

INFORMATION FOR VISITORS TO RWANDA

CLIMATE – The average daytime temperature is around 24°C (75°F) except in the higher mountains, where the range is 10-15°C (50-60°F). The dry season from mid-May to mid-October and mid-December to mid-March is easier for tracking mountain gorillas, but the endless hills are dry and barren, a contrast to the green vegetation of the wet season. It rains more frequently and heavily in the northeast, where the volcanoes are covered by rainforest. The rainy season is mid-March to mid-May and mid-October to mid-December.

COMMUNICATION – For international calls from Rwanda to the USA or Canada, use the following dialing sequence: + 1 + (city area code) + (local phone number) from a cell phone.

For international calls from the USA or Canada to Rwanda, dial the following sequence: 011 + (250) + (city area code) + (local phone number) from a land line and + (250) + (city area code) + (local phone number) from a cell phone.

Rwanda's cellular networks cover almost all major towns but not some of the parks, forests, and reserves. Please check with your cell phone provider for information on roaming.

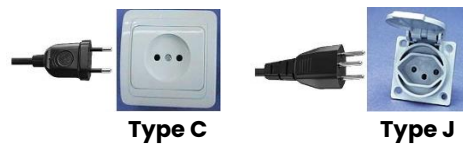
MALARIA – You are visiting an area where malaria is found so, please contact your physician or travel clinic for advice as to what precautions against malaria, they suggest for you.

WATER – It is recommended that you drink bottled water which is available at the lodges and resorts.

TIME – Two (2) hours ahead of GMT. Rwanda does not observe daylight savings. Eastern time plus 7 hours beginning November to mid-March. Eastern time plus 6 hours mid-March – beginning November.

PASSPORTS AND VISAS – United States of America and Canadian passport holders require a visa for Rwanda for a visit of less than 90 days. The visa can be issued on arrival at any entry point into Rwanda without prior application. If you are traveling to Rwanda as well as Kenya or Uganda, US & Canadian passport holders can apply for an East Africa Tourist Visa. Ensure that you are in possession of a valid passport with at least TWO BLANK PAGES marked "VISA" for entry to Rwanda and that it is valid for at least 6 months after your intended return date. If you are visiting other countries, please establish entry requirements and have additional blank visa pages for those countries as well.

ELECTRICITY – Power supply is 240v, 50Hz. Outlets are of the Type C or J plug as pictured. US-made appliances may need a transformer.



MONEY MATTERS

Currency – The unit of currency is the Rwandan franc (RFr), which is sometimes also abbreviated to 'Frw', however you are advised to carry US dollars. It is not recommended to bring Traveler's checks with you to Rwanda.

The only bank branch that will offer cash advances on a credit card and can change traveler's checks is Banque de Kigali in Kigali. ATM machines are not readily available and rarely accept foreign cards, so it is best to travel with US\$ cash bills printed no more than 9 years prior to travel. Major Credit Cards may also be acceptable in some of the larger hotels. Visa and MasterCard are the preferred cards.

PHOTOGRAPHY – For best photography of birds and animals, a good SLR camera and telephoto lens is necessary. A zoom lens is extremely useful on safari and the minimum recommended size is 200mm. No flash is allowed when photographing gorillas.

SHOPPING – The best place to buy souvenirs is the Caplaki craft co-operative in Kigali. **What to buy:** wood carvings; raffia baskets, jewelry; musical instruments; paintings; batik; bags, scarves, and beading.

Trading hours:

Mon-Fri 8:30am – 1:00pm and 2:00pm-5:30pm

Sat 8:30am – 12:30pm.

US AND CANADIAN IMPORT REGULATIONS – The import of meat or meat products (dried, canned etc.), plants, seeds, vegetables, fruits, livestock, endangered wildlife species and products thereof (for example clothing and accessories) into the United States and Canada is prohibited. This includes Ostrich eggs and animal skins.

FLIGHT RECONFIRMATIONS AND CHECK-IN – Please refer to your air itinerary for suggested check in times. Have electronics fully charged as you may be asked to activate them for security checks.

FINAL NOTES – Some areas you visit will be quite poor by North American standards. Carry only small amounts of cash. Lock cash, valuables and passports in hotel and lodge safes or leave them with camp managers.

**INFORMATION AS OF 13 MAR 2023 – SUBJECT TO
CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE**