

ILORA
RETREATS

Unrushed. By Nature.

A PRIVATE SAFARI CAMP IN THE HEART OF THE MARA



A place built from *obsession*, not obligation.

Ilora was not conceived in a boardroom. It grew from years spent in the field — watching, photographing, and learning from the Mara.

After years in the Mara, one truth became impossible to ignore: the moments people remembered most were rarely the busiest ones. Not the longest list of sightings, but the sunrise watched in silence. The conversation around a fire. Ilora was created around those moments.

It was built by Alankar Chandra — a wildlife photographer who left a corporate career in 2016 to live by the wild. He came to know the Mara not as a visitor but as a student: its light, its predators, its seasonal rhythms, its silences.

Every photograph in Ilora was taken by Alankar in the field. His photography has won a National Geographic Your Shot competition, been featured as a Mastercraftsman by Smart Photography, and been shortlisted for the BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year.

"I came to know the Mara as a student, not a visitor. Ilora is what I learned."



STAY

Your suite in the *wild*.

Fourteen private suites on thirty acres of protected land — each positioned so the Mara is never more than a step away.

Each suite sits deep within the bush, oriented for privacy and immersion — no suite looks onto another. Canvas and timber that breathe with the heat and cool with the night, so the stay feels connected to place rather than separated from it.

Inside, the design is stripped of anything unnecessary. A large bed turned toward the wilderness. A writing desk. A deep bath and rustic ensuite shower. A private veranda where most mornings begin.

Every suite is fully solar-powered, with drinking-quality water purified on site. The footprint on the land is deliberately minimal.

14

PRIVATE SUITES

35

MAXIMUM GUESTS

100%

SOLAR POWERED

RO

PURIFIED WATER



THE CAMP

The spaces we *share*.

There are no walls between the camp and its surroundings.
The wilderness is part of the experience.



BY THE WATER

The Pool

A natural gathering place at the water's edge — slow breakfasts, private lunches, and dinners beneath the stars.



RECOVERY

Spa Sanctuary

Rest for bodies that have spent the day in the wild — the spa tent, the open-air bush spa, or your own suite.



ABOVE THE CAMP

The Sky Deck

An elevated platform with no walls and no ceiling — sunrise breakfasts, sundowners, stargazing, and the star bed.



INDOORS, BARELY

Gallery, Library & Photo Lounge

Fifty-six of the founder's photographs, most taken within an hour of camp. Books on the birds, mammals and people of this ecosystem. Two editing stations for the frames you took today.



DINE

A table set by the *wild*.

Meals at Ilora follow the day and the light, not a fixed clock.

Breakfast unfolds slowly at the water's edge. Lunch can be set privately beside the pool. As the light softens, sundowners are poured on the sky deck before dinner is served beneath the stars.

There is a farm inside the camp, and roughly half of what reaches the table is picked there that morning. Bread, yoghurt and ice cream are made here; nothing is added to the juice.

Wherever you sit, the Mara stays in view. Private dinners, bush settings, and quiet tables for two are arranged around the rhythm of your days here — never to a fixed schedule.

Tell us how you like to eat, and the team will build the day around it.



ON SAFARI

Five ways to move through the *Mara*.

Ilora sits ten minutes from the greatest wildlife spectacle on earth. The jeep safari is the foundation — everything else opens the Mara further.

01

CORE EXPERIENCE

Jeep Safari

Twice daily, private vehicle, expert Maasai guide. Dawn across open plains — unhurried, undistracted, close.

02

ABOVE IT ALL

Balloon

Scale, silence, and the migration below.

03

DAWN RITUAL

Bird Walk

More than 470 species in the ecosystem. A different kind of attention.

04

ON FOOT

Bush Walk

Ground level changes everything.

05

WITH ALANKAR

Photo Safari

The resident photographer. Your images, taken properly.



EXPERIENCES

Moments that stay with *you*.

Beyond the safari, Ilora invites you to slow down and connect. Every hour — after dark, at the table — is as considered as the drives themselves.



AFTER DARK

Celestial Observatory

Two telescopes and a smart scope revealing distant nebulae in real time.



EVENING

Mara on Screen

A thirty-foot open-air screen beside the fire, screening wildlife films.



CULTURAL

Naming Ceremony

Receive a traditional Maasai name — an exchange with the people whose land this is.



FAMILIES

Junior Rangers

Spear throwing, bead making, bush walks and wildlife storytelling.



WITH ALANKAR

Safari Shoots

The resident photographer captures your safari, from rare sightings to quiet moments.



AFTER DARK

Star Beds

A king bed on the open sky deck. No ceiling, no walls — just the southern sky.



FOOTPRINTS

We exist in service
of this *place*.

The wilderness you come to witness is the same wilderness we work every day to protect.

30

ACRES — 95% PRESERVED AS
INDIGENOUS BUSHLAND

100%

SOLAR POWERED · OFF-GRID
AND RENEWABLE

RO

DRINKING-QUALITY WATER
FROM EVERY TAP

0

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS
ACROSS THE CAMP



PLAN YOUR STAY

Begin the *journey.*

Fourteen suites. One undivided attention. We would be glad to help you plan your time in the Mara.

RESERVATIONS

reservations@ilora-retreats.com

TELEPHONE & WHATSAPP

+254 742 592 327

ONLINE

ilora-retreats.com

GETTING HERE

Flights from Nairobi to the Mara; we meet you at the airstrip.

MEMBER

Preferred Hotels & Resorts