

CHYULU CAMP CODES

WHAT IS CHYULU CAMP

The camp's mission is to offer young people from all over the world an opportunity to immerse themselves in the heart of Africa, the unique Maasai culture, learn about issues such as cultural preservation, wildlife conservation, and ecotourism as well as take part in safaris within the breathtaking beauty of the Chyulu landscape.

Chyulu Camp was constructed in 2019 and is characterized by typical African architectural features. The camp is situated near a spring on a Maasai reserve located between the Chyulu Hills and Kilimanjaro. Featuring state-of-the-art facilities, the camp is a model of ecotourism that is self-sufficient, safe, and environmentally friendly.

This initiatory journey demands that our young guests demonstrate a high level of discipline and behaviour, which is explained in these "Chyulu Codes".

BEFORE THE TRIP

It is essential to read the recommendations and follow them to prepare effectively for this trip; they explain the modalities of arrival in Nairobi and transfer to the camp; present the camp and its leaders, list the activities offered and gives a checklist for the travel bag which will ensure the appropriate clothes and shoes for all camp activities, including safaris and walks.

This trip is also a "detox" from the habits of using smartphones, iPads and personal computers. Upon arrival at the camp, all such equipment will be handed over to the camp manager who will only return it for a very limited time and use, and in cases of emergency. It is strongly advised to bring a digital camera as smartphones will not be returned for safaris. Computers with internet links are available at the camp for personal use. Toiletries, T-shirts, cameras with memory cards, Maasai souvenirs, etc. are available at the camp shop.

RESPECT IS THE WATCHWORD AT THE CAMP

Only leave good memories:

- * Respect for nature: don't leave any rubbish behind. This includes food waste, food packages and plastic. It is harmful to the local wildlife and can detract from the beautiful natural environment that everyone is coming to see.
- * Introducing foreign food or drink into a national park or game reserve can be harmful to the native environment.
- * Respect for resources: water, energy, food are rare goods that should not be wasted.
- * Respect for cleanliness and order: the camp is not a hotel where people "do the rooms": everyone must ensure that the tents and lounges are in order and that bathrooms are clean.

Embrace the moment:

- * Photos are great for looking back on but take a moment to truly appreciate your surroundings. Remember to put the camera down for a while and just take everything in.

Respect local culture:

- * Respect for the women and men who live and work there; they have a language, a culture and a way of life that is very different from that of our young visitors, for example regarding the important role of the elders.
- * Respect of the place: we are in the middle of nature where wild animals are masters, which imposes imperative security constraints. It is therefore forbidden to move around the camp at night without the accompaniment of a guard; on safari, it is forbidden to get out of the cars; on expedition, it is forbidden to leave the queue following a guide or to speak when the guide has demanded silence to approach the game.
- * Don't wear white, black, and bright colours; try to use green and beige (traditional safari colours.)
- * Respect for other campers: punctuality and courtesy are a must in the camp; say good morning, use appropriate language, do not throw anything on the ground and do not leave things lying around in the cars, lounge, and dining room.

LIFE IN THE CAMP IMPOSES ESSENTIAL RULES WHICH PROHIBIT

- * The possession and consumption of tobacco, alcohol and drugs.
- * Leaving the tent between the hours of sleeping and rising.
- * Stealing or entering a tent to take anything without permission.
- * Violence, by word or deed, serious disrespect towards a fellow student or adult.
- * Leaving the camp without a Maasai guide.
- * During safaris and expeditions, jumping out of cars and ignoring the instructions of the guides, which are non-negotiable.

HEALTH

- * A health assistant resides at the camp. Campers may consult her at any time.
- * Campers are never allowed to carry any medication; it is given to the health assistant who supervises any treatment.
- * Before eating, everyone is asked to wash their hands. Hand disinfectant dispensers are available.
- * During the night, security guards patrol the camp. They can be called with a horn in case of problems.
- * The African sun is strong: the use of sun creams before each outing and the wearing of a cap or hat are essential.
- * Shoes should be closed and suitable for walking.
- * During the night, it is strongly advised to adjust the mosquito nets and to carefully close the zips of the tents to avoid insects.

SANCTIONS

Discipline must be enforced: the camp is a school entity. If a camper disobeys the Chyulu Codes, the camp director may punish him/her with various tasks (in the kitchen, in the gardens). In serious cases, he will refer the matter to the local authorities and will organize the return of the camper to his/her home.

AFTER THE CAMP

A memorable experience such as this will remain with you for the rest of your life. What would be more meaningful than keeping a travel diary illustrated with photos taken in these strikingly beautiful landscapes, with animals encountered in the wild and with Maasai children and elders with whom you will have established a bond?

Why not return to your country and prepare your own conservation project? With the help of the Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT), we will guide you in choosing a cause that is close to your heart, and you will be able to support it after your return home.

You have the power to shape the future of life on our planet, and may this trip give you the inspiration and energy to devote a significant part of your life to it.

