# Serengeti Trail

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| Trip Valid: | All departures until 31 December |
| Duration: | 8 days (ex Nairobi) |
| Highlights: | Experience the grandeur of the Great Rift Valley, Shop for local sculptures and textiles at a Musoma market, Search out Africa's Big Five in the Serengeti, Visit the home of our earliest ancestors, Camon the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater. |
| Group Size: | Minimum 4, Maximum 22 |
| Price: | Prices from AUD $9850 plus trip kitty USD $3770 |
| Single Supplement: | AUD$1000 |

Africa is truly the cradle of life. Roam the famous Serengeti National Park, nearly 15,000 sq km of rolling savannah that shelters an astounding array of animals from miniature dik-dik antelopes to the noble African elephant and spot wildlife among the ethereal vistas from atop the Ngorongoro Crater. This is also a human journey that puts you among Kenya and Tanzania's bustling markets and plantations and in the valleys once inhabited by humankind's earliest ancestors. If you want to experience some of the most superb game viewing in Africa, then this will truly be a week to remember.

Itinerary

## Day 1 Nairobi

Discover Kenya's bustling capital.

## Day 2 Kisii

Travel across the breathtaking Great Rift Valley into Kenya’s fertile highlands. Stock up on essentials in hilltop Kisii - the last stop before the safari begins.

## Day 3 Lake Victoria

Watch master soapstone craftsmen at work and perhaps collect a few of their carvings. Cross into Tanzania and mingle with the locals in Musoma’s lively marketplace. Tonight, stay on a quiet stretch of shoreline beside one of the world’s largest lakes.

## Days 4-5 Serengeti National Park

Watch the famous grasslands and river valleys of the Serengeti unfold on game-viewing safaris. Look out for lions, gazelles, cheetahs, wildebeest, giraffes and elusive spotted leopards. Safe and sound in a tent, be lulled to sleep by the sounds of nocturnal animals.

## Day 6 Ngorongoro Crater

Gaze into the Olduvai Gorge and learn about this fascinating site, regarded as the ‘Cradle of Mankind’. Camp on the rim of the extraordinary Ngorongoro Crater. With endless views of jagged volcanic peaks and open grasslands below, this is one of the most spectacular camping spots in the world.

## Day 7 Meserani

Jump in a 4x4 and descend to the floor of the Ngorongoro Crater. Thousands of resident animals live in this lush landscape, including elephants, rhinos and lions. Visit the town of Mto Wa Mbu and browse the colourful marketplace to experience quintessential African village life. Set up camp in Meserani.

## Day 8 Nairobi

Travel across open plains and through Arusha, a regional centre at the foot of Mt Meru, on the return journey to the busy streets of Nairobi.

# Egypt Adventure

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| Trip Valid: | All departures until 31 December |
| Duration: | 8 days (ex Cairo) |
| Highlights: | Travel by camel to visit the mysterious Sphinx and Pyramids, Dine with Nubian locals in a traditional village, Cruise along the Nile on a felucca, Be amazed by the Temples of Karnak, Explore the remarkable Valley of the Kings, Go bargain hunting in Cairo's souqs. |
| Price: | AUD $960 |
| Single Supplement: | AUD $145 |

Revel in a taste of Egypt's history, beauty and colour on this short but action-packed trip along the longest river in the world. Cruise the Nile on a felucca, discover the largest and most impressive pharaonic temples, chat and dine with interesting locals and live it up in this country of deserts, bazaars, monuments and good old-fashioned adventures.

Itinerary

## Days 1-2 Cairo

Welcome to a city like no other. Be immersed in Cairo's chaos, colour and culture with a trip to Khan al-Khalili, Egypt's most famous bazaar. For a change of pace, climb aboard a camel and visit the impressive Sphinx and Pyramids of Giza for those iconic vistas. Take time to visit the fascinating Egyptian Museum, home to more than 120,000 antiquities and relics, including the famous burial treasures recovered from King Tutankhamun's tomb. In the evening, take an overnight sleeper train bound south.

## Days 3-5 Aswan/ Nile Felucca

Join a local Nubian family for dinner to experience a slice of Nile culture firsthand. There is also time for an optional day trip to the fascinating temples of Abu Simbel. Later, set sail down the Nile on a magical overnight felucca journey, sleeping on deck under the starry sky.

## Days 6-7 Luxor

Known as Thebes to the ancient Egyptians, Luxor conceals amazing treasures. Pay a visit to an Intrepid-supported animal care project and wander the amazing Temples of Karnak. Enjoy a donkey ride, then continue on to the Valley of the Kings to visit three of the best-preserved pharaonic tombs. Afterwards, join a local family for a traditional home-cooked lunch and enjoy free time before boarding an overnight sleeper train back to Cairo.

## Day 8 Cairo

Return to Egypt's pulsating heart. For those with extra time, roam through the walled citadel for wonderful views over the busy streets, pick up some exotic trinkets at one of the many markets or escape the hazy chaos of the inner city with a final stroll along the banks of the Nile.

# La Dolce Vita

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| Trip Valid: | All departures until 31 December |
| Duration: | 15 days (Rome to Venice) |
| Highlights: | Marvel at the ancient wonders of Rome, Meet David in Florence, Visit Pisa's gravity-defying tower, Cycle across the Tuscan hinterland, Soak up stunning views along the Cinque Terre, Sample local wines in Piedmont, Unwind by Lake Como, Explore the canals and alleyways of Venice |
| Price: | Prices from AUD $2780 (for a Total Price of approximately AUD $, subject to exchange rate fluctuations) |
| Optional Single Supplement: | AUD$750 |

La dolce vita - the good life - is exactly what this trip is all about. Starting in the 'Eternal City' of Rome and ending by the canals of Venice, uncover the best of northern Italy. Experience food, wine, history and style - all the things this wonderful country is famous for - and discover the natural beauty of this spectacular region.

Itinerary

## Day 1 Rome

The iconic sights, fashionable streets and spacious piazzas of this ancient city are best explored on foot. Try to pack in those unmissable icons such as the Colosseum, the Spanish Steps and the Roman Forum. While sightseeing in Rome, be sure to do as the Romans do by sipping an espresso at one of the tiny, streetside cafes. For those captivated by the 'Eternal City', throw a coin into the Trevi Fountain to ensure a return visit to Rome.

## Days 2-3 Florence

Marvel at the wonders in this 'outdoor museum', including the 13th century Duomo with its fiery depiction of the Last Judgement. Perhaps stroll through the famed Uffizi Gallery or admire Michelangelo's David in the Galleria dell'Accademia, then climb to the Piazzale Michelangelo for sunset views of Florence across the city's rooftops.

## Days 4-6 Lucca/ Pisa

With its narrow streets, centuries-old churches and ancient ramparts, the medieval town of Lucca radiates charm. Explore the surrounding countryside by bicycle, perhaps stopping along the way to enjoy a Tuscan picnic. Take a day trip to Pisa to see the world-famous Campo dei Miracoli, home to the Baptistry and, of course, its quirky leaning tower.

## Days 7-8 Cinque Terre

Walk the coastal path that links the five villages and be rewarded with stunning views and fresh sea air. For a more relaxed journey, take the local train between the clifftop towns. Afterwards, feast on succulent seafood, relax with a gelato or take a dip in the warm waters of the Mediterranean.

## Days 9-10 Portofino/ Piedmont

Visit the glamorous resort of Portofino, enjoy a boat trip to Santa Margherita, then head to Piedmont where mouth-watering culinary delights await. Be sure to try a dish flavoured with truffle and quaff local wines celebrated the world over.

## Days 11-12 Milan/ Italian Lakes

Begin the day sashaying through stylish Milan then head to the lake country in the afternoon. Unwind by the emerald waters of Lake Como or take to the hills for great hiking and expansive mountain views. Beautiful Bellagio is only a short ferry ride away.

## Days 13-15 Venice

Discover the magic of 'la dolce vita' in one of the world's most romantic cities. Stroll past the Grand Canal, the Rialto Bridge and the evocative Bridge of Sighs before this Italian odyssey concludes.

# Umbrian Discovery

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| Trip Valid: | All departures until 31 December |
| Duration: | 8 days (Venice to Rome) |
| Highlights: | Experience the romance of Venice, Explore medieval Gubbio, Ride a cable car over picturesque valleys and ancient ruins, Visit the birthplace of St Francis, Sample Umbrian delicacies in Spello, See the ancient sights of Rome |
| Price: | Prices from AUD $1695 (for a Total Price of approximately AUD $, subject to exchange rate fluctuations) |
| Single Supplement: | AUD$500 |

Extras: Explore the green heart of Italy on a journey through charming Umbria, mingling with pilgrims, eating delicious foods and seeing ancient sites along the way. Travel from Venice to Rome, via the ancient hilltop towns of Gubbio and Assisi and encounter the religious and historical treasures of one of the most alluring regions in Europe on this delightful Italian adventure.

Itinerary

## Days 1-2 Venice

Be enchanted by the maze of streets and alleyways, tiny bridges and winding canals in this charming city. On a walking tour, pass many of the city’s famous sights including the Rialto Bridge, the Basilica di San Marco and the wonderful Bridge of Sighs. Board a traghetto to cross the Grand Canal, stride through the pigeon flocks in the Piazza San Marco, or browse the shops for carnival masks.

## Days 3-4 Gubbio

Take a funicular up the steep slopes of Mt Ingino to the hilltop basilica, in which lies the mummified body of Saint Ubaldo - Gubbio’s patron saint. Hike through high pastures to enjoy memorable views over the Umbrian countryside. To make the most of the town’s stunning mountain scenery, be sure to dine al fresco at an atmospheric street side cafe - perhaps try the local tartufo and porcini ‘steaks’.

## Days 5-6 Assisi/ Spello

Home of Saint Francis, namesake of the Franciscan order, Assisi is one of Italy’s most important religious towns. The many wonderful sights here include the Basilica di Santa Chiara and the Basilica di San Francesco. After time spent sightseeing in Assisi, take a day trip to Spello, perched on the side of Mt Subasio and dotted with ancient Roman monuments. Taste the region’s renowned wine at a local enoteca.

## Days 7-8 Rome

The lively city of Rome is crowded with ancient ruins and religious artefacts, yet it buzzes with modern life. There’s plenty of time to visit some of the city’s famous landmarks, including the Colosseum and the Pantheon. Be sure to sit for a moment on the Spanish Steps and stop for a gelato or a strong espresso at a cafe.

# Amalfi Coast Splendour

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| Trip Valid: | All departures until 31 December |
| Duration: | 8 days (Rome to Amalfi Coast) |
| Highlights: | Explore the sights of beautiful Rome, Sip espresso with sharp-dressed locals, Sample authentic Neapolitan pizza, Ponder the power of nature in Pompeii, Trek up Mt Vesuvius, Hike among the olive groves and terraces of the Amalfi Coast, Toast the adventure with a sweet limoncello. |
| Price: | Prices from AUD $1685 (for a Total Price of approximately AUD $, subject to exchange rate fluctuations) |
| Single Supplement: | AUD500 |

If you want a short trip packed with the diversity of southern Italy, then this is the adventure for you. Acquaint yourself with the 'Eternal City' of Rome and learn about the catastrophic fate of Pompeii. Soak up the sunshine in the coastal town of Sorrento and explore the beautiful Amalfi Coast. This trip offers the chance to delve into history, culture and cuisine and to live a little of la dolce vita.

Itinerary

## Day 1 Rome

Walk beneath the Colosseum’s arches, marvel at the mighty Pantheon or simply stroll through the piazzas that dot this ancient city. Between sipping espresso with fashionable locals, sharing ancient laneways with Vespas and being awestruck by the history around every corner, Rome is sure to charm and seduce. Don’t forget to throw a coin in the Trevi Fountain and make a wish to return.

## Days 2-3 Naples/ Pompeii

Full of raucous passion, Naples abounds in history, culture and gastronomy. Enjoy a full afternoon here to explore the city. Discover original Pompeii artefacts in the National Archaeological Museum and succumb to the temptation of a slice of traditional Neapolitan pizza, then it’s on to Pompeii to visit the famous ruins.

## Days 4-5 Sorrento

Ascend the mighty Mt Vesuvius for magnificent views over the Bay of Naples, and the opportunity to see close-up the awesome power of the volcano that devastated the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum. Afterwards, it’s on to the resort town of Sorrento, set invitingly on the cliffs above sparkling blue waters. In free time, try spotting celebrities on a day trip to Capri. Be sure to make time to visit the island’s beautiful Blue Grotto.

## Days 6-8 Amalfi

Enjoy the rocky coastline, whitewashed villages, lemon groves and vine-covered terraces of the famed Amalfi Coast with a hike along its ancient trails. The walking is steep but the views are breathtaking. There is also plenty of time to relax on its lovely beaches or perhaps to toast the end of this short but sweet Italian adventure with a delicious limoncello.

# Land of the Rising Sun

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| Trip Valid: | All departures until 31 December |
| Duration: | 14 days (Tokyo to Kyoto) |
| Highlights: | See the big city lights of Tokyo, Visit the resting place of a Tokugawa shogun, Soak in a traditional outdoor onsen, Sip sake in Takayama, Reflect on the past in Hiroshima, Be dazzled by a gold-plated temple, Delve into geisha culture in Kyoto, Experience the collision of old and new Japan |
| Price: | Prices from AUD $3850 (for a Total Price of approximately AUD $, subject to exchange rate fluctuations) |

Ever-welcoming and always fascinating, Japan is a land of ancient cultures, austere traditions and groundbreaking technology. Experience the best that this diverse country has to offer from the excitement of lively Tokyo to the sacred resting places of shoguns at Nikko. Feast on local delights at a Takayama market, make a sobering visit to the Hiroshima Peace Park and explore the magnificent temples of Kyoto. Discover ancient castles, lush countryside and fascinating feudal history on this authentic travel adventure. Pack a good sense of humour and leave all inhibitions behind.

Itinerary

## Days 1-2 Tokyo

Beneath the neon lights, high-tech gadgetry and crowded suburbs is a city steeped in ancient tradition. Visit Ueno Park where delicate cherry blossom trees provide a beautiful backdrop to various museums or catch the train to Ginza for some retail opulence.

## Day 3 Nikko

Boasting some of Japan's most renowned shrines and temples, Nikko houses several sacred sites including Toshu-gu Shrine, the resting place of the founding Tokugawa shogun. If ornate architecture and multicoloured carvings don't appeal, hiking the cedar-covered shores of Lake Chuzenji is a pleasant alternative.

## Days 4-5 Hakone

Relax on a cruise across Ashino-ko before enjoying picturesque views of the region from a cable car ride through the surrounding mountains - perhaps catch a glmipse Mt Fuji looming in the distance. Don't miss the chance to soak in an outdoor onsen.

## Days 6-7 Takayama

Sake from this region is said to be some of the best, while the traditional markets and food festivals make Takayama a treat to visit all year round. Nestled in the Japanese Alps, the Hida Folk Village is a great place to see traditional life among artisans and thatched-roof houses. Gobble a delicious taiyaki and explore.

## Days 8-10 Hiroshima

This reborn city has a vibrant energy that belies its tragic history. The A-Bomb Dome and Peace Memorial Museum make for a moving experience or perhaps visit the nearby island of Miyajima to see the free-roaming deer.

## Days 11-14 Kyoto

Gain insight into feudal Japan at Himeji-jo castle, en route to Japan's ancient capital, Kyoto. Visit the magnificent gold-plated Kinkaku-ji and wander through the geisha district of Gion before bidding new friends farewell.

# Madrid to Marrakesh

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| Trip Valid: | All departures until 31 December |
| Duration: | 15 days (Madrid to Marrakech) |
| Highlights: | Enjoy fine art and cuisine in cosmopolitan Madrid, Revel in Salamanca's student vibe, Savour spicy treats in Portugal, Enjoy views across Lisbon from atop a citadel, Soak up the sun on the Algarve beaches, Sip sherry on a bodega tour in Jerez, Wander the colour-drenched streets of Chefchaouen, Explore the medieval medina of Fes, Bargain hard in a Marrakech souq |
| Price: | Prices from AUD $2545 (for a Total Price of approximately AUD $, subject to exchange rate fluctuations) |
| Single Supplement: | AUD800 |
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Enjoy a first-hand experience of Spanish, Portuguese and Moroccan lifestyles. Travelling from Madrid to Marrakech, immerse yourself in the history of each destination, exploring ancient cultures through art, design, language and religion, meeting charismatic locals along the way. From fine cuisine to awesome shopping to breathtaking architecture, this adventure has been designed to pique your curiosity and allow you to discover the mysteries concealed within each region. Experience a collision of old and new, European and African, and be dazzled by the vibrancy of this corner of the world.

Itinerary

## Day 1 Madrid

Admire masterpieces in the Museo del Prado or feast on tapas in Chueca.

## Day 2 Salamanca

Head west to the university town of Salamanca. Soak up the student vibe on a stroll through Plaza Mayor and past historic stone buildings.

## Days 3-4 Coimbra

Cross the Spanish border into Portugal to sample rich red wines and delicious spicy fare and enjoy the local tradition of Fado - soulful music about love.

## Days 5-6 Lisbon

Start explorations of Lisbon with its towering medieval citadel then perhaps inspect the many museums or check out the nightlife in Barrio Alto.

## Days 7-8 The Algarve

There's plenty of time to relax on the beac, explore hidden coves and soak up the holiday atmosphere of the Algarve.

## Day 9 Jerez

Discover the secrets to the perfect aperitif on a bodega tour or enjoy a tipple of sherry - the drink named after this town.

## Days 10-11 Chefchaouen

Cross the Strait of Gibraltar and explore Chefchaouen, a sleepy mountain town of delightful blue-washed buildings.

## Days 12-13 Fes

Step back in time into a huge medieval medina thick with exotic smells, tastes, sights and sounds. Fuel explorations of this imperial city with a glass of mint tea and some sweet Moroccan dates. After time spent sightseeing be sure to unwind with an evening drink at the Palais Jamai while the haunting call to prayer floats over the city.

## Days 14-15 Marrakech

Find everything from genie lamps to leather slippers in this exotic city of souqs. Take a refreshing walk through the lush gardens at Majorelle Jardin, visit the lavishly decorated Saadian Tombs or end the adventure among the bustle of Djemaa el-Fna.

# East African Adventure

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| Trip Valid: | All departures until 31 December |
| Duration: | 22 days (Nairobi to Dar es Salaam) |
| Highlights: | Learn about the ancient culture of the Maasai from an elder, Spot cheetahs, lions and leopards on a Serengeti safari, Descend into the enormous Ngorongoro Crater, Meet the kids of the Amani Children's Home, Admire the green wonder of the Usambara Mountains, Camp by a balmy beach in Tanzania, Inhale the aroma of fresh spices in Zanzibar |
| Price: | Prices from AUD $2150 plus trip kitty USD $1230 (for a Total Price of approximately AUD $3495, subject to exchange rate fluctuations) |
| Single Supplement: | AUD70 |

Embrace the full spectrum of colours, smells and sounds on this brilliant adventure showcasing the best that East Africa has to offer. From the vibrant red robes of the Maasai to the emerald-green mountains of Tanzania and the luminous golden glow of a Serengeti sunset, Africa is bursting with enticing sights and enriching experiences. Meet proud warriors, enthusiastic children, welcoming villagers and hard-working crop-growers - the faces of modern-day Africa. Encounter cunning predators and majestic mammals while on safari, graceful birds while camping near shimmering lakes and colourful fish off the balmy coast. East Africa's temperatures are as warm as the people are - experience this personally on this memorable trip.

Itinerary

## Day 1 Nairobi

The journey begins in Kenya's multicultural capital.

## Day 2 Lake Nakuru

Meet the kids of the New Hope Children's Home, then head out on an afternoon game drive and admire the lake as it shimmers with a blanket of pink flamingos.

## Days 3-4 Lake Naivasha

Interact with locals on a village visit, then camp near the shores of beautiful Lake Naivasha.

## Day 5 Loita Hills

Travel across the Great Rift Valley to the heart of Maasai country. Camp among these semi-nomadic tribespeople and learn about their ancient culture.

## Days 6-7 Masai Mara National Reserve

Safaris through the Masai Mara can reveal prides of lions, herds of elephants and perhaps a stealthy cheetah.

## Days 8-9 Nairobi

Return to the urban jungle of Nairobi.

## Day 10 Arusha

Camp on the outskirts of this city in northern Tanzania.

## Day 11 Karatu

Interact with locals in a small village then travel to Karatu.

## Days 12-13 Serengeti National Park

Go on safari in search of the Serengeti's iconic animals and fall asleep to the sounds of the bush.

## Day 14 Ngorongoro Crater

Descend into the giant volcanic Ngorongoro Crater to look for its abundant wildlife, and perhaps spy Africa's iconic Big Five.

## Day 15 Marangu

Visit the Amani Children's Home, an inspirational school for underprivileged children then set up camp in Marangu.

## Days 16-17 Usambara Mountains

Witness the day-to-day life of the crop-growing Chagga people, then head to the remote beauty of the Usambara Mountains.

## Day 18 Dar es Salaam

Camp by the beach in Tanzania's tropical port city.

## Days 19-21 Zanzibar

Marvel at the eclectic architecture lining the cobbled streets and visit an aromatic plantation.

## Day 22 Dar es Salaam

Take the ferry back to the mainland where this adventure ends.