Imaginative Images

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Draft Itinerary – Migration Safari 2025

Wednesday 27th August Arrive Tanzania, transfer to School of St Jude

Thursday 28th August School tour – Goat Street - Home visit

Friday 29th August Cultural Heritage and Masai Market

Saturday 30th August Masai Boma and Khans

Sunday 31st August Safari to Tarangerie NP

Monday 1st September Tarangerie NP to Seronera

Tuesday 2nd September Seronera to Kogatende

Wednesday 3rd September Kogatende

Thursday 4th September Kogatende

Friday 5th September Kogatende

Saturday 6th September Kogatende to Crater Rim

Sunday 7th September Ngorongoro Crater and back to Arusha

Monday 8th September Fly home or on to Zanzibar

4 days in Arusha, at "The School of St Jude"

Whilst in Arusha, we will stay in visitor accommodation at The School of St Jude. Accommodation is located within the grounds of the Primary School Campus. The accommodation is basic, but clean and safe.



Each room will be a private room with an en-suite, some have a small lounge.

Day 1 – St Judes

Arrive at Kilimanjaro Airport and transfer to Arusha and "The School of St Jude". On arrival at St Jude's, you will need to watch a couple of short videos about the School, and your expected behaviour. There are no activities planned for the remainder of the day.

We will meet at the Rotary Kitchen for a pre-dinner drink, or at the small pub located just outside the front gate. The Rotary Kitchen has a refrigerator if you want to have a cold drink or make a cuppa.

While at St Jude's, we will have breakfast and some dinners prepared for us.

Overnight: School of St Jude D

Day 2 - St Judes

7.30am breakfast, followed at 8.30 by a short tour of St Jude's Primary and Girls Secondary School. Both are located within the grounds of the Sisia Campus, where we are staying.

9.30am, we will have a visit to the schools Art Gallery to see (and possibly purchase), some of the students amazing artworks.

10.00am, we will have a meeting with Gemma Sisia, the founder of The School of St Jude. She is an amazing woman. If Gemma is not available (she is very busy), we may reschedule the time or

meet with an Alumni student. They are always very interesting, and have great stories to share. If you have time, I suggest you read "The School that hope built". It explains the history and ethos of the school.

We will also visit the students in one of their classes, usually either music or art so we can join in.

For lunch we will visit "Goat Street", this is exactly what the name suggests. Please let me know if you are a vegetarian. This is a true local lunch experience. We will then return to St Jude's, to prepare for your home visit.

The exact itinerary while at St Jude's, can be a little flexible, as some things will depend upon what the students are doing.

At some stage today, I suggest you exchange some USD for local currency. (\$500US should be enough). This is done at the cashier's office near the visitors' centre. Make sure you to this before 2pm when it closes. You will need to tip the Safari Driver and have some cash for drinks and some meals.





Home Visit: - There will be a short meeting with a member of the visitors team. They will explain to you about a home visit. You will be accompanied (most likely) by the student whose home you will be visiting. You will also be accompanied by an interpreter the entire time. After the home visit, you will return to St Jude's.

You will purchase a 'home pack' as a gift for the family. During the visit, the family will most likely offer you a refreshment, usually a cup of chai tea (pretty sweet, but it is polite to at least try some). Make sure that you ask lots of questions, the family will be shy but happy to answer your enquiries, they may even ask some questions of their own.

For some people, a home visit is a confronting experience, to see how poor there people really are. But it is so worthwhile, and I encourage everyone to do it. Photography is also allowed.

Overnight: School of St Jude B, D

Day 3 – St Judes

Today we will visit the Cultural Heritage Museum and shop. There is so much to see here, and this can easily take many hours. This is the largest museum in Africa. There are many unique pieces, and there are some quality items for sale along with the general tourist things. It is also the place if you are after Tanzanite. They are the world's largest supplier.





If there is time, we will also call into Shanga. Shanga is a social enterprise, which employs local people with disabilities to create unique, high-quality handmade jewellery, glassware and homewares incorporating recycled materials. Enjoy watching how all of the items are made, there is also a lovely little shop.





There should be enough time to call into the local Masai Market on the way back to St Jude's. The goods here are generally less expensive. WARNING – they are fairly hard sellers. Always bargain, ½ price is a bit of a guide, but really it is whatever you feel is fair. You will find that many of the shops have the same merchandise. That said, it can be lots of fun. They will accept both USD and Tanzanian Shillings, but prefer shillings. There are no card facilities here.

Friday is assembly day for the primary school students. We will try to be back for this as it is lots of fun. The students will receive achievement awards and there will be some skits, singing and music. This is a wonderful photography opportunity.

Overnight: School of St Jude B, D

Day 4 – St Judes

Today we will visit a traditional Masai Boma (village). We will stop at a local market and purchase a goat and some food staples.

Upon arrival at the Boma, we will be sung into the village, and we will present the goat to the village chief. We will also give our gifts to the wives. Each visit is a little different, but we will be free to visit their homes, and ask lots of questions. You are able to take photographs here and some of the children and adults may even pose for you. We will leave the Boma early afternoon (or around lunch time depending upon the location. If there is time, we will stop for lunch on the way home, or we will have a lunch pack.









As this is our last day before Safari, we will return in time to repack and prepare. As we will be returning to St Jude's after our Safari, you will be able to leave some of your items in your room

(we may need to move all items into one room). This is very handy if you are planning on continuing onto Zanzibar.

Tonight, we will have our dinner at a popular "street food" restaurant (loose meaning of the word restaurant). Khans is also known as Chicken on a bonnet, as it runs as a mechanical business by day. It is an iconic place to eat. Beware of the hot end of the salads. We will be sitting at tables on the sidewalk. As the family is muslin, there is a no alcohol policy.

Overnight: School of St Jude B

NOTE: On occasion the itinerary may vary to take advantage of local events, and Gemma the founder of the school has many obligations, so we will try to work around her calendar.

TOUR INCLUDES: Airport transfers, all breakfasts and some dinners, accommodation, home visit, Masai Boma visit, optional tour of Junior and Senior Campuses (if time).

NOT INCLUDED: International Airfares, any outside meals, Visa, alcohol, home pack for the home visit (\$50US per pack), taxi fares, sim card (if purchased), room cleaning (if chosen), Goat and gifts for the Masai Boma (expect to pay around \$250US between the group).

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8 Day Great Migration Safari

Day 5 - Safari Day 1

We will have an early start for our first day of safari to Tarangerie National Park. The drive to Tarangerie is around 3 hours, and the road is excellent.

Tarangerie is the sixth largest National Park in Tanzania. It covers an area of 2850sq km, and is famous for its huge elephant numbers, Baobab trees and tree climbing African Pythons.

Once signed into the park, we will game drive for the rest of the day.





Overnight: Tarangerie Tortillis Camp or similar B, L, D

Day 6 - Safari Day 2

We will have an early breakfast before departing with a lunch pack. We will safari out of Tarangerie enroute to Seronera in Central Serengeti.

Along the way we will pass through Karatu and a number of small towns. We should arrive at the main gate to the Serengeti (Naabi Gate) around lunch time. There is a walk up the hill for a great view of the surrounding area. Keep an eye out for the cute Rock Hirax. Checking into Serengeti often takes some time, so enjoy the walk and lunch.

Once inside, we will game drive to Seronera in Central Serengeti, arriving late afternoon. I feel that this is the real Serengeti, wide open expanses of grass, rocky copies and animals galore.

There is wi-fi and charging facilities available in the reception areas. You will have usb charging only in your room.





Overnight: Serengeti Bush Camp or similar B, L, D

Day 7 - Safari Day 3

We will have a game drive around Seronera before departing for Kogatende at the top of the Serengeti. To get to Kogatende, we will exit Serengeti, driving through some villages before signing back into the park at the very top of the Serengeti.

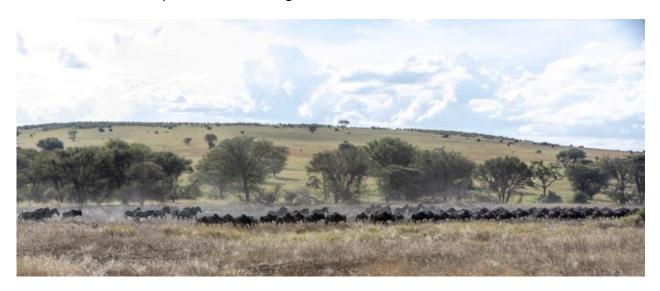
We will enjoy a game drive to our accommodation, arriving late afternoon.

The camps at Kogatende are mobile camps, and they are excellent, but not as well established as the permanent camps. As they use a generator, there is limited charging overnight, and once again, only usb charging in your room. Showers will need to be ordered, as there is no hot running water. But all rooms have ensuites and your every need is catered for. It is a good idea to bring a battery pack to charge during the day. The generator is turned off overnight, so it can be difficult to recharge everything.

Overnight: Serengeti Mobile Bush Camp B, L, D

Day 8 – Safari Day 4

Our first full day of exploring the north of the Serengeti and our quest to witness one of the worlds' most incredible wildlife experiences, the migration of the Wildebeest across the Mara River.



We have 4 mornings to maximise our chances of seeing a crossing. At this time of year, the herds cross the river back and forwards, in search of fresh new grass. This is the ideal location, as we have access to both sides of the river. Or course, nothing in nature in guaranteed.

Overnight: Serengeti Mobile Bush Camp B, L, D

Day 9 – Safari Day 5

Our 2nd full day of exploring Kogatende in Northern Serengeti.





Most of the crossings occur in the mornings, so we will head to the river each morning. This will allow afternoons to safari in search of other animals.

On some occasions, we will depart with a lunch pack and game drive all day and others we may choose to return to camp for lunch. We will discuss each day's activities at dinner each night.

Overnight: Serengeti Mobile Bush Camp B, L, D

Day 10 – Safari Day 6

Same as days 8 & 9.

On one of the mornings, there will be an option of ballooning. This is a lot of fun, especially if you haven't ballooned before.





Overnight: Serengeti Mobile Bush Camp B, L, D

Day 11 – Safari Day 7

We will have time for an early morning drive before departing for the drive back down to the bottom of the Serengeti. Once again, we will exit the park before re-entering and game driving to our accommodation in the Ngorongoro Conservation area.

Overnight: TBA B, L D

Day 12 – Safari Day 8

Ngorongoro Crater is the world largest Caldera. It is dominated by cliffs which stand at 600m high, dropping down to a wide-open space of 246sq km. The UNESCO listed Ngorongoro Crater contains a large variety of animals, and is the only place in Tanzania where there is an opportunity to see the endangered Black Rhinoceros.

The evenings and mornings will be very cold, so make sure that you have a warm jacket and even some light gloves, be sure to layer up.

It will be a very early start this morning. To have any chance of seeing the rare Black Rhinoceros, we will need to be inside the Crater at first light. As soon at the day dawns, the Rhinoceros retreat to the Forrest areas of the Crater, and are rarely seen.



We will spend the next 5-6 hours exploring this wonder. The Crater provides the most wonderful backdrop for photography, but at this time of year it does become very busy.

On exiting Ngorongoro Crater early afternoon, we will be finished our amazing safari. We will drive back to Arusha late afternoon.

Overnight: School of St Jude B, L, D

Day 123-St Judes

Today's activities will depend upon flight times. Some guests may have chosen to continue onto beautiful Zanzibar or continue with another Safari to Amboseli NP, some may be heading home.

<u>Safari Optional Extras:</u> Optional Balloon flight = Approx 600\$US per person. Please indicate if you wish to include the Balloon ride. It is preferable to book in advance, they often sell out.

<u>Safari includes:</u> All national park fees, specialised 4-wheel drive Safari vehicle, Unlimited Mileage, Professional driver guide (English speaking), all the meals (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinners) while on safari.

<u>Safari does not Include:</u> Flights, Tipping, Liquors, Balloon Ride, items of a personal nature, anything beyond that mentioned above.

<u>About our vehicles & drivers:</u> The vehicle has been specifically modified for photographers. The windows are large and where possible removable, allowing for an improved photographic experience. There will be spare seating to allow for photography gear to be within easy reach. The vehicle has refrigeration to keep our water cold, and usb charging points.

The driver/s are specially chosen, and well trained. I have travelled with the head Safari driver for many years. He knows the needs of photographers well, and will put us in the best position possible. On Safari, your driver vital to your photography and wildlife experience.

<u>Tipping:</u> Your driver has been working hard and they are not well paid, they make their money from tips from grateful clients. The accepted tipping rate is \$20-\$30US pp per day. The driver will appreciate being tipped in Tanzanian Shillings, otherwise they need to declare it and pay taxes (of course). You tip at the end of the Safari.

The workers in the camps are also paid appallingly, so I always slip \$10US per night into the tip box, but this is completely optional. This is better than tipping your waiter only, otherwise everyone in the background misses out.

Cost: \$7,500US per person twin share. Single supplement will apply for a private room. Imaginative Images will, when possible, organise single travellers in a shared room.