7-Day Family Safari

Shorter drives, longer breakfasts, and a guide who's happy to answer every question

7 days · 6 nights · Tarangire, Lake Manyara, Serengeti, Ngorongoro



At a glance

DURATION	7 days, 6 nights
DESTINATIONS	Tarangire, Lake Manyara, Serengeti, Ngorongoro
STARTS	Arusha
ENDS	Arusha
GROUP TYPE	Private departure
ACCOMMODATION	Classic
VEHICLE	Private 4x4 Land Cruiser with pop-up roof

BEST TIME	Jan–Feb, Jun–Aug, Dec
MINIMUM AGE	5 years

Overview

Most safari itineraries are written for adults and then sold to families. We built this one the other way round. The drives are shorter, the camps have pools, and the middle of the day is left free on purpose. That's when the kids recharge and the grown-ups finally get to read a book.

Having your own vehicle matters more with children than with anyone else. Need to turn round, stop, or head back to camp early? Just do it, no negotiating with strangers.

Is this trip for you?

Families with children aged roughly five and up. Some camps have a minimum age, but don't worry, we'll tell you which ones before you choose. Grandparents often come along on this trip too, and it works really well for them.

> This is a sample itinerary. You can change every part of it (the route, the pace, the camps, the length) and most people do!

Highlights

- A private vehicle, so the day belongs to your family
- Elephant herds in Tarangire, up close
- Baboon troops and hippo pools in Lake Manyara
- Full days in the Serengeti, with a break in the middle
- A trip down into the Ngorongoro Crater
- A respectfully arranged visit to a Hadzabe or Datoga community
- Pools at most camps, which matter more than you think!

Route

01 Tarangire · 02 Lake Manyara · 03 Serengeti · 04 Ngorongoro · 05 Arusha

Day by day

DAY 01

01 Arusha to Tarangire

Arusha → Tarangire

After breakfast, you'll head south-west to Tarangire for a game drive and a picnic lunch in the park. Tarangire makes a great first park for children: there are lots of elephants, they're not bothered by vehicles, and they're close enough that nobody needs to be told where to look.

Dinner and overnight at a lodge or tented camp.

Stay: Tarangire · **Meals:** B · L · D · **Driving:** 2h 30m

DAY 02

02 Tarangire to Lake Manyara

Tarangire → Lake Manyara

It's a short drive to Lake Manyara, which packs a lot into a small park: groundwater forest at the gate, then woodland, then the open lake shore. Manyara has the largest concentration of baboons anywhere, and the troops along the entrance road are always a reliable source of entertainment.

The birdlife on the lake, with pelicans, storks and flamingos, is exceptional, and the hippo pools in the north are a perfect place to end the afternoon.

Stay: Lake Manyara · **Meals:** B · L · D · **Driving:** 2h

DAY 03

03 Into the Serengeti

Lake Manyara → Serengeti

This is the longest drive of the week, through the farmland around Karatu and across the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. So we break it up: a stop on the crater rim for the view, another at Olduvai Gorge, and lunch along the way.

You'll come down onto the plains in the early afternoon, and reach the Seronera area in time for a game drive before dark.

Stay: Central Serengeti · **Meals:** B · L · D · **Driving:** 5h

DAYS 04 & 05

04 & 05 Serengeti National Park

Serengeti

Two full days in the Serengeti, planned around your children, not against them. You'll head out early while it's cool and the cats are active, come back to camp for lunch and the hot middle of the day, then go out again from about four.

The Seronera valley has resident lion, leopard and cheetah all year round, so these two days don't depend on where the migration happens to be.

Stay: Central Serengeti · **Meals:** B · L · D

DAY 06

06 Serengeti to the Ngorongoro Crater rim

Serengeti → Ngorongoro

An early game drive, then east out of the park and up to the crater rim. It's a long drive but a beautiful one, and it ends with your first view down into the crater, about 600 metres below where you're standing.

The rim gets cold at night and is often in cloud. Bring a fleece. People are always surprised!

Stay: Crater rim · **Meals:** B · L · D · **Driving:** 4h 30m

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DAY 07

07 Crater descent, then Arusha

Ngorongoro → Arusha

You'll head down onto the crater floor early, before the day trips arrive, and spend the morning there. Look out for lion, elephant, buffalo, flamingos on the soda lake, and maybe a black rhino in the distance.

After a picnic lunch on the crater floor, you'll climb out and drive back to Arusha, arriving in the late afternoon for your flight or an onward transfer to Zanzibar.

Meals: B · L · **Driving:** 4h

Pricing

We price every safari individually, because it really depends on when you travel, which camps you pick and how many of you there are. Tell us your dates and we'll send you a full, itemised quote, not a vague range.

Priced per person, for a private trip. International flights aren't included.

What's included

Included

• Pick-up at Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO) and your return transfer
• Accommodation before and after the safari, with breakfast
• A private 4x4 Land Cruiser with a pop-up roof, just for your group
• An experienced, English-speaking Tanzanian driver-guide the whole way
• All park and conservation area fees
• All your accommodation on safari
• Three meals a day while you're on safari
• Bottled water and soft drinks in the vehicle
• A flask of hot tea or coffee
• A medical kit and binoculars in every vehicle
• 24-hour phone support while you're in the country

Not included

• International flights
• Your Tanzanian visa
• Travel and medical insurance
• Lunch and dinner at your hotel before and after the safari
• Alcoholic drinks
• Optional extras, like balloon safaris and cultural visits
• Tips for your guide, customarily US$15–20 per vehicle per day
• Personal items and laundry

Talk to us

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Prepared 17 November 2026. We build every trip around the people going on it, so please treat this as a starting point. It's not a quotation and it's not a contract. We'll confirm availability, camps and prices in writing before anything is booked. And remember, wild animals keep their own schedule, so no sighting can be guaranteed.