The Great Safari

Meru | Samburu | Masai Mara

A 6 nights / 7 days safari discovering the forested hills of Meru, the vast arid vistas of Samburu and the teeming open plains of the Mara

All inclusive from US$4,069 per person sharing

Valid from 3rd January-19th December 2018
Marvel at the beauty of wilderness and reconnect with nature on this soul-filling and life-enriching journey to three renowned Kenya wildlife parks.

Discover the forested hills and immensely diverse landscape of Meru National Park, home to the legendary lioness Elsa, and be enthralled by nature in all frames and forms.

Delight in the rugged, raw beauty of Samburu’s unending views and diverse ecosystem of unique wildlife, and the teeming open plains of the Masai Mara – a natural wonder of the world.

Encounter two of Africa’s most authentic and fascinating tribes – the Samburu and the Maasai, learning first-hand about their ancient culture and local knowledge of the land and animals as you are guided by warriors.

HIGH US$5,237 pp  
July | August & September 2018

MID US$4,850 pp  
January | February | June | October & 1st-19th December 2018

LOW US$4,069 pp  
March | April | May & November 2018
SARUNI LODGES

Included

- All-inclusive accommodation (Full board accommodation including soft drinks, beers, house wines and select non-luxury spirits), one complimentary Back & Neck massage (30 min) per room per stay at our Wellbeing Space, airport assistance, temporary Flying Doctors cover, shared day & night game drives in 4x4 vehicles, guided bush walks, bush meals, sundowner & picnic excursions, limited laundry service, cultural visits transfers, all internal flights and return airstrip transfers, conservation fees, VAT & taxes.

Excluded

- Additional Wellbeing Space treatments, exclusive use of vehicle, premium drinks (champagne, luxury spirits and special wines), any payable extra activities, entry fees to cultural visits, childcare, international flights and visa fees, gratuities to staff & guides, anything of a personal nature, and all statutory increases beyond our control.

RHINO RIVER CAMP

Included

- Full Board accommodation & drinks (local beer & soft drinks), shared game drives, picnic breakfast and lunch, sundowners, ornithological walks, guided walks, hiking, transfer to cultural villages, return transfers to local airstrip and fishing in the river, free Wi-Fi, limited laundry, & Meru National Park fees.

Excluded

- Massage and treatments, all wines & spirits, exclusive use of vehicle (subject to availability), extra lunch and late departure, all items of a personal nature, gratuities, entry fee to cultural village.

Rhino River Camp

Rhino River Camp is an unusual, exclusive eco-lodge located in the beautiful Meru National Park, where the legend of Elsa the lioness began. The five charming cottages built out of caramel canvas and sustainable hardwood, raised on platforms above a gently flowing river, create a peaceful atmosphere. Each room has its own private ‘zen’ area where you can unwind. The design of the lodge is contemporary with a hint of Africa, with a swimming pool, well-stocked bar and numerous nature trails to explore on foot or bike – this is a perfect hideout. Meru National Park is one of the most diverse parks in Africa, with an abundance of water flowing through a predominantly arid part of Kenya, creating a mosaic of different habitats.

Activities and amenities: game drives, guided walks, nature trails, fishing, bush meals, swimming pool, payable extra activities: exclusive use of vehicle, visits to cultural village, mountain bike riding, hiking, massage & treatments.

Saruni Samburu

Saruni Samburu’s six luxury villas are open and spacious, heralding spectacular views over Kenya’s Northern Frontier District and Mount Kenya in the distance. The warm and welcoming hospitality makes for an intimate and exceptional experience. The lodge is revered for its innovative, eco-chic architecture and interesting design and décor, as well as its Italian-inspired cuisine. Guests can enjoy the vast panoramas from the dining and lounge area, the infinity pool and the Samburu Wellbeing Space. Saruni Samburu is the only lodge in Kalama Conservancy, which borders Samburu National Reserve, with 200,000 acres of unspoiled wilderness to explore and enjoy exclusively. You are guided from start to finish by Samburu warriors who are passionate about their land and their culture, learning first-hand about their fascinating customs and traditions and gaining ancient, local knowledge about the land and the animals – a truly authentic experience.

Activities and amenities: day and night game drives, photographic hide, bush meals, guided walks, birdwatching, Saruni Wellbeing Space treatments (payable extra), picnics, two swimming pools, helicopter excursions (payable extra), Saruni cultural visits (payable extra), Saruni Shop.

Saruni Mara & Saruni Wild

Saruni Mara has one family villa, one private villa and five elegant cottages, and is the only small boutique lodge in the Mara, making it very intimate and exclusive. The beautifully decorated themed rooms have a luxurious and classic safari feel. The lodge is tucked away in a secluded valley in the private Mara North Conservancy, a prime and private game viewing area, which borders the Masai Mara National Reserve – the most renowned wildlife park in Africa. Enjoy the Italian-inspired cuisine and being immersed in nature from your private verandah, the Masai Wellbeing Space and the open lounge and dining area. Masai warriors will guide you throughout your stay, sharing their ancient wisdom and local knowledge of the area and the animals, their way of life and their secret corners of the most loved wildlife reserve in Kenya.

Saruni Wild is a tented camp elegantly and comfortably furnished with all the necessary luxuries of a wild yet classic safari. The camp is located in the heart of the Masai Mara plains, on the border between Lemek Conservancy and Mara North Conservancy. Surrounded by tens of thousands acres of pristine, untouched wilderness, the camp has the most classic Masai Mara setting. The wildlife thrive right next to its tents. Enjoy endless views, fire-lit meals under the vast African sky, guided game drives led by Masai warriors.

Activities and amenities: day and night game drives, bush meals, guided walks, birdwatching, Masai Wellbeing Space treatments (payable extra), picnics, library, balloon safaris (payable extra), Saruni Shop.
Sample itinerary

Day 1 – Rhino River Camp
- Arrive at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, where a Saruni vehicle will meet you and take you Wilson Airport for your connecting internal flight to Meru National Park, which is just under an hour flying time.
- After a delicious lunch, enjoy a game drive or guided bush walk exploring the nature trails around the lodge.
- After the morning game drive, enjoy massage and beauty treatments at the Samburu Wellbeing Space.
- Spend the afternoon fishing and spotting the myriad of indigenous birds along the lush rivers of Meru – a very relaxing and picturesque activity.
- In the afternoon, a game drive will take you to a special area where the largest tower of giraffe can be seen, followed by dinner at the lodge or camp and an optional night game drive.

Day 2 – Rhino River Camp
- Spend the morning fishing and spotting the myriad of indigenous birds along the lush rivers of Meru – a very relaxing and picturesque activity.
- After lunch at the lodge, enjoy a swim in the pool and a massage before setting off on an afternoon game drive finishing off with sundowners in a secluded spot with a breathtaking view.
- In the afternoon, a game drive will take you to a special area where the largest tower of giraffe can be seen, followed by dinner at the lodge or camp and an optional night game drive.

Day 3 – Saruni Samburu
- Depart for Samburu by air or by road – with the flight taking roughly two hours.Seats on the schedule flights are subject to availability at confirmation. Rates with children or single occupancy are available upon request.
- After the morning game drive, enjoy massage and beauty treatments at the Samburu Wellbeing Space.
- After lunch at the lodge, enjoy a swim in the pool and a massage before setting off on an afternoon game drive finishing off with sundowners in a secluded spot with a breathtaking view.
- In the afternoon, a game drive will take you to a special area where the largest tower of giraffe can be seen, followed by dinner at the lodge or camp and an optional night game drive.

Day 4 – Saruni Samburu
- Continue to explore the wonders of Samburu with a morning game drive into Samburu National Reserve to seek out the ‘Samburu Special Five’: the reticulated giraffe, the Grey zebra, the beisa oryx, the Somali ostrich and the gerenuk, all rare species that occur only in this part of the country, and look for its well known larger wildlife including elephants, lion and leopard. Enjoy a picnic lunch before heading back to the lodge to relax for the afternoon.
- Evening game drive in Kalama Conservancy, the 200,000-acre private wildlife conservancy in which Saruni Samburu is located, ending with a bush dinner under the stars in the middle of the wilderness, and a night drive back to the lodge. The Samburu warriors dancing, candles and fire under the vast African skies, make this a truly magical experience, and one of the highlights of your stay.
- In the afternoon, a game drive will take you to a special area where the largest tower of giraffe can be seen, followed by dinner at the lodge or camp and an optional night game drive.

Day 5 – Saruni Mara / Saruni Wild
- Depart Samburu on your flight in the morning* and arrive in the Masai Mara an hour and a half later.
- Game drive with a picnic lunch to enjoy under an acacia tree or by the river next to a pod of hippos, or head to Saruni Mara or Saruni Wild for some rest and an exclusive game drive later in the afternoon in Mara North Conservancy – over 30,000 acres of plentifful, protected land bordering the Masai Mara National Reserve. Enjoy a completely different and less-explored corner of the Mara ecosystem in total privacy, brimming with wildlife.
- Enjoy massage and beauty treatments at the Maasai Wellbeing Space.
- Walk through the valleys and plains surrounding Saruni Mara, accompanied by a vehicle, or a game drive up to the top of Kileleoni, the highest mountain in the Serengeti-Masai Mara ecosystem – led by your skillful and knowledgeable Maasai guides.
- In the afternoon you will discover more of Mara North and its neighbouring conservancies and experience first-hand what makes the Mara one of the most exciting wildernesses in the world.
- Weather permitting, experience a bush dinner in the middle of nature under the vast African sky, with Maasai warriors singing and dancing around the fire.

Day 6 – Saruni Mara / Saruni Wild
- Walk through the valleys and plains surrounding Saruni Mara, accompanied by a vehicle, or a game drive up to the top of Kileleoni, the highest mountain in the Serengeti-Masai Mara ecosystem – led by your skillful and knowledgeable Maasai guides.
- In the afternoon you will discover more of Mara North and its neighbouring conservancies and experience first-hand what makes the Mara one of the most exciting wildernesses in the world.
- Weather permitting, experience a bush dinner in the middle of nature under the vast African sky, with Maasai warriors singing and dancing around the fire.

Day 7 – Departure
- Enjoy your last morning of waking up in paradise with a beautiful sunrise and the dawn chorus.
- Visit the rhino sanctuary on the way to the airstrip and once again admire the hippos and the crocodiles of the Mara River.
- Depart on your flight back to Nairobi leaving the Mara at 11:00 AM and arriving in Nairobi at 12:20 PM.
- Transfer to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport with Saruni driver and vehicle. Depending on the time of your international flight, stop at the Talisman restaurant for dinner.

Note: The Saruni Tours team can modify and tailor this itinerary to suit your personal preference. Baggage allowance on internal flights is 15kg per person, preferably in small, soft bags without wheels. Seats on the schedule flights are subject to availability at confirmation. Rates with children or single occupancy are available upon request.

*Flight times and durations may vary depending on airline and routing, and are subject to change.