

# Kenya at a Glance

Location, Area, Geography, Time, Topography, Other Useful Info.



Map of Kenya

## **Location**

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

## **Area**

Total: 582,650 sq km

Land: 569,250 sq km

Water: 13,400 sq km

## **Land boundaries**

Total: 3,477 km

Border countries: Ethiopia 861 km, Somalia 682 km, Sudan 232 km, Tanzania 769 km, Uganda 933 km

## **Coastline**

536 km

## **Climate**

Varies from tropical along coast to arid in interior

**Elevation extremes**

Lowest point: Indian Ocean 0 m

Highest point: Mount Kenya 5,199 m

**Time**

GMT/UTC +3 all year round with an almost constant 12 hours of daylight. Sun-up and sundown at around 6.30 and 18.45 daily

**Natural Resources**

Gold, limestone, soda ash, salt, rubies, fluorspar, garnets, wildlife, hydropower

**Tourism**

Biggest contributor with more than \$200m a year to Kenya's economy. More than 500,000 tourists visit annually. Tourism provides 500,000 direct and indirect jobs for Kenyans

**Rivers and Lakes**

The Athi and the Tana are Kenya's chief rivers, flowing from the highlands to the Indian Ocean. Lake Turkana covers 6,405 square kilometers in the far north while Lake Victoria, Africa's largest lake at 69,484 sq km, lies at the western end of Kenya

**Agriculture**

Divided between cash and subsistence crops. Cash crops include: tea, coffee and a wide variety of subsistence crops. Employs 80% of population and contributes 25% to GDP

**Manufacturing**

Chief products include: cement, chemicals, household utensils, light machinery, motor vehicles, paper and paper products, and textiles. Food processing is a major industry and a refinery at Mombasa processes oil from other countries.

**Environmental issues**

Water pollution from urban and industrial wastes; degradation of water quality from increased use of pesticides and fertilizers; water hyacinth infestation in Lake Victoria; deforestation; soil erosion;

desertification; poaching

**Historical sites**

Kenya has more than 400 historical sites ranging from prehistoric fossils and petrified forests to 14th Century slave trading settlements, Islamic ruins and 16th Century Portuguese forts

**Population**

49.7 million

**Languages**

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

**Government Type** : Republic

**Capital:** Nairobi

**Currency** : The Kenya Shilling (Ksh) 1US\$-Ksh 106.07 Euro-Kshs 114.44 (2020)

**Current President** :H.E. Hon. Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta