



GENERAL TRAVEL GUIDELINES



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Area: 224,445 square miles

Population: 45,000,000 million approx.

Capital: Nairobi

Country Tel Code: +254

Language: official language is Swahili and English.

PASSPORT & VISA REQUIREMENTS

A passport and visa are required to enter Kenya. The passport must be valid for at least six months after the intended date of departure from Kenya and have at least two blank pages. While single-entry visas are currently still available upon arrival at Kenyan airports, Kenya Immigration plans to end visas upon arrival at some point in the future. Travelers are encouraged to apply online through the e-visa process. Immigration has instituted a new visa policy whereby all visitors must obtain visas by using [a new online system](#).

For more information regarding the Kenyan e-visa program, please contact Kenya Immigration in Nairobi or the Kenyan embassy in Washington, D.C. Contact information can be found at [Embassy of Kenya](#).

Single entry visa: \$ 51

Multiple-entry visa: \$ 101, regardless of age and whether obtained in advance or at the airport.

The East African Tourist Visa \$100: is available and valid only for travelers visiting the three partner countries ie Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania but is not valid if travelers visit another country other than the three partner countries during their tour.

HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

Malaria is prevalent in some of the areas to be visited. Please consult your physician for suitable anti-malaria medication

No Yellow Fever inoculations are required for entry into Zambia direct from the USA

Yellow Fever is required when travelling from Kenya to Tanzania, Rwanda and Uganda.

For further information: <https://www.passporthealthusa.com/>

BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

- Domestic flights within Kenya are booked on light aircraft. Soft (duffle type) bags only due to light aircraft luggage storage.
- Light Aircraft Baggage allowance: Checked baggage allowance of 15kg (33lbs).
- Allowance includes checked in luggage and all hand luggage.
- The carriage of excess baggage is at the sole discretion of the airline after taking into consideration the aircraft being used and the number of passengers booked. When excess baggage is carried it will be charged at the prevailing freight charges.
- Passengers can request, in advance, to store excess baggage in Nairobi. The luggage must be clearly labeled and locked.

IMPORTANT:

Please note that the use and importation of plastic bags is illegal in Kenya. The ban took effect on 28th August 2017 and is part of an effort to preserve the environment by switching to alternative reusable and eco-friendly packaging materials. Please ensure that you do not have plastic bags, including duty free bags, in both your hand luggage and your main luggage.

PACKING TIPS

Due to luggage restrictions on board inter-camp flights in Kenya, please travel light. There will be opportunities to do laundry along the way and it is always easier in airports and in the camps to move a lighter bag. Bright colors and white are not recommended for safari wear. While game viewing, beige, khaki, and other neutral colors are most practical. Evening dress is casual. Long pants and long sleeves are suggested for early morning and after sundown due to mosquitoes. Sweater or Jacket for cool mornings and evenings. Closed shoes are recommended when out in the bush.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BRING

A hat, sunglasses, high strength sun block, moisturizer, lip salve, insect repellent with you. Also binoculars and a flashlight. Glasses – if you wear prescription glasses bring a spare pair. If you wear contact lenses bring a pair of glasses as well since dust can be a problem. Camera equipment, smart phone chargers and adaptors – Lens cleaning equipment and a dust proof camera bag. Spare batteries and memory cards are very important. Dust mask or scarf for dust if you are sensitive.

We suggest you leave your good jewelry at home, except, of course, jewelry you normally wear at all times. If you do bring very good jewelry, it is strongly suggested that you make use of safe deposit boxes at each hotel/camp which are generally offered free of charge. Holden Safaris cannot be held responsible for any lost or stolen valuables. Check with your insurance company before departure to assure that any valuables you decide to bring are properly insured.

CURRENCY

The currency in Kenya is the Kenya Shilling. Approximately \$1.00 USD is equal to 100 KES. Major Credit Cards are widely accepted in Kenya. ATM's are widespread in major towns. We recommend some sort of back-up funds in case an ATM is out of service when you need it. It is suggested to carry some US\$ in cash, as it is possible to use US\$ cash to buy things in many places; for tipping and also to negotiate with locals while shopping

The newest series of US currency and bills without any writing, markings or tears on the bills are accepted. Be sure to bring notes of varying denominations since change is often a problem in Africa. The old series notes (before 2000) are often NOT accepted.

Call your credit card company and your bank and advise them of your travel plans. Authorization usually needs to be obtained for larger purchases and this is sometimes difficult. Visa is the easiest card to use, followed by MasterCard and American Express.

TIPPING

In East Africa it is customary to tip as a way of expressing gratitude. Below is a general guideline, however this is just a guideline - tipping is at your discretion:

- Porters US\$ 1 per person per day.
- Waiters US\$ 2 per person per day
- Driver guide US\$ 10 per person per day

Normally the guide/ranger is tipped separately in order to show your appreciation.

At many camps there will be a tipping box at checkout or you can give to the manager to share with Camp staff.

INSURANCE

Medical insurance and preferably one that includes air evacuation should be regarded as a pre-requisite for any safari holiday.

PHOTOGRAPHY

This is a photographer's paradise. If taking photographs of local people, always ask their permission beforehand. They may ask for payment. As in most countries, do not take photographs in airports or airport buildings, military or police buildings and of uniformed personnel.

If you are traveling with digital photographic and/or video equipment, ensure you have the specific charging apparatus for each piece of equipment (as well as the appropriate socket plug adaptor and voltage converter if required).

Ensure you have enough memory cards before you head off for the bush – people usually end up taking more pictures than they thought they would!

ELECTRICITY

In Kenya the standard voltage is 220-240 V. The standard frequency is 50 Hz.

PLEASE NOTE: Some camps have limited or no electricity. Candles and hurricane lamps may be provided.



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