

ON PAINTING ODYSSEY TO KENYA



Imagine drawing your favorite animal with a backdrop of Africa? This trip will give you an opportunity to draw and paint your favorite flora and fauna. On these trips, you will be accompanied by a reputable artist who will share the techniques that go with great painting. To give you enough time to paint and enjoy these trips will limit the places to be visited and maximize in giving you enough time to paint and draw your subject.

On this trip you will get to visit some of the best kept secret of Kenya's parks each offering something unique. The trip has been not only created for painters but also to nature lovers. You will be exposed to the different painting options that the country has to offer.

To give you a great painting ambience, we have identified great locations that will allow you to paint without worrying about your safety or hassles. Most of the properties that we will be using are set on the edge of the wildlife parks and reserves. This will allow us to get out of our vehicle and concentrate with our painting while within wildlife reach. Options to game drive will be there for all who would like to do their drawing within the parks and reserves.

PARKS AND RESERVES TO BE VISITED

Samburu & Buffalo Springs National Reserves



- * Altitude: 2,500-4,000 Ft
- * Area Samburu: 104 Sq. Kms.
- * Area Buffalo Springs: 131 Sq. Kms
- * Distance from Nairobi: 343 Kms.
- * Scenic beauty, rivers & forest
- * Leopard, hippo, elephant, lion
- * Permanent Springs
- * Rich cultural inheritance

The two reserves offer some of the greatest scenic landscapes and unique vistas of rounded and rugged hills and undulating plains. The mix of wood and grassland with riverine forest and swamp is home to a wide variety of animal and birdlife. Buffalo Springs records over 365 species of bird. Game viewing and visibility is excellent. Reticulated giraffe, Grevy's zebra, elephant, oryx, Somali ostrich, hippo, crocodile, gerenuk, buffalo, lion, leopard, cheetah and hyena. Shaba National Reserve is home to Joy Adamson's Monument. It is notable for its hot springs. Samburu and Buffalo Springs, in particular, are popular tourist routes. There are three lodges in Samburu, one lodge in Shaba and one tented lodge. There are a number of special campsites in each park, favoured by the mobile tented safari operators, which have to be pre-booked. Shaba also has an airstrip.

The landscape is rich and varied, game includes elephant, eland, buffalo, zebra, bushbuck, duiker, bushpig, Gerenuk, Plains game and the big cats: cheetah, leopard and lion. Good for birdwatching, it is a little known area which is ideal for walking holidays and camel safaris for the intrepid traveller.

LAKE NAKURU NATIONAL PARK.



Little Bee Eater

- * Altitude: 4,000 - 5,767 Ft
- * Area: 188 Sq. Kms.
- * Distance from Nairobi: 157 Kms.
- * Over 400 species of birdlife
- * Over 1 million lesser and greater Flamingoes
- * Plentiful & easy gameviewing:
- * Leopard, White and black Rhino
- * Picturesque landscape & Yellow Acacia

Lake Nakuru is world famous for, and was created a National Park, to protect its stunning flocks of lesser flamingo, which literally turn its shores pink. Its birdlife is world renowned: a beacon for leading ornithologists, scientists and wildlife film-makers. The park spans an attractive range of wooded and bush grassland around the lake offering wide ecological diversity, from lake water, woodland to the rocky escarpments and ridges.

By creating a rhino sanctuary within the park and reintroducing a breeding herd from Laikipia, the K.W.S. has now successfully re-established rhino in the park.

Game viewing is relatively easy: buffalo, lion, Rothschild's giraffe, Black and White Colobus monkey are plentiful in the forest. The bushlands offer eland, steinbok, impala, Chandler's reedbuck and dik dik, whilst rock hyrax and klipspringer occupy the cliffs and escarpment.

Climate:

Ranges from Cold, Hot and Humid, Hot and Dry. Annual rainfall is 965mm

MAJOR ATTRACTIONS

- * Flamingo (Greater and Lesser) and other water birds including a variety of terrestrial birds numbering about 450 species in total.
- * Mammals: 56 different species including white rhinos.
- * View-points: Lion hill, Baboon cliff and Out of Africa
- * Hills: Enasoit, Honeymoon, Lion hill ridge etc.
- * Unique vegetation: About 550 different plant species including the unique and biggest euphorbia forest in Africa, Picturesque landscape and yellow acacia woodlands.

MASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE



Simba



Affection

- * Altitude: 5,000 Ft
- * Area: 1,510 Sq. Kms.
- * Distance from Nairobi: 275 Kms.
- * Annual wildebeest Migration
- * Exceptional Game Viewing: Lion, Leopard, Cheetah, Elephant
- * Mara River Hippo Pools
- * Traditional Maasai Culture
- * Views across the Plains and Rolling Hills

The Masai Mara National Reserve is probably the most famous and most visited Reserve in Kenya. It offers breathtaking views (as seen in the film "Out of Africa", much of which was filmed here), an extraordinary density of animals including "the Big Five" (lions, leopard, elephant, buffalo, rhinoceros) and many varieties of plains game.

An impressive feature is the annual migration of wildebeests, zebras and gazelles from the plains of the Serengeti that cross the Tanzanian border and rivers to reach the Mara's grasslands from late June, tracked by predators: lion, leopard, cheetah, and hyena, and circled by vultures as their journey unfolds. Their dramatic river crossings are a reality for tourists visiting in early July-August.

Apart from the seasonal migration, game viewing is excellent year round. Game includes elephant, black rhino, buffalo, plains zebra, hartebeest and big cats. The rivers are home to hippo and crocodiles. 452 species, 53 of which are raptors.

AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK



Amboseli lies immediately North West of Mt. Kilimanjaro, on the border with Tanzania. Amboseli was established as a reserve in 1968 and gazetted as a National Park in 1974. Amboseli National Park covers 392 km², and forms part of the much larger 3,000 Km² Amboseli ecosystem. Large concentrations of wildlife occur here in the dry season, making Amboseli a popular tourist destination. 6 communally owned group ranches surround it. The National Park embodies 5 main wildlife habitats (open plains, acacia woodland, rocky thorn bush country, swamps and marshland) and covers part of a pleistocene lake basin, now dry. Within this basin is a temporary lake, Lake Amboseli, that floods during years of heavy rainfall. Amboseli is famous for its big game and its great scenic beauty - Mt Kilimanjaro dominates the landscape and offers great photographic and painting background landscape to the elephants pictures.