

Serengeti National Park, recognized as a World Heritage Site, is one of the most famous wildlife areas in the world and is considered the world's oldest protected eco-system. Serengeti National Park as we know it today was gazetted in 1951, but a smaller area first received protection in the years 1921-29 by the British to prevent decimation of the lion population from hunting. The park itself is 5,700 square miles, but the more extensive Serengeti eco-system is over 9,600 square miles of protected land from Ngorongoro all the way to Loliondo and Kenya (the smaller Maasai Mara) and including the Maswa Game Reserve on the southern boundary of the park. The Serengeti is the largest national park in Tanzania, with a staggering animal population of almost four million and 523 recorded species of birds!

## DAY 1 & 2: NOVEMBER 12-13, 2020

# Depart US and fly to Tanzania

Depart the U.S. and make your way to Kilimanjaro International Airport. Arrive on the 13th where you will clear customs and make your way to Arusha to overnight. Dinner will be provided at the Gran Melia Arusha Hotel.

### DAY 3: NOVEMBER 14, 2020

### Head to the Serengeti

Depart the Arusha this morning after an early breakfast and head to the domestic airport for your bush flight to the Serengeti. \*\*Bag size and weight will be limited due to the type of aircraft so further guidance will be provided on where to store your luggage in Arusha until your return.\*\* Your guides will be waiting for you at the airstrip. At this time of the year the huge wildebeest and zebra herds have reached the





central and southern Serengeti and are enjoying good grazing before the calving season starts in January.

It is the largest wildlife sanctuary in the world and the site of one of the most breathtaking events in animal kingdom-the migration of more than 1.5 million wildebeest and another 400,000 zebra. The area consists of treeless central plain, Savannah dotted with acacia and granite outcroppings called *kopjes*, and riverine bush and forest in the north. The park's name is derived from the Maasai language *siringet* which means endless plains.

After checking In at the main park gate to register, you will **game drive through the Gol Kopjes** with a special permit and arrive at **Sametu Camp** for a hot lunch. Dinner will be provided at the camp this evening after an afternoon exploring.



## DAY 4: NOVEMBER 15, 2020

### Game Drive Day 2

Enjoy a full day of game drives exploring the vast areas of the central Serengeti and attempting to follow the movement of the herds and the activity of the big cats in this area. The central Serengeti has some of the largest prides of lions, leopard and cheetah populations. All meals will be provided today.

The area of the central Serengeti is a location to be enjoyed all year round, because of the large cat populations. Cats do not migrate with the herds, so during the dry season they are actually more actively searching for dwindling food sources. The Serengeti has the largest population of lions (3,200) in all of Africa, primarily due to the abundance of food. We recommend spending time in at least two locations in the Serengeti to maximize your wildlife viewing in this huge and spectacular park.

#### DAY 5: NOVEMBER 16, 2020

#### Fly back to Arusha

After breakfast, enjoy one last game drive as you travel to the Seronera airstrip to fly back to Arusha. The short flight leaves late this morning with arrival around noon at the Arusha Domestic Airport, depending upon other possible bush stops. Your local guide in Arusha will meet/greet and transfer you to the Cultural Heritage Center for a hot buffet lunch and some opportunities for quick shopping.

Continue to the Gran Melia Arusha to relax, enjoy the property and wait for the rest of the group to arrive tonight. A dinner buffet is included tonight at the hotel.



### **PROGRAM INFO**

**Date & Length:** 4 days, November 12–16, 2020 **Extension cost:** \$2,599 per person *Single supplement:* \$599

**Inclusions:** Meals, activities and accommodations as noted, flights to and from the Serengeti (bag fees may be additional for overweight bags). All game drives with private vehicles, guide and bottled water, soft drinks and snacks, plus bottled water at Sametu Camp. Porterage is also included for baggage handling in Arusha.

**Not Included:** Alcoholic beverages at the camp and tips to your safari guide (\$60 recommended per person) and camp staff (\$40 recommended per person into tip box at camp). Beverages are extra at dinner at the Gran Melia Arusha as well.

To participate in the optional extension, complete and return the extension registration form. Return no later than 90 days prior to departure or within five days of receiving the information.





# SAMETU CAMP East Central Serengeti, Tanzania

The camp is located in the east central Serengeti and an ideal location for this time of year. The herds have just returned from the northern and western areas of the Serengeti and they are moving freely in the vast central Serengeti plains. The female wildebeest are pregnant but won't be ready to drop their calves until the middle of January. The big herds will be moving for grass and water and following rain clouds. If you enjoy stargazing it is one of the most incredibly beautiful areas to see the vastness of the night sky with civilization being so far away so there is absolutely zero light pollution to interrupt your view.



