



Your Complete East Africa Travel Guide

Planning a safari holiday in East Africa? Below is essential travel information to help you prepare. For any further questions, contact the Walk With Maa Tours team via email info@maatours.co.ke or call us on +254 715966973

1. Visa & Entry Requirements

Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) for Kenya

Starting 1st January 2024, travelers to Kenya no longer require a visa and must instead apply for an Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA).

- ✓ Website: www.etakenya.go.ke
- ✓ Applies to: All international travelers (including children).
- ✓ Exemptions: Kenyan citizens & East African Community (EAC) residents.
- ✓ Apply: Up to 3 months before travel (recommended after booking flights & accommodations).

ETA Application Checklist

- ✓ Passport (valid for 6+ months, 1 blank page)
- ✓ Passport-style photo or clear selfie
- ✓ Contact details (email & phone number)
- ✓ Travel itinerary (arrival/departure dates, accommodations)
- ✓ Payment method (credit/debit card or Apple Pay) – Fee: \$34.09

Additional Requirements (If Applicable)

- ✓ Yellow Fever Certificate (if arriving from an endemic country)

- ✓ Other vaccinations (based on travel history)

Processing & Approval

- ✓ Processing time: ~3 working days
- ✓ Approval notification: Email with ETA reference number

Key ETA Benefits

- ✓ Pre-approval before travel
- ✓ No paperwork on arrival
- ✓ Faster immigration & customs clearance

2. Health & Vaccinations

- ✓ Consult a doctor for recommended vaccinations (e.g., Yellow Fever, Hepatitis A/B, Typhoid).
- ✓ Malaria prophylaxis advised—carry insect repellent & wear long sleeves at dusk.

3. Money & Payments

- ✓ Currency: Kenyan Shilling (KSH) – Exchange USD/EUR/GBP at airports or forex bureaus.
- ✓ Credit Cards: Visa, MasterCard, and Amex widely accepted (carry cash for remote areas).
- ✓ ATMs: Available in cities (Visa/MasterCard).

4. Packing Essentials

Clothing

- ✓ Neutral-colored, lightweight, quick-dry clothing
- ✓ Warm layers (mornings/evenings can be chilly)
- ✓ Comfortable walking shoes
- ✓ Swimwear (most lodges have pools)

Gear & Accessories

- ✓ Camera DSLR with zoom lens (200-400mm for wildlife, 24-100mm for landscapes)
- ✓ Binoculars (8x40 or 10x40 recommended)
- ✓ Adapter plugs (UK-style 3-pin, 220V)
- ✓ Power bank & extra memory cards
- ✓ Flashlight & reusable fabric bags (plastic bags banned in Kenya)

Health & Safety

- ✓ Prescription medications (in hand luggage)
- ✓ Basic first-aid kit (painkillers, anti-diarrheal, bandages)
- ✓ Sunscreen, hat, and lip balm

5. Safari Accommodations

- ✓ Lodges & Tented Camps: Ranging from economy to luxury, with en-suite bathrooms.
- ✓ Electricity: Limited in parks (generators often off at night).
- ✓ Laundry: Available at most lodges (pack light).

6. Transportation & Travel Times

- ✓ Road Conditions
- ✓ Major roads are paved; park roads may be rough.

Driving times vary due to weather/traffic.

Sample Driving Distances

Route	Distance	Approximate Time
Nairobi → Amboseli	240 km	4 hours
Masai Mara → Nairobi	265 km	6 hours
Samburu → Lake Naivasha	340 km	6-7 hours

7. Wildlife & Safari Tips

- ✓ Great Migration: Best seen July–October in Masai Mara.
- ✓ Game Drives: Early morning/late afternoon for optimal sightings.
- ✓ Cultural Visits: Maasai village tours (\$20 donation per person).

8. Safety & Etiquette

Tipping: ~\$10/day for guides, \$1 for bar staff (discretionary).

Wildlife Rules: Never feed animals; follow guide instructions.

Valuables: Use lodge safes; avoid flashy jewelry.

9. Important Contacts

Walk With Maa Tours Support: [Your contact info]

ETA Support: support@etakenya.go.ke

Emergency (Kenya): Dial 999 or 112

Final Notes

Time Zone: GMT +3

Language: English & Swahili widely spoken.

Weather: Pack for warm days & cool nights.

For a seamless safari experience, trust Walk With Maa Tours to guide you every step of the way!

