

AFRICANMECCA DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

INTEGRITY IN AFRICAN TOURS & ADVENTURES

AfricanMecca Newsletter - Summer 2007 - Update from Americas, European and Africa Offices

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Safari Destination Guide

[Nairobi National Park](#)

Nairobi, as a capital city, is unique in having a wildlife park on its doorstep. Indeed the city abuts the Nairobi National Park on all but the southern perimeter so it is possible to photograph a rhino, browsing peace fully among the whistling thorn with high-rise office buildings in the backdrop. Some of the wildlife is migratory and when vegetation and water are present outside the park, they move out into Maasailand through the unfenced southern boundary. There is also a resident population of plains game and predators so a visit at any time of the year is a rewarding experience. Well laid out, with exceptionally well-maintained roads, the park is a model for all others, geophysically and administratively. Of the most popular species only the elephant is an absentee. But the rest of the Big Five: leopard, lion, buffalo and rhino - as well as a multitude of other creatures are all well represented.



[Click here for a complete guide to Nairobi National Park.](#) Review below Nairobi day tours recommendation and pricing guide.

[Giraffe Manor - Nairobi Suburbs, Karen](#) AfricanMecca Tier 1 Accommodation. [Click here](#) for

details on Safari Tier™

The Giraffe Manor, built in 1932 by Sir David Duncan, is situated on 140 acres of land just a few miles from the center of Nairobi, Kenya's capital city. In 1974, Jock Leslie-Melville, grandson of a Scottish earl, and his wife Betty, who also founded the African Fund for Endangered Wildlife (AFEW), bought the Manor. They then moved five babies of the highly endangered Rothschild giraffe to their property where they have been

successfully reared and they now have their own babies. When Jock passed away, Betty decided to open her house, now called the Giraffe Manor, to visitors.

[Click here for complete information on Giraffe Manor](#)



Indian Ocean Beach Destination Guide

Mafia Island - Close To Zanzibar Island

Mafia is in the truest sense a perfect island retreat for adventure divers, game fishermen and those seeking simple feet-up relaxation. Chole Bay, Mafia's protected deep-water anchorage, is part of a protected marine park. Its natural horseshoe shape is studded with lovely beaches. Outside the bay an unbroken reef runs the length of the island. The diving here is amongst the most spectacular in the world and includes colorful coral gardens, walls at various levels and many shelves and coral heads. You can fly to Mafia directly from Dar es Salaam, the Selous Game Reserve or Zanzibar.



[Click here for complete details on Mafia Island](#)

Pole Pole Bungalow Resort - Eco Lodge

AfricanMecca Tier 2 Experience. [Click here for details on](#)

AfricanMecca Rating

The Pole Pole (pronounced *pohleh pohleh*) Bungalow Resort located on the shores of Mafia Island Marine Park is a new kind of accommodation. Consisting of only ten bungalows, the accommodation promises personal attention and service while conducting its operations in an ecologically conscientious manner. The accommodation epitomizes the Kiswahili words of "take it easy", which really translates to Pole Pole.



[Click here for complete details on Pole Pole](#)

Recommended Indian Ocean Beach & Cultural Program

Overnight Prices:

- **Pole Pole Bungalow Resort:** From US \$200 or GBP 126 per person/night sharing.
Programs Inclusions: 3 gourmet meals and early morning tea, Daily excursions in Chole Bay and snorkeling (equipment included), Transfers to and from Mafia airport, Tea, coffee and safe drinking water, Use of private waiting room in Mafia airport and assistance, laundry.

Click here for more Unguja - Zanzibar & Surrounding Island Beach Holidays & Cultural Programs Prices.

Recommended African Safari & Day Tour Program In Nairobi

Click on the green links for itinerary/pricing or [click here](#) for complete information on the below day tours.

Nairobi National Park Safari: Visit Nairobi National Park & Nairobi Animal Orphanage (Nairobi Safari Walk). Within the Nairobi National Park's 117 square kilometers, there are over 80 species of mammals, and more bird species than can be found in the whole of the British Isles. During the rains, both the long and the short, wild flowers are in profusion and there are places where the plains are an unending wave of yellow daisies (*Bidens Palustris*), which seems not to be liked, as food, by any wildlife. Of the most popular species only the elephant is an absentee. But the rest of the Big Five: leopard, lion, buffalo and rhino - as well as a multitude of other creatures are all well represented. Near the main gate to the Nairobi National Park is the Animal Orphanage.



Nairobi City Tour: Visit Nairobi city center, shopping areas, Parliament Buildings, Railway Museum, and Snake Park

Bomas of Kenya: Bomas of Kenya offers you "Kenya in a miniature". It lets you see the wonderful diversity of cultures that make up Kenya. The term Bomas, meaning "homestead", are displayed on your tour; each represent one of Kenya's major ethnic groups, and is built to the original traditional architecture of an African home as built by the ancestors.

Carnivore Restaurant Dining: The Carnivore is a unique experience. This open-air meat specialty restaurant has become a standard stop on the safari trail. Every type of meat imaginable, including four choices of wild game, is roasted on traditional Maasai swords (skewers) over a huge, visually spectacular charcoal pit that dominates the entrance of the restaurant. The waiters then carry these swords around the restaurant, carving unlimited amounts of the prime meats onto sizzling, cast iron plates in front of you. A wide selection of salads, vegetable side dishes, and a variety of exotic sauces accompany the meat feast.

Out of Africa - Karen Blixen: Karen Blixen Museum is located on the outskirts of Nairobi on Karen road. Its history dates back to 1914, during the First World War, with the arrival of Karen Blixen from Denmark. At the foot of Ngong Hills, Karen Blixen established herself as a farmer. After her departure in 1931, the suburbs retained the commemorative home of Karen..... The Giraffe Center is a wonderful and refreshing experience undertaken during AfricanMecca's Out Of Africa excursion starting in Nairobi. The tour gives a completely up close and personal interaction where guests have the opportunity to view giraffes as well as feed them.....

Daphnes Sheldrick Babes: The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust is a small flexible charity, established in memory of David Sheldrick, famous Naturalist and founder Warden of Kenya's giant Tsavo East National Park in which he served from 1948 until 1976. Since its inception in 1977, the Trust has played an extremely significant and important role in Kenya's conservation effort. Six Trustees assisted by an Advisory Committee of practical Naturalists with a lifetime

experience of African conditions oversee and direct the operations of the Trust. The orphan elephants and rhinos are just some of the many wildlife commitments we are involved in. The Trust does not solicit funds and relies entirely on donations from its caring and compassionate friends.

Limuru Country & Tea Plantation Tour: On your arrival at the Kiambethu Tea Estate, you will be guests for lunch and afternoon tea. The Kiambethu Estate is located at an altitude of 7000 feet above sea level, and has lush acres of tea plantations that seem to vanish in the horizon. Two English families, Mitchell & McDonnell in the early 1900's, built the Estate. These families are said to be the first to have ventured into the tea business. You will also have a lecture on the area and about the production of tea. In the afternoon, a walk through the tea plantations and forests will display the conditions needed for the growth of tea.

Lake Nakuru National Park Day Safari - Great Rift Valley: Lake Nakuru, a small (it varies from 5 to 30 square kilometers) shallow alkaline lake on the edge of the town of Nakuru lies about 160 kilometers north of Nairobi. It can therefore be visited in a day tour from the capital or more likely as part of a circuit taking in the Masai Mara or Lake Baringo and east to Samburu. The lake is world famous as the location of the greatest bird spectacle on earth - myriads of fuschia pink flamingoes whose numbers are legion, often more than a million maybe two. The park now has more than 25 rhinos, one of the largest concentrations in the country, so the chances of spotting these survivors are good. There are also a number of Rothschild's giraffe, again translocated for safety from western Kenya beginning in 1977. Waterbuck are very common and both the Kenya species are found here. Among the predators are lion and leopard, the latter being seen much more frequently in recent times. The park also has large sized python snakes that inhabit the dense woodlands, and can often be seen crossing the roads or dangling from trees....

Tana River Whitewater Rafting: Just 95 kilometer from Nairobi, the Tana River offers an exciting day of White-Water thrills (and often spills). The adventure starts with 3 kilometer of easy class II and III white-water, where there is plenty of opportunity to gain and practice the paddle skills required to run the lower part of the river.

Mount Kenya Day Trekking: Visit Mount Kenya National Park - Day trekking on Mount Kenya via bamboo zone or Nguniu route - lunch, transfers, mountain guide and day porters included.

Another Perfect AfricanMecca Customer Experience

Nairobi Day Tours Extension Experience With AfricanMecca

I want to say Asante Sana to you! We had a wonderful time in Nairobi. We felt totally taken care of. Thank you, thank you, thank you. We had no trouble getting a visa at the airport and Francis was waiting for us when we got through customs. He whisked us off to our hotel and made sure everything was OK with checking in. We loved the Norfolk. The next day our driver, Justice, was waiting for us as we walked out of the hotel. Justice drove us through the Nairobi National Park which is right on the edge of the city. It was amazing to see wild animals with a city skyline in the distance. We loved the orphanage that is part of the park. We even got to go into the cheetah cage and pet the cheetah. We could feel it purring and its coat and tongue was so rough! (Yes, it licked our hands!!) Then on to the Carnivore Restaurant. We had a great time. The next morning, Justice was waiting for us again. We went to the Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage, incredible!!!, the Giraffe Center, also incredible!!!, and on to the Karen Blixen Museum. After this we had refreshments at the Karen Blixen Cottages. (Beautiful Gardens) Wonderful. We loved it all and would do it all over again. We wish we had had more time in Nairobi and in Kenya. We were amazed at how warm and friendly the Kenyan people are. Everywhere we went people were so welcoming. Feel free to give anyone our email address and I will write them a glowing recommendation or you can have them call me.

Lois Pesola
United States

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