

ACACIA AFRICA

HIGHLIGHTS OF TANZANIA – TOUR DOSSIER

Tour Code HOT11

DAR ES SALAAM - NAIROBI

11 DAYS

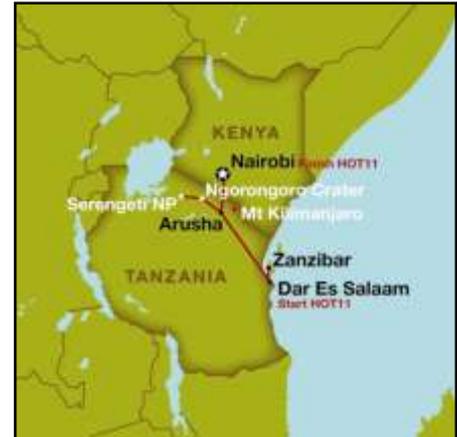
Tour Departure – **08:00**

Pre-departure Meeting – **On the ferry to Zanzibar**

HIGHLIGHTS

Zanzibar
Ngorongoro Crater Conservation Area
Olduvai Gorge
Serengeti National Park
Meserani Snake Park
Masai Village Walk
Great Rift Valley

Explore the Serengeti's game filled plains, meet colourful Maasai tribes, gaze skyward at snow-capped Kilimanjaro and dive into the spice markets and clear Indian Ocean on idyllic Zanzibar. This tour has it all! Come experience the magic of Tanzania on an adventure through this exciting corner of Africa.



INTENDED ITINERARY

It is our intention to adhere to the route described below but a certain amount of flexibility is built into the tour and on occasion it may be necessary or desirable to make alterations to the published itinerary. Please therefore treat the following as a guide only.

Duration: 11 Days
Countries visited: Tanzania, Kenya

DAY 1-3

Dar es Salaam - Zanzibar

Dar es Salaam is Tanzania's main trading port and commercial city; it is a bustling city of high rises, colourful markets and Arab influenced architecture. Dar is also our 'leaping off' point for our excursion to Zanzibar.

Evocative and exotic, Zanzibar conjures up images of idyllic, sandy, palm fringed beaches, romantic winding cobbled alleys and lush tropical forests. You will find all of these here – and an intriguing history. Zanzibar was the base for the great 19th century explorers such as John Hanning Speke, Richard Burton and David Livingstone and was once a major trading centre for spices. Indeed the spice trade is centuries old: Zanzibaris have traded with the people of the Arabian peninsula for generations, plying the ocean in simple dhow sailboats relying on the annual trade winds for passage. The Arab influence is evident in the architecture and diverse street stall offerings of the capital, Stone Town. Indeed the Arab influence can be seen right along the East African coast - the *Swahili* language itself the result of the mixing of Arab and African languages and cultures over many centuries.

Zanzibar's other history is not so romantic. The island was also a staging post for slaves brought from the African interior being held before being shipped to slave owners in the middle east. You can still see the places where these men and women were held – and even a short visit is enough to convey the appalling conditions they had to endure.

Our time on the island is not structured and your time is at leisure. Perhaps the best way to see Stone Town is on foot: explore the bazaars, shops, mosques, palaces, courtyards and alleyways of the old town. Spices are grown in plantations nearby and you can take daytours to visit some and have your senses dazzled by the tastes and scents experienced. If it's white sand, sparkling ocean and hot sun you prefer – head for the northern beaches and enjoy the Indian Ocean at its best. Try snorkelling and diving, indulge in some sumptuous seafood, or simply relax beneath a coconut palm with a cocktail and a good book.

After three nights we cross back by ferry to the African mainland and Dar es Salaam.

NB As we leave the truck on the mainland, basic tourist class accommodation on Zanzibar is included in the Local Payment but for the sake of flexibility meals are left for your own account. Typically we spend one night in Stone Town and the next two nights in the north of the island at one of the beaches. Your tour leader will be available to assist if you experience any problems but there are no set activities - the time is entirely at leisure.

DAY 4 - 5

Zanzibar – Dar es Salaam, Arusha

Returning from Zanzibar to the mainland, we join our Overland tour truck and travel inland to the great game parks of East Africa. On the way north, if the weather is clear, we gain a view of the magnificent snow-capped Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest peak at 5895m. Our next stop is Arusha, a city of some 2-3 million people situated mid way between Cape Town and Cairo and generally known as Tanzania's 'safari capital'. The city is a bustling melting pot of markets, vehicles and tribesmen, nestling in the shadow of the brooding Mt. Meru (4556m). After time to explore the markets, we head to our camp outside the city on the edge of the Masai plains at Meserani. Here there is the opportunity for camel riding or to visit one of the local Maasai villages; there is also a small but very interesting Masai museum, and you can see snakes, small and large in the snake enclosure at the Snake Park. For those who are interested there is a small school and clinic not far from the camp. Finally enjoy Tanzanian hospitality at its best in the lively bush bar. It is from here that we prepare for our two night/three day excursion to the Serengeti National Park and the Ngorongoro Crater.

DAY 6- 9

Arusha, Serengeti National Park,
Olduvai Gorge, Ngorongoro Crater

We transfer from our truck to smaller 4WD vehicles more suitable for gamepark viewing and drive across the Rift Valley to the Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti national parks. The open plains and wide horizons of the Serengeti, where thousands of hooved animals roam is perhaps one of the most evocative images of Africa. Indeed, the name itself, 'Serengeti', derives from the Masai word Siringitu - meaning 'the place where the land moves on for ever'. If you are lucky enough to travel between the months of July and September you should catch the annual migration – a magnificent sight of huge numbers of wildebeest and zebra migrating to new pastures. But at any time of year game viewing in the Serengeti is highly rewarding and camping out in the park where lion, elephant and hyena roam is an unforgettable experience.

Leaving the Serengeti plains (or sometimes on the way into the Serengeti) , we pass by the renowned Olduvai Gorge, where Drs Louis and Mary Leakey made ground breaking discoveries of early man in East Africa. Our next night is spent camping on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater. At 326 square kilometres in area, this is Africa's largest intact caldera known and has become known in particular for its concentration of animals. From the rim at 2400m, you have a sweeping view of the crater floor some 700m below. The following morning, we drive down the steep access road onto the Crater floor for a morning game driving. With luck we will see some, if not all of Africa's 'Big Five' (leopard, lion, elephant, buffalo and rhino), as well as hippo, hyena, antelope, buck and the prolific birdlife of the area.

DAY 10-11

Arusha - Nairobi

We return to Arusha for our last night on tour before making our way across the Masai steppe to the Kenyan border. Finally we drive the last leg of the journey to Kenya's burgeoning capital, Nairobi, where our tour ends.

TOUR INFORMATION

Travelling overland is great fun, but it can also be challenging! This is a *participation* tour and your help will be needed in setting up the camp each night and assisting (usually on a rota basis) with the various day to day campsite duties, such as shopping, cooking and keeping the truck and camp tidy. But don't worry it's not all hard work and it's a great way to meet the local people and get to know your fellow travellers. Your contribution benefits the success of the tour - most people find the greater their involvement, the greater their enjoyment of the whole trip.

Africa is an adventure destination and travelling here is not always predictable so be prepared to "expect the unexpected" in difficulties or delays which might come our way! However, you'll soon find that the diversity of the African landscape, the wildlife and the communities we pass on our way, make the sometimes rough travel and long driving days worthwhile.

Come with a sense of adventure and a flexible attitude and you will be sure to enjoy your Acacia overland tour across this amazing continent.

TOUR STYLE

Acacia Overland Tour.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Fully equipped safari vehicle, camping and cooking equipment including sleeping mattress, all road tolls and vehicle taxes, transport, services of driver and tour leader, meals as indicated.

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Local Payment excursions, visas, travel insurance, flights, departure taxes, airport transfers, sleeping bag, optional activities, drinks, tips, meals not mentioned in itinerary, items of a personal nature.

ACCOMMODATION

We use 2-person dome tents with fly sheets, built in ground sheets, zip-up insect screens and thick foam sleeping mattresses. We mainly use designated campsites, which usually have permanent wash and shower facilities, electricity points and sometimes even a small shop and bar/restaurant.

On Zanzibar we use basic tourist class local hotels.

NB: Meals on Zanzibar are **not included** in the tour price or Local Payment [please allow USD 10-20/day].

TRANSPORT

24-seater self contained, custom-built safari truck with onboard tables, plug sockets, freezer, library, i-pod jack, safety features and 70-litre individual lockers. For Serengeti/Ngorongoro excursion transport is by 4WD land-rover (or similar).

MEALS

Meals included are – Breakfast (B) x8, Lunch (L) x7, Dinner (D) x7

These meals are prepared in camp by the group and help preparing the meals is invited. Most dietary requirements can be catered for on the road. Please ensure you inform Acacia of any special requirements when you book or at your earliest convenience. NB: meals are not included on Zanzibar.

GAME PARK VISITS

In order to maximise the quality of game driving and to comply with local authority rulings, some of our National Park visits and game viewing is carried out using services provided by local African ground handlers. As well as enhancing our experience it also allows us to contribute at a 'grassroots' level to local economies from which local people benefit. These local services are included in the Inclusive Local Payment.

TOUR PREPARATION

BOOKING INFORMATION

When you make a confirmed booking for your tour you will be sent your booking documents and a pre-departure booklet with detailed information to help you prepare for your trip. Once you have paid in full you will receive a Travel Voucher giving details of your joining hotel. Both Dar es Salaam and Nairobi are well served by a variety of airlines. Your travel agent can advise on flights to and from the start and finish of your tour.

JOINING INFORMATION

This tour starts in Dar es Salaam. **The tour begins at 08:00 on day 1. A pre-departure meeting is held by the tour leader on the ferry to Zanzibar. The tour ends on day 11 in Nairobi (normally late afternoon).**

Meeting point in **Dar es Salaam**

Address:

Mikadi Beach

Kigamboni

Dar es Salaam

Contact details: Tel: + 255 (0)754 370 269

E-mail :

info@mikadibeach.com

Website:

www.mikadibeach.com

Pre-dep. meeting:

On the ferry to Zanzibar

Tour start time:

08:00 on day 1

Tour end point in **Nairobi**:

Address:

Boulevard Hotel

Harry Thuku Rd

PO Box 42831

Nairobi

Contact details:

Tel. +245 2 337221 / 227567/8/9

Fax +245 2 334071

E-mail:

hotel@hotelboulevardkenya.com

PRE TOUR ACCOMMODATION

This tour departs Dar es Salaam early on day 1; we strongly recommend that you plan to arrive the day before departure to overcome any jet-lag and to acclimatise to Africa. We would be happy to book pre-tour accommodation for you – please call or email us (or speak to your agent) with your arrival details and accommodation requirements.

However please book early to avoid disappointment and the risk of having to find more expensive (or less convenient) lodgings.

If time allows, you may wish to plan a night or two after your tour in Nairobi. Accommodation is usually available locally (on arrival), although may be booked in advance. Nairobi has a very interesting city market and a variety of souvenir stalls and bookshops, as well as a number of very impressive yet reasonably priced restaurants. If you wish to visit the Masai Mara or Lake Nakuru (or any other of Kenya's parks) while you are in Kenya, check our 3 and 4 day, Small Group **Safaris** in our brochure or online.

See below for a guide to extra accommodation costs. These prices are correct at time of print but are subject to change so please check with Acacia or your agent for current prices.

Description	Price (£)	Description	Price (£)
Dar es Salaam		Nairobi	
Pre tour accommodation Twin pppn	£10	Post tour accommodation – triple share pppn	£35
Pre tour accommodation Single pppn	£19	Post tour accommodation – Twin pppn	£40
		Post tour accommodation – Single pppn	£61

WHAT TO BRING

Please try to keep your luggage to a minimum, bearing in mind that most airlines impose a 20kg limit. It should be brought in a soft holdall or rucksack along with a smaller day bag. You will need to bring a mixture of lightweight clothing and warm clothing for the evenings and early morning game drives. You also need a sleeping bag (and small pillow if preferred). We recommended you pack a small torch or headlamp, mosquito spray and a money pouch/ belt that can be easily hidden. Please try to avoid bringing unnecessary valuables and use your hotel safe to store the bulk of your money, passport, and airline tickets. A full 'What to Bring' list is included in our **pre-departure booklet (online version)**, issued when you book.

VACCINATIONS/HEALTH

The table below indicates the vaccinations suggested for travel on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. You should seek professional medical advice from your GP or clinic at least six weeks prior to departure.

Please be aware that the areas visited on this tour are **malarial**. We strongly recommend your seeking professional medical advice for the appropriate anti-malarial tablets. Please also note you must be in possession of a valid **Yellow Fever** Vaccination Certificate for entry to Zanzibar.

Country	Tetanus	Diphtheria	Polio	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Typhoid	Meningitis	Rabies	Yellow Fever	Malaria
Tanzania	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R*	R
Kenya	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R*	R

C = Compulsory, R = Recommended, * = If travelling from infected countries a certificate of proof may be required.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

The table below indicates the visas required for travel to the countries on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. At least one month prior to travel seek confirmation from embassies or a visa specialist, that these requirements are still current. For UK citizens the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) offers free up-to-date travel info: www.fco.gov.uk For other nationalities a number of travel advice websites are listed on the Acacia website.

Nationality	UK	AUS	NZ	USA	CAN	BEL	IRE	NED	DEN	ITA	GER	AUT	SWE	FIN	NOR	MEX	KOR
Tanzania	Yes																
Kenya	Yes																

MONEY MATTERS

PERSONAL EXPENSES

Naturally you will require extra money for your own personal spending on the tour, for snacks, drinks, souvenirs, tips and items of a personal nature. Everybody has different spending habits but as a guideline we suggest you budget US\$15-25 per day. Also keep US\$ cash for relevant airport taxes and visas needed, optional activities and any additional accommodation before or after your tour.

- **Spending money** is best carried as cash in US dollars, Sterling or Euro which you then exchange into local currency on arrival and as you go. Your guide can advise how and when you can change the rest of your money throughout the tour.
- **Currencies** are as follows: Tanzania (including Zanzibar): Tanzania Shilling; Kenya shilling.
- **ATM machines** are found in Nairobi, Arusha, Dar es Salaam, and on Zanzibar BUT please note they are sometimes unreliable and therefore we recommend you do not rely on them. Please remember that ATMs will only dispense local currency and will not provide you with US Dollars cash (and therefore cannot be used to draw your Local Payment).!
- **Credit cards** can be used to pay for optional activities although charges may be may be high by western standards (+/- 5%).
- **Travellers cheques** can be difficult to cash but make suitable emergency funds.

We recommend you bring your spending money in several different ways (some cash, some t/cheques, some cards); your guide can best advise on what to use where.

LOCAL PAYMENT

A Local Payment (LP) is to be paid to your tour leader at the group meeting on the first evening.

The LP fund is administered by the tour leader in conjunction with the group and covers most meals, all game drives using our own vehicle, campsite fees and meals prepared at the truck (usually two or three per day). You can choose to pay either the Basic Local Payment at the beginning, and then pay for your excursions along the way, or else you may pay for everything up front in the Fully Inclusive Local Payment.

For the HIGHLIGHTS OF TANZANIA 11 DAY tour:

The Basic Local Payment is: USD 250 per person

The Inclusive Local Payment is: USD 690 per person

Payment must be made in **US\$ cash in clean, post-2005 edition notes**. Traveller's cheques and credit cards **cannot** be accepted as means of payment. The LP amounts set out in the brochure are estimates of local costs at the time of printing. It is subject to inflation, exchange rate changes and local price rises. These may vary from the amounts set out in the brochure or website and on rare occasion where there is a shortfall, passengers may be asked to contribute further.

TIPPING

This is always a matter for your own individual discretion but as in many areas where tourism is an important contributor to the economy, it has become customary to give a small gratuity to local staff, including your tour leader and driver, at the end of a tour if services rendered have been to your satisfaction.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

In order to give you maximum flexibility on tour we offer a number of optional activities on the tour. To help budget, approximate prices are listed below (in US\$ unless otherwise stated. subject to change and availability).

Activity	Price	Activity	Price
Zanzibar (Tanzania)		Tanzania	
Scuba Diving (Mnemba island)	\$150	Serengeti Balloon Ride	\$499
Snorkelling Day Trip	\$30-45	Camel Ride	\$30
Accommodation & Food (per day)	\$35	Village visit	\$25
Spice Tour	\$25		
Dolphin excursion	\$35-\$40		

INSURANCE

It is a booking condition of Acacia that you have full travel insurance valid for the duration of your tour to cover you for medical emergency and repatriation to your home country. Your guide will ask you for a copy of this when you join the tour. It is also important that you leave a copy of your insurance with the person nominated as your emergency contact. We can recommend a respected, specialist travel insurance provider for this tour. Please refer to: http://www.acacia-africa.com/travel_info/travel_documents.php for more details.

Useful Swahili Words

Hello	Jambo	Yes	Ndiyo
How's things?	Habari gani?	No	Hapana
Thank you	Asante	Bring here	Lete hapa
Mister	Bwana	To eat	Kula
Go away	Enda	Today	Leo
Slowly	Pole pole	Tomorrow	Kesho
Coffee	Kahawa	To sleep	Kulala
Tea	Chai	Goodbye	Kwaheri
Milk	Maziwa	How much?	Ngapi?
Water	Maji	Come here	Njoo hapa
Sugar	Sukari	Welcome again	Karibu tena
Food	Chakula	See you	Tutaonana
Please	Tafadali	No, thanks	Hapana santé

ACACIA ON THE ROAD



RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

We strongly believe that you get the most out of a journey by respecting the culture and people of the places you visit. On our tours we try to travel in a way that benefits the communities we pass through and minimises negative impact on the environment. This can be from ensuring the campsites we use are clean when we leave and dressing respectfully in conservative areas to getting involved with local charity projects. We ask that you are open to this when you travel with us. Being proactive in responsible travel helps develop cross-cultural understanding and friendships with the local people, and will greatly enhance your experience in Africa.

Join our facebook group www.facebook.com/AcaciaAfrica and get connected with other Acacia travelers, check out the pictures, videos and feedback from their tours and meet up with other people booked on your tour

Follow us on twitter @AcaciaAfrica and get the latest buzz. Got a question? Ask us on twitter!

Follow our blogs from the road <http://acaciaontheroad.blogspot.com/> and <http://africastuckonyou.blogspot.com/> get regular updates from our crew on the road as well as other Acacia Travellers

Don't forget to sign up to our newsletter to get regular updates and special offers www.acacia-africa.com

For information on our Premium Overlanding, Acacia Small Group Safaris, Short Safaris & Treks, Short Breaks & City Stays, Voluntours and Dive Tours please visit www.acacia-africa.com



Acacia Adventure Holidays Ltd

London

23A Craven Terrace
London
W2 3QH
Tel: +44 (0)20 7706 4700
Fax: +44 (0)20 7706 4686
Email: info@acacia-africa.com

PO Box 27632
Rhine Road
Cape Town 8005
Tel: +27 (0)21 556 1157
Fax: +27 (0)21 557 5983
Email: info@acacia-africa.com

Cape Town

