



Spectacular Tanzania Birding & Wildlife

April 19 - May 5 2027

Join Bellbird's spectacular Tanzania tour in 2027! The Serengeti, a vast unspoiled savannah, hosts the most spectacular concentration of animals on our planet: herds of wildebeest, gazelles and zebras; lions, leopards, cheetahs and smaller predators; and scavengers such as jackals and vultures are ever present. This tour allows plenty of opportunity to savor the big game and find many classic East African birds.

Equally world-renowned is the Ngorongoro Crater with lush forests at the rim overlooking the grasslands and lakes of the Crater below. This is Africa in a microcosm. Breathtaking scenery, superb birding and great wildlife, including the endangered Black Rhinoceros, it offers excellent photographic opportunities. We also visit three other fine National Parks, all of which offer addi-

tional birding and wildlife opportunities. Arusha National Park is a highland area of extinct volcanoes covered in thick forest, holding localized birds and mammals; Tarangire National Park is famous for its bizarre Baobab trees and offers the best elephant-watching opportunities of the tour as well as excellent birding; Lake Manyara National Park is a compact area nestled beneath the towering Rift Valley cliffs. It encompasses a soda lake, with a large variety of waterbirds. We stay in comfortable lodges with beautiful, bird-rich gardens and we also include "off the beaten track" areas that give us the best chance for more birds.

We'll also visit the huge expanse of Lake Victoria adding many new bird species. Expect a bird list exceeding 400 species and 40-50 species of mammals!

Detailed Itinerary

Day 0: 19 April 2027

Arrival in Arusha

Arrive at Kilimanjaro International Airport and transfer to nearby hotel for introductions and dinner. NOTE: Any reduction in the amount of luggage we pack into the safari vehicles is a bonus, so if you have anything in your luggage that you don't wish to carry with you on safari, you can leave it behind and it will be safely stored until the end of the tour as we return to Arusha.

Overnight: Hotel in Arusha

Meals included: Dinner

Day 1: 20 April 2027

To Lake Victoria

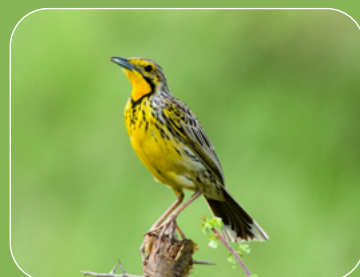
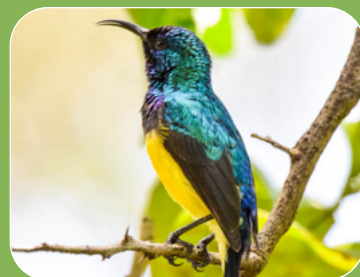
After breakfast we make the short transfer back to Kilimanjaro Airport to fly to the far west: the shores of Lake Victoria at Mwanza. The flight (included) takes about 30 minutes. On arrival at Mwanza we will be met by our safari driver/guides who will take us directly to our lodge, situated right on the shores of the lake.

We will arrive in time to do a full afternoon of birding in the extensive grounds on the edge of the immense Lake Victoria where a good number of special birds not found elsewhere on our tour await us. Over 200 species of birds have been recorded on the Lodge's 250 acres of grounds. Birds of freshwater habitats — herons, egrets, ducks, and pelicans will be prominent.

Shorebirds could also be numerous and include local residents such as Long-toed and African Wattled Plovers. The water margins and emergent vegetation of papyrus, reed and sedge will be of interest for the chance of finding birds less likely or impossible elsewhere: African Open-billed Stork, Heuglin's Courser, Slender-tailed and Square-tailed Nightjars, Black and Blue-headed Coucals, Broad-billed Roller, Rufous Chatterer, Swamp Flycatcher, Great, African and Eurasian Reed-Warblers, Lesser Swamp and Sedge Warblers, Angola Swallow, Red-chested Sunbird, Black-headed Gonolek, Pied Kingfisher, Black Cuckoo-Shrike, Black-winged Bishop, Northern Brown-throated, Slender-billed, Golden-backed and Black-headed Weavers.

Overnight: Speke's Bay Lodge

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



African Fish-eagle, Fisher's Lovebird, Variable Sunbird, Eastern Paradise Whydah, and Pangani Longclaw.
Photos by Stewart Bentley.

Day 2: 21 April 2027

To the central Serengeti

This morning we'll have plenty of time to make further forays through the grounds at Speke's Bay, catching up with anything missed yesterday. Everything we need to find occurs within the grounds of Speke's Bay lodge along the nearby shores of the largest expanse of water in Africa – Lake Victoria.

After an early lunch we will set off the short distance to the entrance gate of the Serengeti National Park. We'll spend the afternoon heading eastwards through the Western Corridor on a game drive of about 50 miles or so to our lodge for the next two nights. We'll check out the riverine forest fringe of the Grumeti River (complete with huge Nile Crocodiles) to look for further special birds such as Grey-headed Bushshrike, Eastern Plantain-eater, White-headed Sawwing and the localised Karamoja Apalis. There will no doubt be sightings of the first game animals such as Wildebeest, Common Zebra and Impala on the tall grass plains where birds such as Secretarybird, bustards and ostrich are common. We may find our first Lions or other predators before reaching our Lodge early evening.

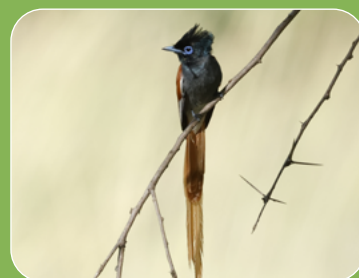
Overnight: Serengeti Kati-Kati Tented Camp or Seronera Lodge
 Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: 22 April 2027

The central Serengeti

The Serengeti is a vast reserve at 5,675 sq. miles and a further 3200 sq. miles protected in the surrounding Ngorongoro Conservation Area, the total is almost as large as Belgium! There are many habitats with different and special birds and wildlife to be found. Most importantly, this is the best area for finding Leopards! Having traveled through the "western corridor" and Grumeti River yesterday, we'll explore more of this vast National Park and will concentrate the next two days on areas in the centre of the Serengeti. Here we'll be able to head off in any promising direction based on local conditions.

The first difference we'll notice in this area is the clusters of "kopjes": large isolated, weather-smoothed lumps of granite, some the size of large houses. These interrupt the vast flat plains and provide shelter and shade for all sorts of wildlife: idle lions; Klipspringer; hyraxes; nesting vultures; and gaudy pink, purple and copper-blue agamid lizards. The Seronera River area with its braided meandering streams has riverine gallery forest of Yellowbark Acacia trees. Here we'll find wallowing hippopotami, secretive Bohor Reedbuck, a Water Monitor and many more bird species. It is also prime leopard country, we'll be doing all we



Grey-headed Kingfisher, Paradise Flycatcher, Rueppel's Robin-chat, Cape Teal, and Northern Brown-throated Weaver.
 Photos by Helga Kieskamp.

can to ensure finding this mythical animal. Large herds of Cape Buffalo and smaller numbers of Topi and Coke's Hartebeest are also found here. Birds in this area and around our lodge should be overwhelmingly plentiful. Bright little Purple Grenadiers and Cordon-bleus peck seeds on the lawns, while Scarlet-chested Sunbirds, Red and Yellow Barbets, and Red-fronted Tinkerbirds feed in flowering shrubs. Shrikes abound — Magpie Shrikes, various fiscal shrikes, bush-shrikes, Brown-crowned Tchagras, and migrant Red-backed and Brown shrikes. Brightly colored Superb Starlings are commonplace, as are Wattled Starlings, Red-billed and Yellow-billed Oxpeckers, Red-billed Buffalo-Weavers, and dull little Swaheli Sparrows, Gray, Ashy and Dusky Flycatchers. Raptors are a constant sight in the skies and this area is particularly fine, with excellent chances of encountering the huge Martial Eagle and wintering groups of Montagu's and Pallid Harriers, Lesser Kestrels and resident Greater Kestrels.

Overnight: Serengeti Kati-Kati Tented Camp or Seronera Lodge
 Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4: 23 April 2027

To the north-eastern Serengeti

We'll head off south this morning, approximately 50 miles out across the Serengeti Plains to the Ndutu region. We'll allow most of the day for our journey, to have time to observe any wildlife spectacles on the way or special birds we come across, so we'll be as flexible as possible to cater for the unexpected. This is an excellent day for finding Lions, Cheetahs and Leopard. There is a great feeling of remoteness here and should be a true highlight of the tour. Near the Ndutu Lodge the majority of the Serengeti's wildebeest may be gathered out on the short grass plains during calving.

Overnight: Ndutu Lodge
 Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: 24 April 2027

Ndutu Area

A full day in the Ndutu area of the southern Serengeti, which is where the wildebeest may be gathered out on the short grass plains during calving. We may see the spectacle of five species of vultures scavenging and cleaning up the leftovers of kills; the incredible abundance, variety, and action of the mammals alone will give us plenty to occupy our time here.

The open thorn-scrub savanna here offers prime game viewing for all the predators will be out in force. The subtly different vegetation and



Beautiful Sunbird, Lion, Secretarybird, Serengeti National Park, and Spotted Hyena and Zebra. Photos by Stewart Bentley.

mix of large kopjes - granite rock formations - offers great birding opportunities and is the only accessible area locally for species such as Verreaux's Eagle and Tabora Cisticola.

Overnight: Ndotu Lodge

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6: 25 April 2027

Ndotu Area

Another full day to explore the short-grass plains of Ndotu, a great area for Lions, Cheetahs, Leopards, Jackals, Bat-eared Foxes, Hyenas and the smaller cats. Birding opportunities are legion in this different suite of habitats. The open grassland and acacia scrub hold obvious species such as Ostriches, Secretarybirds, Lilac-breasted and European Rollers, and Little Bee-eaters, along with raptors such as Long-crested Eagle, Dark and Pale Chanting Goshawks, and noisy Crowned and Blacksmith Plovers. Often, groups of Fischer's Sparrow-Larks, Rufous-naped and Red-capped Larks, Red-billed Queleas, Black-faced, Chestnut-bellied and Yellow-throated Sandgrouse, and various cisticolas flush from the grass as we move along. The endemic Gray-breasted Spurfowl, Fischer's Lovebird, and Rufous-tailed Weaver are common here, along with D'Arnaud's Barbet, Green Wood Hoopoe, Cardinal & Nubian Woodpeckers, Black-lored Babbler, Beautiful and Mariqua Sunbirds, and Wire-tailed Swallow.

Overnight: Ndotu Lodge

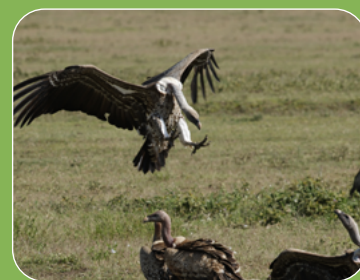
Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7: 26 April 2027

To the Ngorongoro Crater

We'll leave the Ndotu area on our journey east to arrive at the famous Ngorongoro Crater by early evening. There is much to see and do on the way. We'll be out of the National Park, but still in the Conservation area and driving for miles across open short grassy plains still potentially full of herds of Wildebeest, Thomson's and Grant's Gazelles, Zebra, and all their predators. As we drive, we will be able to appreciate the huge scale of this ecosystem that we've been travelling through west to east for several days by now — remarkable for being preserved almost fully intact.

After a short and exciting morning safari we should arrive at the archaeological site of Olduvai Gorge by lunchtime. Here we can visit our ancestors, with a brief orientation talk and visit to the museum overlooking the layered rocks of the gorge where we can learn about these early hominids. The birding at Olduvai can be productive: a short



Verreaux's Eagle-owl, Giraffe, Crowned Hornbill, Vultures, and Nubian Woodpecker. Photos by Helga Kieskamp.

stroll can produce Short-tailed Lark, Yellow-throated Petronia, Kenya Violet-backed Sunbird, Irania, Black Bishop and more. There is also the option to visit a Maasai village en route, to learn first-hand of their unchanged way of life as plain pastoralists.

By late afternoon we'll be on the rim of the immense caldera of Ngorongoro where our home for the next two nights is situated. A special bonus will be to reach our lodge by driving down into the Crater and crossing the floor on our first game-drive here before ascending on the other side. As we descend we'll hopefully see the extremely localised Wailing Cisticola, Yellow Bishop, Mourning Wheatear and Northern Antear-Chat.

Overnight: Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge
 Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

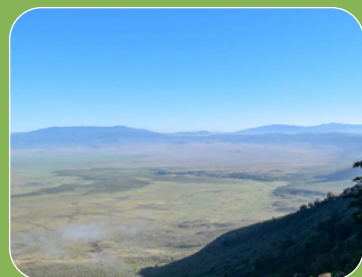
Day 8: 27 April 2027

Ngorongoro Crater

We will spend the whole day in the Crater, sometimes called "the 8th wonder of the world." A resident population of Wildebeest, chunky Cape Buffalo, Thomson's and Grant's Gazelles, Common Zebra, and Eland are on the menu for a high concentration of predators, especially Lions and Hyenas. Our main goal will be close views of some of the few Black Rhinoceros that survive here.

Birding in the Crater is rewarding, with lakes, swamps and Yellow-bark Acacia forest. We may see African Darter, African Fish-Eagle, Kori and Black-bellied Bustards, White and Abdim's Storks, Gray Crowned-Cranes, Black Crakes, African Rail, White-headed Barbets, Red Bishops, Plain-backed Pipits, Pectoral-patch and Red-faced Cisticolas, Rosy-throated Longclaws and Capped Wheatears.

The grounds of the Lodge are 600m above the crater floor amidst a moss-draped acacia forest. Here we'll spend further time birding for special birds of the highlands. White-necked Ravens, White-eyed Slaty and African Dusky Fly-catchers, African Hill Babbler, White-starred Robin, Cinnamon Bracken-Warbler, Streaky and Thick-billed Seed eaters, Eastern Double-collared and the flashy Golden-winged Sunbirds are all present and likely. If fig trees are fruiting we may find concentrations of feeding birds — Black-backed Puffback, Northern Olive Thrush, Red-collared Widowbird, Mountain Greenbul, Montane White-eye, Mountain Yellow Flycatcher, Schalow's Turaco, glossy starlings, woodpeckers, and hornbills. There are also reliable sites up here for Jackson's Widowbird and Moorland Chat that we'll find nowhere else on the tour.



African Elephant, Bronze Sunbird, Ngorongoro Crater, Northern Red Hornbill, and Racquet-tailed Roller. Photos by Stewart Bentley.

Overnight: Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge
 Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9: 28 April 2027

To Tloma Lodge

It is a short drive around the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater to Gibb's Farm for lunch. We'll go birding along the way and arrive by mid-morning to wander the flower gardens full of sunbirds and more. After one of the best lunches in Tanzania there are two options for the afternoon. Here in the cool Ngorongoro highlands, amidst idyllic and beautifully laid out gardens and coffee plantations is the opportunity to take a well-earned break.

For the keener birders the fringing forest beckons! We can take an easy afternoon hike of about 4 hours covering about 3-4 km to seek out more of the excellent birds here: from Crowned Eagles and Upland Buzzards to Arrow-marked Babblers, Yellow-bellied Waxbills, Stripe-cheeked Greenbuls, Black-throated Wattle-eye, Brown and Gray-capped Woodland Warblers, Yellow-breasted & Brown-headed Apalis, Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove; Klaas, Dideric, and African Emerald Cuckoos, Crested Guineafowl, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher and more. After our walk we transfer a short distance to Tloma Lodge, a lovely site full of flower gardens. We'll try for Montane Nightjar at dusk.

Overnight: Tloma Lodge
 Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 10: 29 April 2027

Lake Manyara National Park

The loud duetting of Tropical Boubous and the frenzied, fluty songs of White-browed Robin-Chats will start the dawn chorus at our lodge. Wander through the gardens to see African Paradise Flycatcher, Red-billed Firefinch, Bronze and Tacazze Sunbirds on the gorgeous flowering shrubs and Holub's Golden Weavers on the feeders. After breakfast we take a short drive west, down the steep escarpment of the great Rift Valley to Lake Manyara National Park where we'll spend the rest of the day. This small park, centered round a salt lake directly below some impressive Rift Valley cliffs, is a magnet for waterbirds and migrants, as well as having other distinctive habitats and an excellent variety of large mammals.

On entering the park we pass through cool, shady forests fed by streams offering great birding opportunities for localised species such as Col-lared Palm-Thrush, Purple-crested Turaco and Mountain Wagtail. We'll be treated to close encounters with large groups of Olive Baboons. Out



Yellow-breasted Apalis, Bateleur, Little Bee-eater, Cheetah, and White-browed Coucal. Photos by Helga Kieskamp.

on the open, dry acacia scrub fringes of the lake all the big game animals of East Africa are found, including comical Warthogs busily trotting through the bush, plus some large and very dark Giraffes. We should encounter our first African Elephants here too. Depending on water levels, we may find huge concentrations of water-birds, including nesting Lesser and Greater flamingos, Marabou and Yellow-billed Storks, Great White and Pink-backed Pelicans, Great and Long-tailed Cormorants, Sacred Ibis, African Spoonbills, Black-headed Herons, and egrets. Waterfowl may include Spur-winged Goose; Comb Duck; Cape and Hottentot Teals; and Red-billed, White-backed, and Maccoa Ducks. The grounds of Lake Manyara Lodge can also be very productive and after we arrive we can take a stroll around the grounds to add to our bird list. Mocking Cliff Chat is regularly seen here.

Overnight: Lake Manyara Lodge
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Days 11 & 12: 30 April - 1 May 2027

Tarangire National Park

After optional early morning birding in the grounds we head east again after breakfast along excellent paved roads to Tarangire for a two-night stay. This should allow a good chunk of the first afternoon plus a full next day on safari. We'll have lunch at a lodge inside Tarangire en-route where there are often roosting owls staked-out for us.

The habitats here reflect a drier region subject to seasonal rains and droughts. Thornbush is studded with giant Baobab trees, which store moisture used by large Elephant herds in drier times. The Baobab's gargantuan trunks are scarred through generations of gouging by Elephant tusks and a possible location for Mottled Spinetails. Running through its centre is the Tarangire River with wide grassy palm-dotted floodplains. Our main interest here will be viewing the large Elephant herds. Our game drives will take us past Impala, Giraffe, Zebra, Waterbuck, and other typical plains game. The area often produces sightings of Leopard, resting on tree limbs in the heat of the day.

Tarangire is also exciting birding territory. Our accommodation is a pleasant Lodge situated in the heart of the National Park. There are opportunities to relax (there is a pleasantly cooling swimming pool) but many find the environment too exciting to stop! The endemic Ashy Starling and Yellow-collared Lovebird are common garden birds here, along with Crested Francolin, Pearl-spotted Owlet, African Scops-Owl, Verreaux's Eagle-Owl, Freckled and Slender-tailed Nightjars, White-rumped Shrike, Spotted Morning-Thrush, Brubru, Bearded Woodpecker, Red-headed Weaver, Slate-colored Boubou, Tawny-flanked Prinia, and Lesser Striped-Swallow. Out in the bush we'll find many more superb birds: from Bateleur Eagles to Pygmy Falcons, Saddle-billed Storks



Cheetah, Kudu and Giraffe, White-bellied Korhaan, Yellow-collared Lovebird, and African Elephant. Photos by Stewart Bentley.

and Hamerkops, Helmeted Guineafowl and Yellow-necked Spurfowl, to Double-banded Coursers, Black-faced Sandgrouse, exotic White-headed Buffalo-Weavers, Blue-cheeked Bee-Eaters and Paradise Whydahs, to the more obscure cisticolas, camaropteras, pytilias, eremomelas, larks and pipits.

Overnight: Tarangire Sopa Lodge
 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 13: 2 May 2027

Return to Arusha

As we exit Tarangire by mid/late morning, there is always a last minute chance for that final Leopard or new bird for our extensive list before making the short journey back to Arusha. We arrive in time for lunch at a huge Art and Cultural Centre offering great opportunities for optional last minute shopping — everything from inexpensive souvenirs to fine works of art. We then transfer to our lodge by mid-afternoon where further birding treats are hoped for, such as Silvery-cheeked Hornbills, African Black Duck, Giant Kingfisher, Eastern Olive Sunbird and the very local Taveta Golden Weaver.

Overnight: Ngare Sero Lodge
 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 14: 3 May 2027

Arusha National Park

Our safari continues with a day in beautiful Arusha National Park. Dominated by rugged Mt. Meru (4,500 m), this small jewel of a park is close to Arusha, but remarkably quiet, diverse and peaceful. Although many of the better-known big game animals are present, we'll concentrate on the outstanding birdlife and seek out mammal species we are less likely to have seen elsewhere: for example, Black and White Colobus Monkey, Blue or Sykes Monkey, duikers, and Bushbuck.

There are open grasslands with small lakes holding a variety of water-birds and specialties such as Pangani Longclaw, Singing & Trilling cisticolas. Other tracks will take us into thicker forests of Mahogany, Fig, Cedar, and Wild Mango. Here we'll search for rap-tors such as Crowned Eagle and African Goshawk, colorful forest birds including Narina's and Bar-tailed Trogon, Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater and Hartlaub's Turtur, Bronze-naped Pigeon, Silvery-cheeked Hornbills, Brown-hooded King-fisher, White-headed Barbet, Mountain Wagtail, Golden Weaver and Black-fronted Bush-Shrike. We'll glimpse the snow-clad peak of Mt. Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain at 5,900m.



Lesser Striped Swallow, Narina Trogon, Red-and-yellow Barbet, Klaas Cuckoo, and Kirk's Dik-dik. Photos by Helga Kieskamp.

Salt lakes offer views of Lesser and Greater Flamingos; small freshwater lakes often produce White-backed Duck, Spur-winged Goose, African Fish Eagle and if lucky rarities such as Lesser Jacana and Maccoa Duck.

Overnight: Ngare Sero Lodge
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 15: 4 May 2027

To the “Lark Plains” and on to Ndarakwai

We will leave Arusha for a fairly short drive by paved road north to the so-called “Lark Plains” made famous by the discovery of an endemic and extremely rare species – Beesley’s Lark, possibly the rarest bird in East Africa. The local Maasai are aware of this bird’s importance and will often have one located for us on arrival! There is a wide range of birds possible in this dry region of scrubby plains - larks, pipits and wheatears, with Somali Short-toed and Short-tailed Larks and Rosy-patched Bush-Shrike specialities.

After finding the lark we will explore eastwards across fairly remote and wild Maasai steppe: acacia scrub and thorn-bush interspersed with euphorbia and Sansevera (sisal) along with large patches of barren ground. There will be further opportunities along the way to encounter localised birds of this under-watched region. Other possibilities include Lanner and maybe Amur Falcons, Upcher’s Warbler, Grey Wren-Warbler, Red-faced Warbler, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, Long-billed and Plain-backed Pipits, Ashy and Tiny Cisticolas, Cinnamon-breasted Bunting, Southern Grosbeak Canary, perhaps Caspian Plover, Buff-crested Bustard, Parrot-billed Sparrow, Grey-rumped Swallow, Fischer’s Starling, Lammergeier, White-headed Barbet and Horus & Scarce Swifts.

By late afternoon we will arrive at the secluded Ndarakwai Lodge – a private land area bordering close to Amboseli National Park in Kenya. We will be able to take a night drive for chances of bushbabies, Ratel, genets, civets, mongooses, Spring Hare, Aardvark, Striped Hyena and birds such as Sombre, Slender-tailed, Plain, Square-tailed and Fiery-necked Nightjars and owls.

Overnight: Ndarakwai Tented Camp
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Greater Flamingo, Red-backed Scrub-robin, Baobab in Tarangire NP, Impala, and Southern Ground-Hornbill. Photos by Helga Kieskamp.

Day 16: 5 May 2027**Ndarakwai and homeward**

We will have time this morning for a full game drive in this area that offers the possibility of several last minute additional mammal and bird species. The dry country here supports Gerenuk and Lesser Kudu and the bird list is extensive and includes species such as Red-throated Tit, Brown-breasted Barbet, Eastern Chanting-Goshawk, Black Goshawk, Scaly-throated Honeyguide, Stripe-cheeked Greenbul, Desert Cisticola, Rufous Chatterer, Straw-tailed Whydah and Black-throated Canary.

After lunch here we will be able to re-pack, clean-up and change before making our way by mid-afternoon directly to Kilimanjaro International Airport for your homeward flights.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



Black and White Colobus, African Elephant, Lilac-breasted Roller, Giraffe, Bush Hyrax. Photos by Helga Kieskamp.

QUICK OVERVIEW

SCHEDULED DATES

April 19 - May 5 2027

STARTING IN

Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO), Arusha, Tanzania

FINISHING IN

Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO), Arusha, Tanzania

GROUP SIZE

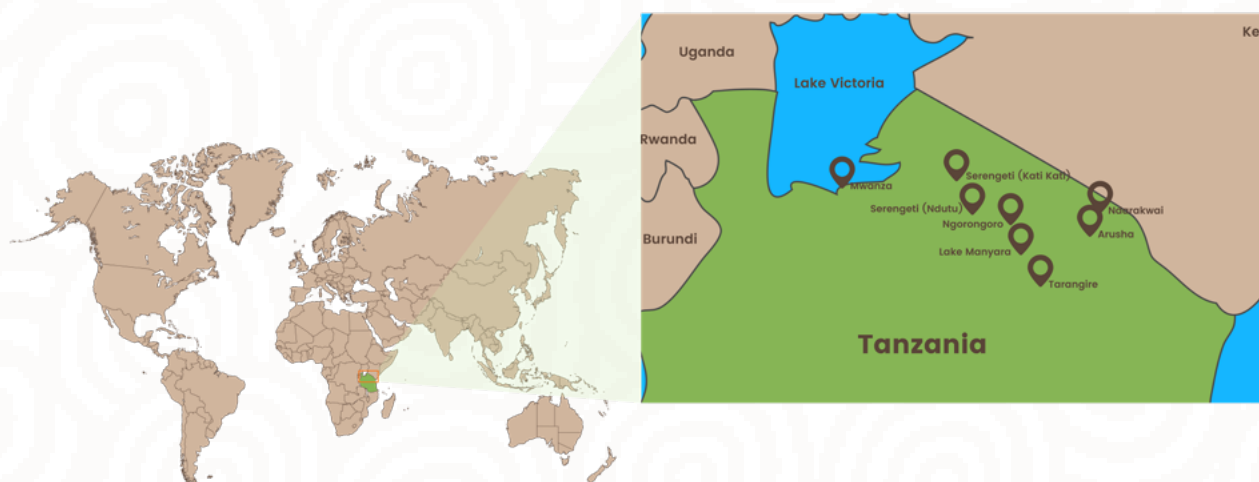
Minimum 4, maximum 8 participants.

BRIEF ITINERARY

Day 0: 19 Apr 2027: Arrival in Arusha, Tanzania
Day 1: 20 Apr 2027: To Lake Victoria
Day 2: 21 Apr 2027: To central Serengeti
Day 3: 22 Apr 2027: Central Serengeti
Day 4: 23 Apr 2027: To north-eastern Serengeti
Day 5: 24 Apr 2027: Ndutu Area
Day 6: 25 Apr 2027: Ndutu Area
Day 7: 26 Apr 2027: To Ngorongoro Crater
Day 8: 27 Apr 2027: Ngorongoro Crater
Day 9: 28 Apr 2027: To Tloma Lodge
Day 10: 29 Apr 2027: Lake Manyara National Park
Day 11: 30 Apr 2027: Tarangire National Park
Day 12: 1 May 2027: Tarangire National Park
Day 13: 2 May 2027: Return to Arusha
Day 14: 3 May 2027: Arusha National Park
Day 15: 4 May 2027: To the "Lark Plains" and Ndarakwai
Day 16: 5 May 2027: Ndarakwai and homeward

BOOKING

Please book at: <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings>.



COST

COST

US\$9,999 per person including accommodation and all meals, based on double or twin-share occupancy. Single occupancy surcharge of US\$900. Early bird discount of US\$99 for bookings received up to 12 months before departure date. Return client discount does not apply to this tour.

INCLUDED

All meals commencing with Dinner on Day 0 and finishing with Lunch on Day 16, some snacks, some fruit, some drinks, unlimited drinking water refills. Accommodation in private en-suite rooms, transport using comfortable and reliable vehicle, Bellbird tour leader accompanied by a local guide, airport transfers on Day 0 and Day 16, any entry fees during the tour, taxes.

EXCLUDED

Travel to & from Tanzania; travel to the meeting point if you've arrived earlier in Tanzania; pre- & post trip accommodation, meals before the first dinner, and after the last lunch, drinks except where provided, personal expenses, tips, insurance, visa / passport fees, additional activities not included in the program; anything else not specifically included.

CURRENCY

Please remember that the tour price is set in US\$.

GETTING THERE & AWAY

Tour starts & finishes with a pick-up and drop-off at Kilimanjaro International airport, Arusha, Tanzania on 19 April and 5 May 2027 respectively. Arranging flights to and from Kilimanjaro Int'l Airport, Arusha are your own responsibility. Please let us know your flight details and arrival and departure times.

PRE & POST TOUR OPTIONS

If you wish to arrive earlier in Tanzania, please make your own way to your accommodation for Day 0, in time for dinner and introductions. We can book you into our hotel for any number of nights leading up to, or after, the tour, please enquire. Please tick the relevant boxes on the booking form and we'll contact you to discuss.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is compulsory for this tour, and you will be required to provide evidence of such.

VISAS & INOCULATIONS

Please make your own enquiries regarding visas, inoculations and travel health issues. Visas can be obtained online: <https://visa.immigration.go.tz/> Please allow sufficient time. Please ensure you have a passport valid for at least six months beyond your planned departure from Tanzania. Please bring any prescription medicine in its original packaging.

BOOKING

Please book at: <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings>.

PRACTICAL DETAILS

LEADERS

The tour will be led by Peter Waanders with a local guide and driver.

DIFFICULTY

Medium level of fitness required. The tour has a relaxed pace and walks are on trails, tracks, roads and other surfaces, and may include some short climbs. We generally walk slowly, with lots of stops. You can opt out of any challenging walks. One day we will be birding at 2,800m / 9,200 ft altitude.

ACCOMMODATION

The standard of accommodations is very good: clean, comfortable rooms, with private bathrooms, and all in lovely locations. Some nights may include glamping-style en-suite tents. For logistical reasons or otherwise we may change the itinerary and/or accommodations at short notice.

CLOTHING

Sturdy footwear and a sun hat are essential. Lightweight long pants, t-shirt and long-sleeved shirt, over the top of which you can wear layers that can be taken off as necessary, including a warm jumper and a rain-proof jacket. Neat casual attire for dinners. We expect mainly dry weather with temperatures ranging from 25 to 30°C. We will experience some rainstorms, but this rarely affects our activities.

WHAT TO BRING

Please travel light. Bring essentials such as binoculars, camera, mobile phone, chargers, power adaptors, insect repellent, sunscreen, personal medications, water bottle, hand sanitizer. Soft-cover bags only. Hard-shell cases, scopes, super-telephoto lenses, tripods, and drones not permitted. We will send out further practical info including detailed trip notes after receipt of your booking.

RECOMMENDED READING

Birds: Fanshawe, J. and T. Stevenson. *A Field Guide to the Birds of East Africa: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi*. 2001.

Mammals: Kingdon, Jonathan. *The Kingdon Pocket Guide to African Mammals*. London: Christopher Helm, 2004.

HOW TO BOOK THIS TOUR?

Step 1: Essential reading

- Download, save and read the itinerary (this document);
- Read our terms and conditions and the release of liability waiver (both can be found on <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/terms-and-conditions>);
- Read our health & safety information page (<https://bellbirdtours.com/health-and-safety/>).

Step 2: Online booking

Head over to our secure online booking page: <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings> (should you prefer a paper booking form, this can be downloaded from there).

Step 3: Pay the deposit

To secure your seat, a deposit of 20% of the tour price is required at the time of booking. Full payment is due 60 days prior to the departure date. Until full payment has been received, Bellbird Tours reserves the right to change the tour price (e.g. due to changing fuel prices).

Payment options:

Visa, Mastercard & Google Pay: through Pin Payments (an easy, secure online payment system). They add a processing fee of ~3.5%. Please contact us to use this option, and we'll email you a secure payment link.

International electronic funds transfer: please send funds in US Dollars (+ bank charges at your end) to the following bank account:

- for payments from outside the USA please use international swift/bic code: CMFGUS33
- for payments from inside the USA please use ACH and Wire routing number 026073150
- checking account name: Bellbird Tours Pty Ltd
- account no. 8313528314
- bank address: Community Federal Savings bank, 30 W. 26th Street, Sixth Floor, New York, NY 10010, USA
 - If possible, please use your surname as the booking reference.
 - If you are asked to provide our physical address, this is: 101 Chilton Road, Berri, SA 5343, Australia.
 - Please specify US\$ as the recipient's currency, and the correct amount. Select the option for you to incur any charges at both ends.

Any discrepancy between the amount payable and amount received will be added to the final balance, or payable in cash at the start of the tour. Prices and fees are not negotiable.

We can only receive USD from these countries outside the US: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, British Virgin Islands, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Guernsey, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Isle of Man, Italy, Japan, Jersey, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, UK, and United Arab Emirates.

Step 4: You're done!

Sit back and wait for your booking confirmation to arrive (24-48 hrs). Meanwhile, should you have any questions, please contact us via: <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/about-us/>.

POSSIBLE SPECIES LIST (NOT EXHAUSTIVE)

Common Ostrich	Striated Heron	Red-knobbed Coot
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Black-crowned Night-Heron	Gray Crowned-Crane
White-faced Whistling-Duck	Glossy Ibis	Water Thick-knee
White-backed Duck	Sacred Ibis	Spotted Thick-knee
Egyptian Goose	Hadada Ibis	Long-toed Lapwing
Comb Duck	African Spoonbill	Blacksmith Plover
Spur-winged Goose	Secretary-bird	Spur-winged Plover
African Black Duck	Black-shouldered Kite	Senegal Lapwing
Cape Teal	African Harrier-Hawk	Black-winged Lapwing
Red-billed Duck	White-headed Vulture	Crowned Lapwing
Hottentot Teal	Lappet-faced Vulture	Wattled Lapwing
Northern Shoveler	Hooded Vulture	Common Ringed Plover
Southern Pochard	White-backed Vulture	Kittlitz's Plover
Helmeted Guineafowl	Rueppell's Griffon	Three-banded Plover
Coqui Francolin	Bateleur	White-fronted Plover
Crested Francolin	Black-breasted Snake-Eagle	Chestnut-banded Plover
Hildebrandt's Francolin	Brown Snake-Eagle	Black-winged Stilt
Yellow-necked Francolin	Crowned Hawk-Eagle	Pied Avocet
Gray-breasted Francolin	Martial Eagle	African Jacana
Red-necked Francolin	Long-crested Eagle	Common Sandpiper
Little Grebe	Wahlberg's Eagle	Green Sandpiper
Greater Flamingo	Ayres' Hawk-Eagle	Common Greenshank
Lesser Flamingo	Booted Eagle	Marsh Sandpiper
African Openbill	Tawny Eagle	Wood Sandpiper
Black Stork	Steppe Eagle	Little Stint
Abdim's Stork	Verreaux's Eagle	Ruff
Woolly-necked Stork	African Hawk-Eagle	Common Snipe
White Stork	Dark Chanting-Goshawk	Temminck's Courser
Saddle-billed Stork	Eastern Chanting-Goshawk	Double-banded Courser
Marabou Stork	Gabar Goshawk	Three-banded Courser
Yellow-billed Stork	Eurasian Marsh-Harrier	Collared Pratincole
Great Cormorant	African Marsh-Harrier	Greater Painted-snipe
Long-tailed Cormorant	Pallid Harrier	Gull-billed Tern
Great White Pelican	Montagu's Harrier	Whiskered Tern
Pink-backed Pelican	African Goshawk	White-winged Tern
Hamerkop	Black Kite	Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse
Gray Heron	African Fish-Eagle	Yellow-throated Sandgrouse
Black-headed Heron	Eurasian Buzzard	Black-faced Sandgrouse
Purple Heron	Mountain Buzzard	Rock Pigeon
Great Egret	Augur Buzzard	Speckled Pigeon
Black Heron	Kori Bustard	Rameron Pigeon
Intermediate Egret	White-bellied Bustard	Dusky Turtle-Dove
Little Egret	Black-bellied Bustard	Mourning Collared Dove
Cattle Egret	Black Crake	Red-eyed Dove
Squacco Heron	Eurasian Moorhen	Ring-necked Dove

Laughing Dove
 Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove
 Tambourine Dove
 Namaqua Dove
 African Green-Pigeon
 Schalow's Turaco
 Hartlaub's Turaco
 Purple-crested Turaco
 Bare-faced Go-away-bird
 White-bellied Go-away-bird
 Eastern Plantain eater
 Pied Cuckoo
 Great Spotted Cuckoo
 Red-chested Cuckoo
 Black Cuckoo
 Common Cuckoo
 African Cuckoo
 Klaas' Cuckoo
 African Emerald Cuckoo
 Dideric Cuckoo
 Black Coucal
 White-browed Coucal
 African Scops-Owl
 Verreaux's Eagle-Owl
 Spotted Eagle-Owl
 African Wood-Owl
 Pearl-spotted Owlet
 Montane Nightjar
 Freckled Nightjar
 Slender-tailed Nightjar
 Square-tailed Nightjar
 Mottled Spinetail
 Common Swift
 Nyanza Swift
 African Swift
 Little Swift
 Horus Swift
 White-rumped Swift
 Mottled Swift
 African Palm-Swift
 Speckled Mousebird
 Blue-naped Mousebird
 Narina Trogon
 Bar-tailed Trogon
 Malachite Kingfisher
 African Pygmy-Kingfisher
 Gray-headed Kingfisher

Woodland Kingfisher
 Brown-hooded Kingfisher
 Striped Kingfisher
 Giant Kingfisher
 Pied Kingfisher
 White-fronted Bee-eater
 Little Bee-eater
 Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater
 White-throated Bee-eater
 Blue-cheeked Bee-eater
 European Bee-eater
 European Roller
 Lilac-breasted Roller
 Rufous-crowned Roller
 Broad-billed Roller
 Eurasian Hoopoe
 Green Woodhoopoe
 Common Scimitar-bill
 Abyssinian Scimitar-bill
 Northern Red-billed Hornbill
 Von der Decken's Hornbill
 Crowned Hornbill
 African Gray Hornbill
 Silvery-cheeked Hornbill
 Southern Ground-Hornbill
 Red-and-yellow Barbet
 D'Arnaud's Barbet
 White-eared Barbet
 Moustached Tinkerbird
 Red-fronted Tinkerbird
 Red-fronted Barbet
 Spot-flanked Barbet
 White-headed Barbet
 Brown-breasted Barbet
 Green-backed Honeyguide
 Wahlberg's Honeyguide
 Greater Honeyguide
 Lesser Honeyguide
 Nubian Woodpecker
 Cardinal Woodpecker
 Bearded Woodpecker
 Mountain Gray Woodpecker
 Brown-backed Woodpecker
 Pygmy Falcon
 Lesser Kestrel
 Eurasian Kestrel
 Greater Kestrel

Gray Kestrel
 Eurasian Hobby
 Lanner Falcon
 Peregrine Falcon
 Fischer's Lovebird
 Yellow-collared Lovebird
 Meyer's Parrot
 Red-bellied Parrot
 Black-throated Wattle-eye
 Chinspot Batis
 Brubru
 Black-backed Puffback
 Brown-crowned Tchagra
 Tropical Boubou
 Black-headed Gonolek
 Slate-colored Boubou
 Rosy-patched Bushshrike
 Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike
 Black-fronted Bushshrike
 Gray-headed Bushshrike
 Gray Cuckoo-shrike
 Black Cuckoo-shrike
 Purple-throated Cuckoo-shrike
 Red-backed Shrike
 Isabelline (Rufous-tailed) Shrike
 Gray-backed Fiscal
 Long-tailed Fiscal
 Taita Fiscal
 Northern Fiscal
 Magpie Shrike
 White-rumped Shrike
 Eurasian Golden Oriole
 African Black-headed Oriole
 Fork-tailed Drongo
 African Paradise-Flycatcher
 Cape Crow
 Pied Crow
 White-necked Raven
 Rufous-naped Lark
 Flappet Lark
 Foxy Lark
 Beesley's Lark
 Fischer's Sparrow-Lark
 Red-capped Lark
 Somali Short-toed Lark
 Short-tailed Lark
 Bank Swallow



Plain Martin
Banded Martin
Rock Martin
Barn Swallow
Angola Swallow
Wire-tailed Swallow
Black Sawwing
White-headed Sawwing
Lesser Striped-Swallow
Mosque Swallow
Red-rumped Swallow
House Martin
Gray-rumped Swallow
White-tailed Blue-Flycatcher
Red-throated Tit
Eastern Mountain-Greenbul
Stripe-cheeked Bulbul
Yellow-bellied Greenbul
Cabanis' Greenbul
Common Bulbul
Red-faced Crombec
Moustached Grass-Warbler
Brown Woodland Warbler
Willow Warbler
Eastern Olivaceous Warbler
Mountain Yellow Warbler
African Yellow Warbler
Icterine Warbler
Sedge Warbler
African Reed-Warbler
Eurasian Reed-Warbler
Great Reed-Warbler
Lesser Swamp-Warbler
Cinnamon Bracken-Warbler
Bar-throated Apalis
Yellow-breasted Apalis
Brown-headed Apalis
Karamoja Apalis
Green-backed Camaroptera
Gray Wren-Warbler
Red-faced Cisticola
Singing Cisticola
Trilling Cisticola
Hunter's Cisticola
Rattling Cisticola
Wailing Cisticola
Winding Cisticola

Stout Cisticola
Croaking Cisticola
Zitting Cisticola
Desert Cisticola
Pectoral-patch Cisticola
Gray-capped Warbler
Buff-bellied Warbler
Tawny-flanked Prinia
Yellow-bellied Eremomela
African Hill Babbler
Blackcap
Brown Parisoma
Banded Parisoma
African Yellow White-eye
Broad-ringed White-eye
White-breasted White-eye
Rufous Chatterer
Black-lored Babbler
Northern Pied-Babbler
Arrow-marked Babbler
Silverbird
Pale Flycatcher
Grayish (African Gray) Flycatcher
White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher
Spotted Flycatcher
Dusky-brown Flycatcher
Swamp Flycatcher
Ashy Flycatcher
Red-backed Scrub-Robin
Cape Robin-Chat
Rueppell's Robin-Chat
White-browed Robin-Chat
Collared Palm-Thrush
Spotted Morning-Thrush
White-starred Robin
White-throated Robin
Common Nightingale
Rufous-tailed Rock-Thrush
Whinchat
African Stonechat
Northern Anteater-Chat
Sooty Chat
Mocking Cliff-Chat
Moorland Chat
Northern Wheatear
Abyssinian Wheatear
Pied Wheatear

Capped Wheatear
Isabelline Wheatear
Abyssinian Thrush
Wattled Starling
Greater Blue-eared Glossy-Starling
Rueppell's Glossy-Starling
Superb Starling
Hildebrandt's Starling
Violet-backed Starling
Ashy Starling
Red-winged Starling
Waller's Starling
Kenrick's Starling
Sharpe's Starling
Red-billed Oxpecker
Yellow-billed Oxpecker
Kenya Violet-backed Sunbird
Collared Sunbird
Eastern Olive Sunbird
Green-headed Sunbird
Amethyst Sunbird
Scarlet-chested Sunbird
Tacazze Sunbird
Bronze Sunbird
Golden-winged Sunbird
Eastern Double-collared Sunbird
Beautiful Sunbird
Mariqua Sunbird
Red-chested Sunbird
Variable Sunbird
African Pied Wagtail
Western Yellow Wagtail
Gray Wagtail
Mountain Wagtail
Plain-backed Pipit
African (Grassland) Pipit
Long-billed Pipit
Tree Pipit
Yellow-throated Longclaw
Rosy-throated Longclaw
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting
Golden-breasted Bunting
Southern Citril
Reichenow's Seedeater
Yellow-fronted Canary



Southern Grosbeak-Canary
White-bellied Canary
Streaky Seedeater
Thick-billed Seedeater
House Sparrow
Rufous Sparrow
Gray-headed Sparrow
Swaheli Sparrow
Chestnut Sparrow
Yellow-spotted Petronia
Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver
White-headed Buffalo-Weaver
Speckle-fronted Weaver
Rufous-tailed Weaver
Gray-headed Social-Weaver
Red-headed Weaver
Baglafecht Weaver
Lesser Masked-Weaver
Spectacled Weaver
Black-necked Weaver
Holub's Golden-Weaver
Taveta Golden-Weaver
Slender-billed Weaver
Vitelline Masked-Weaver
Village Weaver
Speke's Weaver
Golden-backed Weaver
Black-headed Weaver
Northern Brown-throated Weaver
Red-billed Quelea
Black Bishop
Black-winged Bishop
Red Bishop
Yellow Bishop
Fan-tailed Widowbird
Red-collared Widowbird
Jackson's Widowbird
Grosbeak Weaver
Gray-headed Nigrita

Yellow-bellied Waxbill
Crimson-rumped Waxbill
Common Waxbill
Black-cheeked Waxbill
Red-cheeked Cordonbleu
Blue-capped Cordonbleu
Purple Grenadier
Green-winged Pytilia
Red-billed Firefinch
African Firefinch
Cut-throat
African Quailfinch
Gray-headed Silverbill
Bronze Mannikin
Village Indigobird
Steel-blue Whydah
Straw-tailed Whydah
Pin-tailed Whydah
Eastern Paradise-Whydah
MAMMALS, REPTILES etc
African Elephant
Black Rhinoceros
Hippopotamus
Common (Plains) Zebra
Giraffe
Cape Buffalo
Common Eland
Common Waterbuck
Bushbuck
Bohor Reedbuck
Brindled Gnu (Blue Wildebeest)
Red (Coke's) Hartebeest
Topi
Impala
Thomson's Gazelle
Grant's Gazelle
Steenbok
Harveys (Red) Duiker
Kirk's Dik-dik
Common Warthog

Lion
Leopard
Cheetah
Serval
Common (Small-spotted) Genet
Spotted Hyena
Golden Jackal
Black-backed Jackal
Bat-eared Fox
Slender MongOOSE
Dwarf MongOOSE
Banded MongOOSE
Olive (Savanna) Baboon
Vervet Monkey
Blue (Syke's) Monkey
Eastern Black & White Colobus
Scrub / Cape Hare
Black-necked Rock Hyrax
Tree Hyrax
Bush (Yellow-spotted) Hyrax
Unstriped Ground Squirrel
Tree Squirrel sp.
Grass Rat sp*
Mouse sp*
Yellow-winged Bat
Bat sp*
Nile Crocodile
Nile Monitor
Leopard Tortoise
Terrapin sp*
Helmeted Terrapin
Flap-necked Chameleon
Agamid Lizard sp*
Red-headed (Common) Agama
Mwanza Flat-headed Agama
Blue-headed Tree Agama
Skink sp*
Gecko sp*
Frog/Toad sp*