

TANZANIA & VICTORIA FALLS

2nd departure

November 16, 2019 - 19 Days



a world to experience



Fares Per Person:

\$13,225 double/twin

\$14,425 single



tour
a more intimate travel experience

> Please add 0.3% GST.

> **Experience Points:** Earn 250 points from this tour.
Redeem **250 points** if you book by **August 7**.

Includes

- Flight to Calgary
- Flight on KLM from Calgary to Amsterdam
- Current air transport taxes and security fees
- 17 nights accommodation in hotels or a luxury tent camp including taxes
- 4 transfers between Amsterdam Schiphol Airport and Crowne Plaza Hotel
- Locally-guided tour of Amsterdam highlights
- Flight on KLM from Amsterdam to Kilimanjaro
- Transfer from Kilimanjaro Airport to hotel
- Transportation in Tanzania for 9 days in 4-wheel drive vehicles with specially adapted roof for game viewing
- Knowledgeable multi-lingual guide for 9 days
- Coffee and tea tour at Machare Estate
- Maasai cultural program
- Tarangire National Park
- Lake Manyara National Park
- Tour of Ngorongoro Crater
- Visit to FAME Hospital or Rift Valley Children's Village
- Oldupai Gorge Archeological Site
- Serengeti National Park
- Flight from Seronera via Kilimanjaro to Nairobi
- Flight from Nairobi to Victoria Falls
- Sunset cruise on Zambezi River
- Tour of main viewpoints of Victoria Falls
- Visit to Mpisi Village and meet Matabele people
- Tour of Chobe National Park in Botswana with boat cruise and game viewing drive
- Flight on British Airlines from Victoria Falls to Johannesburg
- Flight on KLM from Johannesburg to Amsterdam
- Anne Frank Museum
- Rijksmuseum
- Cruise through the canals of Amsterdam
- Flight on KLM from Amsterdam to Vancouver
- Gratuities for guides and drivers in Amsterdam, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, and Botswana
- Luggage handling at hotels
- Wells Gray tour director throughout tour
- **34 meals:** 14 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 10 dinners

Kamloops > 250-374-0831
Kelowna > 250-762-3435
www.wellsgraytours.com

Penticton > 250-493-1255
Vernon > 250-545-9197
Toll Free > 800-667-9552



Experience Tanzania with Wells Gray Tours!

As many of you know I had the opportunity of a lifetime to visit Tanzania in November 2015 as a guest of Tanzania Journeys which handled our tour in 2017 and is arranging both our 2019 tours. Tanzania is the land of safaris and "Greatest Show on Earth" when one to two million herbivores follow the rains across the Serengeti. Wildebeest stampede across the plains, hippos jostle for space in muddy waterways, and elephants wander along beside you. The Serengeti is one of the best places to see lions, and with an estimated 3,000 lions living here you are sure to witness them readying for the hunt at dusk or dawn or sleeping in the shade of an acacia tree. Nature surrounds you, the largest animals mingle with the most minute; birds of every size and colour soar and sing; trees and plants burst with flowers; landscapes are colourful and diverse. There are so many experiences to drink in here, and endless opportunities for wildlife viewing and cultural components. Roam with the Maasai, Tanzania's famous warriors, and experience the hospitality of local meals and the rhythms of their traditional dances. You have the chance to tour their homes and villages including visiting their schools and hospitals. The food in Tanzania is superb, local and homemade, and I'm certain you will love tasting and touring the organic, fair trade coffee and tea farms as I did.

You will also visit "Africa's Garden of Eden," the Ngorongoro Crater which is a 20-km wide ecosystem within an ecosystem that was created by a massive collapse of land following a volcanic eruption over two million years ago. It is one of the natural wonders of Africa. The crater sits at 1,800 metres above sea level and evidence suggests hominids have lived in the wider conservation area for over three million years. On this tour there is an optional balloon safari which was one of the most thrilling things I have ever done. We launched as the sun rose, and gently floated over the plains of the magnificent Serengeti.

Of course, a trip to Africa would not be complete without visiting Victoria Falls, so we have added three nights in Zimbabwe. This massive waterfall is regarded as one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World — it is 108 metres high and 1.7 km across, and, for comparison, is more than twice the height of Niagara Falls. This experience is enhanced by a cruise on the Zambezi River, a Mpisi Village visit, and a tour of Chobe National Park in Botswana.

This was truly a life-changing trip for me. After visiting a school where the children could not afford pencils, I was inspired to start a fundraiser called "Pledge a Pencil — Sharpen a Future." With the support of Wells Gray Tours, we collected enough school supplies to help two schools during our 2017 tour. We will also be delivering school supplies with our 2019 tours.

I believe this destination will not only etch lifelong, unforgettable memories but will also become a special place in your heart. It really is a live version of *The Lion King!*

— Written by Kerrie Niemeier



Tour Notes:

- Almost all meals in Tanzania and at Victoria Falls are included, along with tips and most non-alcoholic beverages.
- A passport is required for this tour and must be valid for 6 months after December 4, the tour's return date. Please provide your passport info to Wells Gray Tours by August 30. Tourist visas are required for Tanzania (apply online, US\$50 fee), Kenya (apply online, US\$21 fee), and Zimbabwe (at the airport, US\$55 fee). A visa is not required for our one-day visit to Botswana.
- Rooms for singles are often a different style or smaller size than twin rooms. Many hotels also limit the number of single rooms allocated to a group, so please book early if you prefer to travel single. Rooms for triples are not available.
- You may need a vaccination. Please visit a travel clinic two or three months before departure. Bring this itinerary and your personal vaccination record for advice.
- This tour is limited to 17 travellers due to the seating capacity of the safari jeeps. Book early!
- This tour is accompanied from British Columbia by a Wells Gray tour director. A thoroughly experienced multi-lingual guide travels with us throughout Tanzania and at Victoria Falls. Local guides conduct sightseeing tours in several cities. You will be expertly guided and well looked after!



Activity Level: This tour is rated as Activity Level 3 because tour members should be able to walk up to 3 km at an easy pace, get in and out of the safari jeeps, climb many stairs without assistance, or walk on trails, sidewalks or streets with uneven surface. You are staying in luxury tents at Tarangire National Park. Most lodges do not have elevators and your room may be up a flight of stairs. Altitudes range up to 2,000 metres in the Serengeti. There can be longer walks in the airports; request a cart in advance if this could be an issue for you. This tour is not appropriate if you depend on a cane or walker. Please consider any mobility issues carefully prior to booking this tour, as you may miss some highlights. Prior to accepting your booking, you will be required to sign a declaration that you are capable of travelling on an Activity Level 3 tour. The tour director, local guides, and drivers have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance.

Itinerary

Saturday, November 16:

Meals: D

We fly from Vancouver or Abbotsford to Calgary and stay overnight at the Marriott Hotel in the terminal. A get-acquainted dinner is planned. Note: It may seem unnecessary to go to Calgary a day before the flight to Amsterdam, but November weather can shut down local airports and cause a missed international flight.

Sunday, November 17:

The morning is leisure time and we check in at KLM about noon. Our flight leaves Calgary in mid-afternoon and is non-stop to Amsterdam.

Monday, November 18:

We arrive in **Amsterdam** in mid-morning. A city tour features notable sites such as Dam Square, the impressive Royal Palace, the New Church, the canals, and Waterloo Square. We stay overnight at the Crowne Plaza Hotel near Schiphol Airport.

Tuesday, November 19:

Meals: B

The next leg of the flight with KLM leaves about 10 am and arrives at Kilimanjaro about 9 PM. This flight is about 8½ hours and the local time is 11 hours ahead of B.C. **Welcome to Tanzania!** We are met by our Tanzania guide and driver. We stay two nights at Sal Salinero Hotel in Moshi.

Wednesday, November 20:

Meals: B,L,D

Mount Kilimanjaro rises majestically to 5,895 metres (19,341 feet) and dominates our views today. It is the tallest mountain in Africa and last erupted about 150,000 years ago. It is a popular climb but not technically difficult, and the main challenge is altitude. We drive up to **Machare Estate** for a morning coffee and tea tour. This organic, fair trade farm is committed to upholding sustainability in all its practices. Lunch is at Kilimanjaro Halisi, followed by a nature walk to some waterfalls.

Thursday, November 21:

Meals: B,L,D

We drive to Monduli Juu, situated west of Arusha, and explore **Emairete Crater**. A walk with panoramic views includes the Maasai Church, the Eye Hospital, Enguiki Primary School, and a visit with a traditional medicine doctor. We are in a remote area with no hotels and the next two nights are at **Sangaibe Tented Camp**. The luxurious "rooms" overlook Tarangire Park, Lake Burunge, and the Rift Valley, and have en-suite bathrooms with showers. The main building offers a central lounge and dining area built on a raised wooden deck, an ideal place to relax while the sun disappears over the lake. There is also an outdoor pool.

Friday, November 22:*Meals: B,L,D*

A full day is devoted to **Tarangire National Park** which is famous for its huge herds of elephant and baobab trees. It is home to more than 550 bird species, and is also noted for the termite mounds that dot the landscape. Throughout the dry season, thirsty antelope and elephants trek hundreds of kilometres to drink at the Tarangire River.

Saturday, November 23:*Meals: B,L,D*

Our next national park is **Lake Manyara** which is tucked beneath the Rift Valley wall. A thin green band of forest is flanked by 600-metre sheer red and brown cliffs and the shore of an alkaline soda lake. Famous for its tree-climbing lions and baobabs, Manyara features nearly 400 bird species such as red-billed quelea, pelicans, cormorants, and thousands of flamingos. Large herds of buffalo, cheetahs, giraffes, and impalas also roam the lake shores. We stay two nights at **Kudu Lodge**.

Sunday, November 24:*Meals: B,L,D*

We visit the **FAME Hospital** (Foundation for African Medicine and Education) and a local school. A visit to Rift Valley Children's Village, an orphanage with impressive facilities, may be possible.

Monday, November 25:*Meals: B,L,D*

Ngorongoro Crater was created when a large volcano exploded and collapsed two million years ago. It was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1978 and is the largest intact volcanic caldera in the world. It is 610 metres deep and its floor covers 260 square km. We spend the day exploring this vast crater which is home to some 25,000 large animals — black rhinos, zebras, wildebeests, gazelles, buffalo, and tsessebes (often called topi). We stay overnight at **Ngorongoro Serena Lodge** which clings to the crater rim and is rated among Africa's finest hotels.

Tuesday, November 26:*Meals: B,L,D*

We visit the renowned **Oldupai Gorge** archeological site. Louis and Mary Leakey conducted research here in the 1950s and their discoveries provided evidence of the earliest signs of mankind where hominid footprints are preserved in volcanic rock 3.6 million years old. We continue to the legendary Serengeti, the archetypal safari destination, famed for its wealth of leopards and lions. We stay two nights at **Serengeti Serena Safari Lodge**, situated high on a hill with panoramic views. This lodge is the ultimate fusion of traditional African architecture and world-class style.

Wednesday, November 27:*Meals: B,L,D*

We spend a full day on safari in **Serengeti National Park**. It covers 14,750 square km of grassland plains giving rise to its name which is derived from the Maasai language and means "endless plains." The region hosts the largest mammal migrations in the world and, every year, over 2.5 million wildebeests and zebras migrate from the Serengeti to the Maasai Mara Reserve in Kenya. The park is also noted for its large population of lions, cheetahs, leopards, hyenas, jackals, zebras, giraffes, buffalo, Thomson's gazelles, topis, elands, hartebeests, impalas, and duikers. This is also a birder's paradise with over 500 species.

Option — Hot air balloon ride. Launch as the sun rises and gently float over the Serengeti plains with a bird's eye view of all the animals. The tour ends with champagne and a fantastic breakfast in the bush! Excursion typically lasts 3 hours with about an hour in the balloon. Cost is \$840 per person. Please book no later than final payment.

Thursday, November 28:*Meals: B,L*

A morning game drive is included with more thrilling animal viewings. We fly in late afternoon back to Kilimanjaro, change planes, then continue to **Nairobi** in Kenya and stay overnight.

Friday, November 29:

It is a three-hour flight this morning from Nairobi to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe. We stay three nights at the Kingdom Hotel within walking distance of the falls. It offers restaurants, lounges, swimming pools, and a spa. At 4 pm, enjoy a sunset cruise on the mighty **Zambezi River** which provides a terrific vantage point to watch animals come to the river's edge to quench their thirst as the sun sets.

Saturday, November 30:*Meals: B*

Victoria Falls is one of the most spectacular natural wonders of the world. The local people call it "Mosi-oa-Tunya" (the smoke that thunders) and there is a magic about it manifested in the towering column of spray, the roar of the falling water, the terrifying abyss, and tranquil lagoons upstream in which hippos and crocodiles lurk. The cataract is 1.7 km wide and drops 108 metres into the Zambezi Gorge, and an average of 18,000 cubic metres of water plummet over the edge every minute in November. These facts make Victoria Falls the largest curtain of falling water in the world. Remarkably preserved as a national park and a World Heritage Site, Victoria Falls inspires visitors as much today as it did David Livingstone

in the 1860s. This morning, we visit the best-known sites: the Main Falls, Horseshoe Falls, Rainbow Falls, the Boiling Pot, and Livingstone Island. November is the dry season here, so there is a lot less water than at peak flow in April. However, the falls are more visible in November because a towering column of spray may obscure the falls during high water. Later today, we visit **Mpisi Village** for an insight into the daily lives of the Matabele people. The afternoon is free time.

Sunday, December 1: *Meals: B,L*

Today is devoted to **Chobe National Park** in the northwest of Botswana, near the borders of Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Namibia. Chobe was Botswana's first national park and protects 11,700 square km of floodplains, swamps and woodland. The park has a huge population of elephants. Our visit includes a boat cruise and afternoon game drive.

Monday, December 2: *Meals: B*
We fly on British Airlines to Johannesburg in South Africa, then on KLM to Amsterdam.

Tuesday, December 3: *Meals: D*
We have another rest day in **Amsterdam**, so the flight home does not seem so long. Admissions are included to the Rijksmuseum and the **Anne Frank House**. During the afternoon, we explore the city via a narrated canal cruise, passing gabled warehouses, arched bridges, noble mansions, and colourful houseboats. We stay overnight at the Crowne Plaza Schiphol Hotel.

Wednesday, December 4: *Meals: B*
The KLM flight to Vancouver leaves in early afternoon.

Tour Policies

Payments: A deposit of \$1,000 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due August 7, 2019. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined.

Cancellation Policy: Up to June 7, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$100 per person. From June 8 to August 7, the cancellation charge is \$300 per person. From August 8 to September 6, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare. From September 7 to October 7, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After October 7, there is no refund.

Fare Changes: Changes to taxes and currency exchange rates, and surcharges from airlines and tour suppliers can occur at any time and are beyond the control of Wells Gray Tours, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up until the time of departure.

Travel Insurance: A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause for medical and cancellation claims, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

Photo Credit: Kerrie Niemeier

E-points: This tour earns 250 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points, or e-points. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points for a free tour! Redemptions offered until August 7.

Consumer Protection BC Licences: Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924



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This tour is rated “Activity Level 3” by the tour planners at Wells Gray Tours. This rating is the highest activity level assigned to a tour, meaning that there is a lot of activity which could include one or more of (but is not limited to) the following:

- You can walk 3 kilometres in 1 hour.
- You are comfortable with walking on rocky or dirt trails with uneven surfaces.
- You can climb into and out of a safari jeep and travel many kilometres on bumpy roads.
- You are not affected by altitudes of up to 2,000 metres for extended periods.
- You can walk up a flight of stairs to your room and do not require an elevator.
- You can carry your own luggage in airports.

Since a few people who are not capable of doing the above activities can hold up the entire group, Wells Gray Tours expects everybody booking a tour with “Activity Level 3” to be reasonably fit. You must be able to participate in activities without the assistance of the tour director, driver or other travellers.

Please read the following and sign acknowledging that these statements are true. The tour deposit will be due after you have signed this statement.

- I want to travel on a Wells Gray tour with a rating of “Activity Level 3”.
- I have read the brochure with the full itinerary and description of the activities that are typical on this tour.
- I understand that this is the highest activity level that a Wells Gray tour can be rated.
- I am confident that I can participate in tour activities at this level and I will not hold up or delay the other members of the tour.
- I do not require the use of a wheelchair or a walker.
- If my physical condition changes between booking and departure date such that I can no longer do this level of activity, I will notify the Wells Gray office or agent. The specified penalties will apply for cancelling and your travel insurance may cover this.
- If I am not capable of keeping up with the group or I require ongoing assistance, I understand that the Wells Gray tour director has the right to not allow me to participate in some activities or some days of the tour. In extreme situations, I acknowledge that I may be required to leave the tour and travel home at my own expense, and that travel insurance will probably not cover me.

This statement has been implemented by Wells Gray Tours to maintain high quality itineraries, accurate timing, and the enjoyment of all tour participants. Everybody booking this tour must sign this statement. Thank you for your understanding.

Signature _____ Name _____ Date _____