



EAST AFRICA

Safari to Lake Manyara, Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater and Tarangire Island Getaway to Zanzibar Island

Hello Lynne. We have been back for about a week now and are finally getting over the jet lag! I wanted to get back to you with appreciation again for everything you and AAC did in preparing for our trip. In a nutshell, we had an excellent, fabulous time. More specifically, here are a few thoughts.....

Tanzania---Very excellent! We had the best time on safari. Our guide, Mkenda, was perfect. He was knowledgeable as well as personal. We developed a friendship that we will always remember. I appreciated his experience, his knowledge of birds and his ability to find the wildlife. I started thinking of him as "The Professor of the Serengeti"! And as we would run into other safari guides, they treated Mkenda somewhat like a rock star. Sort of like he is legendary among the safari guide circle! (Maybe that's just my impression but it sure seemed that way!)

Our great experiences on safari were far too many to list but a few highlights included watching 3 cheetahs take down a wildebeest, identifying 227 bird species in 8 days and filming several hundred (if not thousands) of wildebeests and zebras migrating across a dry creek on the Serengeti. Every day offered a new experience over new terrain. And while I'm sure we didn't see every species that exists, it sure seemed like we did. We saw all of the large mammals (elephants, water buffalo, giraffes, black rhinos, etc.) as well as some of the smaller ones not seen as often like the bat-eared fox and serval...

Zanzibar-----we were anticipating that our Zanzibar visit would be the "beach resort" part of our trip and it definitely turned out that way. We enjoyed the rest and relaxation. (*Mapanzi Beach Club*)

Lynne, thanks very much for all of your and your colleagues planning on our behalf. The fact that African Adventure Company took care of all of the planning including the air -flights made our trip the success that it was. Thanks very much. We truly did have a "trip of a lifetime".

We will recommend AAC given the opportunity.

Bruce Bonifas, Jan 2011

Private Safari to Lake Manyara/Serengeti/Ngorongoro

Hello Alison,

Elizabeth and I had an absolutely fantastic safari in Tanzania. Everything went so smoothly. We were met and picked up on time on every scheduled occasion. We were extremely happy with the lodgings especially the shared mobile camp where the staff completely spoiled us. We would like to sing the praises of Ephata, our guide. Thank you for assigning him to us. He was so personable, knowledgeable and professional. We think he has superhuman eyesight. He made our safari so memorable and enjoyable. We are very happy we followed your advice and did the private safari. The whole experience exceeded our dreams and expectations.



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We will recommend The Africa Adventure Company in a heartbeat to anyone who asks our advice on African safaris. We certainly want to return to Africa and would use your services to arrange future trips such as a safari to see gorillas.

Best Regards,

Elizabeth Huntzinger and Stephen Olmstead, Jan 2011

**Group safari to Lake Manyara/Serengeti/Ngorongoro/Tarangire – Serena Lodges
Group Mt. Kilimanjaro Climb – Rongai Climb**

Dear Kyle,

A few years ago, someone I know told me about the Africa Adventure Company. He and his son had gone on a safari and Mt. Kilimanjaro climb with your firm. He highly recommended it. My wife and I are VERY grateful that he did.

We just got back from our trip to Tanzania and without a doubt, this was the trip of a lifetime! Everything about our visit was perfect. From the moment we got off the plane at Mt. Kilimanjaro airport, every aspect of the trip was wonderful and was exactly as described in the detailed itinerary that was sent to us before the trip. Our guide for the safari, Robert Marks is just amazing. He is such a nice man and is incredibly knowledgeable about the animals, birds, landscape, and culture of Tanzania. The parks we visited were each beautiful. The Serengeti was truly amazing with its enormous size and huge numbers of animals. Ngorongoro Crater was spectacular with the density of animals. The Serena lodges were luxurious and were a delightful place to return to at the end of a day of game viewing. The service and the food were excellent. Your ground operator in Tanzania is an outstanding organization!

At the end of our safari, my wife returned home. I then embarked on the hike up Mt. Kilimanjaro. Once again, everything happened just as described, except for the fact that the African Walking Company provided a much more luxurious and comfortable hiking experience than any of us on the climb had imagined. We were not aware that we would be treated to gourmet food at every meal, facilities for washing, and perhaps most importantly, a portable sit-down toilet! The guides on the hike, Tosha, JT, AT, Nelson, and Damien, were truly amazing. They were so encouraging and supportive of all of us. Without them, there is no way that any of us would have made it to the top. The one slight gripe I would make is that although your literature says that the climb from Kibo to the summit is the most grueling part of the climb, we all found this portion to be MUCH harder than we had imagined. Nevertheless, 8 of our group of 9 made it to Gilman's Point and 5 of us made it to Uhuru.

...Thank you once again for making this trip so incredible. We are telling all of our friends that if they are interested in going on safari, they need to contact the Africa Adventure Company. We will definitely travel back to Africa in a few years, and you will hear from us then!

Sincerely yours,

Eric Norman, Jan 2011

PS. The birthday cake, gift, and the singing of "Happy Birthday" to me in Swahili at the Serena Mountain Resort in Arusha on Jan. 15 was a very pleasant surprise. Please thank Salvatore for arranging this.

**Private Safari to Ngorongoro/Serengeti
Visit to Victoria Falls, Zambia**

Dear Kyle:

I'm not sure if either of the other two guys has contacted you yet but I wanted you to know that we had the best of trips and created many memories that will be with us for the rest of our lives. A very special time that coordinated amazingly. Everything and everyone was on time, courteous, caring, and genuinely interested to see us over there. You and your group have picked an extraordinary group of talent with which to work with in Africa.

Of particular mention was our guide Jabshir. He consistently went out of his way to make sure everything was just right for us. The connections and extra trips, balloon, helicopter, all went off without a hitch. My Dad said the trip was Magical and my brother said it rated in his top "1" of trips. I personally have no comparison to the experiences, friendship, and uniqueness of what this trip had to offer.

We are two weeks back but last night I sorted through the 728 photos I have initially printed and several times paused and said to myself "those guys are having a great time". Every shot is loaded with either awesome animal pics, the spirit of Indiana Jones adventure, or faces of wonder and fun (us) ...

Keep in touch. Let me know if you need me to help someone decide whether or not to take this journey. There would be no question.

Richard Wilson, Jan 2011

**Safari to Tarangire/Lake Manyara/Ngorongoro/Serengeti/Selous
Zanzibar Extension**

Allan and I want to thank you all for the most wonderful trip we have ever experienced!!

From beginning to end it was flawless and filled with delightful and unexpected surprises. Our guide, Seif, was fantastic and amazing (I'm sorry, I can't seem to stop talking without superlatives). Seif's professionalism, experience, knowledge, charm and his obvious love for his job, all combined to give us a perfect safari. He immediately picked up on the extent of our enthusiasm and interest and he went out of his way to give us the best opportunities and experiences possible.

One morning as we were leaving the Ngorongoro Crater, we stopped to look for some lions that we had seen in that area, earlier. We immediately saw two of the lioness, resting in the sun. Two other tour vehicles stopped but elected to leave as they had also seen the lions earlier. What they failed to notice or understand, was the significance of a lone cape buffalo several hundred meters away!! Fortunately, our intrepid Seif knew what might happen and suggested we wait. We witnessed the incredible kill of a buffalo by three lioness'. The team work and synchronicity of those lions is something we will never forget and we give all the credit to Seif for being in the right place at the right time! We learned so much about animal behavior and habitat from Seif and his knowledge of the birdlife, in every park, was astounding. When we said goodbye to Seif, we felt that we left a dear friend.

The lodges and camps were amazing and the hospitality and warmth we found there is unsurpassable. When we went on a walking safari at Tarangire Treetops Lodge we had no idea we would enjoy sundowners on a hill overlooking a wide savanna with giraffes and other animals in the distance. I hope that I can always remember the feeling of peace and serenity that existed on that hilltop. Being greeted by the camp manager with cocoa and amarula after a night safari, a private dinner for two in "the bush", an

African barbeque complete with Maasai warriors dancing; all of these things and so much more gave us memories from Tarangire that will remain with us forever.

Seeing lions sleeping in the trees in Lake Manyara Park was another thrill because these sightings in this park are now somewhat rare and we got to stop at TWO different locations and witness this spectacle. (Again thanks to Seif!)

The visits to local native villages gave us an insight to the culture of the people and has stimulated us to learn more.

In the Serengeti, we were serenaded to sleep with the sounds of hyenas, lions, elephants and a few other unidentifiable sounds. The wildlife sightings in the Serengeti were nothing short of amazing --leopards, cheetahs, wildebeests by the thousands. It was all breathtaking and really beyond description.

In the Selous, more wonderful surprises awaited us. We were bowled over by our luxurious accommodation complete with our own fantastic outdoor shower!! At night the hippos came up to graze on the grass beside our tent....so close we could hear them chewing! What a thrill. This camp has a superb chef and we had several wonderful dining experiences.

The walking safari was so educational. Who knew that animal poop could tell you so much? We actually enjoyed that morning very much and what a great surprise it was to find a full breakfast set up for us beside the lake. Another special part of experiences here were the boat safaris. The birds were incredibly beautiful and we saw a lot of wildlife from the boat as well. Having sundowners on the river, gave us another memory to hold.

Allan and I are so appreciative for all the suggestions regarding our itinerary and your expertise in putting together the perfect package for us. Thank you for arranging a guide to take us to and from the restaurant on Herumzi St. in Stonetown and for arranging dinner for us in Dar Es Salaam. It was far better than spending all those hours at the airport.

We really do feel that we had the perfect safari and I feel that this is due to the fact we chose Africa Adventure Company to help us make our dream come true. Thank you, Thank you.
Allan and Connie Young, Feb 2011

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Visit to Cape Town/Safari to Private Game Reserve near Kruger in South Africa

Safari to Chobe Game Park in Botswana

Visit to Victoria Falls to Zimbabwe

Hi Kyle,

Just thought we'd take a few minutes and touch base with you as we recover from our fantastic journey. It has taken a few weeks to get ourselves reoriented to our "normal life".

In no particular order I will provide you with some of our thoughts and impressions of the trip. To begin with as is probably obvious we were very happy with virtually all aspects of the trip. Both your efforts in putting the trip together to meet our specific preferences and the execution by all participants on the Africa end worked out extremely well...

In the area of lodging we were extremely pleased with all three of our safari choices; Cheetah Plains, Rissington Inn and Muchenje Lodge. All of the guides, staff and management at each facility were outstanding! Each of them met or exceeded our expectations and were top notch in all areas; lodging facilities, food, service and field guides...

The guides and trackers at Muchenje Lodge & Cheetah Plains were fantastic! They put us in position to view, photograph and appreciate wildlife to a greater degree than we had imagined. I have the photographs to prove it! We felt incredibly fortunate to have them share their experiences and skills with us.

In closing we will definitely recommend Africa Adventures (I already passed along your card to a customer of mine from Hopewell, NJ who seriously wants to do a safari within the next 18 to 24 months) to any of our friends or contacts who have any interests in experiencing the joys of doing a safari! Thanks again for all of your efforts and everyone else at The Africa Adventure Company!

Sincerely,

Michael Hafner & Pat Barratt, March 2011

Central Kalahari and Okavango Delta

My trip was just terrific; it exceeded my every expectation. It was clear to me as I progressed through the camps that your expertise in the choice of the camps and the order I visited them really enhanced my experience. I am very pleased I stayed three nights at each camp since it allowed me to get in the rhythm of each unique place. The weather in March was ideal "a few brief rain showers" for which the camps were very well prepared. As you had pointed out, going at this time also meant the camps were not crowded. In fact, at each camp I had a solo game drive. The birds were great at each camp. The logistics of the trip were superb, with the flights between the camps efficient and fun.

Kalahari Plains Camp was my first camp and, I think, my favorite. The highlight was sleeping out above my tent each night. This was very flexible and you could hop back down to your bed if the weather didn't cooperate. My guide, Ona, was the best guide I had on my trip because of his amazing animal and bird knowledge and his ability to adjust the experience to the guests. While I saw plenty of animals, including amazing lions, the real star of the Kalahari is the landscape, with the vistas, the light, space and open sky.

Kwetsani was such a different eco-system that it was almost disorienting to take a boat through the reeds and the water birds to reach it. I loved the design of the camp with its raised walkways through the trees and the sound of the birds and frogs. The birds and animals were fantastic and the mokoro ride was the highlight of this part of the trip.

Chitabe Camp had a totally different feel and I was surprised that a short flight could deliver such a changed experience. I saw all the predators: lion, leopard, wild dogs and hyena. I loved being able to spend a long time just watching their behavior, including sundowners surrounded by a lion pride with 3 month old cubs. The camp staff prepared a surprise lunch in the bush (very elaborate) that was a highlight.

As an end note, I visited with friends afterwards and they arranged some park visits in South Africa, suiting their needs, which are probably representative of most people's experience of safari. I had a great time with my friends, but it also reinforced to me the exceptional experience and value of booking through a high-end firm for a big trip like this.

Patricia Little, March 2011