

sam 2008 Travel InfoPack

Date: September 8th - 19th, 2008

Venue: Whitesands Hotel - Mombasa, Kenya

KENYA: Overview

Kenya lies astride the equator on the East coast of Africa, covering a total land area of 582,000sq.km (which includes 13,600sq.km of inland lakes. It is bordered in the North by Ethiopia and the Sudan, in the West by Uganda, in the South by Tanzania and in the East by Somalia and the Indian Ocean. The country rises from the sea level at the coast to altitudes of 5,100m (Mt. Kenya). This explains how one can experience the hot and humid climate of the Coast, the damp moorland climate of the highlands, the bone-chilling snow of Mt. Kenya and the scorching desert climate of Mandera, all in the same country. The changes in altitude create habitats and ecosystems that support a great diversity of plant and animal life.

Mombasa

Lapped by the warm currents of the well-known Indian Ocean, the tropical city of Mombasa is one of Africa's most visited tourist destinations. Located on Kenya's Eastern coastline, Mombasa is known for the stunningly beautiful beaches that are very easily accessible from the city, rich ocean life and welcoming multi-cultural people.

VISA Info Update

Please click [here](#) to view Visa requirements for travellers to Kenya.

Security

Traveller and citizen safety has been top priority for the Kenyan government. In the past two years, Kenya has made incredible strides in securing borders, tightening airport security by replacing radar and security equipment in our airports, creating a tourism police task force and widening the reach of our Tourism Safety Centre, which allows any visitor traveling with organized tours or staying at any of Kenya's hotels to be in direct reach of emergency personnel country-wide.

How To Get There

Nairobi, the main gateway to East Africa, is serviced by airlines from all over the world, but mainly from Europe, Asia & the rest of Africa. Some airlines, like British Airways (BA), first land in Mombasa before proceeding to Nairobi. Otherwise, for those travellers landing directly at Nairobi, there are various connecting flights on local airlines to Mombasa.

Travel Tips

No immunizations are required by law to enter Kenya if you are travelling directly from Europe or the US. If you are travelling from a country where Yellow Fever is present, you will need to prove you have had the inoculation.

There's a risk of catching malaria pretty much everywhere you travel in Kenya. The coast is a high-risk area, and you have to be careful and take precautions. Kenya is home to the chloroquine-resistant strain of malaria as well as several others. Make sure your doctor or travel clinic knows you are travelling to Kenya (don't just say Africa) so s/he can prescribe the right anti-malarial medication. Tips on how to avoid malaria will also help.

1. Always ask for permission before you photograph people or their houses. Some communities might demand a tip after taking a photograph!
2. Always change your cash at reputed banks, foreign bureaux or hotels. Never change your money in the black market.
3. Don't expose your cash in public or hand over money to someone especially along the city streets.
4. Avoid isolated streets and dark alleys.
5. Don't carry more money than you need when going out.
6. Don't display expensive jewelry.
7. Be aware of the possibility of pick-pockets & bag snatchers in crowded areas.
8. Keep copies of all your important documents separately from the originals in case of loss.
9. While staying at the hotels, keep your money in the safe deposit boxes. Don't leave valuables in the room when leaving.
10. Keep your distance from wild animals however harmless they may appear.
11. It's advisable to take emergency medical insurance prior to entering Kenya.
12. Tipping is allowed although it is not mandatory. \$5 would be sufficient tip for any service.
13. Drive on the Left hand side.
14. If on a long journey carry a torch, potable water & at least 2 spare wheels.
15. Never leave your car opened especially in public places. Try to conceal your luggage, for instance by keeping it under the seat.
16. Taxis are readily available at the airport for about \$15 to the city Centre.
17. An airport departure tax of U.S. \$20 is levied when leaving the country.
18. Kenya is three hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (+3GMT).
19. Always try to have loose cash for small purchases.
20. Carry a money belt or pouch under your clothes to keep your money. Do away with wallets & purses. These are usually a target for the pick pockets.
21. Plan your itinerary in advance to avoid disappointments, for instance lack of transport or a place to stay.
22. Always settle on a fare before hiring a taxi to avoid exploitation.
23. Reconfirm all airline flights along the way. It is possible to show up for a flight and not have a reservation because you did not reconfirm.
24. Avoid asking for directions from strangers in the streets. They could be thugs!
25. Avoid polishing your shoes along the streets by the so called shoe shiners. Most of them will rip you off.
26. The administration discourages handing out money to street kids & mothers.



sam 2008 Courses

- Loan Portfolio Audit Toolkit
- Process Mapping
- Product Costing
- Strategic Marketing
- Risk Management
- Credit Controls & Administration
- Business Planning with *Microfin*
- Customer Service
- Enhancing Efficiency in MFIs
- Human Resource Management
- Individual Lending
- Delinquency Management
- Reporting, Financial Analysis & Monitoring MFIs
- Corporate Branding & Identity

Please click [here](#) to see detailed descriptions of the courses.

sam 2008 Faculty at a Glance

sam 2008 will be privileged to have leading experts to facilitate the courses. Click [here](#) for information on the faculty.

Payment for sam 2008

If you already submitted your application for **sam 2008** and have also received an acceptance email into the program, please make your payment arrangements at the earliest convenience. Payment guarantees you a place in **sam 2008**. Our payment details are:

Account Name : **School of Applied Microfinance**
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Please ensure that you make your remittance NET of all bank charges. Only the net amount received by **sam** shall be credited to your course fee. Kindly notify us via email immediately you effect your payment. The amount payable should be made as soon as possible to secure your place.