

## Kenya with a difference 2008

**Proposed study tour to Kenya. Below is a very provisional idea of what would be involved. Check out the Geographical Association website to see their pictures of a similar tour run by Janice in summer 2006.**

**[www.geography.org.uk/events/studytours/kenya2006](http://www.geography.org.uk/events/studytours/kenya2006)**

**If you are interested, please contact both Janice (email below) and myself ([irene.morrison@bluevonder.co.uk](mailto:irene.morrison@bluevonder.co.uk)). Notes of interest by end of March 2007 at the very latest.**

**Places are limited to 21.**

For summer 2008 we are pleased to offer a tour to Kenya with a difference during which we will encounter a wide variety of environments and meet people from many different cultures.

Starting in Mombasa, we will visit the old town and consider the heritage and the slave trade history. We will visit the Haller Park the achievement of Dr Rene Haller at Bamburi where the barren, disused cement quarries have been rehabilitated into dense forest, cool lakes – without the use of any artificial chemicals. We then fly to Nairobi and begin our safari with 2 nights at Malewa River Lodge Cottages an eco-friendly tourist project where Rothschild giraffe have been successfully reared. The cottages are idyllic with thatched roofs, hurricane lamps and private bathrooms with hot showers. If we have more than 14 we will choose a lodge in Nakuru National Park. We spend a day in Nakuru National Park, with its world famous flamingos and rhino sanctuary. Continue through the White Highlands to Marich Pass where we will spend four nights in the Marich Pass Field Centre situated on a 30 acre site.

At Marich the buildings are of fired brick with grass and palm thatched roofs – some have private facilities and lighting is by hurricane lamp, though there is electricity for a couple of hours in the evening from the generator. The centre blends in with the landscape of mixed acacia forest and clearings with open views of the Moruny River and the Rift Valley escarpment. There will be a chance to meet the local Pokot people: the sedentary Marich pass maize growers who trade with the pastoral semi-nomadic Pokot: will visit the Saturday market at Lomut.

After Marich we will spend two nights in Kericho in very comfortable cottages – or again if numbers are larger than 14 at the Tea Hotel - and spend a day visiting a tea plantation and a flower growing centre.

We then continue to the world famous Maasai Mara – accommodation in a lodge near the park gates with its open plains woodlands and acacia forests –home to the Big Five, zebra giraffe gazelle and monkeys. This traditional way of life of the Pokot is a great contrast to the Maasai we will meet in the Mara, who over the past century or so have had their traditional grazing land seriously reduced, both by the British and since Independence by the introduction of large ranches and farms.



**The Wei Wei Irrigation Project**

We spend one night at Elementaita / Naivasha area to break the long and dusty drive from the Mara; our last stop will be Nairobi where we will stay at the Mayfair Court – a low rise hotel close to the African craft market . We will arrange a visit to Kibera in conjunction with Oxfam. Here we will look at the work that OXFAM do with, for example, HIV/AIDS orphans.

The trip will last for 18 days; transportation will be by 9 seater 4 wheel drive minibuses (7 people in each bus to ensure a window seat ) with local experienced driver/guides for 14 day safari where all meals are included. These will be a mixture of European and ethnic African food with fresh fruit and of course local tea and coffee. We will have half board in Mombasa and room and breakfast in Nairobi.

Price – we would plan to depart before 12<sup>th</sup> July 2008 – when the fares go up – to keep the price to under £2000.00. Single accommodation is limited to only 2 or 3 persons as this is a very busy time.

Janice Dickson  
Ian Dickson Travel Service  
50 Dundas Street  
EDINBURGH  
EH3 6JN tel 0131 556 6777 fax 0131 556 9065  
email [Janice@iandicksontravel.com](mailto:Janice@iandicksontravel.com)