



WWF EXPEDITIONS



Cutting Edge Wildlife Conservation: A Great Migration Safari to Kenya with Bas Huijbregts

August 23–September 1, 2018

Kenya has long captured the imagination of adventurers and romantics. From the soda lakes of the Great Rift Valley to the fabled plains of the Maasai Mara, Kenya is abundant with iconic wildlife. In fact, it hosts the planet's most dramatic wildlife event: the Great Migration, when enormous herds of wildebeest, and zebra make a great circuit across the Serengeti Plains following the new grass that sprouts with the seasonal rains.

WWF began working in Kenya in 1973 when 37,000 acres adjacent to Lake Nakuru were purchased to expand the park into an ecologically sustainable size and establish a sanctuary for the black rhino. Decades later, Lake Nakuru National Park is the site of some of our cutting-edge wildlife technology work, as we test new strategies—including thermal imaging cameras—to stop poachers in their tracks.

Join WWF's Bas Huijbregts for an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to explore firsthand how WWF and our partners on the ground in Kenya are working together—and creating innovative new Approaches—to protect the country's iconic wildlife and their habitat.

Itinerary at a Glance



Day	Date	Location	Accommodation
1	Aug. 23	Arrive Nairobi, Kenya	House of Waine
2 - 3	Aug. 24 – 25	Lake Nakuru National Park	Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge
4 - 6	Aug. 26 – 28	Maasai Mara	Nat Hab's Migration Base Camp
7 - 9	Aug. 29 – 31	Mara Naboisho Conservancy	Naboisho Camp
10	Sep. 1	Depart Nairobi	

Itinerary in Detail

DAY 1, August 23: NAIROBI, KENYA

Our Kenya safari tour begins in Nairobi, where we transfer to the House of Waine, located in the quiet residential suburb of Karen on the outskirts of Nairobi. Originally built as a lavish private estate, today the stately home and gardens are one of Nairobi's most elegant boutique hotels. Guests enjoy an authentic experience of personalized African hospitality and traditional Kenyan charm. This evening we enjoy a welcome dinner with our WWF host and safari Expedition Leader.

Overnight House of Waine

(D)

DAYS 2 - 3, August 24 - 25: LAKE NAKURU NATIONAL PARK

Today we begin our adventure with a three-hour drive north, from Nairobi to the wildlife haven of Lake Nakuru, traversing countryside and natural areas along the way for a glimpse of traditional life as we segue from urban to more rural areas of Kenya. An important sanctuary for black and white rhinos, as well as the Rothschild giraffe, the area is also home to tree-climbing lions, a behavior only found in certain prides in the region. Lake Nakuru attracts more than 400 different bird species, including the great white pelican, African spoonbill, yellow-billed stork, lesser and greater flamingo, and long-crested eagle. During our time in the national park, we will talk about some of the cutting-edge technologies WWF and partners are creating to fight wildlife crime. This discussion will come to life during a visit to the park's central command station, where you will get an on-the-ground demonstration of new static thermal imaging cameras used to catch poachers.

Overnights Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge

(B,L,D)

DAYS 4 - 6, August 26 - 28: MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE, NAT HAB'S MIGRATION BASE CAMP, MAASAI MARA

We transfer today to the local airstrip before boarding a private charter flight to the legendary Maasai Mara National Reserve. The Mara is the northern-most section of the Serengeti eco-system, and we find excellent wildlife viewing in these grassland areas. The reserve is named for the Maasai tribespeople, the traditional inhabitants of the area who still graze cattle here, and the Mara River that runs through it.

We stay at Natural Habitat's Migration Base Camp-Maasai Mara, our luxury mobile camp that allows access to the Mara River where wildebeest cross during the migration. Our deluxe canvas tents are situated in a private and secluded spot, with ample trees providing shade from the midday heat. Located in a wildlife hotspot, the site also provides easy access to the rest of the reserve, including the main river systems. Wildlife drives take us among myriad plains animals—not only the thundering herds of thousands of wildebeest and their zebra companions, but also gazelle, impala, hartebeest, topi, and giraffe. Predators follow in close pursuit, and the Mara is especially famed for its lions, which we may see hunting in the early morning or evening, or resting beneath acacia trees in the heat of the day. Hyenas also patrol the plains in some of the largest numbers in Africa. Optional hot air balloon safaris followed by a champagne breakfast on landing are also available (additional cost) during our stay at Migration Base Camp.

Throughout, we will discuss the conservation measures that are necessary to ensure these natural wonders persist for generations to come. This will include a day spent in the wildlife-abundant Mara Triangle where WWF experts and park authorities will demonstrate mobile thermal imaging cameras, and a discussion about why the landscape influences how we deploy this innovative anti-poaching technology.

Overnights Nat Hab's Migration Base Camp, Maasai Mara

(B,L,D)

DAYS 7 - 9, August 29 - 31: PRIVATE MAASAI MARA—MARA NABOISHO CONSERVANCY

Today we safari drive en route to our next destination, keeping an eye out for wildlife along the way as we traverse prime habitat and enter the Naboisho Conservancy. Secluded within the private 50,000-acre Mara Naboisho Conservancy, this intimate tented camp is surrounded by all the natural wonders of the Maasai Mara ecosystem, without the crowds. The conservancy, established in 2011, is already making a name for itself as a place to experience the Mara's spectacular wildlife in peaceful seclusion, and Naboisho is one of just a handful of camps located within its bounds. Strict limits on guest numbers means unprecedented—and intimate—wildlife viewing, especially of the wildebeest migration that occurs in close proximity. The conservancy serves as a migration corridor for several hundred thousand animals between the Maasai Mara National Reserve and the Loita Plains to the east.

A multitude of species flourish here, and Naboisho actually has a higher density of wildlife than the adjacent Maasai Mara National Reserve. Great herds of antelope dot the grassy, rolling plains while stands of acacia woodland hide prolific birdlife. Rich volcanic soils nurture a verdant landscape where we find more lion per square mile than anywhere else in Kenya—some 100 lions live on the conservancy, including the largest pride in the Greater Mara region. Impressive herds of elephant, giraffe, and zebra are at home here. Our activities make the most of our unrivaled access to pristine wilderness. In addition to daily wildlife drives, we enjoy guided bush walks, wilderness picnics, off-road safaris and night drives in search of nocturnal wildlife—pursuits not permitted in the national reserve.

Overnights Naboisho Camp

(B,L,D)

DAY 10, September 1: NAIROBI / HOME

Fly back to Nairobi today for the close of our Kenya safari, where day rooms await for relaxing prior to a group farewell meal and standard evening departures for international destinations.

Dayroom Ole Sereni Hotel

(B,L)

Meet Our Expert

Bas Huijbregts, WWF African Species Manager, Wildlife Conservation Program



A nature loving adventurer, Bas Huijbregts has two decades of intimate experience with Africa's charismatic wildlife, including sitting in the pouring rain next to a silverback gorilla and narrowly escaping charging elephants.

Bas' career with WWF began in 1997 with his dream job: Conducting the wildlife surveys that would lead to the creation of Minkebe National Park in Gabon, home to the world's densest population of forest elephants. After nearly twenty years spent in the Congo Basin, in 2014 Bas moved to the US where he now serves as WWF's African Species Manager.

What to Expect

A safari vehicle frequently offers a bumpy ride. Wildlife drives often involve long hours of sitting and sometimes bouncing around. While we don't consider this strenuous, it can be uncomfortable and may pose a particular type of physical demand on the body. All travelers must be able to climb into and out of raised 4x4 safari trucks. Travelers must also be able to walk to and from the vehicle to our camp accommodations, sometimes walking over uneven ground or on boardwalks. Additionally, while any short walks are considered optional, you will get the most out of your safari experience if you can walk a mile or two over uneven ground without assistance. Days spent on safari can be long, as mornings typically start before daybreak and evening meals are served after sundown. Safari accommodations and vehicles are not climate controlled and, depending on the seasonality, temperatures can range from quite cold to extremely hot so it is critical that travelers come prepared. We recommend that all travelers have an adventurous spirit.

About WWF Expeditions

WWF Expeditions is an invitation-only conservation travel program for our closest supporters, along with friends and family, to see firsthand the positive impact World Wildlife Fund is making.

These custom-designed journeys are led by WWF experts and offer exclusive opportunities to discover the wildlife and ecosystems we protect; meet community members whose lives are being improved because of our work; and immerse yourself in the worlds of our field staff and partners on the ground. Come explore the best of the natural world and see how together we are making a difference for our planet.

Accommodations

THE HOUSE OF WAINE



The House of Waine, located in the quiet residential suburb of Karen on the outskirts of Nairobi, offers an appealing alternative to standardized city hotels. Set on 2.5 beautifully manicured acres, it was originally built as a lavish private estate. Later acquired by a local family, the elegant property was carefully refurbished, resulting in the distinctive boutique hotel that exists today. The stately home offers guests an authentic experience of personalized African hospitality with uniquely designed rooms, modern amenities and traditional Kenyan charm.

NAKURU SOPA LODGE



Located on the western limits of Africa's Great Rift Valley, Nakuru Sopa Lodge is an excellent base for exploring this unique woodland littoral ecosystem. From the big five to stunning birdlife, Nakuru is a dream for wildlife watchers on all interests. The lodge features spacious rooms, each with en-suite bathrooms and private balconies. Whether you're waking early for a morning game drive or simply relaxing in the lounge after an exciting day on safari, you're in the perfect location of Lake Nakuru National Park.

NAT HAB'S MIGRATION BASE CAMP, MAASAI MARA



Natural Habitat's Migration Base Camp in the Maasai Mara is one of the most refined way to experience the African wilderness. Our remote setting means we are far from tourist crowds, and we follow animals on our wildlife drives, not other Land Rovers. The camp is placed in the best wildlife-viewing areas, where seclusion amid raw nature prevails. Inside the deluxe tents, however, you'll find full beds with quality bedding and attached en suite bathrooms—surprising comfort and privacy—and your own veranda with director's chairs out front, shaded beneath a canvas awning. Kerosene lanterns lend an atmospheric glow at night. Evenings in camp are magical, with dinner served on a white tablecloth under the stars, and nightcaps around a roaring fire. If you want a safari straight 'Out of Africa,' you'll find it at the Migration Base Camp in the Mara.

NABOISHO CAMP



Secluded within the private 50,000-acre Mara Naboisho Conservancy, this intimate tented camp is surrounded by all the natural wonders of the Maasai Mara ecosystem without the crowds. The conservancy, established in 2011, is already making a name for itself as a place to experience the Mara's spectacular wildlife in peaceful seclusion, and Naboisho is one of just a handful of camps located within its bounds. As a permanent camp, Naboisho allows for a coveted level of luxury in the wilderness. Its eight luxurious tented suites are set well apart from one another to ensure privacy. All have king-size beds, with large screened windows opening onto the sights and sounds of the Kenyan wilderness. En suite bathrooms have flush toilets and both indoor and outdoor bush showers. Each tent also has a private veranda with day bed for relaxing after game drives, and is attended by a personal butler.

About Our Travel Partner



Discovering Our Planet Together

This journey is being arranged by Natural Habitat Adventures of Boulder, Colorado. For more than a decade, WWF has partnered with Nat Hab to take travelers to view nature's greatest sights. WWF selected Natural Habitat as its partner because of its long-standing commitment to conservation and the exceptional quality of its adventures.

Expedition Information

Dates: August 23–September 1, 2018

Land cost: \$14,420 per person, double occupancy with 5–8 guests
 \$13,240 per person, double occupancy with 9–11 guests
Internal air cost: \$845
Single supplement: \$1,550

GROUP SIZE: Limited to 11 guests.

INCLUDED: Scheduled round-trip light aircraft flight between Nairobi and the Maasai Mara, accommodations, meals from dinner on Day 1 to lunch on final day, non-alcoholic drinks at camps, with meals, and in vehicles, house alcoholic drinks in camps, services of NHA Expedition Leader, local guides and lodge staff, some gratuities, airport transfers on Day 1 and final day, permits and entrance fees, and all taxes.

NOT INCLUDED: Travel to and from start and end point of trip, premium alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees, optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, souvenirs, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes, optional travel insurance, and required medical evacuation insurance.

PAYMENTS: A nonrefundable deposit of \$500 confirms your space. Payments are accepted by credit card or by check made out to Natural Habitat.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: Cancellations must be received in writing at NHA by U.S. mail, email or fax. At the time WWF receives your written cancellation, the following per person penalties apply: 91 days or more before departure: lose deposit. 90 to 45 days before departure: Forfeit 50% of tour cost. 44 days or fewer before departure: No refund.

INSURANCE: Since the areas we travel to on this trip are remote and wild (that's why we go there!), we require medical evacuation insurance for our guests' safety. If you decline the medical evacuation

insurance coverage offered by Natural Habitat, we request that you send us documentation of the independent coverage you have selected. We will add the cost of a medical evacuation policy to your tour invoice until you provide our office with proof of coverage including your insurance company's name, contact number and your individual policy number. Thank you for understanding that our policy exists exclusively in the interest of our guests' safety.

GETTING THERE & GETTING HOME:

Arrival: Please arrive in Nairobi, Kenya, no later than 5 pm on Day 1 in order to attend a welcome/ orientation dinner at 7 pm. Departure: You are free to depart from Nairobi, Kenya after 6 pm on Day 10.

We highly recommend that Natural Habitat Adventures' air department staff make your reservations, as they are intimately familiar with the special requirements of this program. They can also make any necessary extra night hotel arrangements for you.