



Rethink Africa. Rethink Luxury.

2018 Travel Wild

A Useful Guide to Safaris – Kenya Overview

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Safari Basics

Arrival

Clients will be met at the airport upon landing by our local East African staff. Following a safari/trip briefing by our staff, clients will be introduced to their driver-guide.

Vehicles

There are 2 options. Either a safari minibus (pictured left) or a 4x4 safari vehicle (pictured right). Both feature a pop-open roof for 360 degree game viewing. In Tanzania, almost all safaris are in 4x4 vehicles.



Cameras

For photography enthusiasts, the following are general guidelines for safari photography:

- A camera with Image Stabilization
- Telephoto lens - 300mm
- Bring Storage - Extra memory cards
- Bring backup batteries
- Polarizer filters - help combat the sun
- Bring a bean-bag to stabilize your camera
- Bring a laptop or hard-drive to backup your photos each night

Clothing

Clients will want to bring layers of clothing. Temperatures can fall in the early morning and at night, while during the day it can get very hot. Bright colors can sometimes frighten the animals so Earth-tones (khaki, brown, dark green) are recommended.

Lodging

Camps consist of tents that are spaced apart from one another. Lodges consist of concrete structures, either apart or together, with one or more rooms inside. Please consult Travel Wild regarding the availability of WiFi, swimming pools, etc for specific camps/lodges.

Dining

Full board accommodation (breakfast, lunch, dinner) is provided at lodges and camps on safari. Drinks are usually separate except at the higher end properties. *Special dietary requirements can be met provided advance notice is given.

The Roads

The roads leading to the parks can provide quite a bumpy ride. The 4x4 vehicles provide a smoother ride. Sitting in the front seat (next to the driver) also helps alleviate back pain.

Luggage

A maximum of 15kgs (33lbs) is allowed on domestic flights in Kenya. Soft-shelled luggage is recommended to help conserve space in the safari vehicle.

Power

Voltage: 220-240 Volts (U.S. and Canada are 110-120 Volts). Primary Socket Type: British BS-1363. Some camps/lodges limit the hours that power is available inside the rooms.



Laundry

For camps/lodges that do not include laundry, clients can pay directly for laundry services.

Tipping

General guidelines for tipping while on safari:

- o Drivers - \$5-10 per day (pay at the end of the safari)
- Porters - \$1 per piece of luggage
- Waiters/Waitresses - 5-10%
- Hotel Staff (personal service or attend specifically to your room) - \$5 per day

Safari Basics

Typical Daily Schedule

0600	Wake up. Tea or coffee and a quick snack.
0630	Morning game drive.
0900	Return to the lodge/camp for breakfast.
1230	Lunch is served at the lodge/camp.
1600	Afternoon game drive.
1830	Return to the lodge/camp. All parks close at 1830. (Ngorongoro closes at 1600)
1930	Dinner at the lodge/camp.

Just a few of the animals found in the parks and game reserves of East Africa:

- Lion
- Leopard
- Cheetah
- Hyena
- Wild Dog
- Jackal
- Crocodile
- Hippopotamus
- Zebra
- Wildebeest
- Eland
- Antelope
- Giraffe
- Buffalo
- Bushbuck
- Gazelle
- Gerenuk
- Flamingo
- Hartebeest
- Warthog
- Impala
- Monkey
- Snake
- Turtle
- Waterbuck
- Baboon

DO

- Wake up early for your game drive, predators are most active at this time
- Drink plenty of water
- Bring sunscreen, hats, and sunglasses
- Be ready for bumpy and dusty roads on the way to the parks and reserves
- Bring insect repellent
- Pack light

DO NOT

- Get out of the vehicle at any time
- Attempt to feed or pet the animals
- Make loud noises near the animals
- Take pictures of locals (Masai, police, etc) without permission

The Big 5



LEOPARD



ELEPHANT



LION



RHINO



CAPE BUFFALO

Kenya - Key Information

Main Airports:

- Nairobi - Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA)

Rainy Seasons

- April & May (long rains - heaviest period of rain)
- November & December (short rains - less frequent, less intense rainfall)

Cold Seasons

- June & July (it gets very cold in the early morning and in the evening about 15 degrees centigrade)

Peak Season

July to October - Rains in April and May bring fresh vegetation to Kenya. The Great Migration of wildebeest is in the Masai Mara during this time. Book in advance to ensure availability.

Low Season

April to June - The moderate to heavy rainfall usually limits the number of tourists during this time. The lowest prices can be found during this season and the parks are much less crowded.

Visa Info:

- US\$50 per single entry visa for most nationalities. It can be obtained online from :-
<http://www.evisa.go.ke>

Vaccines/Health Requirements

- Proof of the Yellow Fever Vaccine is REQUIRED in order to enter Kenya and Tanzania.
- Clients should consult a travel doctor concerning other recommended vaccinations.
- Malaria - Clients should consult a travel doctor concerning anti-malarial medication. A number of options, typically tablets ingested orally, are readily available.

Common Client Concerns

Security

Clients should always be vigilant and aware. In major cities and towns, take taxis when travelling at night. At the lodges/camps, store valuables in the room's safe (lodges) or at the reception in a safety deposit box (lodges and camps). However, overall, East Africa is a safe destination for tourists.

Exchanging Money The Kenyan Shilling and Tanzanian Shilling are the official currencies of Kenya and Tanzania, respectively. All major cities and towns have ATMs (Visa is more widely accepted than MasterCard) and forex bureaus. Hotels, lodges and camps will accept Visa and Mastercard and most will accept US Dollars. Forex bureaus, hotels, camps and lodges will exchange US Dollars for Shillings.

In Case of an Emergency

Travel Wild recommends a Flying Doctors Evacuation Insurance Cover for clients at US\$30 per person. This is in case of an emergency and Flying Doctors service will only provide an air evacuation to the nearest city for medical treatment. Clients should have additional health insurance.

Clients will receive emergency contact details (see cover of this handbook) for Travel Wild staff. Travel Wild will have contact details for each client's emergency contact back home, in case of an emergency.

Phones/Communication

Mobile phones are widely used in East Africa and the network is very good, even inside the national parks. If the client's mobile phone has a removable Sim Card, they can purchase a Kenyan or Tanzanian SIM Card which will allow them to make calls at local standard rates. Clients can also purchase a phone in East Africa (\$15-\$100) and insert a local Sim Card if they do not own a mobile phone with a removable Sim Card.

Accommodation Standards

Standards depend on where the client stays, but overall the standards of hotels, lodges and camps in East Africa are very high. Hotels in major cities will typically feature WiFi, room service, a business center, a swimming pool, a restaurant, and other amenities commonly found in hotels around the world. Camps and lodges in the park will vary, but all will feature hot water, electricity (sometimes limited to certain hours during the day), a restaurant and flush toilets.

Malaria

Malaria does exist in East Africa. Clients should begin taking anti-malarial drugs before arriving in East Africa and should continue taking them throughout their stay. Hotels will often feature mosquito nets while camps and lodges will either provide nets or mosquito repellent to spray at night. While mosquitos are not active during the day, some clients may wish to bring insect repellent to ward off other bugs while on safari.

Water

Bottled water is available throughout East Africa. Hotels, lodges and camps will all have running water inside the rooms/tents, but we advise clients to only use this water for brushing teeth and for showering. Bottled water should be used for drinking.