

# Serengeti Safari: Wildlife Conservation in Africa

Few wildlife experiences can compare to a safari in Tanzania's Serengeti National Park and Ngorongoro Crater. *Common* wildlife sightings include lions, cheetahs, giraffes, wildebeest, leopards, gazelles, elephants and hundreds of birds! Join us as we explore conservation biology in this spectacular region of the world. We'll conduct scientific field research, examine the important role that local communities play in conservation efforts, and work side by side with local students on a service project. Along the way, we'll hike beside Mount Kilimanjaro, visit with Masai warriors and dig into the "Cradle of Life" of human civilization: Olduvai Gorge.



## The International Experience

Students on the 14-day Serengeti Safari research the challenges and rewards of wildlife conservation in one of the most famous regions of the world. In the process, we learn from experts such as ecologists, cultural anthropologists, botanists and very knowledgeable local guides.

We'll spend several days on safari. We begin in the Serengeti National Park as we study behavioral adaptations, learn to identify flora and fauna, explore species interrelationships and research conservation issues. In Ngorongoro Crater, home to one of the largest densities of predators in the world, we'll search for lions, leopards, cheetahs and much more. We'll also study the interrelationships between the Maasai people and the protection of this amazing conservation area. Later, at Olduvai Gorge, we will investigate the origins of humankind. The 50km gorge is home to some of the oldest human fossils on earth.

After our Safari, we'll spend the rest of our time getting to know Tanzanian Culture. We'll spend a day with the Maasai interacting with them as they teach us about their daily activities. We'll try our hand at the local language (Swahili), learn to cook a traditional meal, shop in local markets, and talk with residents about conservation issues. We will also work side-by-side with students in Arusha on a service project that gives back to their community.

Interspersed among our cultural activities will be a visit to the forests of Kilimanjaro and a day safari to one of the nearby national parks.



## School Coursework

In preparation for the experience, we will learn about conservation biology theories and practices. Conservation biology combines the principles of many disciplines (e.g. ecology, economics, sociology, philosophy) in order to help preserve the biological diversity of the planet. We'll research African plant and animal biodiversity and explore the interdependencies between species. In the process, we will learn some of the common techniques that wildlife biologists use to study in the field. We will also delve into the cultures of the region and the critical role that people play in crafting sustainable solutions to conservation issues (such as poaching and habitat loss). Along the way, we'll learn research strategies used by anthropologists. Finally, we'll explore the role that we can play to make a positive difference in the conservation of biodiversity.



## The Service Learning Project

Following the international trip, we will focus our energy and enthusiasm on making a difference in our home community. We'll try to think of ways to bring our newfound knowledge back home to do something productive. Student projects can vary from educational campaigns that raise awareness to conservation projects that make a local difference. Whatever the project, it will be designed and implemented by you: the students!

# Serengeti Safari

## Recommended Age and Maturity Level

This program is specifically designed for high school students. However workshop activities can be modified for college or adult participants. Maturity level should be considered when determining whether students are appropriate candidates for this program.

## Group Sponsors and Group Size

Global Explorers includes one complimentary spot for every 12 full-paying participants. The complimentary spots are generally reserved for the educators who organize the group locally with Global Explorers' support; they are referred to as Group Sponsors. Our minimum group size is 12 paying participants. Please contact us to discuss possibilities if you have a smaller group.

## Physical Fitness Level

This experience is designed for adventurous participants! We suggest participants prepare both physically and mentally for the trip in order to get the most out of the experience. While the hikes and excursions on this workshop are not strenuous, the heat may be taxing for some travelers. Please talk to the Group Sponsor for details and discuss any concerns with your physician.

## Safety

We take this topic seriously and ask that all participants do the same. We take an enormous amount of care in preparing the trip to minimize safety risks and we have created rules and regulations accordingly. It is very important that all travelers obey the rules and regulations set forth by the Group Sponsor, on-site Global Explorers staff, guides and lodge managers.



**2005 Price = \$2,350**

## Included in the Price

Just about everything! All travel expenses within Tanzania, all meals, all lodging, all ground transfers, airport departure taxes, basic level of tips for guides and other services, a program t-shirt, workshop journal, travel insurance and textbook(s).

## Not Included in the Price

Travel to/from Tanzania, passport & visa fees, immunizations (and any other medications recommended by the Centers for Disease Control, your county health department, and/or your family physician), any personal items and spending cash.

## Fundraising

Fundraising is an important part of every Global Explorers experience. The more effort the group puts into fundraising, the more rewarding the process will be. Groups can expect to raise 1/3 of the costs of their program with a modest amount of effort.

## Accommodations & Food

Accommodations are rustic, cozy and comfortable. Rooms may be equipped with mosquito nets, linens, and lanterns. Some locations may have no electricity or hot water but there is plenty of water for washing and abundant purified water for drinking. Safari accommodations include tent camping. Food is fresh, healthy and delicious.

## Flexibility

We do everything we can to ensure a positive workshop experience. Because we can not control all aspects of our workshops (like when zebras choose to cross our path), we may need to slightly alter the workshop itinerary on-site. We reserve the right to make these changes in the interest of enjoyment, education, logistics or safety. In order to make these changes smooth, we rely on your cooperation and flexibility.

## Cancellation and Refund Policy

We are able to refund a portion of your payments if cancellation becomes necessary. A withdrawal schedule will be made available with a payment schedule so you will know the details before you begin payment. We sincerely regret having to strictly adhere to this schedule but we begin sending non-refundable payments for lodging and transportation and incur other costs long before the trip.