

CULTURAL SAFARIS

Ilkiding'a - Arusha Region

Ilkiding'a is among the small villages that surround Mount Meru and yet provide valuable cultural programmes in Tanzania. Been a Maasai community based village, our guide Eliakimu guarantees you a lovely cultural programme on your visit.

The following is on offer:

- A visit to a local traditionally built household to get an idea of how an extended family lives together
- Traditional dancing: We can bring the dance to you or you can bring the people to the dance.
- A walk through coffee plantations and open fields where potatoes, cabbages, maize, beans and other cash crops are cultivated by the villagers.
- A visit to a traditional healer, who is ready to answer all your questions and give advice if needed a visit to the craftsmen prepared by the Mainyoto Women's Group at one of the households
- A visit to the primary school where money generated from tourism as Development Fees is used to rehabilitate the school
- The pleasure of impressive viewpoints overlooking Arusha town, hiking along narrow footpaths, crossing a canyon and climbing small hills. You can take a half day tour, full day tour or a 3 day south-west Meru cultural hike. A fourth option is an 8-hour walking trip from Arusha to the starting point, where you connect with the full day tour.

Chilunga - Morogoro Region

Morogoro 192 km west of Dar es Salaam, is a beautiful region with the Uluguru Mountains, can natural forests and endemic bird species. Apart from these attractions, visitors can enjoy mountain hikes, historical sites, waterfalls, panoramic viewpoints and glimpses of the local culture.

The following tours can be organized:

Morning Side tour

Walk through Towelo and Ruvuma village to Morning Side, an old German settlement. Walk back through scenic farmlands.

Madola tour: Visit Madola village to meet a traditional healer.

Usolo tour: Drive through Mikuyuni centre to Usolo where you can enjoy walking, fishing, and meeting the locals.

Nugutu traditional village tour: Participate in village life of the Walugulu people-try traditional food and drink, dance with them and learn to make handicrafts.

Kinole village tour: There are three options available under this tour:

1. Start from Kinole village and come down the Uluguru Mountains to Morogoro, passing a historical site on the way.
2. Start from Kinole village towards Morogoro through a forest reserve, where you can watch the antics of blue monkeys and black and white colobus monkeys.
3. Start from Kinole village towards Morogoro through Tegetero and Bangilo villages and forest

reserves. Here too, you have the opportunity of seeing blue monkeys, black and white colobus monkeys and birds.

Lupanga tour: Start from Morogoro and pass through lush farmlands before you go uphill to the second highest peak of the Uluguru. Enjoy the waterfalls, rainforest, endemic species of birds, insects and monkeys.

Bunduki tour: Swim and camp at the Hululu waterfall site.

Lukwangulu Plateau tour: A panoramic view is on offer from the only plateau in the Ulugurus. There is the option of staying overnight with the villagers.

Maasai village tour: Stay overnight in a Maasai village with the colourful tribe and partake in their traditional meals and markets.

Town tour: Take a tour of Morogoro town-walk, drive or ride. This can be arranged by the tourist office.

Kibwe waterfall tour: Walk to the seasonal Kibwe waterfall and view Morogoro town from the peaks of the Uluguru Mountains.

Kigurunyembe tour: Feel the cool waters of a rock stream and take a dip. Or just camp beside it and refresh yourself.

Getting there:

Morogoro can be easily reached from Dar es Salaam. Buses are regularly available. (Income from tourist visits will be used to improve conservation of natural resources and cultural sustainability in the region).

Butiama Museum & Cultural Tours - Mara Region

On the north-western side of Serengeti National Park, 60 kilometres from Ndabaka Gate (Western gate to the Serengeti National Park) one will meet great people named Wazanaki ethnic group. Butiama is the birthplace and burial location of the 'Father of the Nation', Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, the founding president of Tanzania who began his political career in the early 1950s, led Tanzanians to independence in 1961, and remained in politics until his voluntary retirement in 1985.

A visit to the mausoleum of Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere

- Trekking up the Chamuriyo hill, visit German soldiers hiding caves, graveyards and get a panoramic view of Lake Victoria, Serengeti plains and surrounding human settlements
 - Visit community development projects, local schools and health centres found in the area
 - Cotton Farm tour: see how people practice cotton farming
 - A home stay with Wazanaki family to enjoy traditional food and their unique lifestyle.
- It's a great way to learn the culture of the people

Half day tour:

Option 1: Butiama village tour: A welcome to Mwalimu Nyerere homestead. Get a guided tour around the home and the Mwalimu Nyerere's mausoleum then proceed to the Mwalimu J.K. Nyerere Museum and then to the village area where cassava farms are found. Get a glimpse of cassava farming. Visit a traditional healer famous for treating infertility together with other diseases since the ancient times.

Option 2: Visit Nyerere's homestead and then proceed to the Butiama Museum before walking to Mtuzu hill, a short memorable Kili trekking tour which is organized every September to raise money for charitable ends.

Ngoreme Hotspring Tour

Our visitors will have an opportunity to explore a hot spring found in the area while enjoying magnificent iconic kopjes dotting the land and finally get a cultural insight of Wangoreme inhabitants of the area. Listen to folklore and nice stories about their culture as its explained to you by Wangoreme elders.

Serengeti National Park

We can link you to Serengeti National Park, the home of the great wildebeest migration a most spectacular rut of wild animals.

Other activities on offer are:

Participate in daily African life activities, volunteer in primary, secondary and/or nursery schools teaching various subjects, You can also have a wonderful volunteering experience in health projects within and around Mara region Getting there: Butiama Museum Get an insight of the life history and the way of life of the Zanaki people.

Appreciate beautiful landscapes with hills, mountains and learn about their kinship leadership system.

The following tours are on offer:

- A welcome to the 'Father of the Nation's' home
- A visit to Chief Edward Wanzagi's homestead
- A visit to The Mwalimu J.K. Nyerere Museum hike of just over an hour. Get a panoramic view of the Butiama village the farms and people's settlement, Lake Victoria, and the Mara River valley.

Full day tour:

Take a round guided walk around Father of the Nation's homestead and then walk down through a village to visit traditional Wazanaki homestead, to explore the culture and then proceed to visit Kyarano dam, and the farms of Mwalimu Nyerere.

- Visitors with a full day may opt to visit the German soldiers hiding caves, a place used as armoury for military weapon and German graves that exists since colonial times on Chamuriyo hill.
- Tailor-made tours and excursions can be organized where mountain bikes can be used as a means of transport.

Traditional Ceremonies & Events:

The energetic Wazanaki traditional dancers will give you an insight into their culture by their captivating songs and dances. You can watch, experience and even participate in a variety of dances symbolising various occasions and traditional events such as traditional marriage & bride-price giving ceremonies at home. Kilimanjaro Climbing-Fund raising for Nyerere Education & Health Fund, Butiama Cultural Tourism Enterprise welcomes all interested people around the globe to participate in this & Cultural Tourism Enterprise is located in Western Serengeti about 60 kilometres from Ndabaka gate off Serengeti National Park. One can board the commuter buses, daladala, that ply the route between Butiama and Musoma throughout the day. Butiama is located only 40 kilometres from Musoma. Alternatively, visitors arriving from Arusha can travel on one of the passenger buses that travel daily between Arusha and Musoma, and get off at Butiama.

Where to stay:

A number of options exist. JKN Hotel offers decent accommodation services with 14 rooms that can accommodate up to 20 visitors. There are special rates for students visiting us. Homestay and camping options are available. Our rates are affordable. The Butiama mosque hostel offers modest accommodation with 8 rooms capable of accommodating 12 visitors. Couples are required to show proof of marriage.

Tengeru - Arusha Region

In close proximity to the picturesque slopes of Mt. Meru, Tengeru is 13 km from Arusha town along the Arusha- Moshi/Dar es Salaam road.

The following is on offer:

- A glimpse of Meru culture
- A visit to a local farms owned and managed by members of the Patandi Women's Group
- A guided tour to the legendary Chief's compound to see his handicrafts and artifacts, followed by a hiking tour up Mt. Meru
- A visit to families with disabled children in the village to exchange ideas on family planning and HIV/AIDS
- An introduction to village Environmental Conservation Initiative (VECI)
- Attending the church service on Sunday
- A taste of locally prepared coffee and learning about the bio-gas Plant
- Entertainment by local theatre works around a bonfire

Visit to a local primary school (2 hours)

Visit any of the three primary schools in the vicinity. One is a normal primary school, the second a Special school for the handicapped and the third a Teaching practice school. Meet the children and Participate in their activities.

Patandi Bush tour (3 hours)

Visit the Patandi village and the homes of the villagers. See the farms, cattle rearing and coffee making process.

Lake Duluti tour (4 hours)

Walk to Lake Duluti, a caldera lake, and learn about the historical background and mysteries associated with it. A boat ride can be organized or enjoy watching the flora that abounds in the area.

River Malala eco tour (half day)

Take a nature walk along the river bank to enjoy scenery, birds, flowers and trees. Shimbumbu Hill

nature expedition (half day) Walk through banana and coffee plantations and after crossing the river Malala, ascend to the top of Shimbumbu Hill and to the Msesse caves

Kimundo excursion (3 days)

Visit an African chiefdom, Khum Springs and the Maasai-Kwevi point near River Malala. Hear the story connected with these sites. Enjoy the Mangalia waterfall and go on to pay tribute to two young missionaries at a nearby graveyard. Later, go hiking up the Majestic Mt. Meru. Songs: Enjoy local singing, dancing and poetry of the Meru culture around a bonfire at Night. Shopping: Join the locals in their evening shopping and buy yourself a souvenir.

Getting there: From Arusha, minibuses are available. Go past Tengeru Shopping Centre, get off at Sangs and ask for the Tengeru Camp Site. (Income from tourist visits will be used to educate AIDS orphans and to develop the Mavinuni Primary School).

Ukerewe Island

Ukerewe is the largest island in Lake Victoria and the largest inland island in Africa. It is approximately 530 km² and is surrounded by over 10 smaller islands. It has an intriguing European history, however it is its people, customs and tribal stories which hold the biggest attraction – the Chiefs, Intellectuals, Farmers and albino residents who have shaped the islands.

The islands simple rural life is based on community values and sustainable living – Ukerewe uses highly successful farming techniques where every patch of land and tree is individually cared for and owned. Exploring these islands will give you a unique insight into every day life on the Great African Lakes and allow you to experience a special part of Africa few have seen.

DAY 1: Mwanza to Ukerewe Island

You will leave Mwanza after breakfast to board the boat to Ukerewe island, a 2 hour journey. On arrival you will be welcomed by an experienced local guide who will show you around the island and entertain you with fascinating stories of its residents and famous chiefs.

DAY 2: Ukerewe Island

After breakfast you will visit the islands most historical and scenic sites by bicycle including Ahandbezo, the beach based coconut farm and the burial place of Ukerewe's great writers. Ukerewe is famed throughout history for its intellectuals. Overnight at lodge.

DAY 3-5: Ukara Island discovery & Transfer

You will take a boat to another island of the Ukerewe archipelago – Ukara island. Here you will discover its rural lifestyle and enjoy a relaxing 1 night stay before returning to the main island of Nansio-Ukerewe for your final night. On the morning of the 5th day you will board the boat back to Mwanza.

Lake Victoria Safari & Rubondo Island National Park

Rubondo Island is the largest of one of only 2 island National Parks in Tanzania. and is located on the south-west corner of Lake Victoria, 150 km (95 miles) west of Mwanza city. The 2nd island park is Saa Nane Island NP, which is nearby and which you will also visit during your stay. Lake Victoria is one of Africa's Great Lakes and is the source of the River Nile (the world's longest river), Africa's largest lake

and the second largest freshwater lake in the world.

This national park is 456.8 km² of which 236.8 km² is dry land and 220 km² is water comprising of 11 small islets. The park offers a vast variety of habitats for wildlife including: velvet monkeys, genet cats, spotted necked otters, hippopotamus, crocodiles, chimpanzees, elephants and giraffes. Only here can visitors to Tanzania be sure of seeing Sitatunga (marsh bucks). It is also a paradise for bird-lovers with nearly 400 species documented on the island. Fisherman also loves the challenge of coming face to face with the iconic Nile Perch!

A stay on Rubonda Island and a Lake Victoria Safari is a unique way of experiencing Tanzania and its African wildlife. It's remoteness and lack of human influence ensures you will have very special memories that few will ever have, and you will have played your part in conserving this extraordinary wildlife refuge for generations to come.

Starting 1st September 2016 – Chimpanzee habituation experience. A unique opportunity to spend time with habituated in the field observing these extraordinary monkeys. Please request additional price at time of booking.

DAY 1: Crocodiles, Hippo pools & Campfires

At the start of this unique Lake Victoria Safari we will meet and greet you from your flight or bus. We will drive you to Muganza to take a 20 minute boat ride across Lake Victoria to the magical Rubondo Island. On arrival you will take a 25 minute drive through the forest to your accommodation – you may spot your first game on route! You can then check in your room/banda while registration and confirming your activity plan is done by the park administration. In the afternoon after lunch, you will go on a 3 hour walking safari (guided) in the natural forest/along the beach. While hiking, you can enjoy viewing animals like sitatunga, bushbucks, suni, mongoose, bush pigs, genet cats and monkeys. There are many forest birds and butterflies on the lake and its shores. In the evening after dinner you can enjoy the quiet of the island around a campfire – a good time for a local beer or wine and reflect on an amazing day!

DAY 2: Rubondo Island Lake Safari

After an early coffee, you will go on a game drive to try and spot big game like elephant, giraffe and other small animals, reptiles and birds. You will come back to base for a hearty brunch. In the afternoon you will then take an exciting Lake Safari to enjoy the spectacular beauty of the Island. You will head to bird Island to enjoy more of the lakes birds life, the secretive sitatunga's and the breath taking hippo and crocodiles in the water. (We can also arrange for you to fish on the lake (Sport fishing- for an additional charge)

DAY 3: Island discovery & Transfer

Today you will have a free morning on Rubondo Island to feel its tranquility and to relax. You will leave the Island after an early Brunch. We will take you back to the mainland and on to the town of Bukoba, or else arrange a flight direct from the island to Mwanza, the Serengeti or back home!