

## Tanzania Northern Highlights

### Photographic Safari

*led by Nick Dale*



#### **10<sup>th</sup> Feb: Departure**

Fly out of Heathrow on Kenya Airways night flight to Nairobi and on to Kilimanjaro, Tanzania.

#### **11<sup>th</sup> Feb: Start safari**

On arrival at Kilimanjaro airport, meet with your driver/guide and start your Northern Highlights safari with a drive to Tloma Lodge, where you check in for one night (full board basis).

#### ***Tloma Lodge***

*Tloma Lodge is located on the eastern shoulder of the Ngorongoro Highlands, from where it enjoys sweeping views of coffee plantations, beautiful flower-filled gardens and highland valleys.*

*Tloma's design is modern and stylish, and the rooms large, airy and comfortable. The outdoor heated swimming pool is a lovely spot to relax and admire the views!*

*This is a great value property and perfect for visiting Ngorongoro Crater, which is only a 15 minute drive away, as well as Lake Manyara National Park, a few minutes' drive away.*

#### ***Your Financial Protection***

All monies paid by you for the air holiday package shown [or flights if appropriate] are ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 3145.

For more information see our booking terms and conditions.



After lunch at the lodge, embark on an afternoon game drive into Lake Manyara National Park.

Early evening, return to Tloma Lodge for dinner and overnight.

#### Lake Manyara National Park

Stretching for 50km along the base of the 600-metre high Rift Valley escarpment, Lake Manyara is a scenic gem, of which Ernest Hemingway once remarked, that it was “the loveliest [region] I had seen in Africa”. Its ground water forests, bush plains, baobab strewn cliffs, and hot springs offer incredible ecological variety in a small area rich in wildlife.

The soda lake is a habitat for a huge array of bird life that thrives on its brackish waters. Pink flamingo occur in their thousands, colourful specks against the grey of the lake shore, while yellow-billed storks, herons, geese, grebes, ibises and kingfishers are also commonly sighted. Even reluctant bird-watchers will find something to watch and marvel at within Manyara National Park.

Following your game drive, return to Tloma for dinner and overnight.



#### **12<sup>th</sup> Feb: Serengeti National Park**

Depart Manyara for the Serengeti.

Today's is a long drive, but one that offers wonderful vistas. Leaving Lake Manyara after breakfast and journeying west, you will see the landscape gradually change as the Ngorongoro Highlands give way to the seemingly endless savannah plains of the Serengeti. Expect to catch sight of isolated plains game as you approach the perimeter of the park, with the large herds for which the Serengeti is famous coming into view as you enter the central Seronera region (note: the location of the main migratory herds varies according to season).

Continue into the central Serengeti and Kati Kati Camp, where you check in for three nights (full-board basis).



### ***Kati Kati Camp***

*Kati Kati Camp is a traditional bush camp situated in the game-rich Seronera region, placing it right in the heart of the Serengeti. This is one of the best and most popular regions of the Serengeti for game-viewing.*



*Kati Kati is a basic but comfortable camp, with just 15 simply furnished safari tents pitched around a dining/mess area. As a base for exploring the Serengeti, it's perfect, thanks to its central location.*

*Guests staying at Kati Kati will typically embark on full-day game drives, heading out early morning and returning in the late afternoon.*

### **13-14<sup>th</sup> Feb: Serengeti National Park**

A full-day game drive with picnic lunch is planned for each of the next two days. Your game drives will see you explore the Seronera region, the heart of the Serengeti.

### **Serengeti National Park**

Simply teeming with game, the Serengeti is one of the largest and best game reserves in all of Africa, unequalled for its natural beauty.

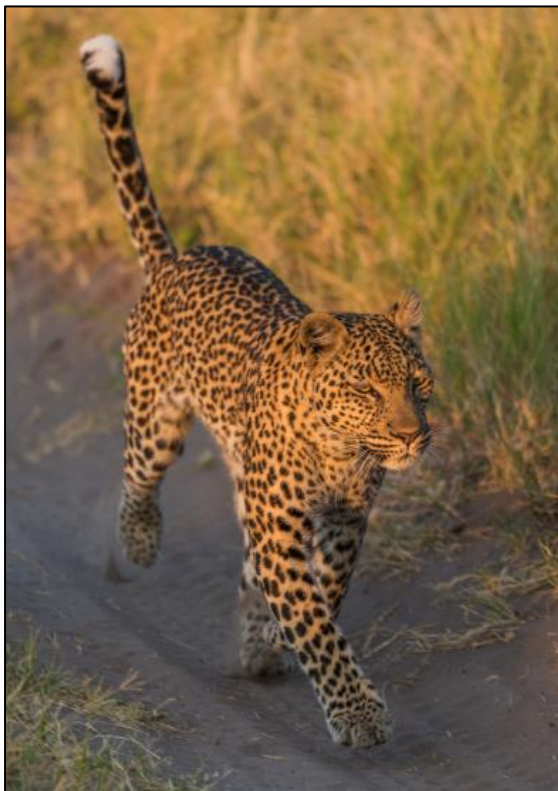
The name Serengeti is derived from the Maasai word “serengit”, meaning ‘endless plains’. It’s the perfect name for this magnificent area of over 6,000 square miles, where both the plains and the herds of game that populate them really can appear limitless.





These plains are the defining feature of an ecosystem that is among the oldest on earth; one in which the essential features of climate, vegetation and fauna have barely changed in the past million years.

Today, it is the migration for which the Serengeti is most famous. Over a million wildebeest and 200,000 zebras flow south from the northern hills to the southern plains for the short rains every October and November, and then swirl west and north after the long rains in April, May and June.



But it's not just the wildebeest that use the Serengeti as a migratory pathway. The adjacent reserves of Maswa and Ikorongo, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, and the Masai Mara Game Reserve in Kenya all allow the animals and birds of the area a free range of movement to follow their seasonal migrations. Indeed, in the wake of the wildebeest migration, many of the less attention-grabbing features of the Serengeti are often overlooked.

Alongside the Migration, the Serengeti is notable for being home to all of the 'Big 5' (lion, leopard, buffalo, elephant, and rhino), while other common species found in the park include eland, impala, waterbuck, baboon, monkey, warthog, topi and a rich variety of birdlife (over 400 species have been recorded).

Your game drive today will take you into the heart of the Serengeti, as you explore the central Seronera region in search of the best game sightings.

In addition to traditional 4x4 safaris, hot-air ballooning over the Serengeti plains has become a safari rite-of-passage for travel enthusiasts. The flights depart at dawn over the plains and take passengers close over the awakening herds of wildebeest and zebra, gazelle and giraffe. The extra altitude allows guests to witness the striking stretches of plains punctuated only by kopjes. Up in the sky, you have Africa all to yourself.





### **Optional Activity**

Hot air ballooning over the vast Serengeti plains is the ultimate game viewing experience. Arriving at your launch site before dawn, you'll take off as the sun rises over the hills. During the journey you'll have a bird's eye view of the savannah plains and wildlife – the migratory herds present an even more stunning spectacle when viewed from above. The ride lasts forty to sixty minutes, after which you are met by the ground crew for a traditional "champagne toast" followed by a magnificent bush breakfast, cooked and served on the Serengeti plains.

*The balloon ride costs £485 (US\$600) per person. Please contact us in advance of travel.*

Return to Kati Kati Camp for dinner and overnight.

### **15<sup>th</sup> Feb: Ngorongoro Crater**

Depart Kata Kati Camp after breakfast and drive through the Serengeti to the Ngorongoro Highlands, arriving at Ngorongoro Farmhouse in time for lunch. Check in for two nights (full-board). Evening at leisure at the Farmhouse.

### **Ngorongoro Farmhouse**

*Ngorongoro Farmhouse is a small and exclusive lodge situated 5 kilometres from the Ngorongoro Lolduare gate, making it an ideal spot from which to visit the nearby Ngorongoro Crater and the surrounding crater highlands.*



*Part of a 500 acre coffee farm, Ngorongoro Farmhouse offers cosy accommodation in spacious, self-contained cottages, scattered around well-tended gardens. Built in an attractive colonial style, the main building houses a lounge, restaurant and a large viewing deck with an impressive view of Oldeani Volcano.*

**16<sup>th</sup> Feb: Ngorongoro Crater**

An early start, as you descend 2,000 feet to the floor of the crater for a six-hour safari with picnic lunch.



**Ngorongoro Crater**

Often called the eighth wonder of the world, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area covers a diversity of landscapes, wildlife, people and archaeology that is unsurpassed in Africa.

Extending far beyond the crater itself, it is a huge area that encloses the archaeological site at Olduvai Gorge, huge expanses of highland plains, scrub bush, and forests that cover approximately 8300 square kilometres. As a protected area, only indigenous tribes such as the Masai are allowed to live within its borders. Lake Ndutu and Masek, both alkaline soda lakes, are home to rich game populations, and surrounded by a series of peaks and volcanoes which create a stunning backdrop. Of course, the crater itself, actually a type of collapsed volcano called a caldera, is the main attraction.

After a beautiful descent down the crater rim, passing lush rainforest and thick vegetation, the flora opens to grassy plains that stretch across the crater floor. The game viewing is truly incredible, as is the topography and views of the surrounding Crater Highlands. The Ngorongoro Crater and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area are without doubt some of the most beautiful parts of Tanzania, steeped in history and teeming with wildlife.

**17<sup>th</sup> Feb: Return Arusha**

After breakfast at the Farmhouse, depart for Arusha, arriving early afternoon.

Your tour ends in Arusha after lunch. Depending on the time of your international departure, we can arrange for a hotel day room or overnight stay in Arusha as necessary. Onward transfers and beach extensions may be booked through our office.

*See price guide overleaf.*

### Price guide and booking information:

*This tour is offered as a small group departure with fixed travel dates, and is led by expert photographer, Nick Dale.*

*Tour cost: **£2,240** per person (before international flights), based on a group size of six and subject to availability at the time of booking.*

*Please note that this price is based on a group size of six. There will be a small group supplement if the final group size is lower than six.*

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#### Includes:

- Accommodation as described on full-board basis, twin/double rooms
- Internal transfers
- Private transportation throughout
- All entrance fees and park fees
- Experienced guide and support team

#### Excludes:

- International flights – please ask us for a quote
  - Single room supplement (£260)
  - Visas
  - Personal travel insurance
  - Personal expenses and tips
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### Your Photographer Guide

**Nick Dale** is a London-based wildlife photographer who has taken pictures on all seven continents. He loved photography when he was a boy, but his mother persuaded him to go to Oxford rather than turn professional, so that was that for 30 years! After a career as a strategy consultant, he was lucky enough to retire young and spend several years travelling, before returning home to the UK to pursue his career in photography. He now takes pleasure in taking several trips a year to exotic places to take pictures of the local wildlife, with a particular passion for the big predators – lions, tigers and bears!



His photography career started in 2013, when a friend invited him to climb Mount Kenya and go on safari. Since then, he's sold over 4,000 images, published two photography books and won several competitions including The Sunday Times Big Shot. The tag line for his website is 'Every Picture Tells a Story', and his goal is to capture the moment rather than producing straightforward animal portraits.