

EAST AFRICA

KENYA • RWANDA TANZANIA

THE REWILD WAY



REWILD
SAFARISSM

Table of Contents

3	Welcome
4	Destination East Africa
16	Pre-flight Checklist
17	Luggage
19	What to Pack
21	Health & Safety
23	On Safari



Welcome!

We are excited and grateful you have entrusted us to guide and support you on your journey. Please consider this guidebook essential instructions for your upcoming adventure.

Refer to it for everything from passport and visa instructions to tipping etiquette, as well as important health, safety, and conservation information.

At Rewild Safaris, our “what” is providing sustainable luxury for travelers and continuing our growth as a leader in conservation-centered premium travel. Our “why” is to inspire traveler commitment to wildlife protection, preservation, and the rehabilitation of the wild.

We hope to help “rewild” your soul and spirit through these life-changing escapes from an overdeveloped world, to profoundly connect you to the wild, and inspire support for vital global conservation efforts.

By joining us on this adventure, you are helping to protect East Africa’s incredible wildlife and support sustainable tourism. Together, we can ensure these wild spaces thrive for generations to come. So let the rewilding begin!



Tom LaRock
PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER



James Ward
CHIEF EXPLORATIONS OFFICER

DESTINATION EAST AFRICA



FOLLOW THE PATHS OF SAVANNAH AND FOREST, AND YOU'LL HEAR THE SONG OF EAST AFRICA.

Kenya, Tanzania, and Rwanda are lands of boundless horizons and ancient rhythms—where sweeping plains, volcanic craters, and mist-draped mountains hold stories written by earth, sky, and time. Here, wildebeest surge across rivers in their millions, elephants march beneath the shadow of Kilimanjaro, and gorillas stir quietly in emerald forests.

Stand in awe on the Serengeti and Maasai Mara, where the Great Migration unfolds in a spectacle of survival and grace. Descend into the Ngorongoro Crater, a natural amphitheater where lions, rhinos, and flamingos share the stage. Rise at dawn in Amboseli, the snows of Kilimanjaro etched against the sky, or trek into Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park, where meeting the gaze of a mountain gorilla is a moment that lingers forever.

Beyond the wilderness, discover the warmth of cultures that welcome you with open hands—the songs of the Maasai, the spices of Zanzibar, the dances of Rwanda. In every corner, resilience and wonder run deep.

East Africa is not just a destination—it's a journey into the heartbeat of the wild. Each encounter leaves its mark, carried with you long after the journey home.



Kenya Wild Facts



TIME ZONE

Kenya operates on East Africa Time (EAT), which is GMT +3. The country stays at the same time all year—there's no Daylight-Saving Time to worry about.



LANGUAGES

While one can hear about 70 different languages spoken throughout Kenya, English and Swahili are both Kenya's official languages. Here are some phrases to practice: Tafadhali (Please); **Asante Sana** (Thank you); **Kwaheri** (Goodbye); **Simba** (Lion); **Tembo** (Elephant); **Safari Njema** (safe journey); and, of course, **Hakuna Matata** (No worries)!



CLIMATE

Kenya is a year-round destination, with each season offering its own experience. **Jan-March** is a short dry season. **April-May** is the longer green season. **June-October** brings the longer dry season, peaking with the Great Migration in the Maasai Mara. **November-mid-December** is the shorter green season, best for lush landscapes, fewer crowds and excellent birdwatching.



GEOGRAPHY

Kenya lies astride the Equator and is bordered by South Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda, and Tanzania. It is an immense land of contrasts: from vast plains and rugged mountains to lush forests, pristine beaches, and sunbaked savannas. The Great Rift Valley slices across the country and can be seen from space. The Great Lake Victoria basin, home to the Maasai Mara ecosystem, dates to the Precambrian age.



CURRENCY

The Kenyan Shilling (KES), referred to as "bob" by the locals, is the official currency in Kenya. Once you arrive, you'll see the symbol KSh to show prices in shops and restaurants. However, US dollars are accepted in most tourist areas.

Credit cards can be used. Visa and Mastercard are more widely accepted. Always have some cash on hand for use in more remote areas. ATMs are available in Nairobi, but US dollars are gratefully accepted.



FINDS

A few suggestions: World-renowned Kenyan coffee (Kahawa); Maasai hand-crafted jewelry, blankets (Shuka), and artwork (the beads carry significance for the Maasai: red beads symbolize bravery and strength, green beads symbolize prosperity); Kikois and Khangas (colorful sarong-like wraps); Kiondos, or hand-woven baskets made by the Akamba women of Eastern Kenya.

NOTE: Do not purchase ivory, skins, and endangered wildlife products. Purchase only certified sustainable leather or wood items.

Tanzania Wild Facts



TIME ZONE

Tanzania operates on East Africa Time (EAT), which is GMT +3. The country stays on the same time all year — there's no Daylight-Saving Time to worry about.



LANGUAGES

You might hear over 120 different languages across Tanzania. Swahili is the official language. English is widely spoken. Phrases to Practice: Tafadhali (Please); Asante Sana (Thank you); Kwaheri (Goodbye); Simba (lion); Tembo (elephant); and, of course, Hakuna Matata (there are no troubles here)!



CLIMATE

Tanzania is a year-round destination, but every season has its own unique character.

Green Season (January–March): Wildebeest, zebra, and antelope calving season in Southern Serengeti, attracting a high concentration of predators.

Dry Season (June–October): The ultimate time for wildlife sightings, particularly in the Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti.



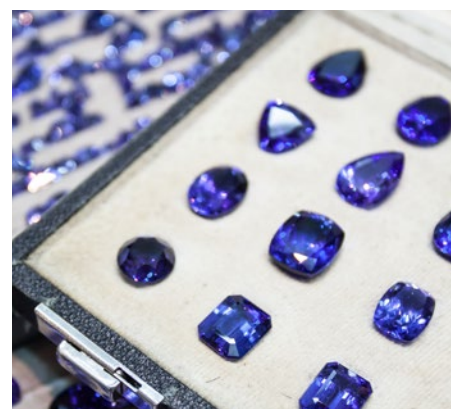
GEOGRAPHY

Tanzania, located just south of the Equator, is bordered by Uganda, Kenya, Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda. Its astonishingly diverse landscape includes wetlands, plains, coastal forests, pristine beaches, and towering mountains. At 19,341 feet, Mt. Kilimanjaro stands as Africa's highest and perhaps most spectacular peak.



CURRENCY

The Tanzanian Shilling (TZS) must be used for all domestic transactions as required by law including in tourist areas. It is always helpful to have some local currency and USD on hand throughout your travels through Tanzania. ATMs are available at the airport and in Zanzibar. Credit cards can be used in most less remote areas. It is best to rely on your Visa and Mastercard.



FINDS

Some suggestions: Traditional Maasai Shukas (or blankets); Tanzanite (discovered by a Masai tribesman and named by Tiffany & Co. after the only area in the world where it is found); Tinga Tinga, (colorful naive paintings depicting native African scenes).

NOTE: Do not purchase ivory, skins, and endangered wildlife products. Purchase only certified sustainable leather or wood items.

Rwanda Wild Facts



TIME ZONE

Rwanda is on Central Africa Time (CAT), which is GMT +2. The country stays on the same time all year—there's no Daylight-Saving Time to worry about.



LANGUAGES

Kinyarwanda is Rwanda's national language, with English and French also widely spoken. **"Muraho"** means "Hello," and **"Amakuru?"** means "How are you?" A warm greeting is always appreciated.



CLIMATE

Rwanda's mild equatorial climate allows for year-round travel.

June to September (Dry Season): Prime for gorilla trekking. Daytime temperatures 70–80°F (21–27°C), cooler mornings around 55°F (13°C).

October to May (Rainy Seasons): Lush landscapes and excellent birding. Temperatures remain steady, 75–80°F (24–27°C).



GEOGRAPHY

Known as the "Land of a Thousand Hills," Rwanda lies just south of the equator, bordered by Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Its lush mountainous terrain includes the Volcanoes National Park—home to endangered mountain gorillas—and Lake Kivu along its western border.



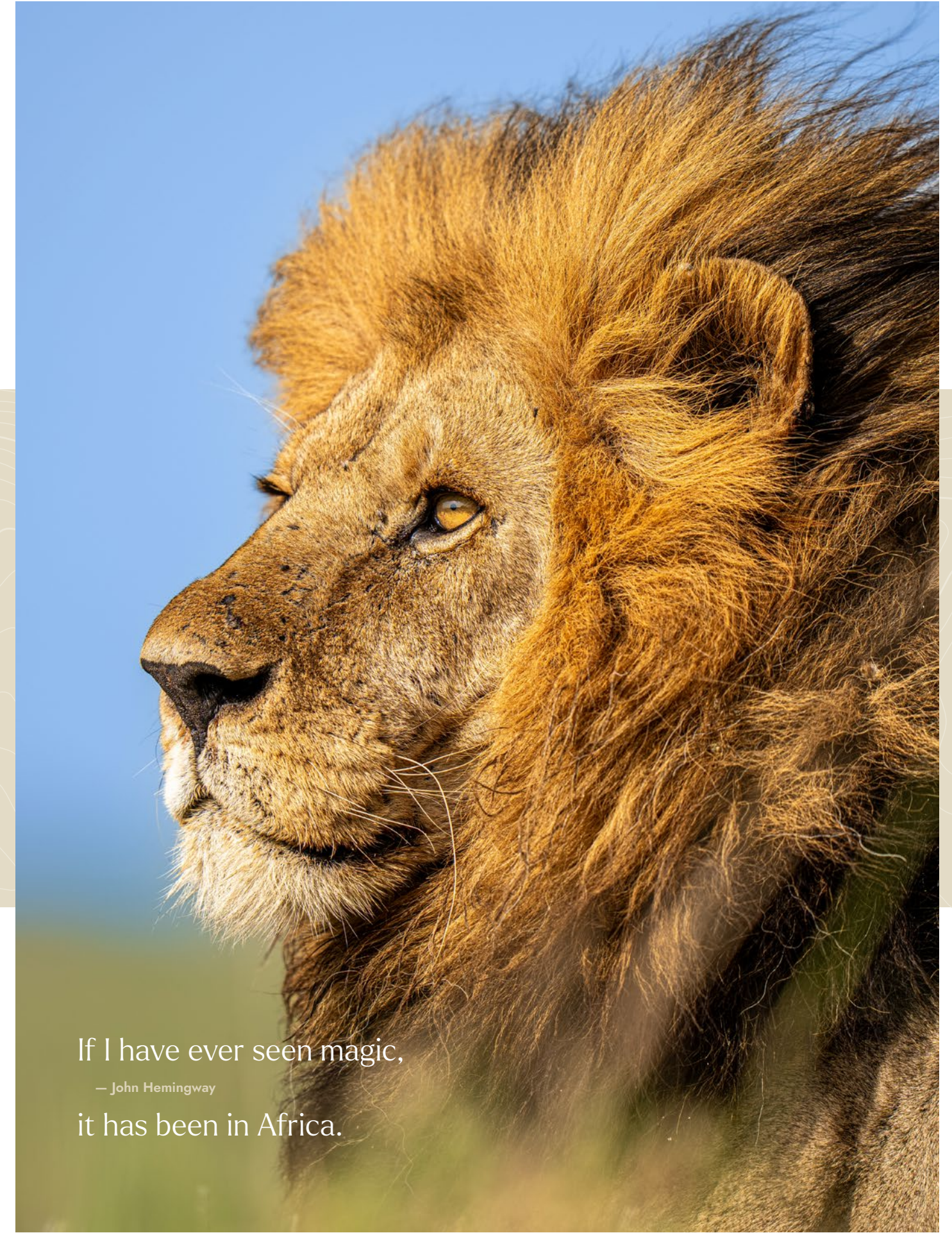
CURRENCY

The Rwandan Franc (RWF) is the official currency. Credit cards are widely accepted at major hotels and lodges. US dollars are often accepted for tourism services, permits, and tipping. Newer US bills (2009 series or newer) are preferred.



FINDS

Some suggestions: Imigongo paintings (cow dung art); woven baskets (Agaseke); beaded jewelry; locally grown coffee and tea; hand-carved wooden bowls and masks.



If I have ever seen magic,
— John Hemingway
it has been in Africa.

Wildlife & Safari Highlights

Witness the great wildebeest migration as vast herds thunder across the Serengeti and Maasai Mara, shadowed by lions, leopards, and crocodiles lying in wait. Rise at dawn in Amboseli to see elephants silhouetted against snowcapped Mount Kilimanjaro. Explore the Ngorongoro Crater, where rhinos graze on open plains and flamingos paint the lakes pink. Venture into Rwanda's misty Volcanoes National Park to trek through emerald forests and meet mountain gorillas face to face—a humbling encounter with one of our closest relatives. And journey to the shores of Lake Victoria, where life flows in timeless rhythm along Africa's greatest lake.





Conservation: Kenya

With over 50 national parks and reserves, Kenya is at the forefront of wildlife conservation efforts, enlisting local people to protect their own land. In the Maasai Mara National Reserve and its surrounding conservancies, the Maasai, county councils, and preservation organizations have transformed an area once devastated by overgrazing, hunting, and poaching into a flourishing habitat for wildlife. In the Nakuru National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of 6 RAMSAR sites in Kenya, endangered rhinos and Rothschild giraffes thrive.

Through our partnerships, Rewild Safaris supports conservation efforts that protect ecosystems while empowering the people who call them home. Time permitting, you might want to inquire about an exclusive safari to a private conservancy like Olare Motorogi or a visit to the orphaned elephants at the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust.



50+

National Parks
and Reserves

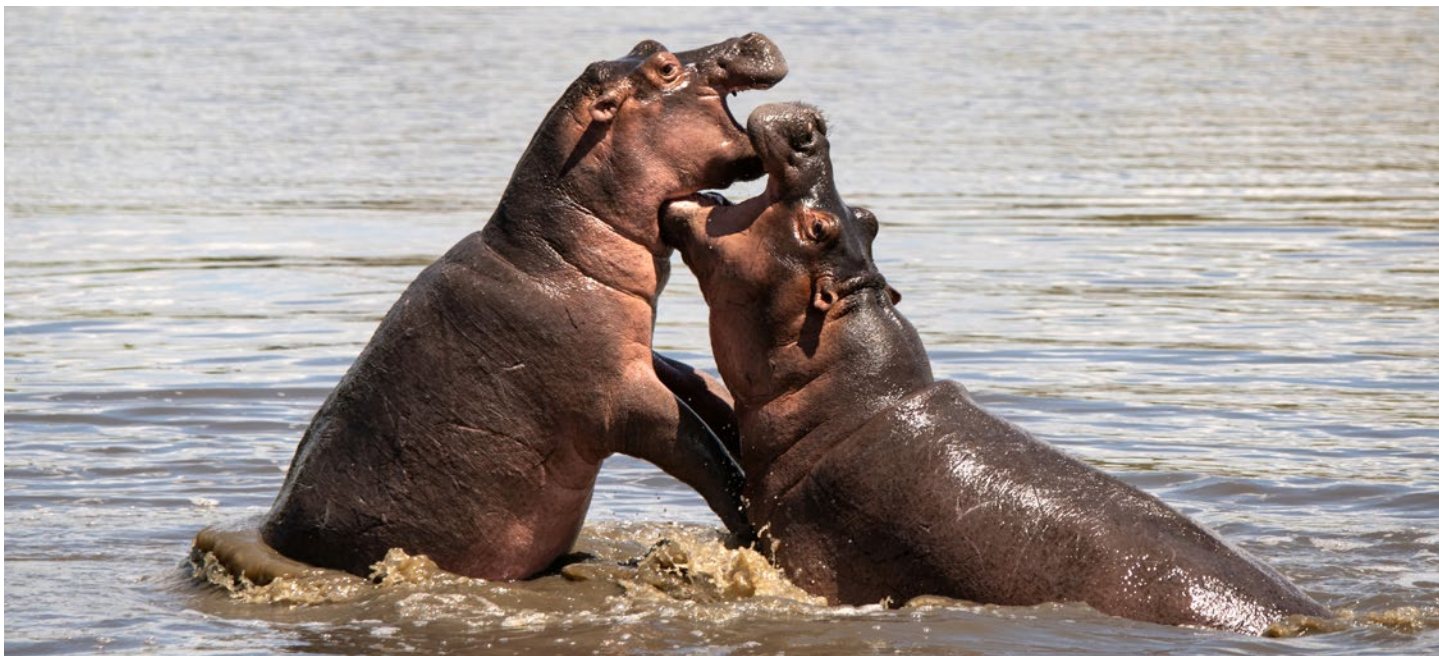
8

UNESCO World
Heritage Sites

6

RAMSAR
Sites





Conservation: Tanzania

Tanzania is deeply committed to preserving its wilderness, dedicating almost 40% of its land to protecting wildlife. It boasts 22 national parks, including Serengeti National Park, Nyerere National Park, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, and Kilimanjaro National Park, all of which have been designated UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Rewild Safaris partners with local conservation initiatives, including African People and Wildlife, to promote sustainability and community empowerment. Our high-value, low-impact tourism model ensures exclusive experiences with minimal crowds while maintaining authenticity and luxury.



40%

of land dedicated to
protecting wildlife

22

National Parks

7

UNESCO World
Heritage Sites





Conservation: Rwanda

Rwanda is a global leader in conservation, with more than 10% of its land dedicated to protected areas. Iconic parks like Volcanoes National Park, Nyungwe National Park, and Akagera National Park form the backbone of its rich biodiversity with endangered mountain gorillas and golden monkeys to lions, elephants, and over 700 bird species. Rwanda's conservation success is deeply rooted in community involvement, with initiatives that ensure local people are key stakeholders in protecting wildlife and benefiting from eco-tourism.

4

National Parks

1,000+

Mountain Gorillas Protected

30%

Land Under Forest Cover





Getting the Shots

James Ward, our Chief Explorations Officer, is also a professional wildlife and conservation photographer. Here are a few tips he'd like you to consider.

Catch the light, catch the moment: Dawn on the Mara brings the savanna to life—wildebeest shifting in the grass, lions stirring from the night, elephants etched against the first light. At sunrise and sunset, when the light softens, the wild world is at its most alive.

Know your light, know your lens: In the Mara, use a fast shutter to capture cheetahs in full sprint or river crossings in motion. In Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park, low light in the rainforest calls for slower shutters and higher ISO—perfect for the intimate mood of gorilla encounters.

Gear up but stay mobile: A zoom lens (200mm+) is essential for predators and birds, while a wide-angle brings sweeping landscapes to life. A beanbag helps on bumpy game drives, but pack light and flexible—especially for gorilla treks or walking safaris.

Downwind and down low: On Kenya's plains, crouch low to meet elephants eye-to-eye. In Rwanda's forests, follow guides closely. Kneeling at gorilla level creates portraits filled with connection and respect.

Silence is golden: Whether watching a leopard in the Mara or mountain gorillas in Rwanda, keep movements slow and quiet. Use silent shutter mode when possible—patience and stillness draw you deeper into the moment.

Frame the full story: Capture wildebeest silhouetted against a stormy sky, giraffes under acacias at sunset, or gorillas nestled in mist. Go wide to show the sweep of the savanna or the rainforest canopy. The landscape tells as much of the story as the wildlife.

Respect the wild: Always follow your guide's lead. From Kenya's open plains to Rwanda's emerald forests, the wilderness is powerful, unpredictable, and deeply alive. Your best images come from humility, patience, and respect.



Local Flavors

East Africa's cuisine blends indigenous flavors with Indian, Middle Eastern, and European influences. In Kenya, expect hearty stews and grilled meats; in Tanzania, coconut curries and spice-rich dishes from Zanzibar; and in Rwanda, simple yet satisfying staples like beans, plantains, and fresh vegetables. Here are popular dishes you might find on your visit:

Kenya

Sukuma: A local green vegetable, often served alongside Nyama Choma

Nyama Choma: Grilled meat, a Kenyan safari favorite

Mandazi: Sweet fried dough, like a donut



Tanzania

Ugali: Tanzania's national dish. Similar to polenta, but of a firmer consistency

Ndizi Nyama: A traditional Tanzanian stew made with green plantains, meat or fish, carrots, tomatoes and sweet peppers

Ndizi Kaanga: Fried plantains or green bananas



Rwanda

Isombe: Cassava leaves cooked with ground peanuts

Brochettes: Coconut rice with sambal, anchovies, and peanuts

Rwandan Coffee: World-famous and often served freshly roasted



When not to be adventurous:

- **Drink only bottled, purified, or filtered water.** Avoid tap water, ice cubes, and unpasteurized juices
- **Fruit & vegetables:** Avoid raw salads & prepared fruit (peeled) outside of your safari accommodations
- **Street food:** Avoid unless recommended by your guide
- **Dairy:** Avoid raw milk or unpasteurized products outside of your safari accommodations

If you have any dietary restrictions, make sure to include them on your safari registration

PRE-FLIGHT CHECKLIST



Entry Requirements

- A valid, signed passport
- Passport valid for at least six months beyond your arrival date
- At least six blank pages in passport*
- Passport name matches your booking exactly
- Yellow fever vaccination certificate due to your travels through Tanzania & Kenya
- Proof of Tourist Travel: Travelers may be asked to present their itinerary and/or to demonstrate sufficient funds for their stay
- Printed color copies of your Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda visas

Share with us: provide Rewild Safaris with a copy of your passport during your safari registration or send via encrypted link:

<https://rewildsafaris.com/passport-upload/>

***Note:** if you are travelling to multiple destinations, ensure you have enough blank pages to cover each entry & exit

Zanzibar

Mandatory Insurance: Zanzibar, a semi-autonomous province of Tanzania, has imposed a mandatory travel insurance requirement for all visitors. This travel insurance is issued by the government of Zanzibar and is separate from any travel insurance you may have purchased. This insurance costs \$44 USD per traveler and can be applied for here: <https://inbound.visitzanzibar.go.tz/>

PASSPORT TIPS



- ✓ Carry your passport securely and keep it with you at all times.
- ✓ Expedited Services: Use professional passport services if you need a fast renewal.
- ✓ Carry color photocopies of your passport's photo page at all times.
- ✓ Lost Passport? Report it immediately to the nearest embassy or consulate. Your photocopy can speed up replacement.

Booking Flights

IMPORTANT: Once you've booked your flights, forward your confirmation to support@rewildsafaris.com so our East Africa team can coordinate a seamless safari.



Visas

US, Canada, UK and mainland EU passport holders will require a visa to enter Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda.

Kenya

Travelers must apply for their ETA online no sooner than 90 days prior to traveling—the ETA is only valid for 90 days after it is issued, not after the start of your safari. The ETA will cost 30 USD. Apply online at <https://www.etakenya.go.ke>

Tanzania

Travelers must apply for the Single-Entry Visa that will cost USD 50. We recommend applying for your visa at least 60 days prior to your departure. Apply online at <https://visa.immigration.go.tz/start>

Rwanda

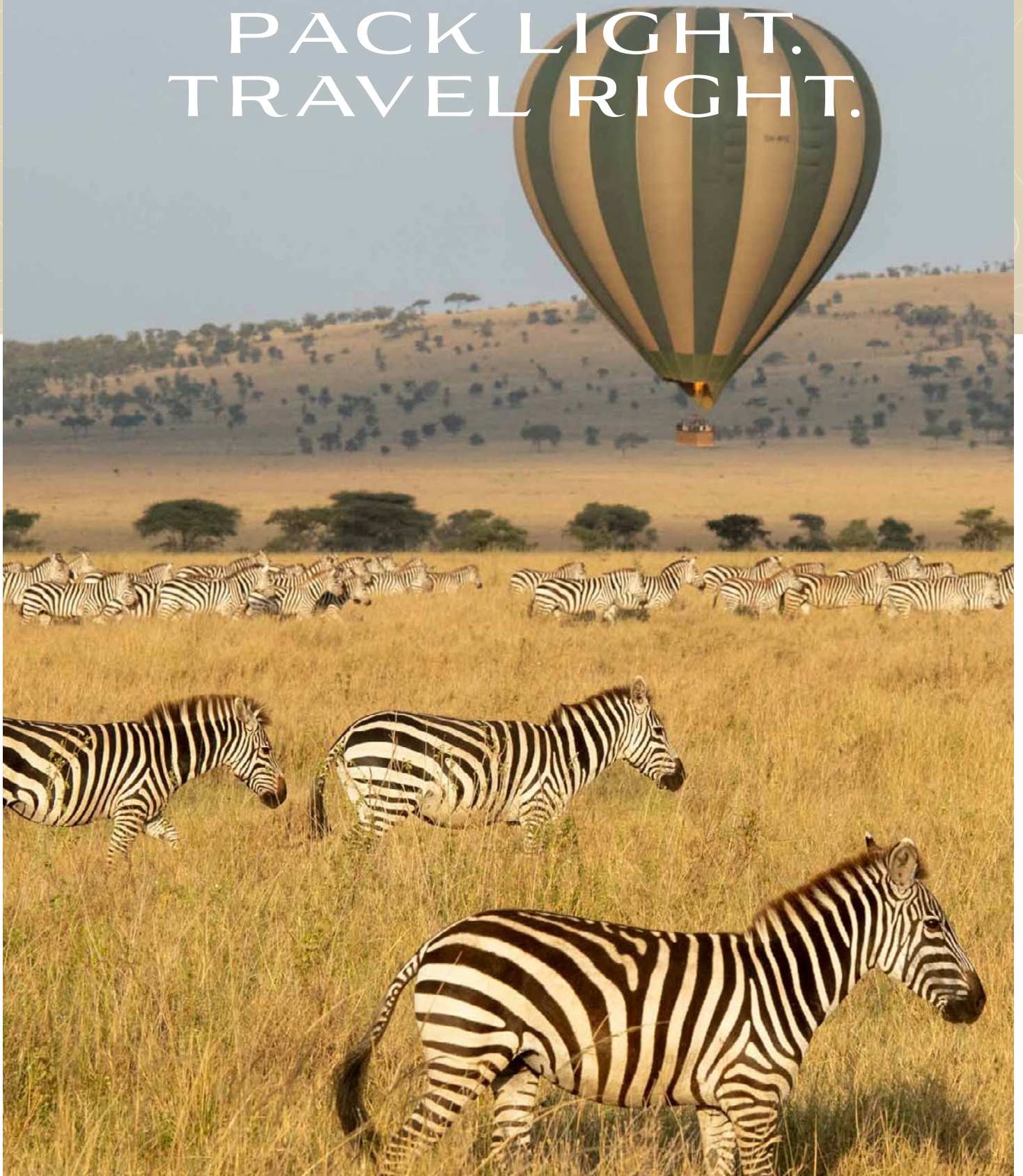
Travelers must apply for the V1—Vacances / Single Entry visa which will be valid for 30 days upon entry. The visa cost 50 USD. Apply online at https://irembo.gov.rw/user/citizen/service/dgie/request_a_visa

FLIGHT TIPS



- ✓ Book early: Reserve flights ahead of time for the best prices and seat options
- ✓ Allow extra time: We recommend allowing 2 - 3 hours before your international departures and for connections
- ✓ Early arrival: Consider arriving a day early in case of delays and to acclimate to your destination

PACK SOFT.
PACK LIGHT.
TRAVEL RIGHT.



Your Carry On

THE ESSENTIALS

- Passport
- Photocopies of your passport's photo page in a separate compartment
- Medications
- Printed color copies of your Kenya, Tanzania & Rwanda visas
- Yellow Fever vaccination certificate
- Cameras and devices (plus memory cards, chargers, extra batteries, lens cleaning supplies)
- Change of clothes (in case of luggage delay)
- Spare eyeglasses or contacts (with a copy of your prescription)
- Credit Cards and Cash

Luggage Limits

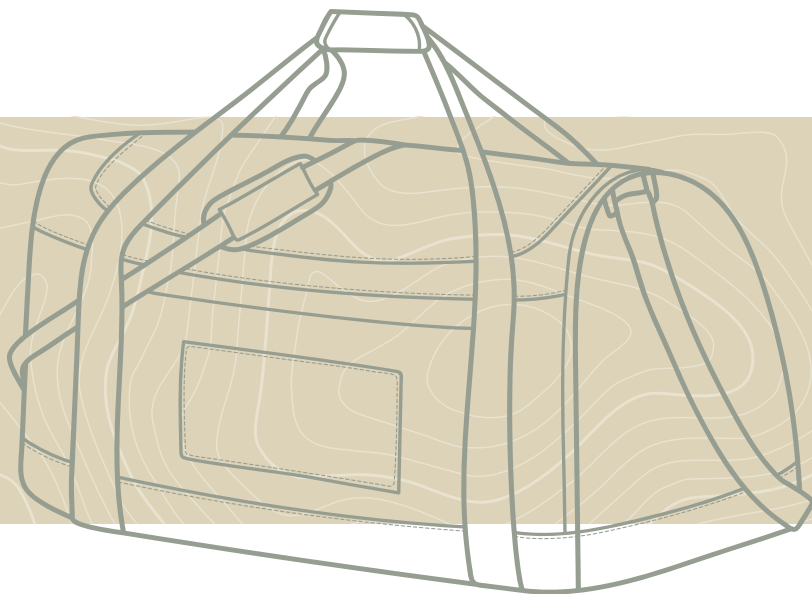
OVERSIZED LUGGAGE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ON REGIONAL FLIGHTS. THINK SMALL.

For travel within these East African destinations, the maximum allowed luggage weight is 33 pounds per passenger (including checked luggage, hand luggage and camera equipment) in soft-sided bags. The maximum dimensions of the soft bags that can be accommodated are: 30cm (11.8in) wide x 35cm (13.8in) high and 70cm (27.5in) long.

Rigid, hard sided bags cannot be accommodated and won't be accepted. This is essential to ensure that everything fits not only into the small aircraft but into the safari vehicles.

Recommended luggage for your travels will be gifted to you by Rewild Safaris.

If additional weight is needed, you must purchase an additional seat. If other special luggage accommodations are required, including wheeled luggage, please contact Rewild Safaris in advance.



DRESS FOR SUCCESS



What to Pack

CLOTHING

Think of layers for comfort and rain gear for misty mountain treks!

- Light, breathable layers in neutral colors (light brown, khaki, olive, beige) to stay comfortable and blend in with the environment
- **Do not wear** camouflage (reserved for military), bright colors, blue or black (attracts insects)
- Long-sleeved shirts & trousers—protection against sun, insects & brush
- Shorts & short sleeved shirts
- Warm layers (fleece, light puffer jacket/vest)
- Waterproof shell jacket and pants
- Comfortable lightweight waterproof hiking boots
- Comfortable hiking socks and underwear
- Casual shoes or sandals for relaxing at camp
- Wide-brimmed hat for sun protection
- UV protective, polarized sunglasses
- Bandana or Buff—useful for sun, dust and warmth
- Gardening gloves for protection during Rwanda treks
- Optional: Swimwear—some lodges and hotels will have swimming pools



OTHER ESSENTIALS

- Travel adapters: A universal adapter will be best as there are several types of sockets you will find in East Africa including **Type G & D in Kenya and Tanzania and Types C & J in Rwanda**. Voltage is 230V-240V and 50Hz. If your device does not support this voltage, you will need a converter.
- Good binoculars for wildlife viewing
- High-SPF sunscreen and lip balm
- Daypack and/or dry bag
- Insect repellent
- Headlamp or small flashlight
- Medications, including a small first-aid kit
- Device chargers
- Extra batteries for your camera and devices
- Reusable water bottle
- Gear to protect your devices from rain e.g. camera cover or dry bag

CLOTHING TIPS



Some suggestions for upscale performance (and fashionable) safari gear:

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| ✓ Patagonia | ✓ Arc'teryx |
| ✓ Orvis | ✓ LL Bean |
| ✓ Fjallraven | ✓ Tilley Endurables |



SAFE TRAVELS



Health & Safety

VACCINATIONS AND MEDICATIONS

Consult your doctor or travel clinic at least six months before departure. Inform them of everywhere you're visiting, your current medications and conditions. Bring enough of your prescription medicines in their original packaging. It's also a good idea to pack medications for digestive discomfort, itching and rashes—just in case.

ASK ABOUT

- **Malaria prevention medication:** You might have to start taking it before you travel
- **Vaccinations:** Share your itinerary with your doctor or travel clinic for accurate vaccination requirements or recommendations
- **Medication restrictions:** Some destinations have requirements, restrictions & penalties for traveling with certain medications.

Check the CDC website for up-to-date information on your destination/s. <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list>

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- Carry a letter from your physician with personal information on any existing needs or conditions
- Carry extra prescription medications and written prescriptions
- Inform Rewild Safaris in advance of any conditions that may require special care
- Review the details of your travel insurance coverage to be sure you're adequately covered on your journey and purchase additional insurance if needed



HEALTH TIPS



- ✓ Stay hydrated—carry a reusable water bottle and consider electrolytes
- ✓ Drink only bottled or treated water—including for brushing your teeth
- ✓ Eat mindfully—ease into local cuisine to avoid digestive upset
- ✓ Protect yourself from the sun—wear sunscreen, a hat & sunglasses always
- ✓ Be altitude aware—Volcanoes National Park sits over 2,400 meters (7,800+ ft); move slowly & rest as needed



ON YOUR SAFARI



Good to Know

TRAVEL SMART

It's always wise to take basic precautions when traveling internationally: Be aware of your surroundings, especially in areas frequented by tourists. Do not leave your food or drink unattended. Being alert is a good way to help ensure a safe and enjoyable trip.

Check for travel advisory updates on your local government website. For the US: <https://travel.state.gov/en/international-travel/travel-advisories.html>

HEALTHCARE IN THE EAST AFRICA

While Rwanda, Kenya, and Tanzania have well-equipped hospitals in major cities, safari regions and remote parks are far from advanced medical facilities. In the event of a serious emergency, medical evacuation is available but may not be immediate. Camps and lodges typically provide only basic first aid, and guides should be relied upon for initial assistance, not full medical care. We strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance with medical evacuation coverage and always carrying your emergency contacts.

VALUABLES AND PACKING

Keep valuables with you or in safes when available. Travel light for easier mobility and smoother transfers.

CPAP MACHINES

Some lodges run on solar or generators with limited hours. If you need one, consider purchasing a portable, battery-powered model to take with you. If you can only use a CPAP that requires overnight electricity, contact us at support@rewildsafaris.com to ensure that the lodges and camps on your itinerary can accommodate your needs.

STAYING CONNECTED

Mobile coverage is generally reliable in major cities and towns, but it can be limited or unavailable in remote safari areas. WhatsApp is widely used and often the most reliable way to communicate when Wi-Fi is available. Many lodges and camps provide basic Wi-Fi, typically sufficient for messaging and checking emails, though not always strong enough for large uploads or streaming. Consider it an opportunity to stay lightly connected while embracing the chance to disconnect and immerse yourself in the wilderness.

WILDLIFE AND ETIQUETTE

Respect the East Africa's unique ecosystem by following these guidelines:

- Follow local laws and customs
- Ask before photographing people, especially in local villages or markets
- Stay quiet and avoid sudden movements to reduce stress on wildlife
- Keep a distance from all wildlife
- Do not touch or feed wildlife
- Do not touch or remove anything from the environment, e.g. rocks, plants, flowers
- Do not litter
- Rewild Safaris have a strict no smoking/no vaping policy
- Follow your guide's instructions to minimize your impact on the environment
- Conserve resources like water and electricity, especially in lodges using solar power
- Follow the "Leave No Trace" principal

TIPS ON TIPPING



KENYA & TANZANIA:

Per person, USD. You may tip with USD or local currency:

- ✓ Guide: \$20 per day
- ✓ Tracker: \$10 per day
- ✓ Hotel/Lodge Staff: \$10 per night (to be placed in communal tip box)
- ✓ City Hotel/Airport Porters: \$1 per bag
- ✓ City Guide Half-day tour: \$5
- ✓ City Guide Full-day tour: \$10
- ✓ Restaurants (meals not included in safari): 10-15% of total bill

RWANDA:

Per person, USD:

- ✓ Trekking Tracking Team: \$40 (\$20 for head guide and \$20 for trackers on the mountain)
- ✓ Trekking Porter: \$25 (\$20 hire + \$5 tip)
- ✓ Hotel/Lodge Staff: \$10 per night (to be placed in communal tip box)
- ✓ Driver: \$15 per day
- ✓ City Hotel/Airport Porters: \$2
- ✓ Restaurants (meals not included in safari): 10-15% of total bill

It's Go Time!

Thank you for choosing Rewild Safaris. This journey not only offers incredible wildlife and landscapes but also supports conservation efforts in Africa. Your trip makes a difference by helping preserve these ecosystems and uplift local communities.

Get ready for an unforgettable experience—East Africa awaits!

