



Lake Tanganyika Expedition
24th September – 4th October
2021



Join us...

On an unforgettable, active adventure safari exploring remote western Tanzania. Our ten-night expedition takes us to spectacular Lake Tanganyika where we kayak, boat and hike our way through some of the region's most beautiful and biologically diverse landscapes. Crystal clear waters teeming with endemic fish, abundant birdlife, the best chimpanzee tracking experiences available, incredible hiking in mystical mountain forests and camping on the lake's remote beaches promises the adventure of a lifetime.



Itinerary Overview

24th September 2021

Oyster Bay Hotel | Dar Es Salaam | Tanzania

25th September 2021

Lakeshore Lodge | Lake Tanganyika | Tanzania

26th – 29th September 2021

Camping on the shore of Lake Tanganyika | Tanzania

30th September – 4th October 2021

Greystoke | Mahale Mountains National Park | Tanzania



Lake Tanganyika & Mahale Mountain National Park

- 1 night Oyster Bay Hotel
- 1 night Lakeshore Lodge
- 4 nights camping on Lake Tanganyika
- 4 nights Greystoke Mahale



Oyster Bay Hotel

Whether it is just for a few hours or overnight – guests will be pampered and receive a warm welcome in the small, luxurious property. And when it is time to leave for the airport, the chauffeur is waiting – it's all part of the service.

The Oyster Bay is like staying with friends, a beautiful large home and garden with 8 luxurious ocean facing guest suites, spacious in the extreme (70 sqm) with luxurious bathrooms, air-conditioned, fabulously furnished in contemporary African style, the suites reflect modern day Africa in a timeless setting – balmy, equatorial, coastal, Dar es Salaam. Extensive lounges and terraces overlooking mature gardens, swimming pool and within secure walking distance of the Oyster Bay shopping centre.



24th September 2021

Dar Es Salaam | Tanzania

- Arrival at Julius Nyerere International Airport airport, Dar Es Salaam
- Road transfer to Oyster Bay Hotel
- Overnight at Oyster Bay Hotel



25th September 2021

Lakeshore Lodge | Lake Tanganyika | Tanzania

- Flight from Dar Es Salaam to Mpanda
- Road transfer from Mpanda airstrip through Katavi National Park to Lakeshore Lodge +/- 4 hours
- Introduction and briefing
- Overnight at Lakeshore Lodge

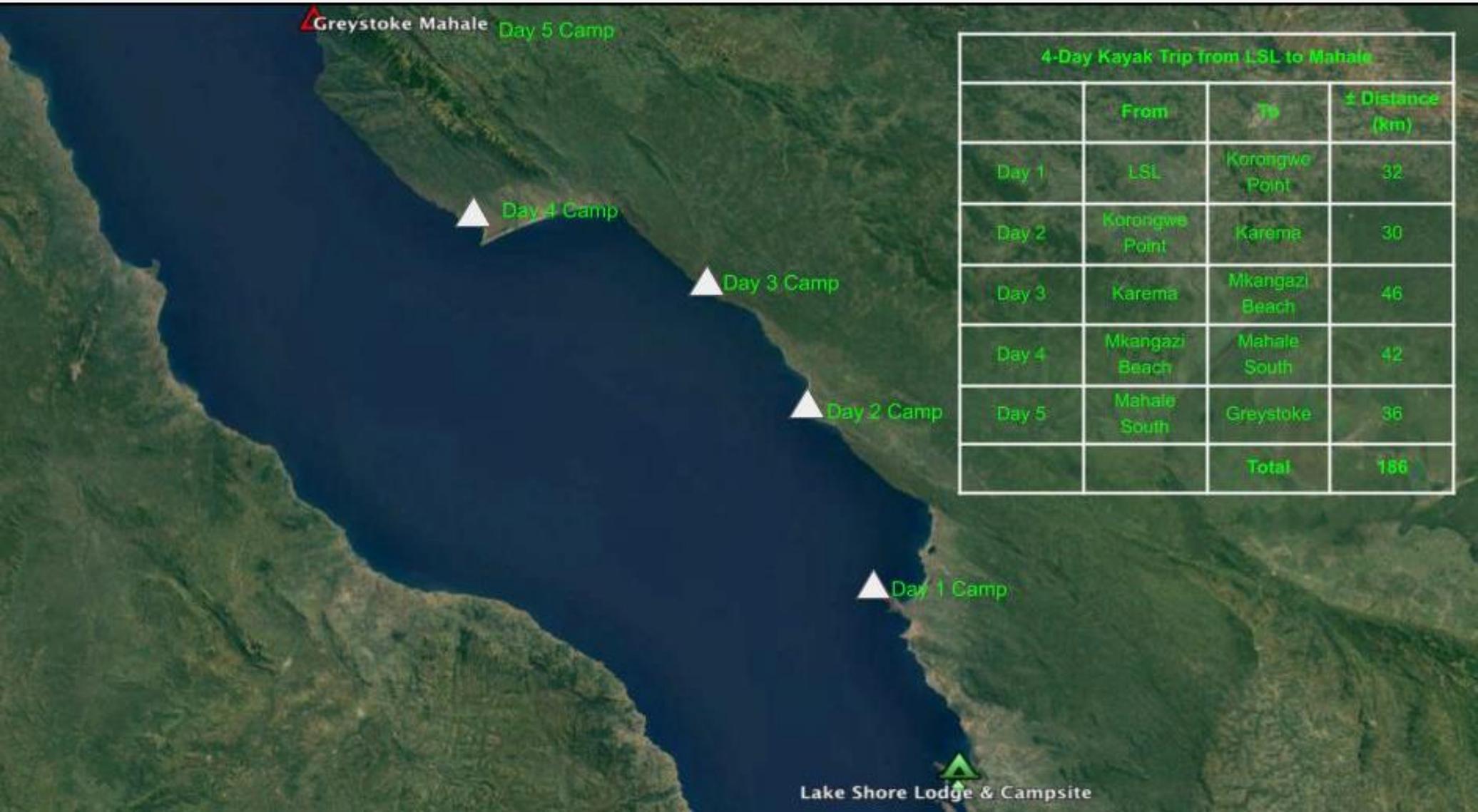


Lakeshore Lodge

Lakeshore Lodge lies on the shore of the beautiful Lake Tanganyika, with a 400 m private beach looking onto the nearby islands. The lodge is owner-run with breath taking sunsets, starry skies and the friendliest people. At lakeshore we will have the opportunity to check all our equipment, test the kayaks and prepare for the next days expedition. Once settled and ready Lakeshore offers great walking, swimming and birding opportunities. This also the perfect place to simply relax in a hammock, watch the local fishermen and the slow changes of the lake, and do absolutely nothing. Lakeshore offers delicious meals at the Funky Mango Bar and Restaurant where international cuisine is prepared with fresh ingredients from the organic farm and nearby local markets. Enjoy your favourite cocktail or curl up with a good book in the cosy lounge.



Kayak route...





Lake Tanganyika

Situated in Tanzania, within the Albertine Rift, This incredible lake is also the second deepest and second oldest in the world. The Lake supports an incredible diversity of fish. Supporting more than 500 fish species, 60% are endemic – the celebrated Tanganyika cichlids. The water in the lake is beautifully clear offering great opportunities for snorkeling and swimming. Numerous small fishing villages dot the shore in some areas whilst incredibly remote and inaccessible beaches offer idyllic camping sites in Mahale Mountains National park.





26th to 29th September 2021

Kayak Lake Tanganyika | Tanzania

- 4 nights Kayaking and mobile camping. Camps are simple but in the most spectacular locations imaginable.
- Each day we will paddle for a few hours in the early morning before taking a break and lunch during the middle of the day. In the afternoon we will again paddle on to our campsite for the night. Our backup crew takes care of setting up camp and preparing meals.
- Activities include snorkeling, birding, walking, swimming, paddling and chilling on the beach.



30th September 2021

Greystoke | Mahale Mountains National Park | Tanzania

- Last big day of kayaking and boating on the lake
- Arrive at Greystoke at Mahale Mountain National Park by kayak and boat
- Overnight at Greystoke Mahale



Mahale Mountains National Park

One of Africa's greatest national parks, famous for the habituated Chimpanzees that call Mahale home. This park offers an incredibly diverse and a unique experience for the intrepid adventurer. Mahale boasts a pristine shoreline with white sandy beaches along Lake Tanganyika, rugged mountains, deep green jungles, waterfalls, woodlands and savannas. The highlight of exploring Mahale is undoubtedly the opportunity to spend time with the incredible chimpanzee groups that roam the park. These chimps have been the subject of a research project that started in 1965 giving insight into their behaviour, community and history. Mahale also supports nine other species of primates making it one of the most important protected areas in Tanzania for primate conservation. In addition, the park supports wonderful butterfly diversity, fantastic forest and rewarding birding opportunities.



Greystoke Mahale

It's no exaggeration to say there is nowhere in the world like Greystoke Mahale. Greystoke Mahale sits on a pristine, white sandy beach overlooking the turquoise water of Lake Tanganyika, with the forested slopes of the 8000 ft Mahale Mountains rising behind.

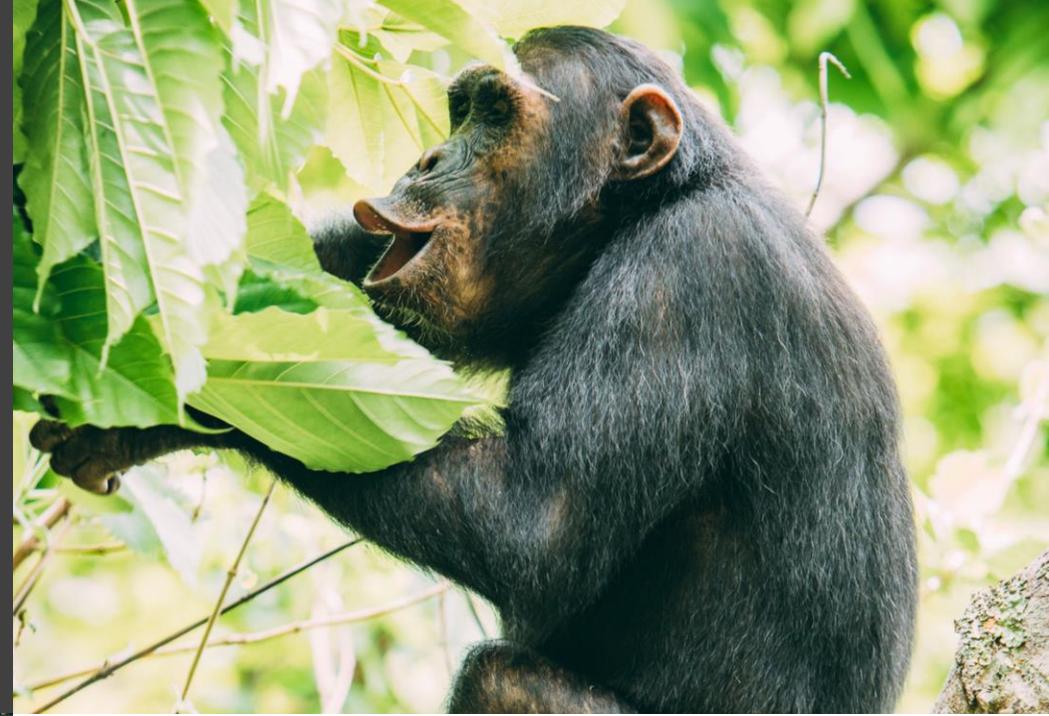
Greystoke affects people in a way that no other place does; perhaps it's because of its remoteness, and because of the mountains rising from the beach at your backs, the wide lake with its many different moods and the feeling that you are the only ones here. With just six wood and thatch bandas set on the edge of the forest line at the base of the mountains your days can start there, eating breakfast whilst waiting to hear news of the chimps and deciding what to do with your day. Evenings end with sundowners on the rocks of the headland, where drinks are served around the lamp-lit bar whilst the mountains, rising behind camp, disappear into the darkness.



1st to 4th October 2021

Greystoke | Mahale Mountains National Park | Tanzania

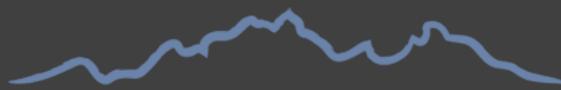
- The magical forests of the Mahale Mountains are occupied by many animals including a myriad of primates, bushbuck, bush pig, leopard, and amazing birdlife. Hiking into the forest in search of the chimpanzees is unforgettable and a true highlight. Starlit dinners on the beach, and sundowners on the dhow. Kayaking in the gin clear waters of the lake.



5th October 2021

Greystoke | Mahale Mountains National Park | Tanzania

- Scheduled charter flight to Kilimanjaro International airport
- International flight home



Chimpanzee trekking

The Mimikere (M) Group chimpanzee community in the Mahale Mountains covers a home range of around 15 square miles and are our closest neighbours at Greystoke Mahale. Throughout the year the movement and location of the chimps vary according to where they can find food. Chimpanzees are naturally gregarious, so when food sources are abundant, they'll gather in large groups frequently calling to each other and making a lot of noise. When food resources are lower, they tend to split up into small groups and can be harder to find as they spread further afield, and are generally less vocal. So, their proximity to camp and the ease of getting to them is to some degree dictated by the seasons, and the knock-on effect on the forest larder. Fluctuations of available food are not entirely dependable year by year, so of course the following general guide is by no means definite but it should help to understand what to expect while you are at Greystoke.

September-October is one of the best times to see the chimps and trekking can be relatively easy. The chimps rarely head high to the eastern hills but often spend days in the northern reaches of their home range seeking out the wild nutmeg and Kasolyo Granite Garcinia and Buhono fruits. They can from time to time head for odd days into the almost impenetrable steep southern hills but rarely spend more than a day or two there before returning to the lowlands



Need to know

This is an active and physical expedition and participants should be in good health and reasonably fit to get the most out of the trip. Previous paddling experience is not essential however a couple of hours in a kayak getting basic paddle strokes correct before the expedition is advisable. The paddling is all on flat water and easy. On some days wind could make the water a little choppy. At all times, the backup boat is available for those too tired to paddle or preferring a different perspective on the lake. Walking and chimp tracking in Mahale can be tiring and some trails are steep and long. For the duration of the kayaking section of this trip the campsites are very simple and rustic. Accommodation at Lakeshore and Mahale is comfortable and well appointed.



Includes

- Specialist AE guide Fraser Gear for the duration of the safari
- All accommodation, meals, scheduled camp and safari activities, park fees and all local drinks
- Scheduled flights as indicated in the itinerary
- All road transfers as indicated
- All applicable tourism levies, permits and entrance fees



Excludes

- International flights or airport taxes
- Premium imported drinks
- Hotels, meals, activities, transport not listed in the itinerary
- Personal expenses
- Staff gratuities
- Visa costs
- Travel Insurance

Tanzania



The name Tanzania conjures up images of wildebeest stampeding across vast savannah, rain forests teeming with monkeys and birdlife, plains brimming with legions of game, sailing dhows on great lakes and idyllic islands along the coast.. All of these natural wonders and more are on offer in this exceptionally diverse African nation.. Whichever of these incredible holidays you choose, you will undoubtedly be welcomed by some fabulously friendly and peaceful inhabitants who, despite being divided into 120 different ethnic groups and cultures, live in harmony with one another and provide some of the most wonderfully exotic local cuisine you could imagine. With all of this diversity on offer, the most difficult part of your Tanzanian holiday experience is likely to be deciding where to go!

Useful information



Travel Documents – please make copies of passports and visa documents and carry these with you



Time zone – Time zone in Tanzania is GMT+3 hours



Cash - be sure to have some cash for gratuities and incidental purchases.



Medical information – please seek professional medical advice from your local travel clinic prior to travel



Laundry – there are laundry services at Lakeshore Lodge and Greystoke Mahale but no laundry service during the kayak expedition.



Luggage restrictions – Luggage, including camera equipment and hand luggage is restricted to 15kg on the charter flight



Climate – expect hot to very hot conditions. The air is very dry, moisturizers and lip balms are needed in addition to sunblock and sunglasses



Don't forget your hat!



Binoculars – we strongly recommend that you travel with at least one pair of good binoculars



Wi-Fi connectivity – there is **no** wifi during the kayaking expedition





Fraser Gear

Fraser is an excellent naturalist, guide and explorer. He has spent the last 28 years leading wildlife, photographic and birding expeditions across the length and breadth of Africa, Madagascar, Middle East, Asia and into the neo-tropics. Fraser's interests and skills are as diverse as his explorations. He is a passionate birder, tracker, botanist and wildlife enthusiast, Fraser has a great love of the planet's wildest places and the adventure that comes with exploring these regions. Fraser is at his happiest when in the thick of things on foot in the African savanna, on a remote sea kayak expedition with his wife and best friend Sandra, or deep in a steamy jungle seeking out avian wonders. A sensitive and caring tour leader, a wonderful teacher with a passion for nature, a wicked sense of humor, a repertoire of incredible tales of challenge and a sharp intellect combine to make Fraser the exceptional expedition leader he is today.

We are looking forward to sharing the
beauty and wilderness of Lake Tanganyika
with you!

