

THE STANLEY WING SAFARI

16 days door-to-door | Departs Saturday, returns Sunday

The Stanley Wing, named for the iconic 19th-century Africa explorer Henry Morton Stanley, may be Micato's most comprehensive and popular safari. We range through East Africa widely and leisurely, from Nairobi into the shadow of Mount Kilimanjaro in southern Kenya and farther into Tanzania, with luxuriously long stays in some of the continent's most treasured and exhilarating game parks. *The Stanley Wing* is a matchless introduction to the dreamt-of Africa; it's also a marvelous way to experience that Africa yet again.

Stanley, a world celebrity for finding Dr. David Livingstone in 1871 after a gruesome 700-mile trek from Zanzibar to Lake Tanganyika (he legendarily greeted the famed missionary with the words "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"), still ignites controversy among historians (they don't call you *Bula Matari*—Breaker of Rocks—for your mild manners). But a couple of things about him are sure. He was a *very* tough fellow, and he was hopelessly enthralled by Africa and the "sweet and novel pleasure of indifference to all things earthly" that it offers the traveller, "one of the most soul-lulling pleasures a mortal can enjoy."

I thought...of Africa, not a particular place, but a shape...and the shape of course, is roughly that of the human heart.

—Graham Greene,
Journey Without Maps





DAY 1 *En route*

DAYS 2 & 3 *Nairobi*

Soon after we land in Nairobi, Micato staff will whisk us away to the historic *Norfolk Hotel*. Now a jewel in the Fairmont crown, the Norfolk has been a reigning East African landmark since the early 1900s. For much of their history, Nairobi and the Norfolk have been nearly synonymous.

The next day, we'll head out for some city sightseeing in the capital, including visits to the National Museum, the Giraffe Centre (where we'll hand-feed endangered Rothschild giraffes), and Karen Blixen's home just outside of Nairobi. In 1937, Baroness Blixen (under the pen name Isak Dinesen) published *Out of Africa*, which many of us consider the most heart-stirring book ever written about the continent. And we'll lunch with Micato's founders, Felix and Jane Pinto, at their home in Nairobi's lovely Lavington district. We'll return to the Norfolk inspired by hospitality, good food, and fine conversation, eager and ready to embark on a classic African safari.

DAYS 4 & 5 *Amboseli*

A morning flight—see page 45 for more about these flights—from Nairobi's Wilson Airport takes us south to Amboseli National Park, dominated by gargantuan Mount Kilimanjaro,

which rises suddenly to over 19,000 feet, 15,000 of them above Amboseli's acacia-dotted grasslands. (Local people didn't think that God, or gods, lived on Kilimanjaro. They more or less thought the mountain was God; casting your eyes on the still-glacier-topped behemoth, you can see why.) During our game drives out of wonderfully decorated *Ol Tukai Lodge*, we'll marvel at our first good looks at what is probably Africa's largest population of free-ranging elephants, along with the cape buffalo, impalas, lions, cheetahs, hyenas, giraffes, zebras, and wildebeest who—in addition to two score or more other mammal species—make their domicile in and around the park.

DAY 6 *Tarangire*

Today we drive south into Tanzania for lunch at the bustling, very *African* town of Arusha, then fly to Tarangire National Park, celebrated for the diversity of its wildlife (which includes tree-snoozing lions), its world-class collection of more than 550 bird species, and its outlandishly towering termite mounds, which may not sound terribly impressive, but are just about guaranteed to elevate termites to the top of any traveller's pantheon of amazing insects. We'll enjoy a fine overnight at *Tarangire Sopa Lodge*, tucked away in a verdant valley, with enchanting views of Tarangire's trademark baobab-studded landscapes. (And we may spend a post-game drive afternoon basking in the Sopa Lodge's marvelous pool, set just above a nicely dramatic gorge.)

DAYS 7 & 8 *Ngorongoro Crater*

After a morning game drive and breakfast we make a memorable drive west, to the fabled Lost World of the Ngorongoro Crater, a volcanic bowl abounding with life and beauty, unknown to the outside world until 1892 (which helps account for its wealth of wildlife, everything from a burgeoning lion population to fine stands of flamingos).

Our lodge, the *Ngorongoro Sopa*, is perched on the gigantic crater's rim, allowing us to gaze at the flat, 100-square-mile crater floor hundreds of feet below. Ngorongoro is one of the world's largest volcanic calderas, and without a smidgen of doubt its most interesting, not to mention its most lively and lovely; Ngorongoro's floor, down to which we'll wend our way for a full-day game drive, is a mesmerizing, eventful place.

DAYS 9 & 10 *The Serengeti*

We'll stop by the Olduvai Gorge, a rocky spur of the Rift Valley, where the Leakey family's discoveries in the last century convinced the scientific world that humanity arose in East Africa. ("It's a splendid spot, Olduvai Gorge," Theo Cruz wrote, "but it's a good thing our ancestors wanted a peek at someplace else.") Then it's on to the Serengeti, a vast and fabled plain the great writer and roustabout Beryl Markham said was "as warm with life as the waters of a tropic sea." From our base at the airy *Serengeti Sopa Lodge*, deep in the heart of the world's most important large animal migration corridor, we make rolling forays into the plain, on the lookout for the 70 large mammal species who inhabit this most noble swatch of planet Earth.





DAYS 11 & 12 *The Maasai Mara*

We think of the Maasai Mara as the Africa of our imagination, brought to joyous life. * Rolling grasslands, expressive acacia trees, sweeping vistas teeming with wildlife, and one of Africa's common

* You sometimes see Maasai written Masai (as, unfortunately, in the Masai Mara National Reserve). Maa is the language spoken by the Maasai and the Samburu, so it should always be Maasai with two a's.

and unforgettable sights: “the cumulus clouds that drift all day long across a sun-filled sky,” Elspeth Huxley wrote in *The Flame Trees of Thika*, “remind[ing] me of huge swirls of whipped cream.” (Those sunny skies and grand landscapes inspire us to consider a hot-air balloon option while we're in the Mara. For a

strongly stated opinion about Mara balloon rides, see pages 86 and 147.)

We fly to the Mara via Arusha and Nairobi, and after unfailingly exciting game drives, we'll enjoy

sundowners from our tented camp at either the **Fairmont Mara Safari Club** or **Kichwa Tembo**, looking out at the vital yet deeply pacific Mara.

DAYS 13 & 14 *Mount Kenya Safari Club*

We fly back to Nairobi and continue by air across the stunningly green Central Highlands—to Kenya's colonials, so reminiscent of their English countryside—to the **Fairmont Mount Kenya Safari Club**, entrancingly close to Africa's second-highest and most classically comely mountain, the glaciated, 17,000-foot Mount Kenya.

The Fairmont Mount Kenya Safari Club—created in the late 1950s by actor William Holden and a bunch of fellow Africaphiles—has been visited by innumerable dignitaries, stars, and panjandrums, and we'll feel rather stellar ourselves during our two nights in upgraded deluxe Club Level rooms. The Safari Club is a continental center of relaxation, and, if relaxing gets too relaxing, many



activities are close at hand: golf, trout fishing, horsebacking, tennis, and much else. We'll also have a chance to visit the club's animal orphanage and the nearby Ol Pejeta Conservancy, home to a healthy coterie of rhinos, plus its Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary (Kenya's only chimp haven), operated in conjunction with the Jane Goodall Foundation.

DAY 15 *Depart Nairobi*

We'll have day rooms for use prior to our late night flights homeward. And during the day, we can visit the Micato-AmericaShare Harambee Centre (see page 149), do some shopping, or just kick back and savour the first, fresh memories of a classic African safari.

DAY 16 *Connect in Europe*

... for return flights home.

Make Your Safari a Private Classic, Or Add an Amazing Extension

The Stanley Wing can easily be transformed into a fully Private Classic Safari, with your own Safari Director, vehicles etc. As for safari extensions, contemplate: meeting our fellow primates in Rwanda, or jaunting down to Cape Town. See pages 146-151 for our roster of Options and Extensions.

It is a challenge to determine where to begin in our praise of Micato... We are seasoned travelers, taking an average three to four significant trips annually. I can say without reservation that we have never had a single travel experience that we haven't thoroughly enjoyed. However, having said that, we can also state unequivocally that our Stanley Wing Safari with Micato transcends any journey that we have ever taken.

—Gary and Linda Kaplan

Tariff 2017

Land arrangements, per person

	May	November	Balance of Year
Double Occupancy	\$10,550	\$10,950	\$12,350
Single Supplement	900	1,350	1,850
Internal Flights on Safari	1,950	1,950	1,950

(Nairobi / Amboseli; Arusha / Tarangire; Serengeti / Maasai Mara / Mt. Kenya / Nairobi) Connections may apply.

For assistance booking international flights, we will be happy to refer you to our preferred air ticket purveyor.

Make this a Private Classic Safari: Convert any date into a private departure for your party alone. Call for details and rates.

2017 Dates

Door-to-Door from Home | Every date is a guaranteed departure

Jan. 07 – Jan. 22	May 27 – June 11	Aug. 19 – Sept. 03	Nov. 11 – Nov. 26
Jan. 14 – Jan. 29	June 03 – June 18	Aug. 26 – Sept. 10	Nov. 18 – Dec. 03
Jan. 21 – Feb. 05	June 10 – June 25	Sept. 02 – Sept. 17	Nov. 25 – Dec. 10
Jan. 28 – Feb. 12	June 17 – July 02	Sept. 09 – Sept. 24	Dec. 02 – Dec. 17
Feb. 04 – Feb. 19	June 24 – July 09	Sept. 16 – Oct. 01	Dec. 09 – Dec. 24
Feb. 11 – Feb. 26	July 01 – July 16	Sept. 23 – Oct. 08	Dec. 16 – Dec. 31
Feb. 18 – Mar. 05	July 08 – July 23	Sept. 30 – Oct. 15	Dec. 23 – Jan. 07
Feb. 25 – Mar. 12	July 15 – July 30	Oct. 07 – Oct. 22	Dec. 30 – Jan. 14
Mar. 04 – Mar. 19	July 22 – Aug. 06	Oct. 14 – Oct. 29	
Mar. 11 – Mar. 26	July 29 – Aug. 13	Oct. 21 – Nov. 05	
May 13 – May 28	Aug. 05 – Aug. 20	Oct. 28 – Nov. 12	
May 20 – June 04	Aug. 12 – Aug. 27	Nov. 04 – Nov. 19	

2018 Dates

Door-to-Door from Home | New rates and dates may apply

Jan. 06 – Jan. 21	May 26 – June 10	Aug. 18 – Sept. 02	Nov. 10 – Nov. 25
Jan. 13 – Jan. 28	June 02 – June 17	Aug. 25 – Sept. 09	Nov. 17 – Dec. 02
Jan. 20 – Feb. 04	June 09 – June 24	Sept. 01 – Sept. 16	Nov. 24 – Dec. 09
Jan. 27 – Feb. 11	June 16 – July 01	Sept. 08 – Sept. 23	Dec. 01 – Dec. 16
Feb. 03 – Feb. 18	June 23 – July 08	Sept. 15 – Sept. 30	Dec. 08 – Dec. 23
Feb. 10 – Feb. 25	June 30 – July 15	Sept. 22 – Oct. 07	Dec. 15 – Dec. 30
Feb. 17 – Mar. 04	July 07 – July 22	Sept. 29 – Oct. 14	Dec. 22 – Jan. 06
Feb. 24 – Mar. 11	July 14 – July 29	Oct. 06 – Oct. 21	Dec. 29 – Jan. 13
Mar. 03 – Mar. 18	July 21 – Aug. 05	Oct. 13 – Oct. 28	
Mar. 10 – Mar. 25	July 28 – Aug. 12	Oct. 20 – Nov. 04	
May 12 – May 27	Aug. 04 – Aug. 19	Oct. 27 – Nov. 11	
May 19 – June 03	Aug. 11 – Aug. 26	Nov. 03 – Nov. 18	