

INFOPACK

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW!



MAASAI MARA

Ongoing project 2018



KENIA VOLUNTARY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR
MAMA NGINA ST.
00100 NAIROBI KENYA
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INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

KENIA VOLUNTARY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

OUR VISION

Everyone in this world seeks to make a difference. Making a difference in a world which is as connected as ours, is just possible if we try to understand and embrace other cultures as they are. All over the world, voluntary service has been highlighted as the most impactful venture to make people experience and appreciate different cultures and traditions. It is from the same spirit that the Kenya Voluntary Service Association was formed to offer a platform to those seeking a possibility to learn from and to contribute the most they can to make a difference in their lives and the lives of the people in the communities they serve.

OUR MISSION

KVSO was founded to give an opportunity to all those who want to explore the enriching field of volunteering.

Our mission is to promote peace, intercultural exchange and sustainable development through volunteering. We truly believe that each person has something to bring in the process of sharing, discovering and promoting cultures.

Our team and all our partners are involved in this wish to make things better through volunteering, and to give the chance to all of us to make a step towards action, change and empowerment.

Our community based association encourages the local community to consider its responsibility in its own development and aims to support this development through new projects, partnerships and volunteering actions.

OUR VALUES

- Respect & open-mindedness
- Sustainability & equity
- Volunteerism & non-formal education
- Empowerment of the local community
- Fullfillment & personal development
- Multiculturalism & peace



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WHAT ABOUT KENYA?

TIME GMT +3D.

Kenya maintains an almost 12 hours of daylight. Sunrise 6.30am / sunset 6.45pm

POPULATION

49 million (2017 est.)

CAPITAL

Nairobi (largest city)

FLAG / COAT OF ARMS



RELIGION

Christian, Islamic, Hinduism, Sikhism and Traditional beliefs.

LANGUAGE

English is the official and Kiswahili is the national.

ECONOMY

Agriculture employs 80% of the population. Contributes 20% to GDP and accounts for 50% of export earnings. Tourism is the largest source of income, the industrial base Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania border in the northeast. The main rivers are Athi/Tana

GOVERNMENT

Kenya is an independent Republic with a divided into two halves – the eastern half which democratically elected parliament. The president is the chief of state.



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CURRENCY

Kenya currency is in Kenya shillings - KSH

TEMPERATURE

Kenya's climate varies from tropical along the coast to temperate inland to arid in the north and northeast parts of the country. The area receives a great deal of sunshine every month, and summer clothes are worn throughout the year. It is usually cool at night and early in the morning.

WATER

Bottled water is readily available.

TELEPHONE SERVICES

Public pay phones (card and coin) are automated phone cards may be bought from post offices or from international call offices. International calls can be dialed direct (code 000) or operator assisted (dial 0195/6). International dialing code is +254.

VISA AND HEALTH CERTIFICATION

A valid passport, not expiring for at least six months, is required and may be obtained in advance from the Kenya Embassy or High Commission in your country of origin, or upon arrival in Kenya. A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required ONLY if you are arriving in Kenya from an infected area.

EMERGENCY SERVICES DIAL 911



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MAASAI MARA

The Maasai tribe (or Maasai) is a unique and popular tribe due to their long preserved culture. Despite education, civilization and western cultural influences, the Maasai people have clung to their traditional way of life, making them a symbol of Kenyan culture.

Maasai's distinctive culture, dress style and strategic territory along the game parks of Kenya and Tanzania have made them one of East Africa's most internationally famous tourist attractions.

The Maasai people reside in both Kenya and Tanzania, living along the border of the two countries. They are a smaller tribe, accounting for only about 0.7 percent of Kenya's population, with a similar number living in Tanzania. Maasai's speak Maa, a Nilotic ethnic language from their origin in the Nile region of North Africa.

The Samburu tribe is the closest to the Maasai in both language and cultural authenticity.

Through rituals and ceremonies, including circumcision, Maasai boys are guided and mentored by their fathers and other elders on how to become a warrior. Although they still live their carefree lives as boys - raiding cattle, chasing young girls, and game hunting - a Maasai boy must also learn all of the cultural practices, customary laws and responsibilities he'll require as an elder.

The wildlife, culture, conservation and education village centre offers volunteers the ultimate opportunity to explore, learn and interact with the Maasai community and their culture. The Mara conservation gives them a platform to serve, interact and also live like the Maasai people. Above all, the Conservancy is managed according to a model that protects the delicate eco-system and benefits the landowners who are the Maasai people.

The wild life, culture, conservation and education in Kenya is home to the big cats situated on the malarienda most point of the Greater Mara Ecosystem; borders the Olchorro Oliroua Conservancy to the south, and MMNC to the East. The important focus of the conservancy is livestock improvement through innovative cattle management programs, running alongside novel tourism projects.

The habitat comprises wooded acacia savannah with open plains on flat plateaus, riverine acacia forest and rocky, undulating hills which provide a varied habitat for browsing and grazing ungulates, as well as hideout thickets for the predators. The Mara River runs alongside the conservancy. There is a large number of giraffe and resident buffalo that live close to the Olerai boundary along the Mara River. Elephants frequent the conservancy and there is a pride of lion based on the edge of oloisukut. There are many hippos and crocodiles in the section of the river that borders the conservancy and the riverine forests which provide an area popular with leopards. Rare species such as Aardvark, Caracal, serval cat and Aardwolf are occasionally found. Colobus monkeys have been spotted in the valleys on the Kileleoni Hill and there have also been sightings of wild dog in Enonkishu. There is no doubt that Mara Osero offers an incredible game viewing experience.



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MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

ANIMAL CONSERVATION

- ✓ Regular ground patrols and safari walk
- ✓ Identifying animal species found within the area
- ✓ Identify and name indigenous plants and uses
- ✓ Monitoring wildlife movement

CULTURAL

- ✓ Experience Maasai way of life
- ✓ Control cattle grazing, milking and caring for cattles
- ✓ Maintenance, building and renovation of the manyatta houses

SCHOOL TEACHING PROGRAMME

- ✓ Teaching lessons and playing with kids
- ✓ Planting of trees
- ✓ Gardening and land scaping
- ✓ Outreach programme in the local dispensary
- ✓ Extra activities learning life skills bead work, cooking using fire wood e.t.c
- ✓ Ensuring upkeep of the conservancy

OTHER ACTIVITIES DEPENDING ON THE INTEREST OF THE VOLUNTEERS:

- ✓ Promoting Sustainable Tourism
- ✓ Teaching English in local school
- ✓ Assisting in the local hospitals
- ✓ Clean-up campaigns and planting trees in school and community
- ✓ Engaging the surrounding communities in protecting their cultural heritage
- ✓ Fostering dialogue and interaction between local communities
- ✓ Disseminating information about Maasai Mara
- ✓ Raising awareness to the local community
- ✓ Training and empowering the community to preserve and promote natural heritage
- ✓ Bird watching for interested volunteers
- ✓ Working with other stake holders in ensuring up keep of the conservancy



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PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

You will get the provisional program during the briefing when you arrive in Kenya.

ACCOMODATION & FOOD

Volunteers will be living in the Maasai Manyattas (villages) with the host families, pit latrines and local bathrooms will be used, no electricity and no internet.

HOW TO FIND US?

Pick up will be organised from the airport by KVS staff. You will find us easily after luggage pick up and visa control. Kindly keep the emergency number in your contact in case you need anything.

WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING

- ✓ Working shoes adapted to work on site
 - ✓ Mobile phone
 - ✓ Sleeping bag
 - ✓ Mosquito net (can be bought in Kenya for around 3-5€)
 - ✓ Flash light/torch
 - ✓ Warm clothing and light clothing
 - ✓ Camera
 - ✓ Pocket money for any personal expenses
 - ✓ Tablets for water purification
 - ✓ Personal effects (i.e. Soap, Toiletries)
 - ✓ First Aid basic kit & any personal medicine
 - ✓ Personal objects & souvenirs from your country to share with the group
- EVERY ITEM WILL BE UNDER YOUR RESPONSIBILITY



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SOME BASIC INFORMATION

CULTURAL TIPS

PHOTOGRAPHY

It is considered courteous to ask people if you may take their picture before doing so, particularly in the more far-flung rural areas. A small (token) payment for the photography may be expected, rather more as a form of polite appreciation than anything else.

DO'S AND DON'TS

It is an offence to smoke in a public place; deface a Kenyan banknote; urinate in public; sunbath topless; hire a prostitute; buy or take drugs; remove wildlife products from Kenya, export products made from elephant, rhino or sea turtle derivatives, or to remove coral. Swearing and blasphemy are inadvisable. Visitors are required to stand when the Kenyan Anthem is played, or the National flag raised or lowered. They are also advised that photographing the president without prior permission or any military installation is not permitted. Bond or bail can be granted before a court or magistrate's discretion and all cases must be brought before a court.

YOUR LIFE IN KENYA

BANKING

Banks in major centre are open from 09.00 to 11.00. On the first and last Saturdays of each month. Banks in coastal towns open and close half an hour earlier. Travelers' cheques are accepted at most banks, bureau and hotels.

ATM

ATMS are available country wide with 24-hours access. (elephant, buffalo, rhinoceros, lion and leopard) to tiny antelopes such as the dik-dik, which is slightly larger than a rabbit. At least 32 (1,700m) modern and fast growing. Nairobi has endemic species are endangered. Kenya boasts around 1,137 species of birds. Spotting over 100 bird including species in a dry is not uncommon.

CREDIT CARDS

Most accept international VISA cards. Volunteers should preferably take their VISA cards owing to some issues with standard MASTER cards.



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TRAVELERS' CHEQUES

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TIPPING

Tipping is appreciated. Most hotels and restaurants include a 10% service charge.

TRANSPORTATION

Most Kenyans use 'matatus' as the primary method of transport. These are privately operated minivans following specific routes.

Taxis are plentiful outside the main hotels, shopping arcades, and central city points. There are a number of dial-up taxi companies in all major towns. A tariff sheet should be available, and it is wise to agree the price of the journey before you set off.

There are plenty of well-established and reputable car hire companies. To hire a car you must be over 23 and under 70 years and have had a driving license (International or commonwealth) for a minimum of two years.

Kenyan motorists drive on the left and overtake on the right-in general European-styled traffic regulations.

CELL PHONES

There is mobile phone coverage countrywide SIM cards and top up cards readily available.

INTERNET

Internet cafes operate in most areas.

SHOPPING AND BUSINESS HOURS

08.30 to 12.30 and 14.00 to 17.30 Monday – Saturday. Many businesses work Saturday mornings.

ELECTRICITY

220-240 volts AC.

With standard 13-amp three squares-pin plugs.





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A SHORT INTRODUCTION TO KISWAHILI

Welcome	Karibu (sg) Karibuni (pl)
Hello (General greeting)	Habari (inf) Hujambo (sg) Hamjambo (pl)
How are you?	Habari (inf) Hujambo (sg) Hamjambo (pl)
Reply to 'How are you?'	Nzuri (REPLY TO HABARI) Njema (REPLY TO HABARI) Sijambo (REPLY TO HUJAMBO) Hatujambo (REPLY TO HAMJAMBO)
What's your name?	Jina lako ni nani?
My name is ...	Jina langu ni ...
Where are you from?	Unatoka wapi?
I'm from ...	Natoka ...
Pleased to meet you	Nafurahi kukuona Nimefurahi kukutana nawe
Good morning (Morning greeting)	Habari ya asubuhi
Good afternoon (Afternoon greeting)	Habari ya mchana
Good evening (Evening greeting)	Habari ya jioni
Good night	Usiku mwema Lala salama (SLEEP WELL)
Goodbye (Parting phrases)	Kwaheri
Good luck!	Kila la kheri!



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Cheers! Good Health!	Maisha marefu! Afya! Vifijo!
Have a nice day	Nakutakia siku njema!
Have a nice meal	Ufurahie chakula chako (sg) Furahieni chakula chenu (pl) Chakula chema
Have a good journey	Safari njema!
I understand	Naelewa
I don't understand	Sielewi
I don't know	Sijui
Please speak more slowly	Tafadhali sema polepole
Please write it down	Waweza kuiandika?
Do you speak English?	Unazungumza Kingereza?
Do you speak Swahili?	Unazungumza Kiswahili?
Yes, a little	Ndiyo, kidogo tu
How do you say ... in Swahili?	Unasemaje ... kwa Kiswahili?
Excuse me	Samahani nispishe (TO GET PAST) Samahani (TO GET ATTENTION OR SAY SORRY)
How much is this?	Hii ni bei gani?
Sorry	Samahani
Please	Tafadhali
Thank you	Asante Asante sana (sg) Asanteni (pl)
No thanks	Hapana asante
Where's the toilet / bathroom?	Choo kiko wapi?



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EMERGENCY CONTACT

In case of any need, kindly inform the workcamp leader.

For any specific request, please contact anytime: **Linus Omondi +254 720 803 531**

CONTACT US



kvsokenya@gmail.com

+254 720 803531

@kvsokenya



THANK YOU FOR FILLING THE FOLLOWING FORM ONLINE

It will take you only 5minutes and will validate your participation to the camp.

CLICK : <https://goo.gl/forms/Es15CICvoFWbCwON2>