



ADVENTURE ECO-CAMP AT LAKE NATRON NEAR LENGAI VOLCANO





THE CAMP

At the lowest point of the Great Rift Valley in East Africa at an altitude of 600m above sea level, sits the shallow Lake Natron. Here, between the only active volcano in Tanzania, Oldonyo Lengai to the south, pinnacles of Mt Gelai to the east, the gorge etched escarpment of the Rift Valley to the west, and the mirror-surfaced lake, a sanctuary to thousands of flamingos to the north, is the cool oasis adjacent to the soda flats where Lake Natron eco-camp lies.





THE CAMP

Our camp has 8 sleeping tents, one common tent with the bar, dining and lounge area, and one guide's tent. The camouflaged Bedu tents were especially designed for the Natron area and patented by us. The Bedu tents help keep guests cool during the day and protect them from the occasional strong winds. Each tent is furnished with full size beds, quality linen and blankets, bedside tables, reading lamps, tables and chairs and has its own running water, shower and compost toilet tent. A private path leads from each tent to a natural swimming pool in the spring-fed stream.

Welcome to Lake Natron Camp, a traveler's oasis with a high level of comfort and exceptional service!





Uncompromisingly ECOcentric

Lake Natron Camp has been build and managed by an eco-enthusiast Tim Leach, who is investing a great deal of effort into protecting this unique sensitive wetland environment. It is operated as a very low impact eco-camp.

There are no permanent structures, no cement bricks or wooden platforms. Our Bedu Tents are camouflaged for low view-shed and equipped with compost toilets. Water is manually pumped directly from the spring for bathing and run through a desalination filter for drinking. A carbon-neutral vegetable oil powered generator is hidden underground to eliminate noise. We have a 315 hectare concession area for conservation with the Engare Sero village and we physically protect it from poaching and livestock over-grazing. The income generated by the community from tourism is used primarily for secondary school education. Thus, we are helping to increase the value of the environment and its wildlife for the local masai village and provide the community with the incentive to further protect and cherish this wild area.





Homo Sapiens FOOTPRINTS

Over one hundred millennia before the birth of civilization a small group of hunter-gatherers walked across a fresh layer of volcanic ash blown out of the Lengai volcano. Moisture cemented their footprints into a solid tuff and thousands of years of continued volcanic activity partly covered it with ash and sand.

In 1998 a local masai discovered some prints near the southern lake shore. In 2005 we built Lake Natron Camp less than 1km away from the prints and realized their potential significance. Over 350 prints were uncovered from under sand and volcanic tuff. They have measured the age of these prints to be 120,000-years-old, which makes them the oldest Homo sapiens prints yet discovered.

Our camp guests have a unique opportunity to take a 15-minute walk to see hominid tracks made at the dawn of m





ACTIVITIES

You can either relax in your tent and watch wildlife coming to drink at the spring, or partake in a myriad of activities while at camp.

Flamingo Walks

The beguiling lesser flamingo feed on algae found in soda lakes across eastern Africa but choose to breed almost exclusively at Lake Natron. Every evening hundreds of pink flamingos fly overhead, exposing the deep garnet feathers under their wings.

Masai Boma Tour

This part of the Great Rift Valley is populated by the Masai peoples. Bomas spread around the area, but the main central village is few kilometres away to the west at the base of the escarpment. The village is named Engare Sero which means dappled water in Masai language. This village gets its name from the river flowing out of the escarpment through a spectacular gorge that is both arid and lush.





ACTIVITIES

Swimming

Follow your private path to the stream, cool off and relax in the crystal clear water adjacent to your tent.

Camel Rides

A small herd of camels are living with us at camp. These were rescued a few years ago and are now breeding, so we have young riding camels that can take our guests for short hacks

Engare Sero Water Falls

Let us arrange half or full day walks up Engare Sero gorge to several waterfalls. The scenery is a unique blend of arid volcanic rocks and lush tropical palms.





ACTIVITIES

Oldonyo Lengai Volcano Climb

Set against the Rift Wall, lies the 3000m tall "Mountain of God". An overnight ascent lit by moonlight is an unforgettable and mystical experience. Let us arrange climbs up the western route guided by our experienced local masai guides.





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