

**KENYA** A Unique Way to Experience The Big Five! *Special Edition with Wildstock Photography* | July 30 – August 13, 2022



As host to the famed Great Migration, Kenya is rich in biological diversity. On safari through this beautiful country, you will have the opportunity to observe and photograph the "Big Five"—leopards, rhinos, buffalos, lions, and elephants as well as other iconic African game such as gazelles, zebras, wildebeests, cheetahs, and more. Capture their beauty in the wildest and most natural form, all while learning photography techniques from expert photographer Reinier Munguia of Wildstock Photography.

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Nairobi National Park, where big game like giraffes, lions, and impalas can be found within the capital city limits.
- Witness the conservation of the black rhino up-close on a game drive at Solio Ranch, a privately owned reserve committed to the protection of these great creatures.
- Take a boat ride to Crescent Island Animal Sanctuary, where wildebeests, giraffes, zebras, and more roam free.
- Spend three days in Africa's "ultimate wildlife reserve," the Maasai Mara, venturing on morning and afternoon game drives to observe one of the world's greatest concentrations of large mammals.
- Immerse yourself in local culture with a visit to a Maasai village for entertainment and dance.







## **ITINERARY**

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

JULY 30 - DEPART U.S. Depart United States for the flight to Kenya.

#### JULY 31 - NAIROBI

Upon arrival at the international airport in Nairobi, after clearing customs and collecting your luggage, you will be met and taken to your hotel. Check-in starts at 12 pm. *Overnight at Tamarind Tree Hotel.* 

#### AUGUST 1 - NAIROBI

You will have a morning at leisure, with lunch and a program orientation at the hotel. In the afternoon, enjoy a visit to the nearby Nairobi National Park. Even though the park is within the capital city limits, it is possible to see big game like giraffes, wildebeests, lions, and impalas. This evening, enjoy a special dinner at the famous Carnivore Restaurant. *Overnight at Tamarind Tree Hotel. (BLD)* 

#### AUGUST 2 - ABERDARE

After breakfast, check out and drive to Aberdare. Arrive at Rhino Watch Lodge in time for lunch, followed by an afternoon game drive at Solio Ranch. This privately owned, protected area plays a major part in the protection and breeding of black rhinos (*Diceros bicornis*) and aims to promote their conservation. *Overnight at Rhino Watch Safari Lodge. (BLD)* 

#### AUGUST 3 - SAMBURU

After breakfast, check out and drive farther north to Samburu Game Reserve (~4-5 hrs.), within the land of the colorful Samburu people, close relatives of the Maasai. This area harbors a number of wildlife species found only north of the equator and offers unique vistas of rounded and rugged hills and undulating plains. The mix of wood and grassland with riverine forest and swamp is home to a wide variety of animal and bird life. After lunch and check-in, you'll have the remainder of the afternoon free until it's time for the afternoon game drive. *Overnight at Samburu Sopa Lodge. (BLD)* 

#### AUGUST 4 - SAMBURU

Spend another day in this reserve where game viewing and visibility are excellent. Bird life is superb, with over 380 recorded species, and game includes reticulated giraffes, Grévy's zebras, elephants, oryx, Somali ostrich, hippos, crocodiles, gerenuks, buffalos, lions, leopards, cheetahs, and hyenas. The long-necked gerenuk is a graceful antelope that spends much of its time in a bipedal stance seeking succulence among the withered scrub that dots this harsh terrain. Scenically, for most of the year Samburu is under the unsympathetic equatorial sun. Relief comes from the Ewaso Ng'iro, a river that rises some hundreds of kilometers to the west in the foothills of the Aberdare Range and vanishes beyond Samburu in the recess of the Lorian Swamp. *Overnight at Samburu Sopa Lodge. (BLD)* 



#### AUGUST 5 - LAKE NAKURU

After breakfast, check out with picnic lunch boxes and proceed to Lake Nakuru (-4 hrs.). Arrive at Lake Nakuru Lodge for check-in, followed by an afternoon game drive. Notable game within the lake includes hippos and clawless otters. On the shores roam waterbuck, Bohor's reedbuck, and zebra. The woodlands and forest are now home to both black and white rhino. Buffalo, leopard, lion, Rothschild's giraffe, and black -and-white colobus monkey are plentiful in the forest. The bush lands offer eland, steinbok, impala, Chandler's reedbuck, and dik dik, while rock hyrax and klipspringer occupy the cliffs and escarpment and the Big Five—lions, elephants, leopards, rhinos, and buffalos—also frequent the area. *Overnight at Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge. (BLD)* 

### AUGUST 6 - LAKE NAKURU

Spend another day exploring the Lake Nakuru area on game drives. *Overnight at Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge. (BLD)* 



## AUGUST 7 - LAKE NAIVASHA

This morning, drive approximately two hours to Lake Naivasha. Have lunch at Lake Naivasha Crescent Camp, followed by an afternoon boat ride and a visit to the Crescent Island Animal Sanctuary. On the shores of Lake Naivasha, there are herds of wildebeests, giraffes, waterbucks, zebras, and gazelles. *Overnight at Lake Naivasha Sopa Lodge. (BLD)* 

## AUGUST 8 - LAKE NAIVASHA

Enjoy a full day of game drives at Hell's Gate National Park with a picnic lunch. In addition to its wildlife, the park is known for its interesting geological features and geothermal activity. *Overnight at Lake Naivasha Sopa Lodge. (BLD)* 

### AUGUST 9 - MAASAI MARA

After breakfast, check out and drive to the famous Maasai Mara Game Reserve, whose name means "spotted plains" in the Maa language. This is home to one of the greatest concentrations of large mammals and is widely recognized as Africa's ultimate wildlife reserve. The park is the northern extension of the vast Serengeti-Mara ecosystem, famous for its annual migration of wildebeest. Arrive for lunch at the lodge and later depart for a sunset game drive in this spectacular location of breathtaking sceneries, never-ending plains, and the most abundant variety of wildlife remaining anywhere in the world. The landscape is made up of rolling savannas dotted with patchy shrubs and bush thickets. *Overnight at Mara Sopa Lodge. (BLD)* 

## AUGUST 10 & 11 - MAASAI MARA

Spend the next two days game watching with morning and afternoon game drives. Wildlife is abundant in the reserve, with the gentle grasslands ensuring that animals are never out of sight. Birds are prolific including migrants; 450 bird species have been recorded, among them 57 birds of prey. Every year the Mara plays host to the world's greatest natural spectacle; The Great Wildebeest Migration from the Serengeti. The big cats—lion, leopard, and cheetah—follow the wildebeest, essentially their main source of food, into the Mara. The Mara at this time is packed with wildlife, providing lucky visitors on safari with superb game sightings. You'll also get a chance to visit a Maasai tribal village and enjoy entertainment by Maasai dancers. *Overnight at Mara Sopa Lodge. (BLD)* 

## AUGUST 12 - NAIROBI/DEPARTURE

This morning, you will be transferred to Nairobi, have lunch, then arrive at the hotel. A day room has been arranged for you to freshen up before your evening flight home. Check-out is at 6 pm. *Day room at Hilton Garden Inn. (BL)* 

AUGUST 13 - ARRIVE U.S. Welcome home!



# LAND PRICING

**\$5,950** (6 participants)

Cost includes accommodations, meals, entrance fees, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, private vehicle transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary, nonalcoholic beverages with meals, full-time guide for duration of program, bottled water on bus, and departure tax.

International airfare, gratuities, and items of a personal nature are not included. Holbrook can assist with your flight arrangements if desired.

# TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more. Refer to the Plan Document for more details.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

# THE FINE PRINT

Price is based on double occupancy; for a single room, add \$715 per person. A completed enrollment form and \$500 deposit are required to hold your space on the trip. This deposit is refundable minus a \$300 cancellation fee until April 16, 2022, at which time final non-refundable payment is due.

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Holbrook Travel was founded on the principle that travel fosters a greater understanding of our world's cultural and natural treasures and that these experiences allow individuals to become agents for global change. We hope that your experiences in Kenya will remain with you forever and will challenge you to make a difference in the world we share!



# FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information or to enroll, visit holbrook.travel/wildstock-kyse22 or contact Sandy Schmidt at schmidt@holbrooktravel.com or 877-907-5360.

# ABOUT YOUR LEADER



Reinier Munguia is a commercial and nature photographer with a strong education and conservation vision. His work has appeared in several publications including textbooks and magazines. His passion for nature has taken him to become an advocate for causes related to the protection of species. Educating people about nature has become his most important goal.

Reinier has also taken on the role of vice-president of education for the Lake Region Audubon, where he has been doing multiple presentations as well as leading conservation and outreach programs. Over the years he has presented at large nature and photography events such as the Space Coast Birding Festival, The Big "O" and the First Coast Nature & Photo Fest among others.

Wanting to explore more of the natural world has led Reinier to lead photography and birding trips though the United States, as well as other destinations including Costa Rica, Ecuador and Puerto Rico. As the President and teacher of the Polk County Camera Club, he has been educating amateur photographers not only in the proper use of their equipment but also in the ability to self-evaluate their work.



