Kenya Safari



What to Bring
http://believesafari.com/experience/

Here are some guidelines to what to expect so you can make packing decisions:

Airplane: this is where I wear my runners and long sleeve zippered jacket or fleece and a pair of long pants. The runners will be your shoe gear for the rest of the trip and the long sleeve fleece jacket will be your jacket for the rest of the trip.

Drives to our destinations: vehicles do not have A/C (but the windows work just fine). Expect long, dusty drives. Be prepared if you suffer from motion sickness. Flip flops or runners are fine on long car rides.

Game Drives: always wear your runners and socks. Dress in layers. Zip off pants are awesome. A T shirt, a long sleeve shirt and a hat are essential on the early am and late pm game drives. Early am and late pm it gets to 10-15degrees.C

Around the camps: shorts, t shirt/tank top, flip flops are fine for the afternoons. It gets to mid 20's in the afternoon.

Dinner: Casual. Wear pants, socks and shoes. It gets cooler in the evenings. (15- 20 degrees). You don't need any dress up clothes.

Mombasa and Wema Centre: Day visit - It will be hot so shorts and t shirt or tank top, flip flops are fine. Wear a hat please as you walk around the centre it is all open air. (30 - 35 degrees)

Golfing: If you want to golf one round, bring regular golf attire like you would at a country club here. Remember, Kenya is old british colonial so they stick to dress code!

Luggage:
Check in 1 suitcase, max 20 kg. The size above carry on is best. I recommend packing a small duffel bag into your luggage so that you have an extra bag coming home for any souvenirs you may acquire. Please make sure that this bag locks and that you have a tsa lock with a code on it.

- Camera (batteries, memory cards)

1 carryon day pack/ backpack that will carry your daily essentials:

- Binoculars
- Chargers
- Snacks (always have something with you)
- Lip balm
- Sunscreen
- Hand sanitizer
- Journal and Pen
- Reading material
- Medicine
- 2 ziploc bags
- Passport and money (if not locked in the safe in the room)
- Sunglasses and prescription readers

Clothes: For safari you will need:

- 4 light weight short sleeve tees or tanks
- 2 lightweight pants/capris (zip offs are great - light colours)
- 2 shorts or capris
- 1 light weight jacket

- 1 pair of pants/jeans/skirt for dinner
- 4 tops for dinner that you can wear with your pants/jeans/skirt for dinner (it will be cool in the pm)
- Hat
- 4 pairs of sock and undergarments

On safari I wear usually – capris or zip offs, a light t shirt, a long sleeve shirt or fleece jacket, socks, shoes, bandana/hat. By midmorning I turn the pants into shorts, and remove the outer long sleeve layer and am very comfortable in shorts and a t shirt. Dinners I wear pants/jeans, socks and shoes if it cold, flip flops if it isn't and a layer on top. I may use my fleece jacket or a scarf at dinner as the temp drops. I usually will wear the same pair of jeans or long pants for dinner every night with a top. I wash underwear in the sink and laundry is available for a fee everywhere. In Masai Mara it is free.You will need beach resort clothes for Mombasa and some casual outfits for dinners. Remember less is better.

Shoes:

- Flip flops for the camp (ALWAYS wear them inside your tents)
- Runners for game drives and travel - wear these on the plane to make room in your luggage
- Casual shoes for dinner

Electronics:

- There is lots of cell coverage and if you have an unlocked phone you can purchase a sim card and airtime easily at the airport($10)
- Chargers and batteries
- Electrical Adapter - Sockets are 240V. and plugs are 3 pin square
- Camera and memory cards
- Binoculars
- Headphones

Note: Power MAY be available 24hrs but we may lose power for a few hours.USB Power packs are a great thing to have as well. If you have medical equipment that needs to be plugged in overnight let me know and arrangements can be made.

Other Stuff:

- Bandana (good for all kinds of things: sun protection, napkin, lens cleaner, kleenex, napkin, etc.)
- Mosquito repellent
- Small flashlight
- Swimsuit/coverup
- Travel mug for coffee/ tea
- refillable water bottle
- Non scented creams (mosquitoes like scent)

Cash: Credit cards are preferred. ATM machines are hard to find.
Bring USD bills (new ones) in $100 and $20 and $5 increments, and some $1's for small tips to waiters and porters ($50) Always have a little cash on you at all times. You can charge for your drinks to your room and pay via card or cash on checkout. All of your major tips to the guides, security and camp staff will be given as a group and you can give me the $250 usd needed in cash when you land.

Food: Safaris cater to an international clientele so the food is standard North American/European fare, though you usually will have some local foods to try as well. You can order drinks at meals and pay as you go or when you check out. Carry snacks with you always. Safari drives will usually include a boxed breakfast to eat while out, lunch and dinner are at the camp. Water is always available in the vehicles.

Medicine: Use your own discretion. I recommend course of Cipro(antibiotic), Gravol, Tums, Advil, Benadryl, Immodium, an anti allergy, and Sleeping pills! .

Be prepared if you suffer from motion sickness. Some of the drives are bumpy for several hours. Bring an epipen if you need to have one.

Toilets: On safari there may be some western style toilets on our drives, but mostly it will be pits out in the savannah. Firm up your squatting muscles and drip dry is the most environmentally friendly. Cars will have paper in them and if you must use paper on the savannah, please put them in ziplocs and carry them with you to the next garbage disposal site. Your day pack should always have ziplocs and hand sanitizer.

A typical day on safari begins with a wake up Jambo call at 5: 30am. By 6 am the camps have warm drinks ready for us. We may depart at 6:20 am for our first game drive. It will be cool out and the air will be so fresh it will make your nerve endings tingle. We will roam around freely looking for whatever wants to be seen and take our time wandering and experiencing the terrain. Around 8:30 am or so we will stop for a

break and food - (depending on what we encounter along the way, it may be later, so always have some snacks with you). We will then continue on our game drive till about 11 am and then head back to camp. Lunch is around 1pm or so and then the afternoon at leisure. Some camps have pools and massages can be booked. Ever had a massage while listening to buffalo bellowing away? 4pm we will grab a tea or coffee and then head out for the evening game drive. The temperature will drop pretty quickly out there so be prepared with your layers. We will return by 7 pm, take a quick shower and change to be ready for pre-dinner drinks at 7:30 - 7:45 and dinner at 8:00pm. You will be ready for sleep by 9:30pm!

This is what I bring- it usually fits in a carry on and I don't check any luggage, but I am well practised! You can totally check a bag!

Plane - runners, long pants (lulu lemon studio pant with elastic waist), t-shirt, long sleeve jacket.

3 capris or shorts (these will come in handy in Mombasa as well)
1 long pant (+1 that I wore on the plane)
1 jeans - I wear these at dinner every night)
4 blouses (dinner) , 3 sundresses for the beach
4 short sleeve t shirts or shirts to wear under my fleece on safari in the morning and evening. Then I remove my fleece midday so I'm just in short sleeves.
Hat - you will not need a blowdryer, it is fruitless, tie it up, and let it be!
Socks- 4 pairs
Underwear - 4 pairs (I handwash every night in the sink)
Runners in the car, flip flops in the tent and around camp, loafers for dinner
Bathing suit x 2 , cover up for bathing suit
Runners, flip flops, casual shoes

You can usually just dust off your clothes each night and hang them up to air freshen.

Avoid wearing white on safari, it will get dusty really fast!

We are taking many small domestic flights, so no more than1 piece checked in please. Plus you will have your day bag as well.