



KENYA WILDLIFE SAFARI

Go Ahead Tour - October 1 - 17, 2021

Itinerary, Day 3

Karen Blixen Estate & Giraffe Center

Climb into 4x4 land cruisers and set out to tour the Karen Blixen Estate and visit the Giraffe Center, a preserve dedicated to raising rare giraffes.

- Tour the Karen Blixen Estate, a former coffee plantation where the author lived for several years, as described in her novel "Out of Africa"
- Enjoy an included lunch at the Karen Blixen Coffee Garden
- Head to the Giraffe Center and climb to the tree house deck to feed the giraffes by hand
- Learn about preservation efforts put in place to increase the giraffe population. Tonight, get to know your Tour Director and fellow travelers at a welcome dinner.



Karen Blixen Estate

The Karen Blixen Estate and Museum was once the centerpiece of a farm at the foot of the Ngong Hills owned by Danish author Karen and her Swedish husband, Baron Bror von Blixen Fincke. Located 10 km from the city center, the museum belongs to a different time period in the history of Kenya. The farmhouse gained international fame with the release of the movie *Out of Africa*, an Oscar-winning film based on Karen's autobiography.

The museum was built in 1912 by Swedish engineer Ake Sjogren. Karen and her husband bought the museum house in 1917 and it became the farmhouse for their 4500-acre farm, of which 600 acres was used for coffee farming. Their marriage failed after eight years and in 1921 the Baron moved on and left the running of the farm to Karen. Karen lived at the house until her return to Denmark in 1931. The house and land changed hands over the years and was sporadically occupied until it was purchased in 1964 by the Danish government and given to the Kenyan government as an independence gift.

Karen, also known by her pen name, Isak Dinesen, was born in 1885 in Denmark. She came to Africa in 1914 to marry her half cousin and carry out dairy farming in the then British Colony of Kenya. Her husband had, however, changed his mind, and wanted

Quick Travel Tips

*The type of currency you will need in Kenya is the Kenyan Shilling (KSH or /=), and in Tanzania, the Tanzanian Shilling (TZS). Check out xe.com to see the conversion rates from KSH or TZS to USD.

*Tipping in restaurants in Kenya is similar to the US. Restaurant workers don't make much money and rely heavily on tips. 10% should be the minimum tip.

*In Tanzanian restaurants, it's customary to tip 5% if a service charge is not included, or if you are satisfied with the service, you can round the bill up to an even amount. Locals there tend not to tip at restaurants.

*Layer your clothing. Temperatures in October tend to range from a low of 52°F to a high of 81°F. If you have layers on, and get hot, you can take off the outer layers to cool down.

*You'll need an adapter to charge your phone, or anything else that needs charging. In Kenya and Tanzania, they use the Type G Adapter.



to farm coffee. The coffee farm did not do well, suffering various tragedies including factory fire and continuous bad harvest. After her divorce, Karen was left to run the financially troubled farm on her own, a daunting task for a woman of that generation. She fell in love with an English man, Denis Finch Hatton, and his death in Tsavo in 1930, coupled with the failed farming, left Karen little choice but to return to Denmark. She turned to writing as a career following her departure from Africa, and died at the age of 77.

The Karen Blixen Estate meets three of the customary criteria for historical significance. First, it is associated with the broad historical pattern of European settlement and cultivation of East Africa. Second, it is associated with the life of a person significant to Kenya's past as the home of Baroness Karen Blixen from 1917-1931. As such, it served as the setting and basis of her well-known book *Out of Africa*, written under the pseudonym Isak Dinesen, and as a gathering place for other well-known personalities of the period. Third, the building embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type, period, and method of construction. The house's architecture is typical of late 19th century bungalow architecture, including the spacious rooms, horizontal layout verandas, tile roof and stone construction typical of scores residences built throughout European suburbs in Nairobi then.

Transportation & Arrival Info

*Round-trip flights booked through Go Ahead Tours arrive in and depart from Nairobi. A representative from Go Ahead Tours will meet us at the airport and take us to the hotel.

*Transfers to and from the airport at your destination are included for travelers who have purchased their flights through Go Ahead Tours. Travelers who purchase their own flights may request airport transfers with Go Ahead for an additional cost.

*During game drives, we'll travel in a specially equipped 4x4 safari land cruiser. The vehicle is open, allowing for panoramic views. Window seats are guaranteed for all travelers. Transfers between parks are long and cross bumpy terrain, so it's recommended to bring a small pillow to ease the ride.

