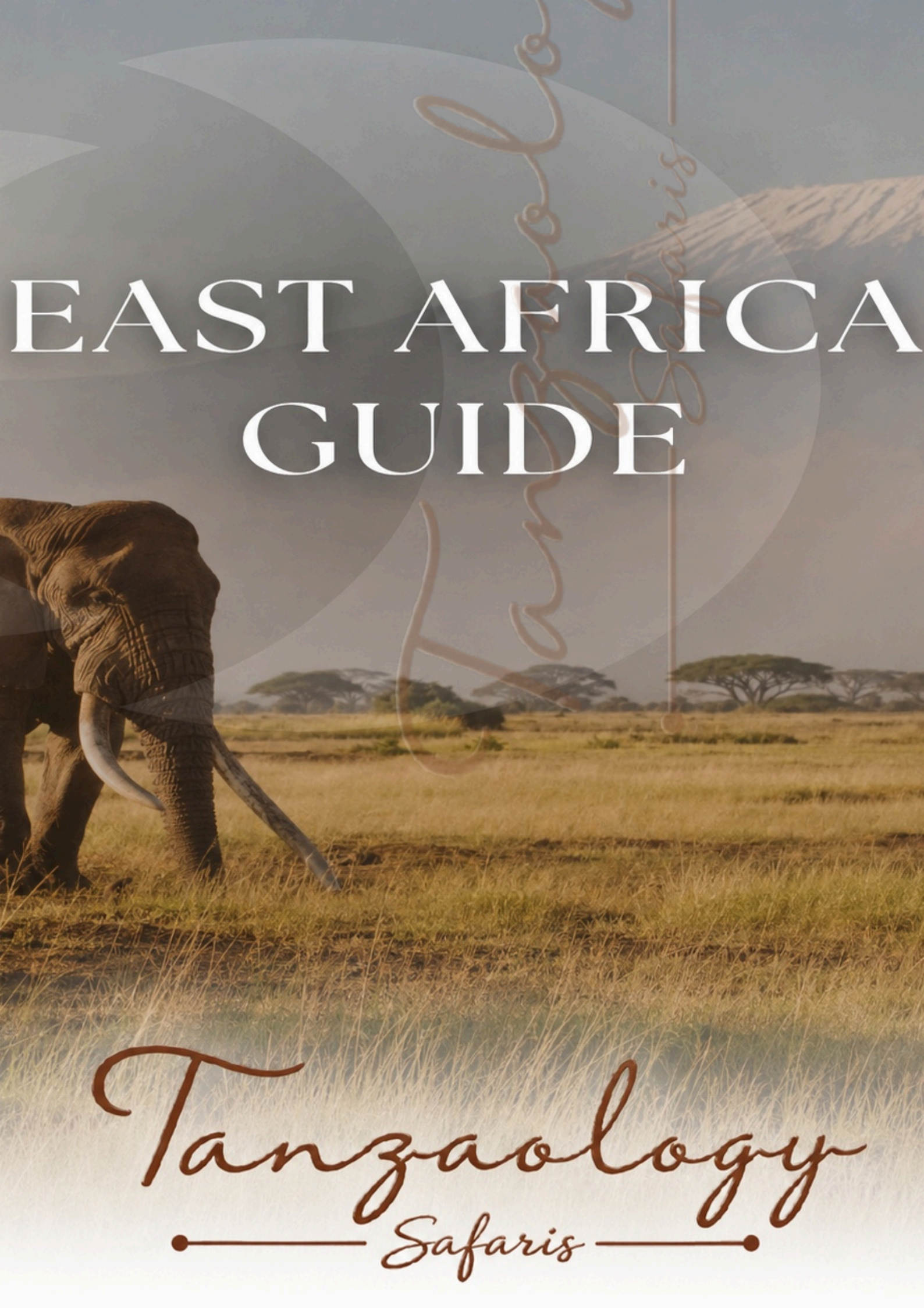




EAST AFRICA GUIDE

Tanzaoology
— *Safaris* —

EAST AFRICA



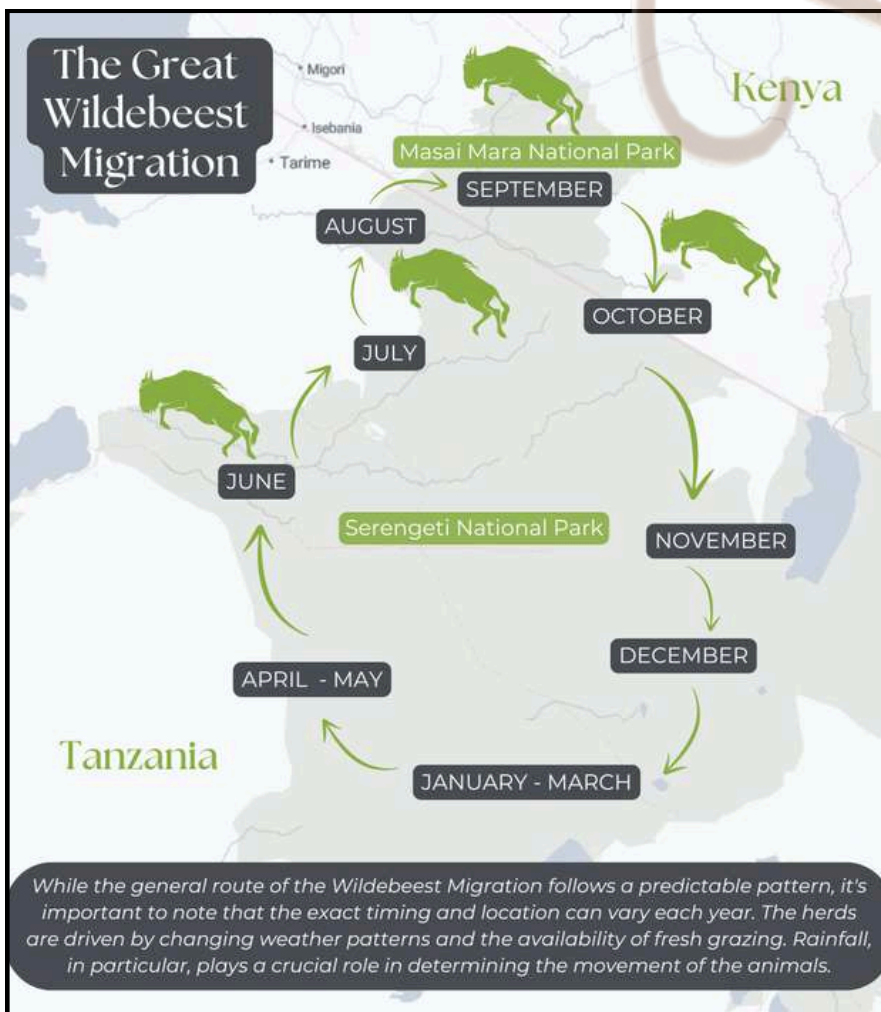
East Africa is a land of breathtaking landscapes & amazing biodiversity, where vast savannas, towering mountains, and lush forests provide the backdrop for some of the most extraordinary wildlife encounters on earth. Kenya & Tanzania are the crown jewels of the region, offering world-renowned safari experiences in places like the Serengeti & Masai Mara, where the Great Migration unfolds in a spectacle of life and survival. Mount Kilimanjaro and the idyllic beaches of Zanzibar further enhance Tanzania's allure, while Kenya's vibrant cultures and Rift Valley landscapes add to its appeal.

Uganda and Rwanda are the best places for tracking endangered mountain gorillas in their misty, forested habitats, particularly in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest and Volcanoes National Park. These countries also have rich biodiversity, including chimpanzees and other primates. Ethiopia, with its ancient history and unique cultural heritage, offers a different kind of adventure, from exploring the rock-hewn churches of Lalibela to hiking in the Simien Mountains. Together, these countries showcase the heart of East Africa, where nature, culture, and history converge for an epic journey.

THE GREAT MIGRATION



The Wildebeest Migration is one of the most spectacular natural events on Earth, a dramatic and continuous cycle of movement that sees over 1.5 million wildebeest, accompanied by hundreds of thousands of zebras and gazelles, traverse the vast plains of East Africa. This epic journey, often referred to as "The Greatest Show on Earth," is a relentless quest for food and water, driven by the seasonal rains. It is a powerful and breathtaking spectacle, offering unparalleled opportunities to witness predator-prey interactions & dramatic river crossings.



THE MIGRATION ROUTE

Jan to Mar: The migration begins in the southern Serengeti, where over 500,000 wildebeest calves are born, attracting numerous predators and offering incredible wildlife viewing.

Apr to May: As the rains end, the herds move northward through the central & western Serengeti.

Jun to Jul: The herds reach the Grumeti River, where they face the first major obstacle of their journey, navigating crocodile-filled waters in dramatic river crossings.

Aug to Oct: The herds encounter the perilous Mara River in the northern Serengeti & Masai Mara, where chaotic and intense river crossings make this the most popular time to see the migration.

Nov to Dec: The herds begin their journey back southward with the onset of the short rains, eventually returning to the southern Serengeti to complete the migration cycle.

GETTING STARTED

There are several important points to consider when deciding on an East Africa trip - below are the key questions we ask to start the planning process:

TRIP DATES & LENGTH?

Most people plan their trip for between two and four weeks. If possible, we encourage you to focus on exploring fewer countries in greater depth, giving you the chance to fully experience everything on offer. But if this is your “once in a lifetime” trip, we have a number of key highlight tours designed to tick off the well-known destinations on your list.

WHO IS TRAVELLING?

The make-up of your group has a huge impact on the options available to you. For families or larger groups, your exact itinerary will often depend on where we find availability to match your requirements. Many lodges have strict age limits to consider when travelling with children. And solo travellers may prefer group tours to keep costs down & meet others.

WHAT ARE MUST-SEES?

A safari to see the ‘Big 5’ is on most people’s bucket list and can be done year-round, but you may want to include certain natural phenomena (like the Great Migration) that are seasonal and will influence where & when you travel. Many other attractions can be experienced at any time of the year, such as gorilla trekking and diving or snorkelling in Zanzibar.

WHAT IS YOUR BUDGET?

The cost of a safari holiday can vary hugely depending on what travel style you opt for and what level of accommodation you choose. We will always ensure you get as much value for your money as possible, but it is important for us to have a rough understanding of your budget to ensure that we are recommending the most suitable options for you.

TOP TIP: BOOK SOONER RATHER THAN LATER!

Most safari lodges & camps are small and availability is very limited, especially during high season. To secure your preferred properties or the best options at your price point, we can’t stress enough the importance of booking early!

ACCOMMODATION

On tailor-made tours, clients can select the level of accommodation they stay in (or even choose a mixture!). Below are descriptions of the 3 levels:

COMFORT

Roughly a 3-star equivalent

Seeking a clean and comfortable space in a secure location? Our Comfort accommodations are designed for practical travellers who value simplicity. Enjoy the basics without sacrificing quality – a safe and welcoming room providing a solid foundation for exploring your destination.



SUPERIOR

Roughly a 4 to 4.5-star equivalent

Upgrade your stay with our Superior accommodations, offering a touch of luxury without excess. Immerse yourself in a refined atmosphere with added conveniences, ideal for travellers who appreciate a bit more comfort and style during their journey.



DELUXE

A 5-star equivalent and beyond!

Indulge in our Deluxe accommodations for a truly luxurious experience. Experience impeccable service, exclusive amenities, and an opulent setting. Perfect for those who seek a high level of comfort and sophistication, creating lasting memories in the most enchanting destinations.



A TYPICAL DAY ON SAFARI

A day on safari follows a relaxed yet exciting rhythm, blending wildlife adventures with downtime at the lodge. Typically, there are 2 game viewing activities - one early in the morning & another in the late afternoon - when animals are most active.

5:30/6:00 AM (Depending if it's summer or winter)

The day begins early with a friendly wake-up call and fresh coffee, tea & biscuits, followed by preparation for the morning game drive. Dress in layers, as early mornings can be chilly.

6:00/6:30 – 9:00/9:30 AM

Experience Africa waking up as you head out on your morning game drive, with wildlife most active during this time. Your guide will usually serve coffee, tea & biscuits during a refreshment break. Alternatively, in some areas, you can opt for breathtaking views on a hot-air balloon safari.

9:00/9:30 – 11:00 AM

Return to the lodge for a hearty breakfast. In some cases - if you are on safari in a private reserve or have done a hot-air balloon - you may enjoy breakfast out in the bush with champagne toast.

11:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Relax & enjoy the lodge's amenities - swim in the pool, read, take a nap, or indulge in a spa treatment. For those interested, guided nature walks are often offered on private reserves.

1:30 – 3:00 PM

A light lunch is served, sometimes in the form of a high tea spread. Afterward, guests often relax or review their photos from the morning, preparing for another round of wildlife exploration.

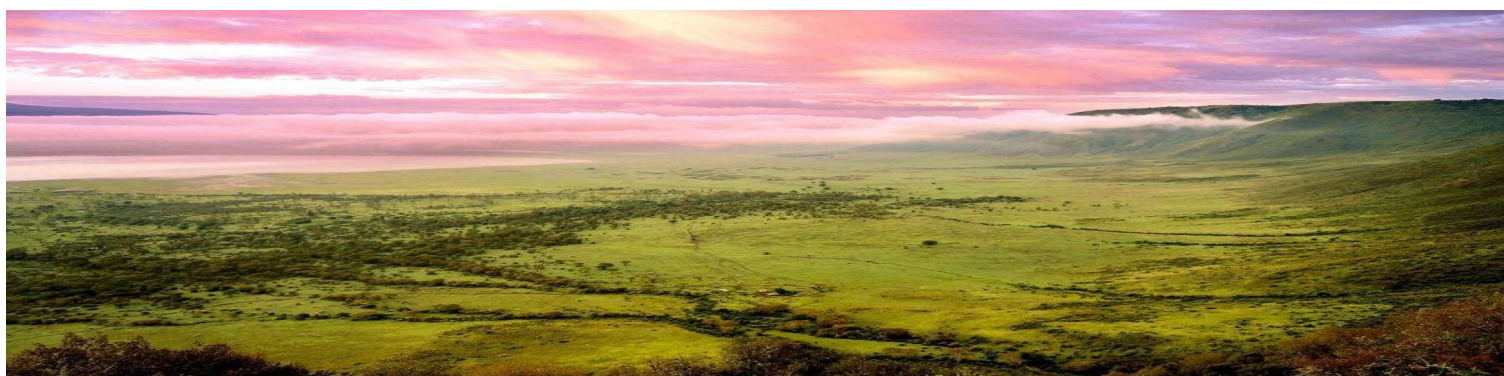
3:30/4:00 – 6:30/7:00 PM

Time to head out on your afternoon game drive. As temperatures cool, animals emerge to drink at waterholes. The drive includes a "sundowner," where guests enjoy drinks while watching the sunset. In private reserves, guests can stay out after dark on a night drive where spotlights reveal nocturnal creatures.

7:00 – 9:00 PM

Enjoy a drink around the campfire, then dinner. Dinner is a relaxed, multi-course affair, often served in a boma under the stars, with opportunities for stargazing or storytelling.

The day winds down as most guests retire to bed after dinner, ready for another early start.





“If I have ever seen magic, it
has been in Africa.”
- John Hemingway

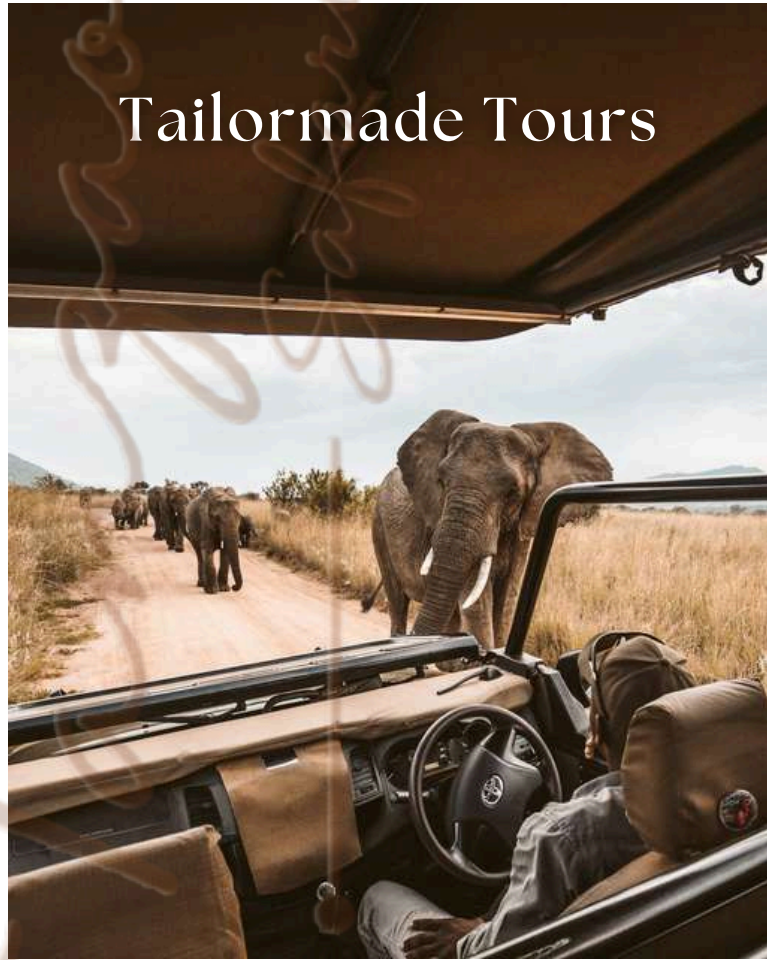
TRAVEL STYLES

Tailor-made trips provide the ultimate flexibility, allowing our clients to fully customise their itineraries to perfectly suit their interests, travel dates, lodging preferences, and budget.

We work closely with our clients to craft a unique itinerary that aligns with their vision for the trip. Clients can add or remove activities, adjust the pace of the trip, and even incorporate special interests like wildlife photography, horse riding, cultural visits, or adventure sports.

Tailormade tours are well-suited for families, groups of friends, or couples seeking a private and personalised travel experience.

Tailormade Tours



If the idea of independent travel doesn't appeal, we have sourced an excellent range of small group escorted tours (maximum 7 passengers) so you can share your East Africa safari experience with other like-minded travellers.

Group tours provide a hassle-free travel experience, with logistics such as transport, accommodation (usually 3-4 star), and activities already pre-organised so you can just choose from fixed options.

They are also often more cost-effective than tailormade tours as transport and activity expenses are shared among the group.

Small Group Tours

