Saruni Samburu is located in tribal lands to the north of Samburu National Reserve. The lodge overlooks a vast private game sanctuary and has exclusive use of a 240,000 acres wildlife conservancy. Leopards are already making themselves at home at Saruni Samburu!

UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

Location
Saruni Samburu is located in tribal lands to the north of Samburu National Reserve. The lodge overlooks a vast private game sanctuary and has exclusive use of a 240,000 acres wildlife conservancy. Leopards are already making themselves at home at Saruni Samburu!

Warriors for a Week
Spend a few days learning the survival skills of world class warriors – you will be trained and taught in the same way as a junior warrior learning to track animals and make your nomadic home on the plains of Samburu.

Samburu Guides
Saruni guides are of the highest professional guiding standards. One of our guides is the celebrated Sumoro Lecharkole who is the first Samburu to achieve the very impressive Silver level Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association qualification.

Design
Saruni Samburu is the first and most exclusive design lodge of its kind in Kenya. A fusion of large spacious villas with bold and dramatic African details.

Rock Art
Guests can explore and learn more about our local caves which feature historic Samburu rock art.

INFORMATION SHEET
Kalama Conservancy, Samburu, Kenya

ACCOMMODATION
6 Villas, capacity for 20 pax.

2 villas – 1 double & 1 twin (that can become double) both with ensuite bathrooms and dressing rooms, as well as private seating / dining area and veranda.

2 family villas – each villa consists of 2 ensuite bedrooms with individual dressing rooms and a large shared seating / dining area, as well as several verandas.

2 Family villas or 4 Standard villas - each villa consists of 2 ensuite bedrooms with individual dressing rooms and a large shared seating / dining area, as well as several verandas. These villas can be segregated to privately accommodate separate guests.

All rooms can fit one extra bed, to accommodate children under the age of 16yrs only.

DESCRIPTION

Saruni Samburu is a 'design' lodge located 7km north of Samburu National Reserve, in Kenya’s wild north.

Surrounded by 240,000 acres of private wildlife conservancy, and perched on a spectacular viewpoint, its five villas, lounge, dining room and two large swimming pools overlooking several waterholes where the famous Samburu elephant, leopard, reticulated giraffe, Oryx and Grevy's zebra gather to drink.

The vastness and purity of this African landscape, combined with the untouched local culture, make your safari a unique experience. As well as game drives that combine Kalama Conservancy, Samburu National Reserve, Buffalo Springs National Reserve and West Gate Conservancy, the traditions and semi-nomadic heritage of the local Samburu people are an important part of the experience.

Led by professional guides from the Samburu community, our guests enjoy a feeling of exclusivity, of having an incredibly large area to themselves, combined with elegant comfort and personalized service.
AWARDS

- Silver Eco-Rated by Ecotourism Kenya, for demonstrating a move towards ecotourism excellence; showing innovation in responsible resource use, environmental conservation and socio-economic investment.

ACTIVITIES

- Day & Night Game Drives
- Guided Bush Walks
- Cultural Visits
- Bush Meals
- Sundowners
- 2 Large Swimming Pools
- Visits to local caves featuring historic Rock Art
- Samburu Wellbeing Space (Massage & Spa Treatments)
- 'Warrior for a Week' Programme - special courses in bush skills, animal tracking and guiding
- Tracking Excursions up Mt. Ololokwe
- Shop

NEED TO KNOW

How to get there - Flying

Kalama Airstrip is 20 minute drive from the lodge.

- Private charter from anywhere (Tropic Air and Yellow Wings).
- Twice daily scheduled Safarilink flight departing Nairobi Wilson at 08h00 and 10h20.

Samburu Oryx Airstrip is 1 hour drive from the lodge.

- Twice daily scheduled Air Kenya flight departing Nairobi Wilson at 07h30 and 09h15.
- Private charters from anywhere (Tropic Air and Yellow Wings).

Airstrip Coordinates

Kalama airstrip coordinates:
N 00° 42.041; E 037°37.320
Elevation 2750ft

Northern scenic road transfer

Per vehicle one way – max 5 pax.
- Saruni Samburu - Lewa US$ 200 - 2 hours.
- Saruni Samburu - Saasab US$200 - 2.5 hours.
- Saruni Samburu - Laikipia (Loisaba/Lemarits/Enasoit) US$450 - 6 hours.
- Saruni Samburu - Meru US$ 350 - 4 hours.
- Saruni Samburu - Ole Pejeta US$ 350 - 4 hours.
No Debit cards.
Note: Please bring cash for tipping.

Tipping guideline
Staff tips are entirely at the guests' discretion, and are collected by the manager and placed in the main tip box, then distributed evenly to all staff members.
Guides are usually tipped separately.

What form of payment does Saruni Samburu accept?

What form of electricity does Saruni Samburu have?
- Saruni Samburu runs on solar power, which provides electricity (220V) 24 hours a day, in all cottages and common areas. A generator is used as a back-up.
- Guest batteries can be charged in the cottages and in the main areas.
- The power at Saruni Samburu can support hairdryers.
- Guests are recommended to bring converters & universal plug adaptors.

Samburu Climate
- Altitude: 2500ft.
- Rainfall: Approximately 250mm per year.
- Hot days, warm nights, low humidity.

Malaria
Saruni Samburu is a low risk area due to low population density and all of the beds have mosquito nets.

Communication services
Internet: Internet connection is available in the shop where there is also a computer available for guest use.

Mobile phones: Phone signal is available at all times (Safaricom better than Celtel).

What vehicles does Saruni Samburu have?
We have 4 - 4x4 Vehicles
- 2 x Land Rover TD 5
  Open sided with canvas roof, 9 seater.
- 1 x Land Rover TD 110
  Open sided with canvas roof, 9 seater.
- 1 x Land Rover TD 110, Open sided with canvas roof.

When necessary, guests may have to share vehicles with others, unless 'Exclusive Use of Vehicle' has been paid for.

Guides – All guides speak English and Kiswahili. One guide speaks basic Italian and a waiter speaks fluent Italian.

Owner & Management - English, Italian, French and German.

What form of languages are spoken at Saruni Samburu?

MEAL POLICY
Each villa has separate dining facilities, however communal dining is also available.

Breakfast: From 07h00
Lunch: From 12h30
Dinner: From 19h00

The camp has a daily set menu.
Please inform us about any dietary requirements or allergies prior to arrival.

Guests that have booked to arrive before lunch, but do not, are charged for an extra lunch on their day of departure (if they require lunch on their day of departure).

Water: Bottled drinking water is provided.
**ADDITONAL INFORMATION**

**RESPONSIBLE TOURISM**
- Saruni Samburu works together with the Northern Rangeland Trust to improve the life conditions for the 2,000 people who own the Kalama Conservation Area, and is providing them with income generated by tourism for the first time in their history.

- The lodge will eventually be owned by the community and operated by Saruni on a commercial basis.

- Saruni Samburu is committed to employing most of our staff from this small and impoverished community. At least 90% of the employees are local Samburu men and women and trained by the lodge.

- The lodge has been built to achieve minimum impact on the environment.

- Saruni Samburu has provided the Kiltiman Primary School with a new water-tank and we are sponsoring one of their best students for further studies. In several other areas there is a strong bond between the lodge and Kiltiman. Saruni Samburu are paying the salaries of 2 Kalama rangers to help the community.

**SPECIAL FEATURES & KEY WILDLIFE IN THE AREA**
- Saruni Samburu is situated in the heart of Samburuland, offering the opportunity to enjoy the wonders that Samburu has to offer, but without sharing them with others. Saruni Samburu has exclusive use of a large private concession of 240,000 acres, bordering Samburu National Reserve.

- The lodge is positioned close to Samburu's “sacred mountain”, Ololokwe, with its spectacular views and habitat. We offer day excursions up Ololokwe which combines the fantastic trekking experience with a twist of Samburu culture and fascinating local knowledge.

- Night game drives (which are not allowed inside the National Reserve) with viewings of leopard, striped hyena, and many other animals.

- Walking safaris are conducted by Saruni’s professional Samburu guides.

- The conservation area has no commercial roads (apart from safari tracks), no human settlements and no cattle grazing: it’s pure Africa.

- Thanks to the availability of water brought to the lodge site with a pipeline, the waterholes around it are the only source of water in a large area, and attract excellent wildlife; one is able to view large herds of elephants drinking right in front of the lodge.

- There is a high density of leopard and striped hyena, a large population of the endangered Grevy zebra, and all the Northern species (reticulated giraffe, greater and lesser kudu, gerenuk, oryx, etc.) are abundant.
“To describe the accommodation as basic would be a little like describing The Ritz as a B&B. All minimalist luxury and low-impact design, giant lanterns fringe the open-fronted bedroom, replete with majestic canopy bed, which boasts a 360° view of the surrounding plains, a view that does justice for once to the adjective ‘sublime’. The panoramic vista, vast, dramatic, truly wild and frighteningly desolate, extends for miles.”
Hedge Hideaways

“Samburu stories will be told around a campfire and guests will learn to dance, Samburu-style, under a brilliant moon” [About Saruni’s Warrior for a Week activities]
Junior Magazine – January 2009

“Perched on the top of an escarpment with views of the open, arid thorn-bush savannah, scrubland and scattered acacia of the Samburu... Saruni Samburu is not your traditional tented canvas lodge.”
Benchmark Magazine
March 2009

“After dark, we descend to the foot of the outcrop for a bush dinner where the Samburu people gather to entertain us, singing and dancing by the light of the starts and some old hurricane lanterns.”
Saturday Telegraph
February 2010

“A wildly romantic upmarket retreat with not another vehicle in sight.”
The Daily Telegraph
January 2009

“Responsible Travel at its best.”
Food & Travel Magazine
January 2009

“Perched on the top of an escarpment with views of the open, arid thorn-bush savannah, scrubland and scattered acacia of the Samburu... Saruni Samburu is not your traditional tented canvas lodge.”
Benchmark Magazine
March 2009

“After dark, we descend to the foot of the outcrop for a bush dinner where the Samburu people gather to entertain us, singing and dancing by the light of the starts and some old hurricane lanterns.”
Saturday Telegraph
February 2010

“A wildly romantic upmarket retreat with not another vehicle in sight.”
The Daily Telegraph
January 2009

“Responsible Travel at its best.”
Food & Travel Magazine
January 2009

GUEST COMMENTS

“This has to be the best place I have ever stayed in my entire life. Our rooms were perched on a cliff top and the views were epic. Our guides couldn’t have been more helpful or more knowledgeable. I wish we had chosen to stay longer”
(Sybil, stayed at Saruni Samburu in February 2013)

“We had a wonderful time in this wonderful place surrounded by experienced guides. What a privilege to be able to experience this kind of life surrounded by experienced guides in beautiful scenery and all these beautiful animals”
(Ellen, stayed at Saruni Samburu in January 2013)

“We can’t recommend this place enough, from the moment we were met at the airport by Sambara, our guide for the next six days, to the moment we flew home nothing was too much trouble. A big thank you to all at Saruni for the trip of a life time!”
(David and James, stayed at Saruni Samburu in December 2012)

“Our first trip to the African continent and Saruni was our first impression of a Safari Lodge. All I can say is WOW! What an amazing spot, the views go on and on, the rooms are beautiful and open, especially enjoyed the outdoor shower. Game drives, bush breakfasts, sundowners and meals could not be faulted”
(The Bulman’s, stayed at Saruni Samburu in October 2012).