

*A newsletter released by Exclusive Eco Travels*

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## Our first newsletter!

We are excited to share with you our first Newsletter! We look forward to sharing with you our heart in the enjoyment and pleasure of travel in our country and the East African region at large.

The short rains are here with us, for some this will be a relief (if talking to a farmer), to some though – this could put a glitch in their plans; and especially with the "wedding season" round the corner in December. As you

think of your leisure plans, you could opt for closer locations from your departure point to avoid getting caught up in the rain. Also it's an excellent opportunity to go to a place where you can be pampered amidst a warm cozy setup as the rain pounds away. Why not even indulge in a relaxing massage and top it off with a nap under a warm cozy duvet blanket as the rain lulls you into a relaxed slumber?.....

You could even call some friends/family over to your place and have a relaxed afternoon or evening with some bitings, drinks and good company.....really the list is endless of what you can do during the rainy season.....if you choose to get creative.

## The end of another year

As we approach the close of the year, we look back with gratitude at the far we have come this year as well as the memories we have helped create for you as we facilitated your leisure plans. We understand that it is not merely a travel itinerary or booking that we are making for you but we are also helping you create memorable (in a good way!) experiences.

The close of the year looks to be exciting and some exciting events are lined up, beginning with the Lamu

Cultural Festival. The festival runs from 15<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> November.....please visit our link for some last minute booking options:

[http://www.exclusiveecotravels.com/downloads/Lamu\\_Festival\\_2012.pdf](http://www.exclusiveecotravels.com/downloads/Lamu_Festival_2012.pdf) for some amazing

facilities for your last minute bookings for this magical experience. And yes, Lamu is secure especially since we can now heave a sigh of relief after the Kenya Defense Troops took over Kismayu - a milestone achievement in ensuring safety along the Kenyan coast.



## Ending on a beat, starting on a high...



If you and your group of friends have not already made plans for the close of the year, why not join our fun group as we close the year "on a beat" in a part of Kenya that is sometimes forgotten – the Kilima Mbogo region. We will set off on 30<sup>th</sup> December to come back to Nairobi on 1<sup>st</sup> January.

More details on: [http://www.exclusiveecotravel.com/downloads/2012\\_End\\_Year\\_Camp\\_Itinerary.pdf](http://www.exclusiveecotravel.com/downloads/2012_End_Year_Camp_Itinerary.pdf)  
Please note that the cut-off

date for bookings will be 7<sup>th</sup> Dec, with all payments done by 10<sup>th</sup> Dec to allow us to prepare in good time.

For you who is looking to start the year "on a high", we have 2 options: Summiting the highest point in Africa – Mt. Kilimanjaro, Machame route:

[http://www.exclusiveecotravel.com/downloads/Sunrise\\_climb\\_machame\\_route.pdf](http://www.exclusiveecotravel.com/downloads/Sunrise_climb_machame_route.pdf) on 27<sup>th</sup> Dec– 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan OR the Marangu route:

[http://www.exclusiveecotravel.com/downloads/itinerary\\_s](http://www.exclusiveecotravel.com/downloads/itinerary_s)

[unrise climb Marangu route .pdf](#) on 28<sup>th</sup> Dec – 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan:

OR the highest point in Kenya – Mt. Kenya from 29<sup>th</sup> Dec – 1<sup>st</sup> Jan:

[http://www.exclusiveecotravel.com/downloads/Mt\\_Kenya\\_itinerary\\_Climb.pdf](http://www.exclusiveecotravel.com/downloads/Mt_Kenya_itinerary_Climb.pdf)

Due to bookings for bandas and all necessary logistics being done, bookings are to be made by 23<sup>rd</sup> November for the Kilimanjaro climb and 7<sup>th</sup> December for the Mt. Kenya climb. All payments are to be done by 12<sup>th</sup> December.

## The Elephant Street Ball (ESB) Tournament

**"Baby elephants and rhinos from all over Kenya are taken care of here"**



We are excited to be part of an event as the facilitators of the Wildlife Club at the Nairobi International School dubbed "The Elephant Street Ball Tournament". The school has invited other schools for a soccer 6-aside team tournament with each participating school paying a registration fee. Funds raised during the event will be donated to the Daphne Sheldrick Orphanage in Langata, Nairobi which

takes the initiative to protect elephant calves and baby rhinos from all over Kenya. Please see the poster for more details on this event that we are proud to be a part of.

The tournament will be held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December at the Nairobi International School at a charge of Kshs200 and will run from 10am – 4pm.



## Ecotourism Awards Gala Dinner

This year's quest for the next warriors of the Ecotourism Awards will be held at the Serena Hotel on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November. You are most welcome to attend this auspicious event whose details can be accessed on: <http://www.ecotourismkenya>

[a.org/award/](http://www.ecotourismkenya.org/award/).

Various categories will have their respective "warriors": Conservancy of the year, Ecotourism Enterprise of the year, Eco-Rated Facility of the Year, Ecotourism Partnership of the Year,

Ecotourism Journalist of the Year, Ecotourism Student Innovation Award and the Ecotourism Training Program of the Year.



## Travel Tips

Please see our travel tips as you prepare for the holiday season:

**Service your car** at least a week before travel if you will be driving. This will allow enough time for extra repair work that could be required.

**Pack snacks** especially for those with children (though adults also do get hunger pangs!). This will help to avoiding buying food along the way that may at times not agree with your stomach. Simple snacks such as nuts, muesli, cookies, yoghurt or dried fruit can go a long way in keeping in check hunger pangs.....you may want to

avoid sweets and candy because of the sugar rush that would be created in the children and with no outlet for them as they are strapped in their seats, this could spell trouble for the parent(s) in containing them. Some water is also helpful to carry along.

**Be safety conscious** by stopping at towns or service stations for bathroom breaks rather than along the highway. It is therefore important to control your fluid intake especially on long journeys to manage this.

The same rule would apply

when asking for directions; it would be advisable to inquire at a fuel station or local shop rather than bystanders.

**Contact numbers** of the facility you will be travelling to or your travel agent are helpful such that you can call these numbers should the need arise, for example, if one gets lost or experiences car trouble.

**A check list** is helpful when packing to avoid forgetting important items such as ID, medication or even check-in documents for flights or hotels.



The rugged terrain of the Wamba Hills in Samburu

## Our Road Trip

Coming back recently from a road trip exploring our Central highlands, I was reminded of why the region is such an attraction – the Aberdare range with its green foliage and scenic views has a calming effect and already one feels at rest by the mere fact of driving through on open road with none but the birds to chase you down the open highway. Tafari Castle Lodge is a newly established facility located at the base of the Aberdare range, 65km from Nyeri town. It promises a “spellbound experience”.





*Can't wait for you to organize something else for us!*

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See us at:

[www.exclusivecotravels.com](http://www.exclusivecotravels.com)

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### Your Say

As always, we are here **BECAUSE OF YOU**, and encourage your feedback, both positive or otherwise as it helps us understand **you** better and cater to **your** needs better. A sample of some of what our clients have had to say about our services....

"Can't wait for you to organize something else for us ! Milly and her family had a fantastic time!

Take care and God bless."

**Julliette, Turkey**

"We would like to let you know that we had a great honeymoon and the choice of package was excellent.

We will definitely be keeping your contacts for future travel reference and will refer our friends to you."

Best wishes,  
**Mr & Mrs Mwangi, Honeymooners**

"It was a great experience with you! I enjoyed every moment, the accommodation and people; I loved your knowledge and experience and was really impressed how Peter navigated us through the Mara. I felt so safe with him, and he was so much with his heart into his job, this was great to see.

Thanks, I would always come back to you! (hope to be in Kenya again!!!)"  
**Kerstin, Germany**

### Until Next Time

We thank you again for the opportunity of having allowed us to be of service to you and as always, it is a **DELIGHT** to be at your service ☺

We continue to make your last minute leisure bookings for the holidays so if you haven't made any plans yet, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

At the end of your trips, please feel free to share your amazing photos from your leisure experiences which we can share with fellow kindred spirits (with your permission).....as it's all about you!

Liz & Team  
@Leisure



*Be sure it's a pleasure to be at your service for your leisure*

