

# Kenya General Travel Information

## Visa Information

Holders of United Nations Organization Laissez-Passers whilst on official UN Business do not require a visa to enter Kenya.

Visitors who do not hold United Nations Laissez-Passer, may be required to obtain a Kenyan visa depending on their nationality. A valid passport, not expiring within six months from the date of arrival is required for Visa issuance.

Visitors may apply for the visa electronically (E-visa). The application guidelines are available on <https://immigration.ecitizen.go.ke/index.php?id=5>.

Visas can also be obtained upon arrival at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi for certain countries at a cost of USD 50 or its equivalent in Euros or Kenya shillings.

A valid entry visa may be obtained in advance from the Kenyan Embassy/High Commission in your country of residence or in a neighboring country. In the absence of either, then certain Embassies of other countries generally represent Kenya in the issuance of visas.

Please note that advance visas are not required for citizens of Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brunei-Darussalam, Burundi, Cyprus, Dominica, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Jamaica, Kiribati, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia (for less than 30 days stay), Maldives, Mauritius, Namibia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa (for less than 30 days stay), Solomon Islands, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Swaziland, Trinidad, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Zambia or Zimbabwe. Nationals of the following countries require special advance visa clearance by the Kenyan authorities (as of January 2017): Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Iraq, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Mali, Palestine, Senegal, Somalia, Syria and Tajikistan.

Stateless persons also require advance clearance.

For more information regarding visas please visit <http://www.immigration.go.ke/Information.html>.

## Plastic Bag Ban

In 2017, the Kenya Government banned the use of all plastic bags. Travelers coming into Kenya with duty-free bags are required to dispose of the same at the entry points or in the aircrafts prior to disembarking their flights.

Time Zone Kenya is GMT + 0300 hours

## Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA), Nairobi

Most international visitors will arrive through JKIA. While it is about 28 km from the airport to the UN compound, traffic is unpredictable and the trip can take between 45 and 120 minutes, depending on the time and day.

Many hotels provide courtesy shuttle services to/from airport and in some cases from the hotel to the UN compound. Visitors should advise their hotels in good time of their transportation needs. In the absence of a courtesy bus, visitors may use reputable taxi companies.

## Banking and Currency Exchange Facilities

The official currency of the Republic of Kenya is the Kenya Shilling (KES). As of 12 February 2019, the exchange rates are: 1 US Dollar = KES 99.85 • 1 EUR = KES 112.85

Foreign currency can be changed at the airport, which has 24-hr service, banks and foreign currency exchange bureaus.



Banks with ATM services in major centers across the city are open from 09:00 to 16:00hrs Monday to Friday and from 09:00 to 12:00hrs on Saturdays. Some ATMs dispense US Dollars. Major international cards are accepted. Credit card fraud occurs in Kenya, as in most other parts of the world, therefore the usual standard precautions should be taken.

### Electricity

The electrical currents in Kenya are 220 - 240 Volts, 50 Hertz. Kindly, note that Kenya uses the 13A 3[square] wall switch socket outlet.

### Official Languages

The official language of the Republic of Kenya is English and the national language is Swahili.

### Health

A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required if you are arriving in Kenya from a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. Please seek further advice from your travel agent or doctor in your home country, who should have information on vaccination requirements for visitors into Kenya.

For advice on other vaccinations recommended for visitors to Kenya, please contact the UNON Joint Medical Service <http://medical.unon.org/>.

Useful information can also be obtained from the WHO website <http://www.who.int/ith/en/>

Malaria is common throughout the year in many parts of Kenya. Nairobi, the capital city, is generally malaria-free but this does not exclude the need to stay safe from infection by mosquitoes. It is recommended to consult your doctor about malaria prophylaxis if travelling into Kenya and beyond Nairobi. Adequate safeguards against mosquito bites are advised (insect repellent, bed nets, clothing with long trousers and covering the arms).

Food and waterborne diseases including diarrhea are common – depending on the hygiene standards of the places you visit. Drinking water directly from the taps is not advisable. Drink only bottled water with unbroken seals. Avoid raw foods other than fruits and vegetables that you have peeled off yourself. Wash hands frequently with soap and water or sanitizers at designated spots in eateries and restaurants.

