

Is it safe to travel in Africa?

Africa is perfectly safe to visit and the African people are renowned for their warm hospitality. As with any travel, it is a good idea to take the standard precautions. Keep your passport and valuables close at hand or safely locked away and don't leave luggage unattended. When travelling in town, check with your tour operator or hotel concierge to see if there are any areas that should be avoided. Avoid isolated or deserted areas, particularly at night, ensure that your car is locked at all times and park in well-lit, busy areas. Avoid wearing excessive jewellery when exploring Africa's diverse cities and make use of concealed travel wallets. When driving through Africa, it is not recommended to stop for hitchhikers.

Is Africa a good destination to travel with children?

Africa is a great destination for travel with children and you can be assured that all young travellers will receive the warmest welcome. Kenya and Tanzania present slightly greater challenges in terms of travel times, with frequent trips in small planes, and may be better suited to slightly older children. Many safari lodges throughout Africa cater for all age groups and arrange exciting activities for children. There are also a number of other adventures available, from beach holidays, boat rides and cruises, horse riding, surfing, hiking and many others.

What medical precautions do I need to take before traveling to Africa?

Most parts of Africa are malaria areas and it is recommended that travelers see their doctors for a course of prophylactics prior to travel. When traveling to Kenya or Tanzania, you will require a recent yellow fever inoculation.

What clothes should I pack when I am traveling to Africa?

The most practical items to pack for an African safari are light cotton tops and cotton trousers or shorts in khaki, brown, white and beige. Due to the high altitude on the rim of Tanzania's Ngorongoro Crater, night time temperatures are cold even in summer. Travellers to these regions should pack a fleece or sweater, as well as a warm jacket for game drives. Swimwear is a must when travelling to the coastal areas of South or East Africa. Comfortable walking shoes are essential for those planning bush walks or walking safaris. Guests intending to climb Mount Kilimanjaro should pack thermal underwear, light layers, a sweater, warm jacket, good socks and sturdy boots.

Should I take out travel insurance before my trip to Africa?

We strongly recommend that you take out adequate travel insurance when confirming your booking. This should cover any medical situation (such as hospitalisation), as well as cancellation or curtailment of arrangements and loss of your baggage. This provides emergency medical services / evacuation to hospital should you suffer either severe illness or injury at the lodges/parks.

What type of Standard accommodation will be available?

A wide variety of accommodation, from five-star hotels to guesthouses, game lodges, bed and breakfasts and camps can be encountered in most tourist hotspots throughout Africa. In the cities there are also award-winning boutique hotels and spa resorts. However, accommodation in national parks and other places where numbers of visitors are limited can fill up quickly, particularly in high season, and it is recommended that you reserve all your accommodation as far in advance as possible.

What Safety Precautions to take

African hospitality is legendary and travellers are warmly welcomed. However, as always when

travelling, it is wise to take basic security precautions. Make sure you carry a record of your passport number, airline tickets, traveller's cheques and credit card numbers, and ensure that these items are kept in a safe place. Make use of hotel safe for expensive items and never leave baggage or personal items unattended in public. Do not walk or park in isolated spots after dark. If in doubt, ask your hotel concierge about the safety of the locations you want to visit.

Beggars and Hawkers

Poverty is a reality in parts of Africa and you should be prepared to encounter a number of beggars and hawkers. Although it may be difficult to resist, please don't hand out money, sweets or other goods to children on the streets. Should you want to make a contribution, consider donating to a community centre, school or other local programme that is able to make a difference in a sustainable manner.

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