



FACT FILE
MARA PLAINS CAMP
OLARE MOTOROGI, KENYA



Mara Plains Camp is a one-of-a-kind, seven tent camp located in the private 35,000-acre Olare Motorogi Conservancy, just on the northern boundary of the Masai Mara National Reserve. This intimate camp blends the finest wildlife viewing with the absolute best of safari hospitality and guiding. No other camp offers the extensive traversing area of Mara Plains Camp, with access to a total of 100,000 acres of private conservancy land as well as the world-renowned Masai Mara, home to the Great Migration. Each guest at Mara Plains contributes considerably to the success of the Olare Motorogi Conservancy's flourishing ecosystem; conservation fees paid safeguard this habitat, while supporting over 1,000 Maasai families. This partnership agreement ensures the survival of an astounding volume and variety of wildlife.

The camp is nestled in lush forest on the meandering bends of the Ntiakatek River, and careful thought was given to every detail. The camp is not an imposition on the landscape, but rather a subtle refuge among the wild. Its presence does not detract from the visual beauty of the ecosystem, but incorporates it with sweeping views across the plains and careful position among the riverine forest. It is captivating on arrival. The camp's main area takes your breath away. After crossing the bridge, Africa is revealed. Positioned just so, the horizon lies ahead, punctuated by a single acacia tree. It's the Africa of the mind's eye. Flanking the main area is both a library and dining area, two places to enjoy life's finer things. Flowing fabrics, open-air spaces and strong teak structures ground the space.

Each of the seven tents has deep canvas canopied ceilings, rough hewn wood floors and accents of East Africa's rich safari history. Thick Lamu wood doors, deep purples, and brass accents – these small details transport guests to a time and land far away. The well-appointed en-suite facilities (including a deep copper bath) plus the extensive private verandah complete what is genuinely a stunning concept. These stylistic elements coupled with thoughtful environmental elements such as solar power and no cement make Mara Plains is a modern-day safari retreat. No two tents is the same, each named after the colorful Maasai people.

Olare Motorogi Conservancy is reputed to have the lowest vehicle density vehicles in the Masai Mara region, while also having the highest concentration of big cats anywhere in Africa. There is only one guest bed per 350 acres, leaving the land unadulterated for the wildlife to roam and thrive, as nature intended. By day and night, the camp is a sanctuary for resident species, including many of the Masai Mara's 300 bird species. After dark, larger mammals frequent the camp and Maasai warriors escort guests to and from their rooms. Hippos snorting and leopards barking often provide the night's chorus.

But most of all, Mara Plains is a showcase for one of the world's most magnificent wildlife havens. And it must be done right. We believe in keeping the safari experience intimate and personal, so there is no set camp schedule or set meal times. The day's activities and dining arrangements are tailored around guest preference and the wildlife opportunities of the moment. Each guest tent comes equipped with a set of professional Canon camera and lenses. And to it the pair of Swarovski binoculars, and it is impossible not to see and capture the region's incredible wildlife scenes.





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ACTIVITIES

Game drives (day & night) take place in some of the Mara's most coveted vehicles. Each of the four Toyota Land Cruisers is open-sided, canopied and customised for photographers (fold-down screens, raised roofs, photographic bars, multi-plug invertors). With just four to six guests each, the Cruisers also have fully-stocked fridges stocked with drinks and snacks.

No two days are the same on safari. Game drives typically start at sunrise, returning for lunch and depart again in the mid-afternoon before returning just after sunset. However, very often we will go out all day, deep into the Reserve or Conservancy with pack breakfast and lunch. Very often, our safaris will continue into the night, a possibility because of our location on a private conservancy. Night drives are particularly prolific in the Olare Motorogi Conservancy, and while they take patience, sightings commonly include lesser known nocturnal mammals and even lion and hyena hunts.

Mara Plains also offers walking safaris. Feeling the soil of Africa beneath our feet is an enriching and invigorating way to safari, and we are lucky enough

to be able to do this rare activity in Olare Motorogi Conservancy. Hot air ballooning is available, but should be booked in advance and is subject to availability and additional cost. Departures are very early in the morning to allow time to transfer to the nearest launching point.

If a chance to learn about the Maasai is of interest, then cultural visits to a nearby Maasai village (locally known as an "enkanj") are also a highlight. Locally produced crafts are available for purchase at the camp, all proceeds of which go toward the community, and particularly the women's groups and schools.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Each of Mara Plains' guest tents has a professional Canon camera set, including a Canon 7D camera body and Canon 100-400mm and 24-70mm lenses. Photos will be downloaded to a DVD on guest's departure. Each tent comes with a pair of Swarovski binoculars for guest use as well. Photographic tuition is available on request, either on company cameras or own guests' personal cameras.

Reservations & Bookings:	Bush and Beyond Ltd
Telephone:	+254 (0) 20 6000457, 6005108, 6005980
Reservations Fax:	+254 (0) 20 6005008
Reservations Email:	reservations@greatplainsconservation.com
Website:	www.greatplainsconservation.com
Total Number of Bedrooms:	7 double or twin configuration tents & 1 guide room. Triples for children sharing with adults can be arranged upon request.
Type of Lodge:	Safari camp
Lodge Season & Opening:	Year Round
Ideal length of stay:	3/4 nights



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GEOGRAPHY

ACCESS DIRECTIONS

- Scheduled light aircraft transfer to the nearest airstrip, Ol Kiombo, from Nairobi's Wilson domestic airport (1 hr 15 mins) and other locations in Kenya.
- Mara Plains Camp is a 45-minute drive from the airstrip.
- Co-ordinates: 01° 20.499' min South, 035° 09.761 min East.
- Private charters are able to land at the Camp's private strip: Co-ordinates: 1° 19' 25.2" South 35° 14' 27.3" East.

TENT DETAILS

BEDROOM DETAILS

- 700 sq. foot tented rooms with private verandah (of nearly equal size).
- Desk and dressing area as well as small lounge.
- Either twin or double bed configuration.
- Tents are beige in color with high ceilings and netted windows, so are light and bright.
- Honeymoon tents are Tents 4 and 6. Tents 3 and 5 are closest to the main area.

BATHROOM DETAILS

- En-suite with flush loo, shower (indoor), copper tub and double basins.
- Hot and cold running water.
- Soap, shampoo, conditioner and lotion provided.
- Power system does not support hairdryers, shavers or any high wattage device.

CONSTRUCTION

- Customised large canvas tent on raised wooden decking.

TEMPERATURE CONTROL

- Overhead ceiling fan.

MOSQUITO NETS

- Fly netting on all tent sides and over beds.

FOOD & DRINK

- All meals included.
- All drinks and beverages are included with the exception of imported champagnes and spirits.
- Excellent: Three delicious meals a day are provided. We are extremely flexible on timings. Picnic breakfasts or lunch (or both) are the norm due to very active game drives.
- All dietary requirements are catered for from regular to vegan to children, prior warning requested.

USUAL BOARD BASIS

- Full board.

DINING STYLE

- Group meals and/or individual tables, a la carte. (menu options)

DINING LOCATIONS

- Indoor and outdoor.

ROOM SERVICE

- No.

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EXTRAS

POSSIBILITY OF DISABLED ACCESS

- The camp layout is not conducive to wheelchair bound guests due to dirt pathways and uneven terrain.
- For the walking impaired, Tents 3 and 5 are closest to the main area with minimal steps.

LAUNDRY

- Included in nightly tariff - next day service, weather permitting.

CENTRAL FACILITIES/ COMMON AREAS

- Main lounge and library on raised decks, uniquely framing the landscape
- Dining room and bar
- Coffee/tea station
- Outdoor fire pit with seating

SHOP/BOUTIQUE

- Selling locally produced crafts, with 100% of proceeds going towards community projects supported by Mara Plains.

SPA/GYM

- Yoga mats and bands are provided in each suite.

PRIVATE VEHICLE

- Available at additional cost, based on availability. Required for all families with children ages 8-15.

EQUIPMENT

- Each guest tent has the following for guest use during their stay:
- Canon 7D camera body with 24-70mm and 100-400mm lenses
- Swarovski 8 x 42 binoculars

CHILDREN

- We look forward to having children stay with us that are 8 years and older.
- Families with children (8-15) will never be accommodated in the same vehicle as other guests.
- Children under 8 will be considered, if the group books the entire camp on exclusive use.
- Young children must be supervised as the camp is open, with high predator densities in and around camp and there is a river nearby.
- Children must be a minimum of 12 years old to participate in extensive walking activities (kid's program excepted).
- Kid's program – thoughtfully designed to explore a range of experiences and topics from birding to cooking to art to tracking wildlife.

POWER & COMMUNICATIONS

SOURCE

- The camp is run by an impressive solar farm.
- This system produces 240V, 24-hour electricity to the tents and main area.
- Plug points in each tent.
- Type of plug: British large three-pin.
- Power system does not allow hairdryers, shavers or any high-wattage device.

INTERNET & MOBILE

- Mobile reception is relatively good and internet wireless access is sporadic.
- No cell phones or computers are allowed in the public areas of camp or on game drive vehicles, only in the privacy of guest tents.



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HEALTH & SAFETY

MALARIA

- Minimal – Malaria prophylaxis are recommended if guests are concerned.

MEDICAL CARE

- Guests must hold comprehensive medical insurance and emergency evacuation insurance.
- Senior staff all has first aid training.
- Nearest decent medical facility is in Nairobi.

RISK OF DANGEROUS ANIMALS

- Moderate – high-density predator area.

SECURITY MEASURES

- 24-hours a day, guards armed with traditional spears.

FIRE SAFETY

- Fire extinguishers in each tent.

EXTRAS

MONEY MATTERS

SAFES

- Safes are provided in every room.

ACCEPTED PAYMENT ON LOCATION

- All-inclusive. Staff gratuities can be paid in Kenyan Shillings, US Dollars or GB Pounds.
- There are no credit card facilities available.

THE TEAM

LODGE OWNERS

Great Plains Conservation

KEY PERSONNEL

Camp Managers: Richard Pye and Lorna Buchanan-Jardine

Guides: Ping, Kevin, Daniel, Duncan, Edwin, James

Chefs: Juma

CONSERVANCY INFORMATION:

www.maasaimaraconservancies.com

GREAT PLAINS CONSERVATION

QUICK CAMP FACTS



ACTIVITY	BOTSWANA CAMPS					KENYA CAMPS			
	ZARAFA CAMP	SELINDA CAMP	DUBA PLAINS	SELINDA EXPLORERS	SELINDA CANOE TRAIL	OL DONYO LODGE	MARA PLAINS	MARA TOTO	RIDE KENYA
Day Drives	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
Night Drives	•	•	•	•		•	•		•
Guided Walks	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Boating	•	•	•						
Mokoro									
Canoeing				•	•				
Main Swimming Pool		•	•			•			
Private Plunge Pools	•					•			
Horseback Riding						•			•
Cultural Interaction *						•	•	•	•
Hot-Air Ballooning *							•	•	
Spa/Massage *	•	•	•			•			
Gym	•								
Fishing [Seasonal]	•	•	•	•	•				
Mountain Biking						•			
Hide		•				•			

(*) This activity is available at a fee.