

A SAFARI CELEBRATING HOPE

MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR AFRICAN GRANDMOTHERS AND THEIR FAMILIES



PHOTO BY VIRGINIA WEILER

JULY 21 - AUGUST 4, 2011

KENYA, AFRICA

WITH

MARY MARTIN NIEPOLD, FOUNDER, THE NYANYA PROJECT

ELAINE HARTUNG, PARTNER, SAFARI PROFESSIONALS





PHOTO BY VIRGINIA WEILER



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Greetings Fellow Traveler,

The first time I visited Kenya was four years ago, and I haven't been the same since.

In Kenya, vistas felt like yellow moonscapes where exotic creatures loped and lurked across the tall grass and you realized that you were the true visitor on this planet. It was in Kenya where everyone greeted you as if you were family who had finally returned home.

And it was in Kenya where its magic and grandeur seemed to settle in your DNA. They call it the "Cradle of Civilization" because it is - so old that it seems to stir our own beginnings. It did mine, and I can't stay away.

It was also in Kenya where I learned about African grandmothers – millions and millions of women who single-handedly raise their AIDS orphaned grandchildren with no assistance, not even from their governments.

The next summer I returned to Kenya to launch The Nyanya Project. *Nyanya* means grandmother in Swahili, and as a grandmother, myself, I simply couldn't bear the thought that these women, mostly widows, mostly illiterate, had been forgotten and were left on their own to raise 6-10-12 family members.

So, our simple idea – teach grandmothers skills so that they can earn more income and keep their families together – took hold. We started our work in two places in Kenya – the Kibera slums of Nairobi and the majestic sheep country near Mt. Kenya.

"A Safari Celebrating Hope" will visit both of these initiatives, as well as the vistas, wildlife and the beautiful women, themselves. You will meet Eunice, 73, Beatrice, 58, and Mary Wanjiku, 71, who began walking some 600 miles to rescue her two grandsons when their mother, then their father, Mary's son, died of AIDS.

I hope you will join us, because when you do, you will see breathtaking beauty and remarkable women.

You will also make an enormous difference in their lives, and it will all seem very familiar somehow, I can assure you of that.

Please join us,

Mary Martin Niepold, Founder
The Nyanya Project

"Changing Lives of African Grandmothers and their AIDS Orphaned Grandchildren."

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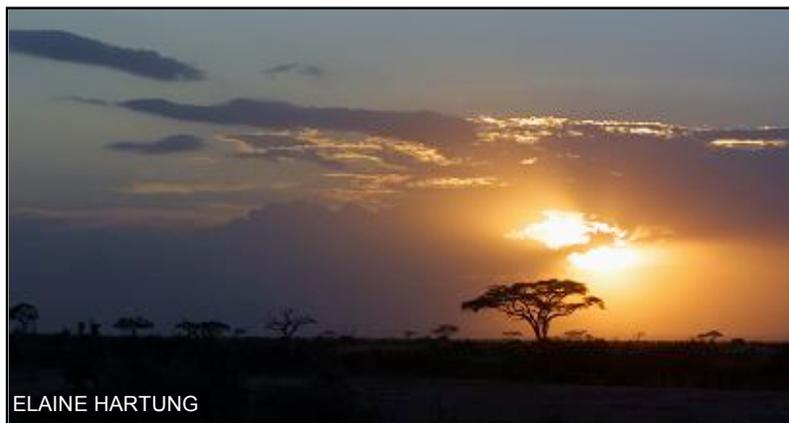
I am honored that Safari Professionals was chosen to design, coordinate and co-lead The Nyanya Project's Safari of Hope. This twelve night Kenyan safari has been custom designed to provide you not only the opportunity to personally visit The Nyanya Project initiatives and bring hope to the grandmothers and grandchildren, but also to experience a private safari staying in four outstanding wildlife viewing areas.

This safari takes place during the dry season, a perfect time to explore this legendary East African country. This is the time when wildlife comes out of the bush and congregates around dwindling sources of water - providing you with incredible visual opportunities. Not only are elephants, giraffes, zebras, rhinos and other wild creatures drawn by the water, so are the top predators - lions, cheetahs and, even, a leopard or two.

The bush accommodations, one camp and three lodges, were specifically chosen to provide a classic safari experience. Comfort is never spared. Each of the four locations presents a different topographical landscape, contributing to the overall enchantment of being close to Nature.

After 23 years of designing and conducting private wildlife viewing safaris, we have learned the importance of unhurried travel. This itinerary provides a relaxed schedule, allowing travelers to assimilate more of the beautiful essence of Africa. I sincerely hope that you will join Mary and me on this remarkable safari and help The Nyanya Project change the lives of African grandmothers and their AIDS orphaned grandchildren.

Elaine Hartung, partner, Safari Professionals



DAILY SAFARI ITINERARY

July 21

Departure from USA heading to Nairobi, Kenya

July 22 & 23

Arrival in Nairobi

Two nights stay at Safari Park Hotel in Nairobi

Visit The Nyanya Kibera Skills Project in Nairobi

Optional: Visit Karen Blixen's home, the Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage and/or Kazuri Beads, a women's cooperative where colorful, world famous ceramic beads are made.

(B/L/D)

July 24 & 25

Travel north to the village of Ndathi to visit The Nyanya Sheep Project

Travel to Laikipia Plateau and Ol Pejeta Conservancy world famous for its wildlife population

Two nights stay at Sweetwaters Tented Camp

Optional: A visit to Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary is available

(B/L/D)

July 26 - 28

Travel north to explore the area of Samburu Game Reserve and Buffalo Springs Game Reserve

Three nights stay at Samburu Lodge

(B/L/D)

July 29 & 30

Travel southwest to Lake Nakuru National Park

Two nights stay at Lion Hill Lodge

(B/L/D)

July 31 - August 2

Travel south to Maasai Mara Game Reserve

Three nights stay at Mara Serena Safari Lodge

Optional: A hot-air balloon safari and champagne breakfast and/or visit to a local Maasai community

(B/L/D)

August 3 & 4

Fly back to Nairobi - Lunch in the garden café of Amani Ya Juu, a sewing and marketing program for marginalized women - Return visit to The Nyanya Kibera Skills Project

Mid-Afternoon check-in at the Panari Hotel, where we have dayrooms, to rest and pack

In the evening we will be escorted to the airport for return to the USA

(B/L)

B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner

A DETAILED LOOK

JULY 21 - DEPARTURE FROM USA

Depending on which airline you choose, international flights land in either one of Europe's gateway airports, Amsterdam or London. After a short layover, the flight continues on to Nairobi - Kenya's capital city.

JULY 22 - ARRIVAL IN NAIROBI

Upon arrival at Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, we are met by members of the Safari Professionals team, including our safari guides. They will take us to our relaxing accommodations at the beautiful **Safari Park Hotel**. This five star luxury hotel is located on 50 acres of gardens and will give us a welcome respite from our overseas travel. We will spend two nights here. (B/L/D)



JULY 23 - THE NYANYA PROJECT

After a restful night and nourishing breakfast, our first excursion in Kenya is to The Nyanya Kibera Skills Project to meet the grandmothers who are learning to run their small businesses in their neighborhoods. In partnership with Amani Ya Juu, The Nyanya Project developed this program as a pilot project so the grandmothers may earn a better living, as they care for their orphaned grandchildren, who have been left in their care.



If there is time, we may visit some of the optional attractions, such as Karen Blixen's home, the Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage and/or Kazuri Beads, a women's cooperative where colorful, world-famous ceramic beads are made.

Later we return to the Safari Park Hotel to relax, discuss the day's events, have dinner and a good night's rest. B/L/D

JULY 24-25 - NDATHI & OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY

After breakfast, this morning's drive takes us north, toward the snow-capped peaks of Mount Kenya, to the small village of Ndathi. Here we meet a group of grandmothers who participate in The Nyanya Sheep Project. Each grandmother in this cooperative has been given nine sheep, and other livestock. Soon, they will learn how to shear the wool, in anticipation of learning how to knit products that will supplement their income.



After our visit at Ndathi, we drive on to the exceptionally scenic Laikipia Plateau. This region abounds with game and is home to more endangered species than anywhere else in East Africa. Zebra, elephant, waterbuck, endangered Rothchild's giraffe, leopard, and large prides of lions roam freely across these vast open vistas. This is also the home of ethnically diverse communities including the Mukogodo Maasai and Samburu. These indigenous communities have joined together in partnership with the descendants of settlers and with cattle ranchers to create a conservation and wildlife haven that spans two million acres of wild savannah.

Our destination is the Ol Pejeta Conservancy, a 90,000 acre sanctuary that was formerly a cattle ranch founded by the famous Lord Delamere during the heyday of Britain's colonial period. It is now the most important refuge for black rhinos in East Africa. Up to 79 black rhinos live within the Conservancy's protected borders.

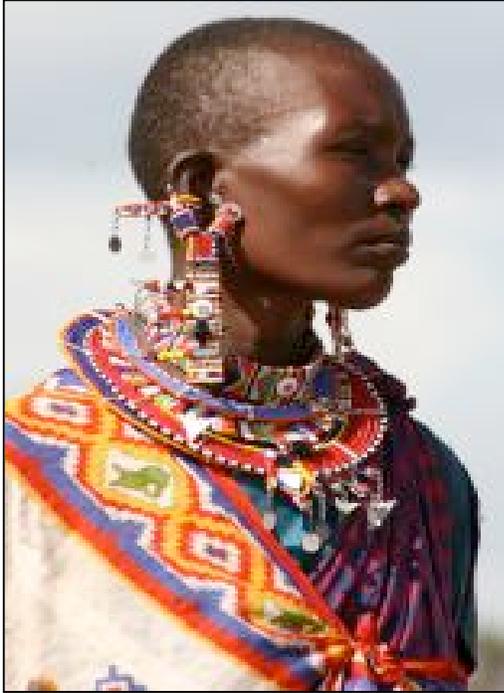
Ol Pejeta is also home to the Sweetwaters Chimpanzee Sanctuary, founded in 1993 by the Jane Goodall Institute and the Kenya Wildlife Service, as a safe haven for orphaned chimpanzees. An optional visit to the Sanctuary can be arranged for those wishing to see it.

Sweetwaters Tented Camp will be our resting place for two nights. This sheltered oasis is clustered around a popular wildlife water hole and set in the pristine calm of the private Ol Pejeta Conservancy. The camp features thirty-nine luxury tents, each with its own private veranda overlooking the water hole.

Because this is private land, we have a few unique opportunities. We can participate in a walking safari, which is an experience not available in the national parks and reserves. In addition, after dinner we may set out on a night game drive to discover animals which are most active after the sun has set. (B/L/D)



JULY 26 - 28 - SAMBURU GAME RESERVE



Today we continue our drive northward, on to the region formerly known as The Northern Frontier. This volcanic area is a dramatic contrast to the landscape we just visited because of its mostly semi-arid conditions. This is home to the pastoralist Samburu tribe.

The Samburu are a semi-nomadic people, dependent on cattle, sheep, goats and camel for their survival. These beautiful people are quickly recognized by their traditional clothing (red cloths wrapped around their waist like a skirt) colorful layers of jewelry (worn by both men and women) and painted faces accentuating their features. The word Samburu means butterfly.

The wildlife in this region is uniquely adapted to the rugged dry habitat. Here we see the *Gerenuk*, slender antelopes with elongated necks that stand on their hind legs to browse the middle branches of acacia trees - the branches the reticulated giraffe generally leave alone. Another highly adapted species is the *Beisa oryx*, a robust antelope with straight horns, which are often assumed to be the origin of the legend of the unicorn. Samburu is also the region where Africa's smallest antelope is found. Standing only about 16 inches high, the shy *dik dik* grazes the lower branches of vegetation. Also, this is the region where the highly endangered *Grevy's zebra* are found. It's estimated that there are fewer than 3,000 *Grevy's zebra* surviving in northern Kenya.



Lions and cheetahs are commonly seen as they watch wildlife coming to the water holes and streams. This is also one of the best places to search for Africa's most elusive predator - the leopard. Due to their nocturnal habits, leopards are notoriously difficult to find. Samburu is also famous for its population of elephants. When water is at a premium, the giant pachyderms stay close to the river, often wading in to drink and splashing about.

Our home for the next three nights is the classic **Samburu Lodge**, built on the banks of the Euaso Nyiro River. Each of the 30 newly refurbished spacious tents sits on a raised deck. All rooms have private verandas overlooking the river and en suite bathrooms. The swimming pool offers a refreshing treat. (B/L/D)



JULY 29 - 30 - LAKE NAKURU IN THE GREAT RIFT VALLEY

Our next destination takes us southwest to the famous and spectacular *Great Rift Valley* - a giant 3,700 mile gash in the Earth's crust. For thousands of years, the Earth's tectonic plates have moved in an attempt to pull part of East Africa away from the rest of the continent. Our destination is Lake Nakuru National Park.



Lake Nakuru has no natural outlet and centuries of evaporation have resulted in very high concentrations of mineral salts. Its alkaline water provides nutrients for an abundance of blue-green algae which creates a rich feeding area for seasonally variable populations of thousands of pink flamingos and white pelicans. There are also 450 bird species in this area alone.

The noted ornithologist, Roger Tory Peterson, described this area as the greatest ornithological spectacle in the world. We think you will agree.

Our accommodations for the next two nights are within Lake Nakuru National Park at **Lion Hill Lodge**. Its comfortable chalets and the open, thatched roof dining room offer beautiful views of the Lake and its surrounding area. The lodge also has a refreshing swimming pool and sauna facilities. The lodge received its name because of its location - on a plateau immediately in front of the hill formerly occupied by a pride of lions.



Although birds are a major attraction here, we can expect to see an abundance of other very interesting wildlife such as Rothschild's giraffe (which are rare elsewhere), Grants and Thompson's gazelle, colobus monkeys, impala, common zebra, African buffalo, warthog, Defassa waterbuck and several other species of plains game.

Lake Nakuru's other big attraction are rhinos and both African species are found right here. White rhinos are grazers and are often seen enjoying the grasses of the Park's open vistas. In contrast, their cousins, the black rhinos, are browsers. Because the leaves of bushes and shrubs are their source of food, they seldom venture out into the Park's open grasslands. (B/L/D)

JULY 31 - AUGUST 2 - MAASAI MARA GAME RESERVE

Our final bush destination takes us to one of the world's richest wildlife sanctuaries in the world, the Maasai Mara game Reserve. Located further south of our previous destinations - toward Kenya's border with Tanzania is the place known as the "Kingdom of the Lions" - the Maasai Mara. This unforgettable area is over 200 square miles and encompasses rolling grasslands, woodlands and riverine forests. The Maasai Mara is the northern extension of the Serengeti ecosystem.



At this time of year, it often hosts the bulk of the Great Serengeti Migration - up to 1.5 million wildebeest and zebra traveling together to get to new green grazing places and to birth their young. The precise movement of the herds is always unpredictable but we may witness a classic river crossing, as wildebeest and zebra congregate on the banks of both the Mara and Talek Rivers.



Our accommodations for the next three nights are at the **Mara Serena Safari Lodge**. Built in a circular fashion, it resembles the circular motif of a traditional Maasai village compound. Each of the twin rows of individual rooms has a private balcony and its own view of the famous Mara River. The restaurant overlooks a waterhole frequented by big game. The rock bordered swimming pool is dramatically located at the edge of a hill.

Some of the largest lion prides ever sighted have been found in the Mara. Typically lions conserve energy by resting an average of 20 hours a day, so we are likely to find them lying down. But lions are opportunistic hunters and it is fascinating to watch their deliberate movements, as if each action is coordinated by silent signals.



We have the option one morning to have a boxed breakfast on our game drive, so we may search the rolling grasslands for a cheetah. With its open grasslands, the Mara is one of the best places in all of Africa to follow a cheetah, the fastest land animal. They can accelerate from 0 to 64 mph in three seconds - faster than most high performance cars.

While in the Maasai Mara, you have the option to take a thrilling hot-air balloon ride over the vast savanna. Lifting off at dawn, you gently drift over the rolling hills of the Maasai Mara, observing the wildlife from the balloon's unique perspective. Upon landing, you are treated to a delightful champagne breakfast in the bush.



We may also have the option to visit with the local Maasai community. The Maasai, perhaps the best known and most colorful East African tribe, still follow their traditional ways as semi-nomadic pastoralists. Young warriors carry spears and decorate themselves with red ochre and the women wear elaborate and beautiful beadwork. We will see the Maasai, their herds and their villages along the route of our travels. (B/L/D)

AUGUST 3 - 4 DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL HOME

After bidding farewell to our safari guides, we fly back to Nairobi. We visit Amani Ya Juu, a sewing and marketing program for marginalized women. As we enjoy lunch in the garden café, we will hear about the skills the women learn here and see the beautiful fabric crafts that are now sold around the world. Following lunch, we return to Kibera, for a follow-up visit with the women of The Nyanya Skills Project.

In mid-afternoon, we are taken to the Panari Hotel, where we will have a dayroom to rest and finish preparing for our departure. In the evening, we will be escorted to the airport to begin our journey back home. (B/L)

B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner



About accommodations

Safari Professionals aims to provide travelers with a superior safari experience. We avoid high-density tourist areas and prefer accommodations in small permanent tented camps and lodges. These modern versions of the traditional safari camps let you enjoy the beauty and romance of the classic East African safari in comfort without giving up essential conveniences.

Permanent camps are appointed with large canvas tents with thatched or canvas roofs and raised wooden or concrete floors. Essentially, each tent is an airy room with breathable walls. The ensuite baths provide complete privacy and include a hot shower and a flush toilet.

About African cuisine

Part of the heart and soul of safari travel is the very special way guests are cared for - including meals. Every place we stay takes pride in their culinary staff, who are often graduates of Kenya's world famous Utalii College, and all of whom are passionate about creating tasty, healthy, and interesting cuisine.

Local or regional fresh fruits, vegetables and even herbs play an important role in delighting guests. Chefs and their staff spend hours behind the scenes lovingly attending to the intricate details involved in the creation of their art. Starting before dawn until well after the stars come out, their mission is to provide delicious and lasting nourishment. They take this mission seriously.

Those with particular dietary concerns or preferences are as welcome at the table as all others, no matter if the table is set in a lodge, in the bush, or under the lantern filled branches of an acacia tree. We send detailed information to our chefs about your dietary needs or preferences so that each meal meets your needs. The African safari gratifies all the senses, visual, auditory, tactile, aromatic and taste. The blend of skills and knowledge combined with fine ingredients and the love of cooking cause our guests to linger at the table and relish fine dining.

About transportation

Our safari vehicles are custom-designed 4x4 Land Rovers and Toyota Land Cruisers. They are built to withstand the rigors of bush travel, while providing exceptional safety and comfort. Equipped with roof hatches for easy wildlife viewing and photography, these spacious vehicles allow you to travel wherever you need to go in order to get close to the animals.

While the design of the safari vehicle is important to your safety, proper vehicle maintenance is the most critical element in insuring reliability. Your vehicle is thoroughly inspected and serviced before your safari begins, so your game drives are safe and successful.



First aid kits are included in each vehicle and two-way radios supplement mobile phones to provide instant communication with our main offices and evacuation services, as well as local lodges, camps and national park and reserve offices.

You will have exclusive use of your vehicles (no other travelers will share our vehicles.) All air transportation within Africa is provided through chartered and scheduled airlines.

About our guides

Our guides have safari experience that ranges from 15 to 30 years. We are proud to have worked with the same team since 1987. All our Kenyan guides are certified by the Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association, a distinction earned by a small percent of those who profess to be safari guides.

Each guide has his or her special skills and interests, and we take special care in matching guides to individual safaris based on your interests. Not only are our guides knowledgeable about wildlife and landscapes, they can help you develop an understanding of the traditional tribal communities. The African safari experience is more rewarding with a guide in tune with your personal interests.

SAFARI QUOTE

\$6,995 per person in twin or double occupancy, based on a minimum of 12 participants

A donation of \$750, paid directly to The Nyanya Project, is required to participate in A Safari Celebrating Hope.

A Single Room Supplement is available for \$1,499.

A deposit of \$500 per person is required no later than February 15, 2011 to reserve your place on this safari. Payments by personal check or electronic transfer are accepted.

Full payment of the total safari balance is due no later than March 21, 2011. Payments by personal check or wire are accepted.

An optional hot-air balloon ride in the Maasai Mara is available for \$535 per person.

Please note: To give you maximum flexibility in planning your safari, international air flights are not included. You may make your own arrangements or ask Safari Professionals to assist you in coordinating or purchasing your international flights. Travel insurance is strongly recommended and Safari Professionals can provide you a quote at your request.

Quotation Includes:

All your hotel, lodge, and tented camp accommodations are based on two people sharing a room. At the permanent camps and lodges, your accommodations will have comfortable beds, flush toilets, hot showers, and electricity. We include full-board *table d'hôte* meals (with some picnic lunches), including bottled water, coffee and tea throughout your safari.

- All Land and Air Transportation in East Africa

All service charges, hotel taxes as imposed by government agencies, baggage tips and park and reserve entrance fees are included. In the unlikely event that emergency transportation to a hospital facility is required while you are on safari in East Africa, we will enroll you in the Flying Doctors Service.

- Pre-departure Preparation

You will receive *extensive*, personalized information on all aspects of your safari; health and safety, passports and visas, packing recommendations, electricity, currency, and local customs. You will also receive a list of contact numbers and a daily itinerary for family members or friends.

Quotation Excludes:

Transportation between your home and Nairobi, passports and visas (visas are currently required for U.S. passport holders entering Kenya), travel insurance, immunizations, excess airline baggage charges (total baggage is limited to 33 lbs per person on all flights within Africa), airline fuel surcharges, guide tips, beverages (other than bottled water, tea and coffee) and items of a

personal nature, such as medical expenses, laundry and room service; film and processing; souvenirs; telephone and internet charges; and any activities not included in the safari itinerary or those activities listed as optional.

The following estimates for optional services are provided for your consideration:

- Tips

Safari Guides: suggested - \$10 per day per traveler

Camp Staff: suggested - \$5 per day per traveler

- Laundry Service

Available at all camps and lodges. We allow between \$10-15 per week for laundry when we travel in Kenya. Please note that no laundry service for underwear is offered, due to cultural considerations.

- Travel Insurance:

Travel Insurance (Age 63)* \$645

Travel Insurance (Age 53)* \$424

Travel Insurance (Age 43)* \$424

Travel Insurance (Age 33)* \$367

*Travel Insurance estimate includes \$1,500 coverage for international airfare. Your airfare and your premium may vary.

Travel insurance (for trip cancellation, lost/delayed luggage and medical evacuation) is strongly recommended. The price of travel insurance varies according to age, length of safari and other variables. *Please note that you must purchase travel insurance within 15 days of submitting your initial deposit to receive a waiver for pre-existing medical conditions.*

Travel Insurance must be paid in full with a credit card at the time of purchase. If you are interested in purchasing travel insurance we can give you comprehensive information. Safari Professionals is licensed to sell travel insurance.

International air transportation is available but not included in the safari price. You may arrange your own air transportation to and from Nairobi or ask us to assist you. International air tickets must be paid in full with a credit card at the time of ticketing.

Many travelers choose to arrive in Nairobi a day early to insure that possible flight delays will not affect their safari itinerary. If you wish to arrive a day early, an additional night and day in Nairobi can be arranged at an additional cost.

If your return flight departs Nairobi in the morning, you should book your departure a day later than shown in this itinerary. An additional night in Nairobi can be arranged at an additional cost.

For the comfort of all safari travelers, smoking is not permitted in safari vehicles or at meals.