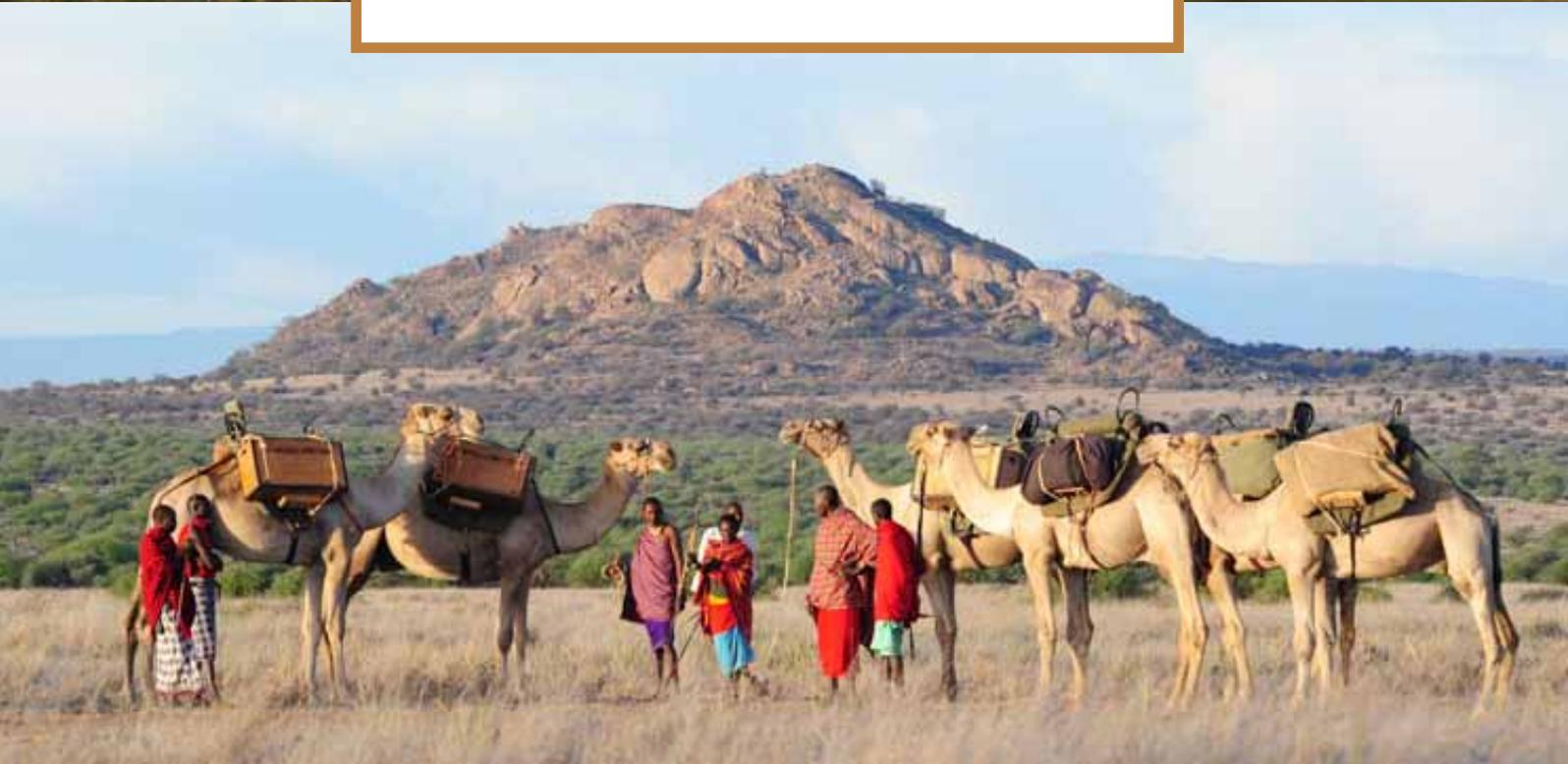




Laikipia Itinerary

Excellent value and variety in beautiful, unspoilt Laikipia region

- All owner operated camps
- Length of time – 10 days including travel days
- Minimum number of guests – 4 pax
- Minimum age of children – 4 years



1. Laikipia Combination Safari

Day 1: On arrival in Nairobi you will be met by a representative of El Karama Lodge and transferred by 4x4 Landcruiser to El Karama, passing through Nanyuki town and past Mt Kenya on the way with time for a coffee and refreshments. The journey takes 4 hours.

Day 2 – 4: You will spend 3 nights at El Karama Lodge, a lovely little lodge on the Ewaso Nyiro river, which has just 6 cottages and is family owned. Built by Murray and Sophie Grant, this lodge is down to earth and cosy and hosted by an experienced team of local staff some of whom have worked on this property for 20 years. With a stunning eco swimming pool overlooking the river, huge stone fireplaces by which to read in the candelight and stone and thatch 'bandas' made by hand by the owners and their team, this lodge harks back to a time when safaris and ranch life went hand in hand.



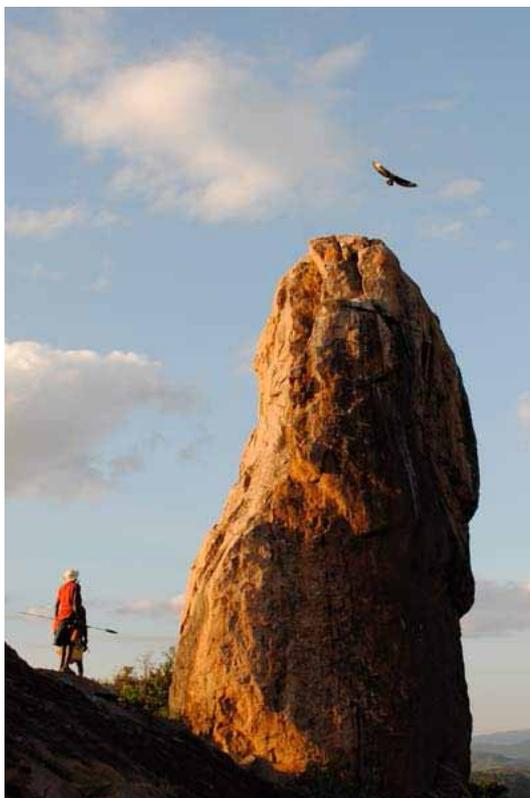
A stay at El Karama offers a real glimpse of life on a traditional cattle ranch, in a landscape that has remained relatively unchanged for over 50 years. As well as game drives, guided walks and bush meals on this stunning ranch which has some of the highest densities of wildlife in Laikipia, guests may visit the farm and participate in its day to day activities such as milking, branding, dipping etc depending on what is happening on the day. El Karama has a pedigree herd of Sahiwal cattle. With over 80 mammal species including leopard, lion, cheetah, hippo, elephant and buffalo and 407 identified bird species, the El Karama team will have a lot to show you.

Day 4: You will be collected after an early breakfast and driven just thirty minutes to the start of your three night walking safari. Over the next three days you will walk with Samburu tribesmen through their country and shown the bush they grew up in. At night you will sleep in simple but comfortable dome tents, with comfortable mattresses on the floor, bucket showers and a loo with a view closeby. This is as close as you can get to nature and the simplicity of this kind of mobile safari is a big part of its charm along with the genuine warmth and in depth local knowledge of your guides and hosts.

In camp we will be greeted by our colourful team of cooks, camel guys, and guides. After a refreshing lunch we will enjoy a rest before a short evening walk down the sand river with towering Yellow Barked Acacia Trees on the edge and up on a tall promontory with a commanding view to watch the sunset. Greater Kudu inhabit the hillsides that slope down toward our camp and we will scan for these elusive animals. Back at camp we will find our welcoming campfire on the edge of the sandy lugga. After hot showers and drinks around the fire we will have dinner under the stars.



Day 5: You will be woken up early by someone calling 'hodi' or 'morning' outside our tents and hot water in the basins in front of the tents. After a light breakfast we will set off and begin our walk climbing the Sinyai Lugga, looking for game like Kudu, and Klipspringers. We will have riding camels with us that can be ridden when the terrain allows and they also carry snacks, drinks and any day packs that you need. We may pass local Masai singing to their livestock as they call them down to water from wells dug in the sand. After a couple kilometres in the lugga we will ascend the western hillside and follow a ridge toward a basin holding an incredible rock outcrop in it's midst that resembles a giant sand castle. The local Laikipia Masai call these rocks Nayasura and stone chippings suggest that they have been used as a camp for millennia.



We too will use the rocks starting with a refreshing lunch and an afternoon siesta in our classic roomy safari tents. After tea we will head out on a short walk looking for game and as the sun begins to set we will find ourselves at the crest of Nayasura with drinks and bitings, watching the baboons come back to roost on the face of the rock. These rocks are great for scrambling over. Back at camp after hot showers we will enjoy dinner on top of one of the beautiful rocks before going to bed.

Day 6: From Nayasura we will head out early after breakfast so to see as much game as possible on our walk down toward the Ewaso Nyiro River, which runs along the eastern edge of the Laikipia Plateau and then turns eastward toward Samburu National Reserve. Along the way we will be looking for Eland, Steinbuck and Giraffe and enjoy the changing scenery. This walk is perfect for camel riding and we will have

3 or 4 camels walking with us. The pack camels with our camp will have made a more direct route than us and so they will have arrived before us and set up most of camp before our arrival. After lunch we will relax and walk to a pretty spot for sundowners. When we arrive at the Ewaso Nyiro we may want to take a quick swim before in the river before lunch. We will spend the afternoon enjoying the area and spend our last night next to the Ewaso Nyiro river before being collected by Laikipia Wilderness the next morning and driven 30 minutes to your next stop.

Day 6 – 9: Laikipia Wilderness is run by Steve and Annabelle Carey. Steve is a Zimbabwean guide and keen ornithologist and he and Annabelle have been running safaris in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Kenya for 20 years. The simple tented camp sleeps 8 guests and has a wonderful position overlooking the Ewaso Narok river in an area rich in wildlife and birds. Steve and Annabelle's speciality is home style hospitality and real adventure in the bush where they live with their two children. Game-drives, night-drives, walking, tracking wild dogs and lions, fishing, swimming in the river, picnics and fly-camping will keep you busy at Laikipia Wilderness with no sign of any other tourists at all during your stay.





This area is very wild and varied in terrain with open plains, thick forest, riverine valleys and vast rock formations, wonderful for climbing and viewing the enormous landscapes. Birdlife is spectacular and there are a lot of north Kenyan specials here. Laikipia Wilderness is also home to big herds of elephants, zebra, buffalo, various antelopes (some of which are endangered) giraffe, hippo, lion, leopard, cheetah, wild dogs and hyenas. Each day is a true adventure and activities are planned to suit each group staying at the camp. With three children of their own, Steve and Annabelle love hosting families in the bush and sharing this wonderful area with newcomers to Africa.

Day 9: Today is the end of your safari and you will be driven back to Nairobi, a journey of 5 hours. Alternatively you can take a scheduled flight from Nanyuki airstrip (1 hour 15 mins drive or a private charter flight to Nairobi).

