

Alliance2015

Travel, Accommodation and Security Briefing

Kenya 2024

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1. Contextual Analysis

Location

Kenya lies on the equator in the east of the African continent. Kenya has a coastline of approximately 402 km, and a territorial sea extending to 21.2km offshore. To its southeast lies the Indian Ocean - this serves as an important outlet and means of international maritime contact. Kenya shares boundaries with Uganda to the west, South Sudan and Ethiopia to the north, Tanzania to the south and Somalia to the northeast.

Climate

Kenya's tropical climate offers diverse landscapes and weather patterns. The coast boasts hot and humid conditions, while the inland areas enjoy a temperate environment. Northern expanses remain hot and dry, with occasional relief during the short rains. There are two main rainy seasons: long rains from April to May and short rains from October to December. The climatic diversity is categorized into four regions:

1. **Western Highlands:** Wet during the rainy season, dry in January.
2. **Rift Valley and Central Highlands:** Wet and cold during the rainy seasons, with temperatures dropping to 10 degrees.
3. **Northern and Southern Lowlands:** Constitute over 75% of Kenyan landmass, very dry and hot, occasional short rains, temperatures reaching 40 degrees.
4. **Coastal Region:** Hot, wet, and humid, rainfall influenced by monsoon winds, more during the short rainy season.

Politics, Election and Governance Structure

Following the general election held in August 9, 2022, the former president Uhuru Kenyatta left office after serving for two 5-year terms and his deputy - William Ruto was sworn in on September 13, 2022 as president for a 5-year term after a peaceful election.

Terrorism

Kenya has faced significant terrorist threats, primarily from Al-Shabaab. Al-Shabaab, targeting Western interests, carried out major attacks, including the Westgate Shopping Centre siege in 2013, the Mandera massacres in 2014, and the Garissa University attack in 2015. The DusitD2 attack in 2019 saw an improved response from security forces, resulting in the swift resolution of the siege.

Recommendations

Exercise caution by avoiding potential high-profile targets for terrorist attacks like government buildings, crowded public gatherings, social venues, and leisure spots. Practice situational awareness, be mindful of exit routes, and stay vigilant for suspicious activities. Refrain from visiting social places or shopping complexes lacking thorough security checks at entrances. When visiting large shopping complexes, opt for low-traffic times such as early morning or late evening.

Since 2017 the use, manufacture and importation of plastic bags used for commercial and household packaging is banned.

2. Security Advice

The principal drivers of any crime are the criminal desire, ability and opportunity. One can do nothing about the ability of a criminal, a certain amount can be done to inhibit a criminal's

desire to select you as a victim and a considerable amount can be done to deny him/her an opportunity.

Minimize your vulnerability to crime in Nairobi and urban areas of Kenya with the following precautions:

- Do not display jewelry or carry large sums of money
- Do not carry camera equipment, when walking on the streets
- Do not stop for beggars who are looking for help
- Be aware of what is happening around you in the street.
- Be wary of motorcycles with a passenger. There are cases of violent attacks/snatching of items by passengers on motorbikes
- Avoid public gathering of people, keep your distance and leave the area
- Avoid walking alone during the day
- Do not walk around in Nairobi after dark, always use a taxi
- When travelling, stay on busy roads
- Use Concern recommended taxis– JimCab and Little Cabs (an Uber-type service)
- Exercise caution against carjacking, especially for self-drive vehicles
- Lock all doors and roll up windows when in traffic enough to deter crime but spacious enough to allow aeration.

If you travel outside of Nairobi:

- Do not travel at night. Seek authorization from CD, PD or SD if need- to travel at night
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return
- Use vehicles in good condition
- Take essential spares, food and water
- Do not stop for people looking for help on the road. Seek authorization from CD,PD or SD if need to do so
- Observe speed limits

If you feel that you are being followed:

- Maintain Calmness: Stay composed and request the driver to refrain from immediate acceleration.
- Change Direction: Alter your route to assess if you are still being followed.
- Seek Public Spaces: Head towards public areas like police stations, busy petrol stations, or large hotels.
- Drive Centered: Instruct the driver to navigate as close to the center of the road as possible. This minimizes the risk of carjackers overtaking, cutting in front, or forcing you off the road.

If armed gangsters confront you:

- Compliance is Key: Adhere to instructions without resistance.
- Surrender the Car: Never hesitate to give up the car as instructed.
- Limited Interaction: Avoid unnecessary conversation; respond only to gangster questions.
- Maintain Calmness: Stay as composed as possible throughout the incident.
- Visible Hands: Keep your hands in sight; inform them before releasing your seat belt to avoid misunderstanding.
- Exit with Caution: When exiting the car, move slowly with your hands raised.
- Hostage Situation: If taken hostage, stay calm, answer questions, and anticipate being dropped on the outskirts of Nairobi where you can seek help

If confronted when walking.

- Stay calm and give the gangster whatever possessions they ask for. People are usually held up for wallets, jewelry, backpacks and mobile phones.

Hot Spots in Nairobi

- Nairobi Central Business District (CBD) due to petty crime
- Uhuru Park/Freedom Corner, between Serena and Intercontinental Hotels (mostly at night)
- Southlands, along Langata Road due to petty crime
- Westlands, particularly in darker areas – Muthithi Road, Parklands Road, Mpaka Road, East Church Road, Chiromo Road and Riverside due to petty crime
- Slums i.e. Mukuru, Reuben, Kaiyaba, Kwanjenga, Lungalunga, Korogocho, Kibera and Mathare. Due to petty crime, political tensions and inter-communal conflicts

Taking Photographs

Request permission before taking photographs of any person(s) during a field visit or any social event. Failure to do this may result in confrontational situations. Taking photographs of police stations, military installations and sensitive government buildings like State House, Safaricom House etc. may result in arrest, detention and prosecution as you may be misconstrued as gathering 'intelligence' or a terrorist sympathizer.

Travel Documents

It is your responsibility to make sure that you have a valid passport and confirmation of immigration status and to keep a copy of your passport with you. The originals should be kept in a safe place.

3. Before Travel to Kenya**Booking you flights**

Each participant shall book his/her own flights.

Airport transfers

To facilitate the airport transfers, please fill in [this form](#) by **April 26th**. Once the bookings are made, we will forward you a confirmation email with the details of the taxi company who will be waiting at the airport for you.

Malaria Prevention

Malaria is a health risk in certain parts of Kenya. There is a very low risk of malaria in Nairobi, the areas immediately around Nairobi, and in the highlands above 2,500m. There is a high risk of malaria in the rest of Kenya. You should take precautions and dress in long sleeves and skirts/trousers to reduce your risk especially if travelling out of Nairobi.

Covid-19 entry requirements

There are no Covid-19 requirements for Kenya currently.

Travel Essentials and Finance Guidelines for Nairobi

Nairobi experiences cold weather in July and August, with rainy seasons from March to May and October to December. To stay healthy and prepared:

- Wear long-sleeved shirts, trousers, and hats outdoors, and use insect repellent, sunblock, and sunglasses.
- Carry sufficient prescription medications with a copy of prescriptions.
- Bring cash or withdrawn from ATMs on arrivals for taxis and meals.

- Find details on currency exchange, ATM withdrawals, taxi fares, and accommodation rates below.
- Medical services payment is direct to the supplier.

4. Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

All visitors are required to obtain an electronic travel authorization before entering Kenya. Note that Kenyan nationals do not need an ETA. The ETA costs \$USD 30 and payment is made on the online platform.

Exempt from eTA:

1. Holders of valid Kenya Passports or Emergency Certificates.
2. Permanent Residence, Work Permits, and Pass Holders.
3. United Nations Travel Document Holders.
4. Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations Members.
5. East African Partner States Citizens (Six-month exemption).
6. Transit passengers within Kenya's airports or ships without leaving.
7. Crew members listed in manifests.
8. Owners of private aircraft refueling in Kenya without leaving the airport precincts.

eTA Requirements:

- Valid passport (6 months post-arrival, one blank page).
- Selfie/passport-type photo.
- Contact information.
- Arrival/departure details.
- Accommodation booking confirmation.
- Payment means (credit/debit card, Apple Pay).
- Apply through <https://www.etaKenya.go.ke/en>

Additional Documents (if applicable):

- Financial assets/bank letter.
- Return transportation booking.
- Yellow fever certificate.
- Other vaccination/test certificates.
- Purpose-specific documents (letter from doctor, conference invitation, employment contract).

If you are requested any of these documents, please contact the Hub: staff@alliance2015.org.

Specific Requirements:

- Business visit: Company invitation letter, copy of registration.
- Family visit: Invitation letter, family/host ID/passport.
- Diplomatic visit: Diplomatic, Official, or Service passport, official letter from the Country of Origin/Organization/Foreign Affairs.

Processing Time:

- Standard: Three (3) working days.

5. Arrival at JKIA in Nairobi

On arrival, please follow the relevant signs for transfers or arrivals. Please note the following:

- **Terminal 1A:** Role: International Departures/Arrivals (Kenya Airways & Partners)
- **Terminal 1B:** Role: International Departures for non - SkyTeam Airlines
- **Terminal 1C:** Role: International Departures for SkyTeam Airlines
- **Terminal 1D:** Role: Domestic Departures & Arrivals
- **Terminal 1E:** Role: International Arrivals
- **Terminal 2:** Low-cost carriers (Jambo jet, Fly540); and also hosts some international & domestic check-in desks and boarding gates

Information desks are conveniently situated in all terminals, providing guidance throughout your movement within the airport building. Display screens with flight information and signage facilitate navigation, guiding you to Immigration and luggage collection points.

- Upon arrival, your Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate may be checked
- Followed by visa validation at the Immigration counter.
- The baggage area, equipped with multiple conveyor belts, is easily navigated with monitors specifying the flights each belt serves.
- Finally, your hand luggage is scanned upon exiting the terminal.

Airport Pick-up

A taxi will be waiting for you outside of the arrivals terminal, to take you to the hotel.

Please bring cash with you to cover all taxi costs during your time in Kenya. All your personal taxi costs must be cleared before your departure.

Local Currency (Kenya Shillings)

There are forex bureaus and banking facilities, with ATMs, at the arrivals area at the airport. Please use these if you need Kenya shillings immediately.

There are Forex Bureau services and ATMs close to the conference venue in Sarit Centre and Westgate Mall (about 2km away) that can be used for cash once you are in the city. To exchange cash at a Forex Bureau, you will need to present your passport for proof of identification. The Forex Bureau and ATMs in the city offer better exchange rates than those at the airport.

The rates are: 1Euro € = Kes 142,54; (as at 26.03.24).

Visa and Mastercard credit cards and Visa debit cards are widely accepted in ATMs. ATMs are available in the major shopping malls. However, caution must be exercised when withdrawing money as people observed using ATMs and Forex Bureau may be targeted for robbery.

Communication & Internet

Mobile phones are the main mode of communication.

If you are calling from outside Kenya or on a non-Kenyan roving mobile phone, for Kenyan numbers dial country code +254 and drop the first 0.

6. Hotel/Accommodation in Kenya

Each participant shall make a room reservation at [PrideInn Azure Hotel](#), by emailing Rose@prideinn.co.ke with booking requests i.e. check-in and check-out dates. You will receive an individual secure payment link through which you can make payment (rate: approx. €99/night).

Cancellation policy: no cancellation charge if 7 or more days before check-in; 100% charge after the 7 days.

The AGM will take place at [PrideInn Azure Hotel Nairobi](#) (Lantana Road, Westlands, Nairobi).

Welcome dinner on 13th June will be at [Urban Eatery](#). The restaurant is less than a 10-minute walk from the hotel. Safe to walk to/from, even in the dark, if people walk in groups.

We will have a selection of starters served on each table; you are invited to select a main course and a dessert by filling in [this form](#) by April 26th.

Accommodation Contacts Hotel	Telephone Contacts	E-mail Contacts
Pride Inn Hotels (Azure; Westlands)	+254 709 716 000 +254 717 087 854	rose@prideinn.co.ke

7. Transport in Kenya

Do not use public transport, as they could be insecure and unreliable. **Uber** is available in Nairobi.

Taxi Contacts

Name	Email	Phone Contact
Little Cab	david.juma@little.bz	David Juma +254 725 613 101
Jim Cab Services	jkiaoffice@jimcab.co.ke reservation@jimcab.co.ke Info@jimcab.co.ke	Head Office control room +254 723 561 535 Mobile: +254 738 781 178
Absolute Cab	info@absolutecabs.co.ke	Fridah +254 727 204 304
PTG Travel	support@ptgtravels.com	Pauline +254 798 785 037

Taxi Rates

Taxi	Rate Per KM Saloon Cars	Rate Per KM Vans
Jim Cab	86 Kes	116Kes
Absolute Cab	About 95 Kes	
PTG Travels	About 45 Kes	

8. Personal Shopping, Recreational and Wellness Sites

The following are some of the more popular malls where you will find all your needs under one roof. After the shopping, there are food courts and restaurants to put your feet up.

1. **Sarit Centre:** In the heart of Westlands 1.5 km from conference venue
2. **Westgate Shopping Centre:** In Westlands, 2 km from conference venue
3. **Village Market:** 10 km from conference venue
4. **Spinners Web:** 5 km from conference venue, Kitisuru, stocks high quality African crafts

5. **Restaurants:** There are several restaurants in Westlands to explore:
- Java Coffee Shop-many branches <https://javahouseafrica.com/>
 - Artcaffe-many branches <https://www.artcaffe.co.ke/>
 - About Thyme <https://about-thyme.com/>
 - Chez Sonia <https://eatout.co.ke/nairobi/chez-sonia/>
 - Ate <https://ate.co.ke/>
 - Zen garden <https://www.zengarden.co.ke/>
 - The view <https://eatout.co.ke/nairobi/the-view/>
 - Botanica <https://www.thefoodlibrary.co.ke/botanica-2/>
 - Inti Nikkei <https://eatout.co.ke/nairobi/inti/>
 - Seven Seafood & Grill <https://www.experienceseven.com/menus/>
 - Urban Eatery <http://www.urbaneatery.co.ke/>
6. **Masai Market:** These are open-air market where local artefacts and souvenirs can be found, including décor, sculptures, jewelry. There is a permanent, small Maasai Market on the Ring Road in Westlands, near Sarit. Remember bargaining is the name of the game at the Maasai markets.
- Friday at the Village Market on the upper parkings
 - Sundays at the car park of the Yaya Centre in Kilimani

Find below some of the recreational sites within Nairobi:

- Giraffe center <https://www.giraffecentre.org/>
- Ololua nature trail in Karen; <https://www.facebook.com/TheOloluaNatureTrail/>
- Ngong Hills in Ngong
- Karura Forest in Kiambu
- Safari in Nairobi National Park
- Paradise lost in Kaimbu: <https://www.facebook.com/paradiselostke/>

Some religious centers for religious services within Nairobi:

- Parklands Baptist Church in Parklands: <https://parklandsbaptist.org/>
- St Mark Church in Westlands: <https://www.ackstmarkswestlands.or.ke/>
- Swaminarayan temple – in Parklands
- Parklands Mosque: <https://parklandsmosque.co.ke/>
- Maria Consolata Catholic Shrine: <https://consolatashrine.org/contacts/>

9. Illness while in Kenya

For official visitors who fall ill during their stay in Kenya, please make contact with Alliance2015 Hub at staff@alliance2015.org for assistance in accessing medical care.

10. Contacts

Main Office Contacts	Physical Address	Office Mobile	Office Landline	Email
Nairobi Office	Westlands Avenue, Behind Park Inn, Westlands	+254 722 200 464	+254 709 787 000	nairobi.admin@concern.net

Concern Kenya Main Contact Persons

Name	Location	Position	Phone Contact	Email
Wairimu W. Munyinyi	Nairobi	Country Director	+254 718 439 058	wairimu.wahome@concern.net
Hassan Olow	Nairobi	Programme Director	+254 724 412 861	hassan.olow@concern.net
Yvonne Rohan	Nairobi	Systems Director - Kenya	+254 741 586 855	Yvonne.rohan@concern.net
Adonisha Wariua	Nairobi	Systems Coordinator	+254 721 363 682	Adonisha.wariua@concern.net
Frank Adoyo	Nairobi	Security Focal Point	+254 725 615 346	frank.adoyo@concern.net

11. Medical Providers

Service type	Location	Contacts	Mail
Hospital	Aga Khan University Hospital, 3rd Parklands Avenue	+254 20 374 000	Akuh.nairobi@aku.edu
Hospital	Nairobi Hospital, Argwings Kodhek Road,	+254 703 082 000/ +254 20 284 5000	JacquelineKedera@nbihosp.org
Doctors	Dr. O. S. Dogra & Associates Park Medical Centre, 6th Floor, Suite 607	020 3745000, +254 708 094208, +254 732 641 933	Admdogra@yahoo.com