

TRAVEL PLANNING FOR KENYA

Stress free travel

This document offers helpful information on travel in Kenya as well as advice on **health planning** and **what to pack**.



PASSPORT AND VISAS

Visa requirements may be subject to change at any time - check before you travel!

A return ticket must be shown and your passport must be valid for 6 months after your stay. Only a few Commonwealth countries are exempt from visas. All other nationalities requiring a visa (including European Union, British, Australians and US citizens) are also advised to have at least three blank pages available in their passport on arrival.

From 1st January 2021, all passengers from countries that require a visa to enter Kenya, will need to apply for an e-visa in advance. For more information on this visit www.evisa.go.ke Visas cost US \$50 / €40 / £30 and are valid for 3 months from the date of entry.

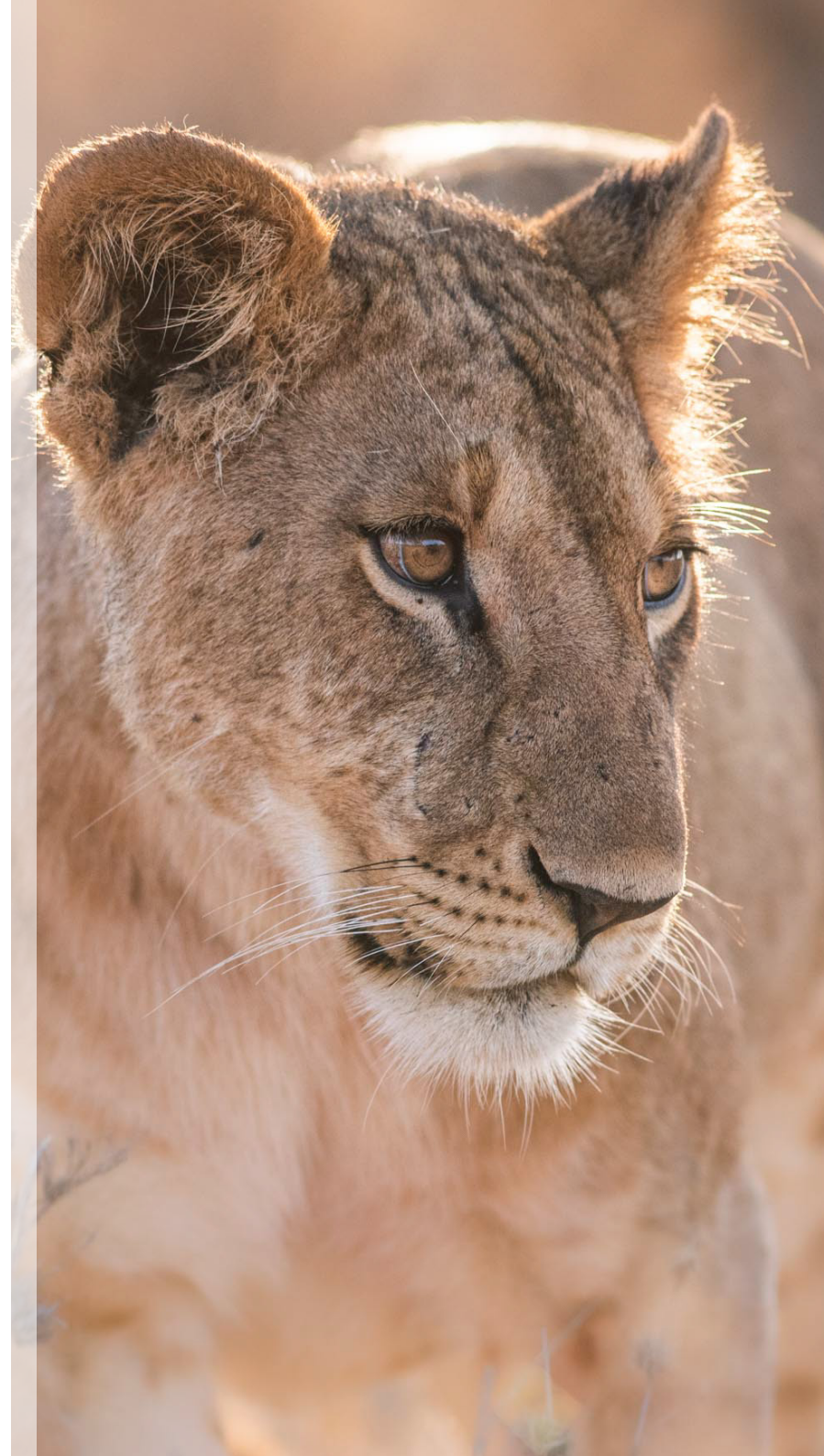
YOUR HEALTH

If you are planning to travel to East Africa, you should consult your GP before travel.

Immunizations and vaccinations: No vaccinations are mandatory for entry into Kenya, however certain inoculations and malaria tablets are recommended and you should consult your medical practitioner at least 6 weeks before you travel. For further information, please see the latest recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (www.cdc.gov)

Yellow Fever vaccinations (supported by a certificate) are required for travel if you are traveling from/between a Yellow Fever endemic country/ies. We strongly recommend seeking information from Yellow Fever health authority in your country of residence well before your travel dates.

Malaria prevention: Protect yourself from the risk of malaria in two simple ways.
1, Physical prevention: Always wear long-sleeved shirts, trousers, socks and closed shoes after sunset. Use a mosquito repellent with a minimum of 30 percent DEET after sunset on any exposed areas of your skin. Your room steward will spray your room/tent after sunset to kill any mosquitoes that may have entered. Sleep under a mosquito net (note that our safari tents act as large enclosed mosquito nets and therefore, we do not provide additional nets over





the beds). You will find a cannister of insect spray in your room/tent at all our properties should you need it at any stage. **2, Drug prevention:** If you will be traveling to a malarial zone, it is advisable to take anti-malaria pills. Please follow the prescription as given to you by your doctor.

WILDERNESS24: OUR RISK AND INCIDENT MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE

Wilderness24 is (Governors') own risk and incident management initiative. When incidents occur, we are able to give guest/s the highest possible level of safety and support through a 24/7/365 team of professional incident managers and doctors. This is a free value add service provided to all our guests in collaboration with Park Doctor.

We want guests to not only have the best wilderness experience whilst with us, but to also have the peace of mind that they can enjoy these experiences in a safe camp/lodge and safari environment. Further to this, Governors' Camp has a permanent onsite medic, whilst at our other properties, guests may consult with one of our doctors telephonically at any time.

PERSONAL TRAVEL INSURANCE AND EVACUATION

It is compulsory that all clients carry travel insurance or have the financial means to cover themselves in full in the event of a medical emergency, trip interruption or curtailment.

PRE-TRAVEL PLANNING FOR SPECIAL MEDICAL CONCERNS (SMC's)

We will always do our best to accommodate any traveller, including those with chronic medical conditions, special medical needs or disabilities. We want to ensure that their experience with us is memorable and unique, with the peace of mind of having all aspects of their needs attended to, both prior to coming out to Africa and whilst on holiday.

In the event that you may require guidance around specific medical needs, please be sure to notify your Travel Designer or agent, in advance, so that the necessary ground arrangements can be made.

Special Medical Concern refers to:

- Specific medical needs such as medical support equipment and/or medication.
- A chronic or high-risk medical condition that warrants attention such as allergies, breathing issues, mental impairment, epilepsy etc.
- Mobility difficulties.
- Hearing or visually impairment.

HELPFUL TRAVEL INFORMATION

Security: Your safety is of utmost importance to us. Whilst you travel with us you can rest assured that you are in good hands. Our camps and lodges all employ a team of day and night guards who are always on call and will escort you to and from your room/tent to keep you safe.

Water: All of our camps and lodges have systems of reverse osmosis filtration installed and it is from these systems that all of your drinking water is derived. You will be provided with a complimentary (Governors' branded) drinking water bottle at the first of our camps/lodges that you arrive at.

Tipping: Tipping is customary in Kenya though not mandatory. Please speak to the camp manager if you would like advice on tipping guidelines for the camp/lodge staff or for your safari guide (guides are usually tipped separately from the rest of the staff).

Photography: We understand that you will want to take as many pictures of your holiday as possible, but before you begin to take pictures of people or their property, please ask for their permission. In some cases, you may be required to offer a tip for those pictures. Your guide is the best person to ask for advice.

Wild animals: Never approach or attempt to feed a wild animal at any stage, even if they appear harmless or habituated. You may hear sounds outside your tent or room during the night - do not be alarmed. Animals do not understand the concept of a hollow tent and they will simply move around it as if it were a boulder or mass of another kind. Please do not step outside your tent or room at any stage to investigate, during the night.





Charity and donations: Many visitors to Africa feel a strong urge to help the less fortunate whom they may encounter on safari, or when visiting a local village or school. It is best to seek an appropriate opportunity to buy gifts or supplies while you are traveling, rather than carrying them along from home. Many of our properties are actively involved in working with their local communities to sustain schools, clinics and other projects. Ask about this when you are there and visit the local school, clinic or project if you can.

A donation to something you have seen on the ground will bring you more satisfaction (and directly help the neediest). Resist the temptation to offer 'hand outs' to kids on the side of the road. This only encourages dependency on such generosity and teaches these children that begging brings reward. There is no dignity in begging and the harassment it fosters will not endear you to the next group of visitors either! A rather fun idea is to gift a football (soccer ball); Africans love soccer, yet not all children have a ball with which to play.

Voltage: Voltage in Kenya is 220/240 volts AC, 50Hz. All rooms/tents have electricity for lighting and universal electrical sockets in the tents which can charge mobile phones and camera batteries. The sockets in our Mara camp tents will not support hairdryers - see more on this below under **electronics**.

International telephone and Wi-Fi: The dialling code for Kenya is + 254. Kenya has quite a widespread mobile network with an extensive range of 4G and 3G. Our properties all have Wi-Fi in the main areas.

Money: The local currency is Kenya shillings but US dollars are widely accepted, and are accepted at most hotels, lodges and camps. Most properties (including Governors' Camp Collection) will accept card payments from major credit cards - Visa and Mastercard. We suggest that you carry a combination of cash (preferably USD and Kenya Shillings) as a back up. Small notes are helpful for paying bills or tipping porters etc.

Climate: In the Masai Mara, Laikipia and Lake Naivasha regions, the mornings and evenings can be quite chilly. During the day it can warm to 30 degrees and, being near the equator and at altitude, the sun can feel quite strong. Do bring sun-screen and a hat. A light long-sleeve shirt will provide good protection from the sun.

Laundry service: Governors' offers complimentary laundry services throughout our properties with a 12-24hr turnaround. This is not a specialist service and garments requiring special care should not be sent to the laundry.

Please note that we do not wash any underwear but bras will be laundered if needed. Laundry powder is provided in guest bathrooms in case you need to wash your own underwear.

LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

When travelling between our camps you will most likely find yourself on a light aircraft at some point. Due to strict weight and space restrictions, airline staff must insist that you comply with the following:

- Baggage allowance is **strictly 15 Kgs (34lbs)** per passenger, **inclusive of hand luggage** in **soft bags**.
- Excess baggage will be charged at prevailing rates and only carried subject to space availability.

If you arrive with oversized/overweight baggage you will be asked to repack into suitable bags which comply with internal airline regulations. Please bear this in mind when you are packing for your trip with us as failure to do so may result in a delayed departure or even a missed flight. When flying with Governors' Aviation we offer storage facilities for any excess luggage at our office at Wilson Airport, for collection on your return to Nairobi.

SUGGESTED PACKING LIST

The dress code on safari is relaxed and the secret to successful safari packing is 'less is more'.

We recommend that you wear long trousers and take a long-sleeved shirt or even a light sweater on the game drives as it can get chilly - it's best to make use of layers! In the evenings it is wise to cover up so as to protect yourself from any mosquitoes or bugs. Depending upon how long you are travelling for, you may wish to adjust quantities and items to suit your needs. The below is an outline of what we suggest you bring.





Clothing:

3 x pairs of lightweight trousers (khaki or similar muted colors).

1 x pair of jeans or 'smart casual' evening attire trousers (chinos).

3 x pairs shorts.

3 x t-shirts.

2 x long sleeved t-shirt or turtleneck.

1 x or 2 short sleeved shirts or blouses.

2 x cardigan/sweater/fleece or pullover for evenings/early mornings.

1 x wind breaker or light jacket (water proof if possible).

1 x pair of comfortable closed-in shoes (trainers or similar), flip flops (optional).

Underwear and socks for 3 - 5 days

Sleep wear (light weight sweats double up nicely).

Sunglasses and sunhat.

Swimwear - if visiting Loldia House, Governors' Mugie or beach extension.

Toiletries: Sunscreen, face cream and lip balm with a good SPF, mosquito repellent, toothbrush, toothpaste and ladies sanitary items. Please note that we provide the following across our camps and lodges: shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, body wash, hand wash, cotton buds, cotton wool and laundry powder. We also provide towels and dressing gowns.

Electronics: Power bank and various charging cables that you require, camera, spare batteries, extra memory cards, binoculars (especially if you have a keen interest in birds). Binoculars are available for hire at USD 10 per day from Governors' Camp and Little Governors'. Guests at Il Moran will be issued with one pair per tent for the duration of their stay. Please note that we provide hairdryers in guest rooms where they can be supported e.g. Loldia House and Governors' Mugie. At our Mara camps, we provide hairdryers from the main reception desk to be used in specific areas which can support high powered appliances (please ask a manager about this when you are in camp).

Other items to consider: A good book to read, Kindle, a deck of cards or other travel friendly sized games.

Please note: Plastic bags are strictly banned in Kenya so please make sure that you do not carry any (including duty free shopping bags) with you into the country. Zip-lock bags/travel pouches are fine to use. If you have any questions or concerns about travel to Kenya or your stay with us, please do not hesitate to email us on info@governorscamp.com



Governors' Camp Collection

MASAI MARA LAIKIPIA GREAT RIFT VALLEY