



Saruni Mara Factsheet

Mara North Conservancy, Kenya

Saruni Mara has one family villa, one private villa and five cottages, and is the only small boutique lodge in the Mara, making it very intimate and exclusive. The beautifully decorated and individually themed rooms have a classic safari feel, with luxurious bathrooms and showers with a view.

The lodge is tucked away in a secluded valley in Mara North Conservancy - a private and exclusive 74,000 acre wildlife concession bordering the Masai Mara National Reserve, the world's most naturally rich wilderness. Encounter the abundant wildlife away from the crowds and uninterrupted by other vehicles.

Enjoy the Italian-inspired cuisine, the relaxed and elegant atmosphere and being immersed in nature from your private veranda, the Maasai Wellbeing Space and the open lounge and dining area. Discover an array of unique and exciting activities to enjoy in total exclusivity.

Maasai warriors guide you, sharing their ancient wisdom and local knowledge of the animals, their way of life and their secret corners of the most iconic and celebrated game reserve in Kenya - a truly authentic safari experience.

Nyati House is The Owner's Villa at Saruni Mara, one of the very few private villas in the Mara. Available on an exclusive basis, guests can enjoy the thrill of the Mara in absolute seclusion from the comfort of their very own wilderness home.





Accommodation | Experiences | 6 Reasons | Important Information



ACCOMMODATION

5 x Classic Cottages

3 x doubles and 2 x twin rooms (that can become double), each en-suite with private views and verandas.

1 x Family Villa

1 x double and 1 x twin (that can become double), both rooms are en-suite and the villa has a large fireplace, spacious living and dining area and verandas.

1 x Private Villa

Nyati House, The Owner's Villa available for exclusive bookings, is very close to the main lodge, but in its own secluded valley.

All rooms can fit one extra bed to accommodate children under the age of 16 years only.

EXPERIENCES

- Day and night guided game drives
- Guided bush walks
- Bush meals and sundowners
- Birdwatching
- Stargazing
- Maasai Wellbeing Space massages & spa treatments (payable extra)
- Warriors Academy (special programme in bush skills and animal tracking)
- Drive to Mount Kilileoni
- Saruni gift shop with special local artifacts
- Cultural visit to local village market
- Migration River Crossing (National Reserve fees apply)
- Visits to the Olchorro rhino sanctuary (payable extra)
- Scenic flights or hot air balloon flights (upon request & payable extra)
- Weddings & Blessings (payable extra)

A Saruni Mara safari is all-inclusive: full board accommodation, drinks and non payable extra activities.



6 Reasons to visit Saruni Mara

① Exclusive Location

Saruni Mara is nestled into the secluded hills of the Mara North Conservancy, with the wide open game plains to the south and lush forest to the north. Guests can explore the world renowned Mara-Serengeti ecosystem in complete, uninterrupted exclusivity in this private and protected conservancy.

② Wildlife Encounters

Mara North Conservancy is teeming with wildlife. The Mara-Serengeti ecosystem, of which Mara North is part, has the highest density of predators and plains game of any wilderness in the world, and is home to the most thrilling, awe-inspiring natural spectacle on the planet - the Great Migration. Game drives are action-packed and guests are guaranteed incredible and unforgettable wildlife encounters.

③ Elegant Cottages

Saruni Mara is the only small, deluxe lodge in the area. Each room is beautifully designed and stylishly furnished according to a theme, such as the Love Shack, the Photographer's Studio, the Observatory, and the Natural History Suite.

④ Maasai-Guided Safari

One of the most remarkable aspects of a safari at Saruni Mara is the fantastic guiding experience. Guests are guided by Maasai warriors, who eagerly share their ancient customs and local knowledge of the landscape and wildlife. Over and above being professionally qualified, our guides are members of the Maasai tribe who are the proud custodians of this incredible wilderness, and who have known this area as their home for centuries.

⑤ Unique Warrior Programme

At Saruni, we offer a unique programme called 'Warriors Academy', where guests spend a few days learning the survival skills of the revered Maasai warriors - taking part in teaching in the same way as a junior warrior learns to track animals and craft tools on the plains of the Masai Mara. This is a particularly exciting activity for families with children.

⑥ Community Focused

Saruni Mara is a founding member of the Mara North Conservancy, which provides jobs, income, training and

guidance for the local Maasai people. Tourism directly supports conservation - by visiting Saruni Mara, you are directly giving back to the community who protects this beautiful land, improving their quality of life, while at the same time encouraging the purpose for conservation.





Important information

How to get there

You can fly or drive to Saruni Mara. Driving from Nairobi to Saruni Mara takes approximately 5 hours. There are numerous flights landing at the two nearest airstrips daily on Safarilink and Air Kenya, Mombasa Air and private charters. The flights are around 90 minutes, and the drive from the airstrips to Saruni Mara is around 50 minutes. Email us for more information.

Forms of payment

Saruni Mara accepts:

- Cash (US\$) newer than 2006, Euro, Sterling, CHF, KSH
- Travellers cheques
- Visa and MasterCard credit cards
- Debit Cards

Please note:

- There is a 4% surcharge for using a credit card to cover bank service fees.
- Please bring cash for gratuities.

Masai Mara Climate

Altitude: 5500 - 6400 ft.

Temperature: warm, dry days, cool nights, no humidity.

Rainfall: approx 760mm per year.

Saruni Mara vehicles

At Saruni Mara we have a fleet of 4x4 Land Rovers for all game drives and transfers, which are open sided for the best game viewing, each with a canvas roof for shade. Guests share vehicles, unless **Exclusive Use** of a vehicle has been requested (US\$350 per day).

Electricity at the Lodge

Saruni Mara runs on solar power which provides electricity (220V) 24 hours a day. A generator is on stand-by for backup. Guests' electronics can be charged in the cottages and in the main areas at all times. We have 3-point British plugs and recommend guests bring their own converters and universal plug adaptors. Each cottage has a solar panel for water heating. The lodge's power does not support large hairdryers - suitable hairdryers are provided.

Communication services

Wi-Fi internet connection is free and available in all cottages and in the office, where there is also a computer available for guest use. Mobile phone signal is available at all times (Safaricom is best).

Malaria prevention

Saruni Mara is located at 6,000 ft. and can therefore be considered malaria free. Mosquito nets are still provided in each room as a precaution. It is each guest's personal decision whether to take preventative medication or not, and one should consult their personal GP if uncertain.

Tipping guideline

Staff gratuities are entirely at the guests' discretion, and are collected by the manager and placed in the main tip box, then distributed evenly to all staff members. Guides are tipped separately.

Meals and cuisine

We offer communal dining hosted by our guides and managers, however we also encourage private dining in the rooms. Meals will be organised to suit

guests' needs, so there are no set times. The lodge has a daily three-course set menu. We cater for all dietary requirements and allergies as informed prior to arrival. The cuisine at Saruni is Italian-inspired and we use fresh and local ingredients, as well as special imported products. Bottled drinking water is provided in all rooms, at all meals and in all game drive vehicles.

Languages spoken at Saruni

English and Kiswahili.

Responsible Tourism

Saruni believes fully and invests significantly in community development and conservation.

- More than 80% of Saruni Mara's employees are Maasai from the local communities. They are trained, employed and encouraged to rise through the ranks, so that the local communities benefit directly from the lodge's presence in the area.
- Saruni formed a local women's group, where the ladies are encouraged to sell their artifacts through the Saruni shop.
- Saruni sponsors young Maasai to train as guides at the Koiyaki Guiding School, to make sure that the future generations of conservationists and safari guides will see the Maasai people in the forefront.
- The lodge protects the northern corridors of the Masai Mara ecosystem and contributes to the preservation of Lemek Conservancy and Mara North Conservancy.