

# KENYA WILDLIFE SAFARI

## Go Ahead Tour - October 1 - 17, 2021

### Itinerary, Day 9

#### Nairobi

#### Transfer to Nairobi

Enjoy a free morning and an included lunch in Masai Mara. Then, admire the incredible scenery as we travel through the Great Rift Valley back to Nairobi. Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

#### Maasai Boma

A traditional boma consists of a variety of "houses" which are in essence small huts made of mud and cow dung. The idea behind the huts is that they are quick to put up, but easy to maintain, allowing the Maasai village to move on quickly if necessary.

The boma is surrounded by a circular "fence" of thick and thorny bushes to protect the tribe and their cattle from other tribes and predators.



## Top 10: Maasai Tribe

**1. The Maasai Tribe inhabit more than one country.** Often, tribes are specific to just one area. However, the Maasai Tribe inhabit northern, central and southern Kenya as well as northern Tanzania!

**2. The Maasai Tribe is made up of 16 sections.** The Maasai word for section is "Iloshon" - so there are 16 Iloshons within Maasai society: Ildamat; Ilpurko; Ilkeekonyokie; Iloitai; Ilkaputiei; Ilkankere; Isiria; Ilmoitanik; Iloodokilani; Iloitolitoki; Ilarusa; Ilmatatapatato; Ilwuasinkishu; Kore; Parakuyu; and Ilkisonko (AKA Isikirari).

**3. Blood is part of the Maasai diet.** For the most part, the Maasai people live on the milk and meat of their cattle, which is how they get most of their protein and calories. Maasai people also drink the blood of the cattle on various occasions: when they are sick, have just been circumcised, or have just given birth.

**4. The Maasai are named after their own language.** The name Maasai literally means "one who speaks the Maa language".

**5. The Maasai have their own traditional wardrobe.** Members of the Maasai typically dress in red sheets known as "shuka". They are wrapped around the body and multiple pieces of jewelry are worn over them.

**6. Maasai members pride themselves on their cows.** The Maasai Tribe live what's known as a partially nomadic lifestyle so they always have green pastures and suitable land for their livestock: cows, goats, sheep, and donkeys. The cows are particularly special to the Maasai people. Men spend most of their adulthood gathering cows! As a Maasai man, your wealth and status within the tribe is determined by how many cows you own.

**7. There are different religions within the Maasai Tribe.** Traditionally, the Maasai

## Famous Tanzanians

### *Have you heard of any of them?*

- ✦ Ian Iqbal Rashid - poet, screenwriter & filmmaker
- ✦ David Adjaye - architect
- ✦ Faisal Devji - historian who specializes in studies of Islam, globalization, violence & ethics
- ✦ John Gower - actor
- ✦ Euphrase Kezilahabi - novelist, poet and scholar
- ✦ Ammaar Ghadiyali - Olympic swimmer
- ✦ Bhavesh Govind; Abhik Patwa; Hasnain Damji; Khalil Rehmtullah - cricket players
- ✦ Paul Bomani - politician and ambassador to the US and Mexico
- ✦ Haruna Moshi - footballer
- ✦ Zakia Mrisho Mohamed - long distance runner
- ✦ Bi Kidude - film score composer
- ✦ Lulu James - British electronic and soul singer
- ✦ Freddie Mercury - British singer, songwriter, record producer, and lead vocalist of the rock band Queen



Tribe have always been monotheistic. They believe in one god, whose name is Enkai or Engai. This god has what's known as a dual nature, and they have slightly different names: Engai Narok, or Black God - he is benevolent; Engai Nanyokie, or Red God - he is vengeful. However, in more recent years, many Maasai members have become Christian, and some have also turned to the Muslim faith.

**8. The Maasai Tribe are mostly polygamous.** In the Maasai culture, when a woman gets married she is marrying her husband's entire age group. Often, these marriages are arranged by the tribe's elders. Traditionally, men are (or were, as this is becoming less common) expected offer up their bed for a visiting male guest. The woman of the household can join the visiting guest in that bed, if she so chooses. The role of women in the marriage, and in the tribe as a whole, is to have and raise children.

**9. Children in the Maasai Tribe are not named until three months of age.** Due to a high mortality rate among infants and babies in the Maasai community, children are not named until they have passed the 3 month mark. There is also an official naming ceremony for Maasai children known as Enkipukonoto Eaji, which roughly translates as "coming out of the seclusion period".

**10. The Maasai have their own calendar.** There are no hard and fast rules when it comes to the Maasai calendar. There are no particular names for each month, and no rule as to which month comes after which. It is considered that: "everyone knows that there are 12 months, and 30 days within each month; 15 days of brightness and 15 days of darkness, with the 8th day known as the Day of Changing".

## Electricity & Air Conditioning

\*Kenya operates on the British standard 240 volts and uses a Type G plug with three large, flat pins.

\*Tanzania (on the tour extension) operates on 220-240 volts and uses a Type G plug with three large, flat pins.

\*It is recommended that you pack a universal adapter, as well as a voltage converter if you plan on using your own hairdryer or other device without a built-in converter.

\*Not all of the hotels on this tour will have air conditioning.

\*Hotels may provide hair dryers, irons, and other small appliances. However, these amenities cannot be guaranteed.

\*Power outages are common. In some of the camps, power is turned off in the late afternoon as well as in the early morning.

