



Up North

CHALBI DESERT CULTURAL TOUR



11
DAYS
.....
10 Nights

The arid and semi-arid North of Kenya is known as the Magical North. The Jade Sea (Lake Turkana) is the world's largest permanent desert lake and the world's largest alkaline lake. This magical tour takes you through Marsabit to Mt. Poi; at the foot of Ndoto Mountains in Ngurunit; through the Semi-Arid South Horr and through the largest wind power project in Africa located in Loiyangalani; at the banks of Lake Turkana. From there, the oases of North Horr await us, followed by the Sand dunes of Chalbi Desert; and finally a cultural village of the Gabra people in Kalacha, that completes the circuit back to Marsabit through the Marsabit National Park and Lake Paradise.

Itinerary

Day 1	: Arrival in Nairobi – Night stay at a hotel	*BB
Day 2	: Nairobi City Tour – Night stay at a Hotel	*HB (Lunch & B/fast)
Day 3	: Nairobi – Marsabit – Night stay at a hotel	*FB
Day 4	: Marsabit – Ngurnit – Camp at Lasamu	*FB
Day 5	: Climb Mt. Poi – Camp at the Summit	*FB
Day 6	: Ngurnit – Loiyangalani – Night stay at hotel	*FB
Day 7	: Loiyangalani day – Night stay at hotel	*FB
Day 8	: Loiyangalani – Chalbi Desert – Camp at Kalacha Desert Museum	*FB
Day 9	: Drive to Nanyuki - Night stay at a hotel	*FB
Day 10	: Sagana white water rafting - Drive to Nairobi Night stay at a hotel	*FB
Day 11	: Departure from Nairobi.	

**Meal plan BB – Bed & Breakfast; HB – Half Board (2 meals); FB – Full Board (3 meals).*



Day 1

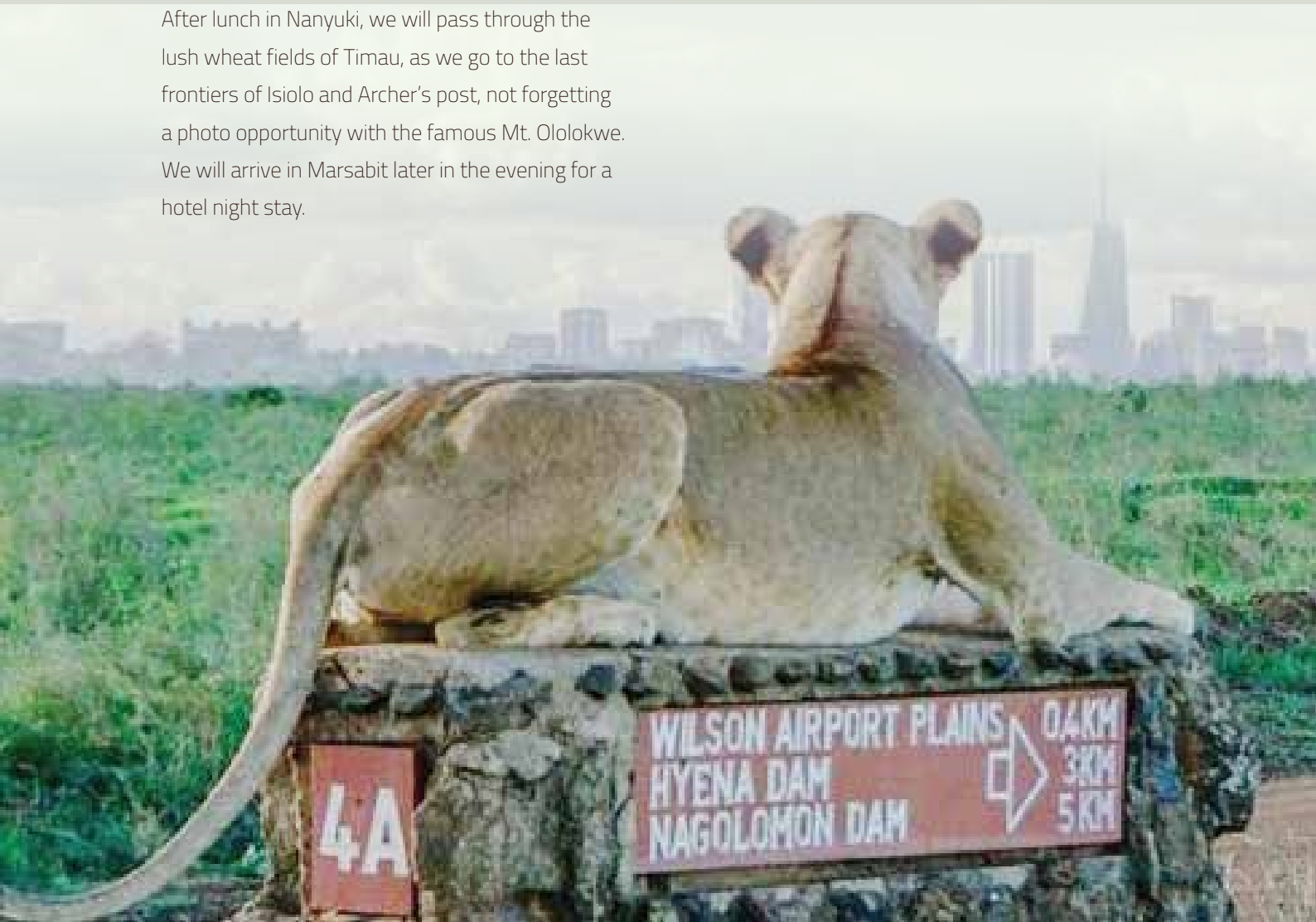
Karibu Kenya. Welcome to Kenya. Arrive at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport and get a transfer to a hotel where you will spend the night getting ready for an exciting tour.

Day 3

We begin our long drive up north very early in the morning. We will pass through the green central highlands of Kenya as we snake to the grassy plains of Laikipya. On our right we will have breathtaking views of the ever majestic Mt. Kenya. After lunch in Nanyuki, we will pass through the lush wheat fields of Timau, as we go to the last frontiers of Isiolo and Archer's post, not forgetting a photo opportunity with the famous Mt. Ololokwe. We will arrive in Marsabit later in the evening for a hotel night stay.

Day 2

Nairobi is the only city in the world with a national park. We kick off our tour with a game drive in the National Park. Here you will see, lions, rhino, buffalo, among others. We will then proceed to the David Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage, followed by the Giraffe centre where you will come up close with these graceful grazers and get a chance to feed them.




Day 4

The true desert adventure begins as we leave tarmac a few miles after Marsabit, to branch off to Ngurnit, at the foot of Ndoto Mountains. We will pass Borana villages, with young men herding hundreds of camels, as well as wild ostriches dotting the scrublands. As the dust settles, sunset will find us in Ngurnit, the home of the Samburu and the Rendille people. Here we will reside at a campsite where gentle giants come to visit in the dark...

Day 5

At the foot of Ngurunit, and standing at 1,916m/6,286ft a.s.l is Mt. Poi, the mountain of the Samburu and Rendille, guarded by colorfully dressed Samburu warriors. On this day, we will hike up the mountain to visit cultural shrines, as we learn about the people's way of life. We will set up camp at the summit of Mt. Poi, and sleep under a starry African night.





Day 6

After a bush breakfast, we will set off for the lake. Through the arid South Horr, Mt. Kulal a constant accompanying presence on our right, and through the largest wind power project in Africa, we will arrive at Loiyangalani at the shores of the largest desert and alkaline lake in the world, Lake Turkana. The town itself sits on an oasis, and hence is surprisingly very cool. Tired and dusty, we will reside in a resort close to the lake as we dine on freshly caught fish.

Day 7

Loiyangalani is home to the Samburu, Turkana and the smallest of the tribes, the El-molo people. We will go on a cultural tour of the town, as we learn about their ancient ways through museum and fishing village visits, and how their culture is slowly fading away. An afternoon dip in the lake will be welcome, then we will settle down for a sunset dinner at our breezy resort.

Day 8

The enchanting sand dunes of Kenya's only true desert awaits us. Shooting towards Chalbi desert, we will pass magical oases of North Horr, the home of the nomadic Gabbra people who we will pass by the desert, herding hundreds of camels, and if adventurous, indulge in some camel milk. We will have a breather at the dunes, then head out to Kalacha, the second home of the Gabbra people. Here we will camp at a traditional lodge that's run by the community. You can get an opportunity to interact with the locals if you so wish.

Day 9

Time to head out of the desert. We will do this through the camel market centre of Maikona, and out through Marsabit National Park. We will then dust ourselves and have lunch at Marsabit town, after which we will go for a glimpse of Lake Paradise, still in Marsabit. We will then say goodbye to the mystic north, as we head south to Nanyuki, where we will rest for the night.

Day 10

After a lazy morning breakfast, we will leave Nanyuki and head to Sagana, famous for its wild waters. Here we will wash off all the desert dust with a white water rafting experience on the Sagana River, after which we will head back to Nairobi, wishing the tour would never end.....



FAQs

Can I come with my whole family?

YES you can. This tour is designed for all types of adventurers of all ages and physical ability.

What about the young children?

If need be, and if informed in advance, we shall make all necessary arrangements to ensure that all age groups are catered for, with extra attention being given to the very young and those advanced in age at no extra cost.

What if I would like to extend my tour?

From the end of this tour, and at an additional cost, one is able to extend their stay in order to enjoy other tourist trappings that Kenya has to offer, choose from our range of exciting tours or we can customize a safari just for you. Just let us know beforehand and we shall arrange everything for you.

Tell me more about accommodation

You shall stay in 4 star hotels and lodges but where unavailable in 3 star rated facilities. As per itinerary certain days may be designated as camping days where accommodation will be outdoors in comfortable premium tents. Luxury accommodation in 5 star facilities can be arranged on request at an extra cost. Although we shall be off the reach of dangerous animals at all times, all hotels, campsites and wildlife lodges have armed guards to ensure your safety and security.

What about food?

Food is prepared from locally sourced and organically grown ingredients. Both vegetarian and non-vegetarian meals shall be served at all times. Be ready to snack on a lot of tropical fruits. Consideration shall be made for people with special dietary needs. Be sure to let us know beforehand.

In case of an accident?

In the unfortunate event of an emergency, then one shall be evacuated (by either air or road ambulance) covered by Wanderlust Outdoors, to the best hospital as per your Travel Insurance Policy.

Let's talk COVID

All persons coming into Kenya must be in possession of a negative Covid-19 PCR Certificate, acquired no more than 96 hours prior to arrival; with the PCR Certificate also having been validated under the Trusted Travel platform for those travelling by air. (Please note that the rapid test is not acceptable). The Kenya government launched a vaccination drive in March 2021 and have targeted to vaccinate half the adult population by the end of 2021.

A few days before you depart from your country of origin, (preferably after you have received your Covid-19 negative certificate), you will then need to register online on https://ears.health.go.ke/airline_registration/. This is the Kenya Government Ministry of Health Travelers Health Surveillance Form and is being collected as part of public health response to the Corona Virus pandemic. After you register, you will get a QR CODE which you will print out and present to the Port Health Officer upon arrival into the Nairobi Airport. It is important to physically have a copy of this QR code. This form is very easy to complete.

PCR testing facilities are widely available to conduct tests as required for your trip back home.

What should I be afraid of?

Absolutely nothing. Kenya is a safe tourist destination. In addition to that, we believe that the outdoors unite us as a people, both foreign and local. Wanderlust Outdoors does not condone any form of targeted discrimination or hate with regards to Race, Gender, Sex, Religion or Orientation.

Are entry visas available upon arrival in Nairobi?

The Kenya entry visa is no longer available upon arrival into Nairobi. You will have to apply for this in advance online.

To apply, you will go to <http://evisa.go.ke/evisa.html> We will provide you with a confirmation letter for your safari indicating your confirmation safari itinerary. This letter will be sufficient for you to apply for the Evisa.

COST

Prices range from US\$ 300 to 500 per night per person. Children aged 3-11 years get 20% off and children below 3 years enjoy a free vacation.

Actual price paid would depend on the season and the number of people booked for the trip. Please request a quote.

Included

- Accomodation in 4 star hotels and lodges but where unavailable in 3 star rated facilities
- Meals as per itinerary
- Professional guides and support crew
- Transport on overland trucks on all days
- AMREF AIR Evacuation cover
- All Park Entry fees and government taxes

Excluded

- Flights to and from Nairobi
- Alcoholic drinks
- Items of a personal nature
- Travel Insurance

What to Carry

- Comfortable Safari Attire
- Trek Shoes
- Round Brimmed Hat
- Sunglasses
- Sun screen
- Camera

Terms & Conditions

25% Deposit payable for booking, balance payable 3 weeks before tour (Installment payments allowed). If you cancel within 48 hours of your scheduled trip departure, 75% refund will be given. Transfer to another date shall be charged 5% of cost. No shows are responsible for 100% of trip cost.

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