

Aardvark Safaris' African Highlights - the best of Africa in a month



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Aardvark Safaris is delighted to introduce a fantastic month-long holiday for those looking to experience the very best highlights of Southern and Eastern Africa.

This once in a life time trip covers:

- The South African **Winelands** and **Cape Town**
- The fantastic **Kruger National Park**
- The enormous **Sossusvlei Dunes** and the **Skeleton Coast in Namibia**
- One of the biggest inland water systems on Earth - The **Okavango Delta** in Botswana
- The **Victoria Falls** - one of the seven wonders of the world
- The **South Luangwa** in Zambia, which is where the walking safari was born
- The third largest lake in Africa - **Lake Malawi**, also known as the 'calendar lake' (it's roughly 365 miles long and 52 miles wide, with 7 rivers running into it and 30 inhabited islands)
- The famous **Masai Mara**, one of the world's finest wildlife destinations
- The habituated gorilla families in the **Volcanoes National Park**, Rwanda

We have personally hand-picked small lodges and camps which we feel will complement each other throughout this epic cross section of Africa. You can expect to see a huge range of beautiful scenery - from cosmopolitan Cape Town and the deserts of Namibia to open savannah plains and thick rainforest - awe-inspiring wildlife, and hugely diverse cultures.

This trip can be completely tailored to suit you and we can chop and change as much as you like until we get the right trip for you.

The itinerary below starts on a Wednesday and ends on a Friday, and is based on two people travelling in September or October 2016 for 31 days.

Summary of Arrangements

Date	Activity
Day 1	Arrive into Cape Town Road transfer Cape Town Airport to Le Quartier Francais Le Quartier Francais - 2 nights
Day 3	Road transfer Le Quartier Francais to Welgelegen Welgelegen Guest House - 1 night
Day 4	Road transfer Welgelegen to Cape Town Airport Fly SA8663 Cape Town 1000 to Kruger Mpumalanga Airport 1235 Road transfer Kruger Mpumalanga Airport to Chitwa Chitwa Chitwa Chitwa - 3 nights
Day 7	Road transfer Chitwa Chitwa to Hoedspruit Airport Fly SA1228 Hoedspruit 1355 to OR Tambo Johannesburg 1455 InterContinental Johannesburg OR Tambo - 1 night
Day 8	Fly SA74 Johannesburg 0930 to Windhoek 1135 Fly Windhoek to Sossusvlei (Geluk Airstrip) Little Kulala - 1 night
Day 9	Skeleton Coast Safaris - 3 nights
Day 12	Fly Skeleton Coast Safaris to Eros Road transfer Eros Airport to Olive Grove Olive Grove - 1 night

Day 13	Road transfer Olive Grove to Windhoek Airport
	Fly SW403 Windhoek 0915 to Maun 1030
	Fly Maun to Tubu Tree
	Tubu Tree Camp - 3 nights
Day 16	Fly Tubu Tree to Kasane
	Road transfer Kasane to Victoria Falls
	The Victoria Falls Hotel - 2 nights
Day 18	Road transfer The Victoria Falls Hotel to Livingstone Airport
	Fly Livingstone Airport to Mfuwe (via Lusaka) (1235 : 1710)
	Road transfer Mfuwe to Luwi Bushcamp
	Luwi Bushcamp - 3 nights
Day 21	Road transfer Luwi Bushcamp to Mfuwe
	Fly Mfuwe to Likoma Island (via Lilongwe)
	Kaya Mawa - 3 nights
Day 24	Fly Likoma Island to Lilongwe
	Fly KQ726 Lilongwe 1440 to Nairobi 2025
	Road transfer JKIA to Ole Sereni Hotel
	Ole Sereni - 1 night
Day 25	Road transfer Ole Sereni Hotel to Wilson
	Fly Safarilink Wilson to Masai Mara (1000 : 1100)
	Mara Toto - 3 nights
Day 28	Fly Safarilink Masai Mara to Wilson (1600 : 1730)
	Road transfer Wilson to Ole Sereni Hotel
	Ole Sereni - 1 night
Day 29	Road transfer Ole Sereni Hotel to JKIA
	Fly KQ448 Nairobi 0750 to Kigali 0820
	Road transfer Kigali to Virunga Lodge
	Virunga Lodge - 2 nights
Day 31	Road transfer Virunga Lodge to Kigali
	Depart Kigali

Day 1

Arrive into Cape Town

Today you arrive into Cape Town (details to be confirmed). We would be delighted to book and suggest flights for you if you would like us to do so.

Le Quartier Francais - 2 nights - Bed and Breakfast

On arrival into Cape Town you make your way through immigration and collect your bags. Please make your way through to the arrivals hall where you are met by your driver (who will be holding up a board with your name on it). They will help you with your bags and drive you to Le Quartier Francais, which should take about an hour.

You have a two night stay here, on a bed and breakfast basis, in an Auberge Room.



Le Quartier Francais is a small luxurious hotel in the village of Franschhoek, right in the centre of the Cape Winelands. Less than an hour from Cape Town, it is an ideal place from which to explore the Western Cape.

The twenty one individually appointed en suite rooms are split into four categories all situated around a central courtyard with beautiful well maintained gardens and a large swimming pool. There are nine en-suite Auberge Rooms, three Grande Rooms, three Petite Garden Suites and two Auberge Suites (with children's lofts and private pools). The Four Quarters Suites are four larger, modern suites with luxurious in room facilities including flat screen TV's and computing facilities, a second pool, and all serviced by a private butler.

'The Tasting Room', one of Le Quartier's restaurants, is rated as one of the 50 best in the world and renowned for its innovative cuisine; Grande Chef Margot Janse serves a unique, African Inspired Surprise Tasting menu. For more informal dining, 'The Common Room' offers lighter meals and an a la carte menu throughout the day. For those wanting to enjoy a spot of pampering there is also 'The Treatment Room' offering an array of spa treatments from facials to massages and the new 'b.gorgeous' day spa for manicures and pedicures.

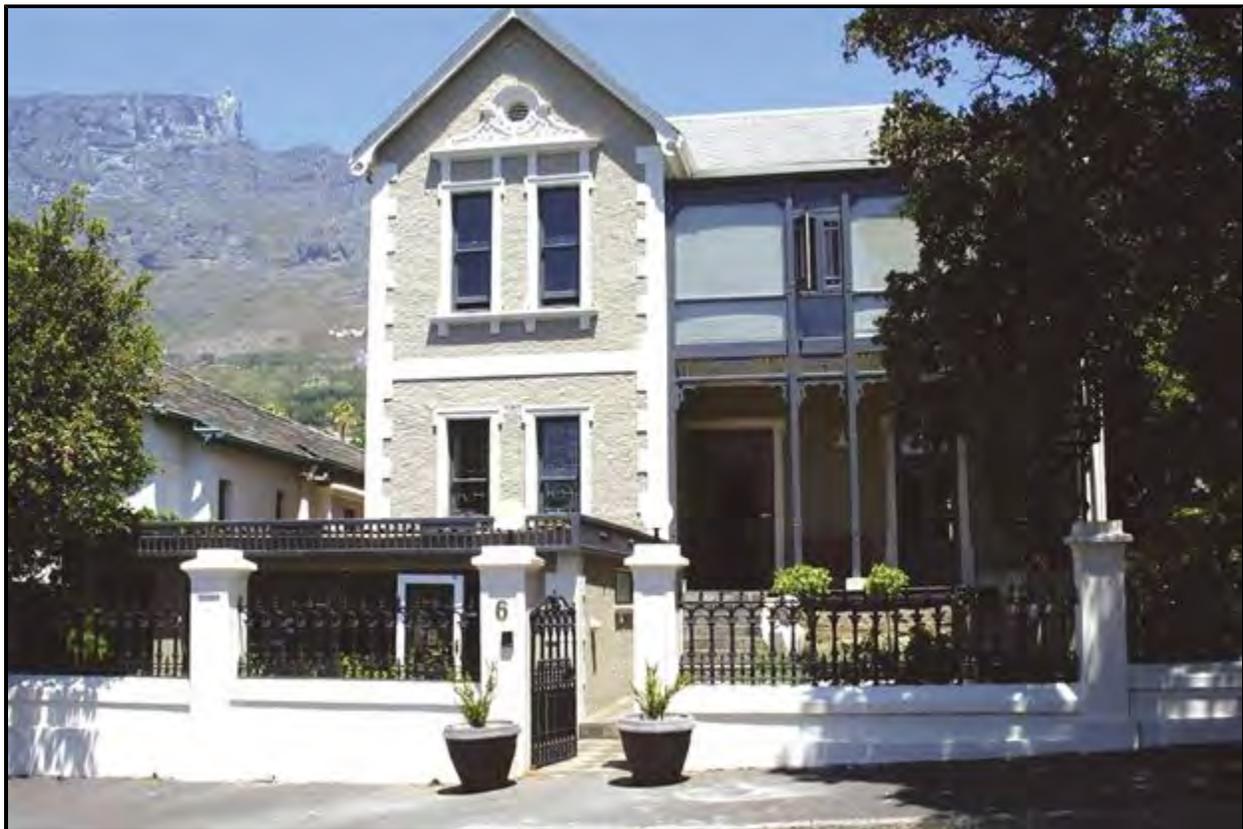


Day 3

Welgelegen Guest House - 1 night - Bed and Breakfast

After breakfast this morning, you are met by a driver and driven to Welgelegen Guest House in Cape Town, which should take approximately 30 minutes (depending on traffic).

Your overnight stay here is on a bed and breakfast basis, in a Superior Room.



Welgelegen Guest House is a stately Victorian residence in the popular suburb of Gardens, five minutes drive from the centre of Cape Town and the vibrant Waterfront area.

Stylishly and elegantly decorated in an eclectic antique style with African and contemporary pieces there are 12 large, luxury en-suite bedrooms spread between two houses and separated by a courtyard. In addition, there is also the two bedroomed Grace Cottage which is ideal for families or two couples travelling together. The rooms at the back have lovely views of Table Mountain and Lions Head. All rooms are fully air conditioned, and have a flat screen TV and mini bar. Breakfast is served at the guesthouse and for dinner, Kloof Street's excellent selection of restaurants can be found just two minutes walk away. There is also a plunge pool in the courtyard and a small spa.

This guest house is in an excellent position from which to enjoy the city of Cape Town and explore the Cape Peninsula. The cable car to the top of Table Mountain is just a ten minute drive away.



Day 4

Fly SA8663 Cape Town 1000 to Kruger Mpumalanga Airport 1235

This morning you continue to the first safari experience of your trip. You are met by a driver and returned to Cape Town Airport in time to meet the South African Airways flight SA8663 to Kruger Mpumalanga Airport, departing at 1000 and arriving at 1235.

Chitwa Chitwa - 3 nights - Full Board

On arrival into Kruger Mpumalanga, having collected your bags, you make your way through to the arrivals hall where you are met by a driver (they will be holding up a board showing your name). They will help you with your bags and drive you to Chitwa Chitwa. This is a drive of approximately three hours.

Your three night stay here is on a full board basis to include all meals, soft drinks and bottle water, tea and coffee, laundry, two open vehicle safaris per day and daily walking safaris. Alcoholic drinks are excluded and are payable direct.



Chitwa Chitwa Lodge in South Africa's world-renowned Sabi Sands Game Reserve, and privately owned by the Brink family, offers guests a peaceful haven from which to enjoy the prolific game viewing that the region is known for.

Chitwa Chitwa Lodge has eight suite rooms that are quite spectacular, each offering great views of the body of water around which the lodge is set. The lodge is built principally from natural materials that have been blended with luxury in an African chic fashion to offer high levels of comfort and designer beauty. In some cases this has moved to baroque eccentric as can be seen in the wonderfully bright and brazen wine cellar. Daytime meals are served in a shady dining area overlooking the lake. Dinners are often enjoyed by firelight in the boma, the outdoor, reeded dining area or around the pool, as well as in the luxurious indoor dining room and bar area.

The Sabi Sands offers spectacular game viewing, being one of the best areas in Africa to see the Big 5. Chitwa Chitwa offers guests the chance view the abundant wildlife on morning and evening game drives, or bush walks and the wildlife you may see includes leopard, rhino, elephant, buffalo, lion, hyena, and if you are lucky enough, wild dog. The guides and trackers at Chitwa Chitwa are outstanding and really add to the quality of the experience. Guests are also invited to visit the nearby community of Dixie, where the community partnership with the camp is in evidence.



Day 7

Fly SA1228 Hoedspruit 1355 to OR Tambo Johannesburg 1455

Late this morning you are driven to Hoedspruit Airport (which should take about an hour and a half) in time to meet the South African Airways flight back to Johannesburg. The SA1228 departs Hoedspruit at 1355 and arrives at 1455.

InterContinental Johannesburg OR Tambo - 1 night - Bed and Breakfast

On arrival into Johannesburg you collect your bags and follow the signs to the Intercontinental Hotel, which is a five minute walk from the arrivals hall. You have an overnight stay here on a bed and breakfast basis.



South Africa's first and only luxury airport hotel, the Airport Sun InterContinental is situated within walking distance from the terminals at OR Tambo International Airport. This conveniently located 138 room hotel is uniquely positioned to meet the needs of travellers requiring the ultimate comfort and personalized service combined with consistent world class standards.

Special features for frequent travellers include in-room flight information and a Camelot Health spa offering a full variety of treatments and massage facilities complemented by steam rooms and a fully equipped gymnasium to ease the stress of long distance travel. This deluxe hotel has drawn its inspiration from the African continent, capturing the culture and spirit of Africa through the use of simple shapes and symbolic artifacts to create an African environment in a contemporary setting. The signature restaurant, Quills, is aptly named after the unique 18 meter long porcupine quill mobile, which spans the entire length of the restaurant. The hotel also offers in-room dining.

Other relaxation facilities include an indoor heated swimming pool that has a panoramic view across the Johannesburg skyline. The Health Spa is situated on the eighth floor of the hotel.



Day 8

Fly SA74 Johannesburg 0930 to Windhoek 1135

This morning you fly to Namibia, so please make your way back to the terminal building in time to check in for the South African Airways flight SA74 to Windhoek, departing at 0930 and arriving at 1135. Please ensure that you are at the airport at least two hours prior to departure.

Fly Windhoek to Sossusvlei (Geluk Airstrip)

On arrival into Windhoek, you clear customs and collect your bags. You then proceed to the arrivals hall where you are met by a driver (they will be holding up a board with your name on it). They will help you with your bags and assist you onto the scheduled flight down to Sossusvlei (Geluk Airstrip) - flight times to be confirmed.

Little Kulala - 1 night - Full Board

From Geluk Airstrip, Sossusvlei, you are met by a guide and driven to Little Kulala, which should take approximately 30 minutes.

Your overnight stay here is on a full board basis and includes all meals, drinks (excluding premium brands and champagne), scheduled shared safari activities and laundry.



Little Kulala is set on the dry Auab River bed in Namibia, to the western side of the Kulala Wilderness Reserve. From its prime location there are magnificent views of the famous red dunes of Sossusvlei to the west and the rugged Namib Mountains to the north and east.

The camp comprises 11 thatch and glass chalets on elevated decks. Each has en-suite facilities and a small plunge pool on the private outside deck area, where there is also a day lounge. An external staircase leads to a flat rooftop that is ideal for stargazing or as somewhere to sleep under the stars. The main area has a lounge, dining room, bar and curio shop. There is also a swimming pool and a wine cellar well stocked with vintage wines.

Activities at Little Kulala are varied and include full day game drives with an early morning start to the spectacular Sossusvlei dunes, nature drives with incredible views, to see desert game and smaller desert fauna and flora. Walks and day trips into the Namib-Naukluft Mountains are also available. Scenic flights and ballooning can be arranged at an extra cost.



Day 9

Skeleton Coast Safaris - 3 nights - Full Board

This morning, at a time to be confirmed, you are met by your pilot/guide from Skeleton Coast Safaris and you begin your Skeleton Coast Safari. Your three night stay is on a full board basis including all meals, drinks (excluding premium brands) and activities.



The Schoeman family has been running flying safaris along Namibia's Skeleton Coast for over 25 years. Incredibly remote landscapes of haunting beauty and a variety of flora and fauna, as well as amazing archaeological and geological features can be viewed from the air or experienced at ground level during this unique flying safari.

The classic Schoeman trip involves joining a small group in a private plane and flying to some of the remotest areas left in the world. The trip is only four days and three nights, with each night spent at a different remote camp. Accommodation consists of walk-in dome style tents underneath a wooden hut, with two comfortable camp beds with a mattress, sheet and blanket and a small bedside table. At Kuidas camp and Kunene River camp each tent has its own chemical loo and at Leylandsdrift camp the tents have en-suite flush loos. In all the camps each tent has an adjoining bucket shower and there are also shared flush loos to the rear of the tents. Fresh meals are prepared daily by the staff based at each camp.

The trip is hard paced flying over the Sossusvlei dunes, then landing on the Skeleton Coast and exploring Damaraland, and Kaokoland. You will land often just to admire the geological formations or to look at an ancient bushman rock engraving. You can see the ancient Welwitschia plant, slide and drive down the vast roaring dunes, meet the isolated Himba people near the Angolan border and track desert elephant. Although the trip is only four days long, you will feel at the end of it that you will have seen the best Namibia has to offer. The quality of your Schoeman host and guide, and stunning scenery make this the finest trip available in Namibia and one of the best in the whole of Africa.



Day 12

Olive Grove - 1 night - Bed and Breakfast

You are returned to Windhoek today by aircraft where you are met by a driver and taken to Olive Grove for an overnight stay, in a Junior Suite, on a bed and breakfast basis.



Olive Grove is a small upmarket guest house situated in a quiet, peaceful area five minutes drive north from Windhoek city centre.

The ten rooms and suite are elegantly and uniquely furnished and has access to a large verandah with table and chairs for outside dining. There is lounge, with comfortable chairs and a fireplace, where guests can relax. Outside, there is a plunge pool and deck area for visitors' private use. Evening meals can be arranged on request.

Olive Grove is a great place for an overnight stop before or after an international flight.



Day 13

Fly SW403 Windhoek 0915 to Maun 1030

This morning you meet your driver and return to the international airport in time to meet the Air Namibia flight SW403 to Maun. This flight departs at 0915 and arrives in Maun at 1030.

Fly Maun to Tubu Tree

On arrival into Maun, Botswana, you clear immigration and collect your bags, before going through to the arrivals hall where you are met and shown to the scheduled light aircraft flight to Tubu Tree airstrip in the heart of the Okavango Delta. This is a very scenic flight giving you your first glimpse at this beautiful inland water system (flight times to be confirmed).

Tubu Tree Camp - 3 nights - Full Board

From the airstrip you are met by a guide and taken on a short game drive to Tubu Tree.

Your three night stay here is on a full board basis to include all meals, local drinks (excluding premium and branded drinks), laundry and game viewing activities.



Tubu Tree Camp is situated in the 60,000 hectare Jao Concession which borders the Moremi Game Reserve in Botswana's Okavango Delta.

The camp is a traditional style tented safari camp built on raised wooden platforms to take best advantage of the beautiful view over the floodplains. The camp accommodates guests in eight large comfortable tents, each with a small private deck in front. All the tents have en-suite bathroom facilities and private outdoor shower. The main dining and lounge areas are also large tents on raised platforms, with an outdoor pub area built under the canopy of a large Marula tree. There is also a pool.

Activities at Tubu Tree Camp include day and night game drives in open 4 x 4 vehicles. When the Okavango's annual flood is at its highest (normally May to late September), boating, fishing and mokoro trips are also offered. A variety of habitats ensures diverse and interesting game viewing. Wildlife seen here includes elephant, lion, zebra, red lechwe, giraffe, tsessebe, wildebeest as well as kudu, impala, leopard and bushbuck.



Day 16

Fly Tubu Tree to Kasane

Today you are returned to the airstrip in time to meet the scheduled light aircraft flight to Kasane (flight times to be confirmed).

The Victoria Falls Hotel - 2 nights - Bed and Breakfast

Your driver will meet you on arrival into Kasane and he will then take you to The Victoria Falls Hotel, which is a drive of approximately an hour and a half.

Your two night stay here is on a bed and breakfast basis, in a Deluxe Central room.



The Victoria Falls Hotel, popularly known as “the grand old lady of the Falls”, is situated in the Victoria Falls National Park, a world heritage site. The Edwardian-style five-star hotel, built in 1904, was recently redecorated and refurbished and now combines the charm of the old with the convenience of the new. Set in lush tropical gardens with lily ponds, palm trees and semi-tropical shrubs, the hotel is just a ten-minute walk away from the Victoria Falls.

The ambience of the hotel is steeped in history. It has 161 rooms all of which are air conditioned and offer every modern amenity including digital satellite television and en-suite bathrooms. The standard room services include same day laundry and 24 hour room service. On the complex you will find a large swimming pool, two tennis courts, a library, reading rooms and chapel. Golfers can enjoy 18 holes on the championship course of the nearby sister hotel, Elephant Hills Resort. For guests who wish to take in some game viewing, a short drive brings you to the Zambezi National Park.

The Victoria Falls Hotel is an ideal base for visiting Victoria Falls and offers a wide variety of activities including sunset and sunrise boat trips, bird walks and 'Livingstone Day' (Livingstone Museum, markets and lunch by the Falls), white water rafting, helicopter flights over the Victoria Falls and elephant back rides to name but a few.



Day 18

Fly Livingstone Airport to Mfuwe (via Lusaka) (1235 : 1710)

This morning you are met and driven across the border to Livingstone Airport in Zambia. Once here you meet the Proflight scheduled flight to Mfuwe, departing at 1235 and arriving at 1710. Please note that this flight goes via Lusaka and you will be required to change planes.

Luwi Bushcamp - 3 nights - Full Board

On arrival into Mfuwe Airport, having collected your bags, you make your way through to the arrivals hall where you are met by a guide (they will be holding up a board with your name on it). They will help you with your bags and drive you to Luwi Bush Camp. This is a 40 minute drive on well tarred roads to the South Luangwa National Park gates and a further two hour game drive to Luwi Bushcamp.

Your three night stay here is on a full board basis to include all meals, local drinks, laundry and game viewing activities.



Luwi is one of Norman Carr Safaris' remote seasonal bush camps in Zambia's South Luangwa National Park. The camp is situated under huge mahogany trees on the banks of a lagoon and this permanent water source attracts game from far and wide making the camp area constantly busy with animals.

Accommodation is in four grass and thatch huts providing a truly African bush experience. Meals are served in the shade of the trees, with a view of the grassy plain beyond.

Since there are very few roads in this area of the South Luangwa, the emphasis at Luwi is on walking. It is not unusual for guests to see lion and elephant on foot in the company of an expert guide, while the lagoon close to camp is home to hippos, crocodiles and many water birds. It is also possible to have fantastic game viewing from the camp's hammock where guests can watch, among others, hyena, giraffe and many antelope that stroll past the camp. Due to its remote location you truly feel in the heart of the African wilderness. Luwi also combines well with the other three Norman Carr bush camps in South Luangwa as part of a walking safari itinerary. For an even greater sense of wilderness, guests can enjoy the "Return to the Wild" sleep-out experience which is available at a supplementary cost and is a superb way to enjoy the African bush.



Day 21

Fly Mfuwe to Likoma Island (via Lilongwe)

This morning you are driven back to Mfuwe Airport where you meet the scheduled light aircraft flight to Likoma Island (flight times to be confirmed). Please note that this flight goes via Lilongwe where you will go through immigration before continuing to Likoma Island.

Kaya Mawa - 3 nights - Full Board

From Likoma Airstrip you are met by a driver from Kaya Mawa and driven to the lodge.

Your three night stay here is in a standard room on a full board basis to include all meals, snorkelling, sailing, walking, mountain biking and kayaking.



Kaya Mawa is situated on the south-western tip of Likoma, the larger of two islands in the northern region of Lake Malawi. The island is small and sparsely populated, inhabited only by the local fishing community. Kaya Mawa is set on a crescent shaped beach, surrounded by mango trees and ancient baobabs.

Accommodation is in stone and thatched cottages with hand-crafted king size beds. Each room has a bath and shower with hot water from solar geysers. The lodge has 11 rooms in total, four of which are standard rooms, along with two standard family chalets, three premium rooms (two pool suites, one island suite) one single room house and one two bedroom house. All of the rooms have either direct lake access, or a private plunge pool. Some rooms have decks over the lake, and all have views to die for. At the end of the beach there is a beach bar, lounge and restaurant the perfect sun downer spot. Dinner is always under the stars and can be served wherever you like.

Likoma island is home to St Peter's Cathedral, constructed at the end of the 19th century, the third largest Cathedral in Central Africa. If guests tire of relaxing on the beach, more energetic options including Laser sailing, kayaking, kitesurfing, waterskiing, 'catch and release' fishing, and scuba diving can be arranged. Lake Malawi has some of the best fresh water diving to be found anywhere in the world. Walking and biking around Likoma Island is a great way to experience the local culture, perhaps engaging with the locals at the lively market nearby or joining a game of football, and quad bike excursions are another fun way to explore the rugged landscape.



Day 24

Fly Likoma Island to Lilongwe

This morning you are driven back to the airstrip in time to meet the scheduled return flight to Lilongwe (flight times to be confirmed).

Fly KQ726 Lilongwe 1440 to Nairobi 2025

From here you meet the Kenya Airways flight KQ726 to Nairobi, departing at 1440 and arriving at 2025. Please note that this flight touches down in Lusaka.

Ole Sereni - 1 night - Bed and Breakfast

On arrival into Nairobi you make your way through immigration and collect your bags. You then go through to the arrivals hall where you are met by a driver (they will be holding up a board with your name on it). They will help you with your bags and drive you to the Ole Sereni (which should take about 15 minutes).

Your overnight stay here is on a bed and breakfast basis.



Ole Sereni is just off the main Mombasa Road in Nairobi, a very short drive from the international airport and close to the city centre. It borders the Nairobi National Game Park and offers fine views into the park.

The 134 comfortably appointed en-suite, air-conditioned, rooms and suites are spread over three floors.

Ole Sereni offers a rooftop heated swimming pool which overlooks the national park, a gym, aerobics room, sports lounge and massage centre. There are several restaurants offering a wide range of cuisine, including Italian, Chinese, Indian and a Mongolian Grill.



Day 25

Fly Safarilink Wilson to Masai Mara (1000 : 1100)

This morning your driver will meet you at the hotel and take you to Wilson, Nairobi's domestic airport. From here you check in for the scheduled Safarilink flight to the Masai Mara, departing at 1000 and arriving at 1100.

Mara Toto - 3 nights - Full Board

Once landed you are met by a guide and taken on a short game drive into camp.

Your three night stay here is on a full board basis including all meals, drinks (excluding premium brands) and wildlife activities.



Mara Toto Camp sits in a patch of riverine forest on the edge of the Ntiakitiak River. The camp has a peaceful setting in a prime wildlife area of the Masai Mara, close to the edge of the reserve and the adjacent Mara North Conservancy.

Mara Toto comprises just five light and airy canvas tents which are decorated with expedition-style furnishings. Each tent has a private verandah, dressing area and en-suite bathroom with piping hot water delivered from a huge brass 'safari shower'. The expansive mess tent, draped in light-coloured canvas, is romantic and inviting, but also highly functional as a place to gather, join photo workshops, and dine. The adjacent library is a lovely place to read, rest or relax. The spaces are filled with hand-picked pieces from African markets.

You can experience both the intense action of the Masai Mara ecosystem and the peaceful game viewing offered by the private 70,000 acre Mara North Conservancy with morning and afternoon game drives in customised Land Cruisers, which are equipped with fully stocked refrigerators and inverters. The area around camp is famous for resident leopards patrolling the riverbanks, and the camp itself is well positioned to take advantage of two migrations: the famous annual wildebeest migration and the green season migration from Loita Plains, where an additional 50,000 wildebeest and over 100,000 zebras head west looking for grazing. Visits to local school and community projects can also be arranged whilst staying here.



Day 28

Fly Safarilink Masai Mara to Wilson (1600 : 1730)

This afternoon you are taken on a game drive back to the airstrip where you meet the scheduled return Safarilink flight to Wilson, Nairobi. This flight departs at 1600 and arrives at 1730.

Ole Sereni - 1 night - Bed and Breakfast

From Wilson you meet a driver who will drive you back to the Ole Sereni, where you have a further one night stay on a bed and breakfast basis.

Please let us know if you would like us to arrange a driver to take you out for supper.

Day 29

Fly KQ448 Nairobi 0750 to Kigali 0820

Early this morning you are met by a driver and returned to the airport in time to meet the Kenya Airways flight KQ448 to Kigali, departing at 0750 and arriving at 0820.

Virunga Lodge - 2 nights - Full Board

On arrival into Kigali, having cleared customs and collected your bags, you go through to the arrivals hall. You meet your guide for the next three days (they will be holding up a board with your name on it). They will help you with your bags and drive you to Virunga Lodge. This is a very beautiful drive of approximately three hours.

Your two night stay here is on a full board basis including all meals, laundry and drinks. We have included one gorilla tracking permit per person. Other activities available at the lodge include; golden monkey tracking, mountain hiking and visit Dian Fossey's Grave.

Please make sure you ask your guide about additional activities when you first arrive. Golden monkey tracking can only be done in the morning, and some of the hikes need much of day, while others can be done after tracking gorillas.



Virunga Lodge is set on top of a high ridge with breathtaking views of the Virunga volcanoes and Lakes Ruhondo and Bulera. The lodge is around three hours' drive from Kigali, a hour from the Uganda border and around an hour from the start of the gorilla tracking activities in Parc National des Volcans.

Eight large standard cottages are comfortably furnished and have private en-suite bathrooms with a shower and a water saving flushing loo. The two newly-built larger deluxe cottages, Ibiyaga and Ibirunga, have their own sitting room and fireplace and a modern bathroom. Each of the Virunga Lodge cottages has its own verandah which, like the lounge, bar and dining room, looks across the valley with the lakes or volcanoes in the distance. Virunga Lodge runs entirely on solar electricity, giving guests 24 hour power. Guests should be aware that access to and from the lodge is via a steep paved pathway.

Parc National des Volcans borders National Parks in neighbouring Uganda and DR Congo and is named after the string of volcanoes which it encompasses. There are currently ten habituated families of gorillas in PNV and gorilla tracking is the main reason most tourists visit this area. Aside from gorilla tracking, clients can climb the Visoke or Karisimbi volcanoes, track golden monkeys, visit the remains of the Karisoke Centre set up Dian Fossey, visit the Iby'Iwacu cultural village, walk to the Buhanga Sacred Forest, visit the Musanze Caves, or go for gentle strolls around the picturesque villages near the lakes.



Day 31

Depart Kigali

Today you are driven back to Kigali airport in time to meet the departing international flight (details to be confirmed). End of service.

Pricing Details

This trip is a from price based on two people sharing a room in September/October 2016

For this trip to work exactly you need to start the itinerary on a Wednesday or a Friday.

Flight schedules and prices are not released for sale until approximately 11 months prior to travel. Therefore we are unable to hold tickets at this stage. On this basis we have priced this itinerary on the lowest air fares. If these are not available once the schedule is released for sale we will send you a new quote. Please be aware that the price may increase.

The itinerary includes:

Regional flights

Internal flights (**note: strict 15kg baggage allowance per person including hand luggage. Soft bags only - no wheels or rigid frames allowed**) *Please be aware that scheduled light aircraft flights may make a couple of stops before reaching your destination; please let us know if you would like to know the cost of upgrading to a direct private flight. Please note that Skeleton Coast Safaris have a strict 10kg weight limit per person. If you would like to store bags in Windhoek we can arrange this.*

Passenger and airport taxes

Airport transfers

Other transfers

Accommodation and meals as stated

Drinks as stated

Laundry as stated

Activities as stated *Please be aware that all game viewing activities quoted are on a shared basis. Most camps tend to operate game drives with approximately six guests per vehicle. If you would prefer to have use of a private guide and vehicle for your safari this can easily be arranged in advance; please let us know if you would like to know the cost of upgrading to private use.*

National Park and concession fees

The itinerary excludes:

International flights

Neighbouring Concession or Reserve fees in the Masai Mara area

Visas

Travel insurance

Tips and gratuities

Other personal spending

If you weigh over 16 stone or 100 kg then you may be charged for a second seat on light aircraft flights, please let us know if this is likely to affect you.

Zambia departure taxes;

International flights Mfuwe to Malawi (currently US\$40 per person - cash needed)

Airport departure taxes in Malawi

(US\$35 international flights and US\$10 internal flights - cash needed)

Entry fee (US\$75 per person - cash needed)

Aardvark Holiday Prices

Unlike many other companies, we forward buy the foreign currency needed to pay for a booking at the time a trip is confirmed. We will not therefore surcharge you because of exchange rate fluctuations after receipt of your deposit.

Please check in online for your international and regional flights 24 hours before your return.

The below price is only valid for the following seven days

Total price for your travel arrangements: £48,987

Price per person: £24,493

Why Choose Aardvark Safaris?

Honest independent advice from knowledgeable and experienced Africa experts.

We've all lived and worked in Africa and tailor make high quality holidays in areas we know and love. We use camps and lodges we've tried and tested, and understand the importance of working with some of Africa's best guides and hosts. We listen to your wishes and use our experience to tailor a safari that suits you perfectly. We will provide hassle free arrangements including full itinerary planning, providing the most effective routings and avoiding unnecessary (and costly) stopovers. We are completely impartial in our advice (no-one at Aardvark works on commission).

Holidays with 100% financial protection.

These bonds protect you should either we, or our suppliers, cease trading. Please remember that if you do decide to book direct with companies in Africa, or through a non-bonded company here in the UK, your money is at risk.

Avoid the pitfalls of booking direct with an African operator.

Booking direct you have zero financial protection. Can you pay with a credit card? If so what are the hidden charges? If you cannot pay by credit card then you will have to arrange a money transfer at your expense. When you get there what happens if nobody is there to meet you? If you have any complaints with the quality of your holiday how do you try and arrange compensation, you have very limited rights. Our registration number is 3800138 and our status can be checked at Companies House.

You pay no more booking through Aardvark than if you arranged the holiday yourselves.

Typically there are no additional costs to you for having the benefit of our advice. Our suppliers pay us a commission for each booking which is how we make our profit. In some instances we are able to plan trips more cheaply than you would yourselves. If you think that we are charging you more for accommodation or services than you can find direct, we are happy to look at the difference and see if we can remedy the situation. If you would like a breakdown of the quote, we will happily provide this.

We can't guarantee to be competitive with flight prices as sales and special offers released on airline websites sometimes undercut the rates we are given direct by the airlines. If you can find cheaper flights than us you are welcome to book these independently of our travel arrangements.

Once a trip is confirmed we will not charge you for any currency fluctuations.

The price of your holiday stays the same even if there are currency movements before you travel. We buy in our currency when you pay your deposit covering you against fluctuations.

There if you need us - 24 hours 7 days a week emergency phone cover.

We provide a full emergency back up service, both from ourselves and through local representatives on the ground, in case you have any difficulties whilst you are away.

Service doesn't stop when you leave the UK, you get great service in Africa too.

We've worked with the majority of our suppliers for years and by visiting regularly we know we're still working with the best. By speaking to clients after they've travelled we feed back their thanks and occasionally niggles too which helps to keep standards high.

Committed to looking after the environment.

Our holidays allow you to enjoy wildlife, local communities and remote areas of Africa, and conservation is important to us. We work hard to ensure that the benefits tourism can bring to an area are not offset by negative impacts. We offer our clients the chance to offset the carbon emission caused by their long-haul flights with a scheme in Zambia which not only absorbs carbon dioxide but which also provides food and employment. We have also supported the Koiyaki Guide School in the Masai Mara since its inception, giving local people the chance to take a part in the future of their area.

Recommendations are at the heart of our business and we are able to supply you with a reference.

Over 70% of our clients come to us through recommendation and several of our clients are on their second or third trip with us. Although we are now fifteen years old, we are a small company and have retained our personal touch with the owners still involved with sales on a day to day basis. See the testimonials page of our website to see what clients say about us. Let us know if you would like to speak to a past client.