

# Photography Safaris Kenya's Maasai Mara

Small-group wildlife photography experiences

Great Migration • Maasai Mara • August–September 2027



# Photography Safaris

## Designed for Photographers

Our safaris are built around photography, not tourism schedules. Guests consistently tell us their trips have exceeded all expectations and that they've had a lot of fun along the way. They come away with stunning photographs, a deeper understanding of the wildlife, the ecosystem and Maasai culture - as well as a lot more confidence behind the camera. It's why so many of them come back, year after year.

We work with small groups of 8-10 photographers and focus on light, animal behaviour and opportunity rather than ticking off sightings.

The result is a calmer, more immersive experience designed for photographers who want time, access and guidance in one of Africa's most remarkable ecosystems.

*Photography  
first.  
Everything else  
follows.*



## Thoughtful photography, professionally delivered

African Photography Safaris is built around one simple principle: giving photographers the freedom, time, and access they need, supported by a professionally run operation that quietly takes care of the rest.

Supporting conservation and communities, our ethical safaris are planned and led by experienced wildlife photographers who understand light, behaviour, and fieldcraft, working alongside Maasai wildlife guides. Days are shaped by the wildlife rather than rigid schedules, with the flexibility to stay with a subject, return to a location, or adapt when conditions change.

We are a fully insured, UK-registered limited company. Client funds are held in a dedicated trust account, and all trips operate in line with the UK Package Travel Regulations.

The result is a well organised, sustainable safari that feels calm, unhurried, and creatively focused.



## Some of the lovely things people have said on Trustpilot

*An outstanding experience in a beautiful setting with amazing guiding, great accommodation, superb food and of course the expert photography advice from Alan and Kaleel, always approachable and knowledgeable both in photography, the area and the wildlife. We wouldn't hesitate to recommend African Photography Safaris for a memorable safari experience.*

*- Michael & Liz Oliver*

*The photography leaders Alan and Kaleel were exceptional: knowledgeable, approachable, and incredibly generous with their time and expertise. They struck the perfect balance between guidance and encouragement, helping everyone improve while keeping the whole experience relaxed and enjoyable. I came away with the best photos I have ever taken.*

*- Rachel Stead*

*I have had three wonderful photography safaris to the Lemek Conservancy in the Maasai Mara with African Photography Safaris. The wildlife viewing is without equal and was very different on each trip - excellent considerate guiding is a feature.*

*- Linda Gould*

*I had a fantastic experience on a photo safari with African Photography Safaris to Mattikoko, Kenya. I chose this company due to their values. We were based on a conservancy where animal welfare is a priority. Vehicle numbers are restricted, and strict rules are applied to ensure animal safety. A much better experience in every way.*

*- Pauline McAleese*



## Wildlife photography during the Great Migration season

During the Great Migration, vast numbers of wildebeest and zebras move through the Greater Mara ecosystem, reshaping predator behaviour and concentrating wildlife across the landscape.

Our safaris are timed to coincide with this period of abundance, when large herds are present and photographic opportunities are at their richest. While dramatic river crossings can occur, they are never guaranteed, and we deliberately design our itineraries around consistent wildlife encounters throughout the trip, rather than chasing unpredictable moments.

We base ourselves in the private Lemek Conservancy, an area known for exceptional year-round wildlife, including a large resident lion pride. From here, we balance time spent with the migration herds with the benefits of the conservancy, where we can off-road, and vehicle access and tourist numbers are strictly limited.

This ensures a safari that is constantly rewarding with a huge diversity of wildlife.



## How our days unfold

Days on safari are shaped by light, wildlife behaviour, and conditions on the ground, rather than fixed timetables.

We begin just before sunrise, ready for the best morning light, when predators are most active. Time with the animals is never hurried, allowing us to refine compositions, discuss camera settings, and wait for moments to develop.

After the early morning session, we'll have a packed breakfast on the savannah before winding our way back to camp, staying alert to opportunities along the way. When the sun is highest and conditions less favourable, we relax and have lunch, heading out again in the warm afternoon light as wildlife activity begins to build.

As the sun sinks below the horizon, we'll raise a glass on the savannah and, when light and subject align, work with silhouettes of wildlife and the sculptural forms of trees. Back at camp, we'll gather around the fire for drinks and a chat before the evening meal together.

Each day remains responsive, creative, and focused on making the most of the opportunities in front of us.



## Comfort, space, and a living landscape

Our base is a small, carefully chosen tented camp in the Lemek Conservancy, offering a comfortable, relaxed place to return to after each day on safari.

Spacious en-suite tents provide proper beds, hot showers, and a calm place to unwind between game drives. The camp is intimate, free from traffic, artificial light, and the distractions of larger high-occupancy lodges.

At night, the conservancy comes alive. With the camp fully immersed in its surroundings, you may hear lions roaring, hyenas whooping, or hippos grazing close by. This natural soundtrack is part of the experience; a reminder that you are sharing the habitat with the wildlife around you.

Meals are freshly prepared and enjoyed together in the dining area, with time to review images, talk through the day, or simply absorb the atmosphere.

Being based in a private conservancy helps us avoid the vehicle congestion of the main reserve, creating a calmer experience both in the field and back at camp.



## Photography guidance in the field

Our safaris are designed for photographers of mixed experience levels, from complete beginners to those with years of time in the field.

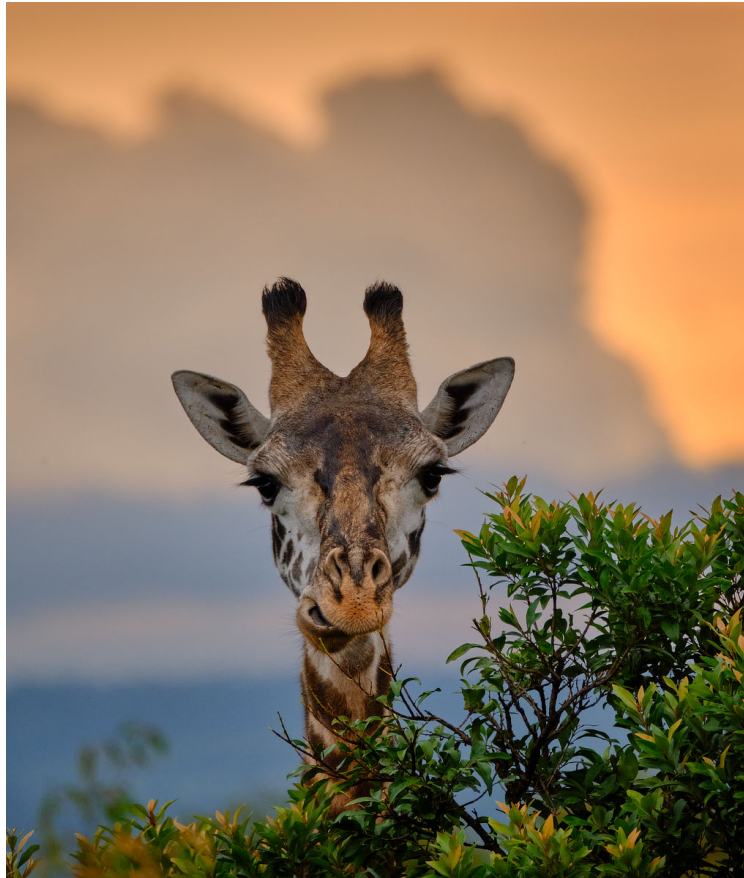
Guidance is always available, but never imposed. In the vehicle, we'll help with camera settings, exposure decisions, and composition choices, responding to the light, the behaviour, and the moment rather than fixed formulas.

Because groups are small, there is time for individual attention. We can slow things down, talk through an approach, or quietly step back when appropriate.

Between drives, there's time for informal, flexible sessions at camp. These may be one-to-one or small group discussions, reviewing images on a laptop, going over camera settings, or exploring techniques at a pace that suits the group. Nothing is fixed or scheduled; sessions happen naturally, when people want them.

We also have a partnership with Fujifilm UK that allows UK mainland based guests to access camera and lens loans for the duration of the trip.

The aim is simple: to help you come away with stronger images, deeper understanding, and a more confident instinct for photography.



## Who this safari is for

This safari is designed for photographers who value time, intention, and thoughtful observation over rushing between sightings.

It suits those who are curious about wildlife behaviour, light, and composition, and who enjoy spending meaningful time with a subject rather than chasing a checklist. Whether you're new to wildlife photography or highly experienced, the emphasis is on learning through real encounters and shared time in the field.

Our approach works best for people who are comfortable with flexibility. Plans adapt to conditions, wildlife movement, and opportunity, rather than following a rigid daily schedule. Patience is often rewarded, and some of the most memorable moments come from staying longer, waiting, and watching.

What we offer is a calm, considered experience in an exceptional ecosystem, shaped around photography, wildlife, and time well spent in the field.



## Practical details, thoughtfully considered

Wildlife in the Lemek Conservancy is exceptionally diverse. Alongside large mammals and resident predators, the area supports rich birdlife and a constantly changing mix of subjects.

For photographers, this offers opportunities that range from intimate behaviour to wider environmental images, often close to camp.



Our vehicles are chosen to support flexible photography, with small group sizes, ample space for equipment, and a dedicated seat with oversized window for every guest. Shooting opportunities may include working through large windows or from the roof, depending on conditions and the situation.

Drives are led by experienced wildlife photographers working closely with highly skilled, English-speaking Maasai guides. Together, they combine photographic intent with deep local knowledge to position vehicles thoughtfully, safely, and with respect for the wildlife. Our Maasai wildlife guides are highly experienced and professionally trained, bringing depth, insight, and confidence to every encounter in the field.



## A considered way to experience the Mara

This safari is shaped by intention rather than spectacle. By slowing down and working with the rhythm of the landscape, we create space for deeper observation, stronger images, and a more meaningful experience.

Time is spent where it matters most: with the wildlife, the light, and the moment as it unfolds. Along the way, we share fieldcraft to help make sense of what you're seeing. Rather than rushing between sightings, we allow behaviour, interaction, and atmosphere to reveal themselves naturally.

Small groups, thoughtful guiding, and a flexible approach mean each day responds to what is happening around us, not to a fixed plan. This creates an experience that feels unhurried, immersive, and quietly rewarding.

What stays with you is not just the images you make, but the way they were made: with patience, respect, and a genuine connection to the landscape and the wildlife that defines it.

A positive and sustainable impact is at the heart of what we do: each place on our safaris contributes around £ 2,000 to the local conservancy and conservation programmes, benefiting the wildlife and the local community.



## Practical information

### Location and accommodation

Mattikoko Safari Camp is a small, comfortable tented eco-camp, with freshly prepared meals shared together. The camp is based in the private Lemek Conservancy of the greater Maasai Mara ecosystem

### Dates & timing

This safari runs during the main migration season, when large herds are present in the Mara and wildlife activity is at its most dynamic.:

First day: **26 Aug 2027**

Last day: **2 Sep** (7-night trip) / **6 Sep** (11-night trip)

### Groups, vehicles & guiding

Groups are kept intentionally small. Safari vehicles provide generous space for equipment and clear photographic access for every guest. Drives are conducted in close collaboration with highly skilled, English-speaking Maasai guides.

### Flights & baggage

Flights between Nairobi and the Maasai Mara are included. Normally, these flights have a 15Kg allowance for hand + hold luggage, which simply isn't enough for photographers. We buy an additional allowance to match your international flights, removing much of the usual stress around travelling with camera gear.

Access to the camp from the airstrip is via a short vehicle transfer.



## **Led by photographers who know the Mara**

African Photography Safaris is run by wildlife photographers Kaleel Zibe and Alan Hewitt, who each have over 12 years of experience leading photography safaris in Africa.

## **Complimentary Fujifilm equipment loan**

A selection of Fujifilm UK camera bodies and lenses is available for complimentary loan during the safari for guests travelling from the UK.

## **Power & charging**

Charging facilities are available at camp for camera batteries and essential devices. Guests are advised to bring sufficient batteries and storage to support extended shooting sessions.

## **Optional hotel before the trip**

If your incoming Nairobi flight is scheduled to arrive on the morning we meet, before heading to catch our Mara flight, there's a real risk that flight / immigration delays could cause you to miss that connection. For this reason, we strongly recommend arriving the day before. In these cases, the Four Points by Sheraton at Nairobi Airport is an excellent option. It removes the uncertainty around tight timings, allowing you to clear immigration, rest properly, and be ready to meet the group and continue together on to the Mara without stress or rush. Cost for a twin room inc. breakfast is around US\$275.

## **Comprehensive information**

Previous guests frequently praise the clarity and thoroughness of the information we provide in advance of the trip. This covers what to expect, practical logistics, and how to prepare, removing uncertainty and allowing you to relax and focus on the experience.



## Pricing and What's Included

**Clear pricing. No pressure.  
No hidden extras.**

We believe in being transparent about pricing from the start. All prices are full board, and include Nairobi to Mara return flights with extra baggage allowance.

All you need is a return international flight to Nairobi from wherever you live. Dollar prices are approximated at the current £1=US\$1.32, but will be priced at whatever the rate is on the day.

### **7-night Photo Safari**

£ 5,995 per person sharing  
(approx. US\$ 7,913)

£ 6,954 inc single supplement  
(approx. US\$ 9,179)

### **11-night Photo Safari**

£ 8,795 per person sharing  
(approx. US\$ 11,609)

£ 10,202 inc single supplement  
(approx. US\$ 13,467)

### **Deposit**

20% to secure your place

### **Your money is protected**

Client payments are financially protected through a [PTS trust account](#)



### **More information & enquiries**

[africanphotographsafaris.com](http://africanphotographsafaris.com)

[info@africanphotographsafaris.com](mailto:info@africanphotographsafaris.com)

