



DELVE DEEP: KENYA & TANZANIA (SAFARI)



TRIP CODE:
TSSNZ3

TOPDECKER, meet Africa (TD)

TRIP VIBE = iconic sights and in-depth adventures with a local Trip Leader. *Press play on Toto's Africa* So, you wanna feel real? Then allow us to introduce you to this two-week, all-encompassing, UN-FOR-GETTABLE African extravaganza. Travelling from Nairobi to Zanzibar, you'll dive headlong into pulse-quickening game drives. Eye-opening island discoveries. And local interactions that'll nourish your soul. By the time you get home, you'll be a whole new person. Well, you'll still be you. Just better.

WORTH NOTING...

A Sector trip is part of a larger journey, meaning your new friends might continue on or after you leave, or you might be joining a trip already in progress.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Delve Deep



Nights



Download app



Meals

Thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

Ready for the time of your LIFE?

The countdown's on...

ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – from where to meet your Topdeck fam to what we suggest you bring.

Read them on the train, in the supermarket queue or on the loo – we don't mind, just look through them carefully so you know what to expect on your trip. We recommend you download this document so it's with you when you travel (and give a copy to your MVPs so they know what you're up to).

IMPORTANT: please refresh this doc as close to your departure as possible. This means you'll have the most up-to-date info available.

ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- Morning and afternoon game drives in Maasai Mara National Reserve
- Two full-day game drives in Serengeti National Park
- Two nights camping in the Serengeti
- 4x4 Ngorongoro crater game drive
- Ferry to Zanzibar
- Three-night island stay in Zanzibar

MORE INCLUSIONS

- Afternoon 4x4 game drive in Maasai Mara National Park
- Morning and afternoon 4x4 game drives in Maasai Mara National Park
- Full-day overland truck game drive in the Serengeti
- Camping experience in the Serengeti
- 4x4 Ngorongoro crater game drive
- Ferry to Zanzibar

YOUR TRIP WILL START

PICK UP:

Nairobi
Kenya

YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

DROP OFF:

Zanzibar
Tanzania

TRIP CURRENCIES

- Kenya - KES
- Tanzania - TZS

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 | NAIROBI (KENYA)

Touch down in Nairobi, say jambo to your fellow explorers and don't forget to pinch yourself. Yep, you're ACTUALLY here. Tonight, it's time for our welcome group dinner – get ready to show off your weird animal facts. We'll go first: elephants are the only mammals that can't jump. This is going to be two wild weeks.



MEALS:

- Dinner

DAY 2 | NAIROBI – MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE

After brekkie, we're kick-starting the adventure by travelling across the mesmerising Great Rift Valley to the Maasai Mara National Reserve – Kenya's best-known game park. Looking for the real Africa? This is it. Before the day's done, we'll get our first taste of the great Kenyan outdoors on a game drive. Hold up – is that a leopard?



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Afternoon 4x4 game drive in Maasai Mara National Park

DAY 3 | MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE

You wanted to delve deeper – so here's a full day to soak up the Mara's rolling grasslands and broad horizons. Oh, and the Big Five? They're here too. Goosebumps at the ready. There's even time to visit a local Maasai village, if you're keen. Prep your peepers for an explosion of colour, 'cos the shukas (blankets) and jewellery that the locals make are seriously bright and beautiful. While you're here, you may get the chance to watch a traditional dance performance – and if you're really lucky, you might be invited to join in... Tonight, we'll tuck into another dinner under the stars. This is livin'.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Morning and afternoon 4x4 game drives in Maasai Mara National Park



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Visit a Maasai village: from 25 USD

DAY 4 | MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE – LAKE VICTORIA (TANZANIA)

Fill up at breakfast – today we're leaving the incredible natural wonderland of the Maasai Mara behind as we hit the road to Lake Victoria – the third biggest lake in the world. Some stats: this place is 400,000 years old (but doesn't look a day over 399,000), and spans three countries and 2,000 miles of coastline. It's literally immense. When we rock up at our hotel, settle in for another group dinner. And tomorrow? Lakeside adventures await...



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner

DAY 5 | LAKE VICTORIA

Today = a whole free day to dive into legendary Lake Victoria (not literally – the resident hippos and crocs don't need Deliveroo). Want inspo? Your in-the-know Trip Leader's got it covered, obvs. Opt for a boat trip for more fun facts and incred views. Check out a traditional village with a local guide. Or kick back at Matvilla Beach and watch the sky turn 50 shades of pink as the lake swallows the sun. Moments you'll never forget? Big. Fat. Tick.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Boat trip on Lake Victoria: prices available locally
- Visit a village with a local guide: prices available locally

DAY 6 | LAKE VICTORIA – SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

Ready to head into the iconic Serengeti National Park? With a name like 'the place where the land moves on forever', you know it's going to be epic. Wear your khaki greens, 'cos we're going all-out safari mode – keep an eye out for lions and hyenas on the drive. Tonight, tuck into dinner with the gang under a star-studded night sky. This is what you came for.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Full-day overland truck game drive in the Serengeti
- Camping experience in the Serengeti

DAY 7 | SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

Move out the way, Big Five. It's time to hype up the small guys – we're talking Africa's 'Little Five': the elephant shrew, buffalo weaver, leopard tortoise, antlion and rhino beetle. Today you've got the chance to spot them (and the big dudes too) as we explore the Serengeti plains on another out-of-this-world game drive. And tonight? It's our last eve camping in wildlife-paradise, so switch off Spotify and tune in to the local wildlife. Did you know a lion's roar can be heard up to 8 km away? Beat that, Katy Perry.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Full-day overland truck game drive in the Serengeti
- Camping experience in the Serengeti

DAY 8 | SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK – NGORONGORO CRATER – KARATU

Ever wondered what the Garden of Eden looked like? Our destination today comes pretty darn close. Get the local lowdown with a 4x4 game drive inside the Ngorongoro Crater. Boasting its own unique ecosystem, we'll pass riverine forests, wide-open plains and alkaline lakes on our search for the Big Five (who tend to be less shy here than in other wildlife reserves, FYI). You'll be dreaming of zebras, cheetahs and rhinos after hitting the hay in Karatu tonight.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- 4x4 Ngorongoro crater game drive

DAY 9 | KARATU – KOROGWE

No lies – today is a bit of a drive day. BUT it's a chance to catch up on some zzzs, text the 'rents (you'll be too busy later) and compare safari pics with your trip mates. Who's got the AUX cord? We might get lucky and spot the snow-capped peak of Mt Kilimanjaro on the way – but no promises. Overlanding like Attenborough builds up the appetite, so fuel up at dinner this evening.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner

DAY 10 | KOROGWE – DAR ES SALAAM

Hear that? It's tropical paradise calling our name. We'll roll south to the bustling seaport city of Dar es Salaam this afternoon – where a full evening of relaxing in the balmy ocean breeze awaits. Our accomm is right on the beach, so you'll have heaps of time to cool off in the crystal-clear waters or verse your trip mates at a not-so-friendly game of beach volleyball. After dinner tonight, get the fam together and pull up a pew at the Kipepeo Beach Bar for ice-cold cocktails and yet ANOTHER spine-tingling sunset. Bliss.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner

DAY 11 | DAR ES SALAAM – STONE TOWN (ZANZIBAR)

Wave goodbye to our trusty overland truck – we're getting the ferry over to palm-fringed paradise. Dump your stuff at the hotel and don your Birks. It's time to explore. If you want a local insight, opt for a guided city tour and wander around the Old Fort, mosques, palaces, bazaars and winding alleyways of this UNESCO Heritage-listed city. Can you smell that? That'll be the spices. Head out on an optional spice tour to learn more about the fragrant vanilla, cinnamon, pepper, ginger and nutmeg that are grown here. Or spend your free time doing your own spontaneous this-is-what-I-came-for thing. Tonight, dinner is up to you – but if you need some suggestions, your expert Trip Leader knows all the best local eats.



MEALS:

- Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Ferry to Zanzibar



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- City tour of Stone Town: from 20 USD
- Spice tour of Zanzibar: from 25 USD

DAY 12 | ZANZIBAR

You've seen the Insta version of Zanzibar's white sandy beaches and sparkling turquoise waters – now you've got two full days to experience it for yourself. Don't waste a second. After a short drive to the northern beaches, we'll get stuck into some of the best optional extras. Ready to find Nemo? Explore some of the top snorkelling spots in the area. We're talking over 500 marine species, including the odd turtle or dolphin (if you're lucky). Or head off coast to check out the giant sea tortoises on Prison Island. There's even a dhow cruise (think: traditional wooden boat) with your name on it, if you want. When in Zanzibar, right?



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Snorkelling: from 70 USD
- Prison Island tour: from 40 USD
- Dhow boat trip: from 70 USD

DAY 13 | ZANZIBAR

Another day, another bunch of sun-soaked, wildlife-filled optional activities. Try your hand at scuba diving. Or explore the Jozani Forest with a local guide, keeping your eye out for resident Skyes' monkeys, bush pigs, tree hyraxes and red colobus monkeys. Rather do your own thing? No worries. There are plenty of shady coconut palms to settle under, good book in hand. Or hunt down a local haunt for some fresh AF seafood. Tonight is our last included dinner with the gang (no crying). We'll be sure to give this incredible adventure the send-off it deserves.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Scuba diving: from 70 USD
- Sunset dhow boat trip: from 30 USD
- Walk through Jozani Forest: from 40 USD

DAY 14 | ZANZIBAR

Big Five. Big lake. Big experiences. Big dreams = made. We'll say our goodbyes after brekkie – time to swap socials and get planning that reunion trip. But who says the fun has to stop here? You know we've got Delve Deep adventures in South Africa, right...?



MEALS:

- Breakfast

OTHER INFORMATION

TOPDECK APP

Feeling appy? Download the Topdeck app and get PUMPED for the adventure ahead. Best bit is: from 45 days before departure you'll be able to chat with your soon-to-be tripmates.

Plus, get your itinerary at your fingertips – so you know where you'll be going and what you'll be doing on each day of your trip. Nice!

Links:

Apple <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/topdeck/id994727866>

Android <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.FlexiTechSolutions.TopDeck&hl=en>



YOUR SAFETY

NIGHTS OUT

We love a good night out – experiencing the nightlife and entertainment places have to offer is a big part of travelling. But alongside the fun it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety.

When you're out late, remember to avoid walking alone – particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. Make sure you have your trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking – and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

DRUG USE

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Customers should not bring any illegal substances onto the Topdeck coach or into any of the accommodation we stay in on our trips. This includes marijuana – even if it is legal in some of the states your trip passes through. If you are found in possession of drugs, you will be removed from the trip immediately. All instances of drug possession will be reported to Topdeck Head Office, who may consider alerting the relevant authorities.

REMEMBER: if you are found in possession of drugs, not only do you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if they are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you don't want that to happen to any of our Drivers – they're awesome.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Culture shock, homesickness, random periods of feeling down – these things happen and are totally normal. You can rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Topdeck crew will do their utmost to cheer you up.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- Call home. Sometimes it's nice to hear a familiar voice and have a good old-fashioned catch up with your loved ones
- Eat well. Never underestimate the power of a good, wholesome meal. Nobody feels at their best when they're hungry!
- Drink responsibly. Not only will you swerve the dreaded hangover, but by keeping an eye on what you drink you could also avoid getting into any potentially uncomfortable situations

- Talk to your Trip Leader. Don't forget, they're probably far from home too – so they're sure to know some tried- and- tested ways to beat the blues
- Integrate with your fellow Topdeckers. This one is key! The more fun you're having on your trip, the less likely you are to feel homesick (fact!)

TRAVEL SINCE COVID-19

Travel looks a bit different since COVID-19. That's why we've put some new procedures in place to help keep you safe on the road.

What remains the same? Your Topdeck trip will be run hygienically, responsibly, and with your safety at the forefront of everything we do. End of.

Here's the info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/travel-safely>

INSURANCE

Before your trip departs, it's compulsory for all passengers to take out comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation, medical expenses (including repatriation), loss or damage to baggage and personal belongings, money and personal liability.

Head to our FAQ for more info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/faqs-0>

Got more Qs? Chat with our Customer Service team: <https://www.topdeck.travel/about-us/contact>

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Please make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your trip. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your trip's departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling. Check out our handy interactive map showing global visa requirements:

<https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/latest-border-restrictions>

PLEASE NOTE: some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure, as requirements do change periodically.

TIPPING

Basically: it's not necessary.

Your Trip Leader and Driver don't expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. Meaning? More dollar to spend on optional activities (and a souvenir for your nan).

WHAT TO BRING

Based on our experience, these items are key. Everyone's different though – so if you want to bring more or less, go for it (as long as you don't exceed your 20kg allowance, that is!).

Off to Japan? Your luggage must be no bigger than 160cm in total (height x width x length). So maybe leave the hairdryer at home.

Psst: this is a packing list for Topdeck trips in general. Obv you'd look silly splashing around the Greek islands in a snowsuit.

- 1 pair of comfortable walking shoes + 1 pair of smart casual shoes
- 1 pair of thongs/jandals/flip-flops
- 2 pairs of jeans/trousers
- 2 pairs of shorts/skirts
- 4 shirts/T-shirts
- 2 sweaters/jumpers
- Smart casual evening wear
- 1 warm jacket + 1 rainproof jacket
- Underwear and socks + swimwear
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Hat and sunscreen
- Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- Adaptor plug
- Reusable water bottle
- Snow gear



THAT'S IT!