

## **TANZANIA – AKERI PARISH PILGRIMAGE AND SAFARI**

With Pastor Brian and Cindy Halverson

**April 19 – May 2, 2020**

April 19 – Depart from O’Hare to Kilimanjaro International Airport

April 20 – Early evening arrival and transfer to KIA Lodge (close to airport).

April 21 – Transfer to Arusha; exchange money. Greeting and lunch at Akeri Parish followed by a short meeting with the Bishop. Proceed to the Meru Diocese Guest House where we relax on the patio before dinner and our overnight.

April 22 – Visit projects supported by the Meru diocese: Nkoaranga Hospital, the orphanage, a coffee project farmer, Ailanga Secondary School. Box lunch. Dinner and overnight at the guest house.

April 23 – Heifer International has provided the model for the success of many farmers in the region. We will visit two farm sites that underscore the value of this project in Tanzania. Lunch in Arusha at the Blue Heron Restaurant followed by shopping at the local craft markets.

April 24 – Share the day with the students at Akeri Hope Medium School where we will interact and do projects with them. Transfer to Akeri Parish and meet our hosts for our weekend home stay.

April 25-26 – Our weekend will be spent sharing time with the members of Akeri and Nguruma Parishes and becoming acquainted with our partners. Worship on Sunday morning at both parishes enjoying the music, offering auction between services, and the fellowship we have fostered with our wonderful partners. Home stay on Saturday night. Sunday afternoon we return to the Guest House for dinner and overnight with time to re-pack for our safari experience.

April 27 – After an early breakfast, we depart for our 5 day, 4-night safari. A box lunch at the edge of the Ngorongoro Crater gives you a sense of the area and the wildlife inhabiting it. Continue on your live game drive to Ndutu Safari Lodge in the heart of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Relax on the outdoor patio with

a drink. It is not unusual to see zebras, dik-diks or wildebeest as you relax outside near the fire-pit. And you may hear an occasional lion roar in the distance.

April 28 – We rise early for breakfast, board our safari vehicles with box lunches and continue on an all-day game drive in the western portion of Serengeti National Park. Return to Ndutu for relaxation, dinner and overnight.

April 29 - After an early morning game drive and breakfast, we depart for Tarangire National Park with game viewing along the way. Upon arrival, enjoy the incredible view over the river valley from the patio at Tarangire Safari Lodge. Spend time relaxing on the patio, enjoy your tented safari experience (permanent tents), and having wonderful cuisine in their open-air dining space. Overnight listening to the unique sounds of the night. (Optional safari extension below.)

April 30 – A full day in Tarangire National Park, home to hundreds of elephants. Morning and afternoon games drives and opportunities to swim in the pool and relax once again before settling into your tent for your last night on safari.

May 1 – Breakfast followed by a morning game drive. After a relaxing lunch at the lodge, you will be transported back to Arusha with time to shop at the Cultural Center and then transfer by bus to Kilimanjaro International Airport for your flight back to the United States. Arrival at O’Hare – May 2, 2020.

**TRIP COST:** (includes all accommodations and meals, transportation, Park fees, Flying Dr. insurance, Tourism Levy. Note: does not include airfare)

**\$2,161.00** (based on double occupancy and a minimum of 10 travelers) Deposit: \$350

You will need to get your own airline tickets. As of this date (August 10), airfare on Delta is approximately \$1218 with departure on April 19 – return May 1, arrive in USA May 2, 2020. We will help you with your airline ticket online purchase. A 3-day safari extension to Serengeti National Park is noted on the sheet to follow.

Please note that Serengeti Select Safaris, our provider, reserves the same identical lodges used by National Geographic and other large safari companies. Because it is a “local” travel company run by Nathan and Steve Simonsen, sons of an LCA missionary pastor in Tanzania (then supported by a local Minneapolis church), we get far better rates, personal non-stop attention, and incredible guides who have been escorting our St. John’s trips since 2008.

### THREE-DAY SAFARI EXTENSION – SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

April 29 – After your morning game drive and breakfast, you will be transported to Serengeti National Park with game viewing along the way. A picnic lunch is provided as you relax in one of the parks many picnic areas. Drive to your tented lodge, Kirawira Tented Camp, on the western edge of the Serengeti.

April 30 and May 1 – Spend two full days in the Serengeti. Morning and afternoon game drives followed by a chance to relax or swim in the pool at the end of an incredible day tracking the Big Five and the wildebeest migration.

May 2 – Following breakfast, our game drive experience takes us out of the Serengeti as we head for Tarangire National Park. Upon arrival, enjoy the incredible view over the river valley from the patio at Tarangire Safari Lodge. Spend time relaxing on the patio, enjoying your tented safari experience (permanent tents), and having wonderful cuisine in their open-air dining space. Overnight listening to the unique sounds of the night.

May 3 – A full day in Tarangire National Park, home to hundreds of elephants. Morning and afternoon games drives and opportunities to swim in the pool and relax once again before settling into your tent for your last night on safari.

May 4 – Breakfast followed by a morning game drive. After a relaxing lunch at the lodge, you will be transported back to Arusha with time to shop at the Cultural Center and then transfer by bus to Kilimanjaro International Airport for your flight back to the United States. Arrival at O’Hare – May 5, 2020.

**EXTENSION COST:** (NOTE – this additional cost is for the three days/nights you will spend in the Serengeti with lodging at Kirawira Tented Camp.)

**\$1567** (based on double occupancy and 10 travelers. Should numbers fall below 10, the rate will be adjusted accordingly.)

**TOTAL COST FOR TRIP WITH EXTENSION:**

**\$2161 + \$1567 = \$3728 + airfare**

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