DOROBO SAFARIS

Lewis & Clark College **Alumni and Parent Programs** Tanzania Safari January 30 – February 10, 2020

Planned Itinerary Details *Please note that this itinerary is subject to change.

Day 1:

Arrive at Kilimanjaro International Airport – Welcome to Tanzania! Our guides will meet us and transfer us to the Ngare Sero Lodge (less than one hour drive from airport). This lodge is situated amongst lush gardens, forest, and clear spring waters on the slopes of Mount Meru, the gateway to Tanzania's renowned national game parks. The Lodge has been adapted from an early colonial farmhouse built in the early 20th century and is one of the oldest family lodges in Arusha.



Day 2:

Wake up at your own pace – chance to get over the long flight – leisurely breakfast then guided nature walk in the gardens and forest. Chance to see blue monkeys, the rarer black and white colobus monkey, and an amazing array of birds.

Depart for Arusha by about 11am, and head straight to the western side of town and the Olasiti area where Dorobo Safaris (our hosts) is based. Enjoy traditional lunch prepared by one of the women's group in the village. After lunch, we'll have the option for a short walk around this rural urban area, perhaps meeting some of the homestay parents used by the L&C student groups. We will then travel to the Ilboru Safari Lodge and get settled into rooms for the night. Dinner with the founders of Dorobo Safaris, along staff, and guides.

Night 2:

Ilboru Safari Lodge <u>www.ilborusafarilodge.com</u>

Day 3:

After breakfast, we will travel south off the beaten track to the Maasai steppe and the Oldonyo Sambu community conservation area. This wilderness area, on the eastern border of the Tarangire National Park is the result of a community conservation project established in 1991 between Dorobo and the Maasai Village of Emboreet. With some luck we'll spot some special and less common species – fringe eared oryx, greater and lesser kudu, wild dog and striped hyena in addition to more common species such as impala, hartebeest, giraffe and seasonally lion, elephant, buffalo, wildebeest & zebra.

This is a great area for folks to begin to get a feel for their 'bush legs' – how to walk in the African savanna and interpret natural history on the ground. By taking walks accompanied by local Maasai guides we will also have the opportunity to get acquainted with the Maasai culture.

A climb up the Oldonyo Sambu Mountain gives great rock scrambling opportunities and a 360-degree vista of the whole Tarangire ecosystem.

Night 3:

Dorobo Tent Camp: comfortable, private camps with stand up tents, camp beds, toilet and solar shower enclosures behind the tent, and good food. A separate support crew will arrive ahead and have the camp set up for us and take care of our needs while in camp.



Day 4:

After breakfast we'll have an option of a natural history walk and climb up Oldonyo Sambu Mountain. Local Maasai will accompany the group and help as guides and interpreters sharing their local knowledge of the savanna environment. Back for a late lunch in camp. Afternoon optional short walk or drive and traditional Maasai goat roast.

Night 4: Dorobo Tent Camp

Day 5:

We'll travel into Tarangire National Park. Elephant viewing is generally unparalleled in Tarangire along with wildebeest, zebra, buffalo, impala, gazelle, and eland. We'll also be keeping an eye out for big cats – lion and cheetah. Our tented camp is superbly situated on bluffs overlooking the Tarangire river valley and a classic African savanna environment.

Night 5:

Tarangire Tented Safari Lodge <u>www.tarangiresafarilodge.com</u>

Day 6:

This will be a long but interesting travel day through the rift valley, up the escarpment, over the Mbulu plateau and into the Lake Eyasi basin to camp in the Yaeda Valley. The country is a pleasing mosaic of open valley grasslands and rocky ridges punctuated by thousands of baobab.



The Yaeda Valley is home to Hadza hunter-gatherer people, one of the last remaining hunter-gatherer societies on the planet. Gain intimate insights to a vanishing way of life by accompanying the Hadza on natural history walks and visits to their camps. This is a very special experience. The Hadza are fun people and their bush skills are amazing.

Note that this opportunity has been carefully designed in close consultation with the Hadza community – it is structured but not staged. Very few tourists get such a chance to interact in such a genuine manner. Visitor bed fees go into community accounts the use of which is determined by the community.

Night 6: Dorobo Tent Camp

Day 7:

Hadza community activities; Yaeda Valley – mostly on foot and in camp.



Night 7: Dorobo Tent Camp

Day 8:

We'll travel to the outer base of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

Climbing from the Yaeda Valley along the flanks of Ngorongoro Crater we will ascend through different ecological zones that highlight how water and elevation influence biodiversity.

Night 8:

Country Lodge in Karatu. www.countrylodgekaratu.com

Day 9:

Early departure for wildlife viewing in Ngorongoro crater, a self-contained ecosystem teeming with wildlife. Created from the collapse of a massive volcano over two million years ago, the 12-mile wide crater shelters an amazing mass of incredible wildlife in diverse habitats: savannas, forests, marshlands, salt pans, and a freshwater lake. With bountiful grass and a permanent water supply, the crater floor supports herds of grazing animals that, in turn, attract lion, leopard, and cheetah. The crater is one of few places one has a good chance to see black rhino in Tanzania. Picnic lunch in the crater. Late afternoon, ascend to the rim of the crater to the Rhino Lodge situated in the highland forests.



Night 9: Rhino Lodge: <u>www.ngorongoro.cc</u>

Day 10:

We'll travel into the Serengeti ecosystem – this time of year, the place to be is the short grass plains in the south of the system. As we move west into new habitats expect to increase your bird list and see more of the region's iconic wildlife.

Night 10: Flycatcher Lagarja Tented camp in the Lake Ndutu area. http://www.flycat.com/camps/serengeti.html

Day 11:

A full day for wildlife viewing in the short grass plains area – in February the spectacle of the migration will be concentrated in the short grass plains of the southern Serengeti.

Night 11: Flycatcher Lagarja Tented camp in the Lake Ndutu area. http://www.flycat.com/camps/serengeti.html

Day 12:

We'll have the option for an early morning drive before traveling to the Ndutu airstrip – to catch a scheduled flight to Arusha departing at 10 am. Arrive in Arusha at noon and have time for lunch and shopping before heading to Rivertrees Country Inn <u>www.rivertrees.com</u> for dayrooms, packing and clean up. We'll have a late afternoon/early evening transfer to Kilimanjaro International Airport for international flights.



Included in Trip Price:

- All meals from the time you arrive in Tanzania until the completion of the trip
- Snacks each day
- All lodging from the time you arrive in Tanzania until the completion of the trip
- Knowledgeable guides and drivers
- Temporary Medical Emergency Insurance membership (provides flight from nearest airstrip to nearest health care facility, as needed)
- Domestic flight from the Serengeti to Arusha on Day 12
- Dorobo camps include: tents, cots, mattresses, bedding, and towels; water, soft drinks, juices, wine, beer; soap will be provided, but not shampoo.
- All National Park and community fees
- Accommodations as follows:
 - <u>Ngare Sero Mountain Lodge</u> (one night)
 - o Ilboru Safari Lodge (one night)
 - Doboro Tent Camps (four nights total)
 - o <u>Tarangire Safari Lodge</u> (one night)
 - o Country Lodge In Karatu (one night)
 - Rhino Lodge Ngorongoro Crater (one night)
 - Flycatcher Lagarja Tented camp (two nights)

Not Included in Trip Price:

- International Airfare
- Travel insurance (highly recommended)
- Medical Insurance
- Visas
- Accommodations outside of normal arrival/departure days
- Drinks, including bottled water at our permanent lodge/tented camp accommodations
- Personal Extras: laundry, extra snacks, telephone at our permanent lodge/tented camp accommodations
- Optional excursions, activities, or pre and post-trips not mentioned above
- Any service not specifically listed under 'included'
- Gratuities for camp staff, guides and drivers
- All personal purchases