

KENYA

**Country Dialling Code (Tel/Fax): ++254**

Ministry of Tourism, Trade, and Industry: Department of Tourism Utalii House PO Box 54666 Nairobi Tel: (2)331030 Fax: (2)217604

Capital: Nairobi Time: GMT + 3

Background: Ethnic divisions account for many of Kenya's problems. During the early 1990s, tribal clashes killed thousands and left tens of thousands homeless. Ethnically split opposition groups allowed the regime of Daniel Toroitich arap MOI, in power since 1978, to be reelected for a fourth term in 1997 in balloting marred by violence and fraud.

Location: Eastern Africa, bordering the Indian Ocean, between Somalia and Tanzania

Map References: Africa

Area: total: 582,650 sq km land: 569,250 sq km water: 13,400 sq km

Climate: varies from tropical along coast to arid in interior

Terrain: low plains rise to central highlands bisected by Great Rift Valley; fertile plateau in west

Natural Resources: gold, limestone, soda ash, salt barites, rubies, fluor spar, garnets, wildlife, hydropower

Population: 30,339,770

Nationality: noun: Kenyan(s) adjective: Kenyan

Ethnic Groups: Kikuyu 22%, Luhya 14%, Luo 13%, Kalenjin 12%, Kamba 11%, Kisii 6%, Meru 6%, other African 15%, non-African (Asian, European, and Arab) 1%

Religions: Protestant 38%, Roman Catholic 28%, indigenous beliefs 26%, Muslim 7%, other 1%

Languages: English (official), Kiswahili (official), numerous indigenous languages

Economy: Kenya is well placed to serve as an engine of growth in East Africa, but its economy is stagnating because of poor management and uneven commitment to reform. In 1993, the government of Kenya implemented a program of economic liberalization and reform that included the removal of import licensing, price controls, and foreign exchange controls. With the support of the World Bank, IMF, and other donors, the reforms led to a brief turnaround in economic performance following a period of negative growth in the early 1990s. Kenya's real GDP grew 5% in 1995 and 4% in 1996, and inflation remained under control. Growth slowed in 1997-99 however. Political violence damaged the tourist industry, and Kenya's Enhanced Structural Adjustment Program lapsed due to the government's failure to maintain reform or address public sector corruption. A new economic team was put in place in 1999 to revitalize the reform effort, strengthen the civil service, and curb corruption, but wary donors continue to question the government's commitment to sound economic policy. Long-term barriers to development include electricity shortages, the government's continued and inefficient dominance of key sectors, endemic corruption, and the country's high population growth rate.

Industries: small-scale consumer goods (plastic, furniture, batteries, textiles, soap, cigarettes, flour), agricultural products processing; oil refining, cement; tourism

Currency: 1 Kenyan shilling (KSh) = 100 cents

Railways: total: 2,778 km narrow gauge: 2,778 km 1,000-m gauge note: the line connecting Nairobi with the port of Mombasa is the most important in the country

Highways: total: 63,800 km paved: 8,868 km unpaved: 54,932 km (1996 est.)

Waterways: part of the Lake Victoria system is within the boundaries of Kenya

Ports and Harbors: Kisumu, Lamu, Mombasa

Airports: 230 (1999 est.) Airports - with paved runways: total: 21 over 3,047 m: 4 2,438 to 3,047 m: 1 1,524 to 2,437 m: 2 914 to 1,523 m: 14 (1999 est.) Airports - with unpaved runways: total: 209 2,438 to 3,047 m: 1 1,524 to 2,437 m: 14 914 to 1,523 m: 110 under 914 m: 84 (1999 est.)

Visa: required by all

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Duty Free: goods permitted: 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 225g of tobacco, 1 bottle of spirits or wine, 568ml of perfume.

Health: a yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travelers over one year of age arriving from infected areas. Specific precautions against cholera, typhoid and polio. Malaria risks runs throughout the year. Mains water is chlorinated usually.

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MALINDI

LAWFORDS HOTEL, P.O. Malindi Kenya ,Tel: 0123 20440,E-mail: lawfordsbc@swiftmalindi.com , www.dianisea.com/lawfords

MOMBASA

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