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Luxury firm packages a 'million-dollar safari'

By Nadine Godwin



The Extraordinary Journeys package includes game viewing at the Singita Grumeti Reserve in the Serengeti.

Extraordinary Journeys, a New York-based specialty tour operator with expertise in upscale African travel, rolled out a 36-day, custom itinerary that it dubbed the "million-dollar safari" because of its exclusive features and because it literally could cost a family of four a million dollars.

The program is a proposal that can be further customized to each client's preferences, but as presented, it would take guests to Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana, South Africa and Mozambique, utilizing charter flights throughout,

beginning in the U.S. Clients would stay in private manor houses, exclusive luxury camps and other unique upscale accommodations.

Mark Homan, a Zimbabwe-born private guide with 18 years' experience, is slated to accompany the customers for all sightseeing and will join them on the initial flight from the U.S. upon request.

Travelers can opt for dates through August 2014 unless dates have already been booked with Homan by others.

The 36-day trip, inclusive of all meals, drinks and sightseeing or other described activities, is priced from \$202,400 per person or from \$809,600 for a family or group of four. Agency commission is 10%.

The itinerary ranges from gorilla trekking in Rwanda and lunch with giraffes outside Nairobi in Kenya to South African wine country and beach time at a private villa in Mozambique.

Among the many trip components:

- Game viewing in Kenya's Maasai Mara Game Reserve, while housed in "absolute privacy" in the recently opened Cottar's Homestead, served by eight dedicated staff and described as the only private luxury home in the Maasai Mara.
- Game viewing at the Singita Grumeti Reserve in the western Serengeti, a former hunting concession that is now a private reserve in Tanzania. Accommodations are at the Sasakwa Lodge, an Edwardian-style manor house.
- Luxury tent living in Botswana at Zarafa Camp in the Selinda Reserve and at Mombo Camp at the Moremi Game Reserve. The Moremi Reserve is in the Okavango Delta, the largest inland water system on the planet, and was founded by the local BaTswana people to support the area's wildlife.
- A pause in Cape Town, South Africa, for local sightseeing and in-city fine dining, while accommodated at Ellerman House, a historical landmark in the exclusive suburb of Bantry Bay.

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Extraordinary Journeys was founded by Marcia and Elizabeth Gordon, a mother-daughter team with decades of experience living and working in Africa. The company can be found online at www.ejafrika.com.

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