



Birding 'The Great Migration' of Kenya

01-13 July 2013

Jerry & Robin Jourdan



'The Great Migration'

- 2 million+ Wildebeest and Zebra migrate N from Tanzania across the Sand and Mara Rivers into Kenya - Jun-Sep (Peak is Aug)
- 500,000 calves born in Serengeti in Jan-Feb
 - 2/3 will not survive their first year
 - Predation from Lions and Crocodiles and drowning
- Instinct drives animals across same portions of river each year
 - Passing may be safer just hundreds of yards up or down a river



Itinerary

29-30 Jun 2013 – Detroit to Amsterdam to Nairobi

01-02 Jul 2013 – Nairobi, Kenya

02-03 Jul 2013 – Mara Sopa Lodge, Masai Mara NR

04-07 Jul 2013 – Mara Serena Lodge, Masai Mara NR

07 Jul 2013 – Nairobi, Kenya

08 Jul 2013 – Lake Nakuru National Park

09 Jul 2013 – Nairobi National Park,

David Sheldrake Orphanage, Karen Blixen House

10 Jul 2013 – Paradise Lost Resort, Nairobi

11-13 Jul 2013 – Amboseli National Park

13-14 Jul 2013 – Nairobi to Amsterdam to Detroit



Traveling Companions

Guy St. Clair, Andrew Berner, Sandra Kitt, Deb Tiborenski

Charles Masese (Driver / Guide)

Nerissa Kamar (Host)

Preparation

Vaccinations!

- Yellow Fever
- Hepatitis A/B
- Polio
- Rabies
- Tetanus

Money

- No Traveler's Checks
- \$1 US ~ 100 Ksh
- ATM fix everything (not!)
- Cash needed everywhere
- Credit Cards unreliable

Clothing

- Temps in 50's to 70's entire trip
- No insects
- Do not drink the water



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01 – 02 Jul 2013 – Nairobi, Kenya

Village Villa Bed & Breakfast

- Served as the hub between national reserves / parks
- Across from the Village Market
- Short distance from US and Foreign Embassies
- First African bird – Pied Wagtail



02-03 Jul 2013 – Mara Sopa Lodge, Masai Mara NR

Mara Sopa Lodge

- Stuck in the mud 4 Km from destination
- Cell phone service amazing
- First migrants of Zebra and Wildebeest
- Don't mess w/ the game wardens



04-07 Jul 2013 – Mara Serena Lodge, Masai Mara NR

Mara Serena Lodge

- First big herds of the migration
- Navigating monster water-holes on the only road to destination
- Spectacular panoramic scenery from balcony of lodge
- Zebra vs. crocodile on the Mara River

...agne breakfast on the plains



07 Jul 2013 – Nairobi

Farewell Masai Mara!

- Busted shock
- Dust-bowl driving in scorching heat
- Security checkpoints and corruption



08 Jul 2013 – Lake Nakuru National Park

Lake Nakuru

- Soda lake and home to millions of flamingos!
- Flooded for past several years
- Menengai Crater and Schallow's Wheatear



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09 Jul 2013 – Nairobi National Park, Nairobi, Kenya

Nairobi National Park

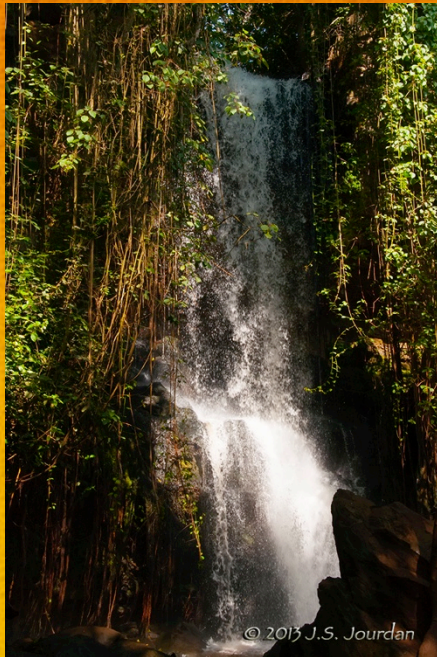
- Elephant Memorial
- Wildlife in the heart of a big city
- David Sheldrick elephant orphanage
- Karen Blixen house and 'Out of Africa'



10 Jul 2013 – Paradise Lost Resort, Nairobi, Kenya

The Caves!

- kenyan freedom fighters hid from British in 1941 for 10 yrs!
- caverns and tunnels stretch for over 80 km
- Nairobi at rush hour = world's largest traffic jam



11-13 Jul 2013 – Amboseli National Park

The Sopa Lodge at Amboseli

- blown engine 30 minutes from destination
- how do explain hitting a giraffe w/ your van?
- elephants and mt. kilimanjaro
- wash-board roads and running out of gas? Will we make it

home?



Kenya 2013





Thanks to:
Guy St. Clair ~ inviting us
Nerissa Kamar ~ hosting us
Charles Masese ~ driving/guiding/befriending us