

# SAFARI MKOMAZI

## 10 DAYS

### DESCRIPTION

**MKOMAZI** means **FOUNTAIN OF WATER** in the language of the **Pare tribe**, a large tribe in the Kilimanjaro region. **Mkomazi National Park** is located in the northern part of Tanzania, between Moshi and Tanga. The park is in a beautiful setting with the **Pare** and **Usambara mountains** above its limits. Depending on the weather, Mount Kilimanjaro can also be seen from the park. As far as vegetation is concerned, Mkomazi marks the southern tip of the Sahel zone that resembles that of a dry desert landscape. Due to the climate, the vegetation is mainly acacia-commiphora forests and towards the western mountains, the vegetation changes to a dry land forest.

What makes Mkomazi Park different is the fact that it is home to endangered animals such as the wild dog and the black rhino found today in a private sanctuary. Besides, it is also the best park to see large herds of antelope Oryx and Generuk.

All this with an **expert local** English-speaking driver/guide.

### ITINERARY

- 01 International Flight into Tanzania
- 02 Kilimanjaro Airport – Mkomazi Park (Area of Same)
- 03 Mkomazi Park
- 04 Mkomazi Park – Usambara Mountains (Cultural)
- 05 Usambara Mountains Trekking – Arusha
- 06 Arusha – Tarangire National Park – Karatu
- 07 Karatu – Serengeti Park
- 08 Serengeti Park
- 09 Serengeti Park – Ngorongoro Crater – Karatu
- 10 Karatu – Town of Mto wa Mbu – International Airport – Departure

**Departure dates: all year round.**

# DETAILED ROUTE

**01 INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT INTO TANZANIA:** International flight into **Tanzania**. Overnight on board.

**02 KILIMANJARO AIRPORT – MKOMAZI PARK (AREA OF SAME):** We will land in Tanzania, specifically at Kilimanjaro International Airport. After completing the entry procedures to the country and collecting our luggage, we will meet our guide, who will be waiting for us with a sign and our names on it.

Shortly after, we'll be on our way to the **Mkomazi National Park**. After about 3 hours, we'll reach the town of **Same**, where we will spend the night.

Elephant Motel — FB (Full Board): <http://www.elephantmotel.com>

**03 MKOMAZI PARK:** Early, we will drive up to the entrance in order to register and start this great day. The park offers unique views and passages, which we can go through while we search animals such as the **wild dog, giraffe, buffalo, elephant, black rhino, oryx antelope** and **gerunuk** among many others.

The main source of water in Mkomazi comes from the **Umba River** to the southeast, where we can see various animals drinking or simply cooling off. Mkomazi is also home to a large population of birds, more than 450 species that can be easily seen: ostriches, long-crested eagles, hoopoes and great bustards. Around the Umba River, sightings of martins, flamingos, cormorants, plovers, ducks and crocodiles basking on the banks are common.

After a very nice day and as the sunset approaches, we'll go back to the same accommodation spend the night.

Elephant Motel — FB (Full Board): <http://www.elephantmotel.com>

**04 MKOMAZI PARK – USAMBARA MOUNTAINS:** After breakfast, we will drive to the famous **Usambara Mountains**, an area under the influence of the Sambia tribe. Upon arrival, we will discover the **colorful culture** of the **Sambia people**. They are famous for **pottery making** and we will be lucky to spend time in a workshop and watch them make it. If we wish, we can participate and learn from them. We will also visit the local market where barter is common, taking into account that most of them are either natural or homemade products.

At noon, we will have a hot lunch at our accommodation and enjoy the views of the peaks of Mount Usambara. If the day is clear, you can also see Mount Kilimanjaro from up-close. After lunch, we will go out again and take a stroll in town to discover diverse community projects such as the **Jamii Sawa Foundation** <http://www.jamiisawa.org/> which is dedicated to providing water to the area, construction of schools and hospitals.

At sunset, we can go for a drink in a local bar in the middle and enjoy the African atmosphere.

Mambo View Point — FB (Full Board): <https://mamboviewpoint.org/>

## 05 USAMBARA MOUNTAINS TREKKING – ARUSHA:

With an early breakfast to gather strength and at sunrise, we will go out for a **trek** through the Usambara Mountains following the **Mambo Footprints route**. This path follows the **Homo Erectus markings**, but we can also enjoy nature at its best and see white colobus monkeys, chameleons, but not forgetting the identification of birds and plants.

We'll go back for lunch and a little rest or even a nap. Shortly after, we will leave this area and drive to the city of **Arusha** where we will spend the night.

Arusha Planet Lodge – BB (Bed & Breakfast): [https://www.planet-lodges.com/arusha\\_planet\\_lodge/](https://www.planet-lodges.com/arusha_planet_lodge/)

## 06 ARUSHA – TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK – KARATU:

First contact with the wealth of fauna and landscape in the country. We will explore the **Tarangire Park**, less famous and also little explored than its counterparts Ngorongoro and Serengeti, but no less interesting for that matter.

Tarangire is widely known for its huge population of elephants and the gigantic baobabs that sift the park, the enormous African tree whose legend tells how the gods turned it upside down to punish human pride. On the way to the park, we will have the first visual contact with the huts of the Masai ethnic group, which we'll see in the distance engaged in their daily activities. We will have our picnic lunch in the park and complete the safari in Tarangire seeking ferocious lions, sneaky leopards, giraffes or buffalos.

After a very complete day, we will leave the park behind and move towards the amazing Rift Valley, specifically to the town of **Karatu**, the last town bordering the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

Eileen's Tree Inn — FB (Full Board): <http://www.eileenstrees.com/>

## 07 KARATU – SERENGETI PARK:

Very early in the morning, we'll leave for the great park of northern Tanzania, the **Serengeti**. Upon arrival, we will cross the famous endless plain where we will begin our great safari in search of animals such as lions, leopards, elephants, giraffes, buffalos, wildebeest, zebras, antelope, birds and many more.

The safari will take us to the central area, better known as **Seronera**, and with the sunset with us. We will arrive at our camp in the middle of the savanna and views of the entire plain.

Burudika Serengeti Tented Camp – FB (Full Board): <http://www.burudikalodges.com/serengeti-tented-camp/>

**08 SERENGETI PARK (CENTRAL ZONE):** The oldest and most famous of Tanzania's and Africa's national parks represents the essence of the safari experience par excellence. With large savanna plains and forests where millions of herbivores graze, the Serengeti is home to the most significant specimens of Africa all year round: giraffes, elephants and rhinos.

Known for the annual migrations of wildebeests and other herbivores, where millions of animals travel nearly 1,000 kilometers in search of fresh pastures starring in a unique spectacle of wildlife, Serengeti is the must-visit place in Tanzania. One of the scenes that awaits is that of hippos and **Nile crocodiles** in one of the large ponds in this park.

One of these natural pools, known as the **Retina Hippo Pool** and located 10 kilometers from Seronera, is one of the best places to see these fascinating animals. We'll have picnic food in the middle of the savanna, so as not to lose a second of the sensations while being part of a safari in capital letters.

We'll have picnic today, in the middle of the savanna, so that we can use time efficiently and enjoy all the sensations offered by this safari in capital letters.

Burudika Serengeti Tented Camp – FB (Full Board): <http://www.burudikalodges.com/serengeti-tented-camp/>

**09 SERENGETI PARK (CENTRAL ZONE) – NGORONGORO CRATER – KARATU:** At sunrise, we will be ready to enter the **Ngorongoro Crater**, one of the largest volcanic calderas in the world. Formed after a gigantic explosion in the volcano, we can appreciate the caldera as a gigantic hole with walls over 600 meters high filled with forests.

Inside the 20-kilometer in diameter caldera, nature has created a peculiar universe of ecosystems with forests, lakes and savannas so it can be home to a population of **around 25,000 animals of different species**. This safari brings the opportunity to see the so-called **Big Five**.

This safari brings the possibility to see the so-called Big Five. Specifically in the **Munge River** area, we will be on the lookout for the lions with the darkest mane. In this paradise, we'll have our picnic lunch in front of a swamp watching hippos bathe. In the afternoon, we will leave the crater and head to the town of **Karatu**.

Eileen's Tree Inn — FB (Full Board): <https://www.eileentrees.com/>

## 10 KARATU – TOWN OF MTO WA MBU – INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – DEPARTURE:

We'll drive to the famous and **multicultural** town of **Mto wa Mbu** to engage in cultural and social visits. A local guide will guide us in visiting a local market, but we can also walk through the streets of this busy African agricultural town, surrounded by beautiful nature.

During this tour, we will visit a **school**, a **church** and a **banana brewery**, an excellent way to get an insight into the **daily life** of the local population.

After the visits, we will drive to the international airport to take the departure flight.

**END OF OUR SERVICES**

**\*ASK FOR A FREE QUOTATION.**

### ACCOMMODATION:

MKOMAZI:	Elephant Motel or similar.
USAMBARA:	Mambo View Pont or similar.
ARUSHA:	Planet Lodge or similar.
KATATU:	Eileens Tree Inn or similar.
SERENGETI:	Burudika Tented Camp or similar.

### NOTE:

The accommodations offered will be guaranteed once the reservation is confirmed by the client. If the accommodations are not available, they will be exchanged for others with similar characteristics. Such change could increase or decrease the price, so the client will be informed.

### INCLUDED SERVICES:

All transfers to and from the airport; full board during the safari, except drinks at hotels; 4x4 vehicles, Land Cruiser or Land Rover in Tanzania; professional English-speaking driver-guide throughout the safari; park fees for all national parks mentioned; full board during the safari, except drinks at hotels; visit: social and cultural in the Usambara Mountains; visit: Sambia tribe in Usambara; visit: pottery workshop in Usambara; trekking in Usambara Mountains; visit: cultural and social in Mto wa Mbu; bottled water during the safari (unlimited); electric fridge in the 4x4 vehicles to cool drinks; socket for cell phone and camera in the 4x4 vehicles.

**SERVICES NOT INCLUDED:**

International and national flights; any services not specified as Included; any time of visa (\$50 per person); any type of activity not mentioned in the itinerary; drinks of any type at hotels except when specified; tips and personal extras; travel insurance; transportation expenses in case of emergency, personal first-aid kit; drinks of any type at hotels except when specified.

