

Offbeat Safaris 7 Night Mara Ride

Offbeat Safaris' seven night mobile safari is an adventurous riding safari in the Masai Mara.



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Offbeat Safaris' seven night mobile safari is an adventurous riding safari in the Masai Mara. The landscape is typical of East Africa, open plains and grassland interspersed with bush, ideal for long canters and gallops. Nothing beats viewing the African wilderness from horseback, your horse becomes another pair of eyes and ears and doesn't miss a trick. There is something thrilling about cantering alongside giraffe or wildebeest or just blending into the bush without the sound of a vehicle for miles around.

- Scenic light aircraft flight over the escarpment of the Rift Valley and into the Masai Mara
- Riding across the quintessential grassy plains of the Masai Mara
- Experience the thrill of wildlife viewing from horseback
- Exciting game drives in the Masai Mara
- Discover some of the smaller things on guided walks with Masai guides
- Ford the Mara River at one of the famous wildebeest crossing points (water levels permitting)
- Luxury mobile tented accommodation
- Private safari guide
- Eight days with a maximum group size of 12 guests on set departure trips to ensure a highly personal experience.



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Please note that the riding safari itinerary is a sample of what to expect. Day to day activities, camps and locations may change in order to enhance your safari and riding experience.

Days 1 and 2

You will be collected from your Nairobi hotel or directly from the airport this morning and transferred to Wilson Airport for a 1000 flight to Naboisho Airstrip, in the Masai Mara National Reserve.

It is a beautiful flight passing over the fertile Kikuyu Highlands before reaching the Great Rift Valley. You fly across the volcano studded floor of the Rift before reaching the Loita Hills and Naboisho Airstrip. On landing you will be met by your guide and transferred the one hour drive to camp. The camp is set within a grove of acacia trees by a small stream at the southern edge of the Loita Plains at Olare Lamun (the rhino salt lick). Here you will have lunch and there will be time for an evening ride.

You will stay at Olara Lamun for two nights on a full board basis to include all meals, house drinks and all riding and wildlife viewing activities.

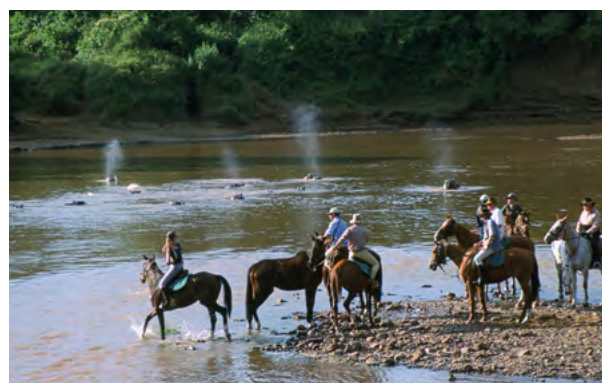
After an early wake up and cup of tea or coffee the following morning, you will set off for a morning ride before returning to camp for a light breakfast. You then have time for a game drive and walk up the nearby hill called Oloiburmut, returning to camp for a brunch/lunch. There will be time for an afternoon siesta and a chance later in the day to visit the local Masai Village.

Days 3 and 4

Today is your first moving day and you break camp in good time as it is the longest ride of the trip, covering nearly 50kms. You will ride across rolling open plains and the wildlife generally becomes more plentiful as you approach the Mara ecosystem. Expect to see herds of zebra, topi, giraffe, wildebeest, gazelle and there is a good chance of seeing elephant and buffalo as well. You reach camp on the edge of the Masai Mara National Reserve on the Olare Orok lugga by late afternoon. There is plentiful wildlife in the area and you are likely to hear lion and hyena from camp at night.

You will stay at Olare Orok Camp for two nights on a full board basis to include all meals, house drinks and all riding and wildlife viewing activities.

The following day you have a morning and evening ride from camp with the option of driving into the game park for some good photographic opportunities. It is possible to get much closer to lion, elephant and buffalo from the vehicles than it is on horseback.



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Day 5

Another moving day today. You will head west across the Mara plains and reach the Mara River on the park boundary. You ford the river (unless in complete flood) at one of the famous wildebeest crossings and then head south west across the Mara Triangle where you have a picnic lunch before ascending the Soit Olololol Escarpment to reach camp in a forest glade overlooking the whole Mara ecosystem.

After lunch you ride back through the Mara Triangle before ascending the escarpment on a game trail. Many bachelor buffalo herds are a feature of the afternoon.

Your overnight stay at Soit Olololol Escarpment Camp is on a full board basis to include all meals, house drinks and all riding and wildlife viewing activities.

Days 6 and 7

This morning you descend the escarpment and ride through the Mara Triangle once more to the same wildebeest crossing on the river. You head in a North Western direction and after lunch find your final campsite set up on the banks of the Mara River where you will be camped above a pod of hippos, a special feature of this camp.

The next day you follow the same morning and evening ride routine, crossing the river once more. A walk or drive will be on offer after breakfast; providing another good opportunity to take photographs.

You stay at Mara River Camp for two nights on a full board basis to include all meals, house drinks and all riding and wildlife viewing activities.

Day 8

Early this morning you have the opportunity of a final ride before returning to camp for breakfast. You will then be driven to Mara North Airstrip in time for your scheduled light aircraft flight back to Nairobi around 1100. Arriving into Wilson Airport you are met and driven across to the Crowne Plaza Hotel, located at the international airport (if you are meeting an evening flight home).



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7 NIGHT MARA RIDE**OLARE LAMUN / OLARE OROK /
SOIT OLOLOLOL / MARA RIVER**

While on your riding safari, you will stay in spacious 3 x 2.75m (10ft x 9ft) tents in remote and beautiful areas of the Masai Mara National Reserve and its neighbouring concession areas.

Each tent has a comfortable camp bed with a mattress, sheet and blanket, as well as a gas lamp and hurricane lamp. Towel, soap and torches are also provided. There is a loo tent for each double and hot showers are also available. Meals are prepared daily by chefs who are able to produce delicious, fresh food in the wilderness.

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2019 TRAVEL DATES

January 12
June 15
July 06
August 10
September 14
December 07

2019 SCHEDULED DEPARTURE COSTS (USD \$)

Per person sharing a tent \$7,300
Single room supplement is \$1,050 per person

2019 PRIVATE DEPARTURE COSTS

Please enquire directly

**Please note that mobile safari operators in Africa generally price in US dollars. We've therefore presented the cost in dollars to avoid disparities due to currency fluctuations. The cost in sterling is dependent on the day's exchange rate. For an accurate quote in GB pounds, please contact us.*

THE ITINERARY INCLUDES

A light aircraft flight from Wilson to Naboisho (NB: strict baggage allowance of 15kgs per person including hand luggage)
Airport transfers
Other transfers
Accommodation and meals as stated
Drinks as stated
Activities as stated
National Park and concession fees
Immediate Concession or Reserve fees in the Masai Mara area

THE ITINERARY EXCLUDES

International and regional flights
Neighbouring Concession or Reserve fees in the Masai Mara area
Visas
Travel insurance
Tips and gratuities
Other personal spending.

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7 NIGHT MARA RIDE**Horse type**

Thoroughbred and thoroughbred crosses

Saddles used

English, polo, Wintec, French trekking and Australian stock

Maximum number

10 - 12 riders

Hours in the saddle per day

Between 4 and 6

Standard of riding required

Experienced

Children accepted

No minimum age limit, but children must be competent

When to go

All year except April, May and November

Non-riders welcome

Yes, but to be discussed on booking

Activities other than riding

Day and night game drives and guided bush walks
