

# Art/Wildlife Conservation Study Abroad Program

## Tanzania 2016

### Daily Schedule

#### **DAY 1:                   JANUARY 2 – Depart US**

Depart US

#### **DAY 2:                   JANUARY 3 – Arrive in Tanzania**

Arrive in Kilimanjaro

We will be greeted at the airport by our hosts and transferred by bus to Olasiti Village, Dorobo Camp with lodging in tents. We will arrive at camp very late. We will have a light dinner before heading to bed.

#### **DAY 3:                   JANUARY 4 – Dorobo Camp, Olasiti Village**

Today, we will divide into our groups (photography and wildlife) and head in separate directions for the day. We will meet back at camp by dark for dinner. We will stay overnight at the Dorobo Camp with lodging in tents.

**Photography group** – Today we will take a short walk from camp to the Olasiti orphan center. Students will work on various art projects with the children in the orphanage. Projects range from making toys out of wire and banana leaves to beadwork and drawing (<http://www.tanzanianorphans.org/olasiti.html>). After lunch we will visit the Shanga shop where blind and deaf Tanzanians are making glasswork out of recycled materials (<http://theafricahouse.co.uk/>).

**Wildlife group** - Today we will travel to Engikaret lark plains for the morning. This area is being managed by the local community to conserve the endangered Beesley's Lark. This area is the only place in the world that this species is found. Today we will learn how community-based conservation is at work to conserve this amazing species. You will be introduced to the local wildlife and how to use field guides to identify wildlife. In the afternoon, we will discuss the survey sheets and field journal. You will also be introduced to the Tanzanian village system with an emphasis on the history and interrelationships of the Arusha, Meru, and Maasai people.

**DAY 4:****JANUARY 5 – Dorobo Camp, Olasiti Village**

Today we will visit to Arusha National Park. We will spend the day in the Park with a group of ten orphans – learning about the ecosystem and learning to identify the wildlife together. Many of these orphans will have never been to the park before. We will return to camp by dark and stay overnight at the Dorobo Camp with lodging in tents.

**Photography group** - You will be introduced to the National Park System in Tanzania and have the first opportunity to see large African large mammals at close distances. The emphasis will be on practicing your fundamentals of photography while also learning to identify the wildlife you are photographing. Some of the orphan children we met the day before will be joining us in Unimog.

**Wildlife group** - You will be introduced to the National Park System in Tanzania and have the first opportunity to see large African large mammals at close distances. The emphasis will be on learning to identify wildlife and understanding observed behaviors. We typically have a contest between the orphans and our students to see who can identify the most wildlife species. The purpose is to learn how little formal training you need to identify wildlife and learn the importance of natural history. If we aren't too tired after returning, we will have a lecture/discussion at night around the campfire on an Introduction to Community-Based Conservation. Be prepared to discuss the articles listed "Introduction to Conservation Philosophy and Community-Based Conservation" on the Community-Based Conservation Syllabus.

**DAY 5:****JANUARY 6 – Olasiti Village to Oldonyo Sambu**

Today we will travel to Oldonyo Sambu on the Maasai Steppe. It will be a full day of truck travel. As we cross the Maasai Steppe, we will pass through several Maasai villages along the way. Late in the afternoon, we will arrive in camp where we will meet our Massai hosts for the next few days. Lodging will be in tents.

**DAY 6:****JANUARY 7 – Oldonyo Sambu**

The focus today will be on learning about the Maasai, a pastoral society and exploring the savanna on foot. We will hike to the top of Oldonyo Sambu with our Massai warrior guides. After dark, we will gather around the campfire to learn about the Maasai and their culture. If we are very lucky, we may have an opportunity to learn traditional song and dance with the Maasai warriors. Lodging will be in tents.

**Blog 1 (Iraqw group) covering days 1-4 is due by dark**

**Photography group** - Today we will begin to learn about Maasai culture and customs including their song and dance, intricate beadwork and Boma structure ect. We will discuss what makes the Maasai unique among neighboring peoples and how they interact with their landscape. We will outline the specific goals of a documentary photographer creating a "story" and dive into the aesthetics and principals of photographing indigenous peoples.



We will leave Tarangire National Park and travel through rift valley to the base of the Gregory rift escarpment. We will travel up the escarpment to camp in the Nou Forest Reserve. It will be a full day of truck travel. Lodging will be in tents within the Nou Forest.

**DAY 10-12:           JANUARY 11-13 – Nou Highland Forest**

Our next three days will be spent in Nou Highland Forest Reserve. This area is a cloud forest at 8,000 feet elevation. We will learn about the way of life and customs of the Iraqw people. They are conserving the forest as a watershed allowing them to grow sustainable crops. We will take daily hikes to explore the area. Campfire discussions with the Iraqw will give you an insight into their culture and the challenges they are facing in an ever-changing environment. We will also learn some of their folk-lore and legends and what they mean in their society. Lodging will be in tents within the Nou Forest.

**Blog 2 (Hadza group) covering days 5-8 is due by dark on January 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Photography group** - Students will explore the Nou Forest and learn the intricate details of darkly-lit cloud forest photography. We will visit the Iraqw agriculturist people in their homes and fields to learn about their customs, architecture and basket weaving. You will continue to practice telling the “Story” through images of the landscape and people and unique scenes that unfold along the way. We will have lectures/discussions at night around the campfire.

**Wildlife group** – Students will learn how to set up remote cameras to monitor carnivore abundance and diversity. On a recent programs, we captured shots of leopard and aardvark! We will explore the area on foot and learn about wildlife ecology and behavior of the cloud forest biome. For the Community-based conservation course, the focus will be the economic and ecological value of forests such as the Nou to the Iraqw society and learning about the Iraqw, an agricultural society. We will have lectures/discussions at night around the campfire. We will discussion chapters 2 and 4 from *The Myth of Wild Africa*.

**DAY 13:                JANUARY 14 – Yaeda Valley**

We will leave the Nou Forest and travel across the Mbulu Highlands down into the Yaeda Valley in the Lake Eyasi Basin, homeland of Hadzabe hunter-gatherers. It will be a full day of truck travel. For the next three days, we will camp in the valley with the Hadza with lodging in tents.

**DAY 14-16:           JANUARY 15-17 – Yaeda Valley**

We will spend the next few days learning from the Hadza through visiting their camps and taking ‘natural history’ walks in their company. We will be visiting the signing rocks used in religious ceremonies, bow hunting with the Hadza men, and gathering berries/tubers with the Hadza women. Evenings will be spent in fireside discussions about their creation stories and hunting gathering way of life, which always turn into a sharing of song and dance. One morning we will spend with the men hunting. We are almost sure to experience collecting and eating honey. If

we are lucky and the hunters are successful, we will eat our game that night with the men. Another morning we will spend with the Hadza women gathering berries and tubers, which you will get a chance to eat. One afternoon, we will spend in a traditional Hadza village and learn about their way of life and basic skills of survival. We will camp in the valley with the Hadza with lodging in tents.

**Blog 3 (Maasai group) covering days 9-12 is due by dark on January 14<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Photography group –**

We will explore/photograph the Yaeda Valley, including 1,000+ year old rock paintings. During this extended visit with the Hadza you will understand the hunter / gathering society and make connections/comparisons to the Iraqw and Maasai way of life. How will your images differ from one location to the next? How will you visually tie images together to create a series?

**Wildlife group –** We will have the opportunity to explore the area on foot and learn about wildlife ecology and behavior of a bushland and thicket biome. We will learn about the community-based conservation activities of the Hadza. You will have the opportunity to ask the Hadza about wildlife identification and ecology. These people are so in tune with their surrounds that you will question your attachment to the trappings of civilization. We will discuss chapters 3 and 5 from *The Myth of Wild Africa*.

#### **DAY 17:                   JANUARY 18 – Yadea Valley to Karatu**

In the morning, we will begin our trek out of the Yaeda Valley to Karatu just outside of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. It will be a full day of truck travel. The trip will take most of the day but we should arrive in Karatu in the afternoon with lodging at the Octagon Safari Lodge ([http://www.octagonlodge.com/The\\_Octagon\\_Safari\\_Lodge/Home.html](http://www.octagonlodge.com/The_Octagon_Safari_Lodge/Home.html)).

#### **DAY 18:                   JANUARY 19 – Karatu**

If there is enough water, you will get a shower and do laundry. You should be able to email home. We use this day to catch-up on assignments, charge batteries, and walk around town. We will continue our stay at the Octagon Safari Lodge.

**Blog 4 (Tourists group) covering days 13-16 is due by dark today**

#### **DAY 19:                   JANUARY 20 – Ngorongoro Crater**

We will depart of the splendor the Octagon in the early morning to spend the day in the Ngorongoro Crater (<http://www.ngorongorocrater.org/>). We will divide into small groups and take land rovers into the crater for the day arriving at our camp by dark. This World Heritage Site has one of the greatest concentrations of wildlife in the world. We will spend the day in the crater viewing and photographing the wildlife and landscape in hopes of seeing the endangered black rhino, cheetahs, and the infamous black-maned lions. Our accommodations for the night

will be in tents at the Simba A campsite on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater. The campsite is famous for the wildlife that walks through camp and the marauding bands of bush pigs at night.

**Photography group** - This is one of the world's honeypots for wildlife photography. You will concentrate on capturing a variety of images from wildlife in the landscape, to portraits and shooting action with panning and freezing motion. We will have lectures/discussions at night around the campfire about tourist art verses art created for cultural purposes.

**Wildlife group** – We will learn about the conservation and ecology of black rhinos today. Campfire discussion will revolve around the role the Maasai have played in this park and how they were removed from their land by the government. We will also talk about the cultural significance of the Maasai Boma structure.

<b>DAY 20:</b>	<b>JANUARY 21 – Serengeti Ecosystem</b>
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In the morning, we will break camp and travel into the Ngorongoro Conservation Area in the southeastern corner of the Serengeti Ecosystem. It will be a full day of truck travel. Our journey will give us spectacular aerial views of Maasai bomas. We will descend on to the Serengeti Plains and into the world famous Serengeti National Park (<http://www.serengeti.org/>). As we enter the park, we will visit one of the many kopjes, which are ancient mountain tops that appear to be little more than rock outcroppings. These areas are important to local wildlife. We will head deeper into the park until we reach Seronera, which is known for its spectacular wildlife viewing. We will focus our visit on learning about the Serengeti Ecosystem and the wildlife found in this amazing and world famous ecosystem. We will camp at the Seronera Public camp with lodging in tents.

**Blog 5 (Iraqw group) covering days 17-19 is due by dark today**

**Photography group** - Students will search for their own voice in capturing this stunning landscape by utilizing a variety of photographic techniques.

**Wildlife group** – Our focus today will be the wildebeest migration. How can we conserve this migration? How much of the migration occurs outside of the park? We will also discuss how the Maasai were removed from this area.

<b>DAY 21:</b>	<b>JANUARY 22 – Serengeti Ecosystem to Lake Victoria</b>
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Today you will wake to sounds of wildlife in distance; you may have even heard lions near camp last night. We will travel through Serengeti National Park continuing our trek to Lake Victoria. It will be a full day of truck travel. There will be many opportunities to view the wildlife and landscape of the Serengeti Ecosystem along the way. We will arrive at the shores of Lake Victoria late in the day where we will spend the night at Speke's Bay Lodge, Victoria (<http://www.spekebay.com/>)

**Photography group** - Students will continue to search for their own voice in capturing this stunning landscape by utilizing a variety of photographic techniques.

**Wildlife group** – Our focus today will continue to be the wildebeest migration. How can we conserve this migration? How much of the migration occurs outside of the park?

**DAY 22-24:           JANUARY 23-25 – Lake Victoria**

We will spend these days on an island in Lake Victoria. You will have the opportunity to explore the island and relax. We will devote part of each day to class time and finishing assignments. Class time will be announced each morning. Our lodging will be at Lukuba Island Lodge (<http://www.lukuba.com/index.html>)

**Blog 6 (Hadza group) covering days 20-21 is due by dark on January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Photography group** - Use these days to work on your final projects and receive feedback.

**Wildlife group** – These days are good time to catch-up on your survey sheets and journals. You will also have time to work on your Community-Based Conservation projects

**DAY 25:                JANUARY 26 – Lake Victoria to Arusha**

Today we will depart our island paradise and head back to Arusha. You will experience a full day of traveling on boats, land rovers, and airplanes. We will take a charter flight from Musoma to Arusha, arriving in Arusha in the afternoon lodging at the Pamoja Lodge (<http://www.pamojaexpeditionslodge.com/>).

**DAY 26:                JANUARY 27 – Arusha**

You should be able to shower, do laundry, and email home. We use this day to catch-up on assignments, charge batteries, and visit the local markets to buy souvenirs. Our lodging for the night will be at the Pamoja Lodge.

**Blog 7 (Maasai group) covering days 22-25 is due by dark today**

**DAY 27:                JANUARY 28 – Arusha to Pembe Abwe**

In the morning, we will leave Arusha and travel by bus to Pembe Abwe Beach Camp on the Indian Ocean. This is a very long hot day on the bus but the reward at the end is worth the trip. We will arrive by the afternoon with lodging in huts overlooking the Indian Ocean.

**DAY 28-29:            JANUARY 29-30 – Pembe Abwe**

We will finish off the program on the Indian Ocean learning about the traditional way of life of the Muslim coastal community on Pembe Abwe Island. We will examine some of the ancient hand carved wooden doors and their cultural meaning. Students can also kayak through the mangroves in search of the Malachite kingfisher, snorkel among the coral reefs looking for sea turtles, and learn traditional boat making skills from local fishermen. Although we hope to be finished with our coursework by this time, we will use this time to wrap-up any remaining class

obligations. You will have time to enjoy the beach and surrounding ecosystem and plenty of down time. Your accommodations will be simple huts overlooking the white sand beach and stunning blue water of the Indian Ocean.

**Blog 8 (Tourists group) covering days 26-29 is due by lunch on January 29<sup>th</sup>**

**DAY 30: January 31 – Pembe Abwe to Dar es Salaam**

We will spend the morning enjoying our last day on this Indian Ocean paradise. After lunch, we will pack for our return trip home. We will depart Pembe Abwe on afternoon charter flight to Dar es Salaam. We will have dinner in Dar es Salaam and may have time for some additional shopping.

Depart Dar es Salaam on Delta/KLM Airlines Flight #9349 11:35pm

**DAY 31: February 1 – Amsterdam to US**

Arrive in US

*Disclaimer: This schedule is what we expect to do and when we expect things to happen. Because of the nature of this program, you should expect last minute changes. We will announce changes during our morning or evening meetings, or as they happen.*