

# Self Drive Safari: Camp & Lodge Duration: 11 nights/12 days

# **Day 1:**

Arrive Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA). Here you will be met by Walter, a driver from Twiga Lodge where you will stay for your first night in Tanzania. Twiga Lodge is situated right on the boundary of Arusha National Park and is about 30-40 minutes drive from the airport.

Day 1 – After breakfast, you will be briefed on the vehicle and all the equipment. We will also go through the itinerary in more detail and all the maps.

Once you are happy you drive the very short distance to Arusha NP where you spend the night in the public campsite. Very few people camp within the park so you will probably be the only ones in the campsite. Arusha NP is the perfect introduction to your self-drive safari giving you time to get used to the vehicle and all the equipment. If there are any issues, you can pop back to us the following morning before you head out on your safari.

There is enough food in the food starter box to make an evening meal but if you want any drinks or a frozen meal for the night just let me know and we can provide it.

Payment by your own credit card at the entrance gate for Entrance park fees for 2 adults, 1 vehicle and public campsite fees.

#### Day 2

After packing up camp, you drive to Tarangire NP where you spend the next 2 nights. Allow 3 hours drive. The first night you stay in a public campsite. Tarangire only has 2 public campsites and we will show you on the map the one to stay at. It is about 6 km from the entrance gate. En-route you will need to pick up supplies and exchange money, as fuel stations will only accept payment in Tsh cash. We will show you where the best places to do this are.

Tarangire National Park is famous for its huge herds of elephants, year round game and it's beautiful Baobab trees.

Payment by your own credit card at the entrance gate for Entrance park fees for 2 adults,1 vehicle and 2 nights plus the campsite fees.

### Day 3

Full day exploring Tarangire and tonight you spend the night at Tarangire Safari Lodge where you stay overnight on a full board basis. Allow enough time to settle in and shower before taking sundowners on the beautiful terrace. They also have a swimming pool.

The accommodation is in tents under a thatched banda with en-suite bathroom. Lions can often be heard roaring at night and elephants do come close to the tents.



#### Day 4

After a morning game drive, you leave Tarangire and head for the Ngorongoro Conservation Area where you spend the next 2 nights and have a chance to see the "Big 5".

You will drive through the town of Mto wa Mbu where you can pick up fruit and vegetables and up the escarpment. At the top is a viewpoint onto Lake Manyara. You proceed to Karatu where you can fill up with diesel and onto the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. As you drive up the rim of the crater you will get your first view in to the magnificent crater. After taking in the view you drive around the Eastern rim of the crater straight to the special campsite which is just off the Sopa Descent road (subject to availability). You have to pass through another ranger post and show them your permit. Allow 4 hours drive to get to the campsite.

At the entrance gate you show them your paid permit (provided by Shaw Safaris Ltd) for 2 adults and 1 vehicle for 2 nights plus crater service fee and camping fees. You need to have them stamp the permit as "Entered".

The permit is per 24hours, so whatever time you arrive at the Loadare entrance gate, you must exit at Naabi Hill gate by the same time 24 hours later. Any overstays are paid by you!

#### Day 5

After packing up camp early you take the descent road and spend the day game-viewing within the crater. You can start driving at 6am and you will have to make the short drive back to the ranger post before you can descend). You are more likely to see the cats moving in the early hours of the morning before it gets too hot and hopefully have the crater to yourself for a few hours.

Leaving the crater floor around 4.30pm you drive up the ascent road. At the top you bear left and head for Rhino Lodge where you spend the night on a full board basis.

#### Day 6

Today you head for the Serengeti and descend onto the plains where you spend the next 4 nights in a combination of special campsites and tented camps. The location will depend on the time of year.

On the way to Naabi Hill you can visit Olduvai Gorge and museum (additional cost) which shows the work of Dr Louis and Mary Leakey and the discovery of the first humanoid footprints.

At Naabi Hill entrance gate you must "exit the Ngorongoro Conservation Area" first and have your permit stamped as "exited". The booth for this is to the right of the gate. It is vital you do this otherwise they will think you are still in the NCAA and charge you extra.

You then obtain your permit for the Serengeti using your own credit card for 2 adults, 4 nights plus camping fees. You will need to show them your special campsite vouchers. The Serengeti office is in a building to the left just past the toilets.

This road is very corrugated and dusty and you need to allow 5 hours driving dependant on road conditions



# Day 7

Full day exploring the area and overnight in campsite/tented camp.

# Day 8

Full day exploring the area and overnight in campsite/tented camp.

# Day 9

Full day in the area and overnight at same special campsite

# **Day 10**

Today you leave the Serengeti and drive back past the Ngorongoro Crater to Lake Manyara where you spend 1 night in the public campsite. Allow for 6-7 hours drive.

When you exit the Ngorongoro Conservation Area at Lodare gate you need to get the permit stamped as Exited as before.

Payment by your own credit card at the entrance gate for Entrance park fees and vehicle entrance for 1 night, plus public campsite fees.

# **Day 11**

After packing up camp for the last time, you drive back to Twiga Lodge for hand-over of the vehicle and a de-brief over a cold beer, before we transfer you to the airport for your onward flight.

**End of Services**