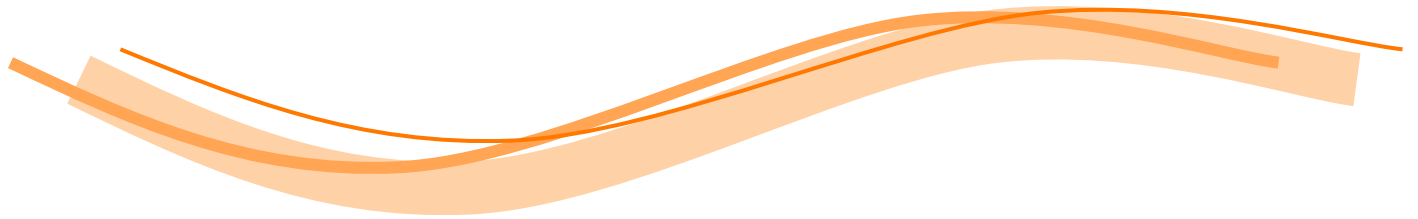




# TANZANIA & SERENGETI SAFARI CO





<b>TANZANIA</b>	
<b>Location</b>	Tanzania is located in East Africa between longitudes 29 degrees and 41 degrees east and latitudes 1 degree and 12 degrees south. Tanzania borders Kenya to the north, Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo to the west, and Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique to the south, and it is the largest country in East Africa (943,000 sq km), comprising of both the mainland and the Zanzibar Archipelago.
<b>Geography</b>	A large central plateau makes up most of the mainland (at between 900m and 1800m) and the mountain ranges of the Eastern Arc and the Southern and Northern Highlands cut across the country to form part of the Great Rift Valley. A land of geographical extremes, Tanzania has the highest peak – Mount Kilimanjaro, the lowest point – the lake bed of Lake Tanganyika, and the largest lake – Lake Victoria, on the continent.
<b>Name</b>	The name comes from a contraction of the two countries that united to form Tanzania: Tanganyika and Zanzibar.
<b>Population</b>	The current population is around 45 million
<b>Language</b>	Over 100 different languages are spoken in Tanzania, making it the most linguistically diverse country in East Africa. Among the languages spoken in Tanzania are members of all four of Africa's language families (Bantu, Cushitic, Nilotic, and Khoisan). Swahili and English are the Tanzania's official languages.
<b>Currency</b>	Tanzania Shillings; however you are advised to carry American Dollars. Money changers do accept major convertible currencies including the Canadian Dollar. Travellers Cheques may be acceptable in some places, but not in the remote countryside, major credit cards may also be acceptable in some large Hotels, however it is advisable to carry cash US Dollars, which you will change on arrival. Currently (July 2014), 1 Canadian dollar buys 1,550 Tanzanian Shillings
<b>Tiping</b>	Wages in Tanzania are generally low, so tipping for good service will be much appreciated. In general, you should leave a 10% to 15% tip at restaurants and bars, even if the service charge is already included. If you're staying at an upmarket hotel or lodge, tip a few dollars to the luggage porter and chambermaid.
<b>Government</b>	Tanzania is a multiparty democratic republic.
<b>Documentation</b>	Visas are required to enter Tanzania and other East African Countries. They can either be obtained in advance through the various Embassies and High Commissions abroad, Consulates or at the airports or other ports/borders of entry. The process is fast and easy and all one requires to have is a valid passport (at least six months).
<b>Time zone</b>	8 hours ahead of EST
<b>Health</b>	Vaccination requirements change from time to time. You consult your

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	<p>local doctor or health department for information on the latest health precautions. Currently, shots against yellow fever and cholera are recommended but not mandatory. As a precaution anti-malarial drugs should be taken before, during and after your visit to East Africa. Also, if you are on prescription medication, ensure you have an adequate supply to last the duration of your stay and a copy of your prescription.</p>
<b>Safety tips</b>	<p>In countries with rampant poverty and police departments that are often seen to be ineffective, crime can be a problem. However, much of the crime around Tanzania is not directed at tourists and is in areas most tourists wouldn't visit or are in transit through (Dar es Salaam and Arusha). The biggest threat to visitors is petty theft. It is safer not to carry valuables - store them in your hotel room safe - and try to limit the amount of cash and valuables that you carry with you. Make every effort not to flaunt items such as cameras and mobile phones.</p>

<b>CLIMATE</b>	
<b>General climate</b>	<p>Tanzania has a tropical climate along the coast but it gets temperate in the highlands.          April &amp; Mid – May = Long rains (Green Season)          June – Sept = Cool season          Nov – Dec = Short Rains          October – March = Hottest season          The range of Temperatures in Tanzania is fairly limited and always hot, running from 25 to 30 degrees C on the coast while the rest of the country apart from the highlands run from 22 to 27 degrees C.</p>
<b>Today's weather</b>	<p>Arusha is 25C and sunny today (July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014).</p>
<b>Best time to visit</b>	<p>Tanzania is a great destination year-round.  <b>December - March</b> is the short rains season. This means the odd thunder shower in the afternoon, which is helpful because it keeps the dust down. Safaris generally visit the Southern short-grass plains of the Serengeti &amp; Ngorongoro, where the wildebeest &amp; zebra migration is arriving, congregating and giving birth to thousands of calves in February / March. This is a great time to travel because of the great wildlife viewing.  <b>April - June</b> is the long rains season, which means a daily afternoon tropical downpour. While the thundershowers can be spectacular, sometimes turning a dry area into nearly flooded within no time at all, this is considered low season, so rates are less expensive, and things aren't as crowded. The wildlife viewing is still outstanding, and safari routes are adjusted to follow the wildebeest migration. Also, some parks (ie. Ngorongoro Crater) are good year-round for wildlife viewing. (Dec/Jan and Jul/Aug can be busy with other tourists there)  <b>July - November</b> is the dry season. The sky is usually blue and this is when the wildebeest migration moves north to mate. Many people travel</p>

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	during August if they want to see the hundreds of thousands of wildebeest try to cross the Mara river, while all around are crocodiles waiting to attack.
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<b>GETTING AROUND</b>	
<b>Getting There</b>	<p>There are three International Airports, Dar-es-Salaam, now known as Julius Nyerere International Airport – JKIA and Kilimanjaro International Airport – KIA and Zanzibar International Airport.</p> <p>To begin safaris in Northern Tanzania, most visitors are advised to book with Airlines whose Arrivals &amp; Departures are at KIA which is 45 minutes’ drive from Arusha town.</p> <p>Travellers to the Serengeti can now also reach their destination by flying directly to and from the Serengeti to Nairobi. Coastal Aviation departs Nairobi at 0730 hours on time to collect guests arriving from Canada or already in Nairobi, will stop in Tarime where guests will go through customs and fly into the Serengeti. So within 1.5 hours, the aircraft will reach the first airstrip and travellers will be ready to start their safari. A Northbound flight picks up passengers from any airstrip in Serengeti, flies to Tarime where they go through customs, and continues on reaching Nairobi at about 1715 hours, on time to connect to all major international flight to Europe and Canada.</p>
<b>Cities</b>	Dodoma, with a population of around 325,000, is the official capital while Dar-es-Salaam, with a population of nearly 4 million, serves as the administrative capital of the country.
<b>Distances</b>	The driving distance from Arusha to Dar es Salaam is 640 kms or about 8 hours driving.
<b>Ferries</b>	<p>The MV Liemba, formerly the Graf Goetzen, is a passenger and cargo ferry that runs along the eastern shore of Lake Tanganyika. The Marine Services Company Limited of Tanzania sails her, with numerous stops to pick up and set down passengers, between the ports of Kigoma, Tanzania, and Mpulungu, Zambia. This was the ship that inspired “The African Queen”.</p> <p>Liemba runs once every two weeks in each direction, running from Kigoma to Mpulungu Wednesday to Friday, and back again from Friday to Sunday. Accommodation ranges from 1st class (luxury cabin) to 3rd class (seating only). There are docks at Kigoma, Mpulungu and Kasanga but at all other stops passengers must travel between ship and shore by way of a smaller boat. Notable stops along the route include: Lagosa (for Mahale Mountains National Park), Karema (for Mpanda) and Kipili or Kasanga (for Sumbawanga).</p>
<b>Trains</b>	There are two railways that cross Tanzania and offer three to four services per week. Clean bedding is provided for cars with sleeping berths, and there are dining cars. However, the rolling stock is very old and dirty, and the trains get very crowded with not only people, but

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	<p>sacks of vegetables and livestock. Thefts are common (stewards even hand you a piece of wood to jam your window so it can't be opened from outside during night stops), and it takes an inordinate amount of time to get around. Travelling by bus is generally safer, quicker, and cheaper. If you insist on traveling by rail, you should opt for first class, always lock your door, and never leave your possessions unguarded.</p> <p>Tanzania Railway Corporation's Central Line ( <a href="http://www.trctz.com">www.trctz.com</a> ) runs from Dar es Salaam across the middle of the country to Tabora, where it splits into two lines that end in Kigoma on Lake Tanganyika and Mwanza on Lake Victoria. It takes 36 hours to get from Dar es Salaam to Kigoma.</p>
<p><b>Car Rental</b></p>	<p>If you're confident that you can hold your own on Tanzanian roads, you can either book a car at your country of origin from one of the large agencies or contact them once you arrive. Avis ( <a href="http://www.avis.com">www.avis.com</a> ), Budget ( <a href="http://www.budget.com">www.budget.com</a> ), and Hertz ( <a href="http://www.hertz.com">www.hertz.com</a> ) have several offices in Dar es Salaam and Arusha.</p> <p>To hire a car, you must be over 23, and while you don't necessarily need an international driver's license, your license must be in English. Driving is on the left, though on badly potholed roads it is customary to drive all over the road to avoid them!</p>
<p><b>Buses</b></p>	<p>If you're on a budget, buses are the best and cheapest way to travel. Large buses and dala-dala criss-cross the country and link the major towns, and longer routes link Dar es Salaam with Nairobi and Mombasa in Kenya. Some of the vehicles are quite old, can be driven rather recklessly, and can be overcrowded. The most reasonably efficient and comfortable buses are operated by Scandinavian Express ( <a href="http://www.scandinaviagroup.com">www.scandinaviagroup.com</a> ). They have modern ticket offices in each of the towns and cities, you can choose your seat onscreen, buses are speed governed, most have air-conditioning, and complimentary drinks and biscuits/cookies are offered onboard. Another reputable bus company is Royal Coach, which runs a dedicated route between Dar es Salaam and Arusha.</p>
<p><b>Tour Operators</b></p>	<p>Pick a professional tour company to organize everything for you. There are a number of such companies in Canada:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Serengeti Safari Co (see special feature at the end of these notes); -</li> <li>Kensington Tour's Kenya Family Discovery (8 Days from \$3,384 per person) <a href="http://www.kensingtontours.com/tours/family">www.kensingtontours.com/tours/family</a> ;</li> <li>- Big Five Tours and Expedition's 9 day Kenya Safari suitable for families from \$9,400 <a href="http://www.bigfive.com">www.bigfive.com</a> ;</li> <li>- Territory Ahead is a small and very personalized operator who can tailor-make Family Safaris in Kenya <a href="http://www.territory-ahead.com/tours/family-safari">www.territory-ahead.com/tours/family-safari</a> ;</li> <li>- Goway's Adventures in Nature (7 days in South Africa offering kids programs that incorporate a junior ranger workshop) <a href="http://www.goway.com">www.goway.com</a> ;</li> </ul>

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	<p>- Tauck Bridges' Tanzania: A Grand Family Safari (11 days from \$6368) <a href="http://www.tauck.com">www.tauck.com</a> ;</p> <p>- also try Transat Discoveries, My Escapades, Globus, Collette Vacations, Indus Travel and BestWay Tours.</p>
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<p><b>ACCOMMODATION TYPES</b></p>	<p>Accommodations vary greatly while on safari and in Tanzania. Most accommodations are smaller lodges and camps and they vary in services and cost. Look for something that is comfortable, clean and interesting.</p> <p>One of the most interesting and fun types of accommodation are the Wayo Green Camps. These are intimate and funky camps in which you can stay while on safari. They're located directly in parks such as Lake Manyara and the Serengeti. While they are tents, they include proper beds with proper linens, and the bathroom is attached (not a flush toilet), so you don't have to leave your tent at night. These camps allow you to continue the safari experience at night; to hear the sounds of nature, eat outdoors, enjoy a glass of wine by the fire, delicious meals, and more. They are mobile to keep you close to the animals and the migration.</p> <p>Lodges are usually smaller and more intimate than big hotel chains. The biggest difference for many people is that these have flush toilets and are in one permanent location.</p>
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<p><b>LIFESTYLES</b></p> <p><b>Families</b></p>	<p>There is nothing – and I mean nothing – that can compare with the thrill of being on safari and seeing one of the Big Predators...through the eyes of your child. The moment lasts forever in both your minds. My son was three years old and we were in a safari jeep in Kruger National Park in South Africa. It was a few minutes after dawn and Wolfgang, our affable guide, had been tasked by Pip, the aforementioned three year old, to “Find lion, Wolfgang...pleeeeze!”. Suddenly, the lion found us. And the look in Pip's eyes as the lioness and her three cubs padded right by our vehicle was worth all the time, money and planning it had taken to make this heart-stopping moment possible.</p> <p>We had taken both our sons on safari in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Kenya before they were ten. That has led to further wilderness trips to the Arctic to see polar bears and to Tasmania to see Tasmanian devils (yes, they really do exist!) and an enduring interest in - and respect for - the natural world on both their parts. But it wasn't achieved without some serious planning and forethought. Here are my tips and thoughts about sharing the adventure of a lifetime with your children on safari.</p>
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First of all **there is no minimum age** for this kind of vacation. None. You need to judge your own kids –and that is more about attitude than age. For some that will be three, for others ten. You will also need to research age limitations at the lodges you plan to visit. Just like Florida’s theme parks with their height restrictions on rides, some lodges impose minimum age requirements for participating on the game drives.

It should also probably **not be your first long haul trip** with the children. Pip had been on an around-the-world trip before venturing onto the African savanna. It helps to accustom them to the experience of intercontinental flying because New York to South Africa, for instance, is more than 15 hours non-stop.

Next – **pick your country** according to your particular requirements. You may want to choose destinations that are malaria free - for instance much of South Africa and Namibia - to avoid tablets. And the fewer vaccinations the better.....so consult with your doctor or a Travel Clinic before you decide.

The **right safari vacation company** makes all the difference. Some feature special departures for families. Others have itineraries designed around family friendly lodges with some child care options – but don’t expect kids’ clubs in safari lodges. Child care will mean that the adults have the option to take some more adventurous activities while the kids are happy and looked after. And as you will otherwise be “on duty” with the kids 24/7 on a safari holiday this may be a welcome break. Another real plus when you select a game lodge is a pool for the kids to play in during the middle part of the day when even the animals seek the shade. Last but not least – think about a twin centre vacation that combines safari with a stay at the beach. For instance a Kenya safari with a stay on the Indian Ocean near Mombasa or even the idyllic Seychelles Islands.

**Involve the children** in the early stages of planning so that they know what to expect and become excited about their big trip. Films such as “Born Free” can capture young imaginations as can wildlife programs and many great books. For younger kids your child’s teacher may well be excited for them to do a special “show and tell”. Older kids might enjoy setting up a scrapbook or Pinterest site of what they are hoping to see on their Safari. Pick out or buy special clothing. Long sleeves and long pants are practical – plus a special hat for your little adventurer. You don’t want your kid plugged into their iPod on safari – so make sure they have technology focused on photos or video that is exclusively theirs. Binoculars are fun too.

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	<p>The kids are excited. You are excited. You are on your way! Plan tons of entertainment for the long flights and a couple of days R&amp;R before you start your Safari in earnest. This is an opportunity to accustom your children to what they are about to experience. For instance, if your vacation starts in Kenya you will be arriving in Nairobi. Spend time at the Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage where elephant calves orphaned by poaching are rehabilitated so they can be reintroduced to the wild. Also the Giraffe Centre in Langata just outside Nairobi operates a conservation and education program for the endangered Rothschild giraffe. Here you can stay at the Giraffe Manor and the children can hand feed giraffes. Also just outside Nairobi is the pocket-sized Nairobi National Park. There are no big predators here, so this is a safe and gentle way of introducing the children to spotting wildlife in its natural environment.</p> <p>When it comes to the real thing you may want to consider a private group for maximum flexibility and enjoyment for all concerned. You don't want to have to worry about your kid's loud excitement disturbing the enjoyment of fellow passengers. Importantly it also allows you the flexibility to tailor your game viewing activity to your children's tolerance and interests and you have the control to call it a day. Nevertheless you will have plan for pre-dawn or twilight outings as this is when the game animals are active and most easily viewed. So early to bed and early to rise – and if you are complaining, then so will they...so make an adventure of it! Provide your kids with a bird and animal checklist – most kids love to collect sightings. Don't be surprised if their sharp eyes are the first to spot the cheetah in the long grass or the leopard draped over a high up branch in an Acacia tree.</p> <p>Lastly – one of the delights of your trip will be the warm welcome your children receive wherever they go. Everyone in Africa loves children – and everyone from the maids to the game wardens will befriend them and have endless patience. Wolfgang got as much of a thrill from finding Pip a lion as we did in watching those young eyes widen in amazement.</p>
<b>Romance</b>	<p>The Indian Ocean coast is a favourite honeymoon destination. But for me, there is nothing more romantic than a luxury tented camp on the African plains with the sounds of wildlife all around and the scents of Africa on the breeze...</p>
<b>Zoomers</b>	<p>This is great Zoomer territory! If you have that get-up-and-go, a trip to Tanzania will reward you beyond your wildest dreams. So long as you choose a reputable safari company, you will be fine. And don't think that trekking to the summit of Kilimanjaro is beyond you: statistically, older</p>

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	folk do better than younger ones on the mountain (and women do better than men) as they are more likely to take their time to acclimatize en route, rather than trying to rush up the mountain.
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<b>UNIQUES</b>	
<b>Surprising</b>	Tanzania has both the highest point (Kilimanjaro) and the lowest point (the bottom of Lake Tanganyika) in all of Africa.
<b>History</b>	<p>Travellers and merchants from the Persian Gulf and western India have visited the Southeast African coast since early in the first millennium AD. Islam was practised on the Swahili Coast as early as the eighth or ninth century AD. In 1498, the Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama visited Tanzanian coast. Later, in 1506, the Portuguese succeeded in controlling most of the Southeast African littoral. In 1699, the Portuguese were ousted from Zanzibar by Omani Arabs. Claiming the coastal strip, Omani Sultan Seyyid Said moved his capital to Zanzibar City in 1840. During this time, Zanzibar became the centre for the Arab slave trade. Between 65 and 90% of the population of Arab-Swahili Zanzibar was enslaved.</p> <p>In the late 19th century, Imperial Germany conquered the regions that are now Tanzania (minus Zanzibar) and incorporated them into German East Africa. The post–World War I accords and the League of Nations charter designated the area a British Mandate, except for the Kionga Triangle, a small area in the southeast that was incorporated into Portuguese East Africa (later Mozambique).</p> <p>British rule came to an end in 1961 after a relatively peaceful (compared with neighbouring Kenya, for instance) transition to independence. In 1954, Julius Nyerere transformed an organisation into the politically oriented Tanganyika African National Union (TANU). Tanganyika African National Union's main objective was to achieve national sovereignty for Tanganyika.</p> <p>Nyerere became Minister of British-administered Tanganyika in 1960 and continued as Prime Minister when Tanganyika became independent in 1961. In 1967, Nyerere's first presidency took a turn to the left after the Arusha Declaration, which codified a commitment to socialism in Pan-African fashion. After the declaration, banks and many large industries were nationalised.</p> <p>After the Zanzibar Revolution overthrew the Arab dynasty in neighbouring Zanzibar, which had become independent in 1963, the archipelago merged with mainland Tanganyika on in 1964. The union of the two regions was controversial among many Zanzibaris (even those sympathetic to the revolution) but was accepted by both the Nyerere government and the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar owing to shared political values and goals.</p> <p>From the late 1970s, Tanzania's economy took a turn for the worse.</p>

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	<p>Tanzania was also aligned with China, which from 1970 to 1975 financed and helped build the 1,860-kilometre-long TAZARA Railway from Dar es Salaam to Zambia. From the mid-1980s, the regime financed itself by borrowing from the International Monetary Fund and underwent some reforms. Since then, Tanzania's gross domestic product per capita has grown, and poverty has been reduced. In 1992, the Constitution of Tanzania was amended to allow multiple political parties. In Tanzania's first multi-party elections, held in 1995, the CCM won 186 of the 232 elected seats in the National Assembly, and Benjamin Mkapa was elected as president.</p>
<p><b>Recommended Reading</b></p>	<p><b>"The Snows of Kilimanjaro"</b> a short story by Ernest Hemingway is one of those books that provides a great sense of place.  <b>"Travels"</b> by Michael Crichton has an essay about climbing Mount Kilimanjaro that is a must-read for anyone contemplating trekking to the summit.          To get the most out of your safari, consider purchasing <b>The Safari Companion: A Guide to Watching African Mammals, Including Hoofed Mammals, Carnivores, and Primates</b> (University of California Press), by Richard D. Estes, one of the excellent Collins Field Guides to large mammals of Africa, or East Africa-specific guides to birds, butterflies, wildflowers, and reptiles and amphibians.</p>
<p><b>1000 Places to See Before You Die</b></p>	<p><b>Mount Kilimanjaro</b> – the continent’s highest peak  <b>Ngorongoro Crater</b> – Africa’s Garden of Eden  <b>Selous Game Reserve</b> – Safaris like they used to be...  <b>The Serengeti</b> – Magnificent migration in the cradle of mankind  <b>Zanzibar</b> – Island outpost of Old Araby in the Indian ocean</p>
<p><b>Must Sees</b></p>	<p>For me, this has to be Mount Kilimanjaro. Here is my personal magic moment that may explain why...</p> <p><i>I left the top camp, 15,000 feet up on Kilimanjaro, with John my local guide at one o'clock in the morning. We trudged up the steep volcanic crater in the darkness at the head of a line of fellow trekkers, our head lamps barely penetrating a few yards ahead. It was like a scene from Lord of the Rings. As the hours of darkness and toil crept by, the slope steepened and the line of climbers stretched apart. At 4.30am John and I reached the crater rim with no sight or sound of others. Here the snows of Kilimanjaro glowed eerily beneath our feet in the starlight...and we passed towering glacier ice phosphorescing as the sky began to lighten imperceptibly. We traversed the crater rim, gaining height...until suddenly there was no more height to gain. It's a few minutes before 6am, just before dawn, and we stand at 19,340 feet on the summit of Kilimanjaro. John and I are alone on the roof of Africa as the first rays of the sun break over the horizon...and seemingly the whole of Africa is at our feet, lit by a golden light in an image that is as magical as it is unforgettable...</i></p>

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<b>SPORTS ACTIVITIES</b>	Football (soccer) is very popular throughout the country, with fans divided between two major clubs, Young Africans F.C. (Yanga) and Simba S.C. Other popular sports include netball, boxing, running, and rugby. Tanzania competes in the Commonwealth Games as well as in the African Championships in Athletics.
<b>Fishing</b>	<p>The waters of the Indian Ocean along Tanzania's coast are rich in big-game fish, from marlin and tuna to swordfish and barracudas. All the same, the waters of Tanzania are only just beginning to gain the world-wide fame of the Kenyan coast, so fishing is at its most pristine. Tuna and other pelagic migrate through the Pemba Channel on a yearly basis, but can be found in smaller numbers throughout the year. Besides the big-game fish, grouper, red snapper, and other local species are populous along the coastal waters.</p> <p>Deep sea fishing in Tanzania is best organized by private companies that are specialized in boating and ocean trips; or through lodges and hotel properties that offer day excursions throughout the coast. Along the mainland coast, Pangani and Dar es Salaam are the most popular areas for deep-sea fishing. Trips from Pangani and Tanga offer easy access to the Pemba Channel, a main migratory route for big-game pelagic. Outfitted charters are best arranged from local lodges and the guides know where to look best for the big-game catch. Around Dar es Salaam, fishing boats can be chartered and trips arranged around the areas of Msasani Bay, as well as the larger hotels and lodges. Excursions usually take the form of day trips and although the area is not so much populated with large game fish, smaller species are in plentiful supply.</p> <p>In the Zanzibar Archipelago, resorts and lodges along the northern and eastern parts of Unguja and the island of Pemba offer fishing charters that venture into deep waters. Fishing is becoming a popular alternative to snorkelling and dive trips along the reefs. Boats take clients out into the Pemba Channel and surrounding waters. Pelagic and big-game fish are abundant in the isolated waters around Pemba and Unguja, and reward the adventurous fishermen with their size and numbers.</p>
<b>Horse riding</b>	There are many opportunities to horseback ride locally in Tanzania, especially beside coastal resorts.
<b>Hiking</b>	<p>Tanzania has one of the world's great trekking routes: the summit of Kilimanjaro!</p> <p>If you're going to travel half way around the world to climb a mountain you should do it right. Climbing Kilimanjaro is a life's dream for many people but it can be a minefield figuring it all out.</p> <p>By far the biggest choice is the route. You need to choose something within your limits, but also something that can offer you the best</p>

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	<p>experience along the way; the best combination of views, safety and overall experience. Serengeti Safari Co recommend 7 or ideally 9 days for your Kilimanjaro climb, on the Machame and Lemosho routes. On these routes you'll see more of Kilimanjaro's stunning scenery and fewer people than the Marangu route, sleep in comfortable and clean tents, and have more chance of successfully summiting due to the summit route. <a href="http://www.serengetisafarico.com/Kilimanjaro_Climb.html">http://www.serengetisafarico.com/Kilimanjaro_Climb.html</a></p>
<b>Cycling</b>	<p>Serengeti Safari Co can arrange a bike safari which can be a really fun bike ride with a little bit of culture, some scenic and non-strenuous cycling, and nature (ending at Lake Manyara). Bikes are mountain bikes, and helmets are provided. Your guide can share lots of interesting information about both the village and nature! This mountain bike safari takes you down the edge of the Great Rift Valley wall, into the farming village of Mto Wa Mbu. You will experience local cultures from the bike, ride through some of the Manyara ground water forest, and between small herds of wildlife on the lake shore of Lake Manyara.</p>
<b>Diving</b>	<p>Tanzania offers divers world-class reefs and plentiful schools of tropical fish just offshore of the popular beaches and secluded locations. Dive courses are offered at many of the hotels and lodges on the mainland coast as well as Zanzibar, Pemba and Mafia islands, and it is a rewarding skill to learn while on holiday, but the surface swimmer need not to despair since most of the reefs are accessible to snorkellers and equipment are easily rented from dive shops and lodges. Diving can be done all year-round, however during the rains visibility can be limited.</p>
<b>Ballooning</b>	<p>The Serengeti National Park has a company that operates hot-air balloon safaris. Especially during the months of the Great Migration, this is often the highlight of visitors' trips to Tanzania. The journey takes a little over an hour and sets off before dawn, flying low over the plains as the sun comes up and turns the grasslands from blue to gold. After landing, guests have a champagne breakfast complete with crystal glasses and white linen tablecloths in the middle of the African bush, as zebra and antelope graze nearby. Although expensive, the experience is well worth the treat.</p>

<b>CULTURE</b>	
<b>Arts</b>	<p>Two Tanzanian art styles have achieved international recognition. The Tingatinga school of painting, founded by Edward Said Tingatinga, consists of brightly colored enamel paintings on canvas, generally depicting people, animals, or daily life. After Tingatinga's death in 1972, other artists adopted his style; the genre is now the most important tourist-oriented style in East Africa. Makonde is both a tribe in Tanzania (and Mozambique) and a modern sculpture style. It is known for the</p>

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	<p>high Ujamaas (Trees of Life) made of the hard and dark ebony tree. Tanzania is also a birthplace of one of the most famous African artists – George Lilanga.</p>
<b>Music</b>	<p>The music of Tanzania includes traditional African music, string-based taarab, and a distinctive hip hop known as bongo flava. Famous taarab singers are Abbasi Mzee, Culture Musical Club, Shakila of Black Star Musical Group. Internationally known traditional artists are Bi Kidude, Hukwe Zawose and Tatu Nane. Tanzania also has its own distinct African rumba music, termed muziki wa dansi ("dance music"); important artists include Simba Wanyika, Remmy Ongala, and Orchestra Makassy.</p>
<b>Museums</b>	<p>The National Museum of Tanzania is a consortium of five Tanzanian museums whose purpose is to preserve and show exhibits about the history and natural environment of Tanzania. The consortium developed from the National Museum of Dar es Salaam, established in 1934 by Tanganyika governor Harold MacMichael. Four more museums later joined the consortium, namely the Village Museum in Dar es Salaam, the National History Museum and the Arusha Declaration Museum in Arusha, and the Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere Memorial Museum in Butiama.</p> <p>The Dar es Salaam National Museum is located in Shabban Robert Street, next to the botanical gardens. Established in 1934 and open to the public since 1940, it was originally a memorial museum dedicated to King George V; one of the cars of the King is still on display. The museum was expanded in 1963, with the addition of a second building. It is now dedicated to the history of Tanzania. Its most famous exhibits include some bones of Paranthropus boisei that were among the findings of Louis Leakey at Olduvai. The museum also has a large section dedicated to the Shirazi city-state of Kilwa. More historical miscellaneous material is related to the German and British rule. The museum also has ethnographic collections on Tanzanian cultures.</p> <p>The Kijiji cha Makumbusho, or Village Museum, established in 1996, is an open-air ethnographical museum located in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam, on the road to Mwenge and Bagamoyo. It showcases traditional huts from 16 different Tanzanian ethnic groups. There are also examples of traditional cultivations, and traditional music and dance shows are held daily.</p> <p>The National History Museum in Arusha, open since 1987, is located in Arusha, in Boma Road. It has two permanent exhibits, respectively on human evolution and entomology.</p>
<b>Festivals</b>	<p><b>Sauti Za Busara</b></p> <p>The Sauti za Busara music festival is a six-day cultural extravaganza held annually in Zanzibar in the middle of February. Immensely popular with Tanzanians as well as visitors to the region, the festival offers a rich</p>

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	and vibrant mix of styles including traditional ngoma, taarab, kidumbak, mchiriku, rumba, muziki wa dansi, Swahili hip-hop bongo flava, mystic and religious music, theatre, film, comedy and dance. Sauti za Busara has firmly established itself as an unmissable event on the African cultural calendar and is reputedly the friendliest festival on Planet Earth.
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<b>ATTRACTIONS</b>	
<b>Beaches</b>	<p>There are beautiful beaches on the Indian Ocean coast of Tanzania as well as fresh water beaches beside Lake Tanganyika.</p> <p>Why not enjoy a little sand and sun, and enjoy island life for a few days after your safari?</p> <p>Zanzibar is just a two hour flight from Arusha, and it's palm-fringed beaches and coral reefs are second to none for snorkelling, diving and just relaxing.</p> <p>Zanzibar is also known for Zanzibar Town, which is a World Heritage Site, and within this, Stone Town, with its narrow streets, quaint shops and markets.</p> <p>Called the "spice islands", Zanzibar (and nearby Pemba and Mafia islands) are producers of cloves, nutmeg, cinnamon and black pepper, and many people choose to experience a spice tour while on Zanzibar.</p>
<b>Nature</b>	<p>This is why you come to Tanzania! You have to see the <b>Big Five</b> while you are in Tanzania: lion, leopard, elephant, rhino &amp; buffalo.</p> <p>Serengeti Safari Co also recommends the <b>Mahale Chimp Experience</b>. This is great adventure in unique place in Tanzania. Hiking into the beautiful mountain forest to see the chimps and watching them in their natural surroundings is incredible.</p> <p>In addition to the chimps, you'll also experience travel via traditional dhow boat (to get to your camp), beach time on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, which is the 2nd deepest lake in the world, and you'll stay in what we think is one of the coolest camps in Tanzania. It's recommended that you stay in Mahale for at least 3 nights as it's both a flight and boat ride to get there/back.</p>
<b>Parks</b>	<p>Over one third of Tanzania's land area (a greater proportion than in any other country) is set aside in protected areas for conservation. Tanzania has 16 national parks, as well as a variety of game and forest reserves. Gombe Stream National Park, in western Tanzania, is known as the site of Jane Goodall's studies of chimpanzee behaviour. Tanzania is highly biodiverse and contains a wide variety of animal habitats. On Tanzania's Serengeti plain, white-bearded wildebeest and other bovids participate in a large-scale annual migration. Tanzania is also home to 130 amphibian and over 275 reptile species, many of them strictly endemic and included in the IUCN Red Lists of different countries. Tanzania has developed a Biodiversity Action Plan to address species conservation.</p>

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<p><b>Gardens</b></p>	<p><b>Dar es Salaam Botanical Gardens</b>          Home to the Dar es Salaam Horticultural Society, the Botanical Gardens were established in 1893 by Professor Stuhlmann, the first Director of Agriculture. They were used as a trial plot for testing different types of plantation crops and tree species. Today garden enthusiasts can admire an enchanting mix of indigenous and exotic plants including purple bougainvillea, blue jacaranda, scarlet flame trees, and red hibiscus. Though the gardens are only a fraction of their former size, they are one of the few places in the world to see the beautiful coco-de-mer palm tree, outside of its native Seychelles.</p>
<p><b>Historical Sites</b></p>	<p><b>Stone Town, Zanzibar</b>          Stone Town warrants a couple of days to soak up the atmosphere in the fascinating labyrinth of narrow streets and alleyways. The elaborate 19th-century houses have impressive carved-wood doors, elegantly carved balconies, and loggias and verandas that cling precipitously overhead; many have been restored as charming hotels decorated with antiques and Persian rugs. Zanzibar is also known as the Spice Isle, thanks to the inland spice plantations with cardamom, ginger, cloves, and nutmeg, and you can sample these on an informative half-day tour. Also when in Stone Town, eat at the nightly food market, visit one of the offshore islands, and perhaps take a ride on a dhow.</p>

<p><b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b></p>	
<p><b>Shopping</b></p>	<p>Pick up African crafts and curios at most popular tourist centres. Dar es Salaam, Arusha and Stone Town on Zanzibar are dotted with curio shops, markets and bazaars, and main roads near parks and reserves, and the coast roads behind beach resorts, all have plenty of roadside stalls. Items to buy include African drums, batiks, basket-ware, soapstone knick-knacks, handmade chess sets, paintings of Masai tribes and Serengeti landscapes in the popular Tingatinga style, and large wooden carvings of animals or salad bowls fashioned from a single piece of teak, mninga or ebony.</p> <p>Masai items such as beaded jewellery, decorated gourds and the distinctive red-checked blankets worn by all Masai men make good souvenirs. Kangas and kikois are sarongs worn by women and men respectively and are often in bright colours and patterns. These are made into other items including clothes, cushion covers and bags. In Zanzibar, find old tiles, antique bowls and the famous carved wooden Zanzibar chests (once used by the Sultans to store their possessions, but today ornate replicas), and pick up packets of Zanzibar's famous spices in Stone Town, as well as on a spice tour.</p> <p>A Tanzanian speciality is the semi-precious stone called tanzanite, which ranges from deep blue to light purple and is only found around Arusha. Tanzanite jewellery can be seen in upmarket curio and</p>

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	jewellers shops in Arusha, Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar's Stone Town. Whilst most prices in shops are set, the exception are curio shops where a little good-natured bargaining is possible, especially if it's quiet or you are buying a number of things. Bargaining is very much expected in the street markets.
<b>Markets</b>	You will find local markets in every city, town and even village throughout Tanzania. They are wonderfully colourful places and a great way to interact with the locals.
<b>Nightlife</b>	Nightlife is limited in Tanzania, but Dar es Salaam does have several nightclubs, cabaret venues and cinemas. Generally, nightlife is centred on the top tourist hotels and restaurants. All along the coast, and particularly on Zanzibar, hotels and beach bars often feature bands at the weekends and dance floors right on the beach. Quite often, traditional tribal dancing and drumming is performed in the safari lodges and beach resorts. Rowdy full moon parties have become popular on Zanzibar's backpacker-focused northern beaches.

<b>CUISINE</b>	Tanzanian specialities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nyama choma (barbecued meat).</li> <li>- Ugali (maize meal porridge).</li> <li>- Mandazi (doughnuts).</li> <li>- Kachumbari (spicy tomato relish served with meat).</li> <li>- Wali wa nazi (rice cooked with coconut milk).</li> <li>- Mchuzi wa kamba (prawn curry with tomatoes).</li> <li>- Matoke (boiled and mashed plantain).</li> <li>- Mishkaki (beef kebabs).</li> </ul>
<b>Food</b>	One of Tanzania's most common cultural dishes is ugali. It is usually composed of corn and is similar in consistency to a stiff paste or porridge, giving it its second name of corn meal porridge. Mixtures of cassava and millet flours are locally used for ugali. Rice and cooked green bananas are also important staples. Beef, goat meat, beans, yoghurt and a wide range of fish and green leafy vegetables all add nutrients to the dishes.
<b>Drink</b>	Safari is a good lager that is produced locally. Konyagi is a popular, cheap, and frightfully strong gin. Coffee is an Arabica variety grown on the slopes of Kilimanjaro and served black in small porcelain cups. Chai tea is served very sweet in small glasses especially on the coast and Zanzibar.
<b>Restaurants</b>	There is no shortage of restaurants in Tanzania. Most top-end restaurants are found in upmarket hotels and shopping centres. There is a variety of cuisine ranging from cheaply made local meals to pricey seafood dishes. In Dar es Salaam, Arusha, and Zanzibar you will find Chinese, Indian,

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	Mediterranean, and International restaurants offering Ethiopian, Japanese and Malaysian cuisine. For the more adventurous the local 'Swahili-style' cuisines are a must. You will be served either spicy seafood, chicken, ugali, cassava, or plantain.
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<b>FOR MORE INFO</b>	The Tanzania Tourist Board will send you some brochures on request, so it's worth contacting them in advance, and their website, <a href="http://www.tanzaniatouristboard.com">www.tanzaniatouristboard.com</a> , is a good source of general information. Some of the tour operator websites, however, are as good, if not better. There are drop-in tourist offices in Dar es Salaam, Arusha, and Zanzibar where you'll be able to talk to the staff and pick up a few brochures and fliers. For information about the national parks, including accommodations and tariffs, visit the website for Tanzania National Parks <a href="http://www.tanzaniaparks.com">www.tanzaniaparks.com</a> . Other useful resources on the Internet include <a href="http://www.zanzibartourism.net">www.zanzibartourism.net</a> , which is the official website of the Commission for Tourism and is published in a number of languages, and <a href="http://www.absolutetanzania.com">www.absolutetanzania.com</a> , which has not only tourist information, but also interesting articles about conservation, the government, and the economy.
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<b>SPECIAL FEATURE: SERENGETI SAFARI CO</b>	<p>If you are looking to book a unique trip-of-a-lifetime on a Tanzania safari – or if you want to rise to the challenge of climbing Mt Kilimanjaro - you can do no better than build your dream adventure with Serengeti Safari Co.</p> <p>You will be dealing with people who have lived in Africa and who have years of experience of personal travel in Tanzania. Serengeti Safari Co is also a certified agent of Wayo Africa - a leader in Tanzanian safaris. They also use Summits Africa, a mid to high level outfitter, on Mt Kilimanjaro to ensure maximum safety and comfort.</p>
<b>Choices</b>	<p>For most people a safari is a trip of a lifetime and you will have very specific personal goals. Viewing the spectacular wildlife will be on your list for sure - lions, buffalo, wildebeest, elephants, giraffe, cheetah and more. But do you want the added thrill of seeing these animals on foot on a walking safari? Maybe you want to blend a safari with other active elements such as trekking or climbing Mt Kilimanjaro. And every traveler will have their own ideas of their preferred level of luxury. You can stay in everything from luxurious game lodges with swimming pools to surprisingly comfortable tented accommodation that offers a very high level of amenities.</p> <p>The physical challenge, the achievement and the spectacular views from the top are the incentive to trek to the top of Mt Kilimanjaro. And if</p>

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	<p>you're going to travel half way around the world to climb a mountain, and for the best chance of reaching the summit - you should do it right.</p>
<p><b>Safaris</b></p>	<p>Serengeti Safari Co can organize the perfect safari in Tanzania to meet your needs. It can be of any length, you can stay at almost any lodge, or visit any park. Safaris are 100% private (i.e. you do not share a vehicle during a game drive) and you can create your own safari itinerary from the ground up. At the heart of all the safaris are Wayo Africa's exclusive Green Camps, Private 4x4 vehicles, and top notch Safari Guides.</p> <p>For kids, going on safari in Tanzania can be an incredibly educational and even life-changing experience. From interacting and learning about new cultures to experiencing the "circle of life" in person, to spending time together as a family, going on safari with kids is an amazing experience. The experts at Serengeti Safari Co have direct experience of taking children on safari and can tailor your trip to create a unique family experience.</p> <p>And if you are an active, hands-on kind of person – Serengeti Safari Co can organize a safari for you that includes, for example, guided walking safaris inside national parks, a night safari to view nocturnal animals and a cultural walk into a local village where you can take part in a traditional lunch.</p>
<p><b>The Classic 9 Day Wayo Safari</b></p>	<p><b>Your Vehicle:</b> A private newer Toyota Land Cruiser with roof hatches and fridge for cool drinks. With no other guests in the vehicle (unlike most other safari companies) you can stay extra time watching whatever animals interest you.</p> <p><b>Your Guide:</b> A highly trained and knowledgeable guide to make your experience the best that it can be. Wayo in Tanzania runs the biggest guide training program. It's so good that other companies send their guides to it!</p> <p><b>ARUSHA</b> When you arrive, the first night is spent in Arusha at Ngare-Sero Lodge, nestled on the slopes of Mt. Meru. Weather permitting you'll have stunning views of Mt. Kilimanjaro. You'll be picked up bright and early to start your magnificent safari.</p> <p><b>LAKE MANYARA</b> Day 1-3 Lake Manyara guests stay at the lovely Wayo Waterfall Camp. In camp you'll be surrounded by animals, and if you're lucky the elephants will come to drink at the falls. Days will be spent game viewing in this small but beautiful park. Meals are served river-side, which is peaceful but with lots to watch. After the sun sets, you'll get the</p>

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	<p>chance explore the park on a night game drive looking for nocturnal creatures like porcupines, genets, bush babies and hippos.</p> <p><b>NGORONGORO CRATER</b>          Ngorongoro Crater Tanzania safari          Day 4-5 Leaving Lake Manyara behind, you head to the Ngorongoro crater highlands, where you can take in the breathtaking views from the top of the crater and see the stunning lichen forests. Your camp for these two nights is nestled in the crater rim rainforest where monkeys, baboon and elephant will be sure to say hello. It is also set in the heart of the Masai people's area, and the camp hosts in-camp cultural experiences. Nights can very cool, so bring your warm clothes.</p> <p><b>SERENGETI</b>          Lion in tree- Serengeti Safari          Day 6-10 It's time to head to the Serengeti. "Serengeti" in the Masai language means "endless plains", and for good reason; it's huge!! The focus for us is the Wildebeest Migration. It's one of the world's most magnificent spectacles, and a must see. The season will determine what part of the Serengeti the animals are in, and therefore where you go.</p> <p>After this, it is time to go home or to the coast for some sun and relaxing by the beach</p> <p>Price per person is from US\$4,250</p>
<p><b>Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro</b></p>	<p>Climbing Kilimanjaro is a life's dream - but the dream only becomes a reality through great support and planning. This is where the experience of Serengeti Safari Co and their outfitter Summits Africa comes in to play. May to February is the best time to climb as this avoids the rainy season in March and April. And by far the most important choice is the route up the mountain. You need to choose something within your limits, but also something that can offer you the best experience along the way; the best combination of views, safety and overall experience.</p> <p>Serengeti Safari Co recommend you take 7 or ideally 9 days for your Kilimanjaro climb, and that you take either on the Machame and Lemosho routes. On these routes you'll see more of Kilimanjaro's stunning scenery and fewer people than the more common Marangu route.</p> <p>With the right route, experienced guides and the chance to sleep in comfortable and clean tents – you will have more chance of successfully reaching your goal at 19340 ft (just under 6000 meters).</p>

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Here is a fuller description of their trip to the top via the Machame Route:

Many people list Kilimanjaro as a lifelong dream adventure. This itinerary allows you the time to see all of Kilimanjaro's main areas and with a 7 day ascent it also allows you a great chance of successfully making it to the roof of Africa. If you are looking for a great adventure that does not compromise safety or ethics then this is it...

#### DESCRIPTION

This is a 7 day Kilimanjaro hike starting at Machame gate and ascending via Stella Point. There is a night time ascent to the summit. The trip is fully supported with spacious guest tents, mattress and pillow as well as a mess tent with lightweight tables and chairs and all cutlery. The trips also include a toilet tent in camp and most importantly knowledgeable professional guides that go through biannual training. The logistics team at our base monitors your trip from start to finish.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

Kilimanjaro: afro-montane forest, Shira plateau, glacial valleys and saline desert, views of Mawenzi, ascent of Kibo and possible views of Kibo caldera and ash pit. Glaciers and the roof of Africa!

#### ITINERARY

Day 1 ARRIVAL - ARUSHA On arrival you are met and transfer to the lodge. There is a briefing with the climb's manager and head guide. Overnight Lodge (half board).

Day 2 KILIMANJARO - MACHAME. After breakfast you depart by vehicle to Kilimanjaro. At the gate your crew finalises packing and after finishing with formalities you start of from Machame gate. Today's hiking is through verdant afro-montane forest to Machame camp and on route you have a picnic lunch. Look out for pretty endemic flora and a gradation of forest zones. Overnight Machame Camp (full board).

Day 3 KILIMANJARO - SHIRA From Machame camp you hike to Shira Camp. The first section is relatively steep and altitude is gained rapidly. A picnic lunch is taken on the trail today. The zone you pass through today is known as the heath zone where attractive helichrysum and lobelia plants become apparent. Various geologic features can be seen today from lava tubes to glacial valleys. Overnight Shira Camp (full

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board).

Day 4 KILIMANJARO - BARRANCO Today is a 'walk high sleep low' day. You ascend into alpine desert and for those that are feeling strong you can even head up to Lava Tower before descending to Barranco camp. Lunch is taken as a picnic lunch on route. This is long day but note that the next time you head to this altitude is in two days' time - great acclimatization day. Overnight Barranco Camp (full board).

Day 5 KILIMANJARO - KARANGA From Barranco camp, famous for its' giant groundsels, you ascend the Barranco wall and hike glacial valleys to Karanga camp. Today is a relatively short day of hiking and lunch is taken at Karanga camp. In the afternoon a walk can be taken with your guides for great views of the Southern walls of Kibo and deep glacial valleys. Overnight Karanga Camp (full board).

Day 6 KILIMANJARO- BARAFU Today is another half day ascending to Barafu camp. Once again lunch is taken in camp allowing plenty of time to relax before the summit bid. Desolate alpine desert and at times strong winds rip over this camp and yet in the evening splendid views of Mawenzi peak are the norm. A relatively early dinner is taken before heading to rest for the evening. Overnight Barafu Camp (full board).

Day 7 KILIMANJARO - SUMMIT / MWEKA Most people depart just before midnight for the final summit bid. Patience and persistence is the name of game to reach the summit and by dawn as the first rays of light start to appear, most arrive near the rim. Ascending via Stella Point affords a relatively short final section to Uhuru peak, the Roof of Africa! What goes up must come down and your goal today is to reach Mweka camp. Overnight Mweka Camp (full board).

Day 8 ARUSHA After breakfast you descend once again through montane forest and around midday after saying farewell to your crew, you are picked up and transfer back to your lodge for a well-deserved shower! Dinner & overnight Lodge (full board).

Day 9 DEPARTURE An airport transfer is included to connect you with international flights.

The price for this trip is from \$2,600 USD per person. Single supplement is \$100

This price includes:

Trained Kilimanjaro guides (1: 2 ratio)

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	<p>Camp crew, cook, a great team of porters          Airport transfers (Kilimanjaro or Arusha Airport to Lodge x 2)          All relevant Park fees &amp; rescue fees          Emergency medical evacuation          Supplemental oxygen &amp; pulse oximeters          All accommodation and meals as described in the itinerary          Sleeping tent with mattress, mess tent, stools, toilet tent          Drinks on the hike (potable water, tea, coffee &amp; hot chocolate)</p> <p>Excludes:          Tips (recommended \$200 per person)          Sleeping bags (available at \$30 per trip)          International flights          Entry visas          Items of a personal nature          Alterations to this itinerary (i.e. if different accommodations and services are provided then the price will most likely vary up or down)          Airport departure taxes (unless stated)          Laundry          Beverages in hotels (except those in your personal safari vehicle)          Hospital bills and international evacuation in the event of an emergency</p>
<p><b>Additional experiences</b></p>	<p>There is so much to do and see in Tanzania – and you may only be there once! Consider adding some of these amazing experiences to your safari or climb with Serengeti Safari Co.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zanzibar Holiday</li> <li>Walking Safari</li> <li>Night Safari</li> <li>Tanzania Culture Experience</li> <li>Serengeti Hot Air Balloon Ride</li> <li>Canoe Safari</li> <li>Cycling Safari</li> <li>Mahale Chimps Experience</li> </ul>
<p><b>More Information</b></p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.serengetisafarico.com">http://www.serengetisafarico.com</a>          Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/serengetisafarico">https://www.facebook.com/serengetisafarico</a></p>

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