

KENYA

# BEST OF KENYA

JANUARY 24 - FEBRUARY 2, 2023



*Our Kenya safari showcases the absolute best of Kenya, with visits to three renowned wildlife rich areas: Tsavo, Samburu and the Masai Mara. As we observe wildlife in its natural habitat your AWF leader will share conservation issues facing the parks, conservancies and reserves. We kick this 10-day safari off with a visit to AWF's headquarters in Nairobi and a visit to the Sheldrick elephant orphanage. We then head out on safari to behold some of the most outstanding wildlife rich parks, reserves and conservancies and learn about important AWF legacy work that has taken place over the last 6 decades in Kenya. This includes conservation enterprise work, conservancy work, and the Charlotte Fellows Program which AWF created – providing a platform for powerful local conservation leadership.*

*To learn more or to reserve your spot, contact:*  
**AFRICANWILDLIFE@AWF.ORG**





**Nancy Githaiga**, AWF's Country Director for Kenya, is a scientist and environmental advocate passionate about sustainable development and interested in the nexus between development and conservation. She's a firm believer that a just world is possible, one in which current and future generations thrive from the natural capital base the planet provides. She has over 15 years' experience with non-governmental organizations in conservation and development. Prior to joining AWF, she was Head of Conservation Programmes at WWF-Kenya, where she provided leadership, strategic direction, oversight, and coordination of WWF-Kenya's conservation portfolio while ensuring effective planning and delivery of conservation goals.



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# BEST OF KENYA

## DATES

January 24 – February 2, 2023

## GROUP SIZE

Between 6 and 10

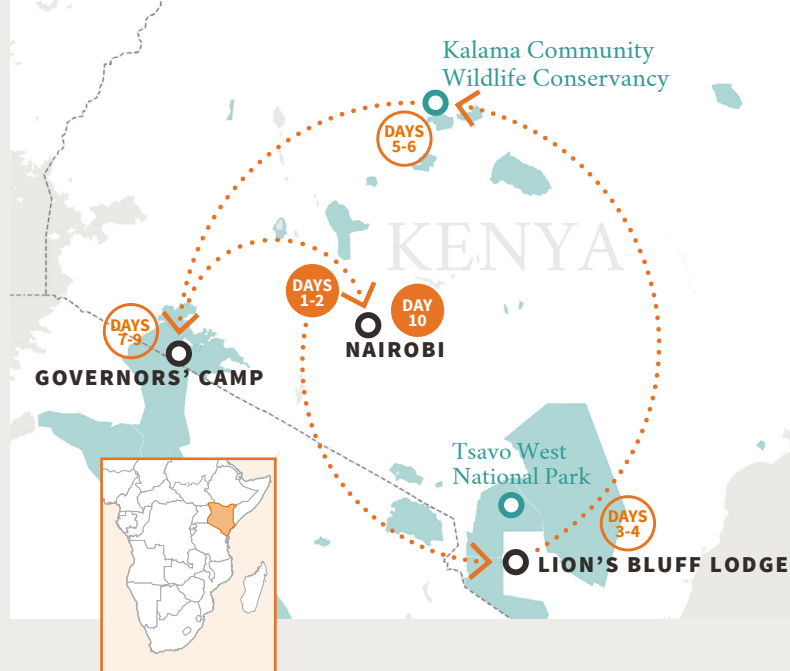
## PRICE

AWF exclusive price:

\$12,990/£10,694 per person sharing



*This luxury safari showcases the absolute best of Kenya, with adventures in three of the most renowned wildlife-rich areas: Tsavo, Samburu and the Masai Mara. On this expedition, we observe elephants and other wildlife in their natural habitats and gain an understanding of some of the key conservation issues facing the parks, conservancies, and reserves. All against a backdrop of Kenya's iconic landscapes. This safari is led by a skilled and qualified AWF guide who possesses an incredible passion for Africa's wildlife and vast knowledge of AWF's lasting impact in Kenya.*



DAY 1

### PALACINA SUITES

Arrive and transfer to your lodge in the Langatta/Blixen region of Nairobi.

DAY 2

### PALACINA SUITES

Visits to the Giraffe Center, Sheldrick Wildlife Trust and Karen Blixen Museum with lunch at Tamambo. Optional visit to the AWF Global Headquarters. Welcome dinner this evening.

**Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner**

DAY 3-4

### LION'S BLUFF LODGE

Morning charter flight (1hr 15min) from Wilson to Taita Hills. Orientation game drive en route to Lion's Bluff Lodge for check-in. Lunch and an afternoon Game Drive or Bush Walk (or possibly both!). One night game drive is available over the course of your stay. Morning Bush Walk or Game drive with possible bush lunch or lunch back at camp. Afternoon game drive or bush walk with sundowners leading up to dinner. There are options for visits to a WWI battlefield as well as lake Jipe and Challa, which are known for world-class birding.

**Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner**

DAYS 5-6

### SAMBURU SARUNI: KALAMA COMMUNITY WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY

Fly north to the Kalama Community Wildlife Conservancy, bordering the Samburu National Reserve. Our eco-lodge, perched high atop the hills of the Northern Frontier, offers luxurious accommodations in open villages with unforgettable panoramic vistas. The region is home to elephants, leopards, reticulated giraffes, and Grevy's zebras. Learn how the conservancy, with the support of the Northern Rangelands Trust, is facing challenges such as poaching and human-wildlife conflict. Gain a better understanding of the critical role tourism plays in creating revenue for conservation and community development.

**Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner**

DAYS 7-9

### GOVERNORS' CAMP, MASAI MARA

From Samburu, fly southwest to the heart of Kenya's most famous game reserve, the Masai Mara. The Mara's rolling grasslands and riverine forests are the northern extensions of Tanzania's Serengeti National Park. The reserve is noted for its predators, and large prides of lions, cheetahs, hyenas, and leopards are all found here. You'll stay at Governors' Camp (the first permanent tented camp in the Masai Mara), nestled in the forest along the winding banks of the Mara River. Each classic safari tent has an en-suite bathroom and private veranda. **Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner**

DAY 10

### NAIROBI

After a final early morning game drive, fly back to Nairobi in time for lunch at the Ole-Sereni Hotel. In the afternoon, relax in your dayroom prior to your transfer to the Nairobi airport for your onward flight arrangements.

**Meals included: breakfast, lunch**



# AWF Counter-Wildlife Trafficking Unit

After habitat loss and fragmentation, trafficking is the severest threat to wildlife, especially dire for endangered species such as elephants and rhinos. Experts estimate the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) is worth \$8-10 billion annually.

In 2012, during a workshop at AWF's Nairobi headquarters, an array of professionals involved in conservation — law enforcers, prosecutors, and others — proposed that Africa strengthen its counter-wildlife trafficking (CWT). Shortly after, AWF worked with the Kenya Wildlife Service to procure, train, and deploy sniffer dogs, along with their skilled handlers, to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport and other IWT hotspots.

Since that focused start on enhancing contraband detection, AWF has grown its CWT program to include capacity-building in deterring and investigating wildlife crime as well as prosecuting offenders. We launched the Canines for Conservation program in 2014, Wildlife Law Enforcement Program in 2015, and Cybercrime Investigation Program in 2019. This Counter Wildlife Trafficking unit has 14 staff members spread across eight countries: Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Tanzania, Botswana, Cameroon, Mozambique, and Uganda.

The Canines program trains dogs and their handlers (oftentimes rangers from wildlife authorities) to conduct searches for illegal products in transportation hubs and other smuggling hotspots. The teams have, to date, made approximately 470 finds of ivory, rhino horn, and other contraband. The impact of these busts transcends the thwarting of specific trafficking operations — merely by their presence, canine teams act as deterrents.

Our Wildlife Judicial and Prosecutorial Assistance Program sensitizes prosecutors and other law enforcers to the importance of wildlife protection and appropriate punishments for offenders. We also address logistical challenges in courts that can prevent cases from moving forward, while training rangers and other investigators how to manage crime scenes, handle evidence, and be effective court witnesses.

Our Wildlife Cybercrime Investigation program seeks to build the capacity of AWF's law-enforcement partners to intercept illegal online trade and carry out cybercrime investigations. To date, we're supporting cybercrime capacity-building in Kenya, Uganda, and the DRC. AWF has established relationships with a dozen government and private-sector organizations to support this leading-edge wildlife protection effort.



## AWF HISTORIC MOMENT *Wildlife Clubs of Kenya*

Between 1969 and 1971, AWF helped Kenya launch a network of nearly 200 wildlife clubs designed to inspire the nation's young people as future conservationists. The Wildlife Clubs of Kenya are still active today, with more than 9,000 followers on Facebook and frequent outings and activities, including tree planting and invasive plant removal.

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