

Gane & Marshall

TAILOR-MADE DESTINATIONS

Guide Training in East Africa

March 2016, from £3,595 per person



This is a unique opportunity for you to join a safari guiding team in East Africa on one of their annual training programmes.

Expert guide Chris Stamper will be leading the training for Serian's award-winning guiding team, as they explore the wilds of the Serengeti and the Masai Mara on a three-week training course covering everything from animal identification to traditional bush skills. By accompanying the guides in the training, you will be able to learn more about what it takes to be a safari guide in Kenya or Tanzania, while in the process gaining a level of insight into the geography and wildlife of East Africa that is simply not possible during an ordinary safari.

You will witness first-hand how the Tanzanian and Kenyan guides meld two complementary systems of knowledge; centuries-old bush lore – a combination of inherited myth, intuition, and a lifetime of absorbing the wilds by osmosis – and scientific learning, which peels back the magical processes of the wilds to examine them under the cool gaze of a microscope. The combination of the two yields an immeasurable wealth of insight into these stunning environments.

This three week odyssey takes place in three different wilderness areas – the Masai Mara, the Northern Serengeti, and finally the Southern Serengeti. Imagine a week's immersion in each environment, allowing you to explore, document, draw, paint, photograph, and learn with this fantastic team. You can choose to join just one week or perhaps all three. The courses begin 1st March 2016.

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.

Note: *the guide training programme does not follow a fixed structure. For this reason, rather than giving a day-by-day itinerary below, we have given an outline of what a typical day might consist of.*

A typical day

The emphasis and focus of your training programme will change depending on the region. So the week in the Mara will be very different to the week in Northern Serengeti, and the same goes for the southern Serengeti.

Topics that will be covered throughout will include:

- Ecology
- Common trees & shrubs
- Bird ID & behaviour
- Animal behaviour
- Astronomy
- Orientation & navigation
- Bush skills
- Positioning vehicles for photography
- Correct use of binoculars
- Photography skills

...and a whole lot more along the way!



These topics will all be woven into the 'specialties' of each zone; for example, the week in the Mara will incorporate night drives, walking with big game, and will be a great location for a photographic focus, due to the sheer density and abundance of game.

The Serengeti North will focus on traditional bush skills and fly-camping; the emphasis will very much be on the ecosystem sustained by the Mara River.

The week in the Serengeti South will involve the wildebeest birthing season, as well as all the birds in their breeding plumage, and insects that follow the rains. This is also a perfect spot to highlight the skills of the Hadzabe guides, looking at their ancient inherited bush-knowledge that doesn't come from books and which isn't learned in a classroom.



However, there isn't any set course material, so it won't be like studying from a book and then taking an exam. The group will comprise of both guides and clients and Chris Stamper will be teaching in such a way that taps into the various skill levels. For the guides, being able to impart their knowledge is a crucial skill, so they will participate in the teaching too.

It is recommended to take part in all three weeks as you will experience the progressive flow of ecological understanding, starting with the basics of geology and soils in the Mara, and building to an understanding of the functional ecology of the Greater Serengeti Ecosystem. The focus ranges from geological, to environmental knowledge, and finally to insects, birds, mammals, astrology – the whole range!

This is the first time this guide training has been opened up to guests so you will need to be flexible, but we are sure it will be an unforgettable experience for all who participate. You can choose to join just one week, two weeks or all three weeks. See below for prices.

For further details, contact us on 01822 600600, or contact Sarah@ganeandmarshall.com.



Price Guide:

- 7 days in the Masai Mara, 1st – 8th March 2016. Cost is £3,595 per person
- 14 days in the Masai Mara and Serengeti North, 1st – 15th March 2016. Cost is £7,295 per person
- 14 days in the Serengeti North and South, 7th – 22nd March 2016. Cost is £7,820 per person
- 21 days in the Mara, Serengeti North & South, 1st – 22nd March 2016. Cost is £10,495 per person

Cost includes:

Accommodation
 Meals
 Park & camping fees
 Walking fees
 Domestic flights to the Parks

Excludes:

International flights
 Visas
 Items of a personal nature
 Travel Insurance

