

Important Things to Know

YOUR PLANE TICKET: Your ticket is an e-ticket, not a paper ticket. Therefore you may not have a ticket in hand prior to check-in at Dulles. The trip leader will receive confirmations for all tickets and will in turn send a confirmation to all members of the group. In addition to your passport, have one other form of photo ID available at check-in.

- Important: Check carefully to be sure that you have been given *two boarding passes* at Dulles and that *you use the correct boarding pass at Dulles*, retaining your other boarding pass for the second leg of the flight from Amsterdam. Be equally cautious when boarding at Kilimanjaro on the return trip. It is very easy to use the wrong boarding pass and a major headache to correct in Amsterdam!
- These tickets are refundable less a \$400 refund fee.

AMSTERDAM INT'L AIRPORT~SCHIPOL: Amsterdam has instituted a Security Free Zone for connecting passengers. As long as you stay in the free zone, you will not be subject to search or passport verification (until boarding). If you move out of the free zone, you will have to re-enter through security which could cause you to miss your flight! **Do not leave the free zone!**

DRESS: It is very important to dress modestly while in Tanzania. For ladies, mid-calf skirts are requested; short sleeved shirts/blouses are acceptable. It is requested of ladies that you do not wear long pants or shorts except while on safari to the game parks or while traveling. Gentlemen will want to bring at least one dress shirt and jacket, ties are optional. Please see the **What to Bring** list for specific suggestions. See the detailed itinerary for information about what kind of dress is recommended for each day.

FIRM BEDS: Some may find the beds to be rather firm (no inner-spring mattress). If this will be a problem, you may wish to bring a foam pad. Blankets in the rooms can also be used to provide additional cushioning. This has only rarely been noted as a problem by travelers.

LAUNDRY: Unlimited laundry service is available at both hotels and is included in your trip cost. However, it is inadvisable to send very expensive clothing to the laundry. You will also want to be sure that you mark your clothing with initials (clothing sometimes tends to get lost in the laundry). It is helpful to mark the white plastic bags you brought with you for this purpose with your name and room number using a permanent marker. Take your laundry bag to the front desk rather than leaving it in your room. Turn around time for laundry is usually 24 hours.

LIBATIONS: If you enjoy a late afternoon libation, feel free to bring your own. Just make sure it's in a plastic container and packed in your *checked* luggage. When leaving your room for the day, please be sure the container is put out of sight in your suitcase (use of alcohol and tobacco is frowned upon by our hosts). There will be opportunity to purchase the beverage of your choice after arriving in Tanzania.

COMMUNICATIONS: There is email access from Uhuru Hotel (a very small internet café) but only occasional access to email while in the Karatu area. If you need personal communication, there is a FAX and there are internet cafes in Moshi and Karatu. Please note

the following contact information (and leave a copy at home for emergency communications):

FAX - Uhuru Hotel 011-255-272753518
Voice - Uhuru Hotel: 011-255-272754084
Voice - Baha: 011-255-754572151
Email - Uhuru Hotel: uhuruh@africaonline.co.tz
Email - Westermann: dwestermann@godparents4tz.org (routinely checked)
Email - McFarland kdmcfarland@godparents4tz.org (routinely checked)

HOT WATER AT UHURU AND KARATU HOTELS: Each room is equipped with its own water heater. *This heater must be turned on at least one-half hour prior to the need for hot water.* The switch is located *outside* the bathroom. Help our friends save money by switching off the hot water when leaving for the day.

MOSQUITO NETTING: All beds are equipped with mosquito netting. *Please use it every night.* You may not see the need for this since there are usually few insects; however, an ounce of prevention...

MEDICAL: Be certain you take your anti-malarial medication as directed. *If you have any medical condition, however minor, which may affect you during the trip, please advise the trip leader before departure.* Bottled water will be available throughout the trip once in Africa. Bring your own bottled water for the plane. Tip: You are not permitted to carry bottled water through security check points. However, you can take an empty bottle and then fill it at the departure gate to carry onto the plane.

LONG FLIGHTS: Both legs of the flight over and back are long flights. Be sure to have some reading material and get up to move about occasionally. Drink water to remain well hydrated.

SIGNING GUEST REGISTERS: You will often be invited to sign Guest Registers during visits to churches and schools. You need only to include your name, town and state (not full mailing address). If you wish to correspond with individuals you meet during the trip, give your mailing address to that person only. If you provide a business card to an African friend, request your mailing address not be shared. You need to provide your passport number only at places of lodging.

PREPARATORY READING: You are strongly encouraged to read an excellent book by Arthur Simon, How Much Is Enough?, which helps us to think about the relationship between poor and wealthy people and countries. This book is available at www.amazon.com. Another very good book was written by American missionaries, David and Eunice Simonsen, entitled, Cross Under the Acacia Tree. This is also available from Amazon.. There are numerous sources of information about Tanzania, many of them available at no cost on the Internet. We particularly recommend the CIA Factbook: <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/tz.html> for an excellent overview of the country and people. See the Links page on this web site for many sources of information.

RECEIVING AND GIVING GIFTS: In African culture, the giving of gifts is an essential requirement of hospitality. You may find it difficult to understand why people who have so

little insist upon giving us gifts. Even so, any gifts we are given should be graciously received. You, in turn, may want to make financial gifts to some people we meet, but please check with your leaders before doing so. We will be making a financial gift to each of our hosts that can be used for the benefit of all (already paid in your trip cost). We try to be very sure that our visits are not a financial burden to our hosts. Please be cautious not to use language which can be misconstrued. To say, "We want to support you." will be understood as a promise of financial support. Individuals, particularly students, may ask for your assistance with school fees. Please refer them to your group leaders as staff of Godparents for Tanzania. Please do not bring candy or gum to give to children because there can never be enough to go around. Please *never* toss candy or gum to children from moving vehicles or offer it through open windows when vehicles are stopped. This can create a panic and endanger the children.

ELECTRICITY: Yes, usually, but not always! We never know! Don't forget your flashlight and do forget your electric toothbrush! See the What to Bring list for details on voltage and use of electric appliances.

FOOD: You will find most of the food provided is quite palatable. Beef, fish and chicken are standard fare together with many delicious fruits and vegetables. Food at all our lodgings is well-prepared and quite safe. Bananas abound; but remember that for some folks too many bananas can cause constipation! Avoid using milk in coffee or tea since it is not usually processed. You may wish to bring your own artificial creamer and sweetener. Eat lightly for the first couple of days.

STREET VENDORS AND SOLICITATION: We will be approached by street vendors with a wide variety of goods for sale. You are discouraged from making street vendor purchases since there will be other opportunities where the price is better controlled. If you do wish to make a street purchase, please ask one of our Tanzanian hosts to assist you. If you are approached by physically handicapped people on the street and want to make a donation, please do so through one of our Tanzania hosts. While stopped on the road in your vehicle, simply roll up your window if you do not wish to be disturbed by street vendors. To say, "No thank you" in Swahili, say, "Hapana, asante."

TIME DIFFERENCE: Tanzania is eight hours ahead of Daylight Savings Time in Virginia. To verify the time, go to: <http://www.worldtimeserver.com/?locationid=TZ>.

BATHROOM FACILITIES: While Western style bathroom facilities are the norm nearly everywhere we travel and "rest stops" are carefully scheduled while on the road, one should be prepared for the occasional encounter with the traditional "choo" (primitive toilet) in remote locations.



SCHEDULE: When it comes time to depart for Karatu, you will need to vacate your room before departing. Space in the safari cars is very limited and luggage may be safely left at Uhuru Hotel for your time away, so it is very helpful if any excess baggage is left in Moshi.

HAVING CLOTHES TAILOR-MADE: Some travelers may wish to have some authentic Tanzanian apparel custom made (see some examples below). This can be done very reasonably. We will provide an opportunity for the purchase of fabric. Pidge Morgan can provide advice on what to buy and how much. A tailor will meet us in Karatu.



EVALUATION: You will be asked to complete a detailed evaluation of your trip experience during the return flight. Thank you for doing so and returning the completed form prior to arrival at Dulles. Many items in this Traveler's Manual are the result of suggestions made by previous Discovery Safari travelers. Your critique and comments are greatly valued!

QUESTIONS: If after a thorough reading of the Traveler's Manual, you still have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.