

DESTINATION GUIDE

WELCOME TO NIMALI AFRICA

A seamless experience, felt every step of the way.



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Your Nimali Experience Begins Now

Please ensure you read through this document prior to your trip, as it contains important information to help you prepare for your safari experience with Nimali Africa.





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Flights & Transfers

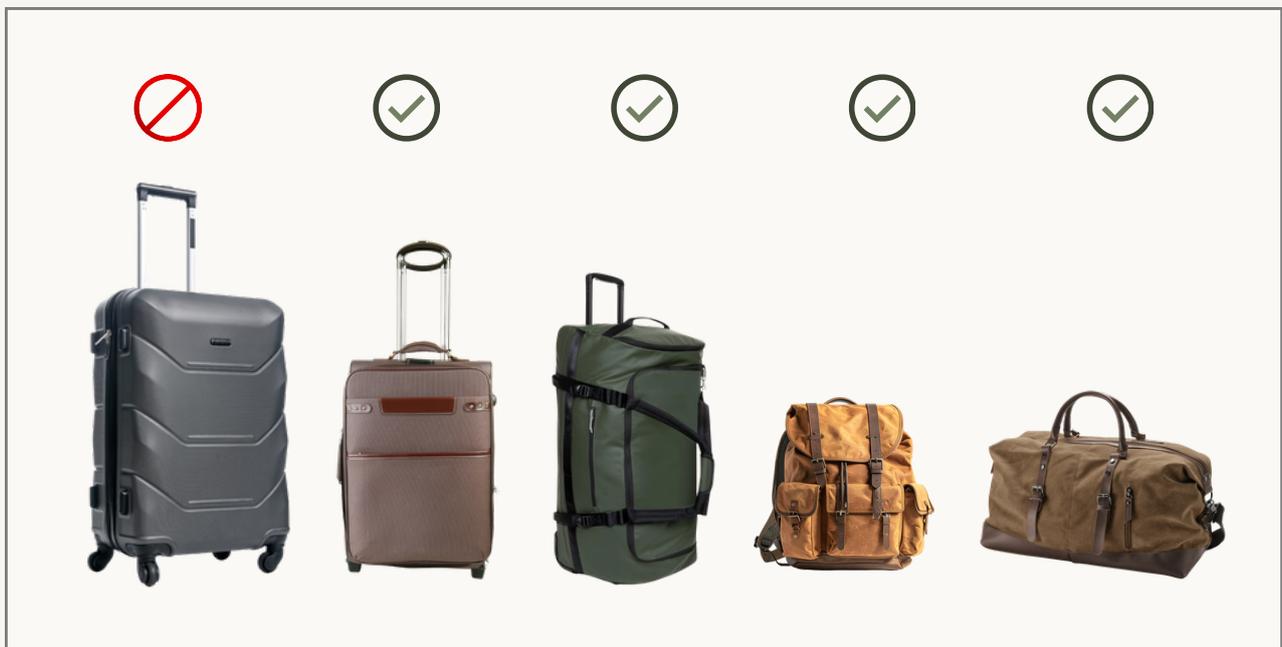
LUGGAGE ALLOWANCE

On light aircraft and helicopter flights, luggage is typically restricted to one soft-sided bag per person, with a maximum weight of 15 kg (33 lbs). This allowance includes hand luggage.

We recommend bringing a soft duffel bag (maximum 62 linear inches / 158 cm), as flexible bags are easier to load onto small aircraft and allow for more efficient packing without adding unnecessary weight.

Please note that weight restrictions may vary depending on the domestic carrier and specific routing within Tanzania.

For daily essentials, medications, and valuables, we suggest carrying a small daypack or lightweight carry-on. Keep passports, travel documents, tickets, and currency in a secure and easily accessible pouch.



- *Domestic safari flights often make multiple stops at remote airstrips, and schedules may vary due to weather or operational considerations. Flexibility is essential when travelling within these regions.*
- *Seating on light aircraft is allocated according to weight distribution for safety reasons; specific seat requests cannot be guaranteed.*

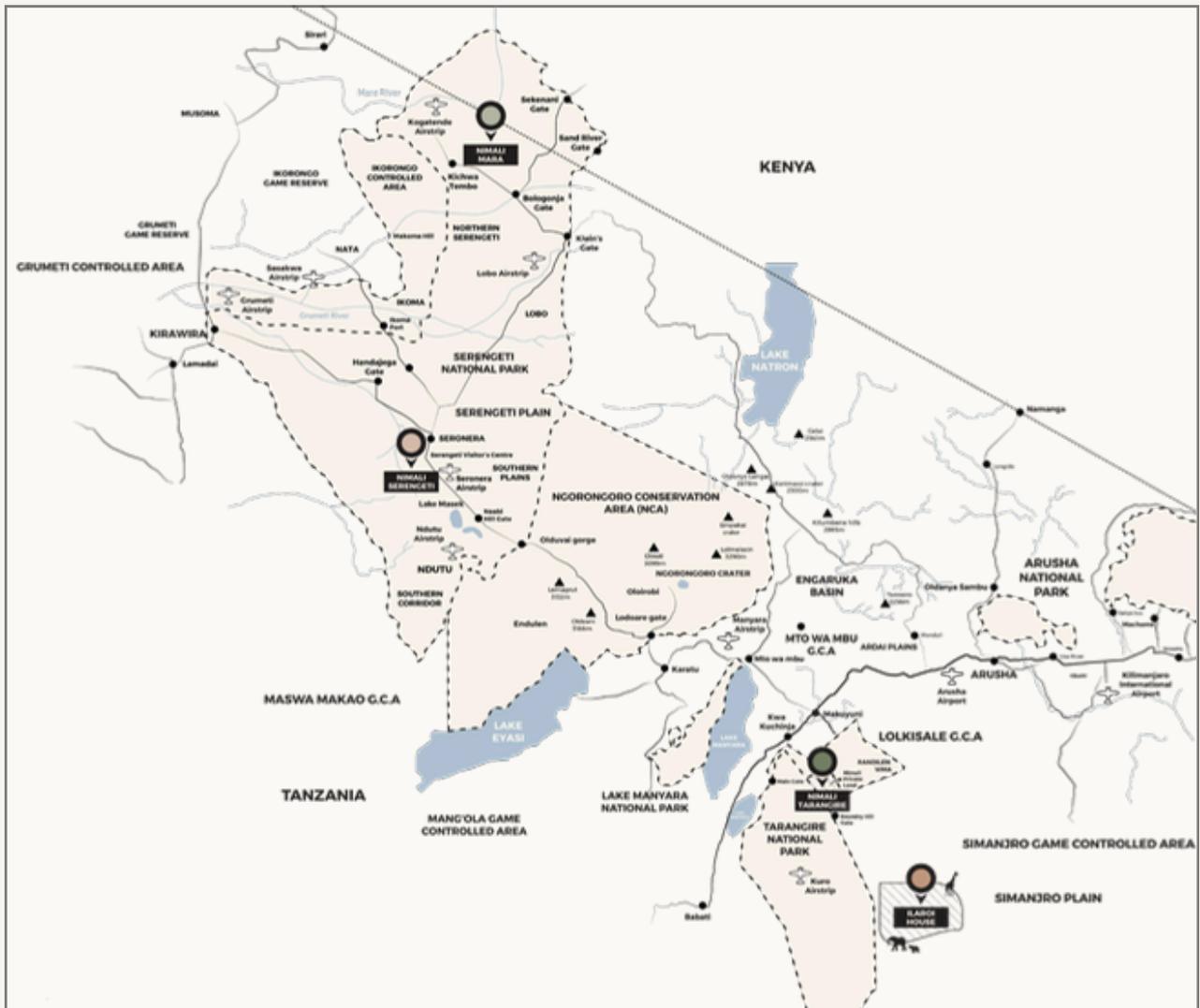
INTERNATIONAL ARRIVAL

Most guests fly via Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO) or Arusha Airport (ARK).

DOMESTIC TRANSFERS TO LODGES

- Nimali Mara: Kogatende Airstrip – 35 min drive
- Nimali Serengeti: Seronera Airstrip – 40 min drive
- Nimali Tarangire:
 - Manyara Airstrip – 1.5 hours' road transfer
 - Kuro Airstrip – 3 hours' drive (game drive & picnic lunch en route)
 - Randelien Airstrip – 10 minutes' road transfer
 - From JRO – 3.5 hours by road
 - From ARK – 2.5 hours by road
- Ilaroi House: Ilaroi Private Airstrip – 20 min charter from Arusha

All transfers are private and scenic, giving you your first taste of Tanzania's wildlife en route to the lodge.



Best Time to Visit & Weather

TEMPERATURE & WEATHER

Tanzania is a rewarding safari destination throughout the year, with each season offering a different perspective on the landscape and wildlife.

The dry season, which generally runs from **June to October**, is widely regarded as the prime period for wildlife viewing. Vegetation is thinner, water sources are limited, and animals naturally gather around rivers and permanent waterholes, making sightings more frequent and easier. This period also coincides with the iconic Great Migration river crossings in northern Tanzania.

The green season includes the **short rains from November to December** and the **longer rains from March to May**. Rainfall typically comes in brief showers rather than prolonged downpours, refreshing the land and transforming it into lush, vibrant scenery. This is a particularly special time for birdlife, and many animals give birth during or shortly after the rains, bringing an abundance of newborn wildlife to the plains.

SEASONAL TEMPERATURES (AVERAGE)

Spring (September - November)

Low: approx. 16°C / 61°F

High: approx. 30°C / 86°F

Autumn (March - May)

Low: approx. 18°C / 64°F

High: approx. 29°C / 84°F

Summer (December - February)

Low: approx. 20°C / 68°F

High: approx. 32°C / 90°F

Winter (June - August)

Low: approx. 10°C / 50°F

High: approx. 27°C / 81°F

AVERAGE TEMPERATURES PER LODGE

Nimali Mara: 10-28 °C

Nimali Tarangire: 15-32 °C

Nimali Serengeti: 12-30 °C

Ilaroi House: 12-30 °C



- *Weather can affect game viewing; dry season often easier for sightings.*

Health & Safety

YELLOW FEVER

- Yellow fever vaccination is required if you are arriving from or have transited through a yellow fever endemic/risk country (even if the transit was >12h and you left the airport transit area). A valid Yellow Fever vaccination certificate must be presented on arrival.
- If you cannot produce a certificate, you may be vaccinated on arrival or refused entry (and possibly placed under public health observation).
- The vaccine should be given at least 10 days before travel to be valid.
- Yellow Fever Endemic Countries List: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Uganda, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela.



- *Tanzania itself is not considered endemic for yellow fever, so the rule depends on where you've been before arrival.*
- *Always check with your airline and national travel health authority before departure, as enforcement can vary.*

MALARIA

- No malaria vaccination is required to enter Tanzania.
- Malaria prevention is strongly recommended for all travellers, especially in rural, safari, and coastal areas.



- *Use insect repellent with DEET or picaridin.*
- *Sleep under treated mosquito nets.*
- *Wear long sleeves and trousers during dawn and dusk.*
- *Other Recommended Vaccinations: Hepatitis A, Typhoid, Tetanus.*

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly encourage all guests to obtain **comprehensive travel insurance prior to departure**. Nimali Africa does not assume liability for the risks associated with travel and cannot be held responsible for delays, cancellations, trip interruptions, medical emergencies, or loss of personal belongings.

Given the remote nature of many safari destinations in Tanzania, we recommend a policy that includes medical coverage, emergency evacuation, repatriation, and trip cancellation protection.

For high-end, international coverage, providers such as Global Rescue, Allianz Partners, AXA XL, or AIG Travel Guard are widely regarded for their premium service and extensive evacuation support.

Please note that travel insurance is **mandatory for all travellers visiting Zanzibar**, and proof of coverage may be required upon arrival.

Visa & Entry Requirements

PASSPORT & VISA REQUIREMENTS

For each entry into Tanzania, your passport must have **at least one completely blank page** (not including the final page or endorsement pages). Your passport must also be valid for **at least six months** from the date of travel. Failure to meet these requirements may result in denied entry.

Visa Information (for U.S. citizens):

- Visa Link: <https://visa.immigration.go.tz/>
- Visa Type: Single Entry Visa or Multiple Entry Visa
- Visa Fees: Single Entry Visa: USD 50 | Multiple Entry Visa: USD 100
- Processing Time: Approximately 2 weeks
- For those who wish to obtain a visa on arrival, please bring exact amount in cash USD.

Note: The following nationalities require a referral visa which has a manual procedure. Ask our team for more information: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Chad, Djibouti, Eritrea, Equatorial Guinea, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Somali land, Sierra Leone, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Yemen.

TRANSIT VIA KENYA

Guests travelling via Kenya, including those in transit through Nairobi, are strongly advised to obtain a **Kenyan Electronic Travel Authorisation (eTA)** prior to departure.

Although the standard processing time is approximately three working days, applications may take longer in some cases. We therefore recommend applying at least **five days before travel**. The cost is USD 30 per traveller.

We strongly recommend that all guests, including those only transiting through Kenya, secure their eTA in advance via the official application portal.

To complete the eTA application, travellers will require:

- A valid passport (with at least six months' validity from date of entry)
- A recent passport-style photograph
- Flight details (including onward or return ticket)
- Accommodation details (or confirmation of transit)
- A valid email address
- A credit or debit card for payment

Regulations may change, so we advise checking the official website prior to applying to ensure all requirements are met.



- *Single-use plastics are not permitted. Recyclable Ziplock bags are allowed, provided they are not disposed of within Tanzania.*
- *Ensure you carry all required documentation (passport, visa, and eTA if transiting through Kenya) in an easily accessible place during your journey.*
- *Keep copies of your passport, visa, and eTA in case of loss or emergencies.*
- *Check airline and domestic carrier luggage restrictions in advance, as these can vary*



Safari & Lodge Essentials

Packing for a safari requires planning, so that you have everything you need for the ultimate safari experience. We suggest wearing cotton clothing in neutral colours (khaki and green tones) for all game drives and bush walks. Avoid white clothing and dark colours for bush activities, since they tend to attract certain bugs. Please keep in mind the weight restrictions of the airline that you are flying with, as well as what you will need while on safari. There is a daily laundry service at the lodge.



In-Room Amenities Provided at the Lodge:

- *Bath towels and pool towels*
- *Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, and basic toiletries*
- *Bathrobes and slippers*
- *Hairdryer (in most suites)*

PACKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- Comfortable cotton clothing in neutral colours (khaki, beige, green) for game drives and bush walks
- Long-sleeved tops, lightweight pants, and a light jacket or fleece for cooler mornings and evenings
- Comfortable walking shoes, track shoes, or hiking boots for bush walks
- Comfortable slippers or sandals for around the lodge
- Swimming costume / bathing suit
- Wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen with high SPF
- Insect repellent (mosquito and tsetse fly)
- Toiletries, including feminine hygiene products, skin moisturizer, and lip balm
- Sufficient supply of any prescription medication, including malaria tablets if recommended
- Small personal medical kit with basic first aid: plasters, headache tablets, anti-diarrheal medication, antihistamines, motion sickness medication
- Contact lens solution and a backup pair of glasses
- Good camera with zoom lens (300 mm recommended for wildlife photography)
- Extra batteries, chargers, adaptors, and memory cards
- Dust-proof bag for camera and equipment
- Binoculars for enhanced game viewing
- Small flashlight (most suites provide one, but a personal one is handy)
- Small daypack for daily essentials during game drives
- A good book or e-reader
- Sketch pad or notebook
- Refillable water bottle
- Lightweight scarf or buff (can protect against sun, dust, or early morning chill)



- *Remember to seek permission before taking a photograph of any local resident. There could be a charge for this.*
- *Electricity is provided either through Solar or Backup Generator. Electrical outlets are 220V (AC).*
- *Recyclable Ziplock bags are allowed, but single-use plastics are prohibited.*

Currency & Gratuity Guidelines

CURRENCY

The local currency in Tanzania is the Tanzanian Shilling (TZS). You can either change money at a Bureau de Change or Bank accessible at major airports & towns. US Dollars are widely accepted.

ATMs are available and credit cards accepted at larger shops & restaurants.

GRATUITY GUIDELINES

Tipping in Tanzania should always depend on the quality of service received, and it is your choice whether or not to tip. Of course we encourage our travelers to appreciate good service.

Best practice is always to tip just once, and always at the end of your stay at each safari lodge or camp.

It's most common to tip in cash, ideally Tanzanian shillings or US dollars.

Normally in Tanzania, you directly tip your guides, drivers, trackers and butlers separately, while other staff benefit from the 'general staff tip box'.

A lot of people work behind the scenes to ensure that your trip is a success, including the chefs, the kitchen team, the housekeeping staff. To include all of these 'back of house' people, many camps have a 'general staff tip box', with the proceeds divided equally between the staff.



- *Guides: Typically receive \$10 to \$20 per guest per day.*
- *Camp Staff: Receive \$8 to \$10 per guest per day, which is equally divided among the staff.*
- *Porters: You can tip porters \$1 to \$2 per service.*
- *Transfers: For transfers, a tip of \$3 to \$5 per transfer is appreciated.*

Connectivity & Communication

At Nimali Africa lodges and camps in Tanzania, guests can enjoy complimentary Wi-Fi, though connections may be limited or intermittent due to the remote setting. Mobile phone signals are available only in select areas of the reserves.

We encourage guests who wish to stay connected to respect those who prefer to disconnect. Please keep phones on silent and use them considerately in shared lodge spaces.

Safety & Travel Conduct

- Stay with guides during game drives.
- Do not feed or approach wildlife.
- Follow lodge rules for swimming, fires, and environmental protection.
- The use of drones is strictly prohibited unless a special permit has been obtained in advance.



[GO BACK TO MENU](#)



Language & People in Tanzania

In Tanzania, Swahili (Kiswahili) is the national language, spoken by the vast majority of people across the country. English is widely used in hotels, lodges, and tourism areas, so communication is generally easy for travellers.

The country is also home to diverse ethnic groups, including the Maasai, famous for their vibrant traditional clothing and strong cultural heritage. The Maasai live mostly in northern Tanzania, near the Serengeti and Mara regions, and you may meet them during cultural visits or while traveling to the lodges.

Tanzanian people are known for being warm, friendly, and welcoming. A smile, a greeting (“Jambo!” in Swahili), and polite behaviour are always appreciated. Respecting local customs, such as asking permission before photographing people, dressing modestly in villages, and being mindful of cultural practices, goes a long way in building positive interactions.

Experiencing Tanzania is not only about the wildlife, it’s also about connecting with the people and their rich traditions, which is an essential part of the safari experience.

Emergency Contacts

NIMALI EMERGENCY CONTACT

+255 (0) 684 785 703

NATIONAL EMERGENCY NUMBERS

- General Emergency (Police, Fire, Ambulance): **112 – works nationwide**
- Police (direct): **111**
- Fire: **112 (same as general emergency)**
- Ambulance / Medical: **112 (or through lodge assistance)**

MEDICAL & EVACUATION SERVICES

- AMREF Flying Doctors / Air Ambulance: **+255 784 470 000** (Emergency air evacuation service from remote areas to major hospitals)
- Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre: **+255 27 250 0135**
- Mount Meru Hospital, Arusha: **+255 27 254 2141**
- Selian Lutheran Hospital, Arusha: **+255 27 250 1696**

EMBASSIES / CONSULATES (FOR FOREIGN TRAVELLERS)

- U.S. Embassy, Dar es Salaam: **+255 22 229 4000**
- UK High Commission, Dar es Salaam: **+255 22 229 3000**
- Other embassies can provide emergency assistance, lost passport help, or medical referrals.



- *Keep a printed copy of these numbers, plus a copy on your phone. In remote safari areas, mobile coverage may be limited, so lodge staff can coordinate emergencies.*