

Weather & Destination Specific Information

Tanzania Safari Adventure

For any questions or concerns about your upcoming tour not addressed here, please call 1-800-826-2266

WEATHER & DESTINATION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Time Zones: During Daylight Savings Time, Kenya and Tanzania are eight hours ahead of the Central Time Zone in the United States. In November, Kenya and Tanzania are nine hours ahead of Central Standard Time.

Weather: East Africa is warm by day and cooler in the evening. Even though Kenya and Tanzania are on the equator, the climate is pleasant throughout the year due to the high altitude of most of the area. Humidity is low and daytime temperatures average 70- to 90-degrees year-round. Evening temperatures seldom drop below a cool 55 degrees. The warmest months are November through February.

Visas: United States citizens are required to have a visa to enter each country. Holiday Vacations will provide instructions for obtaining the necessary visas.

Vaccinations/Malaria Precaution: The government of Tanzania requires proof of Yellow Fever vaccine if you are traveling from a country with risk of Yellow Fever (such as Kenya). As our tour begins in Kenya, you are required to show proof of Yellow Fever vaccine upon entry to Tanzania. It is highly recommended that you begin taking malaria prophylaxis before your departure and continue to take it after your return. Your doctor will prescribe the option that is best for you. Since the required and recommended inoculations can change, contact your doctor, local health department, or the Center for Disease Control.

Medical Emergencies on Tour: Every Holiday Vacations safari includes membership in the Flying Doctors Society, an emergency medical care group. Should you require emergency medical care while on safari, the Flying Doctors will fly you at no cost to a hospital.

Language: English and Swahili are the local languages of East Africa. Most people you meet will speak English, but you may want to try out a few phrases in Swahili.

Currency: The standard unit of currency for Kenya is the Kenyan Shilling and the Tanzanian Shilling is used in Tanzania. The Shilling is divided into 100 cents. Currency exchange rates are subject to change on a daily basis.

A helpful website for referencing current rates is www.oanda.com.

Generally, most hotels are now cashless and will accept VISA and MasterCard credit cards. Cash will be used mainly for tipping and gratuities and when making purchases from small vendors. You can convert foreign exchange at the city hotels. ATMs are available in cities. US Dollars are readily accepted in most shops if they are not torn and are not more than 10 years old.

Packing: Holiday Vacations will provide you with one soft-sided "collapsible" bag to be used throughout the safari. There is limited space on the safari vehicles. Due to domestic airline restrictions within Africa, the packed bag must weigh under 40 pounds. In addition, a small bag or backpack may be carried aboard the safari vehicles.

Travel as lightly and as modestly as possible, without flashy jewelry, etc. For clothing, we recommend light, short-sleeved cotton shirts with shorts, skirts, or pants for midday. In the early mornings and at night you may need a sweater or jacket and long pants, or skirt. You can be comfortable all day by dressing in layers. We suggest lightweight, wash-and-wear materials in neutral colors and comfortable shoes for occasional walking. Avoid any clothing that may imitate or look like military/army fatigues as this may cause misunderstanding in this part of the world. Most hotels, lodges and camps provide same day. simple laundry facilities for a fee. You may wish to protect your spare clothes with dustproof bags. If you are allergic to dust, please carry a simple dust mask or scarf. Bring a raincoat and a swimsuit as most lodges have pools. You can make extra room in your bag for souvenirs by packing some old clothes to leave along the way or to donate to a charitable organization. We suggest bringing a hairdryer as some of the lodges may not supply them.

Please note there is a ban on all single-use plastic bags in Kenya and in Tanzania. You can, however, carry recyclable zip-lock bags.

Included with your tour on arrival in Nairobi is a safari hat, reusable water bottle, hand sanitizer, lotion, mosquito repellent, a map, and animal checklist.

Electrical Current: The electric current in Kenya and Tanzania is 220 volts, 50 cycles. Electric outlets and plugs are different from those in North America. An adapter is required to plug your device into an electrical socket. However, a voltage converter is only required if your device is not compatible with 220 volts. If the tag on your device lists 110-220 volts, you will not need a converter. Adapters and converters are available at luggage, department, and electronics stores.

ON TOUR

International Driver/Guides: Holiday Vacations has arranged for International Driver/Guides to provide commentary for the regions you will be visiting. Guides will also discuss customs, traditions, language differences, and history. Your African Driver/Guide has firsthand experience with every stop on the itinerary.

Gratuities: The following are NOT included in the tour and may be provided by you at your discretion. If you feel that each person has met your expectations, please tip accordingly.

The suggested gratuity for your Holiday Vacations Tour Director is \$8-10 per guest, per day. Any tipping is on an individual basis and is given directly to the Tour Director at the end of the tour.

Driver/Guide: Recommended amount \$5-10 per guest, per day of service.

Transportation On Tour: Transfers, game drives, and all safari transportation are via custom designed safari land cruisers. These vehicles are equipped with "pop-up" roofs for maximum game viewing, comfortable seats, reference guidebooks, and unlimited drinking water. Although each vehicle seats nine, we take no more than six guests per vehicle. Everyone is guaranteed a window seat and plenty of elbow room. Please note roads in Kenya and Tanzania are generally in poor state of repair. Potholes and unpaved road surfaces are quite common.

Cell Phones/Internet Access: Network coverage is available in many parts of Africa though it can be unpredictable and unreliable in some safari lodges. Please check with your local provider for information on coverage and fees. Internet access may be available at some lodges. There may be additional charges for Internet access.

Flights: Flights to Nairobi typically connect through Amsterdam. Flying time from Chicago, Minneapolis, or Atlanta to Amsterdam is approximately 8 1/2 hours and 8 1/2 hours from Amsterdam to Nairobi.

Meals: All meals are included while you are in Nairobi and while on safari. You will savor everything from African delicacies to international specialties. Your meals will be plentiful and deliciously prepared. To accommodate international visitors, buffet meals are common.

Water: We recommend that you do not drink any water from the tap. All safari vehicles are well stocked with safe drinking water dispensed into the reusable bottle provided to you soon after arrival in Nairobi.

Souvenirs: Look for jewelry made from local semiprecious stones or beads, leather goods, and traditional handicrafts. Inexpensive articles such as baskets, beads, soapstone, and wood carvings can be found in small shops, street stalls, or hotels. Other good buys include brightly patterned local fabrics. Expect to bargain in Africa – it's part of the fun. You will know you have hit the bottom price when the vendor lets you walk out the door empty-handed.