



Mara EcoQuest

A wildlife adventure on the plains of East Africa in 2018

EcoTraining, Southern Africa's leading provider of wildlife guide training, is teaming up with Discovery Trails to offer a very special opportunity to schools. This EcoQuest adventure is based on our Southern African formats, but has been reshaped to fire the interest of youngsters looking for a special experience in East Africa with or without their parents. It includes unique elements reflecting the fascinating dynamics occurring in the wildlife areas of the Masai Mara. The programme is packed with the action of the 'big five' of the Masai Mara plains, exposure to the life and livelihood of the Masai Mara communities and insights into ecological processes and daunting 21st century conservation challenges.

Programme info

The proposition: Send your youngster off on a fascinating cultural and environmental adventure with Discovery Trail's and EcoTraining's accredited Guides, or join them yourself in a bonding experience. Live in our Mara Training Centre with daily bush activities teeming with wildlife; learn tracks and how to trail game; discover the fauna and flora, study the Kenyan night skies and get to know how the ecosystem ticks



Located alongside the vibrant Mara river, the Centre is nestled between community villages and wildlife areas. Trip timing (August) has been planned to allow participants to experience one of nature's grandest spectacles: the annual Serengeti- Masai Mara wildebeest migration. Two visits to the Mara Park to intercept the cavalcade have been built into the plan.

The venture will allow participant to learn about nature on game drives and wilderness walks and gain exposure to the fascinating three-way relationship between Masai Mara wildlife, communities and conservation efforts.

Some subjects covered on the course (which will be customised further in consultation with participants)

Facts about nature:

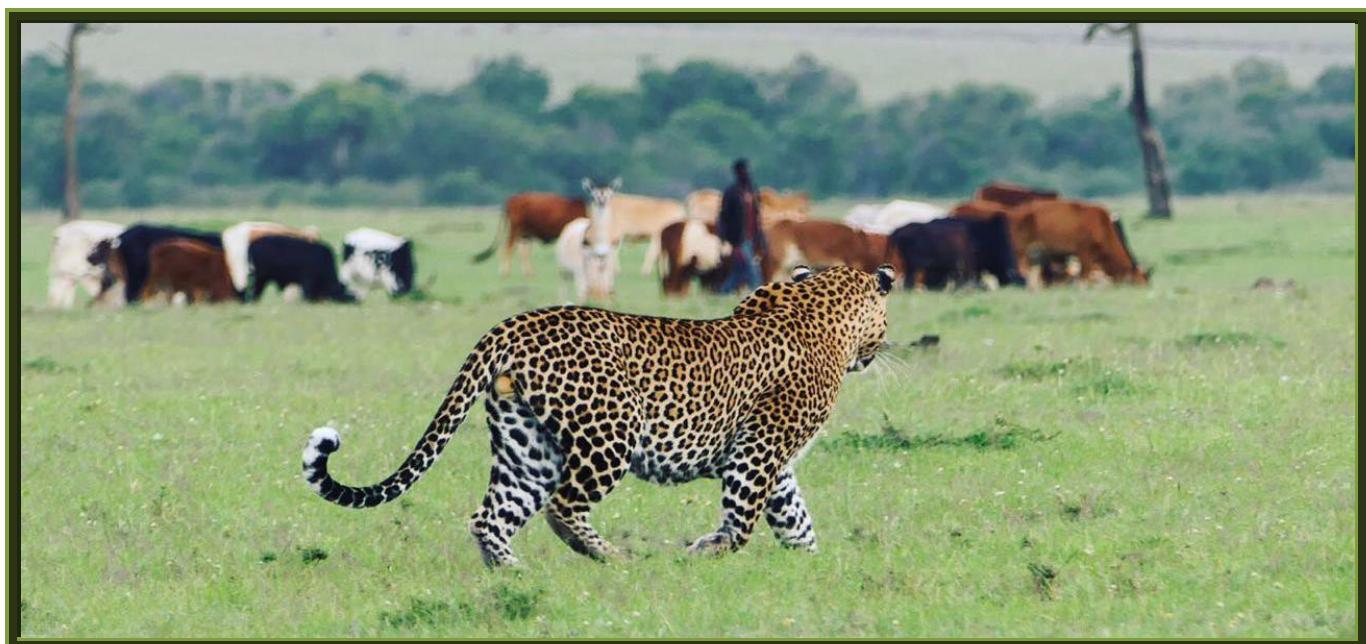
- an introduction to ecology
- animal tracks and tracking
- birding and plant identification
- animal behaviour
- astronomy

Life in the Mara: explore and learn about –

- wildlife cohabitating with communities, their cattle and crops
- conflict between pastoralists and the wildlife competing for space and food
- community schools and sports amidst the Mara conservancies
- conservation models involving cattle in wildlife areas
- the rhino sanctuary
- the grandest migration on earth - an extraordinary saga linking geology, weather, grasses, grazers & predators

Accommodation

The Mara Training Centre has very comfortable accommodation overlooking the Mara River, comprising 6 Bandas (fixed-structure tents) with bathroom and toilet facilities en suite.



Certification & Accreditation

All course participants will receive an EcoTraining certificate of participation.

Course Dates & Rates

21 - 27 August 2018 [6 nights / 7 days]

Price per person R30 600



The price is all-inclusive and covers:

- Meals
- Tea/coffee and cordials
- Instruction and training
- Game walks
- Open vehicle game drives
- Specialist trainers
- Accommodation (sharing)
- SA-Kenya return airfares
- Transfers from the airport to and from the camp
- Mara Park entry fees
- Kenyan Arrivals Visa

Age range for participating children: 10 – 14

Expressions of Interest

If you are interested and would like to get further details, please contact Clive Thompson at Discovery Trails (on behalf of EcoTraining) at enquiries@discovery-trails.org before 28 February 2018. This invitation has been sent to a number of schools. The composition of the travelling group will be settled once the EOIs are in.

