

Kenya's northern deserts

Perched on the banks of the Uaso Nyiro River in the wild heartlands of Samburu Reserve, Samburu Intrepids enjoys a unique perspective of one of Africa's most remote and untamed wildernesses



SAMBURU INTREPIDS

Samburu National Reserve, Northern Kenya

Location

Samburu Intrepids' location deep inside the reserve guarantees close encounters with Samburu's shier species, including elephant, leopard and Samburu's famous 'special five' – the rare reticulated giraffe, long-necked gerenuk antelope, Somali ostrich, Grevy's zebra, and majestic Beisa oryx. Located 345 kilometres north of Nairobi, the journey to the camp involves a 50-minute flight to the Samburu airstrip followed by a 20-minute drive through the reserve.

Accommodation

This luxurious tented lodge offers 27 modern tents with a private view over the wildlife-rich riverbanks. The spacious tents boast the very latest in luxury camping, with soft four-poster beds, handsome mahogany closets and writing desks, and en suite bathrooms with steaming hot showers. The bathrooms also offer twin washbasins, flush toilets, and sockets for shavers and battery charging.

Public areas

Because of the warm climate, Samburu Intrepids' public areas are all palm-thatched and open to the elements, raised on stilts to catch the cooling breeze blowing off the river. The main dining room has a seating capacity of 60, and opens onto an outdoor terrace where buffet breakfasts and lunches are served overlooking the river. (Meals can also be enjoyed on your private veranda or at one of a series of specially selected 'bush sites' close to camp.) Intrepids also boasts a spacious lounge and bar area, where our naturalists deliver fascinating slideshows on most evenings, and an intimate conference room with a television for viewing wildlife documentaries. Behind the bar, surrounded by a shady sunbathing area, is our freeform swimming pool – a soothing drop of blue in this otherwise arid land.

Ecotourism

In keeping with the new 'green movement' of Kenyan tourism, Samburu Intrepids endeavours to uphold the highest standards of social and environmental responsibility. The camp enjoys close relations with the local Samburu community, from which some 30 percent of our employees hail. When you stay at Samburu Intrepids, a percentage of your fees will help finance the development of the local primary school at Kiltamany, a bee-keeping training project, and costprice medical services for villagers from the area. The camp itself is run on strict ecoprinciples, with water heating by solar power, biodegradable waste mulched for compost in our gardens, and all non-degradable products returned to Nairobi for proper disposal.



Services

Telephone, e-mail, fax and postal services

Boiled water and insect repellent in tents

Foreign currency exchange at reception

Flex body therapy for half- or one-hour

Chilled towels and drinks upon check-in

Single-day laundry and valet services

Early morning calls with tea or coffee

Resident doctor available 24 hours.

Facilities

- Free Wi-Fi in the public areas
- Luxurious modern tents with secluded verandas
- Riverfront dining deck and open-air lounge area
- Freeform swimming pool with sunbathing terrace
- Conference room with television and wildlife videos
- Custom-built four-wheel-drive safari vehicles
- Reliable 240-volt generator electricity supply
- Safety deposit boxes for all guests' valuables
- Camp bookshop and guests' reference library
- Souvenir boutique and Safariwear Centre.

Twice-daily game drives with professional guides
Camel and walking safaris outside the reserve
Bush breakfasts and dinners under the stars
Romantic sundowners overlooking the plains
Visits to neighbouring Samburu communities
Bird walks with experienced ornithologists
Overnight fly-camping on sacred Mt Ololokwe
Visits to local dances and traditional ceremonies
Lectures and slideshows on culture and wildlife

Heritage's famous Adventurers' Club for kids

and Young Rangers' Club for intrepid teenagers.

Activities



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eb/13 Photography by Barbara Minish.