



KINARA

MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE VISITOR GUIDELINES

A companion for your time in the Mara, prepared for guests of Kinara. The Mara asks a little patience of everyone who enters it. These notes gather the practical detail of your visit, so your days can be spent looking outward rather than at logistics, your guide carries the rest.

Entering the Reserve

- Carry a valid passport or recognised national ID — reserve staff and rangers may ask to verify it.
- Kenyan and East African resident rates require the appropriate national ID, work permit or residency document; a driving licence is not accepted as proof of residency.
- Guests unable to present valid identification may be charged the non-resident rate.
- Fees are paid electronically, not in cash.
- Entry tickets generally cover the calendar-day operating period and don't roll over for 12 hours from the time of entry.
- Full, current fee schedule: [Mara Conservancy conservation fees](#)

Paying Fees Before Arrival

- Our reservations team is glad to pre-arrange your park fees as part of your booking, simply let us know ahead of your stay.

Reserve Hours & Night Drives

- The reserve keeps daylight hours of approximately 6.00 am–6.00 pm.
- Night game drives are not offered within the reserve, so Kinara is unable to arrange them from camp.
- Guests and vehicles return to camp or leave the reserve before closing time; after-dark travel is reserved for authorised transfers or emergencies, subject to reserve approval.

On Game Drives

- Follow your Kinara guide and any ranger's instructions and always stay seated inside the vehicle except at authorised picnic, viewing or stopping areas.
- Stay off windows, doors and the roof; keep hands, arms and belongings inside the vehicle near wildlife.
- Our vehicles stay on authorised roads and tracks, off-roading needs express reserve authorisation.
- Our vehicles observe the reserve speed limit, and slow further near wildlife, crossings, other vehicles and visitor areas.
- Trust your guide's judgement on distance, please don't ask to move closer than is safe or permitted.
- Never chase, surround, block or separate animals, or obstruct their path, access to water or escape route.
- Keep noise to a minimum, no shouting, clapping, whistling, music, sounding the horn or imitating animal calls.
- Do not feed or touch wildlife.
- Drones and commercial filming require prior approval from the relevant authorities.

Sightings & River Crossings

- No more than five vehicles should gather closely around a sighting; where others wait, viewing may be limited to around 10 minutes, with waiting vehicles remaining about 100m back.
- Vehicles must not encircle animals or position themselves between adults and young, if an animal's behaviour changes because of a vehicle's presence, it's too close and should move away.
- Please allow your guide to manage positioning and viewing time responsibly.
- At a crossing: remain inside the vehicle at all times, stay quiet, and keep an appropriate distance from the riverbank.
- Never block the herd's route, or pressure animals into crossing or attempt to influence where a crossing occurs; standing on the roof or sitting on the windows is prohibited.
- Crossings are natural events and cannot be scheduled or guaranteed.

Caring for the Land

- Carry out all litter, food and cigarette ends; avoid single-use plastic wherever possible.
- Smoke only in designated areas and use toilets and designated facilities whenever available.
- Leave plants, stones, feathers, bones, horns and any natural object exactly as found.
- Take care not to damage vegetation or disturb nests, dens or breeding areas.

Single-Use Plastics

- The reserve asks that single-use plastic, bottles, bags, straws, packaging stays out where possible; anything you do bring should leave with you rather than be left, buried or burned in the reserve.
- A refillable bottle is the simplest swap and provided by Kinara; let your guide know if you'd like it topped up during a drive.
- This mirrors Kinara's own commitments to the environmental.

Photography & Community

- Personal photography of wildlife is welcome, provided it doesn't disturb animals or other visitors; avoid flash photography around sensitive wildlife.
- Professional filming, commercial photography and drone use may require advance permits — ask us to help arrange these.
- Always request permission before photographing individuals, homes or ceremonies.