THE HIDE · JANUARY–SEPTEMBER 2026

A SEASON OF SIGHTINGS

From January through the third week of September, the camera at our Larsens Camp Photo Hide in Samburu logged over **700 sighting events** — everything from a lone impala at dawn to a pride of lions passing through under cover of dark. Here's what came through the lens.

SOROI LARSENS CAMP

SAMBURU PHOTO HIDE

Samburu National Reserve

On foot from the tents: five one-way-glass windows over a floodlit waterhole, swivel chairs, gimbals and individually adjustable lighting built for night photography. Leopard passed six times this season — including a rare daylight sighting in July.

THE HIGHLIGHTS

What Came Through The Lens

HEADLINE MOMENT

Eight lions passed the hide at 19:13 on 26 January — gone within two minutes. The only pride sighting logged all year.

RARE & WANTED

Striped hyena was the season's most reliable night visitor. Leopard passed six times between January and July. Seven aardvark sightings came in August alone, every one between 9pm and 4am.

BIGGEST GATHERINGS

35 elephants, an unusually large herd for this water source, on 19 July. A 52-strong baboon troop stayed over two hours on 7 July.

BY THE NUMBERS

The seat where it all got logged: ~7 sighting events a day, steady all season. Impala and warthog were the most consistent daily visitors. September's longest stay was a warthog, over 5 hours.

LARSENS CAMP PHOTO HIDE

Rare & Notable Sightings, By Species

January–September 2026

The hide's overall traffic held steady all season, at roughly 7 sighting events a day. But aardvark and greater kudu each arrived in a sudden, concentrated burst — 7 aardvark sightings packed into August, 6 kudu sightings packed into September — after zero appearances of either species earlier in the year.

TWO HIDES, ONE COLLECTION

SOROI LIONS BLUFF

LUMO CONSERVANCY PHOTO HIDE

Lumo Community Wildlife Sanctuary, bordering Tsavo West

Larsens keeps the more formal record, but Lumo's hide — built into the base of Lions Bluff, glassed and lit the same way for long night sits — sees just as much, also serving Soroi Leopards Lair and Soroi Cheetah Tented Camp. There's no season-long tally like the one above, but the camera doesn't lie. A handful of frames from recent sits:

AFTER DARK

A young pride works this waterhole on quiet dry-season nights — mothers and cubs first, the rest of the group holding back in the treeline until the coast is clear.

FIRST LIGHT, LAST LIGHT

Lumo's leopards favour the in-between hours — dusk and first light — when the glass goes from mirror to window and the hide's occupants and the waterhole's visitors can, for a moment, almost see each other.

THE SHY ONE

Servals are notoriously hard to place anywhere, let alone this close — long-legged, quick to spook, and usually gone the instant the light so much as flickers.

GENTLE GIANTS

Africa's largest antelope, unhurried and enormous, working the shallows at the water's edge — a species most guests never get this close to on a game drive.

WHEN TO BOOK

Availability, Month by Month

Both hides take exclusive 24-hour bookings (max 4 guests, noon to noon) or shared 8-hour AM/PM sessions, year-round.

SAMBURU PHOTO HIDE

October 2026

Photographic Hide

Dates	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Rooms	3	-	-	-	4	3	3	3	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

November 2026

Photographic Hide

Dates	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Rooms	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	4	4	4	4	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

December 2026

Photographic Hide

Dates	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Rooms	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

CHECK AVAILABILITY

LUMO CONSERVANCY PHOTO HIDE

October 2026

Photographic Hide

Dates	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Rooms	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	-	-	-	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

November 2026

Photographic Hide

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Rooms	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

December 2026

Photographic Hide

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Rooms	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

CHECK AVAILABILITY

THE HIDES THEMSELVES

Where The Photographs Happen

LARSENS CAMP HIDE · EXTERIOR

LARSENS CAMP HIDE · INTERIOR

VIEW MORE LARSENS CAMP PHOTOS ON THE MEDIA PORTAL →

LUMO CONSERVANCY HIDE · EXTERIOR

LUMO CONSERVANCY HIDE · INTERIOR

VIEW MORE LUMO PHOTOS ON THE MEDIA PORTAL →

FROM THE HIDES

A Few More Frames

LARSENS CAMP HIDE

LUMO CONSERVANCY HIDE

LUMO CONSERVANCY HIDE

LUMO CONSERVANCY HIDE

All images photographed at the Larsens Camp and Lumo Conservancy hides, 2025–2026. Click any photo to browse the full Soroi Media Portal library for that hide.

Immersed in Nature.

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THE SOROI COLLECTION

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