THOMSON SAFARIS

Our home. Your adventure.

2016 - 2018 Tanzania Safaris

A DIVISION OF WINELAND-THOMSON ADVENTURES, INC.



14 MOUNT AUBURN STREET WATERTOWN, MA 02472















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Did you know: Tanzania is home to more lions than Kenya, South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Namibia combined.







tanzania

THE WILDS OF AFRICA WILL STIR YOUR SOUL AND WARM YOUR HEART; ONCE YOU GET THE DUST OF AFRICA ON YOUR BOOTS, YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND A WAY TO RETURN.





AS WE MARK THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY

of founding Thomson Safaris, we find ourselves reflecting on where we've been and how we got here.

Rick and I both caught the travel bug in the late 70s. Growing up in New Zealand, Rick developed a keen curiosity that is common among those who live on isolated islands: What else is out there? And off he went. During the Vietnam War, I traveled throughout Southeast Asia with my all-female singing group to perform for the troops as part of a U.S.O. tour. Now I, too, had wanderlust, and off I went.

Fast forward to East Africa where our paths first crossed; by then, I had started a fledgling travel company and was scouting Tanzania. Rick was working there as a guide. An idea was born: we can do this ourselves – and do it better. So we bought a vehicle and some tents and started running trips. We were hooked, and we knew we were in it for life!

We hope Tanzania warms your heart as deeply as it has ours.

From the outset, we wanted to manage all the on-the-ground details, start to finish, "soup to nuts," and we recognized the value of partnering with the people who knew the country best – those who knew the lay of the land, the local customs, and the wildlife: the Tanzanians themselves. We remain dedicated to giving back to those who welcomed us so graciously; it's at the core of everything we do.

Thirty-five years, 50 million wildebeest, thousands of safari-goers, two daughters, and three grandchildren later, the incredible journey continues. We hope you can join us! We hope Tanzania warms your heart and stirs your soul as deeply as it has ours.

— Judi Wineland, Co-Founder, Thomson Safaris



Thomson Safaris owners Rick Thomson and Judi Wineland prepare to set off from the Serengeti airstrip. Frequent visits to Tanzania help them ensure that operations are always running smoothly and are up to Thomson's high standards.

AIR

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ALEX CONST/

the THOMSON DIFFERENCE

When we started sending travelers to Tanzania thirty-five years ago, we were one of only a few tour operators in the entire country. While others flew guides in from other countries, we were the only ones who believed that hiring and training local guides was the right thing to do.

WE'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT TOURISM CAN AND SHOULD BE A FORCE FOR GOOD, BOTH FOR A COUNTRY AND FOR ITS PEOPLE.

We asked ourselves: Who could be a better ambassador to the country than a born-and-raised Tanzanian? Wouldn't it be better for Tanzania, and for our guests, to empower locals through training, retirement benefits, and steady, fulfilling jobs?

At the time, even asking that—let alone betting a business on it—was revolutionary. Still, we took that bet. That's just one of the earliest ways we set ourselves apart. For the three-and-a-half decades since, we've continued to be pioneers in sustainable tourism.











35, YEARS, 1 COUNTRY: HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED.

Thirty-five years ago, we had to bring things like cooking oil, wine, and granola on safari because you simply couldn't get them in Tanzania. Of course, it's a different world now. We offer 300 thread-count bedding and four-course meals as standard amenities! Through it all, some things never changed: we still treat every guest like a VIP, and give back to the people who welcome us so graciously.



Co-founder Judi Wineland and a group of Maasai women on our first *Women to Women* cross cultural itinerary.



Bedford trucks like this one were used on "self-contained" safaris to transport every item, from food, to water, to tents, and guests!



the THOMSON DIFFERENCE

- Camps are custom-designed for maximum comfort and situated in the heart of the wilderness
- Camps use less than a third of the water of an average hotel stay and are fully portable, which means they're always as close to the wildlife as possible
- Solar-powered LED lighting and pump-flush toilets in camp maximize comfort while protecting Tanzania's ecosystems
- Thomson owners Rick Thomson and Judi Wineland established a 10,000acre nature refuge in the Serengeti ecosystem to protect fragile landscapes and wildlife populations
- Our partner philanthropic organization, Focus on Tanzanian Communities (FoTZC), works directly with community leaders to help achieve goals they set for themselves

Turn to page 16 for more information on FoTZC



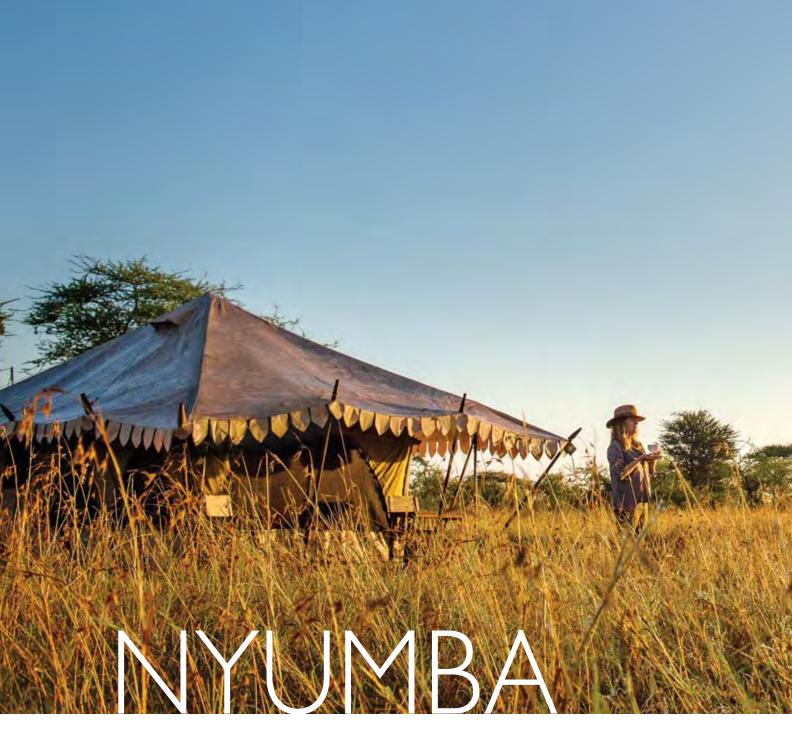
Judi and Rick with their daughters Nicole and Erica, who have been going on safari since they were in diapers, and are now traveling with their own kids.



A group of guests camping on the Ngorongoro Crater floor in the 1980s; to preserve its cultural integrity and protect its fragile ecosystem, camping on the crater floor is no longer permitted.



Judi and Rick meeting Jane Goodall in 1985. They were discussing the viability of ongoing tourism in Gombe Stream National Park.



YOU HEAR THE SERENGETI BEFORE YOU SEE IT. The soft glow of dawn is starting to seep in through the windows of your tent, scattering little golden flecks of sunlight across the floor and onto your comforter. You can't believe you slept so well, and in such comfort, in the middle of the African bush. But the first thing you notice, even before you open your eyes, are the sounds of the wilderness just outside your tent.

Thousands of birds twitter a cheerful morning chorus. Somewhere in the distance, an animal bellows, perhaps a wildebeest calling out to the herd. Outside your window, you hear the long grass rustling in the morning breeze. It's the most amazing alarm clock you've ever experienced.

THE NYUMBA IS THOMSON'S SIGNATURE ACCOMMODATION



- Camps move seasonally to
 place you closest to the wildlife
- Tents are furnished with queensized beds with luxury linens, handcrafted furniture, and local art
- En suite bathrooms include eco-friendly toilets and water-conserving sinks
- Gravity-fed hot showers are available at any time of the day
- All tents feature solar-powered
 LED lighting
- Fully-furnished lounge tents provide a relaxing place to unwind
- Solar-powered charging stations are available for your devices
 - A cash bar is run by camp staff as a Thomson-supported business venture

The camp doesn't seem to be awake yet, so you head out to one of the chairs on your private verandah to take in the sunrise. Before long, a staff member comes by with piping hot coffee—they're always one step ahead of you, anticipating your needs—and you sip at it gratefully as the rest of the world slowly comes to life.

The light spreads across a sky so vast it's almost hard to take in. A few hundred yards away, you see a family of giraffes nibbling at the acacia trees that surround your camp (though now that you're here, it's hard to think of it as "camping"). You finish your coffee and head inside for a hot shower before breakfast. You're not just visiting the Serengeti, you're living it. This is what you came to Africa to experience.

We were pleasantly surprised at how very glamorous camping could be. We enjoyed the local Maasai décor, the comfortable beds, and nicely appointed bathrooms. The patio area was perfect for gazing out on the beauty of the landscape. The accommodations were truly exceptional.

– James and Linda Murray

Select lodges &

YOU COULD DRINK IN THESE SPECTACULAR VIEWS FOREVER. All of your senses are engaged as you survey the rolling hills, the old-growth trees that frame the garden's edge, and the lily-filled pond where Grosbeak weavers build their nests in the reeds. Choruses of birdsong fill the air, and the vivid colors of the flowers are rivaled only by their sweet perfumes. There is such harmony in these stunning gardens.

You're enjoying one of the most luxurious stays of your life. You spent an entire afternoon at the spa yesterday, indulging in a way you never find time for at home. You've sipped on delicious South African wines on your private verandah, enjoying the peace of the evening and the rich scents of thousands of flowers in bloom. And every meal has been a gourmet feast; who would have thought you'd eat some of the best food of your life in the middle of the African wilds?

You thought experiencing nature so closely would mean forgoing the luxury experience, but you're being treated like royalty from morning to night. You never would have guessed it could be like this. Now that you've seen for yourself how harmoniously these two worlds can blend together, you have a new question: whether you can stay here forever.

GIBB'S FARM IN THE NGORONGORO HIGHLANDS

- This luxury eco-resort and working coffee estate is an oasis in the heart of the highlands.
- Spacious rooms with private verandahs
- Farm-to-table organic meals
- Optional Maasai-inspired spa treatments
- Optional walking or bike tours
- Highest-rated Tanzanian property in Conde Nast Traveler's Reader's Choice awards, Travel
 + Leisure World's Best List, and Trip Advisor's Certificate of Excellence winner





MOUNT MERU HOTEL, Arusha

- A recently renovated modern hotel in the heart of Arusha
- Internet access is available throughout the hotel so you'll be able to contact home easily
- Outdoor pool and playground make it a great option for families
- Fifteen acres of gardens offer a sense of retreat even in the heart of the city



RIVERTREES COUNTRY INN, Arusha

A simple but elegant former coffee estate nestled along the banks of the Usa River

- Wander the lush gardens on your own or on a guided tour
- · Enjoy a charming open-air thatched-roof dining area
- Amenities include a pool, wi-fi, and a small gift shop
- A portion of the proceeds help support women and vulnerable children in the community



YOU EXPECT YOUR SAFARI GUIDE TO SHOW YOU BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPES AND POINT OUT ELUSIVE ANIMALS, and you certainly aren't disappointed; you see everything on your list in just a few days, and dozens of species that you had never imagined. From lions and cheetahs to dung beetles and aardvarks, you are utterly captivated.

What you don't expect is to make a new best friend in such a short amount of time.

Every day in the vehicles is more enjoyable than the last. Your guide Robert isn't just pointing out amazing sights, he's telling stories, cracking jokes, and helping make sure everyone is comfortable. A few days into the trip, and it already feels like you've known him for years. By the end of the trip, he is practically family.

THE BEST GUIDES IN TANZANIA

Even in Tanzania, finding wildlife isn't just the luck of the draw; it's dependent on the skill of highly-trained guides. With Thomson, you can trust that you'll have the best guides in Tanzania.

- Head guides have 10-35 years of guiding experience with Thomson
- Guides are wildlife experts
 and cultural liaisons fluent in
 English and Swahili
- They understand North American guests – from cultural references to politics to food
- Generous pay, benefits and professional development means Thomson draws and keeps the best of the best
- All are enthusiastic ambassadors for Tanzania ready to share insights

And you're learning so much from him! He tells you stories of his childhood in Tanzania; fables about the animals you're seeing that would be familiar to any Tanzanian child; details about the country's history; and stories about balancing a career in the wilds with modern life. All this, while somehow managing to spot animals no one else seems to see, as if only he knows their secret language.

Given the majesty of Tanzania, the trip would be amazing even without Robert, but he enriches the experience immeasurably. He adds character, depth, and personality and helps you appreciate Tanzania for so much more than just its wildlife. Our guide was a professional in every sense of the word. He made my trip so totally enjoyable, wonderful, informative and fun! He has a strong, positive, fabulous energy, in sync with Tanzania!

– Victoria R. Boyt



IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE HOW CLOSE YOU GET. The lions have to be a mile away when the guide spots them, lounging on the kopje, blending into the shadows cast by a nearby acacia tree. "Do you see the simbas?" he calls out, pointing out his window. "They are tired after a big meal." You can, just barely, and stand to point your camera towards the rocks, hoping the zoom is stronger than your eyes. "No, no, we will go to them," the guide says with a smile. "We'll get close enough for you to see the whiskers!"

Seconds later, you dart across the plains towards the lions, following paths that wind through the sea of waving grass. Soon, the vehicle slows to a crawl. "We are tiptoeing," the guide says. "Get ready, we are very close now." You stand up again, poking your head out the top of the Land Rover.

YOUR SAFARI VEHICLE IS AN INTEGRAL LINK BETWEEN YOU AND THE WILD

At Thomson, we start with the most reliable, comfortable, and rugged option—the Land Rover Defender—then modify it to be even better.

- Extended cabs create extra legroom, and lowered seats make for better sightlines
- Pop-up roofs allow for 360° views while minimizing sun exposure and heat
- Every guest is guaranteed a window seat every day
- There are no mileage restrictions; you can go anywhere the wildlife is, every day
- US-style outlets in the vehicles allow you to charge your devices
- Unlimited snacks and bottled water will keep you fueled up between meals

"Over there," the guide whispers, pointing to the other side of the vehicle. You turn around, and your breath catches in your throat. They can't be more than three or four yards away. Six lionesses lie in the shade around a huge male. His paws are the size of dinner plates. You get so close you can see a spot near his left ear where his mane is matted and tangled.

You step to the other side of the car as quietly as possible, training the camera lens on the pride. Click! The photo is fantastic, of course, but it can't even hold a candle to the scene in front of you. Being just feet away from creatures so huge and so powerful is a feeling unlike any other. You quickly snap some more photos that you'll later use to transport back to this perfect moment in the Serengeti.

Thomson's vehicle modifications make such a difference from a passenger's point of view—wow! Compared to any other safari vehicles out there, the visibility towards the horizon from any of the back seats is unsurpassed.

– Eric Anderson

GIVING BACK

HELPING TANZANIAN COMMUNITIES ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS

Tourism isn't just about the amazing new experiences we can have as travelers; it also has an important impact on the economies of developing countries, and can be an incredible force for good. High-paying, stable jobs with generous benefits and ongoing educational opportunities were unheard of in much of Tanzania just a few decades ago. Sharing the country's natural wonders isn't just a joy, it's a financial boon to families living in remote regions where good jobs were once very scarce.

That's why Rick and Judi always make a concerted effort to hire locals for jobs on the ground in Tanzania, and it's why we put so much thought into where we send our guests. We choose activities and properties that match our own high standards; we want our presence in Tanzania to contribute to the well-being of Tanzanians.

Tanzania is our second home, and as such we wanted to give back even more directly. That's why in 1996, Judi helped found an independent nonprofit organization, Focus on Tanzanian Communities (FoTZC), with a group of like-minded past Thomson Safaris travelers. Over the years, FoTZC has undertaken a wide variety of projects focused on women's empowerment, educational opportunities, and community health in Tanzania.

Since its inception, FoTZC has worked directly with communities to ensure that each project adequately addresses their self-determined priorities and goals. We'd like to share a little more about one recent example we're especially proud of: the Sukenya Medical Dispensary.





sukenya MEDICAL DISPENSARY

In poorer, more rural areas of Tanzania, medical care is often almost nonexistent. Facilities may be miles away, and are often underfunded and overextended. Difficulty of access and low standards at the facilities mean common illnesses regularly become severe, even life-threatening.

In extensive discussions with village elders, FoTZC learned that a dispensary was a top priority for the community of Sukenya, where healthcare had historically been out of reach.

Working with the elders and the Tanzanian government, FoTZC built a dispensary and nearby staff housing, which the government supplies and staffs with qualified personnel. Hoping to make the dispensary as independent as possible, the owners of Thomson Safaris funded the construction of a well which provides the dispensary and the surrounding communities reliable access to clean water.

Since opening in May 2015, the facility has been extraordinarily successful. Facilities of a similar size in similar areas see about 200 patients per month, while the Sukenya Dispensary has consistently treated 500 - 600 patients each month, highlighting the critical need for medical attention in this underserved part of the country. It is notable that both women and men (who are typically far less likely to seek out care) use the dispensary, which is a clear sign that the community trusts the care they receive here.

The community and staff have already asked FoTZC to expand on their clean water initiatives as part of a strategy of preventive care. Additional deep bore holes are currently under construction and are expected to reduce the cases of dysentery. We're dedicated to continued collaboration so that, together, we can find sustainable solutions that promote healthy outcomes.

ITINERARIES

thomson's JLTIMATE SAFARI

THE BEST OF TANZANIA ON A SAFARI THAT GIVES YOU MORE: MORE TIME, MORE LOCATIONS, AND MORE OF THE LUXURIOUS TOUCHES THAT MAKE A TRIP TRULY MEMORABLE

oin the most thorough exploration of northern Tanzania on our favorite itinerary. Enjoy a handcrafted mix of world-class wildlife viewing and authentic cultural interactions that allow you to experience the human side of Tanzania. In the evenings, unwind in the rustic luxury of elegant lounge tents, sundowner drink in hand and the day's memories fresh in your mind.

An extended stay at award-winning eco-lodge Gibb's Farm shows a more sumptuous side of safari. Farm-to-table dining, optional spa treatments, and tours of the expansive grounds are just the beginning at this idyllic property nestled in the heart of the Ngorongoro Highlands.

You've traveled halfway around the world for this; relish every single moment on an itinerary designed to maximize your experience.



See insert for a full list of prices & departures

DAYS 1-2: TRAVEL FROM NORTH AMERICA TO ARUSHA, TANZANIA

Step off the plane and into the capable care of your driver, who will be waiting for you at the airport

Overnight: Rivertrees Country Inn

DAYS 3-4: EASTERN SERENGETI ECOSYSTEM

Fly to a private nature refuge, exclusive to Thomson guests, and meet your guide

Listen to a traditional Maasai storyteller share the legends of her people

Observe nocturnal wildlife on a night drive (an opportunity not available in parks)

A morning walk across the plains offers a unique way to view wildebeests, giraffes, zebras, and gazelles

Overnights: Eastern Serengeti Nyumba

DAYS 5-8: SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK Spend four days tracking leopards, lions, and more in the quintessential safari setting

Meet a local historian of the Ikoma people and visit a basket weavers' cooperative near camp

Camps are moved seasonally to give you the best chance of witnessing the Great Migration of wildebeests and zebras

Overnights: Serengeti Nyumbas

DAYS 9-11:

NGORONGORO HIGHLANDS The Ngorongoro crater floor offers an opportunity to see all of the Big Five species: lion, leopard, elephant, black rhino, and African buffalo

Enjoy three nights of unparalleled luxury at eco-resort Gibb's Farm

Bask in the beauty of the highlands with sundowner drinks around the "tembo fire"

Visit nearby Lake Manyara National Park, known for its tree-climbing lions

Overnights: Gibb's Farm

DAYS 12-13: TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK Explore a park known as "Elephant Haven" due to its huge herds

Marvel at massive baobabs that often live for over 1,000 vears

Birders should be on the lookout for the more than 500 species spotted here

Overnights: Tarangire Nyumba

DAYS 14-15: RETURN TO NORTH AMERICA Enjoy souvenir shopping at a local artists' collective in Arusha before departing

Day Room: Mount Meru Hotel





OUR MOST WELL-ROUNDED TRIP OFFERS A PERFECT BLEND OF EVERYTHING, FROM ABUNDANT WILDLIFE TO FASCINATING CULTURES, IN UNDER TWO WEEKS

o us, Tanzania has been a second home for over three decades. Our intimate knowledge of the country has taught us the perfect mix that makes for a truly unforgettable safari. The first ingredient is the best wildlife viewing Africa has to offer. We put you right in the midst of the wildlife in all of Tanzania's best destinations: the majestic Serengeti, the impressive Ngorongoro Crater, and a remote private nature refuge, where you'll have exciting opportunities to track animals on foot and during a night drive.

Next, we add the perfect blend of accommodations. We mix the earthy flavor of (luxurious) camping with the indulgence of an award-winning, upscale lodge.

Finally, we season the experience with authentic cultural interactions that show the fascinating breadth of Tanzania's 120+ peoples.

Put them all together, and you have the recipe for an unforgettable safari, one with all the best flavors in just the right proportions.



See insert for a full list of prices & departures

DAYS 1-2:

TRAVEL FROM NORTH AMERICA TO ARUSHA, TANZANIA Jambo! Your driver will meet you at the airport with a smile

Overnight: Rivertrees Country Inn

DAYS 3-4: EASTERN SERENGETI ECOSYSTEM

Fly to a private nature refuge exclusive to Thomson guests and meet your guide

Visit an authentic Maasai community

Experience nocturnal wildlife on a night drive

Guided wildlife hikes offer a unique way to experience Tanzania

Overnights: Eastern Serengeti Nyumba

DAYS 5-8: SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK Experience days of wildlife viewing in Africa's most iconic park

Enjoy an optional hot-air balloon ride complete with champagne breakfast

Visit women basket weavers to learn how they make their crafts, and meet a historian from the Ikoma tribe

Seek out lions, leopards, cheetahs, and Africa's largest crocodiles Stay in seasonal camps at sites chosen to maximize sightings of the Great Migration of wildebeest

Overnights: Serengeti Nyumbas

DAYS 9-11: NCORONGORO HIGHLANDS Visit the Ngorongoro crater floor, home to Africa's densest mammal populations

Spend a night camping on the crater rim for the best access to its wildlife-rich floor

Spend two nights at awardwinning luxury eco-resort, Gibb's Farm

Experience the beauty of the highlands on guided walking tours

Visit the studios of local artists-in-residence

Overnights: Ngorongoro Nyumba (1); Gibb's Farm (2)

DAYS 12-13: RETURN TO NORTH AMERICA Wake up to a farm fresh breakfast at Gibb's Farm

Enjoy souvenir shopping at a local artists' collective in Arusha before departing

Day Room: Mount Meru Hotel



tanzania WILDLIFE SAFARI

A FAST-MOVING ITINERARY THAT KEEPS THE FOCUS ENTIRELY ON THE WILDLIFE, FROM START TO FINISH

f you hear "safari" and think of one thing only the wildlife—then this trip was made for you. Our Tanzania Wildlife Safari has been carefully calibrated to ensure that you maximize your wildlife-viewing opportunities.

Track down big cats and the Great Migration of wildebeests and zebras in the Serengeti, marvel at the massive herds of elephants and hundreds of unique bird species in Tarangire, and fill out your Big Five checklist on the floor of the Ngorongoro Crater.

Seasonal camp locations give you the best chance of spotting wildlife no matter when you travel. Your Ngorongoro Nyumba camp, located along the crater rim, lets you access the crater floor as early as possible, before other travelers staying at more distant lodges arrive.

Tanzania's stunning creatures are why you've always dreamed of Africa. Enjoy them in their natural habitats on our most wildlife-focused trip.



See insert for a full list of prices & departures

DAYS 1-2: TRAVEL FROM NORTH AMERICA TO ARUSHA, TANZANIA

Karibu! Your guide will be at the airport to welcome you to Tanzania

Overnight: Rivertrees Country Inn

DAYS 3-4: TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK Enjoy diverse wildlife populations and fewer tourists at

lations and fewer tourists at this hidden gem for wildlife lovers

Observe massive elephant herds of 100+ animals and hundreds of bird species

Camp under massive, centuries-old baobab trees

Overnights: Tarangire Nyumba

DAYS 5-6: NGORONGORO CRATER Stop for an indulgent lunch at Gibb's Farm

Spend a full day viewing wildlife on the crater floor, home to Africa's densest mammal populations

Camp along the crater rim for earliest access

Camp chefs will prepare a traditional Tanzanian dinner

Overnights: Ngorongoro Nyumba

DAYS 7-10:

SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK Spend multiple days seeking out fascinating wildlife in Africa's best-known park

Stay in seasonally located camps for best proximity to wildlife

Witness the Great Migration of wildebeests and zebras, a "Wonder of the Natural World"

From big cats to antelopes, warthogs to giraffes, the Serengeti's bio-diversity will astound you

Optional morning hot air balloon ride for aerial views of the Serengeti

Overnights: Serengeti Nyumbas

DAYS 11-12: RETURN TO NORTH AMERICA Scenic flight to Arusha offers a last glimpse of the Serengeti

Shop or browse at a local artists' collective

Day Room: Mount Meru Hotel



tanzania TREKKING SAFARI

HIKE THROUGH THE WILDS OF THE GREAT RIFT VALLEY ON AN ACTIVE ADVENTURE THAT SHOWS YOU A NEW SIDE OF TANZANIA

e know our most active travelers are itching to explore Tanzania on foot. On our Tanzania Trekking Safari, you'll enjoy world-class wildlife viewing in the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater, then finish your safari with an active journey along the Great Rift Valley escarpment. This active safari is suitable for fit travelers.

Follow your Maasai guide over varied terrain from steep paths and winding cattle trails to the flat shores of Lake Natron, famous for the white salt flats that multiply around its banks as the weather turns drier. You'll spot wildlife during your journey, but the true wonder of this experience goes beyond that; it's about experiencing Tanzania on foot, as few others do.

Travel should be an adventure, something that challenges you mentally and physically. On our Tanzania Trekking Safari, you'll get out on foot and live the adventure that is Tanzania.



See insert for a full list of prices & departures

DAYS 1-2: TRAVEL FROM NORTH AMERICA TO ARUSHA, TANZANIA A guide will welcome you at the airport and bring you to your lodge

Overnight: Rivertrees Country Inn

DAYS 3-4: Eastern serengeti

ECOSYSTEM A scenic flight gives you spectacular aerial views of dramatic landscapes

Warm up for your adventure with multiple light hikes in a 10,000-acre nature refuge

See strange and elusive animals like aardvarks, genets, and spring hares on a night wildlife drive

Overnights: Eastern Serengeti Nyumba

DAYS 5-7: SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK Stop at a school or medical dispensary for a look into local life

Track the fascinating species for which Tanzania is famous, including lions and leopards

Witness the Great Migration, big cats, crocodiles, elephants and much more

Overnights: Central Serengeti Nyumba

DAYS 8-9: NGORONGORO CRATER Stop at Olduvai Gorge, site of the discovery of some of the earliest hominid fossils

Visit the Ngorongoro Crater floor and picnic beside a hippo pool Enjoy a traditional Tanzanian dinner prepared by camp chefs

Overnights: Ngorongoro Nyumba

DAY 10: EMPAKAAI CRATER Trekking: 5-7 hours

Trek down the steep trail to Empakaai Crater and explore the secluded oasis on its floor

A challenging hike brings you back to your rustic camp on the crater rim

Overnight: Empakaai Crater Rim Camp

DAYS 11-12: LAKE NATRON Trekking: 6-8 hours (Day 11)

Trek 6-8 hours down winding Maasai cattle trails in the Great Rift Valley

Enjoy views of Ol Doinyo Lengai, an active volcano

Hike up to a waterfall near your campsite and cool off in the pools at its base

Enjoy sundowner drinks near the shore of Lake Natron, an important flamingo breeding ground

Overnights: Lake Natron Camp

DAYS 13-14: RETURN TO NORTH AMERICA Drive from the shores of Lake Natron back to bustling Arusha

Shop for beautiful handcrafted souvenirs at the Cultural Heritage Center

Day Room: Mount Meru Hotel



north & SOUTH SAFARI

INTREPID TRAVELERS WILL LOVE THIS WINGED SAFARI THAT STARTS WITH NORTHERN TANZANIA AND FLIES INTO THE REMOTE WILDS OF THE SOUTH

xplore more of Tanzania on a safari that has been perfectly crafted for travelers who are eager for a little extra adventure.

Check off the must-see, iconic sites from your bucket list, including the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater, before taking a bush flight to remote Ruaha, a sprawling southern park where few others go.

You'll spend hours tracking rare species like kudu, wild dog, and sable antelope through the vast and varied landscapes of Ruaha, using skilled local trackers to lead the way.

Sitting on your private verandah facing the banks of the Mwagusi Sand River, you'll feel the solitude and sense of adventure the earliest visitors to this land must have felt. If you're the kind of traveler who enjoys the journey as much as—maybe more than—the final destination, this is the trip for you.

14 DAYS STARTING \$9,790

See insert for a full list of prices & departures

DAYS 1-2:

TRAVEL FROM NORTH AMERICA TO ARUSHA, TANZANIA A guide will be at the airport to meet your flight

Your lodge is nestled in lush gardens on the banks of the Usa River

Overnight: Rivertrees Country Inn

DAYS 3-6: SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

A short flight from Arusha offers stunning aerial views

Seek out the big cats for which the park is known: lions, leopards, and cheetahs

Seasonal tented camps put you as near to the wildlife as possible

Overnights: Serengeti Nyumba Camps

DAYS 7-9: NGORONGORO HIGHLANDS

A visit to the Ngorongoro Crater floor offers baboons, bull elephants, hyenas and rare black rhinos

Experience Gibb's Farm, a working coffee plantation nestled in the heart of the highlands

Visit Lake Manyara National Park, known for its treeclimbing lions and groundwater forests

Overnights: Gibb's Farm

DAYS 10-12: RUAHA NATIONAL PARK Fly to Ruaha to explore a region of Tanzania few travelers ever visit

Guided by local spotters, you'll track rare species in open-sided vehicles

Watch elephants dig "wells" in the bottom of the Mwagusi Sand River

Relax at a stunning, unique camp built right into the surrounding rock

Overnights: Mwagusi Safari Camp

DAYS 13-14: RETURN TO NORTH AMERICA VIA DAR ES SALAAM Encounter wildlife up-close on an early morning walk around the camp

Fly to Dar es Salaam for your international flight home

Day Room: Kilimanjaro Hotel



tanzania HIGHLIGHTS SAFARI

THE PERFECT SAFARI FOR THOSE WITH LIMITED TIME OR A TIGHTER BUDGET HOPING TO GET A TASTE OF TANZANIA'S "GREATEST HITS"

Any people dream of the magic of safari: the beauty of the sun-warmed plains of Africa, the majesty of wild creatures in their natural habitat, and the relaxation of being really and truly away from it all. But for some of us, it can be hard to carve out the time and budget for our dream trip.

That's why we've designed the Tanzania Highlights Safari to give travelers on a tighter schedule or budget the chance to experience a few of Tanzania's can't-miss destinations, experiences, and sights.

Enjoy a sundowner drink as you gaze out over the Serengeti, listen to the chorus of tropical birds in the acacia trees that circle the Ngorongoro Crater rim, and bask in the gentle glow of an African sunrise. On our Tanzania Highlights Safari itinerary, you'll get to dip your toes into the safari experience. Just don't blame us if you return home longing to plan your next Tanzanian adventure!

10 days | starting \$4,990

See insert for a full list of prices & departures

DAYS 1-2: TRAVEL FROM NORTH AMERICA TO ARUSHA, TANZANIA The first highlight of your trip: being warmly welcomed at

the airport by your driver

Overnight: Mount Meru Hotel

DAYS 3-4: EASTERN SERENGETI ECOSYSTEM

Take a scenic flight to the Eastern Serengeti and meet your guide

Observe gazelles, giraffes, and wildebeests on foot during guided wildlife walks

Shop for handmade souvenirs on a visit to a women's entrepreneurial collective

Encounter Maasai culture firsthand on a visit to a traditional village

A night wildlife drive gives you a chance to spot Tanzania's most elusive species

Overnights: Eastern Serengeti Nyumba

DAYS 5-6: SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK Wildlife drives allow you to spot dozens of species from elephants to lions to warthogs

Relax and enjoy wildlife viewing right from your camp

Overnights: Central Serengeti Nyumba

DAYS 7-8: NGORONGORO HIGHLANDS Visit the floor of the Ngoron-

goro Crater, a UNESCO world heritage site that holds over 30,000 mammals

The crater is one of the only spots in Africa with populations of all Big Five species

Camp beneath a canopy of acacia trees along the rim of the verdant crater

A traditional meal allows you to taste authentic Tanzania

Overnights: Ngorongoro Nyumba

DAYS 9-10:

RETURN TO NORTH AMERICA Stop for lunch and look for souvenirs at a local artist's collective in Arusha

Day Room: Mount Meru Hotel

INCLUDED ON YOUR PHOTO SAFARI:

- Photo tents at camp which allow you to charge equipment, sort through photos, and share the day's images
- Personalized instruction from a professional photographer
- A maximum of three guests per vehicle
- Increased weight limits for baggage on internal flights
- Equipment recommendations and travel tips from your group leader

photography SAFARIS

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS OF ALL SKILL LEVELS TO PERFECT THEIR ART WITH A PROFESSIONAL

GREAT MIGRATION SAFARI

AUGUST 26 – SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

This dry season safari focuses on the worldfamous Ngorongoro Crater and both the central and northern Serengeti. While the Crater and Central Serengeti hold immense numbers of resident wildlife, the northern Serengeti's Kogakuria/Lamai Wedge will be brimming with migratory activity as nearly 2 million grazers arrive in search of green pasture. Thomson Safaris is one of only a few tour companies sending travelers to this scenic and remote location which lies just a short drive from the famed Mara River.

CALVING SEASON SAFARI

FEBRUARY 9 – 20, 2017

The vast herds of migratory wildebeest make their return to the short-grass plains of the southern Serengeti. Roughly 500,000 of these wildebeest are pregnant females which will drop their calves between late January and early March. You will have the exclusive opportunity to stay in a private camp located right in the heart of the southern plains, and with some luck, you will have a front row seat to this amazing spectacle. This safari also visits the central Serengeti and the Ngorongoro Crater.

Join one of these scheduled safaris or contact us for a private safari with a seasoned professional wildlife photographer.



See insert for a full list of prices & departures



PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY LEADER, PAUL JOYNSON-HICKS

Paul Joynson-Hicks grew up in London and Sussex, and has been working in photography his entire adult life. He apprenticed with Angelo Valentino, then moved to Africa in 1993 to work on a travel photography book. A second book took him to Tanzania, where he stayed, establishing a photography business in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

When he's not working on photography, Joynson-Hicks is active in local charities and fund-raising events. He lives in Arusha with his two children and a menagerie of (domesticated) wildlife.



PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY LEADER, GRANT ATKINSON

Grant Atkinson is a guide, photographer, and writer based in South Africa. Over a decade's experience as a full-time guide in Botswana has taught him how to find the rarest, most elusive species, a skill he's shared with guests in Tanzania, Kenya, Botswana, and South Africa.

Grant enjoys all types of nature and wildlife photography, especially the big cats the Serengeti is famous for. His work has appeared on the cover of *Africa Geographic* and US *National Geographic Kids*, among many others.



tanzania LUXURY SAFARI

A LUXURY ITINERARY DESIGNED FOR OUR MOST DISCERNING TRAVELERS

hat a luxury to see Tanzania's stunning vistas and unparalleled wildlife populations from the splendor of the country's most remarkable lodges.

You'll visit Tanzania's most celebrated destinations such as the Serengeti, the Ngorongoro Crater, the Great Rift Valley, and Tarangire National Park.

Your journey is distinguished by luxury accommodations throughout, such as the elegant Chem Chem lodge whose property abuts Lake Manyara, the world-renowned Ngorongoro Crater Lodge perched high on the crater's rim, and, saving the best for last, Sasakwa Lodge in the heart of the exclusive Grumeti Reserves.

A visit to Tanzania is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Make every aspect of your journey unforgettable on this exclusive luxury safari.

This is a sample Luxury Safari itinerary. Call us to speak with a safari expert who will work with you to customize your own luxury adventure, detail by detail.

13 DAYS STARTING \$25,490

DAYS 1-2: TRAVEL FROM NORTH AMERICA TO ARUSHA, TANZANIA

A guide will meet you at the airport for a private transfer to your well-appointed lodge

Overnight: Legendary Lodge

DAY 3: LAKE MANYARA NATIONAL PARK See Hemingway's favorite park in all of Africa

Watch for Manyara's famous tree-climbing lions, spot giraffes, hippos, zebras, flamingoes and more

Your lodge is the epitome of chic safari elegance

Overnights: Chem Chem Lodge

DAYS 4-5:

TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK Visit Tarangire National Park, known for its elephant herds, baobab trees, and birdlife

From Chem Chem, observe wildlife on an exclusive walking tour near Lake Manyara

Overnights: Chem Chem Lodge

DAYS 6-7: NGORONGORO CONSERVATION AREA

Enjoy a full day on the Ngorongoro Crater floor, the world's premier wildlife destination

Spot bull elephants, African buffalos, lions, and critically endangered black rhinos

Your sumptuous lodge has been described as Versailles meets Maasai

Overnights: Ngorongoro Crater Lodge DAYS 8-11: GRUMETI RESERVES Fly to the great Serengeti's western plains

Spend four days in the comfort, luxury and old world elegance of Sasakwa Lodge

Enjoy wildlife viewing drives in open-sided vehicles (private vehicles available with advance notice, for an additional fee, based on availability)

Resident wildlife populations include cheetah, bat-eared fox, Maasai giraffe, elephant

Seasonally, the Great Migration of wildebeest and zebra creates an impressive spectacle

Savor the endless views, the superior service and world class amenities of your extraordinary lodge

Overnights: Singita Sasakwa Lodge

DAYS 12-13: RETURN TO NORTH AMERICA A scenic bush flight offers a last view of the stunning Serengeti

Shop for handcrafted souvenirs or rare, beautiful Tanzanite at Arusha's Cultural Heritage Center

Day Room: Legendary Lodge

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private SAFARIS

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE ULTIMATE TRAVEL LUXURY: CHOICE

o matter what you're hoping to experience in Tanzania, we can bring your safari dream to life, on your terms.

We'll work with you, listening to your preferences and goals, and building something that fulfills your expectations. With our 35 years of experience, we'll guide you through all the options, and you can feel free to customize any aspect of the trip:

- Choose specific travel dates
- Let us know how much time you're able to spend
- Customize the level of luxury from basic, to moderate, to sky's-the-limit
- Travel exclusively with the friends or family members you choose
- Select the accommodation style that appeals to you
- For extra privacy, you can even have private camps set up exclusively for your group



MULTI-GENERATIONAL TRIPS

The memories you make traveling as a family are truly priceless. Accommodations tailored to your family's needs, activities designed to appeal to every age group, and flexible schedules are just a few of the ways Thomson will make your family's adventure unforgettable.



ANNIVERSARIES & HONEYMOONS

A safari is already an incredibly romantic experience; awe-inspiring landscapes and majestic wildlife sightings each day give way to endless night skies blanketed in stars. Let Thomson help you choose the perfect destinations, accommodations tailored to you, and activities designed to bring you closer than ever before.



SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Turn a milestone birthday into an unforgettable experience. Celebrate retirement with a dream trip. Reconnect with family and friends with a reunion safari. There are countless moments worth celebrating. With 35 years of experience, we can build a safari perfectly suited to you.

FAMILY SAFARIS

TRAVEL WITH THE FAMILY TRAVEL EXPERTS

For our entire 35 year history, Thomson Safaris has been first and foremost a family business. That hasn't just meant working together as a family; it has also meant using our personal experience to ensure that other families can enjoy the wonders of an African safari.

As our family has grown and changed, so has Thomson. Traveling the world—first as a couple, then as parents with young children, then with teens, adult children, and most recently as grandparents on multi-generational adventures—has taught us how to construct trips that are perfectly suited to every family's unique needs.

We've been there. And we understand.

Inter-generational journeys have become a particular specialty. We're proud to craft trips that bring as much joy and wonder to grand-parents as to young children.

Our years of experience have made us experts on family travel. You can trust your family with ours.

> – Judi Wineland and Rick Thomson, Founders, Thomson Safaris

INTER-GENERATIONAL ADVENTURES BUILT FOR YOUR FAMILY

Wouldn't it be nice to escape to a place where carpools and meetings are a distant memory, where there are no dishes to do and no garbage to take out, and where you never set an alarm clock—you just rise at your leisure when the birds start to sing?

Our family itineraries have been specially designed to give your family quality time together, create moments of shared wonder at the natural world, and allow you all to reconnect.

We've thought of all the details that will make your family's adventure unforgettable:

- Trip insurance for the entire family included on all family departures
- Flexible mealtimes will suit your family's needs
- Kids connect with pen pals before departure (creating a personal connection to Tanzania) and meet them in person during the trip
- A "rafiki" (Swahili for "friend") will serve as a cultural liaison for kids on trips with eight or more travelers
- · Games and activities in the camp will keep kids engaged and entertained
- All family safari guides have kids of their own, and understand family dynamics

mental, cultural and anthropological living classroom. What a joy to see my daughter's face light up and hear her exclamations of awe and delight, not once, but numerous times each day. Thanks Thomson!

Tanzania is an environ-

– Kara Mason

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INCLUDED ON YOUR FAMILY SAFARI:

- Trip insurance for the whole family
- Flexible mealtimes to suit your family's needs
- Pen pals to help kids connect to Tanzania before they travel
- A "rafiki" to serve as a cultural liaison for kids (available for groups of 8+)
- Games in the camps to keep kids entertained



SHARE A SENSE OF ADVENTURE AND WONDER AS A FAMILY AND FORM LIFE-LONG MEMORIES TOGETHER ON AN ITINERARY THAT WILL PLEASE TRAVELERS OF ALL AGES

reat family vacations give you an opportunity to build memories that you'll cherish for years. They give you the chance to enjoy yourself without having to worry about the little things. Best of all, they allow the whole family – kids, parents, and grandparents – to share new experiences and connect with one another like never before.

Make that dream a reality on an itinerary that perfectly blends wildlife viewing in Tanzania's can't-miss locations with opportunities to get out of the vehicles and interact authentically with Tanzanian culture.

Kids will love spotting animals, playing games with locals, visiting pen pals, and exploring on guided walks. You'll love the rustic luxury of the tented camps, the indulgence of two nights at Gibb's Farm, and fabulous meals planned to suit all ages.

We'll take care of all the details, keeping everyone engaged from morning to night. Sit back, relax, and enjoy your time together. Isn't that what vacation should be?

13 days door-to-door | starting \$6,990

See insert for a full list of prices & departures, including teen and child discounts

DAYS 1-2: TRAVEL FROM NORTH AMERICA TO ARUSHA, TANZANIA A guide will meet your family

at the airport and escort you to the night's lodge

Overnight: Rivertrees Country Inn

DAY 3: ARUSHA NATIONAL PARK

Shake off the jet lag with a gentle morning walk on the slopes of Mount Meru

Keep an eye out for unusual species like the black-and-white Colobus monkey

Explore Rivertrees' grounds, take a dip in the pool, or simply enjoy the scenery

Overnight: Rivertrees Country Inn

DAYS 4-5: TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK Learn to distinguish animal footprints like dik-dik, giraffe, and zebra

Play traditional Tanzanian games such as "bao"

Break up the second day of wildlife viewing with a swim at a nearby lodge

Overnights: Tarangire Nyumba

DAYS 6-7: NCORONGORO HIGHLANDS Stay at Gibb's Farm, a working coffee estate with activities for all ages

Visit the Ngorongoro Crater floor and enjoy a picnic next to a hippo pool See if any of you can spot all of the Big Five safari species on the crater floor

Overnights: Gibb's Farm

days 8-9:

SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK Learn about humankind's history at the Olduvai Gorge archaeological museum

Track lions and witness the dramatic Great Migration in the Serengeti

An optional hot-air balloon ride offers dramatic views of the Serengeti

Overnights: Serengeti Nyumbas

DAYS 10-11: EASTERN SERENGETI ECOSYSTEM Enjoy a guided wildlife-

viewing walk across the plains

A night drive offers a chance to spot rare nocturnal species like aardvarks and spring hares

Visit a nearby Maasai school and meet your pen pals

Overnights: Eastern Serengeti Nyumba

DAYS 12-13: RETURN TO NORTH AMERICA Fly back to Arusha and enjoy a farewell lunch and souvenir shopping at a local arts center

Day Room: Mount Meru Hotel

INCLUDED ON YOUR FAMILY SAFARI:

- Trip insurance for the whole family
- Flexible mealtimes to suit your family's needs
- Pen pals to help kids connect to Tanzania before they travel
- A "rafiki" to serve as a cultural liaison for kids (available for groups of 8+)
- Games in the camps to keep kids entertained

short

FAMILY SAFARI

A SHORTER SAFARI BUILT WITH BUSY FAMILIES IN MIND

f you're ready for an unforgettable adventure with your entire family, but need to plan a vacation that works with everyone's packed schedules, our Short Family Safari is perfect for you!

This trip will give you the opportunity to connect with the beauty of the African wilderness—and with one another—on a shorter timeline that busy families can manage.

Every day has been carefully planned to keep your family – from grandparents to kids – engaged. Regular activity breaks get everyone up and out of the safari vehicles; flexible mealtimes suit the kids; and cultural interactions, including a visit to a Tanzanian school, help your family connect with this beautiful country.

Give your family the gift of quality time spent sharing an adventure and a sense of wonder at the natural world. A journey to Tanzania will be an experience you'll never forget.



See insert for a full list of prices & departures, including teen and child discounts

DAYS 1-2: TRAVEL FROM NORTH AMERICA TO ARUSHA, TANZANIA Relax; your guide will be waiting at the airport to take your family to the lodge

Overnight: Rivertrees Country Inn

DAYS 3-4: TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK Spot massive herds of elephants, hundreds of bird species and big cats

Learn traditional Tanzanian games, like "bao," between wildlife drives

Visit a primary school where your kids will meet their Tanzanian pen pals

Enjoy a pick-up soccer match with your new friends

Overnights: Tarangire Nyumba

DAYS 5-6: NGORONGORO CRATER Your camp, located along the crater rim, is nestled beneath a dense acacia forest

Look for the Big Five – lion, leopard, African buffalo, elephant and rhino – on the crater floor

Picnic by a hippo pool!

Enjoy a traditional Tanzanian meal at your camp on the crater rim

Overnights: Ngorongoro Nyumba

DAYS 7-9: SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK Track lions, cheetahs, antelopes and crocodiles in Africa's best-known park

Learn how to identify animal footprints

Make your own traditional arts and crafts, including beadwork and sketches

Take an optional adventure: a hot-air balloon ride over the Serengeti!

Overnights: Serengeti Nyumba

DAYS 10-11: RETURN TO NORTH AMERICA Shop for beautiful handmade souvenirs at the Cultural Heritage Center

Day Room: Mount Meru Hotel

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP TRAVEL

Whether you're hoping to organize alumni travel with your university group, or to set up a special birding safari or culinary adventure with like-minded individuals, our decades of experience in Tanzania mean we know exactly how to build the perfect trip to meet your organization's needs. We've put our expertise to good use for a wide variety of groups:

The Jane Goodall Institute Harvard Museums of Science & Culture African Wildlife Foundation Brown Alumni Association Dartmouth Alumni Travel Museum of Science – Boston University of Portland Sierra Club Outings World Affairs Council of Philadelphia The Commonwealth Club of California Cornell's Adult University Boston University Mass Audubon Smith College And many others!





Safaris is traveling with Safaris is traveling with family; Thomson staff are warm, helpful, and enthusiastic. I always look forward to my Tanzanian adventures with them!

– Stephen Ham, African Wildlife Foundation



partners in conservation AWF & THOMSON

Guests often return from safari with a strong, personal connection to the people, wildlife, and landscapes they had the privilege to experience in Tanzania. They often ask us what they can do to help protect these national treasures.

We always tell them about African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), an organization internationally renowned for its contributions to wildlife and habitat conservation in Africa, that has been in Tanzania even longer than we have, and whose mission we have always supported.

We're proud to have made our longstanding partnership with AWF official. Every returning Thomson traveler receives a free membership to AWF to stay abreast of conservation issues and learn about the invaluable work they do throughout the continent, including their effective anti-poaching work:

STEP 1: STOP THE KILLING

AWF provides grants and support to train rangers and scouts so they can better protect critical wildlife populations

STEP 2: STOP THE TRAFFICKING

Additional resources are devoted to the interception of illegal wildlife products in major ports and to prosecuting wildlife criminals

STEP 3: STOP THE DEMAND

Public awareness campaigns are deployed in markets where demand for poached products is still high, including China, Vietnam, and Thailand, and are critical in educating the public about the brutality of the trade

Thomson's mission has always been to promote responsible tourism that preserves Tanzania's stunning wildlife and habitats and benefits communities. It's a goal that dovetails perfectly with AWF's longterm commitments. With a united front, and help from individuals who know firsthand how much is at stake, we can help ensure that Tanzania's treasures are protected for many generations to come.



ENJOY A BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE SERENGETI

HOT AIR

BALLOON

As dawn breaks, your balloon rises with the sun. Skim the tops of acacia trees as you float higher and higher above the Serengeti's endless plains. You'll remember these majestic views for a lifetime.

After your 30-45 minute ride, a hot, hearty breakfast and a glass of champagne await you. Around mid-morning, you'll meet up with the rest of your group on a wildlife-viewing drive to continue the day's exploration of the Serengeti.

Call us for current pricing; advanced reservations required. Height and weight restrictions apply, and flight duration and elevation vary based on weather.



ZANZIBAR AN EXOTIC ISLAND GETAWAY

Sink your bare feet into sands soft as silk, bask in the crystal-blue waters of the Indian Ocean, stroll the colorful streets of Stone Town, or tour the cottage spice industries of the sunny seaside paradise that is Zanzibar. Located just 15 miles off the coast of mainland Tanzania, the island is a fascinating blend of Arabic, Indian, and African cultures.

Recommended length: 5 days; from \$2,000 / person (double occupancy)



RUAHA

TANZANIA'S LARGEST, MOST REMOTE NATIONAL PARK

Journey off the beaten path to one of Tanzania's least-touristed parks. You'll have a chance to spot rare species like greater kudu, sable antelope, and wild dog on guided bush walks and wildlife drives. In the evenings, savor torch-lit dinners on the banks of the Mwagusi Sand River, where elephants dig 'wells' during the dry season to find water.

Recommended length: 4 days; from \$3,200 / person (double occupancy)

RWANDA

WITNESS SOME OF THE LAST WILD MOUNTAIN GORILLAS

The total number of endangered mountain gorillas in the world is 700. Fit and adventurous travelers can journey into Parc National des Volcans to seek out this rare and amazing species. The gorillas change location daily, so sightings are highly probable but not guaranteed. Time with them is restricted to ensure that human presence doesn't disturb their fragile existence.

Recommended length: 4 days; from \$5,000 / person (double occupancy)



SELOUS

EXPLORE AFRICA'S LARGEST GAME RESERVE

Spreading out over 21,000 square miles, the vast landscapes of the Selous are a perfect place to spot some of Tanzania's rarest species in a truly wild environment. Journey in open-sided vehicles, navigate the great Rufiji River by boat, or relax poolside; there are endless possibilities in the Selous, the largest game reserve in Africa.

Recommended length: 4 days; from \$2,750 / person (double occupancy)



MAHALE MOUNTAINS

TRACK CHIMPANZEES IN A HIDDEN PARADISE

Spend your days hiking the forests of the Mahale Mountains in search of the largest group of free-roaming chimps in the world. Ample physical fitness is required for trekking the steep terrain, but these fascinating creatures are well worth the effort. In the evenings, relax in luxurious, remote accommodations located on the sparkling shores of Lake Tanganyika.

Recommended length: 4 days; from \$5,000 / person (double occupancy)

KILIMANJARO TREKS

REACH THE ROOF OF AFRICA WITH THOMSON

People often say they feel like they're "on top of the world," but the reality is so much more amazing than words can describe.

A Kilimanjaro climb will take you through five different climate zones, from steamy rainforests up to frigid glaciers. It will bring you from waving grass plains to realms above the clouds. And it will be a challenge unlike anything you've ever undertaken.

See what it's really like to be on top of the world with a Kilimanjaro trek. It's a journey you'll never forget.

Request our Kilimanjaro catalog, visit ThomsonTreks.com



I have found – without exception – that Thomson is professional, proficient, informed, caring and giving. It's the people of Thomson and their commitment to the customer. They are the best... Bar none.

– Chuck Reller

HIGHLY-TRAINED EXPERT GUIDES

Your guide is your front-line safety professional on the mountain. That's why guides on Thomson treks are a cut above:

- All head guides are internationally-certified Wilderness First Responders (the gold standard of mountain safety training)
- Guides are fluent in both English and Swahili
- Guides have been trained to use a comprehensive array of emergency equipment, including Gamow Bags (for severe altitude sickness), AEDs (defibrillators), emergency oxygen, stretchers, and more
- All head guides have over 100 professional summits (as far as Kilimanjaro goes, your guides have seen it all)

PORTER ETHICS

Thomson helped get the Kilimanjaro Porters Assistance Project (KPAP) off the ground; KPAP is dedicated to implementing and monitoring ethical treatment of porters on the mountain. We go above and beyond the guidelines KPAP has set for ethical climbs:

- · Your porters receive the largest overall compensation package on the mountain
- Weight limits are strictly adhered to; no porter on your trek will carry more than the recommended 33 pounds of guests' belongings
- All your porters have been provided with all-weather full-body uniforms free of charge
- Gear checks ensure every porter has boots, sunglasses, adequate cold-weather gear, and more

IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS

Simply put, a Thomson trek is a higher-quality mountain experience than what you'll get with other outfitters:

- Nutritionist-designed meals can accommodate a wide range of dietary needs (including vegan, gluten-free, and kosher diets, among others)
- Customized tents with closed-cell foam full-ground pads keep you warmer and drier on Kilimanjaro
- Private, walk-in height toilet tents with eco-friendly pump-flush toilets keep you healthier (thanks to strict hygiene standards) and more comfortable throughout your trek

THOMSON ADVISORY BOARD

At Thomson, we never stop listening to our guests; their feedback helps us make sure we're delivering on our promises and continually innovating. We took that concept to the next level by inviting some of our most enthusiastic past travelers to join our Advisory Board.



A THOMSON SAFARI WILL CHANGE PEOPLES' LIVES. To see that much natural beauty and wildlife and to experience the Maasai culture is beyond life-changing. Thomson ensures that every need is taken care of so you can focus on enjoying the trip. I traveled solo and I can honestly say I never felt as if I was on my own or alone. They took care of everything: amazing food, knowing just the right routes to optimize wildlife, and beyond fantastic guides. I felt like I met "my other family" when I traveled!



In addition to being a perfectly-planned safari experience, Thomson cares about the Tanzanian communities near their Nyumbas. We loved that there wasn't an "upstairs/downstairs" dynamic between us and the guides.



THE ITINERARY, PLANNING, ACCOMMODATIONS, MEALS, AND PEOPLE (both US throughout booking and in Tanzania) were simply outstanding. Every detail was handled to perfection so that all we had to do was soak in and enjoy the otherworldly experience.



In all of our travels, we know that Thomson's excellent service, superb guides, and itinerary have never been, nor ever will be, equaled.



I HAVE TRAVELED TO TANZANIA WITH OTHER SAFARI COMPA-NIES and I always come back to Thomson. The guides just seem to be happier, friendlier and are as excited to see the animals as we are. The Thomson guides are wonderful spotters and try to get you the best photo opportunity they can, and they're more than willing to help with any questions you may have.



WHILE LOOKING AT OUR OPTIONS, I discovered that planning a safari is a very daunting task on your own, but I really appreciated how Thomson just handled everything. I placed a lot of value on the fact that they control every aspect of the trip; from the vehicles, to the guides, to the camps, etc. They leave nothing to chance, and that's comforting when dealing with a trip as complicated as this. I also thought it spoke very well of the organization that their employees are so loyal with such little turnover.

THE MEMBERS

They're dedicated to helping us finetune safaris that are truly unforgettable, and to spreading the word about the amazing experience that awaits you on a Thomson safari. We're incredibly grateful for their input; get to know some of these members of the extended Thomson family!

Matthew Belk, Alpharetta, GA Paige Benigno, Locust, NJ Lee Ann Carvahlo, Nashua, NH Nicole Cicogna, New York, NY Keith Coulter, Storrs, CT June Cunningham, Harrison Township, MI Sue D'Alton, Newton, MA Regan Davis, San Jose, CA Michelle Doherty, Watertown, MA Kathy Gaines, Hudson, NH Susie Hill, Germantown, MD Chuck Kabat, Dedham, MA Geri Klus, Madison, WI David Kotz, Lyme, NH Elizabeth Larsen, Minneapolis, MN Dorothy Linn, Belmont, CA Jane Moore, Corona, CA Debbie Orth, South Euclid, OH Leah Ann Root, La Quinta, CA Pete Rubin, Solon, OH Eric Shapiro, Lexington, MA Debbie Stowers, Aberdeen, NC Barbara Symonds, Sedro Woolley, WA

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 $_{32\%}$ of the land mass in Tanzania is protected, compared to only 14% in the US, which is more than 10 times the size of Tanzania.



Kilimanjaro

International Airport

 \bigcirc

MOUNT KILIMANJARO

Arusha

Kilimanjaro is the tallest freestanding mountain on earth. Its summit, at 19,341 feet, is also the highest point on the African continent.

THE FINE PRINT

INCLUDED BEFORE YOU GO

- Expert consultation to select a trip that's right for you
- Carefully-crafted itinerary
- Friendly, timely replies to all your questions
- Access to competitive business
 class rates
- Access to a personal pre-departure consultant five days a week (by phone or email) from the time you book your trip until you return home
- Travel-planning checklist with packing lists and instructions
- Thomson's Travel Tips: a comprehensive booklet based on more than 35 years of travel experience
- Thomson's Safari Journal: a keepsake with information on Tanzanian wildlife, history, and culture, with space for you to record your own experiences
- Personalized reminders to make sure you are prepared
- Access to our Safari Store to purchase safari essentials (with proceeds going to FoTZC, see page 16)

INCLUDED DURING YOUR TRIP

- All accommodations per your itinerary
- · All meals per your itinerary
- Daily safari briefings
- Superb wildlife viewing
- · Services of a senior naturalist guide
- Internal flights
- · Park entry, camping, and vehicle fees
- Guided walks, school visits, and cultural excursions per your itinerary
- Baggage handling and restaurant tips
- Thomson's Keep Fit Kits at every Nyumba camp (including exercise balls, resistance bands, jump ropes, and yoga mats)
- Battery charging stations in Nyumba lounge tents

IN THE VEHICLES

- Guaranteed window seats for everyone
- Customized pop-up roofs for 360° viewing
- NO mileage restrictions
- Plenty of legroom
- Battery-charging outlets
- Complimentary bottled water
 and snacks

FOR FAMILIES TRAVELING WITH CHILDREN

- Travel insurance
- A "rafiki", or mentor, on trips with eight or more
- Tanzanian pen pals for kids
- Optional early mealtimes
- Camp activities like crafts, Frisbee, soccer, footprint identification, and traditional Tanzanian games

NOT INCLUDED

- Round-trip international airfare
- Tanzania entry visa
- Laundry, bar beverages, phone/internet charges, and other personal services
- Tips for Thomson staff and guides

Please visit ThomsonSafaris.com for complete booking conditions, including liability

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