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Safari Ajabu - Green Season 14 Nights High End Safari with Beachfront Lodge on Zanzibar

\$15,795 (based on 4 people) December to April per person

Safari Ajabu takes its name from the Swahili word for 'wonderful' - it is designed to immerse the adventurer in an authentic African safari, to enjoy its nature and wilderness in total comfort, style, relaxation and tranquility.

Safari Ajabu begins with an overnight stay at a beautiful lodge in Arusha to acclimatise visitors to Africa and its culture, optionally stopping at markets or street food vendors on the way. The next day the adventure begins with a trip to Tarangire National Park.

The lodges and camps selected offer the ultimate in service and hospitality but also have something very unique to them that will create fond and lasting memories to keep for a lifetime.

The tours include the very best wildlife experience that Tanzania has to offer such as the wonderful elephants of Tarangire wandering among the baobab trees, the big five in the Ngorongoro Crater caldera and the breathtaking Serengeti with its stunning views as we follow the great migration. Between January, February and March we will visit the Ndutu region during the spectacular wildebeest calving season.

This safari is a breathtaking experience, that culminates in a relaxing finale on the gorgeous beaches of Zanzibar at our most exclusive resort lodge.

Trip Summary

DAY 1: Arrival Day and VIP Meet and Greet, Arusha Coffee Lodge

Collection from Kilimanjaro or Arusha Airport and Transfer
Lunch at Arusha Coffee Lodge and visit Shanga Centre
Arusha Coffee Lodge

DAY 2: Drive to Tarangire National Park and Mpingo Ridge Lodge

Tarangire National Park
Mpingo Ridge, Tarangire

DAY 3: Tarangire National Park and Mpingo Ridge Lodge

Tarangire National Park
Mpingo Ridge, Tarangire

DAY 4: Journey to the Crater Via Mto Wa Mbu and Craters Edge Lodge

Explore Mto Wa Mbu
Ngorongoro Crater View
Craters Edge

DAY 5: Ngorongoro Crater and Craters Edge Lodge

Ngorongoro Crater Tour
Craters Edge

DAY 6: Drive to Ndutu and Lemala Ndutu Camp

Ndutu, Southern Serengeti
Lemala Ndutu Camp

DAY 7: Ndutu Game Drive and Lemala Ndutu Camp

Ndutu, Southern Serengeti
Lemala Ndutu Camp

DAY 8: Drive to the Serengeti and Nanyukie Lodge

Serengeti Central Game Drive
Nanyukie Lodge

DAY 9: Central Serengeti and Nanyukie Lodge

Serengeti Central Game Drive
Balloon Safari (Optional - \$650 extra per person)
Nanyukie Lodge

DAY 10: Fly to Zanzibar and Xanadu Villas

Flight from Seronera to Zanzibar
Xanadu Villas Zanzibar

DAY 11: Relax at Xanadu Villas

Xanadu Villas Zanzibar

DAY 12: Optional Private Dhow Boat Trip and Xanadu Villas

Safari Blue Sea Adventure (Optional)

Xanadu Villas Zanzibar

DAY 13: Relax at Xanadu Villas

Xanadu Villas Zanzibar

DAY 14: Relax at Xanadu Villas

Xanadu Villas Zanzibar

DAY 15: Departure Day

Transfer to Zanzibar Airport

DAY 1: Arrival Day and VIP Meet and Greet, Arusha Coffee Lodge



Collection from Kilimanjaro or Arusha Airport and Transfer

We will be eagerly awaiting you just outside the arrivals hall with an SUV to welcome you to Tanzania and drive you directly to your luxurious lodge to relax and acclimatise to the magical atmosphere that is Safari Africa.



Lunch at Arusha Coffee Lodge and visit Shanga Centre

Subject to flight times, we will drive to Arusha Coffee Lodge to check in and have lunch or a light snack and refreshments. The lodge is on the outskirts of the town, hidden amongst one of Tanzania's largest coffee plantations, a perfect haven for relaxation either before or after any East African safari.

In the grounds is the Shanga social enterprise which employs people with disabilities to create unique and high-quality handmade jewellery, glassware and homewares incorporating recycled materials. These products are sold in the Shanga shop in Tanzania, as well as around the world, with profits being reinvested back into developing opportunities to employ more people with disabilities. <https://www.shanga.org/>



Arusha Coffee Lodge

Lying on the gently rolling foothills that cascade down from the ever-present Mount Meru is the bustling and vibrant town of Arusha. It is here on the outskirts of this town, hidden amongst one of Tanzania's largest coffee plantations, that you will find Arusha Coffee Lodge, a perfect haven for relaxation either before or after any East African safari.



DAY 2: Drive to Tarangire National Park and Mpingo Ridge Lodge



Tarangire National Park

Tarangire is one of my favourite parks and is the sixth largest park in the country with 2,850 square kilometres of wilderness.

Elephants, and other animals, are always confident of finding water in Tarangire and in the driest of seasons they will dig the river bed or visit the swamp, a sort of water tank for the region. In desperate times, the elephants will strip the bark from the Baobab trees that define Tarangire and squeeze out the water.

We will game drive to the lodge for lunch and a freshen up before going out in the afternoon for a game drive.



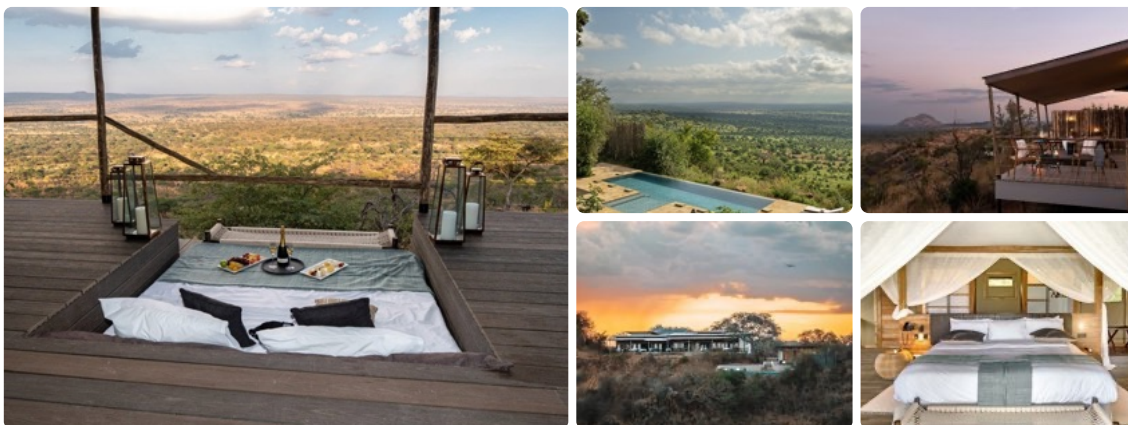


Mpingo Ridge, Tarangire

Mpingo Ridge sits on top of an escarpment with sweeping views across the perennial Tarangire River and valley below and offers outstanding standards of comfort and service.

Each of the 15 spacious suites have been carefully positioned to maximize not only the sensational views over the Tarangire valley but also to take advantage of cooling breezes during warm weather.

It is the very best location in Tarangire, right at the heart of the park and the densest animal concentration, close to the river.



DAY 3: Tarangire National Park and Mpingo Ridge Lodge



Tarangire National Park

We will leave camp early with a breakfast hamper and game drive along the Tarangire River to meet the elephants as they venture down the river and we will rest at Silale swamp for breakfast in the bush.

We will return to the lodge for lunch and to relax before exploring the Kuru region and return via Poachers Hide for an incredible sunset.



Mpingo Ridge, Tarangire

After the day's game drive we will return to the luxury of the Mpingo Ridge Lodge to enjoy a sundowner on your private terrace and look along the river and the incredible expanse of the Tarangire valley below.



DAY 4: Journey to the Crater Via Mto Wa Mbu and Craters Edge Lodge



Explore Mto Wa Mbu

As we leave Tarangire we will pass by the bustling town of Mto Wa Mbu which is a little micro hub for safari supplies and street food. We will take a break to amble around this fascinating town which is a hive of activity with safari-goers, guides and camp workers as they prepare for the adventure.

There is so much to explore in Mto Wa Mbu: youth art projects; the makonde wood carvers; you have the option of a banana plantation walk where you can enjoy a traditional family lunch and drink mbege, banana beer!

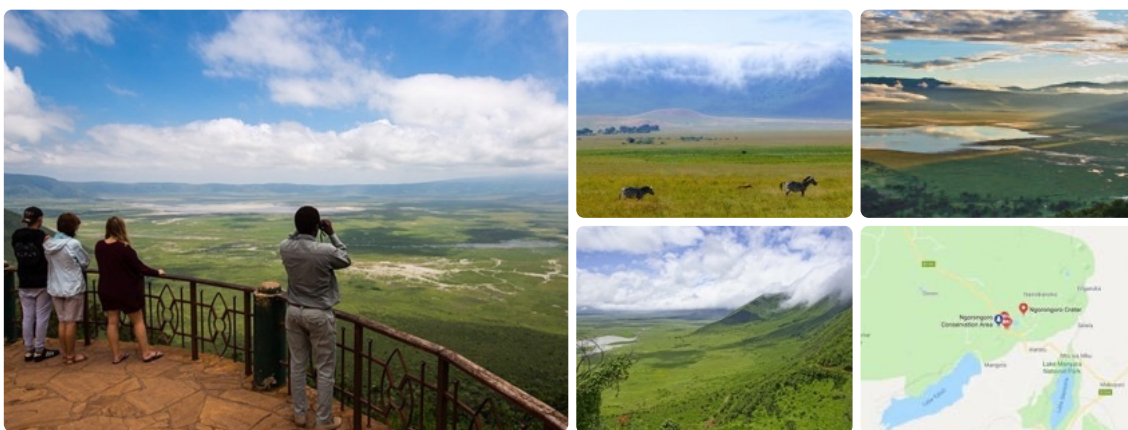
Your tour will finish in the bustling local market, where you can wander around stalls selling fruit and vegetables stalls, spices and meat. Your guide will stop and explain points of interest, and give you the opportunity to try and smell a variety of foods. A real treat for the senses!

Whenever you are ready, we will then venture off towards the crater to arrive at your next spectacular lodge in time for sundowners.



Ngorongoro Crater View

The Ngorongoro Crater is the gateway to the Serengeti and we will stop at the view point to see the entire crater some 600 metres below. It is the world's largest caldera and hosts the highest concentration of wildlife in Africa.



Craters Edge

Accommodations here is a harmonious fusion of spaciousness and opulence. Adorned with authentic African decor and modern amenities, the expansive suites provide panoramic views of the surrounding landscapes. Guests may indulge in the warmth of their in-room fireplace, allowing them to revel in the beauty of the region while cocooned in the comfortable embrace of their suite.

Being so close to the descent road, you will be able to be the first into the crater to enjoy an early morning safari as the wildlife wakes from its slumbers.



DAY 5: Ngorongoro Crater and Craters Edge Lodge



Ngorongoro Crater Tour

The Ngorongoro Crater is the world's largest intact and unfilled volcanic caldera and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area's main tourists' attraction. It is the largest and most scenic crater in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, with a large concentration of wildlife. It is also one of Africa's Seven Natural Wonders due to its breathtaking natural features. The Ngorongoro Crater is known as a home to over 25,000 animals, including the big five; elephants, buffaloes, rhinos, lions and leopards.

Other animals found in this crater include hippos, hyenas, warthogs, zebras, elands, gazelles, wildebeests, just to name a few. This makes Ngorongoro Crater probably the best site in Tanzania to spot and watch the big five as well as other wild species more easily.



Craters Edge

Inside the tent, guests will find a beautiful timber floor covered with comfortable rugs, creating a cosy and inviting atmosphere. The teak timber used externally is certified, ensuring a commitment to sustainability.

Crater's Edge is a gateway to the untamed beauty of Ngorongoro and the Serengeti beyond and the perfect place for adventure and relaxation for an unforgettable African safari.



DAY 6: Drive to Ndutu and Lemala Ndutu Camp



Ndutu, Southern Serengeti

The Ndutu plains is located in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, on the outskirts of the Southern Serengeti plains. These plains are enriched with tremendous acacia trees, providing a panoramic view across Lake Ndutu and Masek at the other end. It is one of the best places in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area to spot predators and enjoy the stunning landscapes. Standing here means you're in the midst of a calving ground for migratory wild animals, specifically the wildebeest migration. It is typically composed of vast swaths of short grassland, soda-lake Masek, marshes, and woodland vegetation that support both residents and migratory animals.



Lemala Ndutu Camp

The 12 tents of Lemala Tented Camp travel south between December and April to set up in Ndutu to catch the migration as they arrive to deliver their calves, it is in the heart of the best game viewing areas of the Southern Serengeti eco-system. The exact location varies from year to year, but we are always far enough away to remain discreet and not interrupt wildlife behaviour as the wildebeest mass across the plains. Here, in this immense remote wilderness, guests can enjoy fabulous landscapes and terrific game viewing with practically no crowds.



DAY 7: Ndotu Game Drive and Lemala Ndotu Camp



Ndotu, Southern Serengeti

While Ndotu is an excellent game viewing area throughout the year, the best time to visit the Ndotu plains is from the end of December, when the Great Migration herds begin to arrive from the north, until April, when millions of wildebeest, gazelles, and zebras begin their journey northwards again. Due to the seasonal rains, massive herds of wildebeest and zebra can be seen all over these plains at this time of year.

Thousands of calves are born within Ndotu during the calving season, making Ndotu a home for new creatures on Earth. Giraffe, impala, elephant, dik dik, lion, cheetah, leopard, hyena, bat-eared fox, genet, jackal, wildcat, and many other animals end up living in Ndotu. The plains, marshes, and lakes to woodland attract an abundance of bird species.



Lemala Ndotu Camp

Lemala Ndotu camp is a luxury mobile tented camp offering an authentic bush experience, but the tents are spacious and each is furnished with two queen-size beds and all the little luxuries that make them surprisingly comfortable. After an evening game drive, your tent attendant ensures your safari shower is filled with hot water to wash away the dust of the African savannah. Tasty meals are freshly prepared, and the camp organizes great picnic breakfasts and lunches for those who want to go on extended full-day game drives. The communal areas have separate lounge and dining areas and are beautifully decorated with leather sofas, chandeliers, side cabinets, rugs, chests and a bar. In the evening, guests can gather around the campfire to enjoy pre-dinner drinks and canapes and sharing their safari stories.



DAY 8: Drive to the Serengeti and Nanyukie Lodge



Serengeti Central Game Drive

In the morning we will head off to the legendary Serengeti and enter at Naabi Hill gate. Meaning 'endless plains' in the Maasai language, the Serengeti is undoubtedly one of the world's most celebrated wilderness areas.

The Central Serengeti also has high-density game-viewing at all times and is well-known for its large concentration of cats, so much so that until recently this area was set aside for scientific research into predators, especially cheetah.



Nanyukie Lodge

With canvas walls, cathedral-like tented ceilings and broad hardwood decks, guests at Lemala Nanyukie can expect a light contemporary décor in a palette of dazzling whites and neutral colours, with warmth introduced by textured accessories, luxurious upholstery, wooden furnishings, and well-executed lighting.

The 15 luxurious guest suites (13 standard suites + 1 x 2 bedroomed suite) are spaced well apart for maximum privacy. Nanyukie redefines luxury tented lodges and is the place to relax and enjoy the african starlit night sky.



DAY 9: Central Serengeti and Nanyukie Lodge



Serengeti Central Game Drive

Setting off in the morning, we will explore the rocky kopjes, plains and wooded areas in search of the big 5. You're sure to see most if not all, but we might stumble upon an aardvark or the elusive leopard or even a serval or caracal cat. The beauty of the Serengeti is that you never know what you will find. there is always a surprise!



Balloon Safari (Optional - \$650 extra per person)

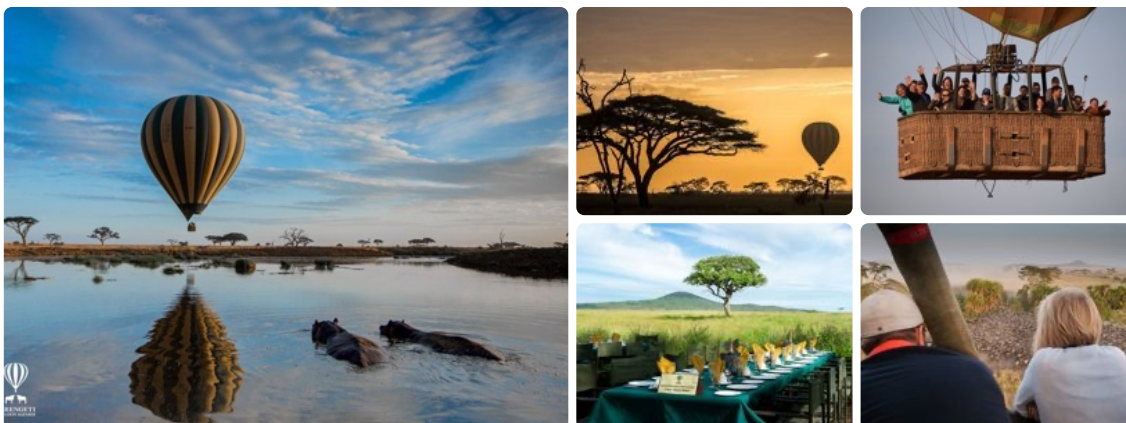
PRICE

\$650.00 USD

Flying across the Serengeti, Tarangire or any Tanzanian National Park is simply a breathtaking experience. The silence is only punctuated by the occasional blast on the burners as the skilled pilot glides you across the plains and animals scattered below, oblivious to your presence.

The day requires an early start, around 4am, when it's still dark and you will lift off around sunrise, around 6:30am. After an hour or so, it is time to descend where you will be met by the ground crew for a champagne breakfast in the bush.

Depending on your itinerary, we will advise on the best areas to enjoy a balloon safari.

**Nanyukie Lodge**

Returning to the lodge to a warm welcome, you will be able to freshen up in your luxury vaulted tent where features include an oversized bed, spacious lounge, and generous bathroom with double vanity, indoor and outdoor showers and free-standing bathtub.

The delightful wooden deck has sunken seating, outdoor shower and stunning corner plunge pool with views directly across the Serengeti's magnificent grasslands.

**DAY 10: Fly to Zanzibar and Xanadu Villas****Flight from Seronera to Zanzibar**

After a morning game drive we will catch a flight from the Seronera Airstrip to Zanzibar where a VIP SUV will be waiting for you to transfer you to Xanadu Villas.



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Xanadu Villas Zanzibar

Mawingu Villa (Swahili for clouds) is the latest in the Xanadu collection, spectacularly positioned and the largest 1 bedroom villa featuring an outside lounge area with superior ocean view and private plunge pool. It is elevated to benefit from the majestic ocean in front and has its own private beach area. The extremely ample suite, complete with hand carved dhow wooden headboard, has an extra sized bathroom. This villa offers opulence while submerging in the lush tranquility of the island beauty. This is the most perfect honeymoon villa to indulge in romantic dinners, with the stars dancing overhead while the moon plays on the horizon as it teases the evening laying out its pathway across the ocean.



DAY 11: Relax at Xanadu Villas

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Xanadu Villas Zanzibar

Xanadu follows the philosophy of clean, fresh, and healthy cuisine that incorporates the best flavours that Zanzibar has to offer. A skilled kitchen team delivers world-class du jour menus, freshly prepared, combining skills and well-established culinary practices to the freshest produce available.

The team of international and local chefs combine their skill-sets and international influences with the freshest, locally sources ingredient for a tailor-made dining experience. Our current team consists of Tanzanian, South African, and Kenyan nationals, creating a fusion of skills and flavors.



DAY 12: Optional Private Dhow Boat Trip and Xanadu Villas



Safari Blue Sea Adventure (Optional)

PRICE

\$550.00 USD

The Safari Blue Experience is an unmissable day excursion exploring the protected waters of Zanzibar. You will be transferred to the beach where the mahogany traditional Dhow boats will be waiting and fitted with snorkels, masks and flippers. Snorkelling is of course optional, but the sailing alone is a wonderful experience and complimentary drinks are onboard.

This exclusive day trip allows you private use of a crewed Dhow boat and at midday, you will land at a private beach for the most extraordinary seafood barbecue and relax on the white sands before returning to Zanzibar where you driver will be waiting to return you to the hotel.



Xanadu Villas Zanzibar

Beautify yourself at the Luxury Kiota Spa. Xanadu Villas luxury secluded spa is the place to relax, revitalize and breathe again. A way to find physical, emotional and spiritual balance via a combination of natural products and treatments. Products used by our professional therapists are from Africology or locally sourced.

Built right on the beach the spa houses a couples treatment room, changing room and facilities as well a private deck where treatments can be enjoyed in the ocean breeze.

Our clients deserve only the best. The majority of the spa products are from the world famous Africology range. These products are supplemented by organic and locally produced products, carefully sourced by the spa team.



DAY 13: Relax at Xanadu Villas



Xanadu Villas Zanzibar

Mawingu is an exceptional villa and exceeds tranquility, luxury and expectation. Nine uncompromising villas on a stretch of pristine white sandy beach. Unmatched in Zanzibar, Xanadu has been crafted holistically out of a desire to breathe.



DAY 14: Relax at Xanadu Villas



Xanadu Villas Zanzibar

Built right on the beach the spa houses a couples treatment room, changing room and facilities as well as a private deck where treatments can be enjoyed in the ocean breeze.

Our clients deserve only the best. The majority of our spa products are from the world famous Africology range. These products are supplemented by organic and locally produced products.



DAY 15: Departure Day



Transfer to Zanzibar Airport

Sadly it is time to say goodbye and we hope that although you came as strangers, you will leave as dear friends as we welcome you back again soon.

We will schedule a VIP transfer from your lodge to Zanzibar Airport for your onward journey or flight home (approx 1 hour).

Safari njema!

