



TANZANIA

(February 17-27, 2011)

Human Origins and the Great Migration

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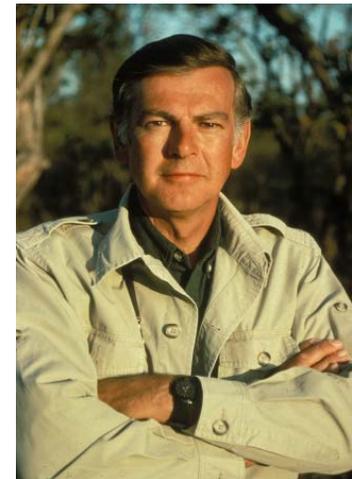
Dr. Donald Johanson

Recipient of the Explorers Club Medal, 2010

DR. DON JOHANSON

... is famed for his discovery of Lucy, a 3.2 million-year-old hominid skeleton which he unearthed in Ethiopia's remote Afar region in 1974. In today's scientific community few men have created the kind of excitement and controversy that Donald Johanson has brought to the field of paleoanthropology.... the kind of attention usually reserved for rock stars! Johanson's book, *LUCY: THE BEGINNINGS OF HUMANKIND*, winner of the American Book Award in Science, intimately chronicles his discovery of the remarkable 3.2 million-year-old Lucy skeleton and highlights its importance for comprehending who we are and where we came from. Human ancestor finds far more ancient than Lucy have been recovered, but she remains the benchmark in paleoanthropology by which all other discoveries are judged.

Currently Dr. Johanson is the Founding Director of the internationally respected Institute of Human Origins, a human evolutionary 'think tank' he founded in 1981. Through research, education and sponsorship of scholarly interaction IHO fosters the pursuit of integrated solutions to the most important questions regarding the course, cause and timing of events in human evolution. At present, Dr. Johanson's primary goal is to further IHO's prominence by attaining a position of world leadership in the study of human origins and evolution.



Johanson is a frequent lecturer at universities and other forums, worldwide. He has co-authored nine books now available in ten languages and has published in the National Geographic Magazine and innumerable scientific journals. Johanson hosted and narrated an Emmy nominated 3-part PBS/NOVA series entitled *IN SEARCH OF HUMAN ORIGINS*. He is an Honorary Board Member of the Explorers Club and the 2010 recipient of the Explorers Club Medal, a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, and many other professional organizations, and recipient of several international prizes and awards.

Thursday, February 17

SAN FRANCISCO / INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT TO AMSTERDAM

Depart San Francisco on Delta flight #258 at 8:00AM to Amsterdam (or other arrangements).

Friday, February 18

AMSTERDAM / KILIMANJARO / RIVERTREES COUNTRY INN

Arrive in Amsterdam at 6:35AM and connect to KLM flight #569 to Kilimanjaro, Tanzania departing at 11:00AM. Upon arrival at 8:25PM you are met and transferred by vehicle (approximately ½ hour) to the Rivertrees Country Inn nestled between Kilimanjaro and Mount Meru, in natural gardens along the Usa River.

This is a small Country Inn accommodating up to 24 guests, guaranteeing privacy, personal attention and service. Each room is individually styled and uniquely furnished with its own character. Outside the window colorful flowers bloom in season, while scattered trees offering shade fill in the picture giving a peaceful and relaxing ambiance. The old farmhouse and restaurant are comfortably furnished with inviting fireplaces to ward off the evening chill and country style kitchens round off the picture of a peaceful African home. The pool is located near the river and surrounded by sights and sounds of nature.



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Saturday, February 19

NGORONGORO CRATER / LEMALANGORONGORO CAMP

This morning you driven from the Rivertrees Country Inn to Tanzania's famous Ngorongoro Crater, which was once a gigantic volcano, perhaps taller than Kilimanjaro. When the volcano collapsed, a vast bowl known as a caldera was formed, measuring about 11 miles across, with a depth of some 2000 feet and 102 sq miles of crater floor. It is one of the most perfectly formed – and certainly the most spectacular – calderas on the planet, with an impressive assemblage of wildlife within. The world-famous Ngorongoro Crater is a designated World Heritage Site likened to Noah's Ark in its preservation of diversity.

After getting settled and having lunch you take an afternoon game drive into the Crater. The Crater is the permanent home of up to 30,000 larger animals, almost half of them being zebra and wildebeest. Animals resident within this vast intact ecosystem include lion, elephant, black rhino, warthog, hippo, buffalo and many plains herbivores such as wildebeest, Thomson's gazelle, zebra, eland and reedbuck. If you wish to see the fierce cats of Africa, the crater is a dream come true: an abundance of predators are drawn by the vast herds of antelope. The golden jackal is frequently seen during the day, while the black-backed jackal and bat-eared fox are most active after dark. *This evening you have a cultural talk by a Maasai chief's son.*



Accommodation at the Lemala Ngorongoro is intimate with only nine spacious and stylishly decorated tents each with a wooden platform. Each tent has either 2 large single beds or a king-size double bed and a private bathroom which contains a dressing area, flush toilet shower and basin with running water. A dedicated sitting and dining tent provides deep sofas from which to contemplate the vastness and peace of the surrounding landscape. Relax under the dark velvet night sky and sample hearty cuisine served on sparkling crystal and silver that reflects the sparkling light of millions of shining stars. Cluster around a roaring campfire to share stories of the day's magic and listen to the African night come alive.

***Optional:** If time allows, you may want to visit a Masai Boma which is about a 10 minute drive from camp. The Masai villages around Tanzania are proud of their strong and mighty Masai warriors. While visiting a village you will be rewarded with the Masai in traditional dress and the traditional dance. You are shown to the huts which are built of cow dung! (Additional cost: \$100.00 per vehicle which is paid directly to the village.)*



Sunday & Monday, February 20&21

SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK / SOUTHERN SERENGETI LEMALA LUXURY CAMP

On the morning of February 20 you drive to the Ndutu area in the Southern Serengeti with a picnic lunch. Along the way, stop to visit the Olduvai Gorge, commonly referred to as "The Cradle of Mankind." It is a steep-sided ravine in the Great Rift Valley, which stretches along eastern Africa. Olduvai is in the eastern Serengeti Plains in northern Tanzania and is about 30 miles long. It is one of the most important prehistoric sites in the world and has been instrumental in furthering understanding of early human evolution. Excavations in the early twentieth century by the famous archaeologist, Dr Louis Leakey, uncovered some of the earliest remains of fossil hominids at Olduvai.



Seventeen years after the first discovery of human forms, Leakey's wife, Mary, discovered the unmistakable fossilized footprints of a human ancestor who had walked along a riverbank three million years ago. Since then, excavators working in Olduvai have found skeletal remains of a number of ancient hominids. There is also a museum where you can listen to lectures and see visual representation of the discoveries made in the region.

Arrive in the Ndutu area in the late afternoon. Accommodation at Lemala Serengeti is of the same standards of Lemala Ngorongoro and offers great charm and luxury in a prime location of the Serengeti.

During your time here explore the endless plains of the Serengeti on early morning and late afternoon / evening game drives in an open 4x4 safari vehicle. Morning game drives begin as the sun is rising and the nocturnal predators are ending their nightly hunts. There is always the chance of seeing a pride of lions lingering over last night's kill or a leopard relaxing on a branch where it has wedged its prey.

This is the best time to be in this stunning area as you witness Africa's annual Great Migration. From the vast Serengeti plains to the champagne-colored hills of Kenya's Maasai Mara, over 1.4 million wildebeest and 200,000 zebra and gazelle, relentlessly tracked by Africa's great predators, migrate in a clockwise fashion over 1,800 miles each year in search of rain-ripened grass. It is truly a staggering experience! If the rains are timely, encounter the vast herds of the wildebeest migration (all 2 million of them!). If the rains are late, you will still be within driving distance of these great herds. Here you also go in search of a number of predators for which the area is renowned. There are excellent opportunities for seeing lion, cheetah and hyena as well as the plains game great and small. The birdlife is particularly rich with many migrants.

Tuesday & Wednesday, February 22 & 23
SERENGETI NATIONAL PARK / CENTRAL SERENGETI
LEMALA EWANJAN CAMP

On the morning of February 22 you are driven to the Central Serengeti and Lemala Ewanjan Camp. Again, accommodation at Lemala Ewanjan Camp is of the same standards of Lemala Ngorongoro and offers great charm and luxury set along the game rich Seronera Valley in a spectacular location on the western slopes of Makoma Hills. During your stay you take game drives twice daily and there is the option to walk for closer encounters with the local flora and fauna. There is also the option to take a spectacular balloon ride over the vast Serengeti.





The Central Serengeti has resident wildlife year round because of the permanent water sources which makes spending a couple of nights in this area a wonderful experience. The largest pride of resident lions and cheetahs are found here and reside along the Seronera River. Kopjes (the small granite rock formations that loom out of the seas of grass) are home to many of the cats as they provide a perfect viewing point of the predator-rich plains.

Thursday & Friday, February 24 & 25

WEST KILIMANJARO / NDARAKWAI RANCH

On the morning of February 24 you are transferred to the Seronera Airstrip to board your scheduled flight to Arusha. From here you are driven to Ndarakwai Ranch, a permanent tented lodge which encompasses over 11,000 acres.

With views of both Mt. Meru and Africa's

tallest mountain, Mt. Kilimajaro, the camp is nestled in a lush forest of towering fig, and yellow-barked acacias that line the seasonal Ngare Nairobi River. There are 12 spacious tents with thatched roofs, private bathrooms with safari-style showers and a large separate dining area.

Ndarakwai Ranch offers an intimate atmosphere where your every need is catered to. Mealtimes are flexible and can be arranged with your guide and the camp manager. Picnic lunches, bush breakfasts, and a bush campfire are easily arranged. In the evening, gather around either of 2 indoor fireplaces or an outdoor campfire for snacks and sundowners. Welcome the African night, replete with elephants that ghost through the camp and the mesmerizing cries of bush babies in the trees.

Numerous wildlife and cultural activities are on offer at Ndarakwai. There are guided full or half day walks (where the emphasis can either be on game or bird watching), game drives, and night game drives. You can also visit local Masai villages to photograph and buy authentic beaded jewelry. In addition, a horseback safari company is located at the camp and offers half or full day horse rides and you won't want to miss out on a visit to the 'tree house' where you can delight in watching game at the waterhole.



Saturday, February 26

KILIMANJARO / INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT TO AMSTERDAM

In the late afternoon you are driven to Kilimanjaro Airport. Board KLM flight #571 departing for Amsterdam at 9:40PM.

Sunday, February 27

AMSTERDAM / INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT TO SAN FRANCISCO

Arrive Amsterdam at 7:40PM. Connect to KLM flight #605 departing at 11:20AM for San Francisco, arriving at 1:20PM (or other arrangements).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Cost of Safari:

This price is for travelers 16 years and older: \$8,585.00 Per Person

This price is for ages 12-15 (Sharing room with 2 adults): \$6,990.00 per person (maximum 3 to a room)

NOTE: \$2,500.00pp is included in the above costs as a charitable contribution to Arizona State University-Institute of Human Origins.

Capacity: Minimum / Maximum of 12 travelers plus Don Johanson (7 rooms total)

Safari Includes

General: All ground and air charter transportation upon landing in Africa; accommodation, guides and vehicle throughout; taxes; park fees; and activities stated in the itinerary; gratuities to guides and staff.

Rivertrees Country Inn: Breakfast

Lemala Crater Camp: All meals, most beverages, limited laundry, tour of the Crater

Lemala Serengeti Camp (Ndutu): All meals, most beverages, limited laundry

Lemala Ewanjan: All meals, most beverages, limited laundry

Ndarakwai Ranch: All meals, game activities

Safari Excludes

General: U.S. domestic and international airfare; medical immunizations; passport fees; visa fee for Tanzania; accident/baggage/medevac & cancellation insurance, individual transfers, excursions deviating from the scheduled tour; excess baggage charges; medical expenses; airport departure fees and taxes; telephone or fax charges; room service; and other items of a purely personal nature.

Rivertrees Country Inn: Dinner, beverages

Lemala Ngorongoro Camp: Imported wines & spirits, walk on the rim, visit to Maasai Boma

Lemala Serengeti Camp (Ndutu): Imported wines & spirits

Lemala Ewanjan: Imported wines & spirits, balloon ride, game walks

Ndarakwai Ranch: Beverages, laundry, some activities such as horseback riding