2 nights
- **Samburu National Reserve**
Soroi Larsens Camp, 3 nights
- **Masai Mara Game Reserve**
Sentinel Mara Safari Camp, 3 nights
- **Shompole Conservancy**
Shompole Wilderness Camp, 3 nights
- **Nairobi**
Emara Ole-Serini Hotel, Dayroom



DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1 - JUNE 8, 2025 DEPART USA

Suggested Flight: Delta / Air France from CVG to Nairobi via Paris.

DAY 2 - JUNE 9 ARRIVE NAIROBI (NBO)

Welcome to Kenya! Upon arrival at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, after clearing customs and immigration, you will be met by a Conservancy Travel representative and transferred to your hotel for check in. Evening at leisure. *Emara Ole-Serini Hotel*

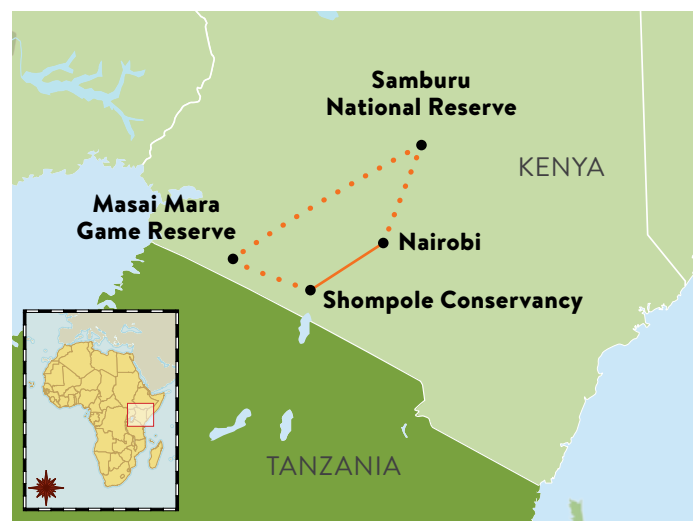
DAY 3 - JUNE 10 NAIROBI

After a leisurely breakfast, drive to David Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage. The Orphans' Project exists to offer hope for the future of Kenya's threatened elephant and rhino populations as they struggle against the threat of poaching for their ivory and horn, and the loss of habitat due to human population pressures and conflict, deforestation, and drought. After a briefing about the program, you'll have an opportunity to interact with the elephants. (*Visiting hours from 11:00a.m.-12:00p.m.*)

Enjoy a picnic lunch in the park then seek out the park's famed rhinos on an afternoon game drive. Dinner in the hotel. *Emara Ole-Serini Hotel (B,L,D)*

DAY 4 - JUNE 11 SAMBURU NATIONAL RESERVE

After breakfast, transfer to Wilson Airport for your 55-minute flight to Samburu. Samburu National Reserve features palm



groves and riverine forests amidst arid and semi-arid ecosystems, creating a stunning landscape. Located in the land of the Samburu people, cousins of the Maasai. Wildlife inhabiting this arid environment gather near the Ewaso Nyiro River, providing spectacular game viewing opportunities. This region, home to northern Kenya's largest river, showcases the rare "northern special five" species: Grevy's zebra, Somali ostrich, reticulated giraffe, gerenuk, and beisa oryx, that we'll search for on this afternoon's game drive. *Soroi Larsens Camp (B,L,D)*



DAY 5 - JUNE 12 SAMBURU NATIONAL RESERVE

Explore Samburu on a game drive, and take a leisurely, guided bush walk for an up-close connection to nature and wildlife. Examine tracks, spoor, botany and birds with your expert safari guide. *Soroi Larsens Camp (B,L,D)*

DAY 6 - JUNE 13 SAMBURU NATIONAL RESERVE

This morning, we'll drive 2.5 hours to the Reteti Elephant Sanctuary, to arrive promptly for the 11:30 am visiting hours. **Please plan to wear dark green, brown, or khaki.** Visiting the Reteti Elephant Sanctuary is a unique experience and one of the best ways to support the local community and help protect the animals cared for there. Witness feeding and playtime at the sanctuary and take an in-depth look behind the scenes. We return to our camp in the late afternoon. *Soroi Larsens Camp (B,L,D)*

DAY 7 - JUNE 14 SAMBURU / MASAI MARA GAME RESERVE

After breakfast, transfer to the Kalama airstrip for your 1 hour and 15-minute scenic flight to the Masai Mara Game Reserve, arriving in time for lunch at our camp. Located in southwest Kenya and covering 583 square miles, the Masai Mara is a land of breathtaking vistas, abundant wildlife, and endless plains. It's a photographer's and naturalist's paradise, with plentiful elephants, buffalo, giraffes, lions, and cheetahs, alongside migratory wildebeests and zebras. Leopards are frequently seen, endangered black rhinos hide in dense thickets, and large hippos and crocodiles inhabit the Mara River. The park is also home to over 450 bird species. This northern extension of the Serengeti ecosystem is one of the

world's most rewarding wildlife observation sites. Enjoy an afternoon game drive. *Sentinel Mara Camp (BLD)*

DAYS 8 & 9 - JUNE 15 & 16 MASAI MARA GAME RESERVE

Enjoy two full days in the Masai Mara, exploring with morning and afternoon game drives. *Sentinel Mara Camp (BLD)*

An optional hot air balloon safari over the Masai Mara is available on request and at an additional cost. This optional excursion is in lieu of one morning game drive. Advance Reservation is suggested. Lift off at dawn and float gently with the morning winds. At times, the balloon will hover at treetop level, offering unique wildlife perspectives and excellent photo opportunities. Soaring over the wide-open plains at sunrise is incomparable, and the experience concludes perfectly with a champagne breakfast in the wilderness.

DAY 10 - JUNE 17 FLY MASAI MARA TO SHOMPOLE

After breakfast, transfer to the Mara Airstrip for your 35-minute chartered flight to Shompole Conservancy, in the heart of the Great Rift valley on the banks of the Southern Ewaso Ng'iro River. At Shompole Wilderness camp, we are welcomed by our hosts, Samantha and Johann du Toit, along with their two children. The camp is situated on community land that is home to the Shompole Maasai people, where the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden has supported community-based conservation for over fifteen years.

Southern Maasailand is hot and dry, but the Ewaso Ng'iro river



brings water from the Mau highlands to feed the wildlife, people and their livestock who coexist together here. Located almost halfway between Amboseli National Park and the Masai Mara National Reserve, the area plays an important role as a wildlife corridor between the two and is filled with a wide diversity of birds, reptiles and large mammals - The 'Big Five' are found here, except for rhinos.

Arrive in time for lunch and check in. Enjoy afternoon and night game drives. You can expect to see many of your usual plains game by day and the area is well known for its nocturnal life. Seeing bat-eared foxes, civet cats, genets, aardwolf, hyena, elephant, lion and leopard is not uncommon. **Shompole Wilderness Camp (BLD)**

DAYS 11 & 12 - JUNE 18 & 19 SHOMPOLE CONSERVANCY

Our final safari highlight is a unique immersion in local community life. Here, you are free to roam across the open plains, float down the river on an inner tube, or simply relax at camp. You might want to try your hand at catch and release fishing in the river.

During our stay, we'll walk with a habituated troop of 90+ Olive baboons, guided by Sisco, who knows each one by name and has been studying them for six years. The walk begins at the nearby Lale'enok Resource Centre, where you can also learn about ongoing conservation and research efforts. Samantha, who collaborates with SORALO (South Rift Association of Land Owners), the Zoo's conservation partner, will share insights on their work fostering harmony between wildlife and communities. **Shompole Wilderness Camp (BLD)**

DAY 13 - JUNE 20 DEPARTURE

After breakfast, we'll bid our hosts farewell and drive back to Nairobi, where day rooms are reserved at the Emara Ole-Serini Hotel, until it's time to check in at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport for flights home. **(B)**

DAY 14 - JUNE 21 ARRIVE USA

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\$14,020 per person in a double room

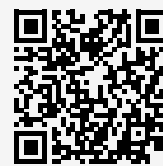
\$17,067 per person in a single room

Deposit: \$4,000 per person

Balance Due: February 7, 2025

Register online at

www.conservancytravel.org/CZBG2025Kenya



INCLUDED ON YOUR ULTIMATE KENYA SAFARI:

- ✓ Predeparture information and packing list
- ✓ Private transportation and guided game drives in Nairobi and by each lodge's safari vehicles on a private basis.
- ✓ 11 nights in Deluxe/Luxury accommodations in lodges and tented camps perfectly situated to maximize wildlife viewing; day rooms in Nairobi on Day 13
- ✓ All transfers in Nairobi if arriving and departing with group on suggested flights
- ✓ Nairobi Full-day Excursion including picnic lunch: Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage and Nairobi National Park Game Drive
- ✓ Samburu Bush Walk
- ✓ Reteti Elephant Sanctuary Visit
- ✓ Three flights (Wilson/Samburu, Samburu/Masai Mara, Masai Mara/Shompole)
- ✓ All Kenya government taxes and service charges; park fees, vehicle fees, entrance fees and Mara bed night levy
- ✓ All meals as per itinerary (B-breakfast; L-Lunch; D-Dinner)
- ✓ Bottled water in the safari vehicle; filtered water to refill your personal water bottle in camps.
- ✓ Soft Drinks, filtered water, alcoholic beverages at Sentinel Mara Safari Camp
- ✓ Laundry (excluding underwear) at Sentinel Mara Camp and Shompole Wilderness Camp
- ✓ Emergency Medical Evacuation services by Flying Doctors

NOT INCLUDED:

- Round-trip international airfare
- Travel Insurance
- Kenya Entry Visa –may be obtained online before departure
- Laundry (unless specified as included at the accommodation)
- Soft Drinks, bottled water, alcoholic beverages; except where specified as included at the accommodation (Sentinel Mara Safari Camp)
- Personal expenses
- Gratuities/Tips for safari guides; camp and lodge staff
- Optional Masai Mara Balloon Safari \$560 per person

WHAT TO EXPECT ON SAFARI IN KENYA

On safari in Kenya, you can expect excellent accommodations: Hotels/lodges and deluxe, safari style camps; international and local cuisine with many choices; some picnic lunches; light walking; some long drives up to six hours, with game viewing en route. Roads may be dusty, uneven, and bumpy. Daily morning and afternoon game drives: It is cool in the mornings and evenings and warm during the day. One must be able to step up and down, and climb in and out of a 4x4 safari vehicle and small aircraft. One should be in good physical condition, remain flexible, be of good humor, and have a spirit of adventure and curiosity to enjoy this safari to its fullest.



ACCOMODATIONS

NAIROBI EMARA OLE-SERINI HOTEL

Nairobi's Emara Ole-Sereni Hotel is a luxurious property located adjacent to Nairobi National Park. This upscale hotel offers a blend of modern comfort and safari-inspired design, featuring elegantly furnished rooms. Enjoy a range of amenities, including multiple dining options, a rooftop bar with panoramic views of the park, a fitness center, and swimming pool.



SOROI LARSEN'S CAMP

Soroi Larsen's Camp is a recently refurbished, exquisite boutique luxury retreat nestled in the untamed heart of the Samburu Game Reserve on the banks of the Northern Ewaso Ngiro River. The camp boasts an intimate selection of sixteen tents and suites, each offering private terraces with exclusive river frontage. The camp's location offers a unique opportunity to observe animals in their natural habitat, often from the comfort of your tent. Enjoy evenings around the campfire. Take a dip in the pool to cool off in during the heat of the day. Your stay includes complimentary Wi-Fi, coffee, teas, and filtered water to refill your personal water bottle.



SENTINEL MARA SAFARI CAMP

Situated in a prime area of the Masai Mara, the eco-camp has easy access to annual migration crossing points. The Musiara Marsh area, renowned for its outstanding game viewing, is where both the BBC "Big Cat Diaries" and Disney's "African Cats" were filmed. Eco-friendly, solar-powered tents blend luxury with an authentic connection to nature. Your stay includes coffee, tea, wine (excluding champagne), spirits, beers, soft drinks, Wi-Fi and laundry (excluding underwear).



SHOMPOLE WILDERNESS CAMP

Situated on community land belonging to the Shompole Maasai, in the heart of the Great Rift valley, on the banks of the Southern Ewaso Ngiro River. Enjoy exclusive game viewing from the camp's hide, the perfect vantage point for incredible wildlife photography. The camp has six very private tents with large veranda, personal safe and private bathroom with running water and hot water in the evenings. Cloth sarongs are provided for use during your stay. Electricity is provided by small generators; therefore, no hairdryer use is permitted. Included in your stay: Laundry service (excluding underwear); filtered water to refill your personal water bottle.





FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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REGISTER ONLINE:

www.conservancytravel.org/CZBG2025Kenya

