



MARA ELEPHANT PROJECT

 MASAI MARA CAMPS

 MARA NORTH CONSERVANCY,
KENYA

Mara Elephant Project donation: US\$100 per person plus private vehicle. Pre-booking required – available 10 am weekdays only.

Mara Elephant Project (MEP) is one of Asilia's Positive Impact implementing partners in Kenya. Their mission is to protect elephants and conserve the Greater Mara ecosystem. Elephants are under threat from human-wildlife conflict, poaching and diminishing space. MEP employs local Maasai rangers that conduct daily anti-poaching patrols, respond rapidly to conflict and shutdown illegal habitat destruction activities. Their headquarters are in Lemek Conservancy and their boots-on-the-ground rangers, applied research and collaborative approach help them work toward the goals of maintaining a harmonic balance between wildlife,

communities and habitat, moving the Mara from conflict to co-existence.

Plan a visit to the Mara Elephant Project as part of a full day trip or partake in one of the immersive activities listed below. The visit includes a presentation given by one of MEP's core staff members, as well as a tour of headquarters to see up close bushmeat snares, spears and arrows collected from the field, an elephant skull and elephant collars. This trip to MEP is from any of the following Asilia properties: Rekeru, Naboisho and Encounter Mara. Often paired with a visit to the Ol Chorro Rhino Sanctuary.



DRONES FOR CONSERVATION

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Mara Elephant Project donation: US\$500 per group up to 3 pax, plus private vehicle. Pre-booking required. Approx 2 hours.

MEP has been experimenting with the use of drones since 2011. Over time, this project has revolutionised their

approach to conflict mitigation, elephant monitoring and reconnaissance. Currently, MEP is deploying nine Mavic drones (3 of which have thermal capabilities) and 18 rangers and researchers have received their remote Pilot licenses through MEP's in-house training package. In partnership with Expert Drones Africa (EDA), this cutting-edge technology, when paired with training, allows MEP rangers to rapidly respond during escalating conflict situations, to protect both wildlife and communities. By taking on this experience, guests will gain a better understanding of drones and how MEP is using this tool in their operations. This trip to MEP is from any of the following Asilia properties: Rekero, Naboisho and Encounter Mara. Often paired with a visit to the Ol Chorro Rhino Sanctuary.

ELEPHANT FRIENDLY FARMING

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Mara Elephant Project donation: US\$500 per group up to 8 pax plus private vehicle. Pre-booking required. Approx 2 hours.

Asilia is proud to be co-financing an innovative new experiment - MEP's Elephant friendly farming. Through

an experimental farm MEP is using innovative techniques and technology to try and reduce human / elephant conflict in the surrounding communities that rely heavily on agriculture. The main goal is to determine which agricultural crops are likely to be raided by elephants and explore alternative crops that might help reduce conflict, while diversifying financial income for local farmers. Guests can join the team of seven local farm researchers for a tour of the farm and be among the first to learn which crops are being raided and which ones aren't. Guests can then ask more about the project while enjoying tea overlooking the iconic Mara River. This trip to MEP is from any of the following Asilia properties, providing a private vehicle is booked: Rekero, Naboisho and Encounter Mara.

ELEPHANT RESEARCHER

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Mara Elephant Project donation: US\$500 per group up to 4 pax plus private vehicle. Pre-booking required. PM only. Approx 3 hours.

Over the past decade MEP has disrupted poaching in the region and combatted conflict and habitat loss. The team on the ground is continuously collating information that establishes the relative density and

distribution of elephants. Guests can now join the Mara Elephant Project's long-term monitoring (LTM) team and become an honorary elephant researcher for the day. They will go out into the nearby conservancies to collect data which is vital to help find long term solutions to protect elephants, communities and habitats in the Greater Mara Ecosystem. This afternoon experience includes a trip to MEP's headquarters in Lemek Conservancy before heading out to conduct research. Guests will help to take detailed photos of elephants and learn how to identify different individuals, while learning more about the threats facing the ecosystem from one of MEP's scientists. This trip to MEP is from any of the following Asilia properties, providing a private vehicle is booked: Rekero, Naboisho and Encounter Mara.

CONSERVATION FLIGHT

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Mara Elephant Project donation: US\$ 3,000 per group – 2 pax maximum. Pre-booking required. Approx 2.5 hours.

The Mara Elephant Project operates the only helicopter dedicated to wildlife protection in the Mara. Using

a helicopter helps MEP's conservation efforts by monitoring collared elephants, spotting illegal logging and charcoal operators, and saving lives of the community members through rapid response. Guests can join Marc Goss, CEO of MEP, and fly over the Mara, tracking collared elephants and learning about how MEP uses the helicopter to increase protection for wildlife, communities, and habitat in the Mara. The flight will start and end at the camp your guests are staying at and includes tea and coffee with Marc. This once-in-a-lifetime, exclusive, safari experience gives up to two guests an aerial view of the Greater Mara Ecosystem and more importantly the opportunity to support the protection of these gentle giants.

