

Photography Workshop

Ewen Bell & Fredrik Broman

PHOTOGRAPHY
by Ewen Bell

Ultimate Kenya Safari

15 day adventure into the wild. Join two professional photographers in private land cruisers to explore the wilderness and culture of Kenya. Incredible value and a once in a lifetime journey.

Oct 11-25 2017
Maximum group size of 8
USD \$10,280pp



The Itinerary

Oct 11 - Nairobi

We begin our journey by meeting up at the Panafric, just outside the centre of Nairobi. It has an atmosphere that mixes the feeling of deep Africa with the colonial era of British East Africa. It's not the newest hotel in Nairobi but has a great restaurant and grill. It's nice to sit on the veranda and hear the sounds of the city. The next morning we start our drive into the wilderness.

Oct 12/13/14/15 - Laikipia

We drive north with views of Mt Kenya to the right hand side of the road. The Laikipia Plateau is very dense bush with open savannah and fantastic landscapes with the Ewaso Nyiro river running through it. We get views of Mt Kenya with the sunset behind it. We start to see a lot of game here, with many kinds of antelopes and a healthy population of elephants. Our home for these four days will be the El Karama Lodge, where Fredrik got married ten years ago.

Oct 16/17 - Maili Saba

The drive out of Laikipia takes us through the fascinating eastern slopes of the Rift Valley. We travel to the northern side of Lake Nakuru and spend two nights literally perched on the edge of a magnificent crater. The crater walk at Maili Saba takes us through fertile volcanic soils, and along the way we will meet Maasai farmers with their herds. The hospitality of the ladies who run Maili Saba Camp is amazing, you will be very happy for this stay.

Oct 18/19 - Sleeping Warrior

As we drive south we will explore the salt lakes of Nakuru and Elmenteita, and if the conditions are favourable we hope to see huge flocks of pink Flamingos feeding in the shallows. Sleeping Warrior is a remarkable lodge with great views of the Rift Valley and Soysambu Conservancy. The location offers some beautiful mountain scenery and a chance to see the endangered Rothschild's Giraffe.





Oct 20/21 - Maasai Mara

Now we head for the wide open savannah of the Maasai Mara. We stay at the JK Mara Camp, run entirely by the local Maasai Mara community. We get to see a lot of the local community here and learn about Maasai life. In the early hours of the morning and late afternoon we will be making game drives and chasing wildlife out on the plains. Our drivers have immense experience in these areas and their ability to locate wildlife is amazing.

The Maasai Mara is often referred to as the northern edge of the Serengeti. It has the highest mammal density on the earth. We will be there at the end of the great wildebeest migration. This event draws incredible numbers of big cats, but also a few of the smaller ones too.

Oct 22/23 - Entim

We stay in the Maasai Mara but move deeper into the game reserve to stay at the Entim for two nights. It is a very small camp but one of the most beautiful in all of Kenya. A change of location gives us opportunity to explore more sites inside the Maasai Mara and look for species that we may have missed out on until now. Entim offers an amazing river view from the camp, and all within short distance of lion prides, cheetahs and even leopards. It will be the ultimate way to farewell the wilderness and the Maasai Mara before we head back to the city.

Oct 24 - Nairobi

We catch a private plane out of the Maasai Mara to make the journey to Nairobi a little quicker and more comfortable. The evening at Panafric Nairobi will be our last night together and a chance to repack before heading onwards to Rwanda for the tour extension, or heading home.

Oct 25 - Departure

Checkout from hotel in the morning for your flights out of Kenya, or to continue on to Rwanda to join Fredrik and the gorillas.

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Inclusions

Everything is covered including meals and park fees.

2

Luxury

Tented camps and lodges plus private land cruisers.

3

Wild Life

Magnificent locations for a classic Kenyan safari.

4

Education

Two weeks of dedicated help from two professionals.

5

Culture

Meet the tribes folk who call Kenya home.

6

Personal

Very intimate package with just 8 people







Dik Dik



Waterbuck



Grevy's zebra



White Rhino

Invitation to Beginners

Everybody is on their own journey and we love helping people explore new horizons in photography. We take time to assist everyone on a tour with their specific needs, to talk about what they want to learn. Sometimes that means how to take advantage of different modes on the camera, sometimes it's a discussion about how to advance your career in photography.

No two people are the same. That's why we keep these trips limited to just 8 people, so we can enjoy their company and spend time helping everybody along with their particular journey.

You don't need to be an expert to come on this tour. We will help you with suggestions on what to bring to make the most of the opportunities. We're here to help.



Getting Closer

It's a mantra of Ewen's that if you want a better photo then you need to get closer to your subject.

This is not always easy when shooting wildlife, but we're going to do our best to make it happen. All the wildlife and cultural photos you see in this brochure were taken by Ewen on lenses no longer than 400mm. There comes a point where a longer lens doesn't really give you a better photo, and for this safari experience we want to help you take your best possible photos.

Private land cruisers are a key part of how we achieve that, complete with roof hatches so you can stand up with telephoto lenses and have a clear line of sight on wildlife action as it unfolds.

We have two Land Cruisers (Troop Carrier style) for 8 passengers. On safari drives Fredrik and Ewen will ride up front to aid with spotting, and in the back there will be four of our travellers per vehicle. They are designed to carry eight people or more in the rear, so there will be lots of room for everyone and minimal "elbow issues" when the action breaks out.

Most importantly, our drivers are extremely skilled in getting the small but agile vehicles into excellent positions for us to photograph. We call them drivers, but we understate their abilities as such. They are wilderness guides of the first order. On Ewen's previous trip to Kenya to shoot a magazine story he concluded, "A good driver is more important than a good photographer."



Lovely Lenses

Yes a good quality telephoto lens will be essential on this trip, but please make sure you have a good wide angle for scenery and a portrait lens for meeting tribes people. A 24-70mm f/2,8 will cover most of the non-wildlife photography.

For shooting wildlife the 100-400mm range is very handy. Longer telephoto lengths may not be as useful as a faster autofocus performance. **Nothing in this brochure was shot with anything longer than a 70-200mm lens.**

Here are some of our favourite telephoto lenses if you're planning to shop before the tour:

Canon 100-400 f/4.5-5.6 L IS II

- the best autofocus we've seen in a telephoto zoom lens

Nikon 70-200mm f/2.8 VR II

- We will often be close enough to shoot at 200mm, or add a 2x converter for more reach

Sigma 150-600mm f/5-6.3 DG OS HSM Sports

- sports model is quite heavy but has a good autofocus and sturdy construction

Sigma 150-500mm f/5-6.3 DG OS HSM

- very light lens for budget wildlife photography and reasonably sharp







Elephants



Vervet Monkey





Grant's Gazelle



What You See

What you see in this brochure is exactly what you get on the tour. No surprises.

All images here were taken by Ewen Bell during recent visits to the exact same locations that are included in the itinerary. Images were shot on his Canon 5D and mostly with a 70-200mm f/2.8 lens.

Every photo in this brochure is a photo that you can achieve, and we will do our best to help you experience the same photographic joy.



Where We Stay

This is not a backpacking bus rambling across Africa with pasta and tomato sauce for dinner every night. It's a little bit of luxury, a lot of wilderness and the occasional tented camp to give us the best access to wildlife along the way.

We have thrown in a few really luxurious stops along the way, but mostly we use well established lodges and tented camps to ensure that you are comfortable and well rested in between safaris.

The itinerary is designed for wonderful wild life opportunities, and coupled with superb accommodation hand picked by Fredrik.



Image Processing

Ewen likes to emphasize how much of the art of photography takes place in the digital darkroom.

Every day of this adventure will allow for opportunities to discuss, refine and learn about post-capture processing techniques.

Do bring your laptop and your preferred processing software. A photo is never finished at the moment of the shutter, and as you learn different ways to process your images you can also adjust your technical approach to the camera accordingly.





Maasai Tribes



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Maasai Tribes

Local Guide Fredrik Broman

Fredrik Broman has cultivated his local knowledge of Kenya since 1998 when he worked on the photography and writing for an educational book about the Savannah and the Maasai Culture. Fredrik lived in Kenya full time for 3 years and, after moving his base camp back to the Arctic Circle, has continued to return to Africa every year.

Fredrik has been increasingly involved in tourism development with the Maasai people, and local entrepreneurs. Fredrik started to run safaris with other international photographers, commissioned shoots for tourism developers and also of course his annual private trip to explore new safari experiences with his family.

Aside from his experience in Africa, Fredrik is internationally recognised for his work in the Arctic as an editorial photographer as well as innovating new Arctic safari experiences. He once brought guests from the Maasai tribes to experience the Arctic winter as a unique cultural exchange.

aurorasafaricamp.com



Photographic Guide Ewen Bell

As you can see Ewen is a fan of the big cats, and the little ones too. Travel photographer and journalist, Ewen's work appears in photographic magazines, National Geographic Traveller, Lonely Planet Traveller, Food & Travel UK, Vacation & Travel, and many other outlets.

Ewen describes photography as a lifestyle, and enjoys sharing his love of the art with a select few travellers every year. Ewen is always happy to share his knowledge on photographic matters of technical, creative and career inspiration. His website "Photography for Travellers" is dedicated to offering advice on practical approaches to changing your creative perspective.

"It's been ten years since I photographed in Africa and I'm excited to be going back. I wanted to make this journey with someone special, someone I trust. Fredrik is amazing and his experience in Kenya is unparalleled. It'll be nice to be chasing leopards and lions instead of penguins or polar bears."

www.ewenbell.com

www.photographyfortravellers.com



Cultural Connections

Most people will travel to Kenya only once in a lifetime, so we want them to go home having had the most significant and rewarding experiences possible.

There's more to Kenya than the Big Five. We love the wildlife but on this tour we also want to devote a little time to meet the people who enrich the culture of Kenya so deeply. To begin with we have our safari drivers. Schooled hard and long by the Kenya Wildlife Authorities they are incredibly knowledgeable on the natural reserves, national parks, animals, flora and more. They are our heroes.

Their wisdom extends beyond the wildlife and into logistics. These are the guys you want to have on hand to navigate around impassable dirt roads, hack through fallen trees on the track or simply avoid the worst of Nairobi traffic in the downtown. You will love our guys for their generous spirit and capable leadership.

Next we meet the Samburu people, relatives with the Maasai, that we will have intense meetings with in the Mara. Deeply proud tribesmen and women of Nilotic origins, they possess a very close connection with nature and all the small, but important, things that allow their people to survive and develop in what are often harsh conditions.

From the very beginning when Fredrik and Ewen began designing this experience for photographers, they decided it was critical that travellers have a meaningful opportunity to engage and understand the people of the landscape, not just the wildlife. The itinerary you see here is the result of that plan.





Flamingos



The Migration



Elephants





Samburu People

The Fine Print

Dates

Oct 11-25, 2017

Price

USD \$10,280

Group Size

This tour is limited to 8 participants

Inclusions

- All meals are included and will be delicious
- All ground transportation
- Park permits and guide fees
- Expert tuition from Ewen & Fredrik
- Private plane out of Maasai Mara to Nairobi

Exclusions

- Your camera gear
- Drinks and alcohol
- Flights into and out of Kenya
- Items of a personal nature
- Airport transfers for International Flights

Accommodation Standard

The price is based on twin share accommodation in lodges and tented camps. Campsites on this tour are extremely comfortable and have private bathrooms for each tent.

Twin Share

The default rooming for this tour will be twin share, but you can pay a supplement of \$1090 to upgrade to a single room or private tent.

The itinerary information may vary slightly for your specific departure, as we continuously research and develop each trip. Inclement weather or other factors outside our control may also necessitate minor alterations.



Make Your Booking

Maximum of 8 places

How to Book

All bookings for this tour will be handled by your photographic leader Ewen Bell. Visit his website here to register for the trip and arrange your non-refundable deposit of US\$1500.

Once your deposit has been received your place is confirmed.

ewenbell.com/kenya