



Windward Fishing Club presents

Hooked on Kenya

A fishing expedition like no other. Wild trout in the Kenyan Highlands, big game on the Laikipia Plateau, and an adventure that will stay with you for life.

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HOOKED ON KENYA

Hooked on Kenya is a carefully crafted fishing expedition for young people with a real sense of adventure. We are looking for 6-8 'Young Rods' (YRs) who are excited about a fishing adventure to open their account in a lifetime of exploration.

The journey begins in Nairobi, where YRs are met and driven into the cool highlands at the foothills of the Aberdares. Here, days are spent fishing for trout in cold, clean streams, exploring high-altitude landscapes, meeting the communities who call these hills home, and discovering how tea shapes local life, from the fields to the factory.

From the highlands, the safari moves north to the Laikipia Plateau and Wiz's Camp. The clear mountain streams give way to wild bush rivers, the fishing here is for barbel and catfish. Every cast comes with the possibility of seeing not just fish but elephants, giraffe, zebra, perhaps even lion tracks coming down to the water edge. We will mix up the fishing with, game viewing, pre-dawn exploration, night predator scouting, and evening cooking in the bush - perhaps even what we catch.

Young Rods will be expected to have a love of **wild places** and **exploration** with an interest in **fishing**, and have no fear of **getting stuck in**. Supervision, guidance and some fishing tuition will be provided although YRs are expected to be able to set up their own rod and fish to a basic standard unaided.



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HOOKED ON KENYA

YOUR SAFARI AT A GLANCE

3 April: Fly to Nairobi.

Leave UK on Thursday 3 April to arrive at Nairobi early morning of 4 April

4 April: Transfer to fishing camp,

Meet the Kenyan team and transfer to the Aberdare foothills to the highland fishing lodges.

5 - 7 April: Highland Fishing

Fishing on the North and South Mathioya with local ghillies. Fishing with fly only. Using dry fly for evening rise and wet flies with droppers during the daytime. See how the local community lives and how the tea industry works at ground level. Help with management of lodge staff and assist the planning of evening entertainment (there is no WIFI or television).

8 April: Transfer to Wiz's Camp

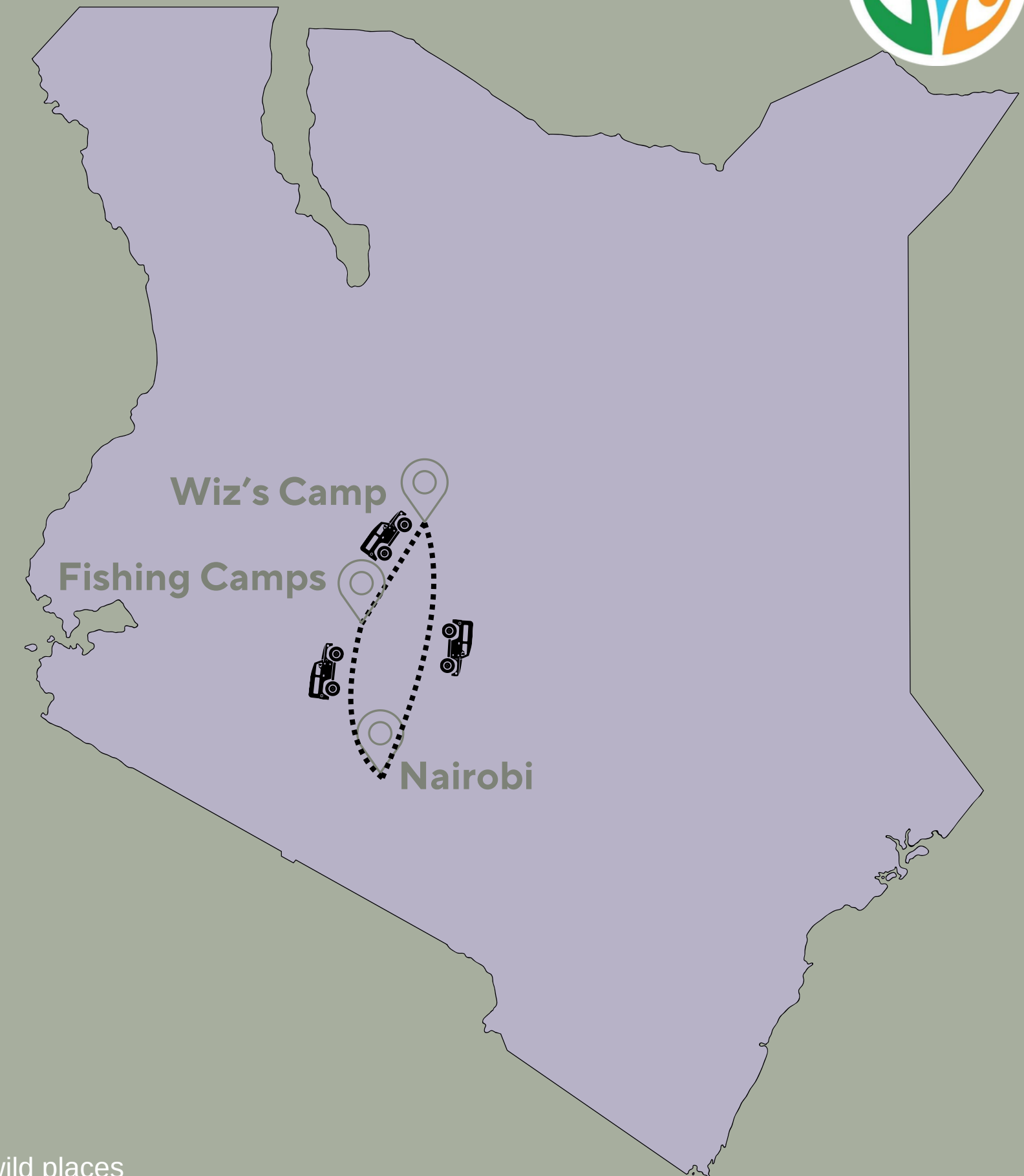
Arrive in time for lunch. Afternoon fishing before game drive and dinner in the bush. Night game drive back to camp.

9 April: Bush Fishing

Pre-dawn game drive, bushy flat white making, back to camp for Breakfast. Morning fishing, lunch, fishing from camp, game drive and dinner in the bush and awards.

10 April: Transfer to Nairobi and Homeward Bound

Morning game drive, breakfast in the bush. Morning fishing and packing. Lunch, Transfer to Nairobi. Early supper at the Talisman and then onward transport to Nairobi Airport for return flights home.



FISHING LODGES

On arrival the Young Rods (YRs), accompanied by their guides, will move to the foothills of the Aberdare mountains. The rivers we will be fishing, flow clear off the Aberdares down through tea country. These rivers have been fished by enthusiasts for over 100 years. The Rods will be guided with local ghillies who have cared for these rivers sometimes through generations. We will fish for 2 days at one location before moving to a second river around 30 minutes away for the next 2 days.

Days will start with kit preparation, hot tea and hearty breakfasts. Fishing can be had from the lawn of the lodges, although as ever, the more interesting water needs a bit of walking to get to. The rivers have a good network of access paths. Banks have been looked after and some trees pruned to help access pools. Fishing is by wading and from both banks using both upstream and downstream techniques.

As well as fishing, we will take time to introduce the YRs to the local people in the community. They will see how tea is picked from the hillsides and processed by the nearby tea factory. The area has diverse bird life and for those interested bird watching this location can be rewarding.

Accommodation is provided in twin or triple rooms with en-suite bathrooms. Meals are generally taken at the lodge and YRs will be assigned their day to help with their preparation assisted by the team of camp staff. The lodges are well-appointed and comfortable — expect electricity, hot baths, open fires and deep sofas — without any of the fuss.





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LAIKIPIA

Wiz's Camp sits beside the Ewaso Ng'iro river on Suguroi Ranch, in Eastern Laikipia. The camp is entirely under canvas, small in scale, tents look out over water, the bush and on to Mount Kenya.

Mornings will start early or very early, heading out onto the ranch to see what happened the night before... The Rods will play their part in helping to guide the game drive. Using their eyes, ears and memory they will help decipher; the noises they heard from the night before, the tracks they can see now and how animals are moving in the landscape. They will learn how to make bushy flat whites and search for feathers and quills they might need later to make flies or use as floats.

After a delicious breakfast in camp under a shady tree it will be back to the river to fish for barble or catfish. Perhaps also an opportunity for some painting or bird watching or simply reading a book before lunch.

In the evenings we once again head out to see where animals are moving and to cook our supper over the fire. Once things get dark it is back to the car to find the spotlights and go out once again to see how the environment comes alive at night. At last, we will arrive back at camp to hot showers, a warm fire and a proper bed under canvas.



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Group Leader

DAVID RITCHIE

David Ritchie is the founder of Windward Education and brings over 25 years of experience as an educator to everything he does. He is a passionate believer in the power of fly fishing in wild places to connect young people with the natural world — and with themselves.

David has cast a line across some of the most remarkable waters on the planet, fishing in Iceland, Canada, Finland, the United States, West Africa and throughout his home country of Scotland. That breadth of experience gives him a rare ability to read not just rivers, but the young people standing beside them.

A founding force behind the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Schools Network, David understands that conservation begins with connection. His approach to working with young people is built on a careful balance of challenge and support — pushing boundaries while making sure no one is left behind. He has led youth groups on numerous international expeditions, creating experiences that build confidence, resilience and a lifelong love of wild places.

On Hooked on Kenya, David brings all of that experience to bear, guiding the Young Rods not just as a fishing instructor, but as a mentor, expedition leader and fellow adventurer.



Host and Guide

CRISPIN KENNEDY (WIZ)

With over two decades of hands-on experience exploring, guiding, and leading operations across Africa, Wiz Kennedy is a seasoned adventurer whose career reflects a spirit of resilience, curiosity, and adaptability. Having travelled extensively across more than 20 African nations, he has developed an intimate understanding of the continent's diverse landscapes, rich cultures, and extraordinary wildlife.

Wiz's passion for adventure began early in life, taking him on ambitious expeditions through some of the world's most remote regions - including the Arctic, the Himalayas, and the steppes of Asia. In 2008, he and his then-girlfriend, Juju, undertook a remarkable journey driving from Scotland to Kenya via the Sahara Desert. Since settling in Kenya, Wiz has continued to explore with purpose, combining his love of travel with meaningful operational roles that have deepened his connection to the land and its people. Now husband to Juju and father to their three children, they operate their safari business, Nia Wild Ltd and host guests at their own camp in Laikipia.

Growing up in rural Northumberland, he developed a love of the outdoors and in particular shooting and fishing. He went on professionally to manage sporting estates in Scotland, focusing on deer, grouse and river management. On arriving in Kenya he soon became a professional hunter (birds) and joined the Kenya Fly Fishers Club, the oldest fishing club in East Africa founded in 1919. He was later asked to speak at their centenary dinner. A Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, Wiz is deeply committed to conservation, to protect the spaces that inspire him and to encourage young people to also find their own connection. He gets satisfaction from encouraging young people to try new things, perhaps outside their normal horizon but within safe handrails.

He is a member of the Kenya Professional Safari Guides Association and is FREC 3 medically qualified. He has known David Ritchie, the founder for Windward Education Ltd for over 40 years.



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Cost: Per Young Rod £2,300

Includes:

Full board including soft drinks and conservation fees. All transfers. Kenya flying doctor extraction cover. Fishing, lodge and staff tips.

Excludes: International Flights to Kenya, visas, transport in UK to meeting place.

Local reservations and ground handling by Nia Wild Ltd, Kenya .

For the safari to operate it requires a Minimum 6 YRs. Deposits will be held pending sufficient interest. in the event the safari fails to attract 6 YRs, deposits will be returned.

10% deposit payment required to confirm interest, with a further 20% required on confirmation that the safari will proceed.

HOW TO CONTACT US

Windward Education Ltd - David Ritchie
david@windwardeducation.com



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NIA Wild



PRE-TRAVEL PACKING & CHECKLIST



- Check your passport has 6 months of validity in it
- Apply for your visa online [here](#) up to 3 months in advance
- Take out travel and holiday insurance (as soon as possible)

Packing for safari doesn't mean you need to go out and buy a new wardrobe! Neutral colours look great in safari photos, but most mammals see in black and white! Expect cold mornings (c8-10 degrees) hot days (up to 30 degrees) and cool evenings. Pack what you'd usually take for a summer fishing trip in Scotland - and here are a few tips:

- Lightweight raincoat
- A good broad-rim hat, and high factor (50) suncream
- Shorts and an old pair of trainers are more comfortable than waders in Kenya
- Trousers and a couple warm jerseys are always handy as the evenings are cold
- Slippers or spare shoes with warm socks for the lodge
- T-shirts and also long-sleeved shirts for when the sun gets too much
- Kenya has three-pin plugs so no adapter is necessary, but bring a powerbank.
- Once you leave the airport there we will have no WIFI do not bring masses of electronics
- Mosquito repellent
- Notebook and pencil
- Don't forget - A refillable **WATER BOTTLE, BINOCULARS**, and at least one **TORCH**

MEDICAL & EMERGENCY

Flying Doctor Extraction Cover

All Young Rods will be provided flying doctor insurance undertaken by RESCUE.CO the industry leader in Kenya. Cover will be activated in the event of an emergency should an individual need to be extracted to hospital in Kenya.

First Aid Support

Wiz is FREC 3 First Aid qualified and carries a comprehensive first aid kit together with resuscitation equipment including an automatic external defibrillator.

Communication

At all accommodation locations there will be mobile phone signal. WIFI is not available although in an emergency a STARLINK network can be utilised.

Hospitals

The Aga Khan University hospital in Nairobi is the principle hospital identified to provide medical support in the event of an emergency. Additional support may be provided by Nanyuki Cottage Hospital to provide stabilisation if required.

Risk Assessment

Camps and Lodges to be utilised by this safari comply with local laws regarding health and safety, risk assessments and fire safety audits. A risk assessment of this safari has been undertaken identifying principle risks and mitigation measures to manage these risks.

Key control measures include:

- Safety briefings and supervision to ensure use of seatbelts when traveling on roads
- Bush safety briefings for rules in camp and when out of camp to avoid animal risks
- Fishing safety briefings and risk identification particular when wading
- Adult supervision at all times

A copy of the risk assessment can be provided on request.



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FISHING EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST



We will be fly fishing exclusively for 4 days, in the bush, Rods will fish with fly (if the water is clear) or with spinner rods in normal conditions. As a minimum, bring fly fishing kit with you, there are some spinner rods in camp but bring one if you have.

FLY FISHING KIT

- Fishing Rod and reel: A 7' #3 fly rod is ideal up to around 8½' #4 with matched weight floating line.
- Small trout landing net
- Fishing waistcoat for: leader, snips, spare flies, strike indicator, lucky charms etc
- Fishing bag for everything else. (sun cream, waterbottle, snack, spare line raincoat, fish)
- Priest
- Flies: Think small and beaded.

Some of the following in a couple of small sizes is recommended

- Beaded Royal Coachman
- Beaded Coachman
- Copper John
- Gold beaded Prince Nymph
- Beaded Hare's Ear
- Small black beaded nymphs

INTENTIONAL TRAVEL TOP TIPS



Treading lightly on the environment

As a country we are keenly aware of the need to protect our environment. Kenya has banned plastic bags, so please don't come in with any, especially as sometimes Customs check luggage on arrival. Generally, we encourage you to tread lightly on the environment here in Kenya, where, like the rest of the world, we feel the effects of Climate Change. This might mean things like taking shorter showers, not littering, avoiding plastic bottles and refilling your own reusable bottle instead.

Supporting local communities

Your decision to come to Kenya already supports some fantastic communities, and we are truly grateful for your choice! Along the way on your safari, you'll meet amazing people who live interesting and varied lives. Sometimes they might want to sell you something, and we encourage supporting this but not feeling pressured. If you're concerned about it, please ask your guide at the lodge as they will be able to assist you.

Tipping

Tipping of staff will be undertaken by Wiz and David Ritchie and is included in the cost. Young Rods do not have to carry cash for this purpose although may be given the appropriate cash to give to their ghillie.

Collecting shells, bones, horns etc.

It's illegal in Kenya to collect anything from nature and take it home - this includes shells, bones, horns etc, unless made into artefacts or jewellery. We recommend taking a picture instead of taking the item itself. Shells turn into our beach, horns are great food for hyenas and other predators, and bones alike. Everything feeds back into the circle of life and our ecosystem in Kenya.



THE SMALL PRINT

Includes: Rescue.co cover for emergency evacuation to Nairobi, full board accommodation, including soft drinks,. Conservation Fees. Local transfers.

Accommodation held and booking subject to payment of 40% deposit.

- Booking accepted on condition guests have their own comprehensive holiday, travel and medical insurance
- Any unforeseen changes to Government taxes and/ or Park fees will be passed on to the clients.

Subject to availability.

Flights

A group code will be provided so that the group travels together from either Edinburgh, or joining the group at London for the Nairobi flight.