

Return to the Wild: An Animal Communication Safari

November 26th – December 7th, 2022

Daily Itinerary



Days 1 & 2

November 26th - 27th, 2022

Location: [Nairobi](#)

Accommodation: [Macushla House](#)

The adventure begins with arrival in Nairobi, Kenya. After disembarking your flight, make your way to the immigration line. Just beyond the immigration desk one of our guides will be there with a Joan Ranquet sign. They will accompany you and your driver to Macushla House for check in and answer any questions you may have about your trip.

On November 27th , you will have private use of a vehicle and driver for touring starting with a 2:00 pm hotel pick-up, going until 6:00 pm. We have included a private visit to the Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage, which will be at 3 pm. Afterwards, we'll head to the Giraffe Center, a Nairobi favorite, where you can actually feed the giraffes. There is also the possibility for a stop at the Karen Blixen museum along with some local craft shops. Any other entrance fees for additional stops in Nairobi may be paid directly.



[Macushla House](#) offers a veritable trip around the world without even leaving the grounds. Inspired by the owner's (Carrie) trip to Ireland and her love of the guest houses there, the property features a collection of original art and artifacts from Yemen to Australia. This intimate guest house exudes a distinct African identity.

Macushla House has the feel of a vintage B & B and receives wide acclaim for its warm, personalized service. Singles, doubles and triples are accommodated in six individually decorated en-suite rooms. Two lounges with African animal décor and high beamed

ceilings have open log fires to create a cozy ambience in the cooler months.

Enjoy a gin and tonic in the bar, or select a book from the well-stocked library to enjoy over afternoon tea and biscuits on the covered veranda. Hearty breakfasts and fine dinners are prepared from fresh local ingredients, with breakfast, half- or full-board options.



2 nights at Macushla House (breakfast included)

Days 3 - 5

November 28th - 30th, 2022

Location: [Amboseli National Park](#)

Accommodation: [Amboseli Serena Safari Lodge](#)

After an early breakfast you'll pack your bags and depart at 8am for a 5 hour drive to Amboseli National Park. Winding through the Kenyan countryside you'll see mountains, valleys, hills, and many different communities and ways of life along the road! Upon arrival, you will check-in, have lunch and siesta time and then head out for an afternoon activity.

Crowned by Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest peak, Amboseli National Park is one of Kenya's most popular parks. The name "*Amboseli*" comes from a Maasai word meaning "*salty dust*", and it is one of the best places in Africa to view large herds of elephants up close. Nature lovers can explore five different habitats here ranging from the dried-up bed of Lake Amboseli, wetlands with sulfur springs, savannah and woodlands. You'll also have the opportunity, if you so choose, to visit a local Maasai community who live around the park and experience their culture.



Activities include:

Morning and evening game drives, full day game drives, picnic breakfast / lunches, trip to a local Maasai community

[Amboseli Serena Safari Lodge](#) is in the heart of the national park. Situated beside a natural flowing spring, this lodge enjoys gorgeous views of Mt. Kilimanjaro on a sunny day. Ocre-colored guest rooms line paved walkways that weave through landscaped gardens. The food, cooked with homegrown herbs and vegetables, is excellent, particularly the homemade pasta. The lodge is near the Enkongo Narok Swamp, the only source of water in this part of the park, so it attracts large numbers of wallowing elephants, hippos, buffaloes and other plains animals. The rooms are small, and fairly basic, with en suite bathrooms. But what the lodge lacks in luxury it more than makes up for with the friendly and helpful staff.



3 nights at Serena Safari Lodge (all meals included)

Days 6 - 8

December 1st - 3rd, 2022

Location: [Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in Tsavo East National Park](#)

Accommodation: [Ithumba Hill Camp](#)

Wake up early, pack and have breakfast, then once again you'll head out on the road for a 4 hour drive to Tsavo East National Park. Expect to see some of the remains of the Shetani lava flow and a landscape that is very open and rocky with dust devils and baobab trees along the way. This section of Kenya is very dry with dry or flowing river beds and red and black cotton soils.

Here we reach the heart of our adventure, with time in Tsavo's rich red earth landscape and a chance to see the remarkable work the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust does, reintroducing elephants back into the wild.

Your stay includes three daily visits to the orphan elephant at nearby Ithumba Station to enjoy their morning wake up routine, midday mud-bathing and feeding and evening return after their daily exploration.



Activities Include:

Unlimited and exclusive personal contact with orphaned baby elephants being reintegrated back to the wild, extensive game drives, bush walks, bird watching, beautiful African sundowners and meditation

[Ithumba Hill Camp](#) is situated on a hill inside the national park. Owned by the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, it is one of their key places where visitors can see the work of reintroducing elephants back into the wild.

Ithumba Hill has four spacious and elegantly raised tented bedrooms. They sleep up to eight guests who have exclusive use of the camp. Each bedroom is built into its own secluded location on Ithumba Hill and has an en suite bathroom area exposed to the sky, along with a spacious, elevated balcony with loungers.

The floor-to-ceiling mesh gives 180-degree views of Ithumba's stunning vistas. The rooms can be made into double or twin rooms with customized mattresses and high-quality linen. There is plenty of space to relax and unwind and from the lounge area upstairs, you can enjoy the spectacular sunsets and sunrises for which Tsavo is known, often with Kilimanjaro visible above the distant southern horizon. The traditional Lapa is great for meals and drinks or just lazing around.

In order to stay at this camp, guests must adopt one of the Sheldrick orphans.

Overnights Ithumba Hill Camp in 4 tented rooms (full board—all meals included). If our group reaches 12 participants we will also stay at nearby [Ithumba Camp](#) while sharing meals and drives all together.



3 nights at Ithumba Hill Camp (all meals included)

Days 9 - 11

December 4th - December 6th, 2022

Location: [Ol Pejeta Conservancy](#)

Accommodation: [Sweetwaters Serena Camp](#)

It's moving day! With another early wake up, you and your group will drive 5 hours through undulating hills and valleys filled with khat and rice farmers to Ol Pejeta Conservancy.

Ol Pejeta is the largest black rhino sanctuary in east Africa, and home to two of the world's last remaining northern white rhinos. It is the only place in Kenya to see chimpanzees, in a sanctuary established to rehabilitate animals rescued from the black market. It has some of the highest predator densities in Kenya, and still manages a very successful livestock program.

Ol Pejeta also seeks to support the people living around its borders, to ensure wildlife conservation translates to better education, healthcare and infrastructure for the next generation of wildlife guardians.



Activities Include:

Extensive game drives, picnic breakfast and lunches, a visit to the northern white rhino enclosure, a visit to the chimpanzee enclosure and many other interesting activities.

[Sweetwaters Serena Camp](#) is a class of its own! Located in a sheltered oasis and clustered around a waterhole, set in the pristine calm of its own private reserve – this accommodation is truly relaxing. Abounding with wildlife, unfettered by the more rigorous rules of the Kenyan National Parks, it is designed to offer a

charming blend of under canvas ambiance and uncompromising luxury.

56 stylishly appointed tents dot the landscape and are designed with charming thatched roofs, solid floors and canvas interiors. All tents feature electricity, an ensuite bathrooms with hot and cold water, showers and flushing toilets.



3 nights at Sweetwaters Serena Camp (all meals included)

Day 12
December 7th, 2022

Pack your bags and head back to Nairobi for an arrival at lunchtime and a day room in Macushla House where you can relax until you leave for the airport at 6pm. All flights out of Kenya should leave no earlier than 9pm.

You will be collected at the B&B and transferred to Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport to check in for your onward departing flights. For those departing very late, there may be an option to upgrade for a later check out time from Macushla House.



Please Note:

Our goal is to provide you with an exceptional, life-enhancing adventure. In order to achieve that goal, our guides are empowered to make reasonable changes to itineraries while a trip is underway. These decisions might be made to more closely follow the movements of wildlife, to accommodate extreme weather, to take advantage of unexpected opportunities, or generally to improve overall guest experience. For this reason, the above itinerary should be considered a general outline of your trip, subject to change. After all, the very definition of adventure is “an exciting or remarkable undertaking involving the unknown.”

Adventure Information

Included in the cost of your adventure:

- All accommodation
- All meals at camps and lodges
- Breakfast daily in city hotels
- Soft-drink beverages
- Services of camp guides and staff

- Time with Joan Ranquet
- Scheduled activities on safari and excursions as noted
- Road transfers
- Park and conservancy fees
- Accommodation taxes, applicable tourism levies and Value Added
- Tax (VAT) or Government Sales Tax
- Elephant Adoption Fee of \$50 to the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust

Not included in the cost of your adventure:

- Travel to and from your home country
- Lunch, dinner and drinks in city hotels
- Alcoholic beverages
- Laundry service
- Cancellation, baggage and medical insurance
- Passport and visa fees where applicable
- Gratuities for staff, guides, trackers, porters, transfer drivers, and any meals or drinks not included in your itinerary, etc.
- Any newly-implemented government taxes, levies, fuel or industry increases which are beyond our control

- Any items of a personal nature (souvenirs, massage, drinks and meals not included, etc.)
- Travel Insurance

Accommodation Facilities and Amenities:

The following details include available facilities, amenities and services at each of your accommodations.

Note that while we do update this information regularly, these details can and do change frequently and thus should be used as a guideline only. Please contact your CWALU travel concierge with any questions.

Macushla House—Nairobi, Kenya

- En suite bathroom
- 220v charging outlets in room
- In-room safe
- Central swimming pool
- Restaurant and bar

Ithumba Hill Camp—Tsavo East National Park, Kenya

- En suite bathroom with shower
- Room fan
- 220v charging outlets in main area
- Laundry service
- No air conditioning, hair dryer, Wi-Fi or telephone

Amboseli Serena Safari Lodge

- En suite bathroom with shower
- Ceiling Fan
- Charging outlets in room

24-hour room service
Complimentary wireless internet

Sweetwaters Serena Camp

En suite bathroom with shower
Charging outlets in room
Mosquito nets
Hair dryer
Complimentary wireless internet

Average Climate during your Safari:

It is important to remember that the information below is based on general climate and weather patterns so please check the current weather before you leave so you can be prepared for any unseasonable events.

By December in Kenya the short rains have ended for the most part, and the weather tends to be sunny and dry as summer begins. High temperatures tend to be in the 70s and 80s F, while lows are in the mid-50s and 60s F. For the hot daytime temperatures we recommend a short-sleeved shirt, shorts or zip-off pants, and plenty of sun protection including sunscreen and a wide-brimmed hat. A lightweight long-sleeved shirt may also be useful in protecting your arms from the sun.

Emergency Contact Numbers:

Joan Ranquet: +1 (561) 400-9888
Kat Koch: +27 (71) 324-7236
Wickliffe Odera: +254 (723) 115-962

When dialing any number in Africa from within the country you are calling (like Kenya), the international call prefix should be dropped and the two or three digit country code should have a “0” added. For instance, if you’re calling Wickliffe from inside Kenya you’d dial 0723-11-962

When dialing any number in Africa from another country in Africa, the international call prefix “011” should be dropped and a “00” should be dialed before the two or three digit country code.

It is sometimes difficult to connect with mobile phones within Africa. If you are trying to reach someone above in the case of an emergency, please be patient, as your call may not always go through right away.

All numbers are listed as dialed from the U.S.