



My Life as a Maasai Elder

Highlights

This experience is part of the My Maasai Life Series. An amazing experience of insight and education into the life of everyday Maasai people. For those wanting to enrich themselves about this noble culture, it's an interactive, personal, and intimate insight into what it's like living in a traditional society.

To maximise the time in the community you will be transported there by helicopter. The journey there will give you an incredible view of the landscapes that are part of Kenya and you will land adjacent to the village.

What's Included

- Full board (including alcoholic beverages)
- All game drives with guide
- All park and other entry fees
- 3 x additional excursions
- Return transfers from JKIA

What's Excluded

- Gratuities (Optional)

Blackout Days

- Easter Friday
(2 Apr 2022 to 5 Apr 2022)
- Xmas Day
(25 Dec 2022 to 31 Dec 2022)

2 Days
Tour

N/A
Passengers

Pick Up
@ 9:00 am
from the hotel

Drop Off
@ 4:30pm
to the hotel

Today you will meet the head of the clan, Daniel. The life of a village elder has the perspective of past generations and the challenges of the present and future. And with the humour and grace of your Maasai host, you will come to understand how they feel about the impact of modern society on their way of life.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1

A Spectacular Helicopter Flight

You will begin the day with a spectacular helicopter journey. The flight will take you towards Ngong before flying down to where you host, and her family live. This short flight of 20 – 30 minutes will give you an outstanding view not only of Nairobi but of the amazing landscapes along the way. This flight is exclusively for you and/or your party and will be something you will talk about for years to come.

You Are Met by Your Hosts

The day's events and discussions with the village elder will be conducted in his village and in his traditional home (called a manyatta).

A Short Eco Tour

Enroute to the village you will stop beside some of the distinctive acacia trees that are typical of the African landscape to learn about how they support the medicinal needs of the tribe.

A Song and Dance Welcome

Upon entering the village, you will receive a traditional song and dance welcome from your hosts. It's a great introduction to Maasai life which is told in song and the rhythm and beat of their music is infectious.

Being Dressed as a Maasai

Being dressed as a Maasai for your day is also part of the experience and you will also be adorned with the gender specific adornments that the Maasai are well known for. And with a traditional Shuka (blanket) around your shoulders it will complete your transformation for this amazing day.

You will then be invited into the manyatta of the village elder for a discussion about various topics. The discussion will cover:

- A brief overview of their life – where they grew up, their family structure and their own rites of passage
- The challenges of their youth, their marriages and transition to life as an elder of the tribe
- The responsibilities of being an elder carry and the expectations of the community regarding their role
- And how do Maasai community members view them and how does it dictate how members interact with them
- How does an elder impact on the Maasai rites of passage and the annual events celebrated by the elder's tribe and clan?
- How disputes are managed within a tribe and clan and the role of the elder in this process
- What changes have occurred in Maasai culture and how have these impacted on life as a Maasai





A Short Eco Tour Completes The Day

To complete this part of the day, your host will take you on a pleasant stroll to impart further knowledge and wisdom about the local ecosystems and how they provide for the Maasai.

An Amazing Homestead and Your Own Chef

Your overnight accommodation is 10 minutes from the Maasai village where you have spent the day. This amazing 4 bedroom, all on-suite property has spectacular views over the nearby mountains. It's the perfect place to relax for the evening and to enjoy the views and where you will have dinner. And to make it a memorable day, you have the services of your own chef who will prepare your dinner as you relax. You have the entire property for you exclusive use.

A Twilight Visit

And before you sit down for dinner you have one last treat for the day. You will be visited at twilight by a group of Maasai singers from the local tribe who will give you a 20-minute rendition of melodious songs. These songs capture the essence of the Maasai. The songs tell the story of key aspects of Maasai life and are woven with infectious rhythmic beats. And the group always enjoys it when their guests join in the dancing because it's always great fun.

Dine, Wine and Relax Some More

And when all the singing is done, your dinner awaits. Time to kick back and relax with a glass of wine and your time is your own.



Day 2

A Leisurely Breakfast Begins the Day

Your chef is on hand to prepare breakfast to kick off the day to a great start and it's a leisurely and relaxed start to the day.

Breakfast is mostly taken on the outside terrace which has magnificent views of the nearby mountains. It's a great panoramic vista that really captures the essence of the life and environment of the local Maasai tribes.

A Chance to Buy Some Arts and Crafts

As a memento of your visit, you will receive a handmade Maasai wristband that will hold fond memories for you of your time with your Maasai host. And in addition to this, your Maasai host will display a selection of Maasai jewellery and curios which have been made by the villagers.

Leaving the Village enroute to Nairobi

You will depart the village mid morning with your personal guide Nairobi enroute to you next experience.

Day 2 (afternoon) A Community Visit to Entrepreneurial Grandmas

On your way back to your hotel (The Western Hotel) you will visit a project that is turning around the lives of grandmas in a local community. You meet some engaging and entrepreneurial grandmothers who are beating their generational cycle of poverty. Many Kenyan grandmothers play a vital role in raising their grandchildren and extended families, and you'll visit a pig farm, which is a project supported by One Horizon and travellers like yourself to improve the livelihoods of grandmothers by empowering them through small-scale farming. They invite you to assist with farming activities, join in some joyful singing and dancing over a cup of local tea or chai, and by sharing lots of laughter and listening to their inspirational stories, you'll get a real insight into the strength and resilience of these remarkable Kenyan women.

