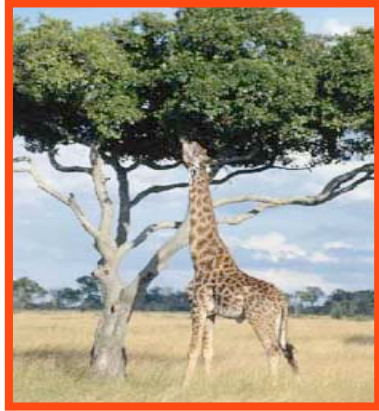


The Great Migration and following in the footsteps of Dian Fossey



# East Africa and Rwanda

February 08-22, 2008



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## East Africa February 08-22, 2008



Friday, February 08, 2008

AR: Arusha, Tanzania  
Kilimanjaro International Airport

Services in East Africa  
will be provided by:  
Acorn Destination Management  
Abercrombie and Kent

After going through customs and immigrations met by  
an A&K representative and transferred to:

Arusha Coffee Lodge



**Arusha Coffee Lodge** is situated on the Burka Coffee estate, a working coffee plantation spanning some 2100 acres. The Lodge has 19 private chalets, each with en-suite facilities, including shower, bath, and separate toilets. The chalets are built on raised wooden platforms, and have log fireplaces, private lounges and large balconies overlooking Mount Meru, and the plantation. With coffee roasters, and a fermentation plant on the estate, guests have the opportunity to observe the roasting process, taste coffee blends, and purchase fresh roasted beans. The chalets are equipped with a mini bar, mosquito net, overhead fan, and room service is available. The Lodge also has a swimming pool, and relaxation spa.



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*Saturday, February 09, 2008*

Breakfast at leisure and a day of rest after your long flight to Arusha.

Cuisine at Coffee Lodge is of a superb standard and dining is in the shade of large umbrellas set amongst the lawn and trees. A large wooden deck leads to a lovely clean swimming pool and sun-bathing area, dotted with tables and sunshades.

Optional activities include plantation tours, horse riding, mountain biking, and nature walks on the estate. These can be arranged at extra cost.

Welcome Dinner and an overnight at the:  
Arusha Coffee Lodge

*Sunday, February 10, 2008*

6:00 am Breakfast at Lodge

After breakfast you'll be transferred to Arusha airport for your scheduled flight to Kuro at 8:00AM. You arrive at the Kuro airstrip at 8:25AM, met and transferred to Swala Camp, game viewing en route.

You arrive in time for lunch followed by an afternoon game drive.

Swala Camp is located under a majestic umbrella of acacia trees at the south western part of the park, by the Gurusi marshes. The camp offers a most peaceful setting for the traveler after a long day of game viewing. The camp comprises of 12 double tents and a mess tent with a common room. All tents face east overlooking the marsh land and watering hole which are regularly visited by the lions, buffalos and elephants.



Meals and overnight at Swala Tented Camp





*Monday, February 11, 2008*

#### TARANGIRE NATIONAL PARK

You have the whole day to explore Tarangire National park. There will be early morning and afternoon game drives. Tarangire National Park derives its name from the Tarangire River that rises in the highlands of central Tanzania and winds its way through the game sanctuary. The river irresistibly lures the herds of plains migrants from the parched surrounding area to its shrunken - but permanent - brackish waters during the dry season.



The animals come by the thousands from as far north as the shores of Lake Natron, dramatically swelling the resident population with wildebeest, zebra, and eland, elephant, hartebeest, buffalo and fringe-eared Oryx. As the rainless days continue, the Tarangire's pools are clogged with thirsty migrants, and elephants begin to dig for underground streams in the dry riverbed. With the arrival of the short rains in October, the first animals to leave are the herds of wildebeest and zebra, which flood out of Tarangire to the north.

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

#### TARANGIRE - NGORONGOR

After breakfast you will be transferred to Kuro airstrip for your scheduled flight to Manyara airstrip.

LV: Tarangire	8:30 am
AR: Ngorongoro (Manyara)	9:05 am

Upon arrival, you are met and transferred from Manyara airstrip to Ngorongoro Crater Lodge, your base for the next two nights.

After lunch you'll have the option of a visit to a Maasai Village (at no extra cost).





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You spend the remainder of the afternoon enjoying the views across Ngorongoro Crater as you enjoy a drink on your balcony at Crater Lodge.

Ngorongoro Crater Lodge is built on the southwestern rim of the Ngorongoro Crater and consists of three adjacent, glamorous camps with 30 Maasai-inspired suites perched on stilts. From the outside, this unobtrusive lodge resembles a magical Maasai village, and was described by travel magazine, *Discover Africa*, as "Versailles meets Maasai in the game lodge at the edge of the world". Set in classic crescents, each stone and thatch suite has spectacular views of the crater from large glass windows in the bathroom, lounge and bedroom, yet is almost invisible from the crater floor. North and South Camp have 12 suites each, while intimate Tree Camp has six suites. All have an en suite bathroom and chandelier-lit bathtub and shower. Inspired decor and eclectic design make these romantic camps ideal for celebrating a special occasion. Each sumptuous suite is discreetly tended by a personal butler, who will bring you tea in bed, stoke your fireplace and draw your bath, scattering the water with rose petals, ready for your enjoyment.



The crater is the spectacular stalking ground of around 20,000 to 30,000 wild animals at any one time, the most densely packed concentration of wildlife in Africa. The crater thus holds an astonishing microcosm of East African wildlife within its boundaries, and thus has achieved renown as 'the eighth wonder of the world', and attracts a growing number of visitors each year.



Dinner and overnight at [Ngorongoro Crater Lodge](#)



*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

#### NGORONGORO CRATER

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area covers 2286 sq km and encompasses the volcanic area around the Ngorongoro Crater - including the still active volcano of Oldonyo Lengai and the famous Olduvai Gorge. Its centerpiece, the Ngorongoro Crater, is the largest unbroken caldera in the world and the first sight of it is breathtaking. The floor of the crater is only 100 sq miles but is home to around 30,000 animals with a high concentration of predators.

The crater supports up to 25,000 large mammals. Grazers dominate: zebra, wildebeest - accounting for almost half the animals - gazelle, buffalo, eland, hartebeest and wart hog. Giraffe, for example, stay away because there is insufficient food at tree level, topi because they compete directly with wildebeest. An odd feature of the crater elephants is that they are almost exclusively bulls. Breeding herds - comprising large numbers of females and young with a few attendant older males - are probably unable to find sufficient quality food in the crater.

Ngorongoro has carnivores in quantity, drawn by the large herds of prey animals. It has the densest population of large predators, mainly lion - about 100 - and more than 400 spotted hyenas, living in eight clans of up to eighty individuals. Both lions and hyenas will scavenge from each other, depending on weight of numbers and of course, hunger.

Most of the bird wildlife in Ngorongoro is seasonal. Also influencing the variety of bird species on display is the ratio of soda to fresh water in the largest expanse of water on the crater floor, Lake Magadi. The lake is alkaline due to deposits of volcanic ash thrown out by surrounding volcanoes.

Enjoy your packed lunches at a picnic site on the crater floor.  
Drive up the crater wall back to the lodge

Dinner and overnight at [Ngorongoro Crater Lodge](#)



*Thursday, February 14, 2008*

NGORONGORO - SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast you drive to Serengeti National Park via Olduvai Gorge



Olduvai Gorge

This "Cradle of Mankind" is a treasure trove of archaeological sites, filled with fossil, settlement remains and stone artifacts. One can see the evolution of prehistoric man in the landscape's geological strata. It is the world famous site of the Leakey's discovery of a hominoid skull dating back 1.8million years.

Proceed to Kusini Camp, your base for the next three nights.



Kusini Camp is built in and around a large kopje. The camp offers spectacular views across a Tortillis woodland situated on the edge of the short grass plains. The camp compromises of 12 double tents scattered around the kopje with the mess tent and common area as the central feature. Privacy between tents is guaranteed as they are at a substantial distance from each other and are generally concealed by a tree or kopje.

Meals and overnight at Kusini Tented Camp.

*Friday & Saturday, February 15-16, 2008*

SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK

Full days spent on viewing the endless plains of the Serengeti.

Between the Ngorongoro Highlands, Lake Victoria and Tanzania's northern border with Kenya stretches one of the world's last great wildlife refuges - the Serengeti. The name comes from the Maasai siringet, "endless plains". The Serengeti's 14,763 square kms contains about three million large animals, most taking part in seasonal migrations, unparalleled in nature.



Twice a year, triggered by the rains, 1.3 million wildebeest, 200,000 zebra and 300,000 Thomson's gazelle gather to undertake the long trek to new grazing lands. The migration of the herbivores roughly defines the boundaries of Serengeti National Park, which is the central zone of the Serengeti ecosystem, an area that also takes in Kenya's Maasai Mara National Reserve, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area and the Maswa Game Reserve in the west. Within this 25,900 square kms of varied landscape live thirty-five species of plains game and 500 bird species.

Meals and overnight at Kusini Tented Camp.

*Sunday, February 17, 2008*

SERENGETI - ARUSHA

After breakfast you'll be transferred to the airstrip for a scheduled flight to Arusha Airport.

LV: Serengeti 10:00 AM

AR: Arusha 12:10 PM

You are met and transferred to The Arusha Hotel where you'll be spending a night.

Lunch is included in your program and dinner will be on your account.





The Arusha Hotel was first built in 1927 by an American coffee farmer called 'Kenyon Painter'. The hotel has been home to many travelers on their journey from Cape to Cairo. It's set in beautifully landscaped gardens with all the amenities and luxury for the discerning traveler. The tropical gardens are home to many birds and exotic plants. The Arusha, has recently undergone an extensive renovation and refurbishment program.

*Monday, February 18, 2008*

DEPARTURE

After a leisurely day you will be transferred to Kilimanjaro airport for your flight.

LV: ARUSHA  
AR: KIGALI

4:00 PM  
5:00 PM

RWANDA AIR

## Rwanda, Africa

*Land of a thousand hills.*

Upon arrival in Kigali, you will be met and transferred to your hotel:

MILLE COLLINES - 1Nt  
PO Box 1322  
Kigali  
RWANDA  
Phone: 250 576 530  
Fax: 250 576 541

The Mille Collines is a four star hotel with a fine setting and personalized service situated in a large exotic garden in downtown Kigali, Rwanda. The hotel has 112 exclusive rooms and executive suites with balcony, all with private bathroom, direct telephone, satellite and movie channels, mini-bar and PC hook-up.

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7:30 PM Dinner will be in the Panorama Restaurant at the Mille Collines.

*Tuesday, February 19, 2008*

5:00 AM By private vehicle, early morning departure for Kinigi

8:30 AM Arrive at ORTPN in Ruhengeri to obtain your gorilla permits.



A gorilla visit can entail anything from a 1 to 4-hour trek through the forest, led by experienced trackers who have spent their entire lives living in or close to the forest. Your trek will be enchanting as you weave through overhanging vines, moss-covered Hagenia trees and giant Lobelias that thrive in the tropical climate. You may spot golden monkeys or see buffalo, bush duiker and a wide variety of bird life. But the high point, of course, one of the greatest wildlife experiences on earth, will be spending an hour with the gentle giant mountain gorillas as they go about their daily life, feeding, playing, resting, raising their young. At the end of your visit you will understand what kept conservationist Dian Fossey living in this same forest for 18 years protecting these wonderful animals.

After your visit with the gorillas, you will return for an overnight at the Gorillas Nest Lodge.



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*Wednesday, February 20, 2008*

8:30 AM Arrive at ORTPN in Ruhengeri for gorilla permits  
Trek to visit the gorillas (lunch included).



Farewell Dinner at the Gorillas Nest  
Lodge with a performance from a local  
Rwandan Dance Group.

Overnight at the Gorillas Nest.

*Thursday, February 21, 2008*

By private vehicle, you will be transferred to Kigali airport in time for your departure flight home.

