

Travel Facts



US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens exercise increased caution in Kenya due to crime, terrorism, civil unrest, and kidnapping. Some areas have increased risk. Consult its website via the link below for updates to travel advisories and statements on safety, security, local laws, and special circumstances in this country.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 6 months after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 2 blank pages in their passport for any entry stamp and or visa that will be required. A visa is required. US citizens will need to get in touch with the country's embassy or nearest consulate to obtain a visa prior to visiting the country.

US Embassy/Consulate

[254] (20) 363-6170 or (254) (20) 363-6451; US Embassy Nairobi, United Nations Avenue Nairobi, P. O. Box 606 Village Market, 00621 Nairobi, Kenya; kenya_acs@state.gov <https://ke.usembassy.gov>

LGBTQ+ Travelers

When venturing abroad, LGBTQ+ travelers can face unique challenges since laws, attitudes, and legal protections vary from country to country. Consult the website via the link below to learn what precautions to take before and during your trip.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations/lgbtqi.html>

Telephone Code

254

Local Emergency Phone

999

Vaccinations

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations for Kenya: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, cholera, yellow fever, rabies, meningitis, polio, measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), chickenpox, shingles, pneumonia, COVID-19, and influenza.

<http://www.who.int/>

Climate

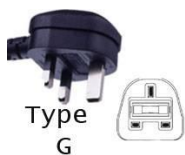
Varies from tropical along coast to arid in interior

Currency (Code)

Kenyan shillings (KES)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

240 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): G



Major Languages

English, Kiswahili, numerous indigenous languages

Major Religions

Christian 85.5%, Muslim 10.9%

Time Difference

UTC+3 (8 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water

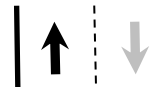
Opt for bottled water

International Driving Permit

Suggested

Road Driving Side

Left



Tourist Destinations

National Parks of Nairobi, Tsavo, Lake Nakuru; National Reserves of Maasai Mara, Amboseli, Samburu, Shaba, Buffalo Springs; Thimlich Ohinga Archaeological Site, beaches near Malindi and Diani

Major Sports

Soccer, track and field, basketball, volleyball

Cultural Practices

Giving gifts with the left hand is considered taboo; use your right hand or both hands.

Tipping Guidelines

A tip of 10% is appropriate for the wait staff in restaurants. At hotels, porters may be tipped anything from 50-100 shillings, and housekeepers from 200-500 shillings per week.

Souvenirs

Sisal or leather baskets; carved teak, ebony, or mninga wood statues, gourds, and tableware; soapstone items; wax paintings; tribal sarongs, blankets, jewelry, spears, and drums; coffee

Traditional Cuisine

Ugali nyama choma na kachumbari — maize meal, grilled meat, and an onion-and-tomato salsa

