

EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES: TANZANIA

Authentic Africa

Tracking Chimps, Ballooning Over the Bush

Serengeti by Hot-Air Balloon: The sun is just rising as your balloon launches above the golden Serengeti plains. The air is cool and pleasant as your pilot skims over the treetops, and you watch with awe as the wildlife engage in their morning rituals — elephants drinking at watering holes, hippos resting on the shores, lions returning from the hunt. Softly landing in the bush, you raise a flute of Champagne while breakfast cooks on the craft's burners. This hot-air balloon safari is just one possibility during a nine-day, tailor-made adventure through northern Tanzania that includes game viewing in Tarangire and Ngorongoro National Parks, and meeting a Maasai elder in a local boma (village). Experienced horse riders can have the thrill of riding through herds of wild animals, gaining uniquely intimate contact with nature.

Chimp Tracking in Mahale Mountains National Park: Be among the fortunate few to see some of the last remaining wild chimpanzees in Africa.

On the eastern shores of Lake Tanganyika, the densely forested Mahale Mountains National Park is home to a population of roughly 1,000 chimpanzees, and you enjoy a rare opportunity to observe them in their natural habitat. The chimps have grown accustomed to being watched by humans and, once you spot a group, you sit quietly to observe them as they go about their daily lives. Notice the different interactions, gestures, expressions, and sounds they make, and watch the young tumble about in remarkably human-like play. This once-in-a-lifetime experience is part of a 14-day adventure into remote Tanzania.

*Clockwise from top:
Serengeti hot air balloon
ride; Maasai villagers;
playful baby chimps;
leopard in Tanzania.*



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