

# The Great Rift & Royal Peaks: An 8-Day Kenyan Odyssey

Embark on a soul-stirring journey through the heart of East Africa. This curated expedition takes you from the rolling savannahs of the Maasai Mara to the volcanic landscapes of Hell's Gate, concluding under the watchful eye of Mount Kilimanjaro. Prepare for raw nature, vibrant cultures, and the "Big Five" in their natural sanctuary.

## Day 1: Into the Heart of the Mara

Your adventure ignites with a 7:00 AM departure from Nairobi, winding through the highlands before descending the dramatic escarpment of the **Great Rift Valley**. Stop at the panoramic viewpoint to breathe in the vastness of the valley floor—a geological masterpiece carved by time.

By midday, you'll arrive at the edge of the wilderness.

- **The Experience:** A sunset introduction to the Mara's golden plains.
- **Dinner & Overnight:** Mara Big 5 Lodge

## **Day 2: The Spirit of the Savannah**

Dedicate your day to the **Maasai Mara**, an ecosystem pulsing with life. Named for the "spotted" (Mara) silhouettes of acacia trees against the horizon, this is the stage for Africa's most iconic wildlife spectacles. From the stealth of the leopard to the thundering herds of the plains, every turn is a new discovery.

- **The Experience:** A full-day immersive safari with a bush picnic lunch.
- **Dinner & Overnight:** Mara Big 5 Lodge

## **Day 3: The Pink Horizon of Lake**

# Nakuru

Bid farewell to the Mara as you journey toward **Lake Nakuru National Park**. Known for its shimmering "pink" shores lined with flamingos, this park is a haven for rare species. Track the prehistoric-looking Southern White Rhino and keep an eye on the acacia branches for the park's famous tree-climbing lions.

- **The Experience:** An afternoon drive through fever-tree forests and lakeside trails.
- **Dinner & Overnight:** Lake Nakuru Lodge

## Day 4: Lakeside Serenity in Naivasha

Enjoy a final morning game drive in Nakuru before heading to the freshwater shores of **Lake Naivasha**. Transition from the rugged bush to a lush, aquatic paradise. As the

afternoon cools, drift past pods of hippos on a boat safari and walk alongside giraffes and zebras at a private sanctuary.

- **The Experience:** A tranquil boat safari and intimate nature walk.
- **Dinner & Overnight:** Naivasha Sopa Lodge (or similar)

## **Day 5: The Volcanic Wilds of Hell's Gate**

Trade the vehicle for a bicycle as you pedal through **Hell's Gate National Park**.

Towering obsidian cliffs and geothermal steam vents create a prehistoric atmosphere. Hike through the deep, winding gorges with a Maasai guide who will reveal the secrets of the rock formations and local folklore.

- **The Experience:** A high-energy "Bicycle Safari" and guided gorge exploration.

- **Lunch, Dinner & Overnight:** Fisherman's Camp (Lakeside ambiance)

## **Day 6: Shadow of the Kilimanjaro**

Traverse the Nairobi-Mombasa corridor toward **Amboseli National Park**, the "Land of Giants." Arrive as the dust settles to find elephants roaming freely against the majestic, snow-capped backdrop of **Mount Kilimanjaro**. It is arguably the most photogenic park in all of Africa.

- **The Experience:** An evening drive through the elephant-rich plains.
- **Dinner & Overnight:** Sentrim Amboseli Lodge

## **Day 7: The Observation Hill & Wetlands**

Spend a full day exploring the 392 km<sup>2</sup> of Amboseli. Navigate from parched, dusty

pans to lush emerald wetlands fed by the melting snows of Kilimanjaro. From **Observation Hill**, gaze out over the vast herds of elephants—over 1,800 call this park home—as they congregate in the marshes below.

- **The Experience:** A full-day safari with a panoramic picnic at the park's highest point.
- **Dinner & Overnight:** Sentrim Amboseli Lodge

## **Day 8: The Journey Home**

Savor your final breakfast in the wild before embarking on the return journey to Nairobi. Reflect on a week of wild encounters and breathtaking vistas as you are dropped off at your hotel or the airport, carrying the spirit of the Mara and the shadow of the mountain with you.