RICHARD'S CAMP

– Masai Mara • Kenya –

"SMALL, PRIVATE & EXCLUSIVE in the Masai Mara"



RICHARD'S FOREST CAMP

FACT SHEET

2024

Tel: +254 712 362941

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KCG
003R



FACT SHEET

ABOUT THE AREA:

Richard's Forest Camp is located in the Ol Choro conservancy which extends into the greater Masai Mara. It is a small intimate camp with 8 tents, double or twin occupancy. There are 2 additional guide tents although we would request a maximum number of 14 people at any time. Should your numbers exceed this please discuss with the reservations team.

Olchorro Oirowua Conservancy covers 15,765 acres and is a partnership between 170 landowners and 4 tourism camps. Lemek Conservancy was initially part of the Koiyaki Lemek Community Wildlife Trust established in September 15th 1995. Later, Lemek members felt the need to break away from the Trust and formed Lemek Conservancy, registering it in 2009.

Covering 6,027 acres with 480 landowners, Lemek Conservancy is one of the high wildlife density areas with vast plains offering pleasant scenery and some of the best wildlife viewing areas of the Maasai Mara ecosystem. It is home to the big cats namely Lions, Leopards and Cheetahs and often large herds of Elephants can be spotted. Others include Hippo, Warthog, Buffalo, and several species of Antelope, and numerous bird species. The Conservancy comprises open savannah and a tree-lined section of the Mara River with high concentrations of plains game and the wildlife numbers are particularly intensified during the annual wildebeest migration.

ACCOMMODATION:

Exclusive Use Only. Total of 10 tents comprising of 8 Front of House and 2 that are set slightly more into the forest. The camp can accommodate up to 20 guests by prior arrangement although 8 - 14 guests is an ideal group size.

CHECK IN/OUT POLICY:

Check in is strictly after 10am. Check out is strictly before 9:30am.

EXCLUSIVITY:

Guests at Forest Camp have exclusive use of the property. No other guest, belonging to another group, will be booked at the same time.

DESCRIPTION:

The original Richard's Camp now called the Forest Camp was built as the home of the Roberts family in 1980 while they were carrying out conservancy work the in Ol Choro Conservancy located in the North West Masai Mara. In 2000, Richard & Liz transformed the former private homestead into a beautiful authentic tented camp. Maintaining the close links previously forged with the Masai landowners and promoting this corner of the Mara to International visitors became their passion.

Forest Camp is set in a beautiful grove of mature trees; an unusual combination of thick riverine forestry and open grassy plains which holds great game all year round. It is a quiet and secluded camp, offering high levels of privacy and discretion. Wildlife in the area has also produced sightings of some of the more elusive species such as Wild Dog & Aardvark.

The diversity of the terrain means that we get the plains game and predators as well as buffalo and elephant. Being in close proximity to the river also means that night drives will often encounter hippo out of the water as they head to their night grazing.

The camp itself has been beautifully designed by Liz, creating a fine balance between maintaining the authentic tented experience with the attention to detail that Liz is so well known for. Completely rebuilt, the new offering of Forest Camp embraces the natural environment with 8 double or twin spacious tents, complete with permanent en suite bathrooms boasting fabulous rain showers and hot and cold running water. The 2 tents back of house are more appropriate for single occupancy. The tents are positioned in a horseshoe around the central grounds of the camp, allowing for privacy but also with the space for families to enjoy croquet on the lawn or for children to learn from the Masai how to use a bow and arrow.

The main mess area offers a cosy space for families or groups to relive their day on the Mara, with a roaring log fire at night and comfortable arm chairs and sofas to sink into, it really creates a home from home feeling. The large veranda is utilised for dining but meals are often served under the natural canopy of the trees with the stars punctuating the night sky.

SERVICE:

INCLUSIVE: Fully hosted and catered experience with International cuisine, high level guiding allowing guests an in depth knowledge of the area, staff will be on hand to tailor-make an exclusive and emcompassing experience for all of the guests.

ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE:

- Game Drives within the unique Lemek & Ol Choro Conservancies
- Guided bush walks in the area
- Hot Air Balloon
- Relaxation in camp enjoying the resident wildlife

ACCESS:

- By air: Scheduled light aircraft transfer to the nearest airstrip, Ngerende from Nairobi's Wilson domestic airport (1hrs 15mins)
- By air: Charter light aircraft transfer to the nearest airstrip, Ngerende
- By road: 5 to 6 hours by road from Nairobi

SEASON:

Forest Camp will be open from 1st June - 30th September and 15th December - 6th January 2025 inclusive, however with prior agreement we can open at any time throughout the year.

CLIMATE:

Due to the altitude, the climate in the Masai Mara is slightly colder and wetter than might be expected this close to the equator. Daytime is pleasant with temperatures in the mid to upper twenties, while it cools off significantly at night. July and August are the coolest months at Forest Camp, it can still rain, but mostly it is sunny and dry. Afternoon temperatures reach an agreeable 25°C/77°F, but the cold can hang around in the evenings and early mornings when temperatures of around 12°C/54°F are common. Warm layers for early mornings and evenings are recommended over this period. During the rainy seasons of November and April/May you could experience rain showers.

COMMUNICATION:

Forest Camp has limited WI-FI. Mobile phone reception is specific to certain areas which the resident staff can identify for you. Please note that we cannot guarantee WiFi or cell phone reception at this camp.

SAFETY & CHILDREN:

Please ensure that you walk with a torch at night at all times as wild animals may be within the camp grounds. After sunset and early morning the camp askaris will escort you to and from your tent, please do not walk on your own during these periods.
We would recommend that children should be over the age of 12 years, however please discuss with us the requirements of your group.

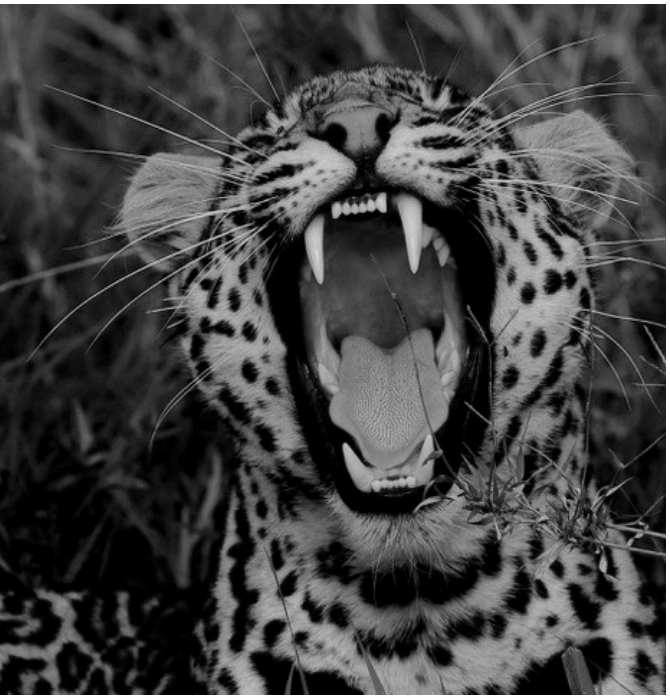


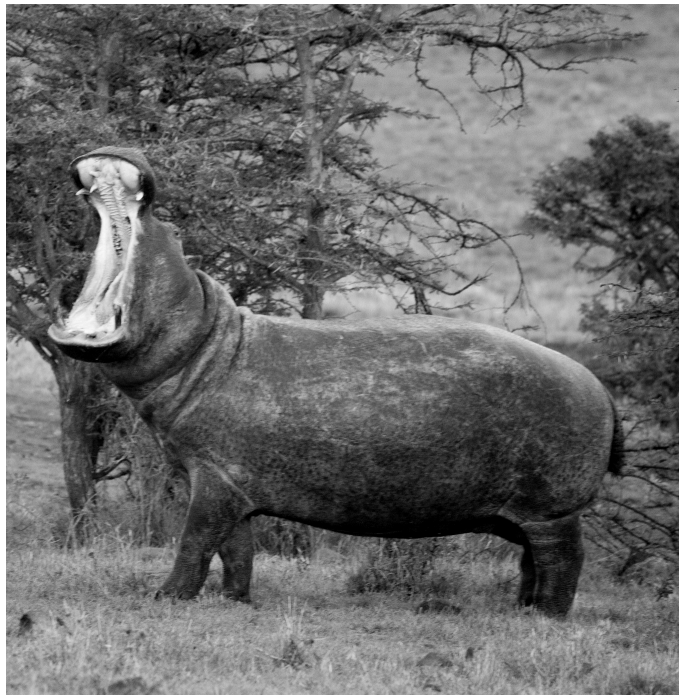






WILDLIFE of the MASAI MARA







The open country of the Mara, grooved by bush-fringed luggas, or seasonal streams, is where you get those classic East African panoramas of multiple species on the horizon, and quite often the spectacular sight of wall-to-wall wildlife in every direction – magnificent giraffes loping between the acacia trees, seeking the choicest tips that only they can reach; smartly turned-out topi antelope, most with their heads down in the grass, a few standing sentry, combining lookout and harem defence duties; big herds of heavy, black buffalo moving through the bush like squadrons of battleships; feisty mobs of quarrelsome zebras scampering across the plains; and scruffy-looking wildebeest, with their mad-eyed gaze and nervous body language, that always look like the anxious, walking lions' lunches that they are.

Among these are dozens of other, equally worthy, species – Thomson's and Grant's gazelles (learning the difference is something you'll do on your first game drive); massive eland with their straight horns and dewlaps; leaping impala that almost float through the bush; waterbuck, bushbuck, duiker and dik-dik; ungainly, orange hartebeest; troops of baboons and vervet monkeys; and families of busy warthogs, tails erect, always running away.

Conservation is also key on the Masai Mara and there are plenty of opportunities for you to learn more about the ongoing commitments in the area.

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