



## **Tailor-Made Itinerary – Nicolas**





## Introduction

Did you know that Tanzania is home to the Great Migration, one of the world's most spectacular wildlife events? Every year, millions of wildebeest and zebras thunder across the Serengeti plains in search of greener pastures. This program is designed for Nicolas and his companion, a couple seeking inspiration and information for a two-week adventure in December 2025. With a preference for eco-lodges and the idea of joining a small group, this proposal draws from the experiences of local experts and real traveler feedback to ensure a seamless and memorable journey.



## Why Tanzania?

Tanzania offers a unique blend of breathtaking wildlife, pristine national parks, and authentic cultural encounters—perfect for couples seeking both adventure and relaxation. December is an excellent time to visit: the landscapes are lush after the short rains, wildlife is abundant, and the festive atmosphere adds a special touch to your journey. Eco-lodges throughout the country provide comfort while respecting the environment, and joining a small group ensures both conviviality and access to exclusive experiences. Whether you dream of sunrise safaris, tranquil evenings under the stars, or exploring vibrant local markets, Tanzania delivers an unforgettable escape tailored to your preferences.



## Custom Program



### Day 1: Arrival in Arusha

Morning: Arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO). Meet your small group and local guide. **Private transfer: 1h** to your eco-lodge on the outskirts of Arusha.

Afternoon: Settle in and enjoy a welcome briefing. Stroll through the lodge's gardens or relax by the pool, soaking in the views of Mount Meru.

Evening: Group welcome dinner featuring local Tanzanian cuisine. Special highlight: Toast your adventure with a sundowner on the lodge terrace.

- **Arusha Coffee Lodge** (Luxury, on a working coffee plantation, elegant cottages, from €350/night)
- **Rivertrees Country Inn** (Boutique, lush gardens, tranquil riverside setting, from €220/night)
- **Katambuga House** (Eco-lodge, intimate, modern African style, from €180/night)

TIP: Most international flights arrive late evening; if arriving after 20:00, consider a light dinner and early night to recover from jet lag.



### Day 2: Arusha National Park

Morning: Early breakfast followed by a short drive (**Private transfer: 45 min**) to Arusha National Park. Guided game drive and walking safari—spot

giraffes, zebras, and flamingos around Momella Lakes.

Afternoon: Picnic lunch in the park. Continue exploring with a canoe ride on Small Momella Lake (weather permitting).

Evening: Return to your eco-lodge. Optional group discussion about the next day's safari highlights.

- Same hotel options as Day 1.

**Activity:** Canoe Safari, Momella Lake – Glide quietly past waterbirds and hippos with a specialist guide.

**TIP:** Wear neutral colors and bring a light rain jacket for the canoe ride.

### **Day 3: Tarangire National Park**

Morning: Depart for Tarangire National Park (**Private transfer: 2.5h**). En route, observe rural Tanzanian life.

Afternoon: Game drive among baobab trees and elephant herds. Lunch at an eco-lodge inside the park.

Evening: Settle into your Tarangire eco-lodge. Enjoy a night walk to spot nocturnal wildlife (optional).

- **Tarangire Treetops** (Luxury, elevated suites in ancient baobabs, from €450/night)
- **Oliver's Camp** (Boutique, classic safari tents, renowned guiding, from €380/night)
- **Tarangire Ndovu Tented Lodge** (Eco-lodge, intimate bush experience, from €270/night)

**Activity:** Night Game Walk, Tarangire – Discover the park’s nocturnal creatures with an expert tracker.

TIP: Tarangire is famous for its elephants and birdlife—bring binoculars and a camera with good zoom.

#### **Day 4: Tarangire to Lake Manyara**

Morning: Sunrise safari drive. Breakfast at the lodge, then transfer to Lake Manyara (**Private transfer: 2h**).

Afternoon: Explore Lake Manyara National Park—famous for tree-climbing lions and flamingos. Picnic lunch by the lake.

Evening: Overnight at an eco-lodge near the park, with views over the Rift Valley escarpment.

- **Lake Manyara Tree Lodge** (Luxury, treehouse suites in mahogany forest, from €600/night)
- **Escarpment Luxury Lodge** (Boutique, panoramic Rift Valley views, from €340/night)
- **Manyara Wildlife Safari Camp** (Eco-lodge, thatched cottages, from €180/night)

**Activity:** Sunset Yoga, Manyara – Unwind with a guided yoga session overlooking the lake (subject to availability).

TIP: Lake Manyara is a malaria area—use repellent and sleep under a net.

#### **Day 5: Mto wa Mbu Cultural Experience**

Morning: Visit the vibrant village of Mto wa Mbu. Guided bike tour or tuk-tuk ride through banana plantations and rice paddies.

Afternoon: Participate in a local cooking class and share lunch with a host family.

Evening: Return to your lodge. Evening at leisure.

- **Africa Safari Lake Manyara** (Eco-lodge, pool and gardens, from €120/night)
- **Kirurumu Manyara Lodge** (Boutique, tented chalets with Rift Valley views, from €200/night)
- Same hotel options as Day 4 if preferred.

**Activity:** Mto wa Mbu Village Tour – Experience daily life, visit local markets, and sample banana beer.

**TIP:** Respect local customs—dress modestly for village visits.

## **Day 6: Ngorongoro Crater**

Morning: Early departure to Ngorongoro Conservation Area (**Private transfer: 1.5h**). Descend into the crater for a full-day safari among lions, rhinos, and hippos.

Afternoon: Picnic lunch on the crater floor. Continue game viewing until late afternoon.

Evening: Overnight at an eco-lodge on the crater rim, with panoramic views.

- **Ngorongoro Serena Safari Lodge** (Luxury, crater-edge location, from

€420/night)

- **Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge** (Boutique, sweeping views, from €320/night)
- **The Highlands** (Eco-lodge, domed tents, exclusive setting, from €650/night)

**Activity:** Crater Safari, Ngorongoro – Spot rare black rhinos and enjoy a picnic on the crater floor.

**ALTITUDE:** The crater rim is at 2,300–2,400 m. Drink plenty of water, avoid alcohol, and rest if you feel short of breath.

## **Day 7: Olduvai Gorge & Serengeti**

Morning: Visit Olduvai Gorge, the cradle of mankind (**Private transfer: 1h**).

Short guided tour of the museum and archaeological site.

Afternoon: Continue to Serengeti National Park (**Private transfer: 2.5h**).

Game drive en route to your eco-camp.

Evening: Settle into your tented eco-camp in the Serengeti. Campfire dinner under the stars.

- **Kubu Kubu Tented Lodge** (Luxury, stylish tents, central Serengeti, from €500/night)
- **Serengeti Safari Camp** (Eco-camp, mobile, follows migration, from €420/night)
- **Embalakai Authentic Camps** (Boutique, intimate, from €280/night)

**Activity:** Olduvai Gorge Museum Visit – Explore early human history with a



local archaeologist.

TIP: Roads can be rough—bring motion sickness medication if sensitive.

## **Days 8–10: Serengeti National Park**

Morning: Sunrise and sunset game drives in search of the Big Five. Flexible schedule allows for relaxation at camp or optional hot air balloon safari (advance booking required).

Afternoon: Visit different regions of the Serengeti, following wildlife movements. Lunches in the bush or at camp.

Evening: Evenings around the campfire, sharing stories with fellow travelers.

- Same hotel options as Day 7.

**Activity:** Hot Air Balloon Safari, Serengeti – Soar above the plains at dawn, followed by a champagne breakfast (optional, supplement applies).

TIP: Early mornings can be chilly—bring a warm layer for sunrise activities.

## **Day 11: Serengeti to Lake Natron**

Morning: Early departure for Lake Natron (**4×4: 5h with scenic stops**).

Observe Maasai villages and volcanic landscapes.

Afternoon: Guided walk to the lake's edge—see flamingos and dramatic scenery. Visit a local Maasai community.

Evening: Overnight at an eco-lodge with views of Ol Doinyo Lengai volcano.



- **Lake Natron Camp** (Eco-lodge, natural pools, volcano views, from €220/night)
- **Natron River Camp** (Boutique, riverside tents, from €170/night)
- **Maasai Giraffe Eco Lodge** (Eco-lodge, community-run, from €110/night)

**Activity:** Sunset Walk with Maasai Guides – Learn about Maasai traditions and the lake’s unique ecosystem.

ALTITUDE: Lake Natron sits at 600 m, but the drive crosses higher ground—pace yourself and hydrate.

TIP: The drive is long and on rough roads—expect a full day of travel with stops.

## **Day 12: Lake Natron to Arusha**

Morning: Optional sunrise hike to a nearby waterfall. Breakfast at the lodge, then return drive to Arusha (**4×4: 5h**).

Afternoon: Arrive in Arusha. Afternoon at leisure for last-minute shopping or relaxation.

Evening: Farewell dinner with your group at a local restaurant.

- Same hotel options as Day 1.

**Activity:** Waterfall Hike, Lake Natron – Short trek to a hidden oasis, swim in cool mountain waters (optional, moderate fitness required).

TIP: The return drive is long—bring snacks and water for the journey.

## **Day 13: Departure**

Morning: Transfer to Kilimanjaro International Airport (**Private transfer: 1h**) for your flight home. **[To Customize]** based on your flight schedule.

**Highlight:** Final views of Mount Kilimanjaro from the road.

**TIP:** Allow at least 3 hours before your international flight for check-in and security.

## **Customizable Options**

- Upgrade to a hot air balloon safari over the Serengeti at sunrise, followed by a champagne breakfast in the bush.
- Private romantic dinner set up in the savannah, away from the main camp.
- Extension to Zanzibar for a few days of relaxation on the Indian Ocean beaches—eco-lodge or boutique hotel options available.
- Special Maasai cultural immersion with a night in a traditional boma (to be confirmed with local partner).
- Photographic safari with a professional wildlife photographer guide.

## **Practical Info & Budget**

- **Comfort level:** Eco-lodges and tented camps, mid-range to upper mid-range standard (group departures).

- **Estimated budget:** €3,000 per person for 2 weeks, based on joining a small group and sharing twin/double rooms. This estimate includes most meals, park fees, group transport, and guided activities, but excludes international flights, personal expenses, and some optional upgrades.
- **Included:** Accommodation in eco-lodges/camps, all group transfers, park entrance fees, most meals, English-speaking guides, and listed activities.
- **Excluded:** International flights, travel insurance, personal expenses, tips, some optional activities (e.g., balloon safari, Zanzibar extension).
- **Missing info:** Exact travel dates, departure city, and flight details. **To be specified.**
- **Note:** If the budget proves tight for certain dates or if group size is very limited, consider shortening the trip or adjusting accommodation category. **[To Customize]**

Item	Estimated Cost (per person)
Accommodation (12 nights, eco-lodge/camp, mid to upper mid-range)	€1,650
Group transport & transfers (private minibus/4×4, incl. driver)	€400
Park entrance & conservation fees	€420

Guided activities & excursions	€250
Meals (most included, excl. some lunches/dinners)	€180
Tips & incidentals	€100
Total Estimated Cost	€3,000

## **Next Steps**

- Please specify your exact travel dates and departure city to refine the program and check group availability.
- Let us know if you wish to include any of the customizable options or have other preferences (e.g., dietary needs, pace, special occasions).
- We will connect you with a local partner to confirm group departures, eco-lodge selection, and any special touches for your couple's adventure.
- Feel free to request adjustments to the itinerary, budget, or experiences!

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