

Passport and Visa Requirements for Travel into Kenya - 2025

PASSPORT

A valid passport and onward airline ticket are required for travel to Kenya. Your passport must remain valid for at least six (6) months from the date of departure. The passport must be signed and must have at least two blank pages left in it after your visas for the trip have been secured (If your passport does not have a number of blank pages left in it, you should contact your nearest passport agency). You'll have your passport stamped multiple times, particularly if you are flying into and out of other airports, are crossing over borders, or are even taking small hopper flights in-country. Make sure there are plenty of open pages in your passport for these stamps.

VISA/S

Kenya requires most nationalities to obtain an e-visa ahead of time. E-visas for Kenya can be applied for by visiting www.evisa.go.ke

Only apply for your E-Visa within a month to a week before you travel, if you do it earlier it just sits in a queue. The process is usually complete within 48 hours of submitting the application; check back into the portal and it is there – they don't send emails alerting you to status.

When filling in the form, you will be required to provide an address of where you will be staying. Cottar's Safari Services office address is as follows: No.60 Forest Lane, Karen, Nairobi. This address can be used throughout the application.

A few tips:

- Apply for a single-entry visa.
- Make sure you have all the necessary jpegs (it doesn't accept PDFs or Word docs) before you start, though you can save the document and go back. You need any previous information about trips to Kenya (dates and e-visa number), photo of your passport biodata page, passport cover, a passport photo of you, copy of your return airline ticket (put that in the Additional Documents area), and a copy of your itinerary (for the Hotel Reservation area), the Hotel info (see Cottar's address above).
- Print a copy of your application receipt and payment receipt as you wait for your visa as proof of application.
- Print the visa in colour as that is a new requirement.

I SINGLE ENTRY VISAS FOR KENYA

- Kenya visas are generally valid for entry within three (3) or six (6) months from the date of issue. A single entry visa should be requested and you should state on the application that your reason for entry is "tourism". If you will be entering Kenya more than once from inside East Africa, i.e. travelling to Tanzania or Uganda and then back to Kenya again, your single entry visa will suffice.

However you will need to remember to get visas for the other East African countries you will be visiting.

- If you are travelling to Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda it is possible to purchase the East African Tourist Visa, which allows you to travel between Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda using the same entry visa. The holder of the East Africa Tourist Visa shall enter the other regions from the country that issued the visa and move within the two other countries without applying for another visa or paying another visa fee. The East African visa has 6 months multiple entry validity

II. MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS FOR KENYA These are needed if your itinerary calls for entering Kenya more than once, from outside East Africa. Please note that this visa can take up to 1 month to be approved so it is important to apply well ahead of your intended arrival date