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5-days Serengeti & Ngorongoro Crater Safari

A 5-day safari encompassing the Serengeti National Park and the Ngorongoro Crater offers an unparalleled opportunity to experience Tanzania's rich biodiversity and stunning landscapes. Below is a sample itinerary to guide your adventure:

Day 1: Arrival in Arusha

- **Morning/Afternoon:** Arrive at Arusha's Kilimanjaro International Airport, where a representative will welcome you and transfer you to your accommodation in Arusha.
- **Evening:** Attend a safari briefing to prepare for the upcoming days.

Day 2: Arusha to Serengeti National Park

- **Morning:** Depart from Arusha and drive to the Serengeti National Park, passing through the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.
- **Afternoon:** Arrive in the Serengeti and embark on an introductory game drive en route to your lodge or tented camp.
- **Evening:** Enjoy dinner and an overnight stay in the central Serengeti.

Day 3: Full Day in Serengeti National Park

- **Morning and Afternoon:** Spend the day on game drives exploring the Serengeti's vast plains, home to the Big Five and, depending on the season, the Great Migration.
- **Optional Activity:** Experience a hot air balloon safari at dawn for a unique aerial view of the wildlife (booking required).
- **Evening:** Return to your accommodation for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 4: Serengeti to Ngorongoro Crater

- **Morning:** After breakfast, depart for the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, with a game drive en route.
- **Afternoon:** Arrive at the Ngorongoro Crater rim, with an optional visit to a Maasai village to learn about local culture.
- **Evening:** Overnight stay at a lodge on the crater rim, offering stunning views.

Day 5: Ngorongoro Crater Tour and Return to Arusha

- **Morning:** Descend into the Ngorongoro Crater for a half-day game drive. The crater's enclosed ecosystem supports a dense population of wildlife, including the Big Five.
- **Afternoon:** After a picnic lunch, ascend the crater and begin the journey back to Arusha.
- **Evening:** Arrive in Arusha for your onward travel arrangements or an overnight stay.

Accommodation Options:

- **Serengeti National Park:**
 - *Luxury:* Four Seasons Safari Lodge Serengeti
 - *Mid-Range:* Serengeti Serena Safari Lodge
 - *Budget:* Serengeti Wilderness Camp
- **Ngorongoro Conservation Area:**
 - *Luxury:* Ngorongoro Crater Lodge
 - *Mid-Range:* Ngorongoro Serena Safari Lodge
 - *Budget:* Rhino Lodge

Safari Inclusions:

- Transportation in a 4x4 safari vehicle with a pop-up roof for optimal game viewing.
- Professional English-speaking driver-guide.

- Park entry fees for all mentioned national parks.
- Accommodation and meals as specified in the itinerary.
- Bottled water during game drives.

Additional Tips:

- **Best Time to Visit:** June to October offers excellent wildlife viewing opportunities, while November to May provides lush landscapes and fewer tourists.
- **What to Pack:** Neutral-colored clothing, comfortable walking shoes, a hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, and binoculars are recommended.
- **Health Considerations:** Consult with a healthcare provider regarding necessary vaccinations and malaria prophylaxis before traveling.

This itinerary provides a balanced mix of adventure and relaxation, ensuring an unforgettable Tanzanian safari experience.