Your relocation guide to Kenya

Atlantic International Movers

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Memb No: A091

TELEPHONE:	Country code (254) + Area code
STANDARD TIME:	GMT +3 hours
WEIGHTS & MEASURES:	Metric
ELECTRICITY:	220/240v AC 50 Hz
INOCULATIONS/VACCINATIONS:	Inoculation against Malaria, Hepatitis A, Typhoid and Polio is recommended
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:	Jan 1, 2, Good Friday, Easter Monday, May 1, Jun 1, 27, Sept 2, Oct 20, Dec 12 (Jamhuri Day), 25-26, Dates vary according to the lunar calendar
OFFICE HOURS:	08.30-13.00, 14.00-17.00 Monday – Friday 08.30-12.00 Saturday
BANK HOURS:	09.00-14.00 Monday – Friday. 09.00-11.00 on the first and last Monday of each month
EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS:	999 – Emergency
BRITISH EMBASSY:	UK High Commission Upper Hill Road, POB 30465-00100GP0 Nairobi Tel: 25420 28 44 000 Fax: 25420 28 44 077
TOURIST & TRAVEL INFORMATION:	Kenya Tourist Board Kenya-Re Towers, Ragati Road PO Box 30630-00100 Nairobi Tel: 020 271 1262 Fax: 020 271 9925
KENYAN HIGH COMMISSION IN LONDON:	45 Portland Place London W1N 4AS Tel: 0207 636 2371 Fax: 0207 323 6717

Customs

To the best of our knowledge, the following documentation is required to import household goods and personal effects into Kenya. However, it is advisable to check with the authorities that documentation is in order, prior to despatch.

Household Goods

Expatriates

Documents required:

- Original valid passport / Original Bill of Lading / Airway Bill
- Original two years entry permit (work permit)
- Pin certificate

The goods must be owned for more than one year and must be imported within ninety days after approval of the permit for the shipper.

All cosmetics, toiletries, perfumes, alcohol, foodstuffs will be subjected to radio active analysis which will cost Euros 30 per sample per item. Then dutiable (100%).

All shipments will be 100% inspected by customs.

A small air shipment (150kg) of used personal effects can be imported without duties – **Only if the client has a "special pass / temporary work permit"**.

Any shipment can be imported without work permit by paying duties (52.5%) of the actual value of used items (low value) original passport is required.

NO SHIPMENT SHOULD BE SENT TO KENYA WITHOUT THE DESTINATION AGENT GREEN LIGHT.

The owner must have arrived before the goods can be cleared through customs.

If importer does not at all qualify for duty free status according to Customs prescriptions, customs may demand inspection of the whole consignment to determine value.

Duty will then be levied on strength of clean report of findings and import declaration form.

Returning Resident

Documents required:

- Original valid passport

For duty-free importation of personal effects, you must have owned your belongings for at least one year before the date of shipping.

You must have stayed out of Kenya for more than two years. You must not have visited Kenya for a sum of more than ninety days in the last two years prior to your last date of arrival in Kenya.

All cosmetics, toiletries, perfumes, alcohol, foodstuffs will be subjected to Radio Active analysis which will cost Kshs 3,000 per sampler per item.

Diplomats and United Nations (UN) staff members with Diplomatic passports

Documents required:

- Original valid passport, Original Bill of Lading, Airway Bill
- Pro1b exemption form approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Pin Certificate

Diplomatic goods are not subject to inspection if there is an approved Pro1b.

Takes two to three weeks for consignee to request original bill of lading / airway bill / packing list and copy of passport.

For air shipments prior release can be done with our bound on collection copy of pro 1b request and passport. Extra cost to be confirmed.

Household Goods – Non Diplomat

New items will be subject to taxes and duties.

Food, beverages, cosmetics and chemicals can not be imported duty-free and will be subject to Radio Active Analysis (minimum Kshs 3000 per item) and taxes and duties (100%).

Due to short free period given at the port and airport there will be storage and demurrages.

Clearance at the airport is two to three days and at the Mombasa port six to 10 days.

Motor vehicles – motor cycles

Expatriates

Documents required:

- Original valid passport, Original waybill, airway bill
- Original approved two years work-permit
- PIN certificate
- IDF will be needed
- Original certificate of registration / log book of the vehicle in English
- Translation of Log book if not in English
- Certificate of road worthiness must be provided by the owner of the vehicle to the Kenyan Bureau of Standards. K.B.S agent (JEVIC) to do the pre-inspection at origin to obtain the COC for cars coming from Japan / Dubai / Singapore / South Africa / UK or a penalty of 15% of the Cost Insurance Freight (CIF) value will be charged. Other originals can in inspected in Kenya by KBS for a fee of €150

- The Bill of Lading and Airway Bill showing car/motorcycle details ie chassis and engine numbers

If the importer is to pay duty then the following documents are required:

- Importers PIN certificate
- Import Declaration Form (IDF) plus IDF charges to be paid €50
- Invoice of purchase
- Translation of invoice must be in English

Customs will charge €120 for processing fee.

Cars or motorbikes should be registered before leaving the port so they are offloaded from the container.

The importer must have owned and used the vehicle for at least one year before the date of shipping for duty free or around 61% of taxes to be charged.

The vehicle must not be older than eight years (only 2004 onward models are being accepted in 2011).

NO LEFT HAND DRIVE VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED INTO KENYA

Returning Residents Vehicles

Documents required:

- Original and valid passport same as used personal effects, original waybill / original bill of lading, airway bill
- PIN certificate
- Original certificate of registration / logbook for the vehicle must be in English
- Translation of Logbook if not in English
- Certificate of road worthiness must be provided by the owner of the vehicle to the Kenyan Bureau of Standards. K.B.S agent (JEVIC) to do the pre-inspection at origin to obtain the COC for cars coming from Japan / Dubai / Singapore / South Africa / UK or a penalty of 15% of the Cost Insurance Freight (CIF) value will be charged by the KBS
- Other originals can be inspected in Kenya by KBS for a fee of €150
- Customs will charge €120 for processing
- Bill of Lading & Airway Bill must show car/motor cycle details i.e. chassis and engine numbers
- For all shipments Original Bill of Lading / Airway bill / packing list is needed
- All wooden crates need (ISPM) number 15 required

A guarantee deposit can be requested by customs to the value of the duties waiting for the confirmation of exemption, and you must not have visited Kenya for a sum of more than 90 days in the last two years prior to your last date of arrival in Kenya.

You must import within 90 days of the last date of arrival.

Only one duty free car per returning resident in a life time.

Cars or motorbikes should be registered before moving out from the port so they are offloaded from the container the off loading / storage registration and redelivery after registration.

The importer must have owned the vehicle for at least one year before the date of shipping. For duty free or around 61% of taxes to be charged.

The vehicle must not be older than eight years.

NO LEFT HAND DRIVE VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED INTO KENYA

Special authorisation can be granted by the ministry of transport.

Diplomatic Vehicles

Documents Required:

- Original valid passport, original Bill of Lading or Airway Bill
- Pro1b form approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Original certificate of registration / logbook of the vehicle must be in English
- Importers PIN certificate
- Translation of logbook if not in English
- Certificate of road worthiness must be provided by the owner of the vehicle to the Kenyan Bureau of Standards. K.B.S agent (JEVIC) to do the pre-inspection at origin to obtain the COC for cars coming from Japan / Dubai / Singapore / South Africa / UK or a penalty of 15% of the Cost Insurance Freight (CIF) value will be charged
- The Bill of Lading and Airway Bill must show car / motor cycle details i.e. chassis and engine numbers

NO LEFT HAND DRIVE VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED INTO KENYA Special authorisation can be granted by the ministry of transport.

Other origins can be inspected in Kenya by KBS for a fee of €150.

Customs will charge €120 for Processing Fee.

Diplomats are allowed to import one vehicle / motorcycle at a time (possible for relative to be confirmed by embassy) vehicle / motorcycle not exempted will be subject to taxes and duties at the rate of 45% and vat 16%.

The vehicle must not be older than eight years.

Diplomatic vehicles do not require inspection either at origin or destination (CRF and IDF not required). However, UN staff members are restricted to only one vehicle.

Firearms

Document Required:

- Valid firearm certificate to be issued by Kenya firearms bureau

Plants

Documents required:

- Health certificate and official Phytosanitary Certificate from the Ministry of Agriculture issued immediately prior to shipping

Plants will be cleared locally by Ministry of Agriculture prior to release by Customs.

There are normally Officers from Ministry of Agriculture in ports of entry.

Pets

Documents required:

- Approved Import permit (require copies of vaccination card and health certificate before the animal arrives)
- Anti-rabies vaccination card
- Health certificate
- Original passport of the owner

The Ministry of Livestock Development and Ministry of Health will clear pets locally before clearance by customs.

Prohibited Articles

Importation prohibited or restricted:

- Game trophies
- Drugs
- Toy pistols
- Traps for animals
- Explosives
- False money
- Rifles / Airguns
- Prints
- Unwrought / precious metal and stones
- Mechanical gambling machines
- Indecent literature
- Articles of sex publications

Imported only after application and approval by the Ministries concerned.

Food

We strongly recommend that shippers be advised not to ship any commercially prepared and purchased food product with your unaccompanied personal goods.

This includes: wines, spirits, beer, cider, spices, herbs, canned packed or wrapped foods, pet food, pastas, rice, food supplements, vitamins, fruit juices, carbonated / non carbonated drinks, milk, perishable foods, dry foods and any other item intended for human or animal consumption.

If the shipper insists on shipping food items, the specified information below must be gathered and provided for each food item imported. If the information is not provided, the food items may face refusal of entry, requiring segregation / manipulation of the shipment under customs supervision at a bonded facility, at substantial additional cost. Costs could be in the thousands of dollars and can not be anticipated. These costs will be the responsibility of the client.

- Product brand name
- Product classification
- Country of production
- Country of packaging
- Type of product (canned, bottled, packaged)
- Quantity

Ask for **Atlantic form QF565** for completing.

General Information on the Republic of Kenya

Background

Founding president and liberation struggle icon Jomo KENYATTA led Kenya from independence in 1963 until his death in 1978, when President Daniel MOI took power in a constitutional succession. The country was a de facto one-party state from 1969 until 1982 when the ruling Kenya African National Union (KANU) made itself the sole legal party in Kenya. MOI acceded to internal and external pressure for political liberalisation in late 1991. The ethnically fractured opposition failed to dislodge KANU from power in elections in 1992 and 1997, which were marred by violence and fraud, but were viewed as having generally reflected the will of the Kenyan people. President MOI stepped down in December 2002 following fair and peaceful elections. Mwai KIBAKI, running as the candidate of the multiethnic, united opposition group, the National Rainbow Coalition (NARC), defeated KANU candidate Uhuru KENYATTA and assumed the presidency following a campaign centered on an anticorruption platform. KIBAKI's NARC coalition splintered in 2005 over a constitutional review process. Government defectors joined with KANU to form a new opposition coalition, the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM), which defeated the government's draft constitution in a popular referendum in November 2005. KIBAKI's reelection in December 2007 brought charges of vote rigging from ODM candidate Raila ODINGA and unleashed two months of violence in which as many as 1,500 people died. African Union-sponsored mediation led by former UN Secretary General Kofi ANNAN in late February 2008 resulted in a power-sharing accord bringing ODINGA into the government in the restored position of prime minister. The power sharing accord included a broad reform agenda, the centerpiece of which was constitutional reform. In August 2010, Kenyans overwhelmingly adopted a new constitution in a national referendum. The new constitution introduced additional checks and balances to executive

power and significant devolution of power and resources to 47 newly created counties. It also eliminated the position of prime minister following the first presidential election under the new constitution, which occurred on 4 March 2013. Uhuru KENYATTA, the son of founding president Jomo KENYATTA, won the March elections in the first round by a close margin and was sworn into office on 9 April 2013.

Geography

Kenya is situated along the Equator on the east coast of Africa. It is bordered on the coast by Somalia and the Indian Ocean, on the south by Tanzania, on the west by Uganda and on the north by Ethiopia and the Sudan. Lake Victoria, though situated mainly in Tanzania and Uganda, also forms part of Kenya's western coastline.

The Great Riff Valley runs throughout the country from the north to the south and varies in depth from between 610m and 914m. Kenya's landscape is varied: a hot coastal belt contains palm trees and sandy beaches gives way further inland to dry bush country, savannah grassland and semidesert area which cover two-thirds of the country. This rises towards the Kenya Highlands, which contain moorlands and mountain forests. The eastern side of the Highlands contains the country's highest peak, glaciers are found on Mount Kenya (5,199m), which is also the second highest mountain in Africa and distinguishable by its snow-capped peaks. Other mountains include Mount Elgon on the Kenya/Uganda border (4,321m) and the Aberdares Range (3,994m). The Kenyan Highlands comprise one of the most successful agricultural production regions in Africa, unique physiography supports abundant and varied wildlife of scientific and economic value.

Kenya is more than double the size of Britain with a total area of 582,646 sq km. The capital is Nairobi.

International disputes: Kenya served as an important mediator in brokering Sudan's north-south separation in February 2005; Kenya provides shelter to approximately a quarter of a million refugees including Ugandans who flee across the border periodically to seek protection from Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels. The Kenya-Somalia border is open to pastoralists and is susceptible to cross-border clan insurgencies; Kenya's administrative limits extend beyond the treaty border into the Sudan, creating the Ilemi Triangle.

Current Environmental Issues

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

Climate

Kenya has an equatorial climate which varies according to altitude. There are no marked seasonal changes. The hottest months are February and March and the coolest are June and July.

The highest temperatures occur in the lowland areas and reach a maximum of 32 degrees centigrade on the coast, while the highlands are cooler and more temperate: Nairobi has an average temperature ranging from 10 to 28 degrees centigrade. The mean annual rainfall ranges from less than 250mm in the arid northern and eastern areas to more than 2,000mm on the slopes of the highland mountain ranges which experience two main rainy seasons, the long rains from March to May and the short rains from October to December. Most of the low-lying areas are dry and arid but on the coast Mombassa gets good rainfall because of the moist winds it receives from the Indian Ocean. Overall, Kenya is one of the world's most arid countries, with over 80% of its land receiving less than 760mm of rain a year.

Population

Estimated 34,707,000 for this country explicitly takes into account the effects of excess mortality due to AIDS, this can result in lower life expectancy, higher infant mortality and death rates, lower population and growth rates, and changes in the distribution of population by age and sex than would otherwise be expected.

Most Kenyans live in rural areas. African peoples account for 98% of the population and fall into various ethnic and linguistic groups. The largest of these are the Bantu, which include the Kikuyu, Embu, Meru and Mbere. The next largest group, the Nilotes, comprise the Luo, Kalenjin and Maasai peoples. The third main group is the Cushties which contain the Sonali-speaking group and the Rendilie and Orma-speaking peoples. The non-African population consists of Asians, Europeans and Arabs who live chiefly in the urban areas.

Economy

Kenya is the economic and transport hub of East Africa. Kenya's real GDP growth has averaged over 5% for the last seven years. Since 2014 Kenya has been ranked as a lower middle income country because its per capita GDP crossed a World Bank threshold. While Kenya has a growing entrepreneurial middle class and faster growth, its economic and development trajectory is threatened by weak governance and corruption. Unemployment and under-employment are high, but reliable numbers are hard to find.

Agriculture remains the backbone of the Kenyan economy, contributing 25% of GDP. About 80% of Kenya's population of roughly 42 million work at least part-time in the agricultural sector, including livestock and pastoral activities. Over 75% of agricultural output is from small-scale, rain-fed farming or livestock production.

Inadequate infrastructure continues to hamper Kenya's efforts to improve its economic growth to the 8-10% range so that it can meaningfully address poverty and unemployment. The KENYATTA administration sought external investment in infrastructure development. International financial institutions and donors remain important to Kenya's economic growth and development, but Kenya has also successfully

raised capital in the global bond market. Kenya issued its first sovereign bond offering in mid-2014. Nairobi has contracted with a Chinese company to construct a new standard gauge railway connecting Mombasa and Nairobi, with completion expected in 2017. The country is in the process of devolving some state revenues and responsibilities to the counties. Inflationary pressures and sharp currency depreciation peaked in early 2012 but have since abated following low global food and fuel prices and monetary interventions by the Central Bank. Chronic budget deficits, including a shortage of funds in mid-2015, hampered the government's ability to implement proposed development programs, but the economy is back in balance with many indicators, including foreign exchange reserves, interest rates, inflation, and FDI moving in the right direction.

Tourism holds a significant place in Kenya's economy. Multiple terror attacks by the Somalia-based group al-Shabaab in the time since the 2013 attack on Nairobi's Westgate mall, which killed at least 67, had a negative effect on international tourism earnings, but the sector is starting to recover. Kenya's success in hosting a series of incident-free high-profile events in the second half of 2015, including the visit of US President Obama, has helped improve the outlook for tourism.

Language

Kiswahili, a Bantu language with influences from Arabic, Portuguese, Sanskrit and English, is the national language of Kenya and the lingua franca of East Africa, while English serves as an official and international language. Kiswahili is compulsory in all primary and secondary schools and English is taught in all classes after class three of the primary school. Over thirty other African languages are spoken, including Kikuyu, Luhya, Luo and Kamba. Gujarati and Hindustani are also spoken. The Kenyan government actively encourages its people to learn as wide a range of languages as possible in order to foster greater communications and cultural awareness.

Religion

The majority of the people follow either traditional African beliefs or the various Christian denominations. About three quarters of the population are Christian; there are about twenty-five Protestant churches and missions and approximately fifteen Roman Catholic dioceses. The Arab and coastal populations are mainly Islamic and around twothirds of the Asian communities belong to various Hindu religions; the remainder are Muslim.

Currency

The unit of currency is the Kenyan Schilling.

Notes: 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10, 5.

Coins: 10, 5, 1.

There are no currency restrictions on Kenya. Credit cards are widely accepted.

Education

The Kenyan education system has gradually expanded on the years since independence. Now 85% of Kenyans are able to read and write and a national literacy program aims to expand these achievements even further. However, attendance at school or college is not compulsory. Five million children receive free primary education which lasts for eight years from the age of six. Secondary schooling lasts for a further four years, approximately 70% of secondary school students attend Harambee or self-help schools which are financed directly by the local communities themselves. There are also some government funded secondary schools and others sponsored by communities and religious bodies which receive help in the form of government grants and teachers. University and vocational education also lasts for four years. There are four state universities – The University of Nairobi, Kenyetta University, Moi University and Egerton University – and ten private universities. Other institutions include three polytechnics, 21 teacher training colleges, fifteen institutes of Science and Technology and fourteen institutions offering degrees in theology. The Kenyan Institute of Education is responsible for curriculum design process and researches at all the stages of the education process and the Special Education Unit provides programs for the physically and mentally handicapped.

Health

Food prepared by unlicensed vendors should be avoided. Travellers should get the latest medical advice on inoculations and malaria prevention at least three weeks prior to departure. Immunisation against yellow fever, Hepatitis A, polio and typhoid are usually recommended. A malaria risk exists all year round, but more around Mombasa and the lower coastal areas than in Nairobi and on the high central plateau. Other risks include diarrhoeal diseases, hepatitis A, B and E and dengue fever. Protection against bites from sandflies, mosquitoes and tsetse flies is the best prevention against dengue fever and other insect-borne diseases. AIDS is a serious problem in Kenya and the necessary precautions should be taken. Water is of variable quality and visitors are advised to drink bottled water wherever possible. There are good medical facilities in Nairobi and Mombasa but health insurance is essential. A yellow fever certificate is required by anyone arriving from an infected area.

Health Insurance is strongly recommended for both you and your dependants from an International insurance company such as: BUPA International: 01273 208 181.

Transport and Communications

Roads, stretching over 150,600km are the principle form of transport in Kenya and range from modern urban motorways and highways to farm to market roads and forest trails. Kenya's railway network stretches over 2,650km; the main line extends from Mombassa on the coast to Malaba on the border with Uganda. It deals with more than a third of

the transportation of goods and commodities in Kenya and also provides marine transport between the Kenyan port of Kisumu and Tanzania ports along Lake Victoria, as well as transport services within the lake itself.

The national airline, Kenya Airways, operates scheduled passenger and cargo services in Kenya and many other parts of the world and is important to the development of the horticultural and tourist industries. The main airport, Juno Kenyetta International Airport on the outskirts of Nairobi, is one of the busiest airports in Mombassa, Malindi Airport and Kisumu Airport on the shores of Lake Victoria. The main shipping port at Mombassa is also one of the biggest ports in East Africa, handling an average 6.9 million tones of cargo each year, there are smaller ports at Lamu, Malindi, Kilifi, Shimoni, Vanga, Mtwapa, Funzi and Kiunga. All ports are managed by the Kenya Ports Authority.

Safety

Nairobi is notorious for robberies and muggings and visitors should be alert at all times, but particularly at night. Recent armed attacks on golf courses have occurred and players should be cautious while playing in remote areas away from the club house. Visitors should also be vigilant in Mombasa. There have been a number of recent knife attacks on tourists in the main south coast tourist areas of Diani and Ukunda. There is a serious threat of banditry in the northern areas and travel is only advisable with an armed escort. For security reasons visitors to Lamu Island are advised to travel by air. Visitors should take sensible precautions when driving; in particular, landmines have been used in attacks around Moyale, close to the main A2 road south. Vehicles crossing the border at this point should stay on the A2. There is a high threat from global terrorism in Kenya and visitors should be vigilant in public places and tourist sites. Those travelling through Kenyan airports should be vigilant as recent security incidents have taken place at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

Although every care is taken to ensure that all information in the Relocation Guide is accurate and up to date we cannot accept liability for any inaccuracy.