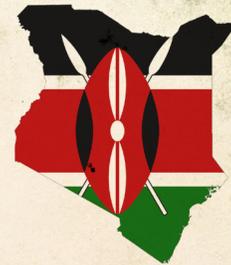


# KENYA INFORMATION



## ENTRY FORMALITIES

Valid passports and visas are required for US passport holders, Visas can be obtained on arrival. The cost is US\$ 50 per person. We will provide you with the necessary forms. Please note, children under the age of 16 travelling with their parents do NOT require a visa to enter Kenya.

## CUSTOMS

A reasonable volume of personal effects can be freely imported together with cameras and any amount of film.

## CURRENCY/CURRENCY REGULATIONS

Any amount of foreign currency may be brought into Kenya but must be changed at banks or licensed exchange facilities at main hotels. We recommend each passenger carry US\$ 500 in US currency or travelers checks. Please use bank notes printed after 2001. Any surplus Kenya Shilling notes can be changed for foreign currency at banks at the two international airports, which maintain a 24-hour service.

## CREDIT CARDS

American Express, Diners Club, Visa and other well known cards are widely accepted in Nairobi and throughout Kenya. We suggest signing for drinks, laundry, etc., to your room account. Settle your bill with a credit card upon departure from the hotel/lodge/camp.

## HEALTH

Malaria is endemic to certain areas of Kenya and all visitors should begin taking anti malaria prophylactics two weeks before leaving for Kenya, throughout their stay and for six weeks after returning. Main towns have good hospital care and Nairobi has excellent specialist facilities.

There are chemists (drug stores) in all major centers but any visitors requiring special and continuing medication should bring enough to cover the duration of their visit.

All major centers have a Red Cross Blood Donor Center. All blood is screened for the AIDS virus.

## NAIROBI HOTELS

Checkout time at Nairobi Hotels is 12 noon. Check in times are after 1pm. If you require your room for immediate check in, we suggest you make reservations for the night before to guarantee immediate access.

## LANGUAGE

Kiswahili is the lingua franca, a phonetic language formed out of Bantu and Arabic, and spoken nationwide. English is the official language.

## DUTY FREE

Visitors are restricted to duty free items of 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars and one 1 litre bottle of spirits.

## BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE

Maximum weight of 30lbs per person for check-in luggage and one carry on per person for all flights within Kenya. Please pay close attention to the weight restriction, as you will be flying on small aircrafts.

## SECURITY

Kenya is a friendly country and well policed. Walking at night alone, however, is inadvisable. Preferably use Kenatco taxis which are found outside most hotels. Do not leave valuables in hotel rooms and do not carry large sums of cash. If you have valuables, use a safe deposit box.

## TELEPHONE CALLS

International calls from hotels in Nairobi are very expensive. We suggest you purchase phone cards which are available locally in Kenya for long distance calls. Cell phone reception on safari is irregular.

## TIPPING

Most hotels and restaurants include a service charge and tipping is not necessary except where exceptional service inspires a desire to show appreciation. However, it is customary to tip for bar service (10%) and to room porters (US\$ 1 a case). At a restaurant without a service charge 5% to 10% gratuity is fair. As a general rule drivers should be tipped US\$ 10 per passenger per day, or the equivalent in local currency.

## ELECTRICITY

Kenya uses 220-240 volts. In the US and Canada we use 110-120 volts. As a result, you will need a step-down transformer. In addition, you will need a square three pin plug adapter to fit into the wall sockets. For additional information please visit this website [www.adaptelec.com](http://www.adaptelec.com)

## CLIMATE

The temperature rarely falls below 75 degrees Fahrenheit during the day and 50

degrees Fahrenheit at night. Warm clothes are advised for late evenings. Kenya has two rainy seasons the short rains usually fall between October and December and the long rains from March to early June.

While Kenya does not have distinct seasonal changes due to its proximity to the Equator, there are some subtle climatic variations at different times of the year.

December through early March: These are the warmest months of the year (Kenya's "summertime"). Temperatures do not often exceed 90-degrees Fahrenheit (F), however; and morning and evening temperatures are refreshingly cool with low humidity.

Mid-March through May: This season is normally characterized by heavy, intermittent rains. In many recent years, however, there has been more rain in January than in April and May.

June, July, and August: Kenya's weather is coolest during these months, with lows in the 40's (F) and highs in the 70's (F). The country is refreshingly green.

September, October, and November: This is a delightful time to visit East Africa -- comparable to springtime in America. The days are warmer with lows in the mid-60's (F) and highs in the 80's (F). Short, scattered rains fall in November to freshen the country and settle the dust, although they sometimes can be heavy.

The Kenya Highland area is much cooler than the rest of the country. If you are visiting, Mountain Lodge, Sweetwaters or the Mount Kenya Safari Club, please dress warmly for the early mornings and evenings.

## LAUNDRY

Laundry valet service is available at most hotels and lodges. Self-washing facilities are not available except for hand washing in your bathroom. Most hotels and lodges require 24 hours to process your laundry.

## TIME

Kenya is three hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. Two hours ahead in the summer.

# HAVE A WONDERFUL SAFARI

