

MADARAKA EXPRESS BILA STRESS!



Discover Kenya Coast Odyssey

A cultural and wildlife discovery journey through Kenya's Coast....with Mlilo Community

Kenya is a Blessed land: Full of wonders of nature and diverse cultural experiences.

This December, you have the opportunity to be part of a thrilling journey of discovery: To experience the beauty of flora, fauna and culture within Taita Taveta and Mombasa Counties. You will also have the opportunity to experience the iconic Madaraka Express, which will ensure that your travel to Kenya's Coast is on schedule, seamless and enjoyable.

DAY 1

8:00 am – You will depart with the Inter County Train from the Nairobi Terminus located in Syokimau

(You can catch the Commuter train from the CBD Railway Station at 6:10 am for onward transfer to Syokimau. Alternatively, you can make your way to Syokimau by bus/cab)

12:10 pm – After 4 hours in the SGR, you will arrive at the Voi Station, your first stop in the Kenya's Coast Odyssey. You will be transferred to your hotel for check in and lunch. After lunch you will be taken through a briefing session by your guide and taken through your 2 day itinerary while in Taita.

2,30pm - Embark on a tour to Sagalla village which is situated on Sagalla hill.

Sagalla village is situated 18kms away from Voi town. On the way, you will view The Standard Gauge Railway from a distance.

As you drive up the hill, the scenic view is breathtaking and its very refreshing. On arrival you will be met by the local women with pomp and cultural dance as you are ushered to Wray Museum.



Sagalla population came to be from a mixture of Kamba/Tanzanians from Pare hills and Wambisha (Ethiopians from Abyssinia). Sagalla Ward lies at a Latitude 03° 30' S and Longitude 038° 34' E. Sagalla rests on a hill where Wray Church was built by Father Joseph Wray in 1900.

Sagalla is the home for the first inland church by the Church Missionary Society (CMS) center that was established in 1883. The Old St. Mark Church measuring 60x40 ft. is a unique structure that was built mainly of iron sheets and wood and still stands to date.

This old church building was turned into a community museum in 2006 after a new church was constructed nearby. Rev. Wray was a missionary who landed in Sagalla alone in 1883. He returned to UK in 1895 where he went and married and returned with his wife in 1897. Rev. Wray brought Christianity to the local community, introduced health care services and education. He was also an advisor to the British government. He wrote the 1st Sagalla/English dictionary which is still used to date. He translated the bible, prayer and song book from English to Sagalla. He had a son called Arthur Wray but was given a local name Mwakichuchu after a local elder who was a good friend to Rev. Wray. There is a local High School which is named after his son.

There is also a Primary School named after the Rev. called Wray Primary School. Rev. Wray returned back to England in 1912 but his extended family still visit Sagalla occasionally.

There shall be souvenirs on display by local women and you are free to buy. Local entertainment from this ward will continue as you visit the museum.

After visiting the museum proceed to a local church for some prayers and thanks giving with the community before descending back to Voi and to your hotel.

Dinner and overnight at Vacani Resort

DAY 2

7.00am – Breakfast is served.

8.00 am – After breakfast, you will depart for Taveta, which is approximately 120 kilometres from Voi Town. Enroute, you will visit the battlefield sites of Maili 27 in Mwashoti.



11.00 am - You will then visit Picket hill, the field where the 1st plane landed in Mwakitau. Afterwards, you will proceed to Salaita hill and visit the famous baobab tree which has WW1 marks, where the first shot which started out the East African Campaign was fired.

1.00 pm – Upon arrival in Taveta town , you will check in your hotel, in time for lunch and spend the afternoon shopping at the Taveta Border market.

Evening dinner and overnight at Lake Jipe Lodge.



Salaita hill

At Salaita Hill, there is a hollowed Baobab tree with an interesting myth of a German woman who became stranded during the build up to the war when she was visiting her boyfriend, a young officer stationed at Salaita Hill. Allegedly, the woman was sheltering inside the Baobab tree which she occasionally used as a tree cave to hide with her boyfriend. The woman carried a sporting rifle and she successfully sniped at the British troops from her hideout on the baobab tree. The Germany fortress, built of volcanic stones was used during WW1 by the German Army. It is located strategically on a high ground which enabled the Germany Army to point out the Enemy easier.

Lake Chala

Lake Chala is found at the Kenya – Tanzania boarder. The border bisects the lake into almost two equal halves. It was formed like a gigantic bowl characterized by a steep depression whose source is thought to be Mt. Kilimanjaro.



According to Taveta myth Lake Chala was once a village. One evening an old woman visited the village seeking for assistance in form of food and shelter. Many of the inhabitants would not assist her; some even chastised and humiliated her. However, one lady empathized and helped the stranger. That night the stranger told her host that the village would experience a powerful tremor; further she advised the host to hold fast onto central mast of her house. Indeed the tremor came to pass and the lady obeyed the old woman's instructions. Everybody else in the village perished during the tremor except the host and her family.

Njoro springs

This Canal was built by Colonel Grogan in the 1950's purposely to irrigate his farms and supply the WWII soldiers with fresh farm products. He started by planting rice and vegetables but shortly thereafter, abandoned the project at the dawn of Kenya's independence; he settled in South Africa. Prehistoric materials were also found around the site. The underground water springs occupy an area about one acre. It is the source of water for the entire Taveta area

DAY 3

7.00am – Breakfast is served.

8.00 am – After breakfast, you will depart for Njoro Springs in Taveta. You will be taken through a tour of Njoro Springs, which includes site seeing and photograph taking. You will also have a cultural dance experience of the Luworo Dancers from Taveta.



12.30 pm - You will head to lunch at a homestay within Taveta for a Cultural Lunch experience then afterwards, head for a tour of Lake Chala. You will then be transferred to Wundanyi. Dinner and overnight at Taita Rocks Hotel in Wundanyi Sub County.

DAY 4

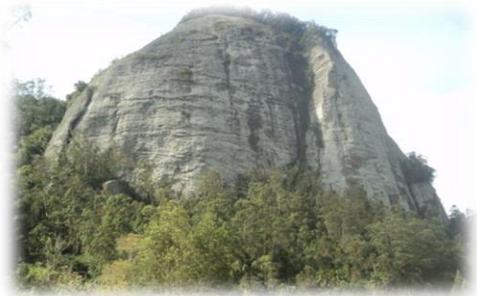
7.00am – Breakfast is served.

8.00 am – After breakfast, you will get a chance to visit Wesu hill, which is considered “The Landmark of Taita.” with its imposing look that overlooks Wundanyi town. You will have a great view from the top of the hill as well as visit a campsite cum prayer site used by locals located on top of the hill.

10:30 am - Later that morning, you will get to visit the Kenyatta caves, a popular site for site seeing and photography

12:30 pm - Leave for Njama Mzango cultural centre for local lunch and cultural dance entertainment coupled with dancing and interaction with the local community

3:00 pm – After an eventful day, you will drive back to Voi to check in your hotel. Farewell dinner and overnight at Vacani Resort.



Jomo Kenyatta caves

Caves are locally known as the Kino caves or Jomo Kenyatta caves. These caves were used by some of the freedom fighters of Kenya and East Africa. They were used for hiding from the colonial rulers, the British in Kenya and the Germans in Tanzania.

There are three caves; the first one is where Mzee Jomo Kenyatta used to meet with fellow, Kenyans to discuss mainly the Kenyan business. The second one he used to meet the late President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania. The 3rd cave was a kitchen where Mr. Nyambu's wife cooked for Kenyatta and his guests.

Wesu hill is found in Wundanyi sub-county, Taita-Taveta County in Kenya. The site is famous for nature walking, photograph taking, holding event such as camping, bonfire and picnics.

Njama Mizango cultural Centre is situated in Wundanyi sub-county in Kitukunyi. The cultural Centre is open every Thursday, the activities that can be undertaken here are cultural food cooking i.e. Kimanga, drum playing, showing and viewing of other local Artifacts of the Taita community and Taita dance performance and singing.



PACKAGE COSTS

BASIC OPTION – ACCOMMODATION AT HOMESTAY options in VOI, TAVETA and WUNDANYI.

COST PER PERSON SHARING **KSHS. 41,000**

COST PER PERSON IN A SINGLE ROOM **KSHS. 45,000**

PREMIUM OPTION – ACCOMMODATION AT VACANI RESORT IN VOI, LAKE JIPE RESORT IN TAVETA AND TAITA ROCKS HOTEL IN WUNDANYI

COST PER PERSON SHARING **KSHS. 49,500**

COST PER PERSON IN A SINGLE ROOM **KSHS. 58,000**

Above cost includes:

- Return transport to Voi on First Class aboard the Madaraka Express on the Standard Gauge Railway.
- Transport throughout your entire time of the Safari on a 7 seater 4 x 4 tour van with an English Speaking guide.
- Services of a Professional Battlefields guide during the entire time of your safari.
- Accommodation on Half board basis within the listed accommodation facilities as per the itinerary.
- All cultural lunches during the duration of the entire safari
- Entrance fees to the listed heritage sites as per the itinerary.
- Entrance Fee to the Taita Hills Wildlife Sanctuary and entry to the WW1 museum.

Above Cost DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Any park fees for Tsavo West/East National Park which will be payable direct to KWS upon park entry.
- Flying doctor's service
- All items of personal nature e.g. laundry, alcoholic & non-alcoholic drinks and all others services not mentioned in the inclusions or in the itinerary
- Tips & Gratuities to hotel/lodge staff, driver, professional safari & battlefield guide which is all at your discretion