



COTTAR'S

SAFARI SERVICES

EST. 1919

ACTIVITIES THAT ENGAGE AND IMPACT
MASAI MARA

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ACTIVITY	WHICH 4C DOES IT CONTRIBUTE TO	WHY DOES IT MATTER?	DESCRIPTION	COST
Learning with Female Conservation Rangers		Support the only all female ranger unit in the Masai Mara, and the important conservation, community and cultural initiatives that they work on.	Join the only all female ranger unit in the Masai Mara and understand their goals and key challenges. When appropriate, participate in their daily activities patrolling, de-snaring, game counting and liaison with the Maasai community.	Included, donations requested
A conservation helicopter flight with the Mara Elephant Project (MEP)		The Mara Elephant Project (MEP) protects Elephants and their habitat across the greater Mara ecosystem. Striving for a stable elephant population coexisting peacefully with people across the Greater Mara Ecosystem (GME). With 10 years of experience using their MEP method of boots on the ground rangers and applied research, all while taking a collaborative approach has disrupted poaching in the region and combatted conflict and habitat loss. This donation amount is all inclusive and supports not just MEP's helicopter, but also the core efforts of the organisation.	A once-in-a-lifetime exclusive safari with the Mara Elephant Project. Get a behind the scenes experience in the protection of the elephants to conserve the Greater Mara Ecosystem (GME). Meet the CEO Marc Goss and fly with him and track some of MEP's collared elephants and see firsthand how MEP uses the helicopter to increase protection for wildlife in the GME. You may even stop at a remote ranger camp before heading to the MEP Campus in Lemek Conservancy. At MEP's Campus refreshments will be provided before a tour of the operational headquarters including meeting rangers, and an interactive presentation about all the work MEP does.	All-inclusive donation to MEP \$4,870 USD Scenic day flights (1,2 or 3 hours), airport transfers and balloon flight transfer also available (please ask our reservations team from more details)
Conservancy talk and/or conservancy tour		The Olderkesi Conservancy where Cottar's is situated is owned by the Maasai community and is the only conservancy in the Masai Mara that has not been subdivided. The conservancy is part of a bigger critical wildlife corridor for elephants who use it to disperse from the Mara to the Loita Hills for food. Without this corridor, elephants would not have enough food to survive.	Choose between a 30-minute talk or a two-hour walk with our Conservancy Manager or team member; either will be a wonderful way to learn about where you're staying, the crucial work the community is doing for conservation, and how your tourism spend directly and positively supports that.	Included
Medicinal Plant Walk		Letilet is our in-house Il Torobo hunter gatherer. A documentary on his life has had 9.2 million views on Youtube. Learn from a disappearing tribe, the medicinal values of the flora that surround us. This activity supports local knowledge and values biodiversity. Your support will help us in listing local flora for medicinal uses.	Learn of the widespread medicinal plants present in the Mara on an engaging and informative walk around the camp.	Included
Mara-Meru cheetah educational experience		An ongoing and age-old conflict between the Maasai people and predators has resulted in cheetah numbers being significantly affected, resulting in a third population decline in the last two decades. The Mara Predator Project provides science for conservation on cheetahs and lions as well as enhancing understanding on predators' role within the broader ecosystem.	Guests can choose from a range of experiences from a one-hour talk on cheetah with our guides, to spending a half-day out in the field followed by a talk with the head of Mara-Meru Cheetah Project, Dr. Elena V.Chelysheva.hD	One-hour talk included. Half-day experience \$780 per vehicle of guests.

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Carbon footprint, recycle and upcycle talk/experience		Contribute to lowering our overall carbon footprint as Cottar's 1920s aims to be carbon neutral by 2024.	Join us for a behind the scenes tour of how our camp measures its carbon footprint and finds ways to minimize it through re/upcycling.	Included
Foraging with Letilet and foraged dining experience		Learn of the unique natural wild food sources in the Maasai Mara. Values biodiversity and cultural understanding.	Letilet has spent his life living off of the land. Walk with Letilet and gather seasonal interesting ingredients that our chef will develop into a wonderful tasting experience.	Included
Vulture rehabilitation and raptor talk/ experience		Seven of Africa's 11 vulture species are on the edge of extinction, and poisoning is largely to blame. Vultures are often the unintended victims of poisoning incidents where humans place poison onto carcasses to kill carnivores such as lion and hyena. Poisoning is the primary cause of vulture mortality in the Mara, and we have witnessed unprecedented declines in these species over the last few decades.	Visit the Kenya Bird of Prey Trust at their base in Olderkesi and learn more about how they are working to protect these keystone species and other raptors.	One-hour talk included. Half-day experience \$780 per vehicle of guests.
Ecological Monitoring and Learning Experience		Without ongoing surveys and monitoring schemes we would not know which species are doing fine, and which are declining or threatened with extinction. By monitoring and understanding what is important, we can all apply the limited resources for conservation on the species most at risk.	Biodiversity monitoring is managed in our area by Cottar's Wildlife Conservation Trust. Get an in-depth experience of what telemetry tracking and transect walks for vegetation mapping looks like in real terms.	Included
Culture and community of the Maasai talk		The Maasai are one of the few tribes in East Africa never to have been enslaved and to this day retain their colourful red clothing and unique cultural traits. They are a semi-nomadic tribe that has lived - relative to other tribes - harmoniously and sustainably alongside wildlife.	So many interactions with the Maasai community are 'canned'. Ours is unscripted and informal. Learn from one of our Maasai guides on the culture of the Maasai and on key community traits. It's a fascinating and interactive experience.	Included
Explorers tent educational visit		The Explorers Tent showcases conservation, cultural and community initiatives that are relevant to your stay. Engage, learn, ask and enrich your knowledge on sustainability.	Join your guide for a walk around our interactive Explorers Tent and learn about conservation, culture and community.	Included
History of Cottar's safari family / history of African exploration and travel talks		The Cottar family history is a history of the safari era and the family have contributed to some of the key evolutions of the safari industry. Learn about the past and how history is shaping a sustainable future.	A fireside evening presentation on the history of safari, and the history of the Cottar family.	Included
Stargazing		Learn western and African interpretations of the African night sky, and understand how the same view can elicit such illuminating and culturally different stories.	The night skies of Kenya are phenomenal. Learn from our in-house astronomer (and Gold-level guide) on stars seen from the African equator.	Included

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Reforestation seedball dispersal activity	 	Join us in working towards carbon neutrality for 2024 by learning about our reforestation and grassland renewal programme, which also offsets erosion. Learn of the important tree species of the Masai Mara.	Get your hands dirty doing the good work of necessary reforestation. From your game drive vehicle or whilst out on a walk, test your arm and aim as you throw seedballs around that will eventually sprout when the rains come.	First bag free, donations requested
Maasai Warrior school	  	The Maasai Warrior School showcases cultural and work skills a Maasai warrior needs in his daily life. Skills that are passed on from one generation to the next.	Join our Maasai team and learn the skills of a Maasai Warrior. An age dependent engagement. For younger children the Maasai Warrior School includes fire making, spear throwing, bow and arrow practice, Maasai jumping, dancing and singing, and tracking. For grown-ups, it can be the same activities, or sit down and learn the roles and responsibilities of the Maasai community through their various age-groups.	Included
Game walk or run with a Maasai Warrior	 	Lower your carbon footprint and spend time learning more detailed, under-foot ecosystem functions.	A walk is a wonderful way to look at the smaller critters, take an interest in the plant diversity and see the wild lands at a slower pace. For the more energetic travellers, morning or evening runs can be arranged with a local Maasai Warrior as your guide.	Included
Game Drives	 	Take the time whilst on a game drive to learn about the key challenges and opportunities that the Masai Mara presents. Ask questions of your guide and explore ways to further engage in sustainability. See the different terrains that the Mara has including savannahs, riverine and mountain ecosystems.	Game drives enable guests to cover more ground and to easily traverse through both our private Olderkesi Conservancy and the Masai Mara National Reserve. We have custom fit our vehicles so that instead of sitting in the front, your tracker stands at the back, looking out for wildlife from a higher vantage point.	Included
Visit to Local School	 	Cottar's Wildlife Conservation Trust supports a local school of some 400 primary children. Your safari helps contribute to teachers' salaries, the school feeding programme and the school's environmental club.	Olpagalilagi Sschool has 400 wonderful primary children. Visiting the school is an enriching experience. See how the children study, listen to the school choir, and be part of a casual Q&A as they're just as interested in you as you are in them.	Included

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Professional Photography Experience	 	Georgina Goodwin is an award-winning photographer and Canon ambassador. Learn how to take meaningful photography and in doing so, a contribution of 20% of your payment will be invested in initiatives of the Cottar's Wildlife Conservation Trust.	Professional photographer Georgina Goodwin can be hired for either one hour, a half or full-day session, or longer, to support you in your photographic journey whilst on safari.	Prices start from \$95.00 20% of all proceeds go towards CWCT.
The Cottar's famous bush bath		Go back in time to when a portable canvas bath was the way of the day. It's a pampering treat and a nod to the historical culture of safaris!	Cottar's Safaris is the only camp to offer this quintessential experience, and we guarantee it will be one of your most memorable moments in Africa. At any time of year, or any time of day, these canvas baths can be set up for one, for a couple, or for a family.	Included
Visit our local Maasai Village	 	Conservancy fees paid by guests are donated directly to Cottar's Wildlife Conservation Trust. CWCT uses these funds to lease the 7608-acre Olderkesi Conservancy from the Maasai community, who in turn use them for community and personal development. This is a unique conservation and community theory of change model for the Masai Mara and for Africa, in that the community have decided to not subdivide the land; it remains as one plot set aside for conservation.	Visit a Maasai village and experience their rich culture. This involves a trip to their Manyattas (mud huts), village setup (security, healthcare, education and management of resources such as meals, water, firewood), local market with wonderful Maasai artefacts/attire for sale, their livestock, and much more. You will learn about ancient traditions as well as contemporary struggles and adaptations to modern life.	\$20 per person