

Tanzania Wildlife & Birding Safari with Naturalist Journeys



Jan. 30 – Feb. 11, 2023

w/ Kenya Ext. Jan. 23 – 30

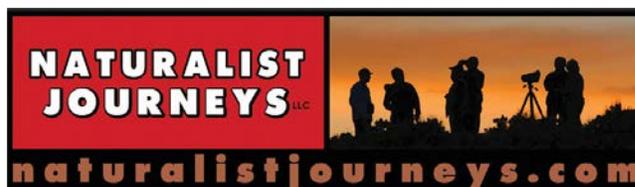
866.900.1146

520.558.1146

travel@naturalistjourneys.com

www.naturalistjourneys.com

or find us on Facebook & Instagram at
Naturalist Journeys, LLC



“Our Tanzania journey is impeccably crafted to bring you the finest wildlife viewing possible.”

- Peg Abbott, Owner of Naturalist Journeys



Join Naturalist Journeys' owner Peg Abbott, on this Tanzania wildlife safari to see the splendor of East African birds alongside iconic animals like Elephant, Wildebeest, Common Zebra, Buffalo, Impala, Gazelle, Hartebeest, Eland, Lion, Cheetah, Leopard, Spotted Hyena, Vervet Monkey, Baboon, and so many more. Travel at peak time: Wildebeest are calving and the interactions between predator and prey are intense.

We begin in Arusha, followed by time at Lake Manyara National Park, then five nights at comfortable safari camps so close to the action. Explore at Oldupai Gorge and the wildlife heavy Ngorongoro Crater. Finally witness the splendor of Tarangire National Park, perched on a principal migration corridor into the Serengeti; this is what wildlife documentaries are made of.

Throughout our exploration, learn about the Great Rift Valley and the whole area's fascinating geology. Central to our journey is ample time in the Serengeti eco-system. With its endless plains, the Serengeti is the heart and soul of our African wilderness experience.

Our pre-tour Kenya extension is highly recommended to find the most species variety—chosen for habitats that differ from those we visit in Tanzania. We include time in some of country's finest parks: Nairobi, Mount Kenya, Samburu/Buffalo Springs, and Aberdares. Nairobi is a major air hub for the region and you may pass through here to get to Arusha. This extension is a great (and simple!) way to expand your experience.

"Throughout the journey, you are immersed in the splendor of wildlife, both mammals and birds, and our timing is set for the peak of the great Wildebeest migration. Because of this timing, we must confirm our tour early; we visit at PRIME time! East Africa is still the ultimate safari experience, hands down."

Tour Highlights

- ✓ Witness spectacular concentrations of wildlife at seasonally-shrinking watering holes; watch interactions between predator and prey
- ✓ Discover Lake Manyara National Park, home to tree climbing Lion, enormous tusked Elephant, Bushbuck, Giraffe, Zebra, Buffalo, Leopard, Impala, and more
- ✓ Spend three nights at Tarangire National Park, with picturesque and ancient Baobabs and many elephants
- ✓ Search for fascinating birds in the Serengeti, like Hamerkop, Saddle-billed and African Openbill Storks, Lappet-faced Vulture, and Tawny and Martial Eagles
- ✓ Find big cats and watch their behavior; in the last years we have seen all the big cats, plus in some years, Serval and Caracal
- ✓ Visit Oldupai Gorge with a local guide, and learn about the sequence of important anthropological finds
- ✓ Opt for a sunrise hot air balloon ride over the Serengeti — wow!
- ✓ Absorb the view from the rim of Ngorongoro Crater, then venture into the crater with its teeming wildlife
- ✓ Witness the rare Black Rhino in Ngorongoro Crater, as well as many bull Elephant
- ✓ Opt for the Kenya extension—with landscapes from Mt. Kenya to the arid north where a fascinating mix of birds and animals complement those of our main safari: Gerenuk, Grevy's Zebra, Reticulated Giraffe, Gunther's Dik Dik, Beisa Oryx, Somali Ostrich, and more

Tour Summary

13-Day / 12-Night Tanzania Safari

\$9550, from Arusha

Airport is Arusha's Kilimanjaro International (JRO)

— Peg Abbott, Owner of Naturalist Journeys

Itinerary

We recommend you come in early, on January 29. We can help make hotel and activity arrangements (added cost).

Mon., Jan. 30 Arrival in Arusha | Ngare Sero Mountain Lodge

Welcome to Tanzania! Our tour begins in Arusha, where on arrival you find your first Superb Starling, and say, “why didn’t we get that one!”. The sounds and smells of Africa, including blooming jacaranda trees await. We have selected a hotel out of the city so you can immediately surround yourself with splendid views, wildlife such as Dik-dik, Vervet Monkey and Mantled Guereza (Black-and-white Colobus Monkey), and bountiful birds, from bee-eaters to barbets, Crowned Hornbill, Hadada Ibis, Brown-hooded Kingfisher, and more.

You may want to come in an additional night to rest up from travels. The lodge has extensive tropical plantings and is small and personal. There is a lovely swimming pool, WiFi, bar, spa and dining facilities, and pathways. Whenever you chose to arrive, this is a restful location to welcome you.

Both early arrivals and those coming in on the tour start date are met and transferred on arrival to the hotel.
Accommodations at the Ngare Sero Mountain Lodge (D)

Tues., Jan. 31 Gibb’s Farm | Lake Manyara National Park

This morning, we drive to the nearby Gibb’s Farm, located near the local town of Karatu. This is a local multi-faceted farm that grows coffee, fruits, flowers, and vegetables and also rears a variety of domestic livestock. We spend the morning here, exploring the grounds and the highland forest trails for birds such as Crested Guineafowl, White-tailed Blue-Flycatcher, Arrow-marked Babbler, Narina Trogon, Brown-headed Apalis, Eastern Mountain-Greenbul, Schalow’s Turaco, and White-browed Robin-Chat.

We then spend the afternoon exploring Lake Manyara National Park, one of the region’s Great Rift Valley lakes. The park holds an expanse of woodlands and vast plains, as well as the large alkaline soda lake that attracts such a rich variety of waterfowl, perhaps the world’s tallest heron, aptly named the Goliath. The acacia trees and shrubs are home to tree climbing Lion, enormous tusked Elephant, Bushbuck, Giraffe, Zebra, Buffalo, Leopard, Impala, and other mammals. We learn more about the area’s geology from the Mto Wa Mbu escarpment, from which we overlook the Rift Valley and the Manyara Soda Lake.

One of the great features of Lake Manyara, situated in the Great Rift Valley, is the birding at the lake; both numbers and species are a highlight. Near the visitor center we may find a massive colony of Yellow-billed Stork, active in courtship and nest building. At a marshy area of the lake, we watch Hippo alongside African Jacana, numerous plovers, and handsome storks.

Manyara is a large alkaline lake and can attract large numbers of Lesser Flamingo and other waterbirds. The lake and wetlands teem with species, including Pied Kingfisher, Hamerkop, African Fish Eagle, African Spoonbill, Great White Pelican, Lesser Kestrel, Crested Guineafowl, a variety of hornbills, woodpeckers, and other species.

For those that wish, you can choose a night outing outside the park, with a small local company permitted to enjoy night game viewing to try for a few new species. One year we found African Porcupine, several owls, and two spectacular sleeping hornbills. The next year they had Leopard, and a host of exciting finds.

Accommodations at Lake Manyara Serena Safari Lodge (B,L,D)

Wed., Feb. 1 To Ndutu | A Special Region of the Serengeti Ecosystem

This morning we work our way to Ndotu, part of the conservation area adjacent to Serengeti National Park. through an arid area, with fabulous scenery, geology, and impressive bird species, from wheatears to three species of sandgrouse and the elegant Kori Bustard. At the junction with Serengeti National Park, we veer south to the prime calving area for Wildebeest, on the mineral-rich soils of Ndotu, where wildlife watching abounds!
Accommodations at Mbugani Mobile Migration Tented Camp (B,L,D)

Thurs., Feb. 2 & Fri., Feb. 3 Ndotu—The Place to Be in February!

The Ndotu area is part of the Serengeti but administered as part of the large and vital Ngorongoro Conservation Area. It is the end of the line for the Wildebeest migration on the Tanzania end (the Mara, in Kenya being the other end, at its peak in August/September) and they roam here in numbers that you just have to see to believe!

As far as your eye can see, Wildebeest are running, feeding, fretting over newborn calves, and keeping an eye out for predators. Vast numbers of prey invite predators and no two days are alike. Leopard, Cheetah, Lion, and other cats are all possible. Both days we enjoy very extensive game and bird viewing drives in the morning and afternoon. We are in the heart of the action—the areas we explore are prime for Wildebeest calving; the circle of life is astounding. We often find a kill made before dawn, and watch as vultures, Jackal, and other scavengers wait their turn for the Lion to be done.

Our camp is wonderful, and you are in the right place—ask any wildlife photographer where they love to go, and Ndotu or nearby Lake Masek are likely high on their list! For birders it's also a wonderland, with Taita Fiscal, Magpie Shrike, Southern Ground Hornbill, Bare-faced Go-Away-Bird, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, African Penduline Tit, Blue-capped Cordon-bleu, Southern Grosbeak Canary, Red-throated Tit, Short-tailed Lark, Silverbird, Black-lored Babbler, Black Bishop, Two-banded Courser, and many, many more.

Accommodations at Mbugani Mobile Migration Tented Camp (B,L,D)

Sat., Feb. 4 & Sun., Feb. 5 Central Serengeti National Park

The Serengeti boasts a unique combination of diverse habitats, enabling it to support species of large herbivores, as well as birds. Its landscape includes open grass plains, savannah with scattered acacia trees in the center, wooded grassland, and black clay plains. Small rivers and swamps are scattered throughout. Kopjes are scenic knolls of granite and gneiss outcroppings, great for birds of prey and mammalian predators that use them for resting, nesting, and dens; they are also great for seeing smaller mammals. Central Serengeti holds ecological richness, and healthy numbers of predators, including Lion, Leopard, Cheetah, and smaller cats as well.

Serengeti National Park is undoubtedly the best-known wildlife sanctuary in the world, unequalled in its natural beauty and scientific value. With great concentrations of Wildebeest, Thomson's Gazelle, Zebra, and many other herbivores, Serengeti forms the greatest view of plains game in Africa and has long been a natural classroom for wildlife biologists, many of whom reside here for years. The visitor center has excellent displays to highlight its iconic wildlife spectacle—the annual Serengeti migration.

Birding is also legendary in the Serengeti, and in between mammal sightings we find dozens of species! Over 500 species have been recorded, with 53 birds of prey and Secretary Bird among them. Some of the memorable species include colorful Saddle-billed Stork, African Openbill Stork, Lappet-faced Vulture, Tawny and Martial Eagles, Kori Bustard, Meyer's Parrot, Black Coucal, Swahili Sparrow, Verreaux's Eagle Owl, Malachite and African Pygmy Kingfishers, Rosy-breasted Longclaw, Chinspot Batis, Fork-tailed Drongo, Beautiful Sunbird, Golden-breasted Bunting, and so many more!

While in the Serengeti, we can arrange a hot-air balloon ride for you (an additional cost), timed to watch the sun rise as you drift over the plains, filled at this time of year with wildlife—this is pretty wonderful! Our lodgings have an expansive view—including one from your luxury open-air shower!

Just opened in 2016, Kubu Kubu is a premium permanent tented camp with stunning vistas of the Serengeti Plains. This camp provides a wonderful blend of nature and creature comforts, including a pool. Rooms are spacious with a wooden deck with views and comfortable seating. Fischer's Lovebird and a variety of songbirds that may include Purple Grenadier, Grey-capped Social Weaver, Red-cheeked Cordon-Bleu, and Red-billed Firefinch gather in acacia trees just off your patios; wake up calls compliments of Africa.

Accommodations at Kubu Kubu Camp (B,L,D)

Mon., Feb. 6 Oldupai Gorge | Ngorongoro Crater Rim

This morning we enjoy a morning game drive as we work our way to the gate, departing Serengeti. We enjoy a picnic lunch and a visit to the world-famous Oldupai Gorge. The Gorge is famous for the study of human evolution and one of the most significant anthropological sites in the world. A local guide helps us understand the sequence of important finds here. This is an arid area, with fabulous scenery, geology, and colorful bird species, in addition to its renowned history. A recently-expanded museum here has excellent exhibits.

As we reach Ngorongoro Crater, we witness a landscape that is spectacular to view from above and below. Your first view from the rim down into this fabled crater is unforgettable! Either today or tomorrow, those that wish can visit a Maasai Village to learn more about Maasai culture. After settling in, we spend the late afternoon birding and watching for wildlife from the rim, finding such beauties as Golden-winged Sunbird.

Accommodations at Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge (B,L,D)

Tues., Feb. 7 Ngorongoro Crater

Early this morning we descend into the crater, taking a picnic lunch. The Ngorongoro Crater and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area are, without a doubt, some of the most beautiful parts of Tanzania, steeped in history and teeming with wildlife. This protected area is located in the Great Rift Valley and is also known as the eighth wonder of the world. The Crater is actually a gigantic fracture in the earth's crust, consisting of volcanoes, mountains, plains, lakes, forests, and archaeological sites.

At 1600 meters (approximately 5200 ft.) above sea level, the bottom of the Crater is extensive, measuring 265 km (102 miles) square. It is dotted with watering holes and offers shelter to almost 30,000 individual animals in an area naturally enclosed by the slopes of the volcano. It is hard to find this density of mixed mammal species anywhere else in the world. The bird life is largely seasonal and is also affected by the ratio of soda and fresh water on the crater floor. Expect species such as Hildebrandt's Francolin, Grey Crowned Crane, Fan-tailed Widowbird, Lyne's Cisticola, Pied Avocet, Yellow-throated Sandgrouse, Black-bellied Bustard, Kori Bustard, Secretarybird, Rosy-breasted Longclaw, Lesser Flamingo, Greater Flamingo, Chestnut-banded Plover, and Rufous-tailed Weaver. We observe the behavior of the abundant wildlife: Lion, Zebra, Hippo, Buffalo, Warthog, Dung Beetle, and Eland are just a few. Considerable research has been done at Ngorongoro and we relate this as we drive. The crater's Elephant are, strangely, mainly bulls. There are also a small number of rare Black Rhino.

We stay there in the crater until mid-afternoon, then head back to our lovely hotel on the rim. Those that wish to keep birding can enjoy some of the mountain species, such as Black-fronted Bush-Shrike, Oriole Finch, Schalow's Turaco, African Olive Pigeon, Hunter's Cisticola, Bar-throated Apalis, Red-collared Widowbird, Rameron Pigeon, White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher, and others new for our route, on the hotel grounds.

Accommodations at Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge (B,L,D)

Wed., Feb. 8 – Fri., Feb. 10 Tarangire Safari Lodge | Tarangire National Park

The Tarangire Safari Lodge is perched on a principal migration corridor into the Serengeti, about 100 miles from Arusha. Ancient boulders and baobab and fig trees surround us in this stunning landscape. At the park gate, Yellow-collared Lovebird, Red-chested Cuckoo, and Pearl-spotted Owlet may be among the welcoming committee.

Tarangire is home to one of the largest Elephant populations in Tanzania. February is baby time, irresistible! Because of varied habitats, it is a bird lover's paradise, home to 550 bird varieties, the most breeding species in one habitat anywhere in the world. Lush marshes provide home to bishops, queleas, and whydahs. Birds of prey abound and the endemic Ashy Starling becomes an easy find.

In Tarangire we expect to see many Elephant and other wildlife like Wildebeest, Common Zebra, Buffalo, several mongoose species, Impala, Gazelle, Hartebeest, Eland, Lion, Cheetah, Leopard, Spotted Hyena, Vervet Monkey, Baboon, and many more. No two days are alike on safari, but every day holds tremendous wildlife viewing, often at close range in this lush and fanciful landscape.

The bird life in Tarangire includes many species associated with the trees, including woodpeckers, barbets, sandgrouse, and numerous songbirds. Red-and-yellow Barbet is common as are Tanzanian Red-billed Hornbill. The view from the patio of our lodge is one of the grandest in the region and the perfect spot for a sunset cocktail with time to recount the day's highlights as elegant-necked Giraffe walk by. An optional night drive here with a local guide reveals some impressive night birds including nightjars, owls, and possible coursers.

Accommodations both nights at Tarangire Safari Lodge (B,L,D)

Sat., Feb. 11 Return to Arusha | Departures

We enjoy some final morning birding around the lodge before departing for Arusha. We dine together one last time with a fine lunch in Arusha before we drop off at the Kilimanjaro Airport for afternoon departures. *(B,L)*

Kenya Extension

Our Kenya extension is highly recommended to find the most species variety, chosen for habitats that differ from those we visit in Tanzania. We include time in some of country's finest parks: Nairobi, Mount Kenya, Samburu/Buffalo Springs and Abedares, making a loop north from Nairobi.

We recommend you come in early, on January 22. We can help make hotel and activity arrangements (added cost).

Mon., Jan. 23 Arrival in Nairobi | Ole Sereni Airport Hotel

Welcome to Africa! On arrival, you are greeted by Superb Starling and your tour leaders. We make our way to our comfortable hotel to relax after a long day of travelling. The patio looks over Nairobi National Park, and you can dine outside to ease the jet-lag, watching a rainbow of birds at the water feature. As everyone is on their own time table today (some napping, some wide-awake) meals are at leisure in the restaurant or bar area.

Accommodations at Ole Sereni Hotel, Nairobi Airport

Tues., Jan. 24 Nairobi National Park

Today we explore Nairobi National Park, Kenya's oldest. Located just seven kilometers from the edge of the Nairobi city center (Kenya's capital), this is Kenya's premier birding location with over 500 species recorded in the park. It has a wonderful variety of habitats, from Whistling-Thorn Acacia scrub to gallery forest along streams to ponds and open savanna. We should find species like the impressive Secretarybird, Kori Bustard, Hartlaub's Bustard, and Saddle-billed Stork. We drive a series of park roads, searching out Spotted Thick-knee, Pangani Longclaw (a Meadowlark look-alike), Yellow-throated Sandgrouse, African Quail-finch, Zebra Waxbill, Harlequin Quail, and Violet Wood-hoopoe ... to name a few! By our picnic area, we may find African Yellow White-eye, Common Nightingale, Ruppell's Robin-chat, Northern Pied Babbler, Red-throated Tit, Speke's Weaver, and more.

In well-watered areas we look for African Water Rail, Black-winged Plover, Little Grebe, Jackson's Widowbird, and Hamerkop. In open areas, it's reassuring to have a local expert to help us sort out pipits and larks: Nairobi Pipit,

Grassland Pipit, White-tailed Lark, Rufous-naped Lark, Somali (Athi) Short-toed Lark, and those cryptic cisticolas—today perhaps Siffling, Croaking, Desert, and more! And watch the sky—avian predators and scavengers here may include Lappet-faced Vulture, Martial Eagle, African Crowned Eagle, Auger Buzzard, and Wahlberg's Eagle.

In addition to the many incredible animals we see during the visit, Nairobi National Park also hosts four of the "African Big Five": Lion, Black Rhino, Leopard, and Cape Buffalo.

Accommodations at Ole Sereni Hotel, Nairobi Airport (B,L,D)

Wed., Jan. 25 Mt. Kenya

After a hearty breakfast, we head to Mt. Kenya, located just north of Nairobi. We make a few birding stops near water crossings. On arrival, we enjoy stunning mammals and birds from the lodge's balcony viewing point. Alpine Swift, Purple-throated Cuckoo-Shrike, Grey Cuckoo-Shrike, Mountain Yellow-Warbler, Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Crowned Hornbill, Red-fronted Parrot, Hartlaub's Turaco, Montane (Kikuyu) White-eye, Dusky Turtle Dove, and Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon. This is a great perch to watch for local raptors like African Cuckoo-Hawk, Mountain Buzzard, and Crowned Eagle.

Near the waterhole our lodge is so famous for, we find Mountain Wagtail, Cape Wagtail, pairs of noisy Hunter's Cisticola, African Black Duck, Spectacled Weaver, and at night Verreaux's Eagle Owl.

Later, we bird in the nearby lush montane forest on a guided walk from the lodge, looking for the many mountain specialties species such as the Slender-billed Greenbul, Cinnamon Bracken Warbler, White-browed Crombec, Grey-headed Negrolark, Brown-backed Scrub-Robin, Abyssinian Ground Thrush, Black-fronted Bushshrike, Olive Ibis, Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo, Slender-billed Starling, Abbott's Starling, Sharpe's Starling, Kenrick's Starling, Waller's Starling, Fine-banded Woodpecker, White-headed Wood-Hoopoe, Bar-tailed Trogon, Yellow-crowned Canary, African Green Pigeon, Lemon Dove, and African Olive Pigeon—wow!

Mammals we are likely to see include Mt. Kenya Guereza (Black-and-white Colobus Monkey), Mt. Kenya Kolb's (Sykes) Monkey, and Bushbuck, Suni (a tiny antelope), and Cape Buffalo. At night, we just might witness Giant Forest Hog, White-tailed Mongoose, Spotted Hyena, Elephant, and possibly even cats as they visit our lodge's local waterhole.

Accommodations at Serena Mountain Lodge (B,L,D)

Thurs., Jan. 26 Mt. Kenya to Samburu & Buffalo Springs | Hinde's Babbler Site

The local parking lot is great for some early morning final birding in forest surrounding Mt. Kenya. Scaly Francolin are secretive but present. Large trees attract Black-throated, Black-collared, and Chestnut-throated Apalis, Rueppell's Robin-Chat, and Black-headed Waxbill. Flowering trees draw in Tacazze Sunbird, Malachite Sunbird, Golden-winged Sunbird, and Eastern Double-collared Sunbird.

Soon, we head further north to one of Kenya's premier ecological regions at Samburu and Buffalo Springs Reserves. En route, we take a short detour to a site where the rare Kenyan endemic, the Hinde's Babbler, often appears and with searching here we may find an array of other birds, such as Purple Grenadier, Red-chested Cuckoo, Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird, Red-faced Cisticola, Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu, and Rufous Chatterer.

Afterwards we continue north, passing through the city of Isiolo, to Samburu Reserve and our lodgings, a fabulous wildland area home to Leopard, Beisa Oryx, Gerenuk, Grevy's Zebra, Cheetah, Reticulated Giraffe, Lion, and Elephant. The geography of this arid landscape is dramatic, with mountains and inselbergs dotting the landscape carved by sand rivers lined with palms.

Accommodations at Samburu Lodge (B,L,D)

Fri., Jan. 27 Buffalo Springs & Samburu National Reserves

There is still much to see as we continue our safari in these two adjacent, incredible reserves, seeking species we haven't yet seen. Birds here include Somali Ostrich, Golden Pipit, Golden-breasted Starling, Abyssinian Scimitarbill, Rosy-patched Bushshrike, Pringle's Puffback, Northern Puffback, Northern White-crowned Shrike, White-headed Mousebird, Fire-fronted Bishop, Somali Bee-eater, African Orange-bellied Parrot, Yellow-vented Eremomela, Northern Crombec, Northern Grey Tit, Black-capped Social Weaver, Northern Brownbul, African Bare-eyed Thrush, Somali Sparrow, Donaldson-Smith's Nightjar, Dusky Nightjar, and Rufous Chatterer. Raptors include Egyptian Vulture, possible Palm-Nut Vulture, Bateleur, and both Martial and Tawny Eagles.

Trees flowering draw in Hunter's Sunbird, Black-bellied Sunbird, and Shining Sunbird. In their shade we may find Somali Courser, Stone Partridge, Black-faced or perhaps Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, Buff-crested Bustard, Vulturine Guineafowl, or one of three species of hornbill: Red-billed, Eastern Yellow-billed, or Von der Decken's. The reserves line two sides of a river, and we spend time in both. Along the water we may find groups of Elephant watering, huge troops of Baboons, and a variety of antelopes and other species.

At night, enjoy star-filled skies and time around the campfire.

Accommodations at Samburu Lodge (B,L,D)

Sat., Jan. 28 Aberdare National Park

We enjoy an early morning safari in Samburu, working along the riverbed with its palms and acacias and host of birds and mammals, before returning to pack up, and enjoy brunch. With luck a herd of Elephant is in view as we dine. We then start on our way south to our final birding spot, back in the mountains at Aberdare National Park.

Aberdare National Park runs the expanse of a majestic mountain range on the eastern edge of the Rift Valley. The park has a great stretch of alpine moorland vegetation, mainly above 3,000m. This incredible landscape has led to the park's nickname, "The Majestic Moorland." There is a thick tropical forest with deep ravines, dissecting riverine gorges, and in certain areas, impressive river-formed waterfalls. Home to some of Kenya's greatest endemic birds, this area promises rewarding views.

A host of other animals occupy this stunning expanse, and good views of Elephants, Cape Buffalo, Common Bushbuck, and Giant Forest Hog can be expected. Here we learn in depth about highland forests and montane ecology.

Expected birds include Aberdare Cisticola, Hunter's Cisticola, Montane Nightjar, Mountain Buzzard, Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk, Common (African) Stonechat, Mountain Yellow Warbler, Cinnamon Bracken Warbler, Chestnut-throated Apalis, Brown Woodland Warbler, Malachite Sunbird, Golden-winged Sunbird, Moorland Chat, Black-fronted Bushshrike, Yellow-crowned Canary, Yellow-bellied Waxbill, Jackson's Francolin, and Olive Ibis.

Accommodations at Ark Lodge (B,L,D)

Sun., Jan. 29 Kinangop Grasslands | Nairobi

This morning we enjoy our final birding in the magnificent Aberdares National Park before heading to Kinangop grasslands. Here, we search for another critically endangered Kenyan endemic—the Sharpe's Longclaw. We spend our time searching for this impressive species amongst an array of other potential sightings. Local wetlands are also visited for the highland water birds.

Here we expect to see Red-throated Wryneck, Common Quail, Levillant's Cisticola, Wing-snapping Cisticola, Long-tailed Widowbird, Jackson's Widowbird, Angola Swallow, Montane Nightjar, Martial Eagle, Mountain Buzzard, Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk, Red-throated Pipit, Black-tailed Godwit, African Snipe, Lesser Jacana, and African Stonechat.

After a fabulous day, we travel to Nairobi to rest before our departures and celebrate our incredible adventure in Kenya!

Accommodations at the Ole Sereni Hotel, Nairobi Airport (B,L,D)

Mon., Jan. 30 Nairobi to Tanzania!

We depart today for Tanzania ... the adventure continues! (B,L)

Cost of the Journey

Plan Ahead!

Protect yourself with Allianz Travel Insurance. Their website will show a grid of tour cost and your age category for you to make selections. As of January 2017, Naturalist Journeys pays 100% of your flight carbon offset.

Cost of the Journey

Cost of the 13-Day / 12-Night Tanzania trip (main tour) is \$9550 DBL / \$10,385 SGL from Arusha, Tanzania. This cost includes accommodations for 12 nights, all meals as specified in the itinerary, professional guide services, other park and program entrance fees and miscellaneous program expenses.

Cost of this 8-Day / 7-Night Kenya extension is \$3490 DBL / \$4250 SGL per person. This cost includes accommodations for seven nights, all meals as noted in the itinerary (B,L,D), transfer Arusha/Kenya border, all land transportation, game park entry fees, Mt. Kenya nature walk fee, Maasai Cultural village visit fee (if desired), unlimited game/bird viewing drives, bottled mineral water, temporary enrollment in flying doctor services.

Tour and extension costs do not include: round-trip transportation from your home city to Nairobi or Arusha, optional activities, or items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone charges, gratuities for guides, lodges and drivers, or beverages from the bar; personal, medical, cancellation insurance.

Optional activities can be booked onto the main safari (extra cost): a night drive with a local company permitted for night outings by Lake Manyara and a balloon ride.

Travel Information

Plan to arrive in Arusha, Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO) no later than January 30, though we recommend you come in at least a day early. If you participate in the Kenya extension, please plan to arrive at Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (NBO) no later than January 23, though we recommend you come in a day early.

Please plan departure flights after 5:00 PM on February 11; we plan to arrive at the airport by 2:00 PM. If you need to book an earlier flight please check with us, it may need to be the next day, and if so, we can arrange a hotel for you for the evening (around \$260pp).

Flight Routes Flights through Nairobi are now very convenient, some direct from the USA. Many airlines typically offer flights with stopovers in Nairobi, making it quite possible to spend time in Kenya without added airfare.

Photo Credits Zebra scenic, Peg Abbott (PA); Lioness, PA; Secretary Bird, PA; African Hoopoe, PA; Knob-billed Duck, PA; Yellow-necked Spurfowl, PA; Gazelle, PA; Malachite Kingfisher, PA.

Naturalist Journeys, LLC is an equal opportunity service provider and committed to the goal of ensuring equal opportunity for all in employment and program delivery.