

# Magical Kenya - Dream Safari & Beach Paradise

The word safari originally comes from Swahili and means directly translated to Danish actual caravan travel. Today, the word is primarily used to describe a trip to Africa to experience the continent's nature and big game. But safari is much more than traveling - safari is experiencing; safari is chasing the moment when everything stands still around you and where everything other than nature around you seems unimportant; and safari is to feel why one lives.

Kenya is the preferred country in the world when you want to experience the classic safari trip in Africa, because the country is truly a cornucopia of great and genuine nature experiences. This is where there is the greatest opportunity to experience The Big Five - the rhinoceros, the lion, the leopard, the elephant and the buffalo; this is where you experience The Big Migration - when millions of wildebeest, zebras and gazelles migrate from the Serengeti in Tanzania to the Masai Mara in Kenya in search of water and grass; and this is where you experience the most unique and magnificent concentration of animals in the fantastic nature where they belong.

At the same time, Kenya has one of the most open and hospitable populations in the world, where you are always welcomed with warm smiles and contagious laughter. The country is home to some of the most iconic tribes in the world, and on a safari trip you can experience the local tribes living the same way they have for generations, and you can thus get a completely unique insight into a daily life that is so far from ours.





A safari is one of those experiences you will never forget, and which you will want to tell and talk about again and again, for the rest of your life. In fact, you can't go on safari without experiencing something incredibly special - it can be the breath-taking sunrise over the savannah, where the sun's warm rays slowly dissolve the fine white clouds and reveal the most beautiful view

of the savannah, which is just as quietly getting ready for a new day. It could be herds of elephants wandering just as quietly across the green plains. Gazelles elegantly leaping through the grass. Lions lying down and consuming the prey of the night. Giraffes approaching the watering hole with their characteristic undulating gait, or herds of zebras galloping swiftly away.

Every day on safari is special in its own way. The experiences will be different from day to day, and you are on the first floor of the wild animal world. These are experiences that make you forget to breathe just because of the sensation, make your heartbeat faster and the adrenaline to pump around your body.

Evergreen Escape has put together a 13-day combined culture, safari and beach trip that gives you the opportunity to go sightseeing in Nairobi, attend a school day at a rural primary school, experience wildlife in some of the best national parks in Kenya, and total relaxation by the Indian Ocean:

Nairobi - Ol Pejeta Conservancy - Masai Mara National Reserve - The Indian Ocean

A true treat of a journey which is named:

Magical Kenya - dream safari & beach paradise

Be prepared to be struck by the African disease - it runs right through your blood and gives you a constant feeling of homesickness, which can only be kept at bay by coming back to Africa and life on the savanna again and again.



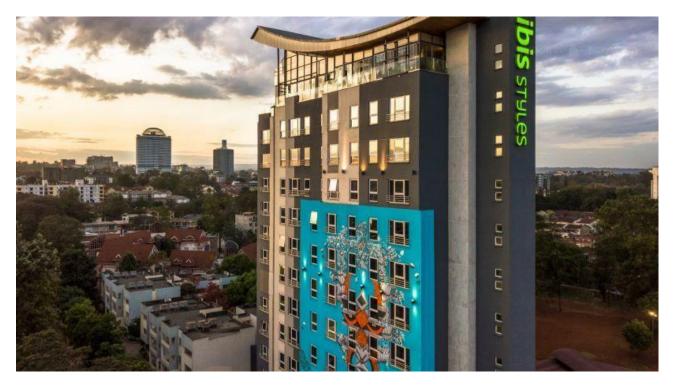


## Itinerary for Magical Kenya - Dream Safari & Beach Paradise

#### Day 1: Arrival to Nairobi

Once you have passed through passport control at the airport, your local tour guide will be ready to welcome you. Together you will drive to your hotel in Westlands, Nairobi, where you will have the opportunity to take a refreshing shower and get a good night's sleep.

You will spend the night at the 3-star hotel Ibis Styles, which is centrally located in Nairobi. The hotel has a particularly good restaurant on the ground floor and has a bar located on the roof terrace with a fantastic view over the Nairobi skyline.



Accommodation: Ibis Styles, Nairobi (<u>https://www.ibisstylesnairobi.com</u>)



Day 2: Nairobi - sightseeing (Distance: Approx. 55 kilometre)

Kenya's capital, Nairobi, was established in 1899 and actually originated as a station town during the construction of the railway between the port city of

Mombasa and Uganda. Back then, the city was just a swampy area, but grew rapidly and became vital to the British Empire. In 1907, Nairobi became the capital of British East Africa and thereafter assumed a decisive role for Kenya politically, economically, and culturally. Today, Nairobi is a modern city and is often referred to as the city that never sleeps.

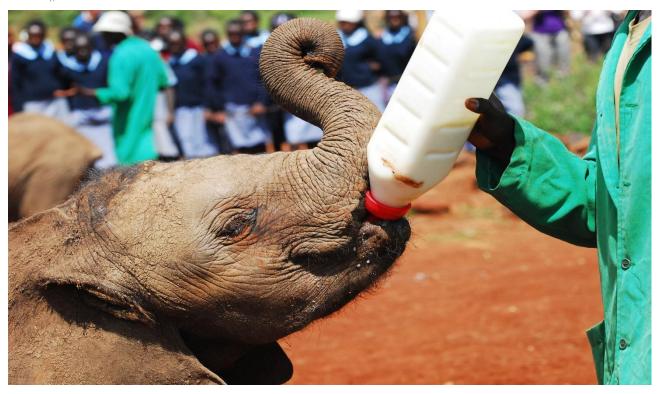


After a wonderful breakfast, it's time to depart for the David Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage. The respected magazine National Geographic brilliantly describes the meeting with the elephant orphanage:

"In the distance, a pair of tall figures in green smocks and curly white safari hats appear, calling in shrill voices: "Kalama!" "Kitirua!" "Olare!" And suddenly baby elephants appear from the thicket, 18 brown heads with hanging ears in a scattered procession. Their long proboscis controls the spherical bodies with a hypnotic grace. The cubs stop under the colour-draped trees, where the zookeepers tie a warm blanket around each elephant before they begin their trek home. "Home" is a rescue and rehabilitation centre for orphaned elephants and the most successful centre in the world. The "Orphanage" takes in baby elephants from all over Kenya who have become orphans, usually due to poachers or conflicts with humans, and raises them until they are no longer dependent on milk. Once they have recovered and stabilized, they are moved over 160 km further south-east to two culling camps in Tsavo National Park. There they can slowly and at their own pace get used to life in nature."



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You will have the opportunity to get up close to the elephants, watch them eat and play, while a zookeeper will tell you more about their lives, how they cope and their future opportunities.





Evergreen Escape EXPEDITIONS Everlasting Dreams & Memories From there you drive on to the Giraffe Centre. It is a small park where you are allowed to hand-feed a giraffe and really get the feeling of the size of a giraffe.



Lunch is taken at the legendary Carnivore, where you can satisfy your hunger in a delicious meat buffet.





After lunch you drive to the Karen Blixen Museum. Karen Blixen moved to Kenya in 1914 to marry and become Baroness Blixen. Together with her husband, Bror Blixen, they were to establish a cattle farm and dairy, but Bror persuaded her to start growing coffee instead. However, he himself was not interested in participating in the work, and the land was not actually suitable

for growing coffee. So, coffee never became "the black gold" for Karen Blixen. But she loved her farm, which later became so famous through her book "The African Farm". In 1931, however, she left the farm and went back to Denmark. To this day, the house has been converted into a museum, and it is possible to get a guided tour of the house itself. A beautiful garden has been laid out around the house and the view of the Ngong mountains in the distance is still as beautiful as when the baroness herself lived in the house. If you have seen the film "Out of Africa", it is easy to recognize the place - several of the furniture from the film are still in the house.



After the museum tour, you must visit Kazuri Beads. Kazuri means "small and beautiful" in Swahili, which is very indicative of the beautiful jewellery that is produced here. It will be possible to visit the factory and greet some of the over 100 women who help produce jewellery and pottery. Afterwards, it is possible to visit the shop and buy some souvenirs to take home at a favourable price.





A short kilometre from Kazuri Beads and the Karen Blixen Museum is the Karen Blixen Coffee Garden, which is home to the historic Swedo House. In the beautiful surroundings, there is an opportunity to drink your afternoon coffee and dream back in time.



Accommodation: Ibis Styles, Nairobi (<u>https://www.ibisstylesnairobi.com/</u>)

Meals: Breakfast and lunch



Day 3: Nairobi - Ol Pejeta Conservancy/Sweetwaters (Distance: Approx. 210 kilometre)

After breakfast, it is time to drive to the Ol Pejeta private nature reserve, still called Sweetwaters by many after the original and smaller part of the

reserve, which is located at the foot of Mount Kenya. In clear weather there is a spectacular view towards the regularly snow-covered peak, which with its 5,199 meters is Africa's second highest mountain.

The road there is a scenic experience through the lush highlands, where you e.g., see a lot of flower farms.

You will arrive at lunchtime at Serena Sweetwaters, one of the most exclusive safari tented camps in Kenya. A protected oasis that is surrounded by a watering hole, where you are in the first row to experience the wild animals drinking. The rest of the day is at your leisure, where you can relax and enjoy the surroundings.



Accommodation: Serena Sweetwaters (http://www.serenahotels.com/serenasweetwaters/defaulten.html)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner



#### Day 4: Ol Pejeta Conservancy/Sweetwaters

Today you have to get up early to go on a game drive and see the animals when they are most active. Ol Pejeta contains all the classic savanna game you can think of, and on top of this a number of specialities/rarities. There

is a good population of elephants and buffaloes here, and you can also experience both the black and the white rhinoceros. The reason the rhinoceros are called black and white is not, as one might be led to think, that they are of different colours. But this is simply due to a translation error when it was discovered that there were two different types of rhinoceros, the difference between them was purely physical. One type of rhino's head was wider than the other. This word was heard as "white", and thus the two types of rhinoceros were named and coloured after a translation error.



You will experience a large population of the world's tallest animals - giraffes. In the reserve live the so-called reticulated giraffes, which can only be seen in Somalia, southern Ethiopia, and northern Kenya. You will also see a large population of the common and fine-striped Grevy's zebra. Along the rivers, you will be able to both see and hear the hippos as they grunt and communicate with each other. At the same time, you will be able to experience a large variety of antelopes and gazelles, where you may be lucky to see the rare but beautiful species such as oryx and hartebeest.



All the big predators also thrive in Ol Pejeta: lions, leopards, cheetahs, spotted hyenas and striped hyenas, while the rare African wild dog can also be seen with some luck.



Several species of monkeys live in the area, with velvet monkeys and baboons as the most common, but there are also a few specialties such as the slender and elegant house colobus and chimpanzees. In the afternoon, you will visit the Chimpanzee Sanctuary, a charming oasis established by the Jane Goodall Institute to provide protection for orphaned and abused chimpanzees.



Finally, you will also visit the Rhino Sanctuary, which was home to the world's last 3 northern white rhinos. Unfortunately, the last male - Sudan - has passed away, and thus there are only 2 females left. You will hear more about the work to protect the endangered rhinoceros from poachers.

Accommodation: Serena Sweetwaters (http://www.serenahotels.com/serenasweetwaters/defaulten.html)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner



Day 5: Ol Pejeta Conservancy/Sweetwaters - Nakuru (Distance: Approx. 175 kilometre)

After breakfast it is time to drive to Nakuru. It is Kenya's 4th largest city and the provincial capital of the Great Rift Valley. The drive takes approx. 6 hours

and along the way there will be an opportunity to stop so you can take pictures of the fantastic view over parts of the valley. The Great Rift Valley is an almost 6,000-kilometer-long valley that runs all the way from northern Syria down to Mozambique.

You make a stop at Thomson's Fall at Nyahururu. The 72-meter-long waterfall is named after the Scottish explorer Joseph Thomson. In 1880, the Royal Geographic Society in England gave him the task of finding the shortest route from Mombasa to the shores of Lake Victoria. Approaching Nyahururu, he discovered the waterfall in a dense forest. The sight fascinated him so much that, in a state of pure euphoria, he named the waterfall after himself.

In Nakuru it is possible to go on a bit of sightseeing in the city or take a trip up to Menengai Crater (at your own expense). The crater is the largest volcanic caldera in Kenya (second largest in Africa) and offers stunning views over the area.



Accommodation: Hotel Empolos, Nakuru

Meals: Breakfast and dinner



Day 6: Nakuru - visit at Kabarbesi Primary School, Baringo County - Narok (Distance: Approx. 250 kilometre)

After a good night's sleep, it's time for an experience out of the ordinary when you go to visit a primary school and experience a completely ordinary school

day.

You must visit Kabarbesi Primary School. In terms of grades, Kabarbesi is the school that the other schools in the district benchmark themselves against, as the students do very well in the national tests. Therefore, there is both a natural pride and humility about the results they create. In terms of sports, they also do very well, and when a few years ago there was a sports day with various ball games, the school also won most of the trophies.



Kabarbesi Primary School is located in Baringo County well over 1 hour Distance northwest of Nakuru. The schools have students aged 3-24 divided into Nursery School (1-3 years), Primary School (8 years of schooling) and Secondary School (4 years of schooling) and are financially supported by my Danish NGO Periamma (www.periamma. org).

At the school, students are taught religion, mathematics, history, geography, biology, Swahili, chemistry, physics, English and physical education. The school classes are larger than you know back home in Denmark, and there can easily be up to 50 students in a class. Discipline is paramount, and the students will therefore always stand up when you enter the classroom. You will find that there is no noise, to say the least, and students only respond when asked. In the beginning, the



students will be a bit shy and reticent, but as they get to know you better, they will become much more curious and interested in hearing you talk.

You will participate in the classes so that you can get an idea of how classes are conducted in Kenya. It is also possible to participate in various play hildren.

activities with the children.



You eat lunch in the company of the teachers, where you can exchange experiences with the school system in Denmark. With your visit, you also help to ensure that all the school children get lunch that day.

After an eventful day with many memorable experiences, it's time to drive on to your hotel in Narok, close to the Masai Mara.

Accommodation: Zebu Lodge, Narok (<u>http://www.zebulodges.com/</u>)

Meals: Breakfast and lunch



Day 7: Narok - Masai Mara National Reserve (Distance: Approx. 95 kilometre)

After breakfast, drive to the Masai Mara National Reserve. Masai Mara National Reserve is probably the best-known national park in Kenya, partly

because of the unique wildlife and the chances to see the animals in their natural environment, and partly because of the name that covers the colourful tribe, the Masai.

The almost iconic local population, the Maasai, are a semi-nomadic warrior tribe known for their brightly coloured clothing and decorations, and not least their jumping warriors. Despite the warlike lineage, the Maasai are a very friendly and hospitable people.

After lunch, you will spend the afternoon in a village with the Maasai tribe, participating in their normal daily activities. You hear them talk about their lives and traditions, and you also participate in the preparations for the cooking, where goats are to be slaughtered for the famous barbecue "Nyama Choma". By the glow of the fire, stories and anecdotes are exchanged. After an eventful afternoon with many memorable experiences, you drive back to your lodge.



You will spend the night at Naserian Mara Camp, which consists of luxury tents with wooden floors, bathroom, and balcony. The location, and spending the night in a tent, gives you the perfect feeling of being out in the bush.

Accommodation: Naserian Mara Camp (<u>https://naserianmaracamp.com/</u>)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner



#### Day 8: Masai Mara National Reserve

You leave early from your lodge to go on a full-day game drive in what is probably the most beautiful safari park in Kenya in search of The Big Five - the rhinoceros, the lion, the leopard, the elephant, and the buffalo. The term

dates back to the 1800s, when big game was hunted on foot. The hunters judged that these five animals were the most difficult and dangerous to kill. So even though the term originates from a bygone era, nothing has changed in that it is still an achievement and requires a lot of luck to spot these five animals.

Masai Mara is part of the fantastic ecosystem Masai Mara National Reserve - Serengeti National Park (Tanzania), where the world's most spectacular animal migration - The Great Migration - takes place. Millions of wildebeest, zebras and gazelles wander between the 2 parks every year in search of water and grass. During the migrations, the animals can move more than 50 km a day, and you often see them in long columns. The zebras are often the front ones, as they eat the longest grass, and then the wildebeests take the shorter, and finally the gazelles who eat the shortest. But the most spectacular sight is probably when the animals cross the rivers, i.e., Mara River in Kenya, where some of the world's largest crocodiles await.



Accommodation: Naserian Mara Camp (<u>https://naserianmaracamp.com/</u>) Meals: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner



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#### Day 9: Masai Mara National Reserve

The day is devoted to another all-day game drive. The Masai Mara is particularly known for its population of big cats: lions, cheetahs, and leopards. In fact, the area is the place in Africa with the most lions.



The wildlife in the Masai Mara is exceptional - both in number and variety. The plains teem with wildebeest, zebra, giraffe, impala, and gazelle, which attract leopards, cheetahs, and large herds of lions. Elephants, buffalo, jackals, hyenas and even the rare black rhino inhabit the plains, while hippos and crocodiles inhabit the rivers. The birds come in all sizes and colours, from hummingbirds and oxpeckers to ostriches and mighty eagles and vultures. Here is a real opportunity to get close to the animals in their natural environment.

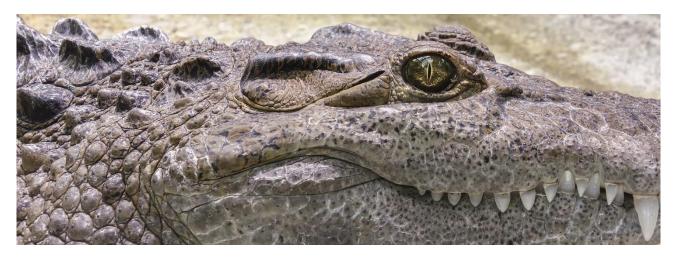




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You have a picnic basket with you so you can have lunch somewhere along the Mara River and enjoy the view of the hippos relaxing on the surface of the water. The Mara River is also home to the largest Nile crocodiles in Africa. The crocodile can live to be more than 100 years old, and this exciting animal is an absolutely superb predator. Its large gape consists of 64-68 pointed teeth, and when it bites together around e.g., a wildebeest, it happens with such tremendous force that the wildebeest has no chance of escaping. The crocodile then kills its prey by dragging it underwater until it drowns. Then it turns round and round in the water to tear chunks of meat from the prey.



Accommodation: Naserian Mara Camp (<u>https://naserianmaracamp.com/</u>)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner



#### Day 10: Masai Mara National Reserve - Mombasa

On the way to the airport, you drive through the savannah, where you may be lucky enough to witness the predators hunting their prey.



You are flying to Mombasa. You will have a stopover in Nairobi, where you will change to the flight that departs for Mombasa. The flight with a stopover takes approx. 4 hours in total.

You will arrive at your hotel around lunchtime, where you will have the opportunity to relax by the hotel swimming pool. The resort is located north of Mombasa close to the Indian Ocean. Off the beach is the world's second longest coral reef - it is possible to sail out to the corals, where you can snorkel, but it is also possible to experience the beautiful sight on board a glass bottom boat.

Accommodation: Flamingo by PrideInn Beach Resort & Spa (https://www.prideinn.co.ke/hotelsin-mombasa/prideinn-flamingo/)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner



#### Day 11-12: The Indian Ocean

The days are devoted to doing whatever you want. You can choose to stay at the hotel and relax by the swimming pool, so you can really get into gear. Or you can choose to go on different excursions. As inspiration can be

mentioned:

Fort Jesus: Mombasa's largest museum and attraction. The fort was built in 1593 by Portuguese sailors and was used to defend the city against possible attacks from outside. Mombasa was at the time a transit point for trade and the gateway to India. Part of the trade were slaves, and the fort contains prison cells and torture rooms that were used for the slaves before they were traded.

The old town: In the old town it is possible to experience Mombasa's very varied architecture, which tells about the city's history with its strong European, Arab, and African influences.

Kisite Mpunguti Marine Park: The marine park was established to protect the scenic islands and special habitats for a large number of endemic marine animals and migratory birds. It is considered the most magnificent of all Kenyan marine parks. The park covers an area of 39 km<sup>2</sup> and includes 4 small islands surrounded by coral reefs. The main attractions are dolphins (bottleneck and humpback dolphins), sea turtles, seabirds, and a host of coral fish.



Accommodation: Flamingo by PrideInn Beach Resort & Spa (<u>https://www.prideinn.co.ke/hotels-inmombasa/prideinn-flamingo/</u>)

Meals: All inclusive



#### Day 13: Mombasa - Nairobi

After breakfast it is time to take the train back to Nairobi. The train journey takes 5 hours and on parts of the route you drive through national parks, where there is an opportunity to experience some wildlife.



Outside the train station in Nairobi, your guide will be waiting for you, who will take you to the airport to fly home to Denmark. Nicely relaxed and filled with lots of good holiday memories and, of course, unique spot shots.



Meals: Breakfast

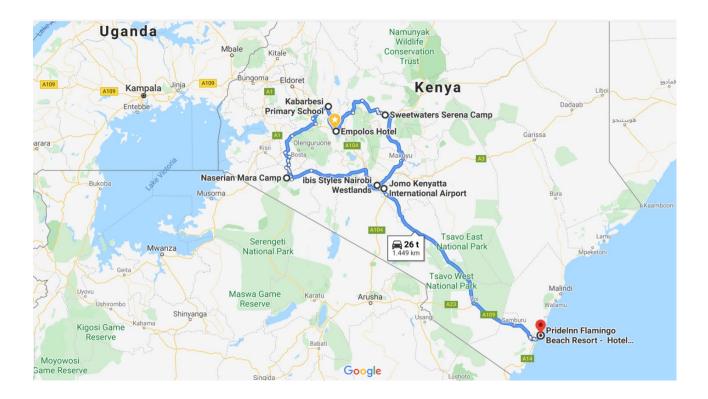


# Overview of the itinerary - Dream Safari & Beach Paradise

Day	Duration	Accommodation	Meals
1 - 3	2 nights	Ibis Styles, Nairobi	Day 2 Breakfast & lunch
3 - 5	2 nights	Serena Sweetwaters, Ol Pejeta	Day 3 Breakfast, lunch & dinner Day 4 Breakfast, lunch & dinner
5 - 6	1 night	Hotel Empolos, Nakuru	Day 5 Breakfast & dinner
6 - 7	1 night	Zebu Lodge, Narok	Day 6 Breakfast & lunch
7 - 10	3 nights	Naserian Mara Camp, Masai Mara	Day 7 Breakfast, lunch & dinner Day 8 Breakfast, lunch & dinner Day 9 Breakfast, lunch & dinner
10 - 13	3 nights	Flamingo by PrideInn Beach Resort & Spa	Day 10 Breakfast, lunch & dinner Day 11 All inclusive Day 12 All inclusive
13			Day 13 Breakfast



Overview of the travel route Magical Kenya - Dream Safari & Beach Paradise





# Practical information - Dream Safari & Beach Paradise

#### Travel budget

Most meals on our trip are already included. For drinks and additional lunches or dinners, calculate around DKK 150-200 per person.

#### Tips

It is customary to tip guides, waiters, and other service personnel. They receive a very small, fixed salary, and are therefore very dependent on the tips they receive when they deliver a good effort. Give the tip in person so that you please the person who served you. It is entirely up to you how much you want to give, but as a rule of thumb you can count on the following:

Luggage carriers: USD 1 Bars & restaurants: 10% of the bill price Driver: USD 3 per person per day Guide: USD 5 per person per day The house cleaner: USD 1

Tipping is a personal thing. It is of course completely voluntary, but you should just remember that they are a natural and necessary part of everyday life on the African continent.

#### Passport

Passport must be valid for six months beyond the date of entry and have 2 blank pages for entry and exit stamps.

It is always a good idea to have an extra copy of the passport's information page with you. It is kept in a different place than the passport itself.

We advise all travellers to check with the country's consulate about changes regarding entry requirements, as these can change at short notice.

#### Visa

Visa is required for EU citizens to Kenya. The visa for Kenya can be purchased online and currently costs USD 51.

#### Vehicles

We use comfortable Land Cruisers, where the roof can be lifted during the game drive.

#### Luggage

Please bring a soft bag or rucksack rather than a suitcase, as they are often easier to pack in the car.



#### **Packing List**

Documents:

- Your passport & a copy of the passport (keep it separate from the original)
- Your flight confirmation
- Vaccination certificate & copy
- Contact details and insurance card for your international health insurance
- · Cash in Euro or USD
- Credit card, preferably Visa
- · Last travel documents with the contact details of the contact person on site

#### Clothing:

- Sturdy shoes
- Sandals
- Warm fleece or wool sweater for chilly mornings and evenings
- Light summer clothes
- Long-sleeved shirt/blouse and long cotton trousers
- Light rain/wind jacket
- Headgear
- Swimwear, bath towel and bath shoes

#### Equipment:

- Small backpack
- Money belt or chest bag for storing money and valuables
- Sunglasses
- Flashlight + extra batteries
- Headlamp
- Camera and telephoto lens for animal photos
- Memory card
- Binoculars
- Power adapter
- Travel alarm clock
- Travel hair dryer if needed
- Neck pillow for travel and long journeys

#### Health/First Aid Kit:

- Sunscreen for skin and lips
- Mosquito spray (mosquito spray can also be bought on arrival e.g., Nobite or Medisoft)
- First aid kit (with plasters and disinfectant)
- Important personal medicine
- Small provisions, e.g., biscuit
- A roll of toilet paper