

Kenya

Travel Facts



US State Department Travel Advisory

The US State Department currently recommends US citizens exercise increased caution in Kenya due to crime, terrorism, civil unrest, and kidnapping. Some areas have increased risk.

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

Passport/Visa Requirements

For the latest passport and visa requirements for this country, please consult the US State Department's "Learn About Your Destination" search tool, available through the link below.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages.html>

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>

LGBTQIA+, Women, and Special Needs Travelers

Additional travel considerations can be found on the US State Department's International Travel page.

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

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list>

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



Type G

Major Languages

English, Kiswahili, numerous indigenous languages

Major Religions

Christian, Muslim

Time Difference

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

Potable Water

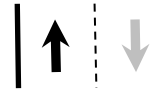
Opt for bottled water

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

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