

Here's a few things you should know about the trip:

We're so glad that you want to come to Kenya! We will be reaching out in person to answer your questions, discuss expectations, and share a few stories to get you excited. In the meantime, read over these details to help you prepare for your adventure.

COST AND PAYMENT

Daraja tours cost \$2,890.00 per person. This cost includes 8 nights of accommodation, all in-country transportation, 90% of meals, and all listed activities. This cost also includes a built-in donation to Daraja Academy. This payment does not include flights, visa costs, immunization expenses, travel insurance, souvenirs, or other personal items.

We ask for a deposit of \$500 per person to confirm your spot on the trip. The rest of the payment (\$2390) will be due by the following dates:

May trip: April 5, 2019

September trip: August 8, 2019

If you are ready to register, [click here](#).

BOOKING YOUR FLIGHT

Arrange your flight to arrive on the first day of the tour and to depart the last day of the tour. We will pick you up and drop you off at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi. Flights should depart after 4pm on the last day of the tour.

May trip: Arrive on May 5th, Depart on May 12th

September trip: Arrive on Sept 8th, Depart on Sept 15th

If you need to arrive a day early or depart a day late, we will arrange an extra night of accommodation at the Fairview Hotel.

If you would like help booking your flights, we recommend Jill Romano at [Dimensions in Travel](#). They can help coordinate flights and purchase travel insurance. They can be reached at (800) 828-2962 or (415) 475-5535. Explain that you are going on a trip with Daraja. They charge a booking fee of \$75 for airfare and \$100 for mileage tickets.

If you're interested in booking additional trips or excursions before/after your Daraja tour, Dimensions in Travel can help you. You can also contact our on-campus volunteer coordinator, Stems, for advice about additional trips to take or sights to see. He can be contacted by emailing stephen@daraja-academy.org.

TOURIST VISA

You will need to arrange for your own travel visa to Kenya, but this is a very straightforward process! You can apply for your Single Entry Visa online at [Kenya Online Visa](#). Although they promise a 4-day turnaround, we recommend that you complete this process at least two weeks before your flight. The single entry visa cost is \$51. Please contact Bethany Hardy at bethany@daraja-academy.org if you have questions about this process.

IMMUNIZATIONS

We recommend talking to a doctor before your trip to get recommendations on vaccinations or medications you may need.

Please note that Nanyuki sits at a high elevation, so malaria isn't a concern in our area. Kenya requires that all incoming tourists get the Yellow Fever Vaccine for entry into the country. This vaccine takes 10 days to be considered valid, so please plan accordingly!

PHONES

You can check with your cellphone provider to learn the cost of an international plan while you are in Kenya, or you can choose to purchase a prepaid SIM card upon arrival. Many past visitors have simply turned their phones onto airplane mode and just used wifi to communicate back home. Wifi will be available at the Fairview Hotel and Ol Pejeta, as well as on Daraja campus. Please note that although wifi is available, it can be spotty.

ACCOMMODATION

The accommodations on the Daraja campus are called “bandas” with cement floors, thatched roofs, and a standard western bathroom. However, if you would rather not stay on the Daraja campus (it is a tad rustic!), we are happy to book you accommodation at the following hotels for an additional cost:

- [Mt. Kenya Safari Club](#)
- [Falcon Heights Hotel](#)

PACKING LIST

You should pack for dry days with temperatures in the 70s. The dress code is more conservative on campus; shoulders should be covered, and skirts/dresses/shorts should come to at least the knees. Other suggested items include:

- Passport
- Anti-Malarial medication, Advil, Benadryl, anti-diarrheal tablets, Tums, and any other personal medications
- Buy spray & sunscreen
- Plug adapters (Kenya uses the British outlet)
- Hand sanitizer
- Flashlight/headlamp (it can get pretty dark on campus!)
- A smaller backpack for day trips
- Reusable Water bottle
- Camera with extra batteries
- Lightweight pants, shirts, and dresses for everyday use
- A few sweaters and a light jackets for cooler evenings, as well as for the early-morning game drive
- Sturdy sandals
- Flip-flops for the shower
- Lightweight closed-toe sneakers
- One or two nicer outfits for graduation, and dinners in town
- Hats & sunglasses
- Snacks (although we will do our best to cater to individual dietary needs, if you have particular restrictions it’s always wise to have backup options on hand!)

ITINERARY

DAY 1

Welcome to Nairobi! We'll pick you up from the airport and take you to the luxurious [Fairview Hotel](#) where you'll meet the rest of your party. Spend the evening exploring the city, or head to bed early in preparation for a big week!

DAY 2

We'll spend the morning exploring Nairobi, visiting the incredible [David Sheldrick Elephant Sanctuary](#), and collecting souvenirs at the legendary [Kitengela Hot Glass](#). We'll hit the road in the early afternoon and head for Daraja, stopping in Karen for a meal. When we get to campus, you'll have time to settle into your accommodation (a traditional banda) before setting off on a campus tour with a Daraja girl – now your Daraja guide! She'll tell you about [her daily life at Daraja](#) and introduce you to her “family tree.”

DAY 3

Today, you'll walk in the footsteps of a Daraja girl. A local will give you a tour through Mara Moja, a nearby village, ending in a home visit for traditional chai and chapati. We'll then visit a class at the Ol Girigiri Primary School, so you can experience what elementary school was like for most of the Daraja girls. We'll return to campus to have lunch with the students where you'll sit with your Daraja guide and the rest of the girls in her family tree! In the afternoon, you'll go on a short hike with your Daraja guide and have the opportunity to hear about her own journey to Daraja.

DAY 4

Today, we will take a field trip to the [Twala Cultural Manyatta](#), a co-op run by Maasai women. This will include a baboon walk, a tour of the aloe vera and bee farms, traditional Maasai songs and dance, and the opportunity to buy beautiful hand-beaded souvenirs directly from the women who make them. We'll then return to campus so you can have an exclusive dinner with Daraja Academy's administration, including Principal Victoria Gichuhi and Dean of Academics Charles Mbuto. This is a great chance to ask questions and learn more about the school from the people who manage it.

DAY 5

Wake up early for a beautiful sunrise hike around campus, and then get ready to volunteer! Several different volunteer projects will be available; if you already have something in mind, let us know! In the afternoon, you'll have the chance to

attend and participate in Daraja's unique [WISH \(Women of Integrity, Strength, and Hope\)](#) class.

DAY 6

After breakfast, you can attend one of the optional "Spiritual Time" (Protestant, Catholic, and Muslim) services around campus. Attend your own religious service, or experience another. Even nonreligious visitors have raved about the incredible music and the chance to hear girls tell their own stories in a group setting. After Spiritual Time, it is sadly time to pack up and say goodbye (for now!) to the Daraja girls. We'll leave for a safari at the [Ol Pejeta Conservancy](#) where we'll stay at the beautiful [Sweet Waters Serena Camp](#).

DAY 7

We'll spend the whole day going on game drives at [Ol Pejeta Conservancy!](#) We'll be looking to see each of the "Big 5" in one of the most famous conservancies in Kenya. You'll never forget the wildlife, but you'll be equally amazed by the incredible landscape. This day is a true highlight for most Daraja visitors.

DAY 8

We'll leave Ol Pejeta late morning and stop for an early lunch at [Trout Tree](#) outdoor restaurant. (Great place to spot monkeys and hyraxes!) Then we'll make sure to take you to a few final souvenir spots as we travel back to Nairobi and drop you off at the airport. After the week you've had, you'll definitely sleep on the plane!

If you are ready to register, [click here!](#)