



**BASECAMP  
EXPLORER™**

# RECOMMENDED PACKING LIST

— *The top must-have items*

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## **PACK IN A SOLID, SOFT BAG**

*Easier to stack in safari jeeps and small airplanes. Remember max. 15kg limit for domestic flights including hand luggage.*

## **SUN HAT & SUNGLASSES**

*Protection from the strong African sun.*

## **SUN SCREEN**

*To avoid being burned by the sun.*

## **BINOCULARS**

*Make sure to not miss a thing!*

## **COMFORTABLE SAFARI CLOTHES**

*Avoid white because of the dust from the savannah.*

## **SWEATER/FLEECE JACKET**

*For chilly nights around the campfire.*

## **WIND JACKET/RAIN COAT**

*For the cold mornings.*

## **CAMERA**

*To capture the memories.*

## **FOOTWEAR**

*Comfortable footwear for walking safaris (gym shoes/hiking boots) and sandals for in the camp.*

## **SMALL BACKPACK**

*For your water bottle, binoculars and camera while on safari*

## **A GOOD BOOK**

*For relaxation between the adventures*

## **HEAD LIGHT**

*It's always great to have – African nights are dark!*

## **MOSQUITO REPELLANT**

*Protection for in the evenings/mornings*



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# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

## – *Things to know before departure*

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### **BASECAMP MASAI MARA**

Basecamp Masai Mara – fittingly referred to as the ‘mother of all camps’ by our staff – is where our story started. Lovingly run by our Maasai staff – Basecamp Masai Mara is as much a home as it is a tourism destination. Masai Mara, home to the greatest gathering of wild animals on the planet is only a short walk away across our private suspension bridge.

### **EAGLE VIEW**

Perched atop a natural hilltop, Eagle View is an eco-camp located within Naboisho Conservancy – a highly acclaimed model for nature conservation management. At Eagle View we invite you to gaze towards the future of Sustainable Tourism.

### **LEOPARD HILL**

Leopard Hill is located in the heart of Mara Naboisho Conservancy. The camp is situated next to a series of watering holes where the wildlife of the savannah would flock to drink, and thus an unhindered view to the activities of the local wildlife, while enjoying the modern luxury of the camp.

### **WILDERNESS CAMP**

Wilderness is our nostalgic tribute to the safari of the early explorers and safari pioneers. Free from artificial luxury and modern disturbances – Wilderness is Safari as it was meant to be. Tucked away deep inside the incomparable Saddle Valley, it is you, the Maasai, the wildlife, and the stars – absolutely no unnecessary distractions. With only five tents, each fitted with a private bathroom and ‘safari-shower’, we offer the privilege of ultimate seclusion, perfectly enjoyed alongside a selection of first-class food and drinks.

### **DOROBO MOBILE CAMP**

Inspired by the wanderings of the Dorobo people, Basecamp is delighted to offer the unique opportunity to partake in several days of walking and mobile camping in the heart of Mara Naboisho Conservancy.

### **BASECAMP ADVENTURE**

Basecamp Adventure is our newest camp located on a beautiful, forested bend of the Talek River, right next to the world-famous Masai Mara Game Reserve. The camp embodies the essence of simplicity under canvas with an abundance of private open space for the intrepid explorer yearning for an atmosphere of adventure

**ENJOOLATA AWARENESS CENTRE** Located next to Basecamp Masai Mara, the Enjoolata Awareness Centre is open to all who seek knowledge and a deeper understanding about the Maasai people and their culture and their coexistence with the wildlife in Masai Mara.

### **GAME DRIVE**

Our game drive safaris are conducted in open 4x4 Land Rovers, sure to give you that classical safari feeling. During the game drive our knowledgeable Maasai guides will introduce you to the life on the savannah and share their infinite knowledge about the African wildlife. The Masai Mara Eco-system is renowned for its abundance of wildlife!

## **WALKING SAFARIS**

Basecamp walking safaris are led by experienced Maasai guides through a rich wildlife area. By walking with the Maasai, you will experience first-hand how the Maasai possess a complete understanding of the savannah. Walking Safaris have an age restriction of 12 years.

## **BUSH DINING**

Upon request, we organize bush dinners that are set up in scenic locations within the Mara plains. Enjoy fresh food made by the executive chef with an accompaniment of assorted drinks. Local Maasais will provide background entertainment with their songs and dances that blends with the sounds of the unfenced bush.

## **VACCINATION**

We advise anyone planning a trip to Kenya to contact their general practitioner or travel doctor. There are no compulsory vaccinations required for entry to Kenya unless you come from an area with yellow fever, in which case a Certificate of Inoculation is needed for travellers older than one year. Other recommended vaccinations are Typhoid, Hepatitis and Polio, and anti-malarial medication. Make sure to bring mosquito repellent and wear long sleeves and pants in the evening/morning as prevention against being bitten.

## **COVID-19 SAFETY AWARENESS**

All travelers arriving into the country through any point of entry shall no longer be required to show proof of either COVID-19 vaccination or a pre-departure COVID-19 test. [Read more](#)

## **PASSPORT**

Note that your passport must have at least 6 months left before the expiry date and 2 blank pages left for visa.

## **VISA**

As of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021, you will be required to obtain a Kenyan visa online by registering on the e-Visa [webpage](#) and pay using Visa Card or Master Card. The visa must be obtained earlier in advance before leaving your country or boarding an aircraft. No visas shall be issued on arrival in Kenya.

## **PACKING**

Soft bags are easier to stall than solid suitcases in safari vehicles and small airplanes. If you are flying to the Mara, be aware that the weight limit is 15 kg per person including hand luggage. For other packing tips, see the packing list.

## **SAFETY**

Upon arrival at our camps you will be briefed about dos and don'ts by our experienced safari guides. Kenya is generally safe for tourists; however, you should use the same travel precautions as you would in other parts of the world. It is advisable to not carry large sums of cash or wear expensive-looking jewellery or watches on the streets.

## **PAYMENTS**

Usually, when booking a trip with Basecamp Explorer most activities are included in the price. Tips, shopping, and additional activities are extras. At the camps you can make payment using Visa and MasterCard. It is however good to have some cash in Kenyan Shillings for tipping and shopping (approx. USD 20) per day is enough.

## TIPPING

Tipping is normal in Kenya. The amount to tip staff is entirely at your discretion. A general guideline is between US\$ 5-15 per guest per day, which is shared among all members of staff in the lodge, excluding driver guides. Your personal guide may be tipped directly at the end of your stay, and the guideline is around US\$ 5-10 per guest per day, or around US\$ 30 per group per day in an exclusive vehicle.

## SPECIAL DIETS

Basecamp prides itself on its personalized services. Please let us know if you have any special requests, dietary requirements, allergies or medical conditions we should be aware of.

## HOW TO GET THERE

All our camps are accessible by air via the Olkiombo Airstrip or via the Naboisho Olseki Airstrip, which is approximately 20 - 30 minutes' drive from the camp. The domestic flight from Nairobi Wilson Airport to our airstrip takes about 45 minutes. By road it is about 5 hours' drive from Nairobi to our camps in Masai Mara.

