This exclusive safari explores the best of Tanzania’s diverse wildlife. This classic Tanzania safari is operated by our long-standing and valued partner Thomson Safaris and features the very best that Tanzania has to offer! This is another one of our popular safaris and one that fills fast, so we are offering two safari departures. They both include a VIP visit to AWF’s Canines for Conservation training center and absolutely superb wildlife viewing in Tarangire, Ngorongoro Crater, and the legendary Serengeti. This safari is scheduled to coincide with the annual migration, and allows you to observe countless wildebeest and zebra as they strive for diminishing water and green pasture. Accommodations include a blend of well-located, tastefully-appointed tented camps and award-winning lodges.

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

DATES
August 6 - 17, 2023

GROUP SIZE
Between 6 and 10

PRICE
AWF price: $9,990/ £8,238 per person sharing
$600/£520 VAT

This classic, AWF-sponsored safari features the very best that Tanzania has to offer. VIP visits to AWF’s Canines for Conservation training center and Manyara Ranch add depth to a superb wildlife adventure in Tarangire National Park, Ngorongoro Crater, and the legendary Serengeti. As the safari coincides with the great annual migration, guests will observe countless wildebeest and zebra on the move, heeding the call of ancient rhythms. Accommodations include a blend of well-located, tastefully appointed Nyumba tented camps and award-winning lodges.

ARRIVAL
Arrive at Arusha, where you will meet with your group. From Kilimanjaro Airport, you will be transferred to your comfortable lodge.

ARUSHA TO TANARIGE NATIONAL PARK
This morning, you will visit the Canines for Conservation training center in Arusha to learn more about this flagship AWF program. Leaving Arusha, you then cross into the Maasai Steppe and will see open, acacia-covered plains and graceful, loping giraffes. You’ll arrive at one of the country’s best parks and your lovely accommodations in less than two hours. In the afternoon, explore the banks of the Tarangire River, where families of elephants often gather. During your drive, see if you can spot the stunning lilac-breasted roller or the hulking silhouettes of marabou storks in the distance. Enjoy a welcome dinner and the full Tanzanian hospitality that comes with it.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK
Spend a morning wildlife viewing in Tarangire, searching for different kinds of antelope as well as elephants, giraffes, zebras, wildebeest, and more! You will have lunch at your Nyumba in Tarangire, then explore more of the park, taking in the diverse wildlife as well as the baobab-studded landscape. Guinea fowl scurry alongside your vehicle, warthogs run in the grasses, and, sometimes, you see leopards lurk in the vegetation near the road. Back at camp, sit by the fire and relax, exchange stories of the day, write in your journal, or simply enjoy the evening breeze.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

MANYARA RANCH / GIBB’S FARM
Depart Tarangire for a beautiful drive through the Great Rift Valley towards the Ngorongoro Highlands. As you make your way west, stop at Manyara Ranch, where you will learn about how communities are directly benefiting from wildlife conservation in this critical corridor. Continue up the escarpment, where you will take in elevated views of Lake Manyara and surrounding vistas. Later, enjoy a leisurely walk through the gardens at Gibb’s Farm, an award-winning lodge. That night, gather for stargazing and storytelling around the Tembo Fire, a tradition that began as a practical measure to keep elephants out of the gardens at night.

Meals included: breakfast, boxed lunch, dinner

TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK
With an astounding 550 avian species, Tarangire is a veritable birder’s paradise. Tarangire also attracts some rarer mammals, such as the African wild dog. Enjoy your lunch outdoors in a scenic spot. At night, listen to the hypnotic sounds of the wilderness around you as you rest at your camp and reminisce about the unforgettable sights of Tarangire.

Meals included: breakfast, boxed lunch, dinner
**DAY 6**

**NGORONGORO HIGHLANDS TO NGORONGORO CONSERVATION AREA**

Join a naturalist for a birding walk through the farm and gardens and spot a stunning array of avian species, from crowned hawk-eagles to Fischer’s lovebird, and Abyssinian nightjar. Savor lunch at Gibb’s, where nearly every ingredient comes fresh from the estate’s organic farm. Then drive a short distance to Ngorongoro Conservation Area, a wildlife and cultural preserve covering 3,200 square miles, of which 102 square miles are Ngorongoro Crater. Immerse yourself in the semi-nomadic culture of the Maasai by visiting a boma, a settlement of circular mud-and-dung Maasai homes.

*Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner*

**DAY 7**

**NGORONGORO CONSERVATION AREA**

Spend a day in Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Sometimes there are more than 30,000 animals in and around the crater, including black rhino, cheetah, lion, hyena, eland, and numerous antelope. Over a full day of wildlife viewing, you might even see rhinoceros. You will have a bush lunch on the floor of the Ngorongoro Crater. At night, listen to the hypnotic sounds of life on the rim as you rest at your camp. Enjoy a traditional Tanzanian dinner, rich with spices and fresh local vegetables — a chance to sample the best of local cuisine!

*Meals included: breakfast, boxed lunch, dinner*

**DAY 8**

**NGORONGORO CONSERVATION AREA TO SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK**

Depart the cool, grassy Ngorongoro Conservation Area for the great Serengeti plains and a different — but just as spectacular — wildlife viewing experience. Serengeti National Park covers 6,000 square miles of pristine land and offers not only expansive vistas but the largest migration of mammals on Earth, including 1.5 million wildebeest. Make a short stop at Oldupai Gorge, a deep ravine and site of fossilized remains of animals and hominids that date as far back as 2 million years. A brief lecture and small museum tour are included. Enjoy the journey to your next Nyumba camp, as there will be plenty to see along the way.

*Meals included: breakfast, boxed lunch, dinner*

**DAY 9**

**SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK**

Those who made reservations will have the opportunity to balloon across the plains during one of our Serengeti mornings. Take to the skies just as the sun rises. Glide over the plains and acacia treetops, marveling at spectacular views of the Seronera River Valley and the surrounding plains. Then enjoy a magnificent champagne breakfast in the midst of the Serengeti wilderness. Look for herds of wildebeest, zebra, giraffe, impala, eland, topi, and more out on the savanna.

*Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner*

**DAY 10**

**SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK**

Go on a wildlife drive in the Serengeti for a full day. Your expert guide will point out species that few others could hope to spot, whether a leopard well-concealed in the trees or a lion deep in the savanna grasses. Enjoy your Nyumba, whether you get in a workout with a Keep Fit Kit, learn a traditional Tanzanian game from your guide, write in your journal, or simply put up your feet and relax.

*Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner*

**DAY 11**

**SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK**

Spend an afternoon wildlife viewing in the Serengeti. The big cats often spend these hours lying drowsily about the plains and up in the trees, while many antelopes and other animals continue to graze. During your Tanzania farewell dinner, you can reflect on the many sights, adventures, and experiences that you will remember for years and years to come.

*Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner*

**DAY 12**

**DEPART**

Spend another morning exploring the rich ecosystem of the Serengeti before your flight from Northern Serengeti to Arusha. Enjoy a delicious lunch and a visit to the adjoining Shanga workshop, where physically challenged artisans create remarkable jewelry, practice glassblowing, and sell their work. A shopping mainstay in Arusha, the Cultural Heritage Center offers wooden carvings, artifacts, apparel, and crafts. Relax in your dayroom in Arusha, reading yourself for your departure. Enjoy a nutritious snack of nuts, fruit, vegetables, and other treats for now or on your flight home.

*Meals included: breakfast, lunch, farewell snack*
Since July 2015, when the first class of detection dogs and canine handlers graduated from AWF’s dog training facility in Tanzania, our Canines for Conservation program has grown in size and reputation.

We now have canine teams supporting anti-trafficking work in five African countries — and the list is growing — helping authorities leverage limited resources to catch smugglers and deter future illegal operators.

AWF’s partners deploy the highly skilled canine teams to airports, seaports, border crossings, and other hot zones to sniff out and arrest traffickers of ivory, rhino horn, and other contraband. A growing focus of the program is the training and deployment of tracker dogs, who work in the field and follow trails from kill sites to poachers’ doorsteps, often over many kilometers and several days.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic brought tourism to a halt, creating tremendous hardship for wildlife communities that depend on tourism for income. Afraid that this deprivation would lead some individuals to poaching, authorities expressed a greater need for tracker dogs in the field — even as they still needed detection dog teams to search warehouses and dockyards. To fulfill these government requests, AWF graduated new handler classes and procured additional dogs, placing additional units at Kilimanjaro International Airport, and deploying dogs to the wildlife-rich Serengeti protected area. We also enhanced our support of tracker units in Manyara/Tarangire ecosystems as well as Lake Nakuru National Park and Ol Pejeta Conservancy, Kenya.

Canines for Conservation teams have made over 470 busts, representing millions of dollars in seized goods and an inestimable cost in lost animal lives — elephants, rhinos, lions, pangolins, and other endangered species. But another measure of the program’s effectiveness is the number of governments interested in working with us. Botswana, Cameroon, and Mozambique are the most recent additions to the roster of countries with Canines for Conservation units deployed, joining Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania.
In 2001, AWF in collaboration with the Tanzanian government created the Tanzania Land Conservation Trust (TLCT). Manyara Ranch, managed by AWF from then to present, was the first conservancy in Tanzania to be incorporated with a plan for permanent sustainability with direct benefits flowing to local communities, professional management, proper governance, effective security, and investments in infrastructure that aligned with the Ranch’s various enterprise opportunities.
Recent findings show that, after peaking in 2011, elephant poaching rates in Africa are slightly declining. But even with new bans on ivory trade in several of the world’s leading markets, the continent’s iconic species is still under threat. Conserving elephant populations in their natural habitats and putting an end to the international wildlife trade is critical.

AWF approaches elephant protection using diverse strategies that include anti-poaching activities in elephant landscapes, anti-trafficking programs such as Canines for Conservation, and provision of non-lethal elephant deterrent technologies to mitigate conflict.

Human-elephant conflict (HEC) is one of the major challenges facing both elephants and human communities in Africa. In Mbire District, northern Zimbabwe and around Murchison Falls in Uganda, we support chili growers who use the pungent crop as a non-lethal method of repelling unwanted pachyderm visitors. The chili crops also help farmers diversify their incomes, thus building community resilience and providing a sustainable livelihood option.

In addition to agricultural training, we’ve provided the Murchison farmers materials to build solar dryers that improve the quality of the products they bring or send to market. In recent years, despite weather changes and other unexpected challenges, the farmers, on average, managed to double their yield.

Meanwhile, in the Tsavo-Mkomazi cross-border landscape in Kenya and Tanzania, AWF has trained over 3,000 farmers in HEC mitigation and provided the communities noise-based repellents such as torches, vuvuzelas, and whistles.