KENYA SAFARI: THE BIG 5

Black Rhino | Leopard | Elephant | Buffalo | Lion

JULY 2-12, 2025

with optional Amboseli Post-Tour

The Michigan State University Alumni Office (the MSU Alumni Office or MSUAO) and the Spartan Pathways Travel Program is not the Tour Operator. The MSUAO is not responsible for the changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or motor coach transportation and car rental reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, ... acts of God, or any other event beyond our control. The MSUAO acts only as a sponsor with respect to the travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes to flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury, damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the ... Therefore, some departures may have universities with greater numbers of alumni on the tour than MSU.
Dear Spartans,

Venture into the heart of Kenya’s wilderness, gaining unparalleled access to its national parks, reserves, and conservancies. This 11-day epic journey provides numerous opportunities to witness The Big 5 (endangered black rhino, leopard, elephant, buffalo and lion) and a plethora of other wildlife in their natural environment.

Trek aboard 4x4 safari vehicles through the savanna plains during legendary game drives with expert guides who will enrich your experience through their knowledge, dedication and enthusiasm. Also visit conservation organizations that play pivotal roles in rescuing and rehabilitating at-risk wildlife, protecting endangered species, educating the youth, and preserving the ecosystems and biodiversity of the region. During community visits, engage with locals for a deeper understanding of their rich cultures and vibrant traditions.

After exhilarating days of exploration, retreat to luxurious lodges and tented camps, each offering exceptional hospitality and superior amenities.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than $1,000 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly. To reserve, visit msu.orbridge.com, call (866) 639-0079 or return the attached reservation form.

Go Green,

Regina Cross
Director, Spartan Pathways Travel Program
MSU Alumni Office
(888) 697-2863
Kenya Safari: The Big 5 | Itinerary and Highlights *(subject to change)*

Locations selected for this safari promise excellent viewing of wildlife, however, spotting specific wildlife cannot be guaranteed. Some activities are dependent on weather and seasonal conditions.

Day 1: **EN ROUTE FROM U.S.**

Day 2: **ARRIVE IN NAIROBI, KENYA** After an evening arrival to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, an Orbridge representative will be waiting to assist with group transfers to the hotel. Settle into your five-star accommodations.

Overnight: Fairmont The Norfolk

Day 3: **NAIROBI** Following breakfast and a welcome briefing by your Orbridge Expedition Leader, depart for Sheldrick Wildlife Trust—considered the most successful orphaned elephant and rhino rescue and rehabilitation program in the world. Next visit the home of the Rothschild Giraffe at the African Fund for Endangered Wildlife Giraffe Centre, whose mission is to educate Kenyan youth about their country’s wildlife and environment. Afterward take a short drive to the foot of the Ngong Hills to see Karen Blixen’s farm house.

Overnight: Fairmont The Norfolk (B,L,D)

Day 4: **NAIROBI | SAMBURU NATIONAL RESERVE** Considered among the best wildlife reserves in Africa, Samburu is famous for its diverse and abundant wildlife. Set out on an immersive game drive with expert guides.

Overnight: Soroi Samburu Lodge (B,L,D)

Day 5: **SAMBURU NATIONAL RESERVE** Prepare for an enriching full day exploring more areas within the reserve during morning and afternoon game drives.

Overnight: Soroi Samburu Lodge (B,L,D)

Day 6: **SAMBURU NATIONAL RESERVE | LAKE NAKURU NATIONAL PARK** Depart for Lake Nakuru National Park—a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Head out on a guided game drive and learn about the park’s preservation initiatives.

Overnight: Lake Nakuru Sopa Lodge (B,L,D)

Day 7: **LAKE NAKURU NATIONAL PARK | MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE** Travel along the Rift Valley’s western rim into the Maasai Mara National Reserve. Later get a front-row seat to the drama of the African wilderness during an exciting game drive.

Overnight: Mara Engai Lodge (B,L,D)

Days 8-9: **MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE** Immerse yourself in the vast plains of the reserve during two full days of wildlife viewing. On the final evening gather together for a festive bush dinner.

Overnight: Mara Engai Lodge (B,L,D daily)

Day 10: **MAASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE | FLIGHT TO NAIROBI | DEPART FOR U.S.** After breakfast return to Nairobi where you’ll have access to a day room at the hotel until transferring to the airport for evening flights home.

Day Room: Crowne Plaza Nairobi (B,L)

Day 11: **EN ROUTE | ARRIVE IN U.S.**

(B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
Maasai Mara Sunrise Safari

While in Maasai Mara National Reserve (days 8-9), take a once-in-a-lifetime sunrise safari by hot air balloon. During this optional excursion, ascend above the reserve at dawn for an exclusive birds-eye view of wildlife roaming the expansive landscape.

*This excursion must be purchased from Orbridge Guest Services in advance to guarantee availability. Purchase is non-refundable inside 90 days from departure.*

Activity Level: This safari program requires an ability to walk safely over uneven and slippery ground without assistance, transport luggage a short distance, get in and out of a 4x4 vehicle, and physically tolerate vehicle motion on sometimes bumpy roads. Highest elevation: 5,500 feet.
Accommodations *(subject to change)*

**FAIRMONT THE NORFOLK**
Dating back to 1904, this landmark property combines old world charm with elegant modern amenities. During leisure time, explore the expansive tropical gardens or take a dip in the heated outdoor pool.

**SOROI SAMBURU LODGE**
Well-appointed tents at this brand new property offer the comforts of home, providing a serene spot to relax after an exciting day of wildlife viewing and exploration.

**LAKE NAKURU SOPA LODGE**
The property offers an inviting outdoor infinity pool, plus a lounge, bar and dining room, each featuring extensive outdoor sheltered terraces—ideal for spotting an incredible variety of wildlife, including white and black rhinos and the rare Rothschild giraffes.

**MARA ENGAI LODGE**
Stunning views, spectacular wildlife, sumptuous food, and a cheerful staff combine for a fantastic stay at the Mara Engai Lodge. Relax in large, luxurious tented suites with waterfall showers and private verandas at this unique property nestled within the forest and overlooking the amazing Maasai Mara National Reserve.
Optional Post-Tour Ambolesi

Experience the magnificent landscapes of Amboseli National Park, set against the iconic backdrop of towering Mount Kilimanjaro. The park is known as the best place in the world to see free-ranging elephants in ultra-close proximity.

Day 10: FLIGHT FROM MAASAI MARA TO AMBOSELI
Arrive to Amboseli in time for lunch, then set off on an afternoon game drive. Return to the lodge where the remainder of the day is yours to explore the grounds and take advantage of the property's amenities.
Overnight: Ol Tukai Lodge (L,D)

Day 11: AMBOSELI NATIONAL PARK
Today includes two game drives through Amboseli National Park to spot for African wildlife. At little more than 150 square miles, Amboseli is relatively small, but its high concentration of wildlife makes for excellent viewing opportunities. In addition to its many elephants, the park is also home to Cape buffaloes, impalas, cheetahs, spotted hyenas, Maasai giraffes, Grant’s zebras, blue wildebeest, more than 100 lions and more than 400 bird species.
Overnight: Ol Tukai Lodge (B,L,D)

Day 12: AMBOSELI | TRANSFER TO NAIROBI | DEPART FOR U.S.
After breakfast, return to Nairobi where you’ll have access to a day room at the hotel to rest until transferring to the airport for evening flights home.
Day Room: Crowne Plaza Nairobi Airport (B,L)

Day 13: EN ROUTE | ARRIVE IN U.S.

Activity Level: This post-tour requires an ability to walk over uneven, sometimes slippery ground and get in and out of a 4 X 4 vehicle.

What’s Included

- Internal airfare from Maasai Mara to Amboseli
- 2 nights at Ol Tukai Lodge (or similar) plus a day room on departure day
- 2 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 2 dinners
- Admission to Amboseli National Park
- 3 guided game drives
- All excursion transportation
- Airport transfer for guests departing at the suggested times
KENYA SAFARI: THE BIG 5

JULY 2-12, 2025
Amboseli Post-Tour: July 11-14, 2025

Reserve by Credit Card:
Online: msu.orbridge.com
Phone: (866) 639-0079
Fax: (206) 452-5655

Reserve by Check:
Made payable to Orbridge, LLC
Mail to: Orbridge, P.O. Box 1376
Poulsbo, WA 98370

We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your email confirmation from the MSU Alumni Office. For more information, contact Orbridge at (866) 639-0079 or you may call the MSU Alumni Office at (888) 697-2863.

GUEST INFORMATION:
Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): ____________________________________________
Email: __________________________________________ Class Year: __________
Home Phone: ___________________________ Alt. Phone: __________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: ______ Zip: __________

Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): ____________________________________________
Email: __________________________________________ Class Year: __________
Home Phone: ___________________________ Alt. Phone: __________________

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:
☐ Check ☐ ACH (Automated Clearing House) ☐ MasterCard/Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover
Card #: __________________________________________ Exp. Date: ______ CVV: ______
Name (as printed on card): ______________________________________________________
Billing Address (if different from above): __________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: ______ Zip: __________

CATEGORY SELECTION & DEPOSIT:
Category Preference: 1st choice __________________________________________ 2nd choice __________
# ______ guests joining program ($850/person) $________
# ______ guests joining post-tour ($500/person) $________

KENYA OPTIONAL EXCURSION (added to your final invoice) — book early; limited space available:
# ______ guests joining Hot Air Balloon Safari ($559/person)

TOTAL DEPOSIT: $________

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at terms.orbridge.com; and I/we agree that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.
Signature: __________________________ Date: __________

Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Each year we plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an ongoing initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts. Learn more at orbridge.com/going-green.

*Special group rate; limited offer. Single availability limited. Airfare not included. Internal airfare from Maasai Mara to Nairobi is included. Airfare otherwise not included. For the post-tour, internal airfare from Maasai Mara to Amboseli is included. Airfare otherwise not included. **A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of reading and resources tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per household will be sent upon receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.
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JULY 2-12, 2025

Special Alumni Rate:
Save more than $1,000 per couple

FREE expedition library
AN EXCLUSIVE EARLY RESERVATION BONUS

Reserve by
September 13, 2024**

RESERVATION BONUS

30-DAY REFUND GUARANTEE

Michigan State University Alumni Office Spartan Pathways Disclaimer:
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the Tour Operator. The MSUAO is not responsible for the changes
of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or motor
car transportation and car rental reservations, delays, losses,
injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline or tour
operator bankruptcies, acts of God, or any other event beyond our
control. The MSUAO acts only as a sponsor with respect to the travel
services, and it shall not be responsible for changes to flight times,
fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or motorcar reservations, injury,
damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the acts or defaults of
any person or entity engaged in providing services to participants
or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. Further, the
MSUAO shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses
of the participant due to sickness, weather, strike, civil unrest,
acts of terrorism, pandemic, epidemic, quarantine, acts of God,
governmental intervention, or other causes beyond its control. The
MSUAO shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as
deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the Tour Operator
may substitute hotels of similar quality. The Tour Operator may
postpone or cancel any tour prior to departure. The MSUAO or the
Tour Operator may decline to accept or to return any person as a
member of the tour should such person’s physical or mental health,
actions or general deportment impede the operation of the tour
or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be
made for the unused portion of any tour. By embarking upon travel,
the participant voluntarily assumes all risk involved in such travel,
whether expected or unexpected. Participant is hereby warned of
the above risks as well as possible travel industry force majeure,
bankruptcies and medical and climatic disruptions, and the
possibility participant may be unable to travel as scheduled because
of personal emergency. Participant is advised to consider obtaining
appropriate insurance coverage against these risks. Applicants for
participation on this tour accept in full all the conditions set forth
above. The MSUAO partners with other universities and alumni
from other universities will be on many departures. While some of
the Spartan Pathways’ tours are exclusive to just MSU alumni, on
many of the tours we partner with other universities/organizations
that have travel programs. Space allotments for these tours are
given to each university and after a guaranteed time allotted
for reservations, available space is opened to all universities/
organizations. Therefore, some departures may have universities
with greater numbers of alumni on the tour than MSU.