

# WILDAID KENYA

A Bespoke Journey with Peter & Corie Knights

TRAVEL DATES

September 17-27, 2018



KER & DOWNEY  
EXPERIENTIAL. LUXURY. TRAVEL.

WILDAID

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**MONDAY, SEP 17**  
**USA TO NAIROBI**  
**HEMMINGWAYS**

**JAMBO!** Welcome to Nairobi, Kenya. Upon arrival, you will be met and assisted with customs and immigration and transferred to your hotel for the evening.

With its plantation-style grandeur, colonial charm, and beautifully manicured grounds, Hemingways Nairobi sweeps its guests into a different era. The hotel is a quiet and peaceful haven away from the bustle of central Nairobi, located in the leafy suburb of Karen, home of Karen Blixen's famous farm. Elegance and taste, along with commodious rooms and stellar cuisine, fashion together for an unforgettable signature stay.

Hemingways Nairobi hosts 45 luxurious rooms. The well-appointed lofty rooms are flooded with natural light and feature vaulted beams, four-poster beds, en-suite bathrooms lined with hand-cut Italian marble, walk-in wardrobes, deep-soak baths, and private balconies overlooking the Ngong Hills. Muted colors and textured fabrics in ecru and taupe create an immensely contemporary-chic ambience against touches of brass, mahogany, and leather reminiscent of vintage East African safaris. Each Hemingways Nairobi guest is also appointed a dedicated butler to take care of any need.

Step through the grand foyer and take advantage of the many culinary offerings of Hemingways Nairobi, all of which feature contemporary European menus. Enjoy freshly baked pastries and American waffles in the morning and savor afternoon tea with hand-crafted treats in the afternoon. In the evening, visit the Brasserie for a taste of European classics with a twist, specifically its free-range steaks sourced directly from Kenyan farms. The wine cellar at Hemingways Nairobi is stacked with selections, and the bar is skilled in crafting fashionable cocktails of fresh exotic flavors paired with soaring spirits.

Within minutes of Hemingways Nairobi's manicured lawns is the only National Park in the world located at the edge of a major metropolitan city. Game drives in the National Park provide rare and unusual scenery—with Nairobi's skyscrapers serving as the backdrop alongside the savannah grass, home to various buffalo, giraffe, lion, leopard, baboon, zebra, wildebeest, rhino, and cheetah. Nearby excursions include visits to the Giraffe Center and the Karen Blixen Museum.



TUESDAY, SEP 18 - WEDNESDAY, SEP 19

NAIROBI TO LAIKIPIA  
OL PEJETA BUSH CAMP  
Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Enjoy a morning safari and breakfast, before boarding your private charter to Laikipia.

Stretching from the snow-capped slopes of Mount Kenya to the jagged rim of the Great Rift Valley, Laikipia is a vast, two million acre wildlife destination in the equatorial region of Kenya. In size alone, Laikipia is second only to Tsavo, while its wildlife densities and constraint-free safari experiences continue to challenge even that of the famed Maasai Mara. Indeed, the Laikipia Plateau boasts one of the biggest and most diverse mammal populations in Kenya as well as a wealth of endangered species, including increasing populations of wild dogs, roughly half of Kenya's 600 black rhinos, and half of the world's Grevy's zebras. It is also home to the most elephants outside of Kenya's National Parks and Reserves, with more than 2,000 migrating between it and the Mount Kenya and Samburu regions.

The Laikipia, Kenya travel experience is defined by its freedom and diversity. Since Laikipia lies outside the jurisdiction of Kenya's National Parks and Reserves, visitors often find themselves without the constrictions of game vehicles. Night game drives, guided nature walks, bike tours, ATV safaris, horseback riding, and camel treks—all prohibited in most parks—are just some of the numerous safari activities that exist only in Laikipia. From bush walks with expert Maasai guides to thrilling helicopter tours above the plateau, there is something for everyone in Laikipia. And with an area roughly the size of Wales, there is plenty of room to feel like it is all your own.

Laikipia is also where some of Kenya's most exciting and effective conservation efforts are unfolding. The entire region is a patchwork

of privately or communally owned ranches, wildlife conservancies, or small-scale subsistence farms, all of which live in harmony alongside the wildlife and offer high levels of community involvement and access to the native Laikipia Maasai and Samburu people. From Ol Pejeta to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, the goal of all Laikipia properties is to protect the wildlife, promote a personalized and intimate luxury safari tourism industry, and empower the native communities.

After landing at the Kamok airstrip, you will be met and transferred to Ol Pejeta Conservancy, located in Laikipia. The Conservancy boasts an astounding variety of animals including all the "Big Five" (the endangered black and white rhino, leopard, elephant, buffalo, and lion) and Kenya's only sanctuary for rescued chimpanzees.

On the banks of the Ewaso Nyiro River in central Kenya's Laikipia region is Alex Hunter's atmospheric Ol Pejeta Bush Camp, the ultimate in Kenyan hospitality and safari excellence. Here you will share your space with the last three surviving northern white rhino in the world.

Ol Pejeta's six traditional East African safari tents offer an excellent base from which to explore the secrets of this renowned conservancy—from the pioneering conservation projects that have made it famous to spectacular sightings of black and white rhino and the Big Five. Ol Pejeta is the first choice for discerning safari veterans looking to understand and enjoy the very best of world-leading conservation practice.

Enjoy your second day at Ol Pejeta visiting the Black Rhino Habitat Expansion.

#### BLACK RHINO HABITAT EXPANSION AT MUTARA

Funds will be used to establish a protected Black rhino dispersal area at the 20,000-acre Mutara Conservation Area adjacent to the Ol Pejeta Conservancy. Projects include installing a 40km solar-powered perimeter fence, developing a rhino protection unit for the area, and engaging neighboring pastoral communities in enhancing long term sustainability of the area.

On its 90,000 acres, Ol Pejeta supports the largest black rhino population in Kenya, at 106 individuals, along with a small and growing population of southern white rhinos and the last breeding group of northern white rhinos, for a total of 130 rhinos. The success of Ol Pejeta's conservation model will be replicated on the MCA in order to provide suitable habitat into which Ol Pejeta's growing black rhino population can expand. It is estimated that the MCA provides suitable black rhino habitat for an additional 40 black rhinos, making total carrying capacity for approximately 160 black rhinos on Ol Pejeta and Mutara achievable by 2024.



GET INVOLVED: OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY

## THURSDAY, SEP 20 - SATURDAY, SEPT 22

LAIKIPIA

OL JOGI

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Enjoy an early morning safari and breakfast, before transferring to the airstrip. A flight will take you to Ol Jogi, where you will be met and transferred by vehicle to the lodge.

Ol Jogi Private Wildlife Conservancy showcases the many splendors of northern Kenya: its wildlife, its landscape, and its people. Located in the shadow of Mt. Kenya and surrounded by pristine Kenyan bush and towering kopjes, this lodge is the ideal home base for your safari adventures.

Existing for over 30 years as the Wildenstein family ranch on a private conservancy, the accommodations at Ol Jogi are now yours to enjoy on a Kenya family safari. A massive kopje is the backdrop for Ol Jogi, and hidden within its scattered boulders and lush foliage you will find the rooms and suites. Up to 14 guests can be hosted at one time, making for quite a peaceful safari experience. The collection of private lodges peek out from the natural surroundings, their charm enhanced by the manicured gardens and water features that trickle and tumble across the grounds.

Each guest space is wholly its own, featuring unique decorations, finishes, and floorplans. Design emphasis is placed on local art and sculpture, and on quality materials borrowed from the earth – from timber to stone to glittering geodes. The constant feature across the property's private spaces is the incredible view. The true luxury of Ol Jogi, beyond its magnificent amenities, is that the conservancy is exclusive to its own guests. When exploring its 60,000 acres on your private safari, you will never see another vehicle or share the view with an unfamiliar tourist.

Ol Jogi is deeply committed to preserving the wilderness it has occupied for the last 30 years. Endangered black rhinos, Grevy's zebra, elephant, lion, cheetah, and plenteous plains game are regularly sighted, and wild dog and leopard have also been known to

grace the area. In addition to game drives, walks, and off-roading adventures, guests may visit the Wildlife Rescue Center and veterinary clinic established by the Ol Jogi Private Wildlife Conservancy for the care and rehabilitation of injured wildlife.

Here you will learn about **Ol Jogi Conservancy–Rhino Anti-Poaching Unit**. Funds will be used for professional anti-poaching training for four commanders and 24 rangers in the Ol Jogi rhino protection unit as well as upgrading radio communications from analog to digital. One of East Africa's oldest rhino sanctuaries with 53 black and 23 white rhinos, Ol Jogi had experienced zero losses to poaching from 1980 through 2011. In the past few years however, Ol Jogi has lost a total of 15 rhinos to poaching as the threat has evolved to unprecedented levels. The trust placed in the rangers is enormous. The temptation to receive large sums of money from poaching gangs for information as to the whereabouts of the rhino is huge; nearly all incidents of poaching in recent times can be attributed to inside information given to incoming gangs. As such, it is vital to keep the rangers safe and motivated, both for their own welfare and for the welfare of the iconic species they risk their lives to protect. Very high standards of equipment, training, and resources are paramount.

Between game drives and adventures in the wild, there is plenty to do at the main lodge. Hop from the refreshing swimming pool to the steam room and spa next door. Take yoga practice in the dedicated yoga room or enjoy a tennis match. Meet the chef for a tour of the on-site gardens and sneak a peek in the kitchen.

Highly recommended by Ker & Downey and easy to arrange from Ol Jogi is an excursion by helicopter. Explore the surrounding region from above, viewing Mt. Kenya, the many area lakes, and landing in the wild to visit a Pokot tribal village.

### GET INVOLVED: RHINO ANTI-POACHING UNIT

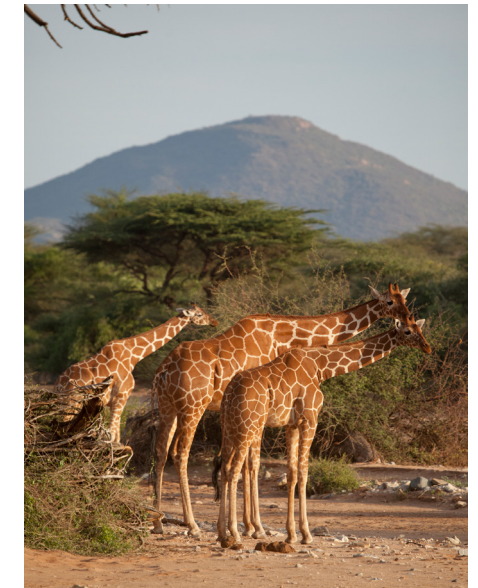


## SUNDAY, SEP 23 - MONDAY, SEP 24TH

LAIKIPIA TO SAMBURU

SASAAB

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



A mid-morning flight will transfer you to Sasaab, located in Samburu National Park. Staking its claim on the edge of northern Kenya's arid savannahs, Samburu National Reserve is the breakout star of the three reserves that cluster around the life-giving Ewaso Ng'iro River. Between its first-class game viewing and cultural significance, Samburu National Reserve safaris remain a draw just as much to the safari novice as to the Africa veteran. Plus, the fact that it served as the home of two of the world's most famous lionesses—George and Joy Adamson's Elsa, made legendary from the best-selling book and award-winning film *Born Free*, and the beautiful Kamunyak, a lioness renowned for adopting oryx calves—certainly doesn't hurt its appeal. Kenya safari packages are incomplete without a visit to this beautiful location.

Even without its celebrity lions, a Samburu National Reserve safari stands on its own for its rare and diverse big game. This is where people come to see the unusual animals they can't find in the more popular reserves, most commonly referred to as the "Samburu Big Five" of Grevy's zebra, long-necked gerenuk, reticulated giraffe, Somali ostrich, and Beisa onyx. It also boasts all of the big cats, especially the elusive Kenya leopard, and acts as a haven for rare populations of buffalo, hippo, wild dog, a large number of elephant, and up to 450 bird species. Today, a visit to Samburu National Reserve is a chance to not only witness one of the highest and most diverse concentrations of creatures on the continent, but also discover a place where the native Samburu people have lived alongside the wildlife for many years. Happening upon a Samburu village is an opportunity to interact with their colorful character and learn about their remote, pastoral, and nomadic way of life.

One of the most stylish accommodations in Northern Kenya, Sasaab is hidden away on a rocky ridge above the banks of the Ewaso Nyiro River within the West Gate Community. This secluded site boasts a blend of Moroccan and Swahili style and a level of sophisticated services that will make any guest feel like royalty.

The architecture of Sasaab follows strong Moroccan design influ-

ences and sprawls across the rocky ridges above the banks of the Ewaso Nyiro river. All nine of the camp's individually thatched and canvas suites feature enormous open-air bathrooms, substantial sofas, four-poster beds enclosed in large mosquito nets, private plunge pools, and verandas with views across the Laikipia Plateau and Mount Kenya. Given Sasaab's unique location on the river, guests will frequently witness elephants below their tents or from the vantage of the swimming pool located on the camp's hillside.

Dinner at Sasaab occurs under the stars at the Moroccan-influenced 'souk' style mess, with North African menu items prepared from produce straight from the camp's vegetable garden. Do not be surprised if a herd of elephants joins the freshly prepared bush breakfasts or if a leopard and her cubs play on the nearby rocks during sundowners. It is simply a part of the whole Sasaab experience. Meanwhile, the spa treatments at the lauded SpaSaab are influenced by African and Samburu techniques and provide ultimate pampering and rejuvenation for guests, all within view of the beautiful Kenyan landscape.

The area surrounding Sasaab is Buffalo Springs National Reserve, a region rich in its natural diversity, delivering frequent viewings of elephant, lion, leopard, cheetah, oryx, giraffe, zebra, antelope, and ostrich. Witness the wildlife by game drive, night drive, or by camel—a completely unique viewpoint and a delightful activity for the young at heart.

Guests are also encouraged to stroll along the banks of the Ewaso Nyiro River to experience fly camping and to visit with the hospitable Samburu people, who are always delighted to share their traditions. Sasaab is in close proximity to many local villages, allowing frequent visits to the cultural manyatta, schools, and markets where local women's groups make jewelry and crafts. Many of these community projects are directly supported by Sasaab and offer a glimpse into the fascinating people of this special place.

Enjoy your second day understanding the Save the Elephants project with Frank Pope, located in Samburu National Park.

## TUESDAY, SEP 25 - WEDNESDAY, SEP 26

SAMBURU TO MASAI MARA

ANGAMA MARA

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

A midmorning flight will transfer you to the Masai Mara. For those that have been to other parts of Africa on safari, it seems that first taste of Masai Mara National Reserve travel is like experiencing safari for the first time. All the films and photography on the region and The Great Migration simply do not do it justice, which is why a Masai Mara safari in Kenya is essential on any Africa luxury safari.

Leading Kenya's tourism industry in both popularity and wildlife, the famed Masai Mara National Reserve of Kenya covers more than 400,000 acres and is situated between 4,900 and 6,890 feet above sea level. It is part of the Serengeti ecosystem that extends from northern Tanzania into southern Kenya and encompasses several "group ranches" or ancestral wildlife areas owned collectively by the Maasai communities.

The Masai Mara National Reserve gets its fame from being the jewel of African wildlife. It is also a prime area for ornithologists, with hundreds of different species having been recorded. The area is teeming with herbivores that, in turn, support large numbers of predators. Millions of wildebeest, gazelle, zebra, buffalo, impala, topi, hartebeest, giraffe, eland, elephant, dik-dik, hippo, and warthog live their natural lifecycle alongside the largest population of lions in Kenya together with cheetah, leopard, hyena, and jackal. The Mara is also one of the best wilderness areas in Africa to observe rare species like the rhino and the bat-eared fox or the nocturnal wildlife, from the bushbaby to the genet.

Angama Mara is where the romance of canvas collides with the drama of the plains. Helmed by industry leaders and high-end travel whisperers Steve and Nicky Fitzgerald—drawn out of retirement for one final splash—Angama Mara is inspired by the lovely Swahili word meaning 'suspended in mid-air', an especially appropriate name as it sits seemingly suspended on the edge of the Rift Valley's Ololoolo Escarpment on the brink of Kenya's famed Mara Triangle, one of Africa's most sought-after parcels of land for its private, unrestricted access and wraparound vistas. It is no wonder, then, why Hollywood chose this exact location to film their award-winning *Out of Africa* movie, eternally capturing its enduring romance and nostalgia.

Unlike many safari accommodations, Angama Mara presents a hyper-modern approach to the safari style. Its 30 suites still incorporate classic African safari canvas, but they have been further enhanced by bold end-to-end glass frontage windows and overhanging private decks, allowing guests to greet the breathtaking "forever views" of the Mara sunrise as the hot air balloons float above the horizon. In addition to the views, every detail has been honed to perfection through distinctive splashes of Masai reds, crystal carafes full of choice beverages, en-suite bathrooms outfitted in luxury Africology bath amenities and massive tin soaking tubs, and discreet butler's lobbies for the preparation of one's early morning tea and coffee. The property consists of two

separate camps of just 15 tented suites to promote exclusivity and privacy, with each camp boasting its own guest area, kitchen, and dedicated staff.

At the heart of Angama Mara is the warm team of Kenyans who offer joyful and authentic care as safari guides, chefs, butlers, housekeepers, and managers. Their enthusiastic service is felt throughout the camp, whether guests are relaxing, exploring, or dining. The guest areas of both camps are dramatic gathering places where the inside and outside spaces run together and the views extend over the edge of the Rift Valley, while the central Pavilion is shared between both. Here, guests will find a fitness center, swimming pool, a gallery of African artwork, and a Masai craft studio where local women gather to create bespoke beaded items. Dinners are served both inside and outside, either by candlelight in the lodge or at a family-style nyama choma (bush barbecue). From dawn until dusk, Angama Mara presents a celebration of Kenya's finest produce, utilizing indigenous ingredients and a variety of menus to suite everyone's taste. There is not a buffet in sight at Angama Mara, and the picnics are near perfect when they are taken at the very kopje where *Out of Africa* was filmed.

Days at Angama Mara are as action-packed or leisurely as guests choose them to be. There is no set schedule, with everything structured after each guest's interests, preferences, and bucket lists. No matter the activity, guests will find themselves in the middle of the action, surrounded by the Mara Triangle's abundant animals and Big Five but without the excess of other tourists. Guests have a full suite of game drives, hot air balloon rides, walking safaris, and Masai village visits at their disposal, but they are also welcome to do absolutely nothing at all, witnessing the wildlife from the comfort of their deck. There are no fences between the Mara and Angama Mara, which means the giraffes, elephant, buffalo, hippo, and plains game are always within sight.

The second morning will be spent silently flying above the tree tops on a hot air balloon safari, while watching the sun rise over the Masai Mara. Enjoy the rest of the day with activities at Angama Mara.



## THURSDAY, SEP 27TH

MASAI MARA TO NAIROBI  
HEMMINGWAYS  
Breakfast, Lunch

An early morning charter will bring you to Nairobi for a private visit to the Daphne Sheldrick center, part of the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust. This organization is dedicated to hand-rearing orphaned elephants and rhinos for reintroduction to the wild. Meet the caretakers and the tiny lodgers of the center and learn more about the important work being done for these threatened species. Afterward enjoy lunch in town.

In the afternoon, head back to Hemmingways where day rooms are provided for you to freshen up and prepare for your departure this evening.

## SUGGESTED PRE OR POST EXTENSIONS



### ZANZIBAR

Travel to Zanzibar is for a slice of peace and tranquility. The amazing waters of the Indian Ocean are an underwater treasure trove chock full of diverse marine life, from coral reefs and sea anemone to playful dolphins and even a whale or two. Snorkeling and scuba diving are a must, whether directly from the beach or during a guided reef walk. Trek through the Jozani Forest in search of the endemic Zanzibar red colobus monkey, set out on a taste-and-see Spice Tour of the island's renowned produce, or visit a neighboring village to learn the art of palm weaving and the ancient language of Swahili from the locals.



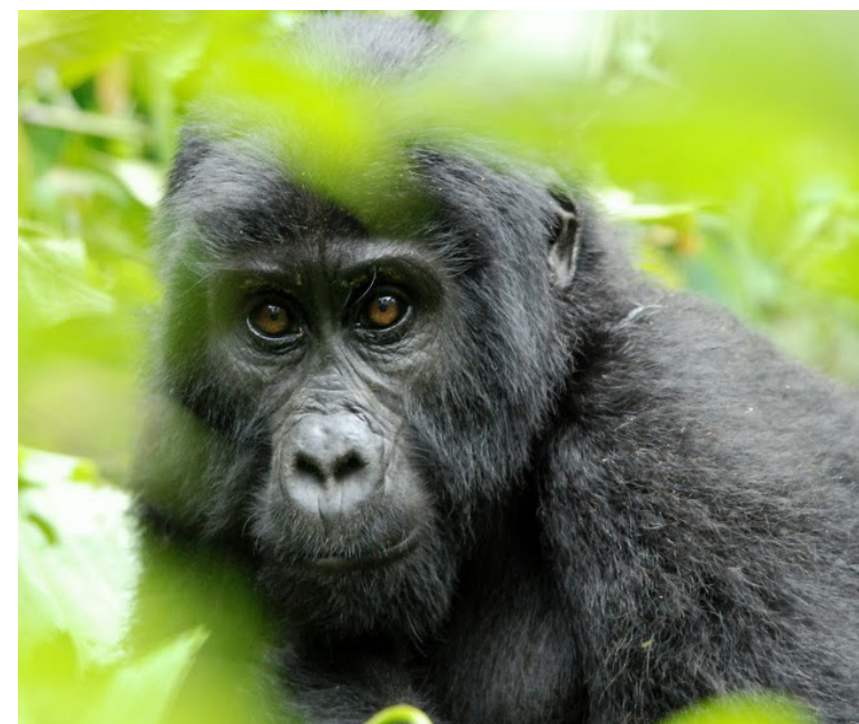
### SEYCHELLES

Seychelles may be the only country described exclusively in hyperbole. "Paradise", "Garden of Eden" and "spectacular" seem to be among the most common terms employed. From the multiple blue hues reflecting out of the water, the distinctive granite rock formations, and the white, clean beaches. It is a natural wonder, unspoiled and still untamed, yet delightfully charming.



### RWANDA

Rwanda is a verdant, landlocked country in East Africa known as the "Land of a Thousand Hills" for its fertile rolling landscape. Most of the countryside is dotted with small farms, but there are areas of rugged mountains extending from the volcanoes of the north-western portion of the country. It is here that Rwanda's leading attraction is found: Volcanoes National Park, home to half of the world's gorillas still living in the wild. These amazing animals are greatly endangered and a visit with them will leave an impression on any traveler fortunate enough to snag one of the few tracking permits dispensed by the Rwanda government each day. Yet another once in a lifetime experience, a trek deep into golden monkey territory with a private guide offers an up close and personal view of the monkeys in their natural habitat.



### UGANDA

Uganda is a unique experience for those searching for an uncommon adventure and go beyond game viewing from a four-wheel drive vehicle. Bwindi Impenetrable National Park is home to about 350 mountain gorillas, roughly half of the world's remaining population. The verdant maze of trees and vines of this national park provides a perfect home for these gentle giants and an adventure unlike any other, allowing visitors to venture on foot into the forests and mountains of Uganda to come face to face with one of the rarest species on earth.

## SUGGESTED PRE OR POST EXTENSIONS



### CZECH REPUBLIC

The Czech Republic's magical atmosphere of winding lanes, medieval ramparts, and romantic corners is best represented in its capital of Prague, The City of a Hundred Spires, rightfully touted as one of the world's most excitingly beautiful and cultured metropolises. Here, the ancient and modern live side-by-side: in the legendary Kafka-steeped Jewish Quarter, in the fairytale houses of Golden Lane, and in the unavoidable Prague Castle, the largest ancient castle in the world where the Baroque, Renaissance, Neo-classical, Gothic, and ultramodern all stake their claim.



### FRANCE

With iconic landmarks and a preeminent history of cuisine and viticulture, travel to France has earned its status as one of the most romantic and luxurious destinations on the planet.

History in the region stretches back to the Roman era, and a visit to monuments and museums throughout the country reveal architectural marvels and archaeological spoils from around the globe. From the iconic Notre Dame in Paris to the Romanesque architecture of Normandy, every building tells a story.