



## “As You Like It (Safaris) Ltd.” Photographic Wildlife Safari 2015

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August to Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

(Tour Leader: Vivien Prince: Special for Author Susie Kelly, and for Members and friends of the 95<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group - WWII)

### **DAY 01 – Thursday August 20: Arrival in Nairobi, Kenya**

Upon arrival at Nairobi’s Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, you will be met by Vivien, Kamara and your other driver/guides and transferred to the **Nairobi Serena Hotel**. On the outskirts of Nairobi’s central park, shaded by Jacaranda, bougainvillea and acacia trees, stands the Nairobi Serena Hotel. This tranquil location is only moments from most inner city attractions and convenient to nearby game reserves. A member of the **Leading Hotels of the World** the hotel offers an exceptional standard of accommodation, service, cuisine and amenities. It is the natural choice of corporate executives conducting business in Nairobi or luxury adventure travelers en route to safari. Sit down for a short briefing session and check-in thereafter. Dinner on your own. **BB**



## **DAY 02 – Friday August 21: Nairobi / Amboseli National Park**

Breakfast at your hotel between **06.00 to 06.50 Hrs.** At precisely 07.00 hrs depart for Amboseli National Park driving through the scenic southern part of Kenya to arrive at your lodge for lunch. We invite you for a game drive afterwards in this beautiful park, famous for its large elephant herds. Arid looking as Amboseli is, it has, historically, supported both game and the Maasai that kept their herds of cattle here. It is thanks to the waters that run off Africa's greatest mountain that the apparently dry Amboseli, Kenya's first game sanctuary is able to support its wildlife. Mount Kilimanjaro broods high over Amboseli, generally cloaked by clouds but appearing in all its snow-shrouded magnificence from time to time. The mountain now provides water for the park, wonderful views and, of course, the most glorious background for animal photography. Accommodation: **Amboseli Serena Lodge LDB**

### **Amboseli Serena Lodge**



Nestled in the foothills of Kilimanjaro and surrounded by miles of rolling grasslands, patrolled by vast herds of elephant, this very traditional yet supremely luxurious lodge within the shade of an acacia grove on the banks of the river, is one of the safari destinations of a lifetime. Inspired by local Masai architecture, the design of the lodge is in total harmony with the environment. Each guest room conveys a distinctive Masai 'Manyatta' mood and is furnished with authentic African murals painted by a local artist.

## **DAY 03 – Saturday August 22: Full day in Amboseli National Park**

Another exciting day in Amboseli National Park. We recommend that you get up early in the morning when one can experience excellent game viewing & an unprecedented view of the snow capped Mount Kilimanjaro. We will have breakfast at 6 am, and proceed on a morning game drive at 6.30 am when the light will be perfect for photographers. We will stay out until 11 or 12 noon, paying a visit to the swamp with its magnificent wildlife present all day long; at any time able to return and simply relax at camp and take in the African wilderness. The afternoon game drive is not just anticipation of seeing the "BIG FIVE", but the amazing trek of the elephants back to the hills. Accommodation: **Amboseli Serena Lodge – LDB**





#### **DAY 04: Sunday August 23: Amboseli National Park /Mt. Kenya**

Your bags are loaded into the vehicles while we have an early morning breakfast. This is a long drive day through the game park and on to Mount Kenya Safari Club, with packed lunches. Accommodation: Mt Kenya Safari Club. **Mt Kenya Safari Club (L if necessary and in time, BB)**

#### **MT. KENYA SAFARI CLUB**



With magnificent views of majestic Mount Kenya, the Fairmont Mount Kenya Safari Club Resort's 120 luxurious rooms set in over 100 acres of landscaped gardens, offer a unique blend of comfort, relaxation and adventure. This Nanyuki resort deservedly emerged a winner in the 2013 Travellers' Choice Awards, and Travel & Leisure Magazine often puts it in the 'World's Top 50' List. Originally the retreat of movie star and Club founder, William Holden, the Club's illustrious former members have included Winston Churchill and Bing Crosby.

For those who wish to spend time relaxing at the Mount Kenya resort hotel, there are many recreational activities available including horseback riding, golf, croquet, a bowling green, table tennis, swimming, and animal orphanage.

## MT. KENYA SAFARI CLUB ANIMAL ORPHANAGE



**DAY 05, Monday August 24:** Drive north to arrive in Samburu in time for lunch, and enjoy your first game drive in the reserve in the afternoon. Samburu is famous for the Northern species that are only found there, such as the Somali ostrich with its bluish legs, the long-necked gerenuk, the Samburu reticulated giraffe in all its beauty, the rare Grevy's zebra and the even rarer Beisa oryx and kudu. There was an amazing showing of 11 wild dogs in 2014, and we hope to see these again Accommodation: **Samburu Game Lodge – LDB**

## SAMBURU LODGE



Beautifully situated on the banks of the Uaso Nyiro River where herds of elephant, buffalo and zebra come to drink daily, Samburu has its own unique indigenous wildlife, and is the homeland of the semi-nomadic Samburu people, a place of wide plains and the vast horizons of the African desert. The open-sided dining room allows guests to enjoy the sights and sounds of the river as they dine. From the famous Crocodile Bar you can look crocodiles in the eye as you sip your sundowner. Early morning and afternoon tea are served in the lounge from where you can watch the wildlife and the Uaso Nyiro River. Walking safaris with skilled Samburu guides are available, as well as camel rides, and raft trips when the river is high. And there is plenty to fill the hours between those adventurous game drives - traditional Samburu dances, guided bird watches and a sparkling swimming pool.



**DAY 06 - Tuesday August 25: Full day in Samburu Game Reserve**



Your first full day in Samburu. The Lodge is situated inside the reserve which gives an opportunity to see an abundance of wildlife and birdlife which has much to do with the “River of Brown Water” (Uaso Nyiro in the Samburu language), fed by rains in the far-off Aberdare ranges. Acacia trees, Doum palms and Mswaki (the toothbrush tree) provide balanced habitat for the vast variety of game.

Accommodation: **Samburu Game Lodge – LDB**



**DAY 07- Wednesday August 26: Full day in Samburu Game Reserve**

Your final day in Samburu with an opportunity to further explore the area, haunt of the long-necked gerenuk, a graceful antelope which spends much of its time standing on its hind legs grazing from the tops of the withered scrub that dots this harsh terrain. Other animals commonly seen are elephants, lions, cheetahs, buffalos, Grants gazelles, dik diks and waterbucks, and more than 350 varieties of birds. Accommodation: **Samburu Game Lodge – LDB**





### **DAY 08 – Thursday August 27: Samburu Game Reserve / Lake Nakuru National Park**

This is a long day drive, and we will be making a very early start, stopping for you to stand on the Equator, and continuing the drive across and down into the Great Rift Valley. Here we will visit Lake Nakuru National Park, famous for the millions of pink flamingos that usually wade in the shallow shores together with multitudes of pelicans and a wide variety of other birds. *Please note: When the lake is flooded, there may not be many flamingos.* You will have a chance to see both the Black and White Rhino, the endangered Rothschild's giraffe, waterbuck, rock hyrax, a euphorbia forest and many varieties of plains-dwelling game. Accommodation: **Lake Nakuru Lodge – LDB**

## **LAKE NAKURU LODGE**



In the centre of Lake Nakuru National Park lies Lake Nakuru with its large population of Lesser and Greater flamingos. Lake Nakuru Lodge is situated in the south-east ecological niche of the National Park, with views across the lake. The acacia and euphorbia forests are havens for animals during the heat of the day, making an excellent game-viewing destination, whilst the Hippo Pool is a favourite spot for picnics. Lake Nakuru Lodge accommodates up to 120 people, either in family rooms, cottages, or suites, and provides excellent hospitality and friendly service.

Activities available include horseback safari excursions, game drives, bird-watching and plant identification expeditions. After a day's game watching, you can chill out at the two bars that overlook

the lake, or refresh yourself in the pool. The cuisine is excellent, and you will love the bush barbecue followed by sundowners. In the evening you can enjoy entertainment, followed by a peaceful night's rest.



**DAY 09 - Friday August 28: Full day in Nakuru National Park**

Full day in Nakuru National Park, in the wonderland at the heart of Kenya's most densely animal-populated wetland. Lake Nakuru Lodge is the perfect relaxation getaway. All meals and overnight at Lodge. Accommodation: **Lake Nakuru Lodge – LDB**

**DAY 10 – Saturday August 29: Lake Nakuru National Park / Maasai Mara Game Reserve**

This is another long drive day, and we will have breakfast early to depart by 6.30 am. Drive to the Maasai Mara National Reserve, which is probably the most prolific wildlife area in the world. Four nights authentic “Out of Africa” experience at an eco-friendly camp right in the middle of the Great Migration dispersal area, with the possibility of seeing lions, leopard, and cheetah, wildebeests and much more wildlife. Dinner and overnight Little Mara Bush Camp. Accommodation: **Little Mara Bush Camp LDB**

**DAY 11 – Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup>: Full day in the Maasai Mara Game Reserve**

Enjoy the diversity of the ecosystem with multiple species of wildlife and bird life. Accommodation: **Little Mara Bush Camp LDB**





**DAY 12 – Monday August 31: Full day in Maasai Mara Game Reserve**

Third day in Ol Kiombo region with unlimited game drives at your convenience. No promises, but hopes and wishes that we find this beautiful cheetah who likes to use the Land Cruisers as a viewpoint. Accommodation: **Little Mara Bush Camp LDB**

**DAY 13 – Tuesday September 01: Full day in Maasai Mara Game Reserve**

Fourth day in Ol Kiombo region with unlimited game drives at your convenience. Accommodation: **Little Mara Bush Camp LDB**

**Little Mara Bush Camp**

The Little Mara Bush Camp is situated in one of the best and most spectacular locations in the famous Maasai Mara Game Reserve. It is located on the banks of the seasonal Olare Orok river, overlooking a large hippo pool boasting more than 40 hippos at any given time. It is only 5 minutes from Ol Kiombo Airstrip. River crossings during July to October season are only a short drive away from the camp.



With luxury tents on platforms, Little Mara Bush Camp offers exclusivity for guests looking for maximum privacy. An array of classic cocktails and sundowners await you in the Bar/Lounge. A charging station for camera batteries and laptops is situated in the Photo Lounge. All 8 guest tents (2 are family rooms) are designed with great attention to detail. Mahogany furniture and luxurious soft furnishings give it the comfort of a luxury Camp with a “bush feeling” – glamping at its most glamorous.

The tents are designed to give you ample space, with a bedroom, en-suite bathroom and a wooden, private



verandah/deck with lounge chairs, a writing desk, bathrobes and slippers. The camp offers beautiful walkways with little bridges, and a welcoming central fireplace for the ‘Out of Africa’ atmosphere. It is the ultimate place to unwind and enjoy a drink while listening and swapping stories with other guests. Little Mara Bush Camp is not fenced, and wildlife roams freely. Enjoy nature uninterrupted at this fantastic and most luxurious and personalised camp. **DAY 14 – Wednesday September 02 : CHANGE OF LOCATION - Full day in Maasai Mara Game Reserve**

After breakfast drive across to Mara Serena Lodge for your last 2 days in the Maasai Mara. Activities such as Balloon ride, Sundowner and guided nature walk can be arranged upon request at an additional cost. Accommodation: **Mara Serena Lodge LDB**

## MARA SERENA SAFARI LODGE



Mara Serena Safari Lodge has one of the most spectacular views imaginable across the vast plains, forests and rivers that make up the Maasai Mara – one of the world's richest wildlife sanctuaries. It is here that the annual migration takes place, when the millions of zebra, wildebeest and gazelle cross the plains below on their way to the rich grasses of the Serengeti. This is a spectacle that should be witnessed at least once in a lifetime.

Secreted deep within the Maasai Mara National Reserve, the Mara Serena Safari Lodge stands centre-stage to one of Africa's most dramatic wildlife arenas, and has a ringside seat for the greatest wildlife show on earth, the legendary migration of the wildebeest. Drawing its inspiration from the traditional Maasai cultural motif of a cluster of domed huts encircled by a "boma" of brushwood, the Mara Serena offers a blend of raw African splendor and sumptuous sophistication. The ethnic décor draws on a vibrant palette of sun-burst colors, embellished by a unique selection of Maasai art to create the look and feel of a traditional bush encampment. The lodge features individual rooms, each with its own balcony and views, a sky-blue swimming pool and a spectacular restaurant, overlooking a waterhole where a diversity of animals collect to Drink.





**DAY 15 – Thursday September 03 : Full day in Maasai Mara Game Reserve**

Everything about it is outstanding. The wildlife is abundant and the gentle rolling grasslands ensure that animals are never out of sight. Birds, too, are prolific. Including migrants, well over 450 species have been recorded, among them 57 species of birds of prey. The climate is gentle, rarely too hot and with a well-spread rainfall year round. Rain, when it falls almost always chooses the late afternoon or night. Between July and October, during the great wildebeest migration, the sensation is unparalleled. Maasai Mara is a haven for viewing a congregation of all sorts of animals within a five mile radius: A pride of lions can be spotted ready to make a run for a gazelle, a cheetah and its cub taking a nap on a rock, a pair of ostriches walking the open stretches of the savannah or a gazelle giving birth. Accommodation: **Mara Serena Lodge**  
**LDB**





**DAY 16 – Friday September 4: Drive back to Nairobi Serena**

We will arrive during the early afternoon, and go to the hotel. Once we have final sign-ups for this safari we may change the order of things to do. But, this would be a good afternoon to swim, relax, wash hair, go to the hairdresser, have a pedicure, maybe go shopping and re-pack. Accommodation: **Nairobi Serena BB**

***And please “watch your front” and “watch your rear”  
Beware of  
theft!***





## Day 17 – Saturday September 5: Nairobi excursions and departure

We shall visit Hope Streams Academy in the morning, at 8 am., before arriving at the Elephant Orphanage at 10.45 am

### Hope Streams Academy

In early 2004, ten community members saw a pressing need for educational opportunities for the local children of the Ngando slum in Nairobi, Kenya.

In March 2005, Hope Streams Academy opened its doors for 11 students, providing one teacher in two rented classrooms. The entire operation was run through community donations and support. Since then, the school has grown to serve 230 students in 8 classrooms, providing teachers, supplies and meals to needy children.

Hope Streams serves many students who would not otherwise have the opportunity for an education through local private or government institutions; have severely financially handicapped parents or are orphans; or, are not able to eat regular meals at home.

### *Where We Have Gone*

“The school is blessed to have come to the attention of Vivien Prince of As You Like It Safaris. She has brought many tour groups to visit our school. Through their donations we have been able to purchase fundamental school supplies, food for lunches, and pay minimal teacher salaries.” As You Like It clients raised the money for the original structures, and we continue to try to raise funds so this school may progress, and special children may be sponsored. We build a classroom each year, and have now had two graduating classes from Standard 8, and our first children in high school.

Steve and Nancy Cottrell, together with the Boulder City Rotary Club of Nevada, have done an amazing job of keeping the school afloat by establishing an avenue for tax free donations, and themselves keeping the School solvent at different desperate times.



**Patrick Madunda** is a selfless human being, who faces daily challenges to feed the children, pay the teachers, attend to funerals of children or families, settling disputes, dealing with thefts – can you imagine stealing from the poorest of the poor? We believe the school visit teaches us so much about what we do have in America, and how children can smile and dance, with nothing. Our visit and gifts will be like Christmas day for them. Kenya has luxury five star destinations for tourists, but so many of the local people live like this, and we hope it will enrich your experience with us.



### The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, Elephant Orphanage

This visit will warm your hearts, yet deeply move you, as to how vulnerable the gentle giant, the Elephant is. Poaching of elephants has so escalated that it has moved the world to try to ban the trade in ivory. However, this day, you will have the joy of being with the rescued orphans, and like the children, they seem very resilient, and the hope of the future of elephants. This day will remain close to your hearts forever.





**Lunch** would follow, either at the **Muthaiga Country Club**, or the **Karen Country Club**, by my private invitation. This again will depend on departing flights and how much time we have, and can only be decided once we have all the sign ups. Then it will be time to say good bye, as we come to the end of our services, and you are transferred to the airport for your outward departure.

Your safari is ***inclusive of:*** -

- Arrival / departure transfers in Nairobi
- Transportation and exclusive use of safari equipped Toyota Land Cruisers
- Services of English speaking driver / guides and their daily allowance
- Unlimited game drives in all the above mentioned parks / reserves at your convenience
- Park entrance fees for yourselves and the driver / vehicle at all the above mentioned parks / reserves
- Entrance fees for Mt. Kenya Safari Club animal orphanage
- Daphne Sheldrick Private visit entrance fees
- Bean bags for cameras
- First Aid/medical box
- Blankets
- 01 night bed & breakfast (BB) accommodation at **NAIROBI SERENA**
- 02 nights full board (LDB) accommodation at **AMBOSELI SERENA LODGE**
- 01 night bed & breakfast (DB) accommodation at **MT. KENYA SAFARI CLUB**
- 03 nights full board (LDB) accommodation at **SAMBURU GAME LODGE**
- 02 nights full board (LDB) accommodation at **LAKE NAKURU LODGE**
- 04 nights full board (LDB) accommodation at **LITTLE MARA BUSH CAMP**
- 02 nights full board (LDB) accommodation at **MARA SERENA LODGE**
- 01 night bed and breakfast (BB) accommodation at **NAIROBI SERENA**
- Packed lunch from Amboseli Serena Lodge on DAY 04
- Complimentary mineral water in your safari vehicle
- Evacuation insurance to a Nairobi hospital - Cost of hospitalization payable direct
- Excursions on the last day as per the above itinerary

***All of the above safaris are EXCLUSIVE OF: -***

- Any items of personal nature such as beverages, laundry, telephone calls, etc
- International flights and visas to Kenya
- Change in itinerary
- Tips / gratuities for your driver / guide and camp / lodge staff



- Travel & Medical Insurance
- Any extras not mentioned above such as extra meals and activities