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SEP

Kenya: Hanging with the Maasai Mara

Posted by Managing Editor in [adventure travel](#), [africa travel](#), [couples retreats](#), [Cultural travel](#), [exotic travel](#), [family travel](#), [volunteer travel](#). Tagged: [adventure travel](#), [africa travel](#), [couples retreats](#), [Cultural travel](#), [exotic travel](#), [family travel](#), [honeymoon trips](#), [voluntourism](#). [Leave a Comment](#)



Extraordinary Journeys Africa

This week, one of my friends posted that she was headed to Kenya for some photography work. In addition to her being an all around creative badass, she's probably been to Kenya more times than I can count, but each time she mentions Africa, I start to daydream about the dusty roads, colorful smells, and vibrant energy of Nairobi. So, of course, I felt compelled to find some cool, feel good trips to this glorious nation just for you. To that end, I came across [Extraordinary Journeys Africa](#), specialists in bespoke customized safaris to Africa, who are offering a unique six night trip to Kenya for the last minute travel junkies (October 10th-16th, 2011). Now, since I'm a fly-by-my-seat kinda gal, that's *just enough* time for me to find someone to water my plants so I can jet off to Kenya. Why is this trip so cool? you ask.

Well, it's a community exchange program with a remote Masai Mara community followed by a luxury safari adventure, that's why. For a special rate of \$6,000 per person (normally \$7,200), it's being done in partnership with the Founder and Project Director of Under the Acacia organization and the first two days will be spent in the remote area of Loita hills where travelers will be introduced to an impoverished community that in just two years has been equipped with schools, sanitation, running water and a thriving community. Travelers will experience exclusive interactions with community members and learn ways in which they can make a difference. The next four nights of the trip will be spent in the beautiful Masai Mara exploring the amazing wildlife and experiencing thrilling safari adventures of a lifetime.

Community Project: \$500 will be donated on behalf of each participant to help build a new classroom at Esoit Academy in Kenya. This project is spearheaded by **Under the Acacia**, a not-for-profit that works in tandem with remote communities in Kenya to generate sustainable initiatives and community development.



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Masai Mara Reserve

Itinerary:

October 10-11 Loita/Olarro

Participants fly to Siana Springs where their driver/guide warmly welcomes them and takes them on a game drive en route to the luxury Olarro Camp, nestled along the Loita Hills. In partnership with Under the Acacia, guests will meet with the chiefs, elders, and students of this special community of Maasai. The next day, they participate in the school opening and a very lively dedication ceremony at the new Esoit Academy.

October 12,13,14,15: Maasai Mara/Olanana

On day three, a beautiful three-hour drive takes guests to Olonana Camp where they can experience daily game drives to see the great migration of the wildebeest or track the Big Five; take advantage of the spa facilities by trying traditional African remedies; or relax in the library on their private terrace overlooking the river filled with hippos below. Guests will also be able to arrange for hot air balloon rides, bush dinners or visiting another Under the Acacia school project (a 1.5-hour drive away). After lunch on the last day, visitors fly to Wilson Airport and transfer to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport for their flights home.

About EJ Africa

Run by an extraordinary mother-daughter team, EJ Africa organizes customized trips for honeymooners, families and individual travelers to Botswana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Mixing and matching safaris, camps, lodges, and villas, with travel by private planes, 4x4s, hot air balloons, elephant, camel and even horse, EJ Africa has planned over 500 trips to Africa and not one has been the same.

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Editor-in-Chief



Professional Journalist and PR/Marketing Executive, Revis has worked as an Adventure Guide in the dense jungles of Costa Rica, rafted Switzerland's Class V rapids, studied culture and wildlife in Australia and New Zealand, and worked as a Hollywood advertising film executive. In addition to living on the 13th floor of an apartment complex in Buenos Aires and Fort Larrabee off the Sunset Strip, she has served as an editor at Los Angeles Confidential Magazine (Niche Media, LLC), where she covered entertainment, fine art, luxury travel, and charitable causes. She was also a contributor to Teen Vogue, Town + Country, Art + Living Magazine, Islands Magazine, Kiteboarding Magazine, Moving Pictures Magazine, and Surface Magazine. PS. She doesn't like water chestnuts.

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