7-Day Grumeti Migration Safari

May to July, when the herds are in the west

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



At a glance

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

BEST TIME	May–Jul

Overview

Most migration trips chase the Mara River in the north. This one goes west instead, to the Grumeti, where the herds usually are between about May and July. The crocodiles there are famously large and the crowds are a fraction of the size.

You get four nights in the Serengeti: two in the centre and two out west where the migration should be. Rather than driving all the way back, you finish with a flight from Kirawira, which saves most of a day.

Is this trip for you?

Second-time visitors, photographers, and anyone who has seen pictures of twenty vehicles at one crossing and would rather not be in them.

> This is a starting point, not a fixed departure. You can change the route, the pace, the camps and the length, and most people do.

Highlights

- Two nights in the western Serengeti, on the Grumeti
- Two nights in the central Serengeti as well
- A full day on the Ngorongoro Crater floor
- Lake Manyara on the first day
- A flight out from Kirawira instead of the long drive back

Route

01 Karatu · 02 Serengeti · 03 Western Serengeti · 04 Arusha

Day by day

DAY 01

01 Lake Manyara

Arusha → Karatu

Picked up at eight for the drive across the Great Rift Valley and a full day in Lake Manyara. It is a small park with a lot in it: lush acacia forest, giant figs and mahoganies, and a growing population of baboons and blue monkeys.

Giraffe, elephant, impala, buffalo and hippo all live here, and the drives along the shore are lovely to photograph. If you would rather swap this day for Tarangire, or add a day and do both, just say.

Stay: Ngorongoro Farm House, Karatu · **Meals:** B · L · D · **Driving:** 2h

DAY 02

02 The Ngorongoro Crater

Karatu → Karatu

A very early start and down onto the crater floor for a morning in one of the most striking places on earth. The crater runs to about 260 square kilometres inside walls six hundred metres high, and almost everything indigenous to East Africa lives down there.

It is one of the rare places you might see black rhino. There is a river, swamps, a soda lake with flamingos, forest and open plains, and elephants carrying some of the heaviest ivory left anywhere.

Stay: Ngorongoro Farm House, Karatu · **Meals:** B · L · D · **Driving:** 1h

DAY 03

03 Ngorongoro to the Serengeti

Karatu → Serengeti

An early breakfast and the drive to the Serengeti. It is long and it is spectacular, and seeing the plains for the first time is a moment most people remember.

This is the home of the migration: two million wildebeest, hundreds of thousands of zebra, and every kind of antelope, plus the lion, cheetah, leopard and hyena that follow them.

Stay: Serengeti Kubu Kubu Tented Lodge · **Meals:** B · L · D · **Driving:** 3h

DAY 04

04 A full day in the Serengeti

Serengeti

A whole day in the park, arranged however you like it. Two drives with lunch and a rest in between, or one long day with a picnic — your guide will talk it through with you the evening before.

Stay: Serengeti Kubu Kubu Tented Lodge · **Meals:** B · L · D

DAY 05

05 Central Serengeti to the west

Central Serengeti → Western Serengeti

West across the plains into the corridor that follows the Grumeti, game driving through country most visitors never reach.

Two nights out here is what gives the river a real chance.

Stay: Lahia Tented Lodge · **Meals:** B · L · D · **Driving:** 4h

---

DAY 06

06 The Grumeti River

Western Serengeti

A full day around Kirawira. Resident wildlife is unusually dense here — lion prides of up to thirty are not unknown — and from May to June the migration turns the area into something else again.

The Grumeti is the feature, and the herds sometimes cross it. Please take this in the spirit it is meant: finding a crossing is difficult and often comes down to luck. A herd can stand at the river and decide not to cross for another two days.

Stay: Lahia Tented Lodge · **Meals:** B · L · D

DAY 07

07 Kirawira airstrip to Arusha

Western Serengeti → Arusha

One more very early game drive, which is the best hour of the day and a good last one, then on to the airstrip for the flight back to Arusha.

Flight timings depend on the pilot's route that day, so we keep the morning flexible.

Meals: B · L

Pricing

From US$6,180 pp

That is per person, with two of you sharing, and it covers everything in the included list: park fees, your vehicle and guide, your rooms and your meals. A bigger group brings the per-person price down, and the time of year changes what the camps charge. Tell us your dates and how many of you there are and we will send a full, itemised quote.

GROUP SIZE	PER PERSON	GROUP TOTAL
2 travelling together	US$6,180	US$12,360
3 travelling together	US$5,660	US$16,980
4 travelling together	US$5,600	US$22,400
5 travelling together	US$5,560 (best rate)	US$27,800
6 travelling together	US$6,180	US$37,080

Per person, sharing, as published on our own Safarigo listing for 8 April 2026 to 30 April 2030. We confirm your exact figure in writing when we quote.

What's included

Included

• Park fees at non-resident rates
• Every activity in the itinerary
• All accommodation on the trip
• A professional driver-guide
• All transport, and your airport transfers both ways
• All taxes and VAT
• The meals and drinks shown on each day

Not included

• International flights
• Extra nights before or after the trip
• Tips for your guide and the lodge teams
• Personal items, souvenirs, travel insurance and visa fees
• Any government increase in taxes or park fees

Talk to us

The Guide Safaris
WhatsApp +255 624 012 180
info@theguidesafaris.com
P.O. Box 6232, Arusha, Tanzania
theguidesafaris.com

Prepared 18 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.