



# RIDE WORLD WIDE

## Kenya - Offbeat 2012

### Horse Safari Information Sheet

These horse safaris are organised with Tristan Voorspuy who has been operating top quality horse safaris in Kenya for about twenty years. Tristan's company, Offbeat Safaris, prides itself (as the name suggests) in offering safaris which venture far off the beaten track, crossing some of East Africa's best, yet much of it unknown and certainly un-touristed, big game country. The routes chosen explore remote bush much of which is only accessible to game and horses. Nights are spent at wonderfully situated and totally secluded private camps and riding each day is through an immense and unspoilt landscape where game thrives in abundance and the going is ideal for horses.



**Dates** Set date safaris are run between January and October for ten or (new for 2010) seven nights. Mara Safaris follow a route between the Loita Hills and the northern edge of the Masai Mara Game Reserve in southern Kenya and Laikipia Safaris take place further north, crossing private land on the Laikipia plateau, close to Mount Kenya. Occasionally an Amboseli Safari, exploring a route along the Tanzanian border between the Chyulu Hills, Amboseli National Park and the border town of Namagna, is also run. As well as set date safaris, private and tailor-made departures for groups can be arranged on request, from dates to suit. Please see the itineraries and set dates overleaf and call us at Ride World Wide to discuss your plans and availability.

**The Horses** The horses used for these safaris are between about 14.2 and 17hh and include a mixture of breeds with several pure thoroughbreds, many thoroughbred and Arab crosses, Somali crosses and polo ponies. They are all a responsive, forward going and thoroughly enjoyable ride and many are polo schooled to a high standard. They are also sensible to handle, used to game and at home in the bush. Grooms look after the horses at Deloraine, which is Offbeat's permanent base, and accompany each group on safari, seeing to the horses in camp and preparing them for rides. Tack is English style and most of the horses are ridden in snaffles. Saddlebags are provided when necessary.

**Riding** Safaris usually include about 6 hours riding each day, either riding from camp to camp, with rest stops en-route to watch the abundant game, for refreshments and a picnic lunch, or split into early morning and late afternoon rides when the game, and light for photography, is often at its best. Safari groups are generally limited to a maximum of 12 guests. The rider weight limit is 95 kgs / 15 stone but, depending on ability and fitness, heavier riders can sometimes be accommodated. Please contact us to discuss and to check that a suitable horse / horses are available if your weight is close to this.

**Pace** The riding on safari is generally at a moderate to fast pace overall, with lots of long trots and long, fast canters although the pace will vary on each safari according to local ground conditions, the weather, game movements and so on. Much of the going in the areas the safaris explore is excellent for horses with vast, grassy plains that provide wonderful opportunities for long, exhilarating canters - although you always need to look out for aardvark holes as you ride! You may also need to weave your way carefully through thorny bush and tread lightly across crusty black cotton soil, which means a slow, careful pace. Where the going is good, riders are encouraged to spread out and take their own line rather than following one behind the other to fully enjoy the open country and the superb sense of space.

**Riding Experience** To join a safari you must be a reasonably experienced rider as you will be riding in open country where there is 'big game', including elephant and lion. You are expected to be comfortable and secure in the saddle and able to control a well-schooled horse in open country at all paces. You do not need to be an expert over fences or in competition and so on, but you do need to feel confident that you can stay on your horse if it reacts suddenly or if it has to move quickly out of trouble. With up to 35 miles to cover a day, you will also enjoy your safari much more if you are fairly fit. If you do not ride regularly at home we strongly recommend you accustom yourself to the time you will spend in the saddle with regular training in the weeks and months before you go.

**The Terrain** The rolling hills and wide, grass and sandy plains of Masailand, Laikipia and southern Kenya provide good, soft going for horses and there are usually plenty of opportunities for long, fast canters on these safaris. The highest point of the Loita Hills is about 8,600 feet and there are some rough rocky paths here and on the Laikipia plateau and on any safari there may be one or two rough ascents as you climb to the top of a high ridge to admire the wonderful panoramic views, or descents where the horses will need to be lead over rough, rocky ground. There are also areas of thick thorny bush and occasional river crossings to negotiate - the Mara River for example cuts through the open plains of Masailand and, if the water level allows, the horses will ford this.



**Game** For those who wish to see game when riding, a safari with Offbeat has to be one of the best to choose. The Mara area is full of game year round, with animals wandering freely in and out of the Mara Game Reserve and on the migration route from the Serengeti in Tanzania. On any safari here you can usually expect to see abundant plains game - zebra, giraffe, wildebeest, hartebeest, topi, gazelle and impala, often in spectacularly large numbers - and you should also see 'big game' such as elephant, buffalo and hippo. Predators such as lion, jackal and hyena are often seen and are frequently heard at night and if lucky, you may also see other cats such as cheetah, leopard or serval. On many occasions, as well as watching the game at close quarters, you will be able to ride amongst them, cantering alongside herds of zebra, wildebeest and giraffe which has to be one of life's most exciting and exhilarating experiences! Between July and October a safari in the Mara area may also coincide with the annual migration of wildebeest when animals head in their thousands to the good grazing on the Mara plains. To see, let alone ride with this amazing spectacle - thousands of animals moving together, a huge cloud of black on the distant horizon gradually progressing until they are all around you - is an incredible, memorable experience. On Laikipia safaris there is probably less numerous game overall, but the routes followed take you through some wild and spectacular private land it is a real privilege to see. The Laikipia Plateau is also a unique wildlife area and contains an enormous diversity of wildlife from the 'big five' down with many unusual species. It is famous as the last reserve of the Jacksons Hartebeest and is home to several other rare species such as the beautifully marked Reticulated Giraffe, Beisa Oryx, Grevy's Zebra, Gerenuk and Somali Ostrich. There are large numbers of elephant in this region as well as all the cats and more common plains game. In recent years landowners on the plateau have tended away from exclusive cattle ranching to embrace more tolerance of game and even large predators such as lion and hyena are more abundant now than they would have been 25 years ago. The Amboseli area of southern Kenya is also a haven for wildlife.

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**Game cont.** Enormous-tusked Amboseli elephant are an awe inspiring sight and there can be wonderful viewings here of numerous hippo, buffalo, elephant and colourful water birds wading and wallowing in the green oases of the Amboseli swamps, whilst many species of plains game graze on the plains around them and between the National Park and Chyulu hills. The Chyulus are also home to one of Kenya's last successful colony of black rhino and a chance to meet the wildlife wardens who monitor them and to track the elusive rhino on foot is another highlight of a safari here. When out on any safari, game drives by day and at night with a spotlight are included as an extra option and are a wonderful way to get closer to big game such as elephant, buffalo and lion, than you might wish to on a horse. Safaris are lead by Tristan or his head guide Jakob who are both charismatic, experienced guides with a deep love of the bush. They will happily answer any questions you have and will share their extensive knowledge of the bush with you. In addition, they are both easy going and great company, making the safaris great fun, relaxing and a real treat!



**Accommodation** Accommodation on safari is in a private safari camp set up especially for you. Spacious, walk-in double safari tents are used, furnished with comfortable 'stretcher' beds with bed linen, sheets, blankets and towels, provided. Although the camp is relocated almost every night and you have a real feeling of living out in remote bush, the standard of accommodation and service is extremely high and absolutely everything you need has been thought of and is provided. There is a private long drop loo for each safari tent, which will also have a basin for hot water and chairs set up outside. Steaming hot water for washing and shaving will be brought to your tent each morning with your wake up call and morning tea, and a traditional hot 'bucket and pulley' shower will be prepared for you by staff when you return to camp after a long day in the saddle or at any other time you wish. Accommodation is based on two sharing a tent and a single supplement is payable if you are not prepared to share. Camps also have a spacious central dining / mess tent which provides a wonderful setting each evening for candlelit dinners, or if the weather is fine, the long dining table will be set up outside under the stars.



On Laikipia Safaris your group may be joined at dinner by owners of the land you are riding across and their stories of life in Kenya are a fascinating addition to delightful evenings around the campfire. Set date 10 night safaris also include a night or two at the beginning or end either at Deloraine House, one of Kenya's loveliest colonial houses, built in the 1920s by Lord Francis Scott or at Sosian Ranch in Laikipia. Deloraine House is set in the middle of a 5,000 acre estate and has magnificent colourful gardens that are worth a visit in themselves, as well as a pool, its own polo field and cross country course. Sosian is a 24,000 acre ranch bought a few years ago by Tristan and a group of friends as a conservation project. The ranch homestead and land surrounding have been and continue to be carefully restored and with its graceful drawing room, wide verandas set with planters' chairs, open lawns and swimming pool, it is a lovely, very relaxing place to stay. A night or two here or at Deloraine, riding, playing croquet and relaxing by the pool, is a wonderful, atmospheric way to begin or end a safari.

**Meals** You will be well fed on safari with tasty, plentiful meals cooked by staff who are experts at producing delicious fare over an open fire. Ingredients are always fresh and bread is baked in camp every day. Days start with fruit, porridge, toast and a full English breakfast for those who want it. Lunch is usually a picnic out riding with home made bread rolls or sandwiches and a piece of fruit often carried in saddlebags so you can stop and eat wherever you please. A welcome cup of tea, or if you prefer a cold beer or gin and tonic with ice and lemon, will greet you when you return to camp in the late afternoon and after your evening shower, drinks by the fire are accompanied by appetising snacks to keep you going until dinner. Dinner is three courses, perhaps soup to start followed by perfectly roast beef and then a home made pudding, served at a long table by candlelight in true colonial style and there is a good varied bar available, with a selection of spirits, wine, beer and soft drinks all included.

**Weather** The Mara, Laikipia and Amboseli / Chyulus areas of Kenya where these safaris take place are quite high and daytime temperatures are generally very pleasant for riding at around 20-25 degrees Centigrade year round. The wet seasons are late March to May when there may be intermittent downpours with sunshine in between, and November / December when there may be short, but sometimes heavy, bursts of rain. It is usually hottest in January and February but even then temperatures are generally pleasant and there is often a breeze on the plains so it never really gets too hot. June to August are the coolest months, though nights can be cool year round, especially in the hills.

**What to bring** We will send you a clothing list with suggestions of what to bring when you book.

**Itineraries** The following are examples of the 10 night Mara and 10 night Laikipia Safaris. Both include an 8 night riding safari followed (or preceded) by either 2 nights at Deloraine Estate or 2 nights at Sosian Ranch. 7 night Mara safaris using 3 different camps are also an option for those with limited time (contact us for detailed itinerary). Please note that these are only examples of the routes planned. Safaris are planned a long way in advance and the day-by-day arrangements and the site of the camps used may change if the movement of game, the weather or other local conditions require. You may also ride the route in reverse if this works best. These arrangements are left to the discretion and experience of your guides.



### **10 night Mara Safari - Example itinerary**

**Day 1** You will be collected from your Nairobi hotel or Nairobi international airport and transferred to Wilson Domestic airport for your flight to the Masai Mara. Met at the Mara airstrip and driven by 4-wheel-drive vehicle to the first night's camp, set up at Olare Lamun (the 'rhino salt lick') in a grove of acacia trees by a small stream at the southern edge of the Loita Plains. Meet the horses and if it is not too late, there may be time for a short evening ride to try them before returning to camp at sunset for hot showers, drinks and a candlelit dinner.

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**Day 2** Woken with tea and coffee brought to your tent and then a full day to get used to the horses and to explore this remote area with its abundant game. Mount up for a first ride at dawn when the light is fantastic and the game often at its best. As you canter across open plains you may see your first giraffe, perhaps family groups of 10 or more elegantly lolloping in slow motion in the early morning light, a magical sight. Ride back to camp for a hearty breakfast and then perhaps a game drive to investigate signs of lion or elephant spotted when out riding. Back to camp for a leisurely lunch and a siesta. After tea at about 4 pm, a late afternoon ride or perhaps a drive to visit a local Masai village. Drinks & dinner in camp. (B,L,D)



**Day 3** The first moving day. Your morning wake up call is early to give you plenty of time for breakfast before a day with nearly 35 miles to ride, one of the longest rides of the safari. The route takes you across open grassy plains and as you approach the Mara ecosystem, the game becomes more plentiful. As well as seeing zebra, topi, giraffe, gazelle and wildebeest at close quarters, you have a good chance of seeing both elephant and buffalo. Stop for lunch in the shade near a clear stream where inviting rock pools are perfect for a refreshing dip. Then, after drying off in the sun, ride on to reach the new camp, Olare Oruk, on the edge of the Mara Game Reserve in the late afternoon. Drinks and dinner in camp listening to the night sounds of the bush, the chime of fruit bats and the call of hyena and lion. (B,L,D)

**Day 4 & 5** The next two nights are spent at the Olare Oruk camp and early morning and evening rides are wonderful opportunities to see the game that thrives here and wanders freely in the area around the Reserve. There are plenty of elephant in this area and you may see one of the large breeding herds and perhaps also a pride of lion, sometimes up to 20 animals. A game drive into the reserve itself allows you to take close up photos of lion and elephant getting closer than you would on a horse and, using a spot light on the way back to camp you may see aardwolf, bush babies, spring hares, perhaps leopard and other nocturnal game. Drinks around the fire and dinner each night in camp. (B,L,D)



**Day 6** Another moving day and setting off from camp after breakfast with a picnic lunch, you ride west across the Mara plains and reach the Mara River on the Park boundary. Hopefully, unless the river is in flood, you will ford the river at one of the famous wildebeest crossings before heading south-west across the Mara Triangle where you stop for a picnic lunch. After lunch and a siesta, ascend the Soit Olololol Escarpment to reach the new camp, set up in a forest glade overlooking the whole Mara ecosystem. Tea, hot showers and then a relaxing evening, dinner and the night in the new Soit Olololol camp. (B,L,D)

**Day 7** Ride south west today, along the top of the escarpment enjoying glorious views to the east and excellent going for horses. Hopefully you will see the beautiful Mrs Ross' and Schalows Turaco as well as lots of plains game. Descend the escarpment on foot leading the horses along a rocky cattle track, stopping for a picnic lunch in the shade of some acacias at the foot of the escarpment. After lunch, ride back through the Mara Triangle where you often see bachelor herds of buffalo, before climbing back up a game trail to camp. Overnight Soit Olololol. (B,L,D)

**Day 8** Breakfast, descend the escarpment again, then ride across the River at the same wildebeest crossing. When you arrive on the far bank, you will head northwest stopping for lunch in a shady spot before riding on to arrive at the final camp set up on the banks of the Mara River. Close by are some hippo pools and the late afternoon and evening in camp are often interrupted by the grunting of hippos which wallow and dive in the River. Dinner and night Mara River camp. (B,L,D)

**Day 9** Leaving camp after breakfast with a picnic lunch drive to Deloraine (6-7 hours in all) via the impressive tea growing area of Kericho. Arrive in time for tea and an evening walk around the beautiful garden or perhaps a swim. Dinner and overnight at Deloraine. (B,L,D)

**Day 10** An optional early morning ride before breakfast, then a day trip by landrover with a picnic lunch to Lake Nakuru or Bogoria to see their famous flamingos. Return to Deloraine for a swim, tea and then dinner and the final night. (B,L,D)

**Day 11** Breakfast and perhaps time for a last ride on the estate before an early lunch. You will then be driven to Nairobi (about 3 hours) for your onward journey. (B,L)

(NB the route may be run in reverse, starting at the Mara River and / or with Deloraine at the beginning)

### Laikipia Safari - Example Itinerary

**Day 1** - You will be met at Nairobi International Airport and transferred to Wilson Domestic airport for a charter / Air Kenya schedule flight from Nairobi to the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. Lewa is a world famous Nature Conservancy covering 40,000 acres of pristine country on the Northern slopes of Mount Kenya. It is home to the 'big 5' as well as a host of other game species, including the rare Grevy's Zebra, Somali Ostrich and the beautifully marked Reticulated Giraffe. Transfer from the airstrip to arrive at the first night's camp. Time to settle in and then lunch in camp. After a siesta, meet the horses in the late afternoon and there might be time for an evening ride to try them and for your first view of the area. Return to camp for hot showers, drinks and dinner. Overnight private camp on Lewa Downs. (L,D)

**Day 2** Woken with tea and coffee brought to your tent and then a full day to get used to the horses and to explore the area, perhaps with an early morning game ride when game is most active, returning to camp for a cooked brunch. After a hearty brunch, there might be a game drive or walk, then a light lunch and time to relax in camp during the hottest part of the day. Meet again for tea at about 4 pm and then you might ride out again in the late afternoon. This is a spectacular area of Kenya with beautiful views to the snow-capped peaks of Mount Kenya in the south and the rugged mountains of the Mathews Range, Bodich and even Marsabit on the way to the Ethiopian border. Return to camp as the sun sets for hot showers, drinks around the camp fire and a relaxing dinner. Second night private camp Lewa Downs. (B,L,D)



**Day 3** The first moving day and after an early wake up call and hearty breakfast, mount up and head off riding across Lewa to the west, crossing the Ngare Ndare River and riding onto Borana Ranch, another cattle ranch turned conservation area. You are likely to see a good variety of game en-route – there are numerous elephant on Borana as well as black rhino and a host of other species including the elegant, beautifully marked Reticulated Giraffe. Stop for a picnic lunch on the banks of the Ngare Ndare River and in the late afternoon arrive at the new camp, set up in a grove of euphorbia trees. Overnight private camp Borana. (B,L,D)

**Day 4** A full day exploring Borana by horse and vehicle. Borana is a 'step up' from Lewa, on top of the escarpment you will have climbed the day before and you will notice the difference in scenery and vegetation. There is lots of game on the ranch, with all the game species of Lewa still present and you usually see a good variety of game whilst riding. Borana is home to Nicky and Michael Dyer, whose family own and have run the ranch for over 75 years and Michael who is a keen polo player and great company, may ride with you today. Overnight private camp Borana. (B,L,D)

**Day 5** Another moving day. After breakfast in camp, pack a picnic lunch in saddle bags and head off riding to the west again. Crossing from Borana onto Ole Naishi ranch, you will climb the first ridge of the spectacular Loldaiga Hills which form a northern extension of the Mt Kenya Massive and consist of large rocky Kopje's interspersed with Cedar forest. Head on and cross Ole Naishi, then ride onto Loldaiga Hills, a 55,000-acre ranch owned by Robert Wells and probably one of the most beautiful farms in Africa. The new camp, home for 2 nights, is at the head of a beautiful valley surrounded by cedar forest. Dinner and overnight in camp at Loldaiga Hills. (B,L,D)

**Day 6** A day to explore Loldaiga where there are some spectacular routes to ride. There will also be time for a trip by landrover with a picnic lunch, to explore the northern areas of the ranch - at one point you will be on the western edge of the Loldaiga Hills, where there are superb views over the whole Laikipia Plateau, which you will cross over the next four days. Overnight private camp Loldaiga Hills. (B,L,D)



**Day 7** Leave Loldaiga Hills today and ride across four ranches on your way to El Karama, home of the Grant Family. The route drops down a hidden valley following elephant and buffalo tracks with little dams before crossing Enasoit Ranch and you then ride onto the specialist cattle ranch of Mogwooni, home of the Kenyan family. This is one of the few days during which you will see some cattle fencing but it is always fascinating to learn how cattle and game can exist side by side in Kenya. A picnic lunch on the banks of the Nanyuki River then cross onto El Karama ranch, 13,000 acres of pristine game country. Camp is set up on the banks of the Ewaso Ngiro River. Overnight private camp El Karama Ranch. (B,L,D)

**Day 8** A full day exploring El Karama by horse and vehicle, perhaps with a game walk along the river before lunch. There is a host of game on the ranch, including Grevy's Zebra, the rare endemic Jackson's Hartebeest, many elephant and giraffe as well as hippo and crocodile in the river. Second night private camp El Karama Ranch. (B,L,D)

**Day 9** The final moving day takes you to Sosian Ranch. Cross the Ewaso Narok River and traverse Segera ranch to the northwest. The route takes you up the spectacular Sugoroi river valley, before crossing rather monotonous black cotton plains, covered in whistling thorn (acacia Drepanolobium) which is home to the Patas monkey, a chestnut coloured long-limbed primate which is widespread but rare among the northern savannahs of Africa. Reach the Mutara River and follow this pretty valley down, before crossing onto Sosian Ranch for a late lunch at the edge of the lovely Suguta Swamp. A siesta in the shade after lunch, then mount up again and a short ride to Sosian Ranch House where you can exchange your tents for the comfort of the lodge. The original ranch house at Sosian has been restored to a high standard and is a very welcoming 'bush home' that combines a graceful historical feel, with chic furnishings and furniture. A refreshing swim in the lovely pool is welcome and then there will be time to relax with tea or a drink on the wide veranda, before a hot bath or shower. Meet up for drinks in the drawing room and then a lovely candlelit dinner. Overnight Sosian. (B,L,D)

**Day 10** A full day for rides and game drives to explore this re-habilitated cattle ranch which boasts a wide variety of game including Jackson's hartebeest, Grevy's Zebra, giraffe, elephant, hippo, buffalo, lion and leopard as well as many other species. From certain points, you can look back at the Loldaiga Hills over which you have ridden towards Mt Kenya, now a good distance away. Dinner and second night Sosian perhaps with an evening game drive with spotlight for those who wish. (B,L,D)

**Day 11** A last morning ride followed by a relaxing lunch by the pool at Sosian. In the afternoon a private charter flight from Sosian's own airstrip (or transfer about an 1 ½ hours to Nanuki for a flight) back to Nairobi in time to meet your return International flight. (B,L)



#### **DATES - Set safari departures 2012:**

2nd to 12th January	- Mara Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Deloraine)
18th to 28th January	- Mara Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Deloraine)
4th to 14th February	- Mara Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Deloraine)
3rd to 13th March	- Mara Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Deloraine)
20th to 30th March	- Mara or Laikipia Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Deloraine / Sosian)

6th to 16th June	- Amboseli Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Sosian/Deloraine)*
16th to 26th June	- Mara Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Deloraine)
15th to 25th July	- Mara Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Deloraine)
1st to 8th August	- Mara Safari (7 nights on safari)
8th to 15th August	- Mara Safari (7 nights on safari)
15th to 25th August	- Mara Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Deloraine)
1st to 11th September	- Mara Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Deloraine)
15th to 22nd September	- Mara Safari (7 nights on safari)
22nd to 29th September	- Mara Safari (7 nights on safari)
5th to 15th October	- Mara Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Deloraine)
9th to 19th October	- Laikipia Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Sosian)
1st to 11th December	- Mara Safari (8 nights on safari, 2 Deloraine)

\* Please contact us for itinerary

#### **RATES 2012:**

**10 night set departure safaris: £4900 per person**

**7 night set departure safaris: £3550 per person**

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**Rates INCLUDE:** Collection from and return to Nairobi with the group, internal flights and road transfers as indicated, all riding, guiding and equipment, accommodation (based on two sharing), game drives, day trips whilst staying at Deloraine / Sosian as part of a safari (eg to see flamingos at Lake Nakuru or Bogoria), all meals, drinks / alcohol and laundry service.

**Rates EXCLUDE:** International flights to Nairobi and taxes, personal medical insurance (which you must have), special transfers from / to Nairobi at times other than with the group, visa fees and tips.

**Single Supplements:** Rates quoted assume twin bedded accommodation and a single supplement of £60 per night is payable if you are not prepared to share a twin safari tent / room. Please note that this supplement is **not** compulsory for people booking alone - it is not charged if you are willing to share with another guest of the same sex if necessary. Single travellers will not always have to share (it will depend on numbers and the mix on safari) but if you are not prepared to share at all, the supplement is payable to guarantee a single tent.

**Private groups / Tailormade safaris** - Private departures can be arranged on request for groups of 2 to 12 riders. They are usually for a minimum of 5 or 6 nights and rates are charged per person per night.

Rates for private safaris depend on the number in the group and do NOT include internal charter flights (though these can be arranged on request) - they are available on request and are an excellent option for a group of friends.

**Extra nights at Deloraine** - These are about £240 per person per night full board including Conservation Fee. Transfers from / to Nairobi and day trips whilst at Deloraine (eg to Lake Nakuru or Bogoria) if not part of a safari, are extra. Please call us at Ride World Wide for more information.

**Fishing, Bird Shooting** - A day's fishing on Lake Victoria (Nile Perch) can be included in a safari on request (extra charge). Guinea fowl shooting can be included in Laikipia Safari on request. Please enquire



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**Travel arrangements / Flights** - The meeting place for these safaris is Nairobi. Kenyan Airways and British Airways have direct flights from London to Nairobi every day, either overnight departing London in the evening and arriving early the next morning (which are ideal) or day flights departing London in the morning and arriving Nairobi in the evening (these usually mean spending a night in Nairobi before your safari starts – there are several lovely lodges and hotels and this gives you a good nights rest before your safari). Several other airlines such as Air France and KLM also have flights via Europe. Airfares vary with the airline and season but expect to pay around £550 to £700 for an economy return. Generally an overnight flight (e.g. Kenyan Airways) arriving Nairobi in the morning at around 7 to 9am on the first day of the safari and a return flight, leaving late in the evening on the last day, works best. **If you would like further advice on flights, a quote for a flight inclusive holiday or to book flights, please call us (our ATOL number for flight bookings is ATOL 6213).**

**General visa and health information** (NB this is a brief outline - further information will be sent to you if you make a confirmed booking.)

**Visas** As of 1st March 2001, British Passport holders DO require a visa to visit Kenya as a tourist. The fee for a single entry visa, valid for 3 months from the date of issue, is currently £30. If bought on arrival in Kenya the fee is US\$50 (cash only).

**Health** The Hospital for Tropical Diseases in London recommends that you are up to date with inoculations against **Polio, Tetanus, Diphtheria and Hepatitis A**. It also recommends you are up to date with **Yellow Fever** (a booster is needed after 10 years) and that you carry a valid yellow fever certificate with you - you may be required to show this when entering Kenya (generally only if entering from another tropical country) because of an episode of transmission of Yellow Fever in Kenya during the last five years. Rabies, Cholera and Typhoid may also be recommended in certain situations. You will also be advised to take **anti-Malaria** tablets - you should consult a health professional for further and more detailed advice about this.

**DRAFT Updated 15/01/12**

