



Kenya-Tanzania Migration Safari – Aug 26, 2023 Start

FAQs



First time on safari in Africa?

We'll get you all set for an unforgettable journey. Here are answers to questions you may have.

How strenuous is this tour?

A moderate level of fitness is essential. Unless you enjoy unimpaired mobility and are reliably sure-footed, this safari may not be for you.

You must be able to walk comfortably and without assistance at a moderate pace for 15-20 min stretches. A moderate pace of walking is defined as 100 steps per minute. Visits to archeological sites and villages involves walking on uneven ground. Unruly traffic and the busy streets of urban areas require vigilance. This tour involves private transfers by Landcruiser on some urban roads and many dirt roads. The longest transfer can last 7 hours with 2-3 breaks.

The sun can be strong, even in the cooler seasons.

Please bear in mind our tours are group events. The presence of even one person who is not fit enough to cope can spoil the experience for everyone else, and stress group leaders and guides.



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Please assess your fitness level as objectively as possible. Should you decide to join the safari and later develop immobility, please let us know immediately. We can best minimize your financial exposure the earlier we know.

What will the weather be like?

Temperatures in Nairobi range from 16 - 26 C. The parks in Kenya and Northern Tanzania range from 13 – 24 C (55-75 F). Zanzibar will be hot and humid with temperatures in the 32 C (90 F) range.

Caveat: Climate change is scrambling weather patterns all over the world. Expect unpredictable conditions and pack accordingly.

Do I need visas?

Visas for Kenya are available for Canadian and U.S. nationals online <https://evisa.go.ke/> (recommended) and at the airport upon arrival.

Visas for Tanzania are also available online <https://visa.immigration.go.tz/> (recommended) and upon arrival at Sirari border post. Note: U.S. nationals follow different rules for duration and fees to Canadians. <https://visa.immigration.go.tz/guidelines>

“Visitors who wish to come for **holiday or Tourism** are advised to apply for **Ordinary Visa**. However, **holders of American passports who come for holiday or tourism will have to apply for Multiple Entry Visa**”

What can I legally bring into Kenya/Tanzania?

Personal effects, including cameras, binoculars, may be brought in free of duty. A customs bond **may** be demanded for camcorders, radios, tape recorders, and musical instruments. Firearms and pocketknife require special permits. There is a duty-free allowance of 200 cigarettes, 50 cigars or 250 grammes of tobacco, and one pint of spirits. Visitors buying local handicrafts must keep their sales receipts for presentation to customs officials on departure. Cannabis and products are not allowed.

What about money matters?

The unit of currency in Tanzania and Kenya is the shilling, available in notes and coins. Kenya and Tanzania have separate non-interchangeable currencies.

You will have paid all lodging, transport, and game park fees in advance to secure your reservation on safari. However, you need to carry some Kenyan and Tanzanian shillings for tipping, shopping, restaurant and bar visits, and incidental expenses that might occur (see below **Additional cash**).

Mastercard and Visa credit cards are accepted in most establishments, although a fee of 3-4% may apply.



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If you're carrying cash, the easiest currencies to exchange are U.S. dollars, British pounds, and euros. Try to carry bills that are relatively new, as banks in both Ke and Tz are known not to accept older U.S. bills.

Foreign currency may be exchanged at banks, authorized dealers, and at the bureau de change at international airports, major towns and border posts. Travellers' cheques are not recommended. ATMs are available in major urban areas.

Kenya: Bring in or take out up to KSh500,000 of Kenyan currency and a foreign currency equivalent to a maximum of US\$6,250 without declaration.

Tanzania: Bring in or take out up to foreign currency equivalent to a maximum of US\$10,000 without declaration.

Try to limit the amount of local currency you're left with at the end as exchanging back into foreign currency is difficult.

Additional cash requirement/Tipping

Kenya and Tanzania have separate non-interchangeable currency. Plan on changing money accordingly. Most meals are included. The odd one you will purchase on your own will cost an average of \$20-30 plus tax. Bottled water in the rooms and on safari is provided free of charge, but at meals will cost \$2-3 depending on size of bottle. Most restaurants and all lodging will accept credit cards for meals and incidentals.

We will run a **USD \$175 pp kitty** for tipping guides, and hotel and restaurant staff while on safari (\$120 for safari only + \$55 if you're joining in Zanzibar). Tipping will be administered collectively. Any leftover amounts will be dispensed democratically.

Carry small denomination dollar bills for individual or top-up tipping in rooms. \$1-2 equivalent local currency is recommended.

Staying in touch and cellphones

Unlocked cellphones accept prepaid SIM cards for cellular use. Cellphone usage is inexpensive in both countries. During the safari, not all areas will have reception at all times. Camps should have wifi after a fashion.

Health and Immunization

Modern emergency medical services are available in big cities and towns. Yellow fever certificate is mandatory for entry into Tanzania. Please check with your local travel health clinic for additional precautions. Usually recommended: Anti-malarials and Twin-Rix.



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Covid is relatively contained in both Kenya and Tanzania. Masks may be worn in urban areas, but not on safari. Our drivers and guides are fully vaccinated.

See below for emergency evacuation insurance under [Insurance](#).

Food and Drinks

Generally, meals in hotels and good quality restaurants are safe. For sensitive stomachs, eat as close to your normal diet as possible for the first couple of days. Eat only piping hot foods and fruit that can be peeled. Drink only bottled water, which is readily available everywhere. There are no restrictions on the sale and consumption of alcoholic drinks in East Africa. There are plenty of imported beers, wines, and spirits in many places.

Shopping

Opportunities are limited while on safari. Some lodgings may have gift shops. If arriving early to Nairobi, visit [Masai Market](#) for inexpensive handicrafts. Be prepared to bargain and watch your valuables.

Zanzibar has good shopping of local handicrafts, beaded items, art, and traditional *kikoi* cloth.

Shipping home

Opportunities to ship home are limited to purchases made at large tourist stores. Fedex and UPS do not operate for small scale shipping in either Nairobi, Arusha, or Stone Town.

Insurance

We recommend travel cancellation, interruption, medical, property, and other personal insurance. E.Y.H.O.'s business insurance does **not** cover the cost of your tour. Please refer to last page on [T&C](#) for more information.

Medical Emergency Evacuation Insurance

While we have an enviable track record of no medical emergencies in close to 15 years of safaris, that doesn't mean the worst can't happen. For peace of mind, purchase emergency evacuation services from [AMREF Flying Doctors](#). US\$ 56 pp Kenya & Tanzania or write info@flydoc.org for more info.

Language

The official languages of Kenya and Tanzania are Kiswahili and English.



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Security

Tanzania is one of the safest countries in East Africa. Kenya has had its issues lately, but we will keep away from trouble spots. However, just as in any other country, please be cautious of your surroundings. Avoid wearing jewellery, walking in the dark, and in deserted lanes and streets. Keep an eye on your purses, wallets, handbags, and cameras. Never accept food or drinks from strangers.

Electricity

Tanzania and Kenya use the UK/European standard power supply of 220/240 voltages. The type of socket in Kenya/Tz is the three-pin square type, like the ones found in the UK. Surge protectors are recommended for high amperage items like hair dryers. 110 Voltage U.S. will need a voltage converter as well as a plug converter.

Example of a universal plug converter: click [here](#).

Clothing, accessories, and laundry

It never gets really cold in Tanzania and Kenya, so lightweight clothing is the norm. However, Arusha and Nairobi experience colder weather in June/July which may linger in September.

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While on safari, long sleeve shirts/blouses, and shorts or light weight cargo pants are ideal. Select neutral colours to avoid attracting insects. Pack a fleece jacket/sweater for early morning and evening game drives. On the rim of Ngorongoro Crater, it can get cold enough to require a toque, scarf, and mitts. Sensible walking shoes, a hat to keep off the sun, and sunglasses are essential, as is a good bandana to minimize inhaling safari dust.

No need to dress up for dinner; good casual clothing for evenings is fine. Some of the restaurants at the fancier lodges prefer long pants for evening meals.

Hairdryers are available in most establishments. However, mobile camps have limited electricity supply. Natural drying may be the best option.

Closer to travel time, a comprehensive packing list will be sent.

Luggage restrictions

On the small aircraft flight to Masai Mara, baggage allowance is 15 kgs per person in soft-sided bags as the baggage hold is quite small and located near the wheels of the aircraft. Inside the plane, you may carry a backpack, camera case, laptop etc. provided not too heavy and bulky as there are no overhead lockers and all the carry-on has to rest either near the feet or on your lap.



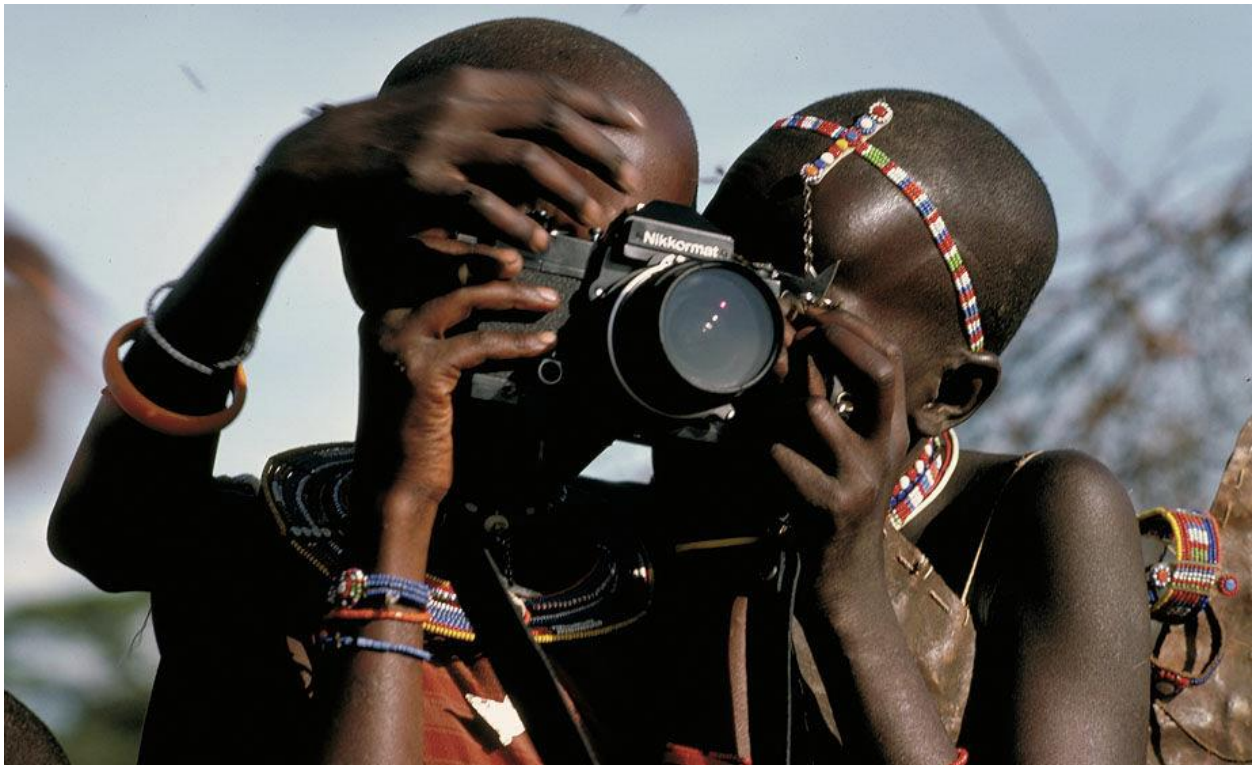
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Other considerations

Stone Town Zanzibar has a Muslim majority; pants/long dresses are recommended for women.

Photography

Traditionally, East Africans believe that the click of a camera captures their soul. Although most indigenous people are happy to be photographed, it's extremely important to ask before doing so. In the Masai village paid excursion, you may take as many photos as you please. If in doubt, please ask your driver or me.



Arrivals and Departures

The safari portion starts in Nairobi and ends in Arusha. Several reputable airlines including KLM, British Airways, and Lufthansa fly to Nairobi.

Arusha has an international airport (JRO). Alternatively, you can transfer regionally to Dar es Salaam (DAR) for better international connections.



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Our safari starts on August 26 at approximately 10am with a small charter flight to Masai Mara.

Our safari ends in Arusha after breakfast on Sept 2. Transfer to Arusha international airport JRO takes 1-2 hrs.

OR if you're joining us in Zanzibar, it ends after breakfast on Sept 6. Transfer to Zanzibar international airport (ZNZ) takes 2 hrs. Connect back to Arusha (JRO) or Dar es Salaam (DAR) for other options.

Early arrivals and late departures

Nairobi

Arrivals Ubers are cheap and convenient but pick up points can be puzzling at JKIA. For Uber, you will need a cell phone connection. Alternately, we can arrange airport transfers for a fee.

Stay. We recommend Tamarind Tree Hotel for quality, service, and location close to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, as well as Nairobi Wilson Airport from where we depart for Mara on 26th Aug. Good onsite restaurants and access to nearby suburb of Karen. Book online for best rates (USD 170-250 per room per night).

Excursions. Karen Blixen Museum, Sheldrake Elephant Orphanage (advance booking req'd) and Giraffe Centre are popular. Cost \$10-15 each. For a nominal charge, we can assign a trusted driver so you can set your own schedule. Let us know at least 3 months ahead.

Zanzibar

Extra night stays at our beach hotel can be arranged. Please contact us early for availability and airport transfers.

Internal flights

Q: Arrival Nairobi: can you book hotel for us? If not, which hotel to book?

A: Recommended hotel is Tamarind Tree Hotel, approx 15 min from international airport, convenient to sightseeing, restaurants, and shopping. Please book directly. Currently Booking.com is showing best rates (better than tour op rates). Depending on where majority have booked early arrival nights, we will set a meeting point for flight to Masai Mara on 26 August at around 9am (tbc).

Q: Can you get us a transfer from the Nairobi airport to our hotel for a fee no matter what time we get in?

A: Yes. Once you book international flights, we arrange to provide transfers. Rates USD 15-40 depending on # per vehicle. We can bill you ahead of time.



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Q: Do you book internal flights for us?

A: the only internal flight we book is Nairobi to Masai Mara on Aug 26. Due to insurance and cancellation terms, please book the rest online i.e. Arusha onwards. Google flights is a good starting point. Kayak.com is a great search engine too.

Q: Should we book round trip flights to and from Zanzibar? What are the departure timings like?

A: If you are joining us in Zanzibar, **recommended flight to Zanzibar is PW 513 Departing ARK 16:45 arrive ZNZ 18:05 on Sept 2. Book through [Precision Air](#). Approx .USD 230 one way.**

A: Departure from Zanzibar Sept 6: either ZNZ-DAR or ZNZ-JRO with better international connections at the latter. Preferred airline is Precision Air.

OR

Direct options from Zanzibar include Qatar Airways, Emirates, and Etihad with hubs in the UAE. Choose the one that dovetails with your international flight.

On departure date Sept 6 from Zanzibar, group transfer is likely 9am after breakfast. Approx 1.5hrs from Matemwe Beach to ZNZ airport. Late or early transfers arranged for a fee.

Questions? Happy to help! shila@eyhotours.com or visit www.eyhotours.com

Great! How do I sign up?

Please contact shila@eyhtours.com for registration details.

Questions?

Don't hesitate to reach out. shila@eyhotours.com