



the
leap

UNDER 18 PROGRAMME

Leap to Under 18 Kenya

MARINE CONSERVATION + COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT + SAFARI + 16 UCAS POINTS



Kenya: An Adventure That Happens To Be Good For Your Future

Restore coral reefs. Sail the Indian Ocean. Work alongside local communities. Sleep under African stars.

This is Kenya - a ten-day adventure combining conservation, culture and wildlife with experiences that help students grow in confidence, independence and resilience.

Based on Kenya's beautiful coastline, students work alongside our conservation partner, Oceans Alive, before heading into Tsavo National Park for an unforgettable safari.

Along the way they'll make new friends, experience a different culture and develop skills that universities and employers increasingly value.

Students can also earn 16 UCAS points through the Diploma in International Volunteering.

MARINE CONSERVATION. COMMUNITY IMPACT. SAFARI. ADVENTURE.

AN INVESTMENT IN THEIR FUTURE.

Why It Matters

Good grades still matter.
But universities and employers want evidence of what students can do beyond the classroom.

Confidence. Initiative. Teamwork. Communication.
Resilience. Qualities best developed through real experiences, not textbooks.

In Kenya, students take part in meaningful conservation projects, work alongside local communities and step beyond their comfort zones every day.

They return home with new skills, greater independence and a broader perspective on the world around them.

What Students Gain:

Confidence: through challenge and adventure

Perspective: through cultural immersion

Real-World Skills: teamwork, communication and problem-solving

Future Value: experiences that strengthen university, apprenticeship and job applications



KENYA BECOMES THE CLASSROOM.

A Glimpse Of What's Ahead

For ten unforgettable days, Students live on the Indian Ocean coast in Vipingo, working alongside Oceans Alive to protect coral reefs and support community projects.

One day might involve snorkelling over coral nurseries. Another could mean building Jiko stoves, playing football with local teenagers or sailing a traditional dhow along Kilifi Creek.

The adventure finishes with two nights on safari in Tsavo National Park, searching for elephants, giraffes, lions and more.

Highlights

- Coral reef restoration
- Community projects
- Cultural immersion
- Dhow sailing
- Local markets and football matches
- Jiko stove building
- Water appreciation projects
- Two-night safari in Tsavo National Park
- Optional Diploma worth 16 UCAS points

**SOUND GOOD?
HERE'S WHAT TEN
DAYS LOOK LIKE...**



SOUTH SUDAN

ETHIOPIA

UGANDA

SOMALIA

KENYA

TANZANIA

INDIAN OCEAN

Tsavo East National Park

Safari

Kilifi

Sunset Dhow

3

2

Vipingo

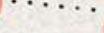
Marine Conservation
+ Community Development

1

Mombasa

Arrival / Departure

4



Kenya Itinerary

Day 1 Mombasa/Vipingo

Welcome to Kenya

The moment you step out of the airport, you'll know you're somewhere completely different. The roads buzz with tuk-tuks and motorbikes, market stalls spill onto the streets, and the warm Indian Ocean air hits you in the face.

Your new home is Bahari Hai, a beachside retreat where you'll spend the next week living alongside a team of like-minded adventurers. After your first swim in the ocean and a chance to settle in, you'll meet the Oceans Alive team and discover how your adventure is going to make a real difference.



Kenya *Itinerary*

Day 2

Induction + Coral Restoration + Vipingo

Today begins at the Oceans Alive Centre, located on the shores of Kenya's first Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) in the Kuruwitu Lagoon. You'll head out into the warm, waist-deep waters for your first underwater safari, exploring the vibrant coral structures. Expect to encounter a kaleidoscope of marine life, including brightly coloured clams, sea anemones, and tropical fish, a truly stunning experience.

After lunch, you'll learn more about the conservation efforts directly from the Oceans Alive team. Then, it's off to Vipingo Ridge, where a scenic hike leads you to the dam in search of resident giraffes and antelope. Capping off the day with a refreshing swim and supper at the Ridge.

Supper: Pizza night at the Vipingo Ridge Resort.



Kenya *Itinerary*

Day 3

Coral Restoration

Today is all about making a difference.

The morning will be dedicated to hands-on work with coral regeneration projects, focusing on three key tasks: plug creation, coral gardening, and building artificial reef structures. You'll be divided into three teams and rotate throughout, ensuring you experience each stage of the process.

- **Plug creation:** You'll make small concrete plugs, about the size of an egg cup, where the coral fragments are attached. These plugs are placed in the coral nursery.
- **Coral gardening:** With snorkel and mask, you'll gently clean the coral plugs in the nursery to help them thrive. When the coral is ready, you'll assist in moving it to artificial reefs.
- **Building artificial reefs:** You'll help build artificial reef structures using concrete or wire. These are submerged in the ocean to provide a base for the coral plugs you've helped grow to be attached to.

Shariani Market

After lunch, you'll visit the vibrant Shariani Market for a firsthand look at local community life. From fresh produce to clothing and electronics, this bustling market offers a true taste of everyday Kenyan life. It's the perfect opportunity to practice your haggling skills and soak up the lively atmosphere.

Supper: Bahari Hai, fancy dress night having bought something at the market.



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Kenya *Itinerary*

Day 4

Joyland School

Today will be spent at the local school. The kids are always excited to meet new people and will welcome you with open arms, making for a truly heartwarming experience.

Jiko Stoves

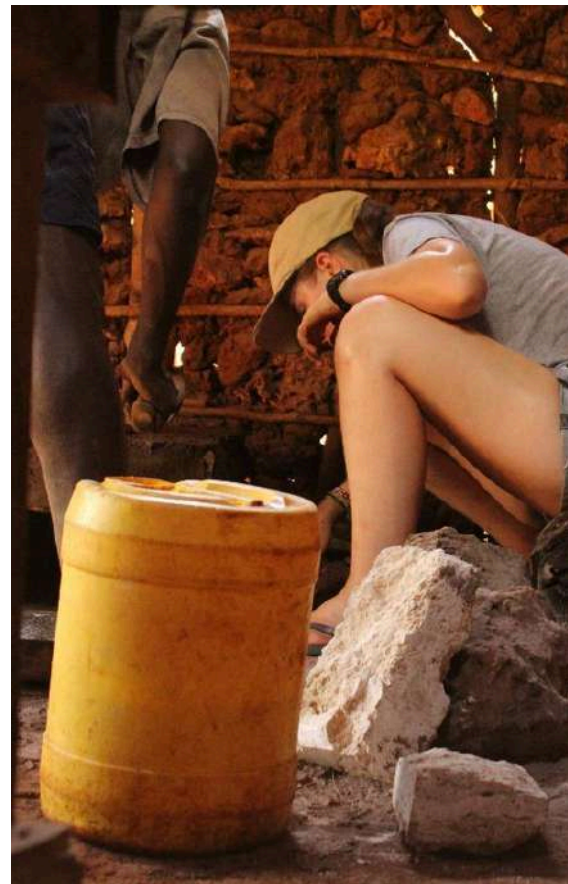
In the afternoon, you'll visit the nearby village to build jiko stoves which is one of Oceans Alive's community projects aimed at reducing the pressures of overfishing in the lagoon.

You'll notice that many homes in the village still rely on open flames for cooking, which is both hazardous and fuel-inefficient. Oceans Alive is addressing this issue by introducing Jiko stoves into fishermen's homes. These stoves not only make cooking safer but also help preserve fish by providing a frying option, extending shelf life.

Here you'll help build a Jiko stove, an experience that puts you right at the heart of community life.

Cooking Lesson

In the evening, you'll take part in a fun cooking session with local women, learning how to make classic Kenyan dishes like mandazi, a sweet, doughnut-style bread. Then it's time to relax and have supper at Bahari Hai.



Kenya *Itinerary*

Day 5



Marine Projects + Community Football + Dhow Cruise

This morning, you'll dive back into the coral regeneration project before a competitive afternoon of football against the spirited and football-loving teenagers from the Shariani community. They live and breathe the sport, so expect a lively and energetic match.

After the game, you'll unwind with a serene sunset cruise along the Kilifi River aboard a traditional dhow sailing boat, before returning to Bahari Hai for a late supper.

Kenya *Itinerary*

Day 6

Church Service

Today is all about immersing yourself in the vibrant local community, beginning with an unforgettable church service, a lively, joyful, and colourful celebration of local culture that will leave a lasting impression.

Vertical Gardening

After lunch, you'll dive into another community project. As Oceans Alive works with fishermen to reduce over fishing, they also promote alternative sources of income and food. One such initiative is the innovative community farm, where fishermen are introduced to vertical gardening, a brilliant technique for growing fruits and vegetables in compact spaces. Using recycled cement sacks, the community has created tiered gardens, resembling wedding cakes.

This method not only conserves water but also allows a variety of crops to flourish without taking up much land.

During your visit, you'll roll up your sleeves and help maintain these vertical gardens, contributing to a more sustainable future.





Kenya *Itinerary*

Day 7

Water Appreciation + Beach Club

This morning, you'll return to the coral regeneration project to complete your final marine task, before you head back into the community to support the water appreciation project. This initiative involves gathering water from the well and delivering it to the homes of elderly and sick villagers, a huge effort that is deeply valued by the entire community.

The afternoon will be a relaxing break at the beach club, where you can unwind, play volleyball, and hang out. You'll then head back to base to pack up in preparation for your safari tomorrow and have a magical final celebratory supper with entertainment from local musicians and acrobats who will showcase their talents.



Kenya *Itinerary*

Day 8 & 9

Safari in Tsavo National Park

No trip to Kenya would be complete without a safari, and we've planned an unforgettable experience at the stunning **Ngutuni Conservancy**, renowned for its thriving elephant population and the iconic **Taita Hills** in Tsavo East National Park.

Day 10

Taita Hills to Mombasa Airport

Your safari ends with an early morning game drive, before catching the train back to Mombasa.

As the landscape rolls by, you'll have time to reflect on the incredible experiences, from the breathtaking wildlife to the vibrant community projects.

Your journey will end in Mombasa, where you'll catch your flight home, leaving Kenya with unforgettable memories of adventure, connection, and the extraordinary beauty of nature.



Our daughter had a trip of a lifetime in Kenya with The Leap. She met life long friends and had incredible experiences. Thank you to Milly and her team for all their help and expertise along the way.

Kenya *Staying & Food*

Accommodation

You'll stay beachside at Bahari Hai, our beautiful volunteer house in Vipingo, just 1.5 hours from Mombasa.

Picture the whitest of sand, warm tropical water, turtles, migrating humpback whales, dolphins, and more tropical fish than you can shake a stick at. Utterly stunning.

The house is cosy with 2-3 bedroom bungalows, each with ensuite bathrooms, set in a lovely garden with a small pool and plenty of communal spaces.

Food

Godfrey will cook delicious, home-cooked meals. If you have any special dietary requirements, please let us know, as these can be easily accommodated.

Safe drinking water, tea, coffee, and fruit squash will be available throughout your stay, though any additional soft drinks, will be at your own expense.



International Volunteering Diploma

Strengthening a student's super-curricular profile

Reacting to UCAS's emphasis on the Super-Curriculum, we launched a qualification which can be completed simultaneously to our Kenya Leap. The International Volunteering Diploma is a Level 3 qualification, accredited by the National Open College Network (NOCN) and worth 16 UCAS points.

Why it matters

With UCAS now prioritising evidence of independent initiative, global citizenship, and leadership, this qualification provides exactly that.

The impact

Students learn to translate their volunteering into the language universities value most: resilience, teamwork, problem-solving, and cultural awareness.

5 modules (approximately 4-6 hours online)

Pass mark: 50%.

Cost: **£450**

YOU'RE IN SAFE HANDS

Trusted by Schools, Parents, and Students for Over 20 Years

Since 2002, The Leap has led purposeful adventures for thousands of young people. From the highlands of Peru to the beaches of Kenya, we've built a reputation for transformative travel that's safe, structured, and inspiring.

What sets us apart:

- 20+ years of expertise in youth travel and expedition planning
- Fully supported experiences combining UK-based staff, local guides, and robust risk management
- Safeguarding-first approach with DBS-checked leaders and 24/7 emergency backup
- Strong partnerships with overseas NGOs, and conservation organisations
- Personal service - we're here to guide, support, and inspire every step of the way



GAP YEAR
ASSOCIATION

YOG culture
experience
travel
Approved Provider 2025

TRAILFINDERS 
THE TRAVEL EXPERTS



Kenya *Costs 2026 & 2027*

2026 - £2450 (10-DAY LEAP)

2027 - £2600 (10-DAY LEAP)

INCLUDED:

- Pre-departure briefing
- 24-hour emergency back-up, management and support by UK and in-country team
- Safety and induction course on arrival
- Food and accommodation as described
- Airport transfers for the team flight
- All transport to and from projects
- Leap T-shirt
- All activities as described

NOT INCLUDED:

- International flights
- Volunteering Diploma - £450
- 2 meals out
- Travel insurance
- Medical expenses (reclaimable through travel insurance)
- Private transfers to and from the airport if you do not arrive on the main team flight
- Some soft drinks and snacks
- Laundry fees
- Tips (budget £30)
- Tourist visa/ETA

GO TO WWW.THELEAP.CO.UK FOR DATES & AVAILABILITY

The Outcome

A team of teens who return home more confident, more capable, and more connected, to the world and themselves.



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Reserve your place

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