

The Founders' Signature Tanzania Safari

Tanzania at Its Wildest, with Comfort at Every Turn

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Trip Details:

Days
11 Days · May–Mar

Price
From $13190

The Founders' Signature Tanzania Safari

Tanzania at Its Wildest, with Comfort at Every Turn

Inspired by decades of exploration, the Founders' Safari reveals Tanzania through deep roots and an adventurous spirit. Begin in the private Eastern Serengeti Nature Refuge, where the freedom to walk, explore after dark and spend time with the Maasai community goes beyond what's possible in national parks. Then immerse yourself in the Serengeti's vast grasslands, abundant wildlife and legendary big cats. Two bush flights minimize time in transit before three nights at Gibb's Farm, with two full days to savor this celebrated retreat in the Ngorongoro Highlands.

Trip Highlights

Explore a Private Nature Refuge

Walk among wildlife, head out after dark and spend time with the Maasai community, with freedoms unavailable inside Tanzania's national parks.

Immerse Yourself in the Serengeti

Spend four days amid vast grasslands, great herds and legendary predators, with time to appreciate the Serengeti on its immense scale.

Savor Three Nights at Gibb's Farm

Spend three nights at this historic coffee estate, with garden cottages, farm-to-table dining and the lush Ngorongoro Highlands all around.

Ready to Book? Call a Safari Specialist at 800-235-0289



Itinerary: 2026

The Founders' Signature Tanzania Safari

Itinerary at a Glance

Day 1	Arusha
Days 2–3	Eastern Serengeti
Days 4–8	Serengeti National Park
Days 9–11	Ngorongoro Highlands
Day 12	Kilimanjaro International Airport



Day 1

Arusha

Arrive in Arusha

- Arrive in Tanzania and transfer to your lodge in Arusha.
- Settle in and prepare for the safari ahead.

Your safari adventure begins the moment you touch down in Tanzania. You're greeted by a Thomson Safaris representative at the airport before transferring to the Gran Meliá Arusha; an oasis of serenity in the heart of the city. Settle in, shake off any travel fatigue, and take advantage of the resort's spa services or gym as you unwind, leaving you well-rested and ready to launch into your safari the following morning.

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Days 2–3

Eastern Serengeti

On Foot & After Dark in the Eastern Serengeti

- Fly to the private 10,000-acre Eastern Serengeti Nature Refuge.
- Explore on foot and after dark in search of giraffes, zebras, antelopes, and nocturnal wildlife.
- Spend time with the Maasai and learn about their lives and connection to this landscape.

A short scenic flight brings you to the Thomson-exclusive Eastern Serengeti Nature Refuge, a private 10,000-acre sanctuary famous for harboring one of the largest concentrations of Maasai giraffes in Tanzania. Right at the heart of your experience is the camp's busy natural watering hole, where the safari comes directly to you. Sit back with your morning coffee or an evening drink as family groups of giraffes, zebras, warthogs, and baboons constantly filter out of the acacia woodland to drink, allowing you to observe undisturbed animal behaviors up close throughout the day.

Because this private refuge operates outside national park boundaries, you can step beyond standard vehicle drives and experience the wild in ways strictly prohibited inside the park. Set out on foot alongside Maasai naturalists to track wildlife across the open plains, and set back out after dark on a night drive to search for secretive nocturnal creatures like bat-eared foxes, civets, and aardvarks. Beyond the wilderness, spend time visiting a neighboring primary school and a women's handicraft market to see traditional beadwork crafted firsthand and meet the local community sharing this landscape.

Days 4–8

Serengeti National Park

Big cats and migrating herds among granite kopjes

- Head for the iconic Serengeti, where acacia trees and granite kopjes dot the seas of waving grass.
- The Serengeti offers everyday opportunities to spot Tanzania's most impressive wildlife—including big cats—and witness dramatic moments in the Great Migration of wildebeest and zebras.

Journey deep into the Serengeti, a staggering ecosystem supporting millions of mammals and over 500 species of birds. As you traverse the plains, the sheer volume of life comes into focus, with endless ribbons of the Great Migration's wildebeest and zebra kicking up dust as they move across the savanna. This is where your guide's decades of experience truly shine, far better than a walking encyclopedia, they read the subtle language of the bush. They might catch the twitch of a leopard's tail high in a sausage tree, predict a cheetah's sprint after a leaping Thomson's gazelle, or point out a vibrant lilac-breasted roller taking flight before you even realize it's there.

Because your schedule is completely flexible, you have the freedom to cut the engine and sit quietly with a pride of lions for hours, watching cubs play and predators strategize as the ecosystem hums around you. As evening sets in, you return to your seasonal Nyumba camp. Positioned to follow the migration's path, these classic canvas tents keep you intimately connected to the environment, allowing you to fall asleep to the unfiltered sounds of hyenas calling and herds grazing just out of sight.

Days 9–11

Ngorongoro Highlands

Africa's densest predator population inside Ngorongoro Crater

- Another short flight will take you to the Ngorongoro area. Explore the Ngorongoro Crater, a self-sustaining ecosystem with the densest predator population in all of Africa.
- Indulge at Gibb's Farm, a Travel + Leisure World's Best List #1 African Safari Lodge and an 80-year-old working coffee estate offering farm-to-table dining, luxurious rooms with private verandas, and optional spa services.

A short flight into Lake Manyara Airport brings you to Tanzania's lush highlands, where a scenic drive delivers you to Gibb's Farm in time for lunch. The following day, descend 2,000 feet down the green, forest-draped walls of the Ngorongoro Crater into an ancient natural sanctuary—a self-contained haven holding roughly 25,000 animals in a mere 100 square miles, making it one of the rare places on Earth where you can see all of the Big Five in a single day. The sheer density of life here is staggering: massive old-bull elephants with tusks sweeping the grass navigate the acacia forests, lions sun themselves near heavy herds of Cape buffalo, hippos snort in the marshy pools, and the rare, heavily protected rhinoceros grazes across the open mist-covered plains.

Ascending out of the caldera, your journey concludes on the cool, lush slopes of the highlands at Gibb's Farm. Consistently recognized by *Travel + Leisure* as one of the top hotels in Africa, this historic coffee estate provides an idyllic haven to reflect on your time in Tanzania. Enjoy the slow rhythm of the farm—strolling ten acres of terraced organic gardens, sunbathing in the infinity pool, watching coffee roasters at work, and gathering for exceptional farm-to-table meals crafted from dairy, honey, and vegetables harvested just hours before they reach your table.

Day 12

Kilimanjaro International Airport

A farewell lunch in Arusha before flights home

- Head to Arusha, where you'll enjoy a farewell lunch at Arusha Coffee Lodge. Relax in a day room at Arusha Hotel before your flight home.

As your safari comes to an end, say goodbye to the guides who have become true friends along the way. Return to Arusha and gather for a memorable farewell lunch at the picturesque Arusha Coffee Lodge.

Afterward, head back to Gran Meliá Arusha to relax and freshen up in a comfortable day room, enjoying the lodge's serene grounds before your journey back. Take time to reflect on your adventure, pack your bags, and unwind before transferring to the airport for your evening flight home.

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Itinerary: 2027

The Founders' Signature Tanzania Safari

Itinerary at a Glance

Day 1	Arusha
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Days 4–7	Serengeti National Park
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Day 1

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Days 2–3

Eastern Serengeti

On Foot & After Dark in the Eastern Serengeti

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Days 4–7

Serengeti National Park

Serengeti

- Explore the Serengeti's vast grasslands, kopjes, and acacia woodlands over four wildlife-rich days.
- Search for lions, cheetahs and leopards alongside immense herds of wildebeest and zebra.
- Linger at compelling sightings as your guide interprets wildlife behavior and the ecosystem around you.

Journey deep into the Serengeti, a staggering ecosystem supporting millions of mammals and over 500 species of birds. As you traverse the plains, the sheer volume of life comes into focus, with endless ribbons of the Great Migration's wildebeest and zebra kicking up dust as they move across the savanna. This is where your guide's decades of experience truly shine, far better than a walking encyclopedia, they read the subtle language of the bush. They might catch the twitch of a leopard's tail high in a sausage tree, predict a cheetah's sprint after a leaping Thomson's gazelle, or point out a vibrant lilac-breasted roller taking flight before you even realize it's there.

Because your schedule is completely flexible, you have the freedom to cut the engine and sit quietly with a pride of lions for hours, watching cubs play and predators strategize as the ecosystem hums around you. As evening sets in, you return to your seasonal Nyumba camp. Positioned to follow the migration's path, these classic canvas tents keep you intimately connected to the environment, allowing you to fall asleep to the unfiltered sounds of hyenas calling and herds grazing just out of sight.

Days 8–10

Ngorongoro Highlands

Ngorongoro Crater & Highlands

- Fly from the Serengeti to the Ngorongoro area, minimizing time in transit.
- Descend into Ngorongoro Crater in search of lions, elephants, hippos, buffalo and rare black rhinos.
- Spend three nights at Gibb's Farm, with two full days to enjoy its gardens, farm-to-table dining and highland setting.

A short flight into Lake Manyara Airport brings you to Tanzania's lush highlands, where a scenic drive delivers you to Gibb's Farm in time for lunch. The following day, descend 2,000 feet down the green, forest-draped walls of the Ngorongoro Crater into an ancient natural sanctuary—a self-contained haven holding roughly 25,000 animals in a mere 100 square miles, making it one of the rare places on Earth where you can see all of the Big Five in a single day. The sheer density of life here is staggering: massive old-bull elephants with tusks sweeping the grass navigate the acacia forests, lions sun themselves near heavy herds of Cape buffalo, hippos snort in the marshy pools, and the rare, heavily protected rhinoceros grazes across the open mist-covered plains.

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Day 11

Kilimanjaro International Airport

Depart

- Return to Arusha, with day-room access before your evening flight home.

As your safari comes to an end, say goodbye to the guides who have become true friends along the way. Return to Arusha and gather for a memorable farewell lunch at the picturesque Arusha Coffee Lodge.

Afterward, head back to Gran Meliá Arusha to relax and freshen up in a comfortable day room, enjoying the lodge's serene grounds before your journey back. Take time to reflect on your adventure, pack your bags, and unwind before transferring to the airport for your evening flight home.

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Itinerary: 2028

The Founders' Signature Tanzania Safari

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Day 11

Kilimanjaro International Airport

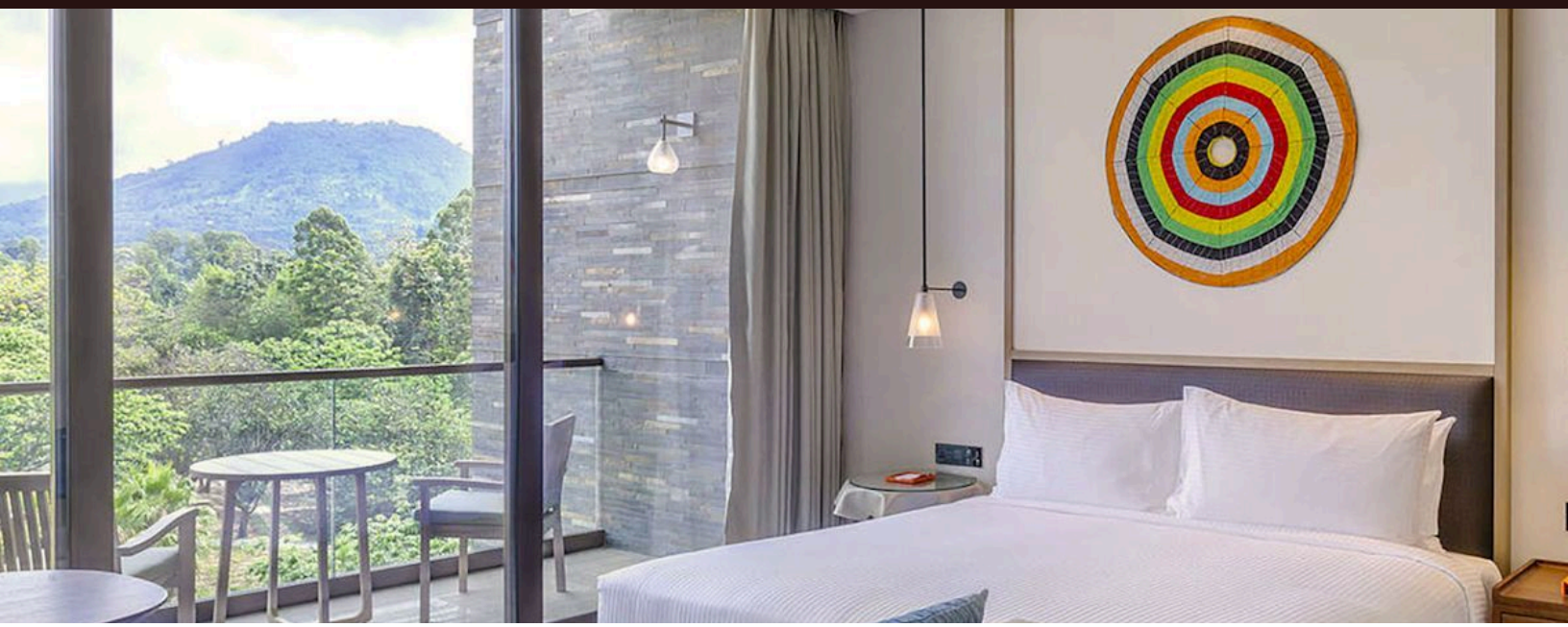
Depart

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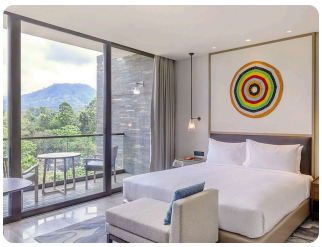
Afterward, head back to Gran Meliá Arusha to relax and freshen up in a comfortable day room, enjoying the lodge's serene grounds before your journey back. Take time to reflect on your adventure, pack your bags, and unwind before transferring to the airport for your evening flight home.

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The Founders' Signature Tanzania Safari Accommodations

Tanzania at Its Wildest, with Comfort at Every Turn



Gran Melia Arusha

Set on a landscaped coffee and tea plantation, the Gran Meliá is an oasis of serenity amidst the bustling city of Arusha. Enjoy spectacular views of Mount Meru, heated outdoor pool, gym and spa services and a private, furnished outdoor balcony.



Eastern Serengeti Nyumba

Your camp on Moruga Hill offers views of grazing wildlife and fiery sunsets. Enjoy great service, exquisite meals, and comfortable amenities. Sit back with a cocktail or a book in the lounge tent, by the campfire, or while watching wildlife flock to the waterhole right in front of you!



Serengeti Nyumbas

Serengeti Nyumba camps move seasonally to follow the Great Migration, keeping you close to wildlife. Enjoy top-notch service, delicious meals, and comfortable amenities. Relax with a cocktail or book in the lounge tent, by the campfire, or on the verandah of your Nyumba tent.

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Gibb's Farm

Fresh food, fresh air and fresh perspectives abound at Gibb's Farm (a three-time Travel + Leisure Top Safari Lodge in Africa). After full days of exploration, relax in your eco-friendly cottage, set amidst the farm's lush gardens. Enjoy an outdoor shower, farm-to-table dining, and learn about local culture from the attentive staff.



Dates & Pricing Summary:

Price
From $13190

Departures
2026: 3
2027: 47
2028: 31

The Founders' Signature Tanzania Safari Dates, Prices & Info

Tanzania at Its Wildest, with Comfort at Every Turn

2026 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Nov 7 - Nov 18, 2026 12-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Nov 13 - Nov 24, 2026 12-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Dec 17 - Dec 28, 2026 12-Day Safari	**$14950**	

2027 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Jan 2 - Jan 12, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13190**	
Jan 8 - Jan 18, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13190**	
Jan 16 - Jan 26, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Jan 23 - Feb 2, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Jan 30 - Feb 9, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Feb 6 - Feb 16, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Feb 12 - Feb 22, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Feb 13 - Feb 23, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Feb 22 - Mar 4, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Feb 26 - Mar 8, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Feb 28 - Mar 10, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Mar 4 - Mar 14, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Mar 17 - Mar 27, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13190**	
Mar 25 - Apr 4, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13190**	
May 16 - May 26, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
May 21 - May 31, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
May 28 - Jun 7, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
May 30 - Jun 9, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Jun 6 - Jun 16, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Jun 9 - Jun 19, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Jun 13 - Jun 23, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Jun 18 - Jun 28, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Jun 29 - Jul 9, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Jul 9 - Jul 19, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Jul 17 - Jul 27, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13790**	
Jul 31 - Aug 10, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	

The Founders' Signature Tanzania Safari

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Aug 12 - Aug 22, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Aug 15 - Aug 25, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Aug 21 - Aug 31, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Aug 28 - Sep 7, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Sep 2 - Sep 12, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Sep 4 - Sep 14, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Sep 11 - Sep 21, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Sep 18 - Sep 28, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Sep 23 - Oct 3, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Sep 27 - Oct 7, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Oct 2 - Oct 12, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Oct 9 - Oct 19, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Oct 16 - Oct 26, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Oct 21 - Oct 31, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Oct 22 - Nov 1, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Oct 25 - Nov 4, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13590**	
Nov 1 - Nov 11, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13190**	
Nov 4 - Nov 14, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13190**	
Nov 10 - Nov 20, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13190**	
Nov 17 - Nov 27, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13190**	
Dec 20 - Dec 30, 2027 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	

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2028 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Jan 7 - Jan 17, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Jan 17 - Jan 27, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$14790**	
Jan 29 - Feb 8, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$14790**	
Feb 3 - Feb 13, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Feb 13 - Feb 23, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Feb 23 - Mar 4, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Mar 4 - Mar 14, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Mar 14 - Mar 24, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Mar 19 - Mar 29, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
May 14 - May 24, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
May 24 - Jun 3, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$14790**	
Jun 4 - Jun 14, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$14790**	
Jun 12 - Jun 22, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$14790**	
Jun 27 - Jul 7, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Jul 11 - Jul 21, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Jul 20 - Jul 30, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Jul 25 - Aug 4, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Aug 1 - Aug 11, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Aug 9 - Aug 19, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Aug 22 - Sep 1, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Aug 30 - Sep 9, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	

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Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Sep 4 - Sep 14, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Sep 13 - Sep 23, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Sep 23 - Oct 3, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Oct 4 - Oct 14, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Oct 12 - Oct 22, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	
Oct 21 - Oct 31, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$14790**	
Nov 5 - Nov 15, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Nov 10 - Nov 20, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Nov 15 - Nov 25, 2028 11-Day Safari	**$13990**	
Dec 30, 2028 - Jan 9, 2029 11-Day Safari	**$15290**	

As of July 1, 2016, Tanzania imposed a new Value Added Tax (VAT) on tourism activities. VAT starts at $300 and varies by trip. Single accommodations start at $800 and vary by trip. All prices are subject to change without notice.

Group Size

We specialize in small group travel (about 14 people or fewer), but the exact size varies from trip to trip. One thing's for sure: you'll have plenty of elbow room, 360-degree sightlines, and a guaranteed window seat.

What's Included

Your safari land package includes all accommodations, meals, purified water (with meals and on wildlife drives), airport transfers aligned with Delta/KLM flights, park fees, and the services of guides and drivers.

Not Included

International airfare is not included.

Additional costs may include tips for your guides, drivers and staff, bar beverages, laundry service, phone calls, passport and visa fees, souvenirs, and travel insurance.

Your pre-departure packet includes visa application instructions and information on travel insurance and tipping.

Important Information

A 20% deposit is required to reserve your space. This deposit is non-refundable and non-transferable. Full payment is due 90 days prior to the first land day of the trip.

Notification of cancellation must be made in writing to Thomson Safaris. At the time we receive the cancellation, all moneys will be refunded less the following cancellation charges:

- 91 days or more before departure: cancellation fees equal the amount of your deposit
- 90 to 61 days before departure: 50% of the package price is non-refundable
- 60 to 46 days before departure: 65% of the package price is non-refundable
- 45 days or less before departure: 100% of the package price is non-refundable

No partial refunds will be given for unused meals, hotel rooms, airport transfers, etc., for any reason whatsoever. Thomson Safaris reserves the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in airfares, currency fluctuations, park fee increases, fuel surcharges, taxes, etc. Accommodations are subject to change.

Travel Insurance

Thomson strongly encourages you to purchase travel insurance within two weeks of making your deposit to protect your investment, as we are not able to make changes to our cancellation policy for any reason. Travel Guard comes highly recommended by our guests.

Getting There & Getting Home

Delta/KLM have by far the quickest, easiest routing: an overnight flight from North America brings you to Amsterdam for a brief layover before arriving at Kilimanjaro International Airport. Our scheduled trips and airport transfers are designed with the KLM arrival schedule in mind, so check with your safari consultants or trip managers before making arrangements with a different airline.

You'll find your guide at the airport holding a Thomson Safaris placard with your name on it.



The Founders' Signature Tanzania Safari Extend Your Trip

Tanzania at Its Wildest, with Comfort at Every Turn



Zanzibar Extension

Spend your days soaking up Swahili culture and the beach in Zanzibar. Use this sample itinerary to inspire a custom trip before or after your safari.

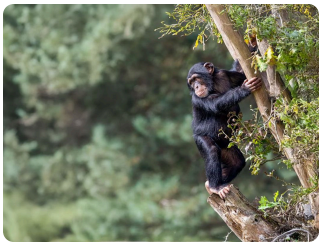
5 days · From $2500



Rwanda Extension

Go deeper into East Africa's wild beauty, with meaningful cultural moments, tranquil lodges, and sweeping landscapes. Use this sample itinerary to inspire a custom trip before or after your safari.

5 days · From $8000



Mahale Mountains National Park Extension

Trek pristine rainforest on the shores of Lake Tanganyika to find wild chimpanzees in a secluded sanctuary. Use this sample itinerary to inspire a custom trip before or after your safari.

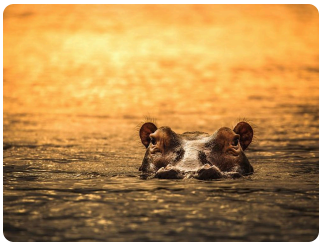
4 days · From $6500



Cape Town Extension

Explore vibrant Cape Town, set against the dramatic backdrop of Table Mountain. Visit world-class vineyards, penguins at Boulders Beach and explore Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned.

Call for Pricing



Ruaha National Park Extension

Journey to the remote Ruaha National Park, a hidden gem in East Africa. Track elusive wildlife by day and enjoy torch-lit dinners by the river at night.

4 days · From $4500



Nyerere National Park Extension

Nyerere National Park (formerly Selous) is a refreshing change of pace from other parks. Defined by the broad waterways of the Rufiji River, this extension introduces a slower, more immersive style of safari.

4 days · From $5500

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