



TANZANIA SERENGETI & CHIMPS

*Asilia*  BY AIR

## 9 DAYS, 8 NIGHTS

COMBINING  
NGORONGORO, THE SERENGETI  
AND LAKE VICTORIA

- 2 nights The Highlands, Ngorongoro region
- 3 nights Kimondo Migration Camp, Serengeti National Park
- 3 nights Rubondo Island Camp, Lake Victoria

### STARTS:

Kilimanjaro International Airport, Tanzania

### ENDS:

Kilimanjaro International Airport, Tanzania

### INTRO:

This is a thrilling safari combining some of Tanzania's most rewarding national parks with the unique opportunity to be part of a chimpanzee habituation programme on an island in Lake Victoria. Begin at the Ngorongoro Crater, game-driving on the floor of this dormant volcano before flying to the Serengeti, staying in a mobile tented camp that follows the pattern of the Great Migration. Conclude your adventure on Rubondo Island, home to a chimpanzee population as well as other wildlife, including forest elephant, hippo, sitatunga and flocks of African grey parrot.



## DAY 1:

On arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport you will proceed to the Coastal Aviation desk for your light-aircraft flight to the Manyara airstrip. A guide from The Highlands will drive you through coffee plantations towards the Ngorongoro Crater, a journey of three hours to reach the property, enjoying a packed lunch on the way. Stop at the viewpoint overlooking the crater to soak in the spectacular landscape and continue your drive around the rim until you reach the Olmoti Crater, where you will stay at The Highlands for the next two nights. If you feel like stretching your legs, you can opt for a guided walk from the camp up to the rim of Olmoti Crater, passing through dense forest and waterfalls on the way.



### NGORONGORO REGION

- Ngorongoro Crater is one of the most unique safari destinations in Africa, where wildlife lives on the floor of a dormant volcano
- Wildlife: lion, leopard, black rhino, elephant, buffalo, zebra, wildebeest
- Visit authentic Maasai communities
- Walk on or around the other lesser-known craters nearby
- Altitude in the region varies between 1,700 and 3,300 metres above sea level, so night-time temperatures drop significantly – pack warm clothes for the evenings and early mornings

## THE HIGHLANDS

Located in an unspoilt and rarely explored area on the edge of Olmoti Crater, guests at The Highlands can enjoy spectacular walks and authentic Maasai community visits, as well as game drives in the famous Ngorongoro Crater. The lounge and dining areas as well as the eight guest tents offer a unique modern architectural design in the form of geodesic domes dotted throughout the forest, offering a stylish retreat in this wild landscape. Each guest tent has a woodburning stove, sheepskin rugs and balcony, as well as a wood-panelled en suite bathroom. When you're not out exploring, enjoy breakfast on the deck overlooking the vast and untouched Ngorongoro highlands, indulge in afternoon tea beside the central fireplace, or head to the Olmoti bar for a whisky.



 8 domes (including 1 family dome)

 Wi-Fi

 Classic

Unique geodesic dome design

All with wood-burning stove and plentiful blankets to keep guests warm

All en suite with hot showers

Honeymoon dome with outdoor bathtub

Private or communal dining

## DAY 2:

After an early breakfast, depart with your guide for the Ngorongoro Crater, a drive of around an hour until you reach the descent road. Spend the morning game-driving on the crater floor, exploring in search of the varied wildlife that lives here. You'll enjoy a picnic lunch during the heat of the day in a shady spot before driving back to The Highlands, where you can relax a little. In the late afternoon, a guide will take you to one of the nearby Maasai villages, where you can learn more about this rich culture and take part in their afternoon activities, which often include rounding up cattle into the boma for the night.

## DAY 3:

Depart by road for the Manyara airstrip, three hours away, where you will catch a flight to the Serengeti, a journey of 45 minutes. A guide from Kimondo Migration Camp will meet you at the airstrip and game-drive you back to camp, stopping at any wildlife sightings along the way. Enjoy a leisurely lunch and settle into your tent before going on an afternoon game drive to fully explore your new surroundings. The Serengeti is impressive in terms of both the diversity and density of wildlife found here, so there is plenty to discover each day. Return to camp in the early evening for drinks around the campfire and dinner.



## SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

- 15,000km<sup>2</sup> of vast savannah plains
- One of Africa's most wildlife-rich and iconic national parks
- Part of the larger Masai Mara-Serengeti ecosystem, where the 2-million-strong herds of wildebeest, zebra and gazelle make their Great Migration year-round
- Wildlife: lion, cheetah, leopard, elephant, buffalo, rhino, wildebeest, zebra, giraffe, hyena, hippo
- More than 300 bird species
- Safari activities: game drives and hot-air ballooning (supplementary cost)



# KIMONDO MIGRATION CAMP

Known as a mobile camp, Kimondo Migration Camp moves around the Serengeti several times each year to locate itself as close as possible to the predicted location of the Great Migration herds of up to 2 million wildebeest, zebra and gazelle. Sightings of the migration cannot be guaranteed, as with all wildlife sightings, but the camp aims to give you good chances of being in the right location at the right time. There are nine large tents, each with a veranda and en suite bathroom with hot bucket showers. There is a lounge tent and dining tent, although meals are served under the stars whenever possible.



 9 tents

 Wi-Fi

 Classic

Mobile tented camp that moves around the Serengeti several times each year, following the pattern of the Great Migration

All en suite with hot bucket showers

Communal dining

## DAY 4 & 5:

Safari activities at Kimondo take place in the early morning and late afternoon, when the wildlife is most active. You will explore with expert guides on game drives, looking for the big cats that have made the Serengeti famous as well as hippos wallowing in muddy pools and giraffe browsing the fresh shoots of an acacia tree. In between, you will return to camp for a delicious lunch, and to have a siesta or catch up on a good book. Evenings are spent sharing stories of your day's adventures with other guests around the dinner table.

## DAY 6:

There's time for a final morning game drive and lunch in camp before you fly out to Rubondo Island on Lake Victoria in the mid-afternoon. A guide will drive you through the dense tropical forest to the camp, which will be your base for this final stage of your safari. Settle in and either relax for the rest of the day or perhaps go out for a boat trip on the lake in the late afternoon to enjoy sunset views across the water.



## RUBONDO ISLAND, LAKE VICTORIA

- Largest island national park in Africa
- Resident chimpanzee population – visitors can take part in the habituation programme with researchers
- Wildlife: chimpanzee, forest elephant, giraffe, sitatunga, spotted-neck otter
- 200 resident bird species including African grey parrot
- Activities: chimpanzee habituation programme, boating, fishing for Nile perch, nature walks, nature drives, sundowners



## RUBONDO ISLAND CAMP

This comfortable lodge with just eight rooms is located on a sandy beach on Rubondo Island. This is the only property on the island, offering guests an exclusive experience. Guides share the weird and wonderful wildlife through a variety of activities including nature walks, birding trips, boating, fishing and joining researchers on the chimpanzee habituation experience. Between activities, guests can swim in the pool, relax on the private veranda of their room or learn more about the island's history in the information centre near the main lounge. The team here is superbly welcoming and loves sharing the best of this unique corner of Tanzania with visitors.



-  8 waterfront chalets (including 1 family room)
-  Wi-Fi
-  Swimming pool
-  Private island
-  Classic

The only accommodation on Rubondo Island

All rooms have a private veranda and en suite bathroom

Beachfront location

Communal dining

## DAY 7 & 8:

Activities on Rubondo Island take place in the morning and afternoon, with time during the heat of the day to relax in the shade at the lodge or by the pool. One morning you will set out with a guide, researcher and ranger to search for chimpanzees, typically travelling by boat to a different part of the island and then walking through the thick forest. The researcher will explain the habituation process along the way. Sightings are not guaranteed as this habituation programme is still a work in progress, but it offers you a unique opportunity to be part of the conservation story of Rubondo and to be some of the first travellers to meet the island's chimps. Other activities available include boating on the lake; fishing for Nile perch, which are found in good numbers here; birding to look for some of the unusual species found here, such as the African grey parrot; and forest drives, during which you may encounter sitatunga or a forest elephant.

## DAY 9:

Enjoy a final breakfast overlooking Lake Victoria before a short drive to the airstrip for your morning flight back to Kilimanjaro Airport in Arusha, taking a picnic lunch with you. The flight will stop a few times on the way in the Serengeti and other airstrips to drop off/pick up passengers, and the total journey will be approximately four hours. You will land at the international airport so you can simply collect your luggage and check in for your international flight home.

**END OF ASILIA BY AIR SAFARI**

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**Asilia by Air packages are available year-round, subject to availability of accommodation and internal flights.**

**INCLUSIONS:** All logistics starting and ending at Kilimanjaro International Airport, all light-aircraft flights within Tanzania, all park fees and taxes including one chimpanzee permit for Rubondo Island, shared safari activities, all meals and house drinks on safari and medical evacuation insurance.

**EXCLUSIONS:** International flights to Tanzania, Tanzania entry visa, inoculations, gratuities, additional activities, meals and drinks.

