

CANSO Africa Conference 2018

Practical Information Guide

3-5 September, Mombasa, Kenya



Location

Located on the south east coast of Kenya, Mombasa is the country's oldest and second largest city, home to approximately 1.4 million people. Mombasa has beautiful beaches and a deep historical and cultural heritage. It covers an area of 229.7 km² excluding 65 km² of water mass of the Indian Ocean. Mombasa is an urban city with a large, diverse population. The local communities include the Mijikenda, Swahili and Kenyan Arabs.

The history of the city is a mixture of African, Persian, Arab, Portuguese and British influences, which contribute to the rich culture found in the city today. Mombasa is a great trading centre with items such as glass, brass, copper and iron passing through the coast. The African Bantu people originally inhabited Mombasa.



VISA Information

All foreign citizens traveling to Kenya will need a visa, except citizens from exempt countries. Please click [here](#) for the list of exempt countries. For those citizens who require a visa it is recommended to start the visa process early and to **apply for an e-visa** where applicable.

If you require a letter of invitation to support your visa application, please contact CANSO at events@canso.org



Tipping

Tipping is customary in Mombasa. If a service charge is not indicated on the bill, it is advised to tip 10% of your overall bill.



Water

It is recommended to drink bottled water during your stay in Mombasa.



Currency

The Kenyan Shilling (KES) is the currency used in Mombasa. Banknotes start from 50 KES. 1 USD is approximately 101 KES and 1 EUR is approximately 118 KES.



Climate

September signals the start of spring in Mombasa. Temperatures reach a high of 28 degrees Celsius and a low of 21 degrees Celsius. Mombasa is expected to be sunny, with potential for rain during the conference and the evenings may be windy.



Credit and Debit

Most international credit cards including Visa, MasterCard and American Express can be used at various outlets including ATMs in Kenya.



Time Zone

The time zone in Kenya is UTC +3 hours.



Accommodation

To book your stay at the Sarova Whitesands Beach Resort & Spa please email Joshua.Awilli@sarovahotels.com, copying reservations4@sarovahotels.com, to enjoy the special offers extended. Please note the offers do not apply to bookings made through a third party.

The Whitesands hotel is located opposite one of Mombasa's main attractions, Haller Park. Haller Park (formerly Bamburi Nature Trail) is the largest animal sanctuary in Mombasa. The park boasts an enormous variety of animals, reptiles, insects and botanical gardens. Previously barren land was redeveloped through reforestation and conservation and the park is the ideal way to look at the various animals, flora and fauna species.



Transport from Mombasa International Airport

KCAA will provide airport transfers for delegates. Delegates are required to provide their flight and accommodation details on their [registration form](#) to take advantage of this offer.

The most efficient way to travel to your hotel is to **pre book a transfer** from Mombasa International Airport. The conference venue is approximately a 45 minute drive from the airport depending on traffic. The approximate rate is USD 84 for a return transfer.

There are designated taxi ranks at Mombasa Moi Airport. Taxis are yellow and have regulated rates. The rate of taxi from Mombasa Moi Airport to Sarova Whitesands Beach Resort & Spa is approximately USD 20.



Electronics

You may require an adapter to plug your appliances into the power sockets. The adapter required for Kenya is Type G (BS-1363). The electrical current is 240 volts AC / 50 Hz frequency.



Language

Swahili is the official language of Kenya and English is widely spoken. The CANSO Africa Conference 2018 and social events will be conducted in English.



Event Venue

Sarova Whitesands Beach Resort & Spa
Off Malindi Road, Mombasa County, Mombasa, Kenya



Port Health Requirements

Some travellers are required to have a Yellow Fever vaccination certificate to gain entry to Kenya. Please visit the [Kenya Airports Authority website](#) for more information.



Emergency Contacts

Ambulance and Rescue: St Johns Ambulance Service
+254 41 249 062
National Service: 999
Medical Emergency: 999
Fire Brigade: 999
Police: 999 / 112 / 911
Tourist Helpline: +254 02 604 764

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