

## INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT GUIDE

Several airlines fly to Kenya from the US. Below is a list of the most common airlines departing from LA (and most major US cities) including approximate duration times, airline amenities, and essential travel tips.

While there are no direct flights from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) to Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (NBO), these airlines offer connecting flights with varying layovers.

**It is extremely important to purchase your flight ticket as early as possible.** International ticket prices increase steadily the closer we get to the travel dates. For example, a November ticket bought in March can be 50-60% more if purchased in September or October.

Note that when purchasing your ticket your date of departure from the US for the Nov trip is Nov 1, to arrive in Kenya on Nov 3. Difference in dates is due to trip distance and time difference. You will gain time back on the trip back to US.

When returning to the US the departure date from Kenya is the last date indicated on the itinerary- Nov 13th.

Airline	Layover City	Total Flight Duration	Amenities
<b>Emirates</b>	Dubai (DXB)	~25 hours	Renowned for exceptional service, Emirates offers the Skywards frequent flyer program, providing rewards and benefits. Passengers can access luxurious lounges in Dubai and other major airports. <a href="https://www.emirates.com">emirates.com</a>
<b>Turkish Airlines</b>	Istanbul (IST)	~21 hours	Turkish Airlines Miles&Smiles program offers various perks, including lounge access at Istanbul Airport. The airline is celebrated for its in-flight cuisine and hospitality <a href="https://www.turkishairlines.com">www.turkishairlines.com</a>

<b>Qatar Airways</b>	Doha (DOH)	~21 hours	Qatar Airways' Privilege Club provides members with exclusive benefits. The airline's Al Mourjan Business Lounge in Doha is acclaimed for its luxury and comfort. <a href="http://www.qatarairlines.com">www.qatarairlines.com</a>
<b>Delta Air Lines</b>	Varies (e.g., Amsterdam with KLM)	~21 hours	Delta's SkyMiles program allows members to earn and redeem miles across a vast network. Sky Club lounges are available in numerous locations, offering a relaxing environment before flights. <a href="http://www.klm.com">www.klm.com</a>

You can also fly **Kenya Airways**, [www.kenyaairways.com](http://www.kenyaairways.com)

or **Ethiopian Airlines** [www.ethiopianairlines.com](http://www.ethiopianairlines.com)

Kenya Airways has a direct flight to Nairobi from JFK and partners with Jet Blue for departures from Los Angeles to New York. Ethiopian Airlines flies from Los Angeles to Washington Dulles Airport, then to Addis Ababa, (a stopover city in Ethiopia) before connecting to Nairobi, Kenya. This particular route is the longest, but often the cheapest.

Over the years I have used each of these airlines, with Emirates being my favorite simply because I like to break my journey with a stopover in Dubai for a few days.

Emirates and Qatar Airlines have special programs offering hotel stays of 2 or 3 days at the stop-over city for no additional cost to encourage tourism. Please check their website for more details.

*Please note that flight durations are approximate and can vary based on specific flight paths and layover durations. Always check with the airline for the most current information.*

## **Airline Loyalty Programs and Lounge Access**

Enrolling in frequent flyer programs can enhance your travel experience through benefits like lounge access, priority boarding, and mileage accrual for future flights. Tip-enroll before long flights because longer flights mean more miles to accrue.

## **Travel Tips for First-Time International Flyers**

1. **Passport and Visa:** Ensure your passport is valid for at least six months beyond your planned departure date. U.S. citizens require a visa, also known as an electronic travel Authorization (eTA) to enter Kenya, which can be obtained online through the eVisa portal. [www.etakenya.go.ke](http://www.etakenya.go.ke)

I have included a guide on the process of obtaining your eTA.

2. **Vaccinations:** The CDC recommends vaccinations for diseases such as Yellow Fever, Typhoid, and Hepatitis A. These can be obtained at You have the option to carry your International Certificate of Vaccination as proof. However, Kenya does not require any proof of Vaccination upon entry.
3. **Currency:** The Kenyan Shilling (KES) is the local currency. It's advisable to carry some local currency for small purchases. Large amounts of cash are unnecessary as most transactions are done via mobile money. (M-pesa). Credit cards are also widely used and accepted in urban areas.
4. **Packing Essentials:** Pack climate-appropriate clothing, considering Kenya's diverse weather. Don't forget travel adapters for electronic devices, as Kenya uses Type G sockets. ( you can purchase a universal adapter from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com))
5. **Stay Connected:** Upon arrival, consider purchasing a local SIM card at the airport from providers like Safaricom or Airtel for affordable data and call plans.