



Saruni Samburu - Frequently Asked Questions

1. What does the word 'Saruni' mean?

In the Samburu (and Maasai) language, 'Saruni' means 'sanctuary'.

2. What is the difference between a private conservancy and the Samburu National Reserve?

Private conservancies are owned and managed by private Samburu landowners and supported by investors in the tourist industry. The Samburu National Reserve, on the contrary, is owned and managed by a local government authority called the Samburu County Government. In the case of private conservancies, the income coming from tourism goes directly to the landowners, in the case of the National Reserve it goes to the local government. The main difference, though, is that private conservancies allow only a limited number of properties/lodges and vehicles to use them, while this limitation does not exist in the National Reserve. Furthermore, private conservancies allow walking and night driving, even if strictly regulated, while the National Reserve does not.

3. How many other lodges/camps are there in the Kalama Conservancy?

None – Saruni Samburu is proud to be the only one, giving you an exclusive run of the land.

4. What makes Saruni Samburu and the area so special?

Samburu has a very evocative and iconic landscape that reminds each visitor of *"the Africa of my dreams"*: dry and stunningly beautiful, wild and at the same time serene. Samburu also has one of the best concentrations of elephant, but also good numbers of lion, leopard and as well as the plains game. Then, there's the Samburu Special Five: Grevy's zebra, reticulated giraffe, Beisa oryx, Somali ostrich and gerenuk (species that occur only in this part of the country). Wild dogs are also regularly seen. You will experience no crowds: the fact that we have exclusive use of our own private wilderness of Kalama Conservancy, a vast and pristine wilderness of over 200,000 acres, make your game drives unique and uncrowded.

Saruni Samburu has the 'WOW' factor from start to finish – imagine 360 degree views and not a visible light at night. You feel as if you have stepped back in time. The discreet eco-design of the lodge is spread out over levels, offering privacy, exclusivity and maximises the incredible vistas and views, making it perfect for couples, honeymooners and families alike – six villas offer a very personal stay. All villas have open sides to take in the fabulous panoramic views. After a thrilling game drive, unwind at one of our two infinity pools, treat yourself to a rejuvenating spa treatment or simply relax in your private lounge; you will really feel like you are on top of the world!

5. When is it the best time to visit?

Saruni Samburu is open all year round and a safari is recommended during any month of the year. The resident population of wild animals remains spectacular from Jan-Dec, with a high concentrations of wildlife and birdlife. The 'Samburu Five' (Beisa oryx, reticulated giraffe, Grevy's zebra, Somali ostrich and gerenuk) are abundant in any season. Elephants are one of the main attractions in Samburu any day of the year. Just keep in mind that January, February and March tend to be the hottest months in what is – normally – a hot and arid part of the country.

Saruni Samburu stands at 2500 ft. altitude. The Samburu ecosystem is a well-known area in central Kenya comprising of Buffalo Springs National Reserve, Samburu National Reserve and Kalama Conservancy. The natural environment is arid and semi-arid; open scrub and grasslands with significant environmental variation

based on altitude. Highlands of the Leroghi Plateau (Ldonyo) are relatively cool and well-watered. Lowlands (Lpurkel) are quite dry and hot, semi-desert.

6. Do I need a visa?

In September 2015, there were attempts to cancel the 'visa purchase on arrival' system, forcing all visitors to Kenya to apply for a visa online ahead of arrival. However, at the time of writing (May 2017) this has still not been introduced in full. As this could change at any time in the near future, we would still advise you, where possible, to apply for your visa online by visiting www.evisa.go.ke. The website is mobile phone-enabled which means you can complete the application from an internet-enabled mobile phone. The system also accepts photos taken and uploaded from a mobile phone. Please note, the website is currently only offered in English although other language versions are being planned. Your E-Visa will be valid for 90 days from the date of approval and not from the date of arrival in Kenya. You should therefore ensure your visa will still be valid at the time of travel. When booking your trip via a travel agent or local tour operator, they will be able to register and make visa applications on your behalf.

Travelling in & out of Kenya on the same trip?

Should you need to enter Kenya twice during the same trip, i.e. arrive in Kenya, depart to another destination within East Africa, return to Kenya for homeward travel, you can apply for a 'double entry' visa on the E-Visa website.

Whilst entry visas are still available on arrival at either Nairobi International Airport or Mombasa International Airport, it costs US\$50, but can also be paid for in Euro and in GBP sterling. Alternatively, you can obtain a visa from your nearest Kenyan Embassy or High Commission/Consulate prior to departure. Our Reservations team would be delighted to answer any further visa-related questions you may have - email reservations@saruni.com.

7. What should I wear?

Somebody once said that "Africa is a cold continent blessed by a hot sun...." Days can be extremely hot while nights can be cool. The annual mean temperatures range between 18° C - 30°C, while the mean annual rainfall is 345 mm with peaks in the months of November and April. You will want to bring a couple of pullovers/sweaters for the mornings, both long and short trousers, good and solid walking shoes (the same you'd wear on a mountain trek). Colours should allow you to blend into the environment as much as possible, so choose different shades of green, brown, yellow or red that characterise the African soil and vegetation. Bring a water-proof jacket, a hat and sunglasses.

8. What equipment should I bring?

The most important things to remember are your sun protection cream, your binoculars and your camera or video equipment. In addition, bring your own flash light or torch: but if you don't have one, we can provide you with one. Equally, Birds' or Mammals' Field Guides are incredibly useful during your safaris if you are interested in these areas, as there will be plenty of occasions to consult them.

If you buy souvenirs or other objects in the lodge shop, we kindly ask you to pay in cash (preferably in US\$) to avoid credit card surcharges. Any staff tips/gratuities should also kindly be paid in cash.

Whilst we appreciate everyone welcomes a freshen up after long day's game drive, we ask you kindly to respect the eco-status of our lodges, and keep your hair dryer and other electrical hair/beauty appliance use to a minimum, as we operate on solar power and back-up generators. Electronics with high wattage disrupt our system and can often leave us with no power. We would prefer to provide you with a suitable hair-dryer on your arrival at the lodge should you require one. We use 3-point British plugs. International adaptors are available for use from the management.

9. Do you have telephone network and Wi-Fi at the lodge?

Safaricom network covers part of Saruni Samburu and guests are generally able to make and receive phone calls without issue. Weather conditions and location will determine the strength of the signal for this matter. The coverage will also depend on your mobile provider back at home. We kindly ask that you respect other guest's space when doing so. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available throughout the lodge. Please inform management should you encounter any problems gaining access. A computer is also available for guest's use.

10. Can children come on safari?

Yes, and we don't have age limits. For parents, to go on safari with your children can be a most exhilarating experience. Children immediately connect with nature and animals, show great curiosity and ability to learn. They normally find the unusual circumstances exciting and absorbing. Obviously, children might need special arrangements and we are ready to cater for them. We always say, it's not how the children behave on safari, it's how the parents interact with them and ensure the safari experience is an encompassing one for all involved.

At Saruni, we are proud to offer the unique 'Warriors Academy'; an interactive experience designed for families with children. With a strong educational flavour, it is a fun, learning adventure that allows you all to explore the wilderness, wildlife and authentic lifestyles of two of Africa's last remaining, fascinating tribes - the Maasai and the Samburu. Guided by the 'Moran', or warriors, you get to know, enjoy and understand these exceptional people and see the Kenyan wilderness from an extraordinary perspective - through the eyes of people who have called this wilderness their home for centuries. We tailor and personalise our Warriors Academy according to your timeframe and preference. Combined with the regular safari activities, Warriors Academy can be arranged for anywhere between half a day and 3 days, at no additional cost. Contact reservations@saruni.com for information and to book this amazing adventure.

Food can be tailored to suit children's requirements and earlier meal times can be arranged where necessary. Please contact us to make a plan ahead of time. Some options include but are not limited to the usual 'treats': pizza, plain pasta or pasta with tomato sauce, chicken and chips etc. Babysitting can be arranged for those who require it.

11. Can my food requirements be accommodated?

Saruni Samburu's cuisine is Italian-inspired focusing on fresh local ingredients, blended with specially-imported products. We can cater for most special dietary requirements and allergies, and our first-class chefs can accommodate bespoke menus when informed prior to arrival.

12. Is Kenya safe?

Absolutely. The African bush is safe, quiet and far away from any danger. Throughout the night, your security is assured by our Samburu watchmen (the 'Askari'), who patrol the lodge and grounds after dark and escort you to and from your villa after dinner. During the day, our professional guides will instruct you on how to approach the wildlife in the safest way, either on your game drive or your walking safari. Historically, the number of accidents involving humans and wild animals has always been very low: Homo-sapiens are the most feared predator of all... In the past, like in many other countries, Kenya has been the target of terrorist actions and some governments have issued travel warnings, but they have now been lifted. Kenya is a fast-growing and very successful economy and is one of the commercial hubs of the continent.

13. I love animals and wildlife, but I am keen to learn about the local people too. How can you accommodate it?

Our guides and trackers, who are themselves Samburu and from our local communities, are more than happy to share with you stories, traditions, habits, concerns of the people who own the land upon which Saruni Samburu is situated. The ongoing protection of this impressive ecosystem is embraced by the Samburu because of their own culture and values, not because they have 'adopted' it from any experts.

14. How do the Maasai and Samburu tribes differ?

Both tribes belong to the Nilotic family (as opposed to the Bantu family) and are originally pastoralists and semi-nomadic. They speak two languages that are very close to each other and have similar traditions, but they also live in very different regions (the Samburu in the arid North, the Maasai mostly in the fertile South of Kenya) and this has modified their lifestyles. In a way, the Samburu are the old-fashioned version of the Maasai, even more traditional and more community-oriented.

15. What makes Saruni Samburu eco-friendly?

Many things. We have invested in technology that allows us to minimise our environmental impact. Electricity (220 volts), for instance, comes from solar panels even if we have a silent diesel generator as a back-up. All our toilets are eco-toilets that provide both short and long flush cycles. We dispose of our rubbish in a responsible

way, taking glass and metal back to Nairobi for recycling. We also collect and recycle rainwater. The burning of firewood is limited only to our main fire pit and to fire the Kuni boosters. Water is heated using solar panels. We support many community projects and work closely with the local community of landowners and especially with the Samburu women. Saruni Samburu is certified as having attained silver-level by [Eco Tourism Kenya](#), in their eco-rating scheme. A Silver eco-rating demonstrates a move towards excellence and is awarded to facilities that have shown innovation in responsible resource use, environmental conservation and socio-economic investment.

16. How do I get to Saruni Samburu?

Once you arrive in Nairobi (several airlines have daily flights to Kenya's capital, check with your travel agent), there are three ways: by car, by scheduled flight and by chartered flight. The journey between Nairobi and Saruni Samburu is approximately 300km, takes about six hours and is a combination of highway and bush road at the last minute entering into Kalama Conservancy. Driving directions can be found [here](#). The internal flight takes approximately one hour and we will be waiting for you at the airstrip, ready to begin your adventure. Air Kenya and Safarilink airlines fly to Samburu, landing at our nearest airstrip, 'Kalama' and occasionally at another airstrip called 'Oryx'. It takes 40 mins from Kalama Airstrip to the lodge, but we combine your arrival with a game drive, given that the areas between the lodge and airstrip are jam-packed with plentiful game – so you get to start your safari as soon as you disembark from the plane! You can also charter your own plane. Your booking agent can arrange this for you.

17. Do you have a private airstrip?

If you plan to arrive in Samburu using a private plane, you will land at Kalama airstrip, and this is our nearest landing site being a 40 mins' game drive from the lodge. Its GPS coordinates are 00°41'40"N, 037°36'43"E.

18. What health precautions should I take?

Malaria Prevention: Saruni Samburu is a low risk area due to low population density. Mosquito nets are still provided in each room as a precaution. You should still eliminate any risk by keeping your arms, legs and feet covered as much as possible after dusk (long, light-coloured sleeves and trousers are best) and cover exposed skin with a strong repellent. Mosquito repellent spray is provided in your room. However, it is always better to consult your doctor and be given personalised advice.

Yellow fever vaccination is not compulsory in order to enter Kenya and yellow fever in itself is not a major threat, but we advise the guest to ask his/her doctor about the need for a yellow fever vaccination. If guests are travelling on to a destination or returning home following a visit to Kenya, they may be asked to present a valid Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate on arrival, having declared they have just visited or travelled from Kenya.

When travelling, hepatitis is always a concern and we advise the guest to ask his/her doctor about the need for an A-type vaccination, it lasts for ten years and will give peace of mind.

Sun Protection: do not underestimate the power of the equatorial sun. The sun can quickly burn and may even cause sunstroke. A hat and sunglasses will protect you from the bright light. A high-factor sunblock applied liberally to exposed skin is essential. Avoid dehydration by drinking plenty of bottled water whilst in the sun.

19. What if there is an emergency and I need to be evacuated for health reasons? Is Saruni isolated?

All guests travelling to Saruni must have comprehensive travel insurance, medical insurance and emergency evacuation coverage. On all bookings we will organise a temporary emergency medical evacuation cover valid for 1 month for US\$15 per person through AMREF (Flying Doctors Service). Based in Nairobi and one of the most extraordinary humanitarian organizations in Africa, AMREF is specialised in medical evacuations. Departing from our nearby airstrip, some of their air planes are fitted with an operating theatre and resuscitation room, and can take you back to Nairobi and to modern, efficient private hospitals in less than one hour. You just have to subscribe to their insurance: it costs very little and gives you complete peace of mind. Even if you are probably not going to need it, you'll know that your contribution is helping Amref to run its health projects around Africa. To buy Amref insurance, please contact us at reservations@saruni.com or ask your travel agent.

20. What else can I do at Saruni Samburu in addition to going on a game drive watching wildlife?

At Saruni Samburu you can participate in a wide range of diverse activities appealing to all tastes and all ages. The activities have been developed in celebration of the great wilderness right on our doorstep and the unique people who call it their home.

SAMBURU WELLBEING SPACE. In collaboration with the Centro Benessere Stresa at the 5-star deluxe Grand Hotel des Iles Borromees, Stresa, Italy, we operate the Samburu Wellbeing Space, where we use local plants and are inspired by ancient Samburu knowledge to offer a range of massages and beauty treatments. We offer one complimentary massage per room per stay; a half-hour classic Back & Neck massage.

BIRDWATCHING

If you are passionate about birds, Samburu is the perfect place to visit; not only are the species abundant but the birds can be easily spotted and photographed. Our guides are birdwatchers by instinct and training and share your love for birds. We always carry field guides in our vehicles.

BUSH MEALS

Enjoy breakfast along the Ewaso Nyiro River and starlit dinners in a dry river bed under the vast African skies (weather permitting). We'd love to take you to our secret spots for a bush dinner or for a picnic lunch that allows us to be with elephants, waterbuck, lion, impala and the Samburu Five that stop to take water. Note – bush dinners are usually part of a group, unless we can accommodate otherwise.

CULTURAL VISIT TO LOCAL VILLAGE & COMMUNITY

Our safaris are not only focused on wildlife but also on culture and people. Some call it 'cultural tourism'. We call it 'meet the neighbours'. We visit genuine Samburu villages - our neighbours and friends, we are privileged to share moments of their life. They are the ancient custodians of this land and we feel it is an integral part of the Saruni Samburu experience for you to see how they live, how they protect the environment and in what way they differ from other African tribes. Be prepared for the Samburu to ask you questions too as they will be curious about you! Consider it an exchange of ideas and information.

*Please note, this visit incurs an additional charge of US\$20 per person that goes to the community directly.

GUIDED BUSH WALKS

Walking safaris are individually tailored to your interests and are set in a breath-taking landscape. Walking with the Samburu warriors out in the African bush is a fantastic experience and you will learn from their authentic local knowledge of the plants, animals and landscape, about their traditions and about their lives. Having discovered Samburu rock art in several caves nearby the lodge, we include a visit to these extraordinary archaeological sites during our bush walks.

GUIDED GAME DRIVES – DAY & NIGHT

You can enjoy morning, afternoon and all day game drives through renowned and teeming conservation areas; Kalama Conservancy, in Samburu National Reserve and Buffalo Springs National Reserve; three fantastic habitats for African wildlife. We also highly recommend night game drives in Kalama Conservancy, when nocturnal species can be encountered. This is a unique activity not permitted in the National Reserve.

HELICOPTER EXCURSIONS

These are available upon request and payable extra, with excursions to Mount Kenya, Turkana and everything in between. Ask lodge management for further information.

PHOTOGRAPHIC HIDE

At Saruni Samburu we offer our guests a unique experience for Kenya: access to an elephant-proof, open ground level hide based at a waterhole, where from both novice and professional photographers can photograph animals and elephants from ground level. Designed with the needs of photographers in mind, buried underground, and covered with earth on three sides as well as on the roof, located a few steps from our waterhole (which is also being re-designed), it is 'painted' with Samburu red earth and covered with shrubs and bushes: the perfect spot for 'stealing' amazing images of what occurs at our well-frequented waterhole. It can have up to 8 guests inside, it has maps and books available, and bean bags for photographers. The waterhole at Saruni Samburu offers a unique opportunity to spot from very close up the elephants that come and drink its water, the fantastic birds species and the 'Samburu Five'; reticulated giraffe, Beisa oryx, gerenuk, Somali ostrich and Grevy's zebra. Being in the middle of an arid area, the hide also provides excellent opportunities to photograph from ground level and from very close up the predators of Samburu, especially lion and leopard.

RETETI ELEPHANT ORPHANAGE

Recently opened in Namunyak Wildlife Conservancy in Samburu County of Northern Kenya, Reteti Elephant Orphanage is the first community owned and managed elephant orphanage in Africa. The Reteti Elephant Sanctuary is situated in the remote Mathews Range, among Kenya's second largest elephant population. Similarly to the world-famous Sheldrick Orphanage in Nairobi, it takes in orphaned and abandoned elephant calves with the aim to release them back into the wild herds adjoining the Sanctuary. This excursion needs to be arranged in advance with lodge management and is payable extra.

'SCORPION SAFARIS'

Interested in scorpions and all that lies beneath the sand, hidden away from sight? Why not let Johan, lodge manager, take you on a 'scorpion safari' using his special ultra-violet torch that locates scorpions lurking in the sand. Understand the many different types of scorpion that call the earth surrounding Saruni Samburu their home. Walking shoes or boots advised!

STAR-GAZING

The night skies above Saruni Samburu and the 'hot rock' upon which it sits are among some of the brightest and most beautiful in the world. Unpolluted and unobscured, every evening the night skies provide you with an alternative 'playground'. There is a powerful telescope for your use in Kudu House. There is a powerful telescope for your use in Kudu House. Please kindly ask lodge management for assistance when handling the telescope.

SUNDOWNERS

The sundowner is a well-deserved drink at the end of a long day on safari to 'salute' the African sun as it is setting. We drive you to an unforgettable panoramic viewpoint and serve you your favourite drink along with a selection of scrumptious 'bitings'; small snacks to whet your appetite ahead of the delicious dinner which awaits.

THE SACRED MOUNTAIN TREK

Standing proud on Saruni Samburu's doorstep, Mount Ololokwe is the Samburu tribe's sacred mountain. It is a pillar of cultural significance to the Samburu and an exciting trekking venture to many others. Setting off at dawn, our professional guides will accompany you during this day's excursion to the summit (with picturesque pit stops for breakfast and lunch) teaching you along the way about the mountain, its cultural significance and all of its wonders. See additional information about our 'Mount Ololokwe Excursion' further in this guide. *Please note, this trek is payable extra.

VISIT TO LOCAL CAVES FEATURING ROCK ART

As part of the guided bush walks, you can also visit nearby mountain caves where, hundreds of years ago, the Samburu have drawn hunting scenes and animals in what the experts call 'white rock art'. The caves evoke a past when the Samburu were mostly pastoralist warriors.

WARRIORS ACADEMY

The Warriors Academy is a special interactive safari experience with a strong educational flavour, designed especially for families with children or small groups. It is a fun learning experience, that allows you to explore not only the wildlife, but also the authentic lifestyle of one of the most well-known and culturally fascinating tribes left in Africa; the Samburu. Under the tutelage of their 'Moran', or warriors, you get to know, enjoy and understand these unique people and see the Kenyan wilderness from a different perspective. Combined with regular safari activities, and tailored to your interests and timeframe, the Warriors Academy can last between 1-3 days, and needs to be booked in advance. Contact our lodge manager/s should this be of interest whilst you are here.

YOGA & EXERCISE

If you fancy saluting the African sun in a different way, and are inspired by the surrounding natural beauty experienced from your veranda, please find a yoga/exercise mat in your wardrobe for use in-room. If you require extra mats, please inform lodge management accordingly.

21. What about snakes, insects, bugs etc.?

It's very unlikely that you are going to be disturbed or scared by snakes, insects and bugs. Yes, the African savanna is home to all kinds of snakes and insects, but you rarely see them and if that happens, you most likely see from a safe distance. They are more scared of you. The lodge manager on arrival can instruct you further. In a very dry, cool, sunny area like ours, bugs and insects are not likely to play a major role in your safari... and

you'll certainly see more elephants and lions than you will snakes! For your own comfort, as lights attract insects (and to save electricity!), please turn off the lights in your villa when you are out or when not required.

22. How long should a safari be?

It really depends on how much time you have at your disposal. In general, if you are travelling from Europe or from the United States, you should plan to have at least a week in Africa. A period of ten days-two weeks would allow you to have an even better experience. There are two ways to enjoy a safari: one is to focus on one area and location and spend all your time there. The other is to tour several lodges, camps and locations, spending two or three nights at each of them. In the first instance, you get to discover much more of the area that you choose, you establish friendships and personal relationships with your hosts and with many of the guides and people who work at the lodge. You will get to know the area from all its different perspectives: early morning safaris, night safaris, bush breakfasts and bush dinners, dawn and sunset, the wildlife but also the people and their customs, photography and pure contemplation, the walking and the driving... The second type of safari allows you to taste the incredible variety of landscapes that Kenya and East Africa can offer. From the very hot deserts to the snows of its highest mountains. The choice is yours!

23. What cars do you have? Am I safe in the car? Can we have exclusive use?

At Saruni Samburu, we have a fleet of six 4x4 Land Rovers for all game drives and transfers. The vehicles are open-sided for the best game viewing and have a canvas roof for shade. The animals do not see you – they only see the outline of the car as an object, and not as prey so you can game drive safe in this knowledge. However, it is still advisable to keep your legs and arms inside the vehicle when you are near to the wildlife. Guests, when necessary, share our vehicles, unless exclusive use of a vehicle has been arranged at US\$350 per day.

24. What are conservation fees – and why do I need to pay them?

This is the daily amount of US\$116 per person, payable as part of your holiday costs, due to the communities which own the private land upon which Saruni Samburu is situated. In paying this, you are directly contributing to the ongoing protection of wildlife and land conservation, supporting the communities and preventing unnecessary development that would endanger fauna and flora. For more information relating to conservancy fees, please email our Reservations team on reservations@saruni.com.

25. How much does a safari cost?

Back in the 'golden days' of safari, a high quality safari in Africa used to be a very expensive holiday, affordable only by the famous and wealthy. The glamour of those days is still part of any well-organised safari, but times change and so does accessibility. Naturally, the cost of a safari varies according to some variable factors such as internal transfers required, flights on scheduled or chartered planes, or, driving, number of people travelling together, extra activities required. In general, you should budget an all-inclusive cost from about US\$500 per day per person (flights and transfers not included).

26. Are you allowed to hunt animals in Kenya?

No, absolutely not. Hunting has been abolished and forbidden in Kenya since 1977. The only shooting we do of wild animals and the beauty of Africa is with our cameras and with our eyes.

27. How do you support the local community?

Saruni believes fully and invests significantly in community development and conservation. Saruni Samburu works together with the Northern Rangeland Trust (NRT) to improve the living conditions for the 2,000 local Samburu people who own the Kalama Conservation Area, and is providing them with income generated by the tourism for the first time in their history. Saruni Samburu is committed to employing most of our staff from this small community. At least 90% of the employees are local Samburu men and women and are trained by the lodge. The lodge has been designed and built in an eco-friendly way to achieve minimum impact on the environment. Saruni Samburu has provided Kiltimany Primary School with a new water-tank and we are sponsoring one of their best students for further studies. In several other areas, there is a strong bond between the lodge and the local communities. Saruni Samburu pays the salaries of 2 Kalama rangers to help the community.

28. What other properties does Saruni have in Kenya?

We are proud to be able to offer the ultimate safari 'circuit' with guests staying at our camps and lodges across Kenya, as introduced below:

Saruni Wild is a tented camp elegantly and comfortably furnished with all the necessary luxuries of a wild yet classic safari – hot water showers, flushing loos, open safari vehicles, Italian-inspired cuisine and exceptional service. The camp is located right in the heart of the Mara plains in a forest populated by abundant 'plains game' and right in front of the migration hotspots. Enjoy uninterrupted views from your private veranda, fire-lit meals under the vast African sky, guided game drives in complete seclusion led by Maasai warriors. Saruni Wild's prime location is ideal for game-viewing, bird-watching, star-gazing and for being immersed in nature - a truly unique and life-enriching safari experience of the remarkable Masai Mara, off the beaten tracks. For more information, please visit www.saruniwild.com. (opened 2015).

Saruni Mara is the only small, boutique lodge in the Mara, with five elegant cottages, one family villa and one private villa. The beautiful rooms are each decorated to a unique theme with a luxurious, classic safari feel. The lodge is nestled in a secluded valley in the heart of the most exciting wilderness in Africa: Mara North Conservancy – an exclusive, private wildlife concession bordering the world-renowned Masai Mara National Reserve. Encounter Africa's Big Five and the most remarkable natural spectacle on Earth, the Great Migration. Enjoy the Italian-inspired cuisine, exceptional service and being immersed in nature from your private veranda, the Maasai Wellbeing Space and the open lounge and dining area. Maasai warriors guide you throughout, sharing their ancient wisdom of the area and animals and their fascinating way of life - a truly life-enriching safari experience. For more information, please visit www.sarunimara.com (opened 2003).

Saruni Rhino. In February 2017, Saruni was proud to expand its luxury collection of lodges and tented camps with the opening of 'Saruni Rhino'. Located in Sera Community Conservancy, in the wild, undiscovered northern frontier of Kenya, the camp a little over 2 driving hours from our Saruni Samburu lodge in nearby Kalama Conservancy. Saruni Rhino offers the first rhino tracking experience in East Africa: an amazing walking safari that provides a uniquely thrilling adventure, but also allows our guests to actively contribute to the protection of this iconic species. Comprised of three elegant 'bandas' (open stone cottages – 2 x double bandas & 1 x Family banda) sleeping 8 guests and a main 'mess' cottage for dining and relaxing, Saruni Rhino is nestled amidst swaying doum palms dotted along a dry river bed (the Kauro 'lugga', in the heart of the conservancy) with sweeping views of a nearby waterhole and dramatic landscape so typical of the north. The waterhole is a popular watering stop-off for a diverse range of wildlife: elephant, impala, birdlife, hyena, oryx, Grevy's zebra and much more, making it great 'bush TV' from the comfort of your cottage's sandy veranda at any time. The dry river bed proves the quintessential torch-lit bush dinner location under the vast African skies. There is also a stunning infinity swimming pool, built in harmony with the natural beauty of the surrounding landscape. Guests can enjoy a few laps in the curved pool, whilst delighting in the beach-club feel of the sandy river bed and swaying palms along-side. For more information, please visit www.sarunirhinotracking.com (opened February 2017).

You can see maps and locations for all our lodges, [here](#).

29. Can I ask you a question that is not listed here?

Please do. Email Saruni CEO, Riccardo Orizio at riccardo@saruni.com or the Saruni Samburu Manager at samburumanager@saruni.com. We look forward to hearing from you!