



## THE CRADLE OF HUMANKIND

### Tentative Itinerary

#### DAY 1

##### **International Flights from USA to Nairobi, Kenya**

Expect travel between 20-24 hours including not more than one layover from LAX or JFK airport.

#### DAY 2

##### **Arrive at Jomo Keyatta International Airport & Check-In**

After a late evening arrival, you will be greeted at the airport by your guides and transferred to your accommodations for a late dinner before relaxing and resting for tomorrow's activities.

#### DAY 3

##### **Nairobi City Tour**

After breakfast, enjoy a walking tour of the city while learning about the urban and ethnic culture of modern-day Nairobi. Stops will include a visit to Nairobi's major landmarks and the great Maasai market where visitors can find a vast array of original paintings, art, clothes and traditional fabrics.

##### **Nairobi National Museum Visit**

Learn more about Kenyan and East African culture and history, including a refreshingly Kenyan counterpoint to the Western version of colonial history. Highlights include ethnological exhibits, mosaics, the spectacular Birds of East Africa exhibit, the Great Hall of Mammals, the Cradle of Humankind exhibition, and the Hominid Skull Room.

#### DAY 4

##### **Nairobi National Park**

One of the best ways to see wild animals is in their natural habitat. Nairobi National Park is located just outside the city limits and is fenced on three sides, with an open southern boundary allowing migrating wildlife to move between the park and the adjacent Kitengela plains. Expect to see rhinos, lions, giraffes, buffalo, gazelles, zebra, and much more. Visitors can enjoy the park's picnic sites, three campsites and the walking trails for hikers.

## DAY 5

### Visit the Homeland of the Kikuyu People

Departing early from Nairobi, you'll visit the ancestral home of the Kikuyu people, Kenya's largest ethnic group, to learn about their traditional way of life, Kikuyu history, interact with elders, try their food, and sample their local beer.

The Kikuyu comprise about 22% of the total population of Kenya and speak the Bantu Kikuyu language. Because they resented the occupation of their highlands by European farmers and other settlers, the Kikuyu were the first native ethnic group in Kenya to initiate anti-colonial agitation in the 1920s and '30s. They staged the Mau Mau Uprising against British rule in 1952 and spearheaded the drive toward Kenyan independence later in the decade.

## DAY 6

### Day Trip to the Great Rift Valley

Today, you will drive down to the Kariandusi Prehistoric Site located in Rift Valley to will learn why Africa is nicknamed the "cradle of humankind" and the region's significance to the world and human development. The Early Stone Age in Africa extended from about 2.6 million years ago to 280,000 years ago when the most well-known human ancestors were evolving: *Australopithecus Afarensis*, *Paranthropus boisei*, *Homo Habilis* (the "Handy Man"), and *Homo Erectus*.

## DAY 7

### Welcome to Mombasa

Today, you will check out of your accommodations in Nairobi and catch a quick flight to the coastal city of Mombasa and check in to your beach side accommodations.

### Get to Know Mombasa

On this half-day tour, you will get to know Mombasa's most interesting sights, including Old Town Mombasa, the Giant Tusks, and Fort Jesus, a UNESCO World Heritage Site constructed by the Portuguese in 1593-1596.

## DAY 8

### Tsavo Safari Day Excursion

After an early morning drive to this national park, you will embark on a day safari experience looking out for elephants, lions, zebras, antelopes, giraffes, buffaloes, and more. We will visit the Aruba Dam that hosts a myriad of game and bird species. Lunch will be served in the Wildlife Lodge, after which you will continue on to see more wildlife.

## DAY 9

### Relaxing Beach Day

Spend the day relaxing, exploring your surroundings, take a seaside walk, or just hit the beach for sunbathing and swimming.

## DAY 10

### Farewell Kenya!

All good things must come to an end. After check-out, you will be transferred to Mombasa's Moi International Airport, where you'll connect to your international flight back home.