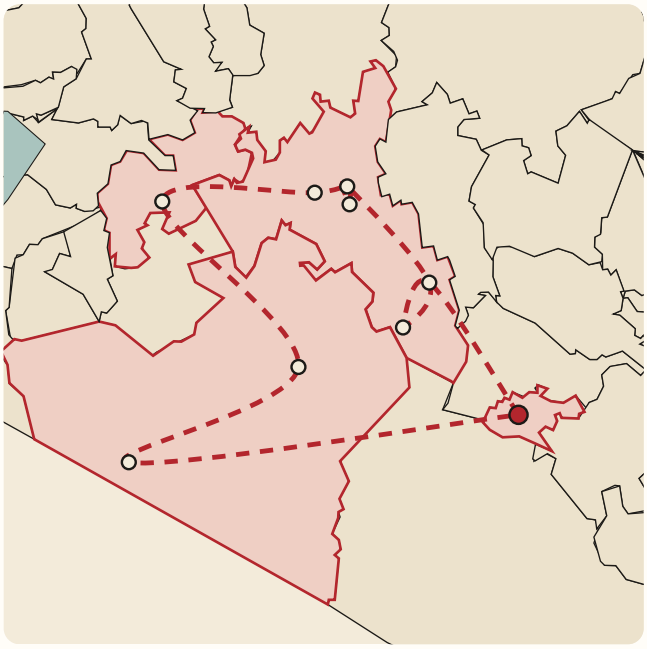
KENYA EXPERIENCE SUMMER CAMP ACADEMY 2027, 14 DAYS

Nyika: Guardians of the Land

Rift Valley artisans, flower farm workers, energy and lake communities at Naivasha, conservation neighbours at Lake Nakuru, Ogiek forest hosts, tea growers and Maasai pastoral households, then a Big Five safari in the Maasai Mara.

LENGTH	PRICE
14 days, 13 nights	$9,900 per student
REGION	**SAFARI**
South Rift and the Mara	Maasai Mara National Reserve
HOSTS	**DISTANCE**
Ogiek, Maasai and other Rift Valley hosts; land, livestock, forests and conservation.	About 1,245 km by road

Hotels, hosts, school and church visits, park access, route distances and 2027 pricing are proposed and subject to confirmation. Wildlife sightings are not guaranteed. Religious participation is voluntary; equivalent learning is available. Full board, twin sharing, international airfare excluded. Proposed 2027 rate, subject to confirmation.



1 Nairobi, 2 Naivasha, 3 Hell's Gate, 4 Nakuru, 5 Lake Nakuru, 6 Njoro, 7 Kericho, 8 Narok, 9 Maasai Mara

Capstone: People, Land and Wildlife

Propose a community-led conservation and livelihood solution.

Discover the Big Five

Maasai Mara National Reserve. Guided safari seeking lion, elephant, leopard, rhino and buffalo across the scheduled wildlife sites. Wild animal sightings are never guaranteed. Sanctuary and ranger access are subject to approval. All scheduled wildlife safaris include private 4x4 safari Land Cruisers and professional driver-guides.

Live the culture

Participate in safe household routines, traditional food preparation, language, oral histories, crafts and seasonal livelihoods. Hosts choose what to share; students rotate in small supervised groups.

Learn together

Proposed local school exchanges and church youth/community engagement; participation in religious activities is voluntary, with equivalent alternatives. Visits depend on calendars, consent and safeguarding approval.

Responsible engagement

Pay hosts fairly; do not replace local workers. No hazardous tasks, unsupervised wildlife contact or clinical work. Photography and recording require consent.

Full-board routine

Breakfast, host-prepared or packed lunch, and dinner. Evening rest, journals and preparation. Arrival and departure meals depend on flight times.

Graduation and recognition

Proposed university or partner venue, KESCA certificates, Tourism Ambassador induction and Kwaheri Night.

Day by day

DAY 1, NAIROBI

Karibu Kenya: orientation

Morning: JKIA airport pickup, supervised transfer and hotel check-in; rest according to flight arrival. Afternoon: Welcome by academy team; safety, safeguarding, cultural etiquette, Kiswahili greetings and learning briefing before regional departure. Evening: Rest and journal: Personal learning goals and signed group code of conduct. Overnight: Nairobi, Tamarind Tree or Sarova Stanley. About 25 km of road and local travel.

DAY 2, NAIVASHA

Rift Valley artisans

Morning: Depart Nairobi after briefing; Kitengela Glass recycled design demonstration if routing permits. Afternoon: Travel to Naivasha; discuss livelihoods, water and tourism with local educator. Community: Discuss everyday artisan work, family meals and how skills pass between generations. Evening: Rest and journal: Recycling value chain. Overnight: Naivasha, Naivasha Sopa or Enashipai. About 150 km of road and local travel.

DAY 3, NAIVASHA

Flower farm workers and growers

Morning: Approved floriculture visit; safe sorting or packing demonstration. Afternoon: Discuss exports, employment and water use with invited practitioners. Community: Meet growers and workers to discuss household routines, employment and food preparation. Evening: Rest and journal: Flower supply chain. Overnight: Naivasha, Naivasha Sopa or Enashipai. About 35 km of road and local travel.

DAY 4, NAIVASHA

Energy and lake communities

Morning: Hell's Gate geology and proposed Olkaria energy education. Afternoon: Meet wetland educator or fishing hosts; compare energy, water and livelihoods. Community: Exchange ideas with a local school on water, renewable energy and daily life around the lake. Evening: Rest and journal: Energy and wetland diagram. Overnight: Naivasha, Naivasha Sopa or Enashipai. About 45 km of road and local travel.

DAY 5, NAKURU

Rift Valley heritage educators

Morning: Kariandusi archaeology en route to Nakuru. Afternoon: Hyrax Hill or host-led settlement history; discuss evidence and community change. Community: Practice local greetings and discuss family histories with invited cultural educators. Evening: Rest and journal: Archaeology field notes. Overnight: Nakuru, Sarova Woodlands or Lion Hill. About 90 km of road and local travel.

DAY 6, NAKURU

Conservation neighbors

Morning: Lake Nakuru educational safari. Afternoon: Discuss tourism employment and wildlife coexistence with local educator. Community: Meet a local church youth group to explore community support and coexistence with wildlife. Evening: Rest and journal: Conservation stakeholder map. Overnight: Nakuru, Sarova Woodlands or Lion Hill. About 50 km of road and local travel.

DAY 7, KERICHO

Ogiek forest hosts

Morning: Travel via Njoro to approved host venue; learn forest history. Afternoon: Safe honey processing demonstration and host-selected food workshop; continue to Kericho. Community: Join Ogiek hosts in safe honey processing and preparation of a host-selected meal; discuss daily forest-linked livelihoods and knowledge-sharing. Evening: Rest and journal: Honey value chain. Overnight: Kericho, Sunshine Hotel. About 120 km of road and local travel.

DAY 8, NAROK

Tea growers and Maasai youth

Morning: Tea production learning with local growers; transfer via Bomet. Afternoon: Meet invited Maasai youth for language, education and livelihood exchange. Community: Learn tea sorting and share a meal with local hosts; exchange experiences with youth. Evening: Rest and journal: Tea and pastoral comparison. Overnight: Narok, Mara Frontier. About 150 km of road and local travel.

DAY 9, MAASAI MARA

Maasai pastoral households

Morning: Transfer to Mara; learn livestock care, water and grazing decisions with hosts. Afternoon: Supervised beadwork and shared food learning; short introductory game drive if time permits. Community: Discuss daily family routines, language and pastoral livelihoods; school or church youth exchange by arrangement. Evening: Pastoral enterprise case. Overnight: Maasai Mara, Sarova Mara or Mara Sopa. About 120 km of road and local travel.

DAY 10, MAASAI MARA

Big Five safari: Maasai Mara

Morning: Early guided game drive seeking lion, elephant, buffalo, leopard and black rhino. Afternoon: Packed lunch and second wildlife observation circuit; conservation educator discussion if available. Community: Learn about wildlife coexistence, local employment and community conservation benefits. Evening: Big Five observation log and host-reviewed conservation proposal. Overnight: Maasai Mara, Sarova Mara or Mara Sopa. About 100 km of road and local travel.

DAY 11, NAIROBI

Return and reflect

Morning: Return to Nairobi by private vehicle with planned meal and rest stops. Afternoon: Hotel check-in; rest, organize field notes and contact hosts for approved project feedback. Evening: Rest and journal: Completed field portfolio. Overnight: Nairobi, Tamarind Tree or Sarova Stanley. About 270 km of road and local travel.

DAY 12, NAIROBI

Made in Kenya: shopping and leisure

Morning: Guided shopping at selected artisan market or craft centre; learn fair pricing and buy directly where possible. Afternoon: Supervised leisure at a selected mall or recreation venue; graduation rehearsal and attire preparation. Evening: Rest and journal: Ethical purchasing reflection. Overnight: Nairobi, Tamarind Tree or Sarova Stanley. About 35 km of road and local travel.

DAY 13, NAIROBI

Graduation, ambassador induction and Kwaheri Night

Morning: Proposed university or partner venue: welcome, student presentations, invited educators and community-host recognition. Afternoon: KESCA certificate and tourism ambassador pledge, sash and pin; evening cultural gala, dinner, performances, awards and alumni induction; return to hotel. Evening: Final presentation and voluntary ambassador commitment. Overnight: Nairobi, Tamarind Tree or Sarova Stanley. About 30 km of road and local travel.

DAY 14, DEPARTURE

Kwaheri Kenya: departure

Morning: Breakfast, checkout and individual flight checks. Afternoon: Supervised JKIA transfer for scheduled international departures; packed meal if appropriate. Evening: Post-trip alumni action plan. About 25 km of road and local travel.

Where you stay, what is included and Kwaheri Night

- Nairobi: Tamarind Tree or Sarova Stanley, 4 nights.
- Naivasha: Naivasha Sopa or Enashipai, 3 nights.
- Nakuru: Sarova Woodlands or Lion Hill, 2 nights.
- Kericho: Sunshine Hotel, 1 night.
- Narok: Mara Frontier, 1 night.
- Maasai Mara: Sarova Mara or Mara Sopa, 2 nights.
- Included: Full-board breakfast, lunch and dinner, including host-prepared or packed meals where scheduled. Arrival/departure meals depend on flights. Airport transfers, scheduled private ground transport, dedicated guided Big Five wildlife safari and scheduled park admissions, community workshops, school and church exchanges, academic programming, supervision, graduation, Tourism Ambassador induction and Kwaheri Night.
- Not included: International airfare, passport and entry authorization, personal shopping, travel/medical insurance and optional unscheduled activities.
- 07:00: Full-board breakfast and graduation preparation.
- 09:30: Arrive at the graduation venue.
- 10:00: Welcome, invited institutional and community representatives.
- 11:00: Student capstone presentations and host recognition.
- 12:30: Networking lunch and student exchange.
- 14:00: Leadership dialogue and cultural showcase.
- 15:00: KESCA graduation and completion certificates.
- 16:00: Tourism Ambassador induction, pledge, sash, pin and photographs.
- 18:30: Kwaheri Night reception and cultural gala dinner.
- 20:00: Performances, testimonials, awards and alumni induction.
- 22:00: Supervised return to hotel.
- Ambassador pledge: I pledge to celebrate Kenya’s cultural diversity, respect its communities, promote responsible tourism and share my experiences with integrity. I will honor its natural and cultural heritage, encourage meaningful connections and act as a lifelong friend of Kenya.
- Recognition is issued by Kenya Experience. Participation in alumni publicity and advocacy is voluntary. No same-night international departure is planned.

Before you fly

1. **Passport.** Valid for at least six months from your arrival date, with at least one blank page (we suggest two).
2. **Kenya eTA.** Apply on etakenya.go.ke or the official app at least two weeks before you fly. Processing usually takes about three working days. Avoid look-alike sites.
3. **Health.** See a travel clinic six to eight weeks ahead and check the CDC page for Kenya for vaccines, malaria advice and current notices.
4. **STEP.** U.S. citizens: register the trip with the State Department so the embassy can reach you.

5. **Insurance.** Comprehensive travel insurance with medical cover. Keep the policy number on your phone.

Kenya eTA (official) etakenya.go.ke

CDC Travelers' Health: Kenya wwwnc.cdc.gov

U.S. State Department: Kenya travel.state.gov

STEP enrollment mytravel.state.gov

U.S. Embassy Nairobi ke.usembassy.gov

Kenya Wildlife Service kws.go.ke

Make it yours.

Plan this trip online: www.kenyaexperience.org/kesca/itineraries/nyika or write to njengalk@kenyaexperience.org