

NOMAD  
GUIDES

# NANYUKI

**Safarilink**



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INTRO



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# A NOTE FROM THE CEO



This message shares exciting news about a partnership between Safarilink and Nomad Africa – a collaboration that promises to be a remarkable opportunity to showcase our unique destinations and provide an enriching experience for our valued customers.

The content Nomad Africa features will be focused on Safarilink's destinations, presenting captivating stories, insider tips, and breath-taking visuals that truly capture the essence of each location. This will undoubtedly serve as a valuable resource for our customers, inspiring them to explore new horizons and make unforgettable memories.

This partnership signifies a significant step forward for Safarilink, aligning our brand with a prestigious publication like Nomad Africa. It offers us a platform to strengthen our presence in the industry, reach a wider audience, and elevate the perception of our brand as a trusted provider of exceptional travel experiences.

I am confident that this partnership with Nomad Africa will open new avenues for growth, increase brand awareness, and inspire countless travelers to embark on incredible journeys with Safarilink.

Thank you once again for your unyielding support.

**ALEX AVEDI**

Chief Executive Officer, Safarilink

# NANYUKI INTRO

Nestled at the base of majestic Mount Kenya, Nanyuki is a fantastic destination that serves as a gateway to renowned attractions like Ol Pejeta, Borana and Lewa Conservancies, hikes up Mount Kenya and plenty of walks in nature. With picturesque landscapes that range from rolling hills to lush forests, Nanyuki is the perfect stop to get some city respite and plan some time in nature.

History whispers through the streets of Nanyuki, as it was once a British military outpost, strategically positioned on the equator. Today, its heritage blends seamlessly with the town's vibrant atmosphere. Delve into the local culture by exploring bustling markets, savouring the flavours of Kenyan cuisine, and discovering unique treasures in boutique shops.



# GETTING TO NANYUKI

Nanyuki is conveniently accessible by road, and in fact, wherever you're coming from all roads that lead to Nanyuki make for some super scenic road trips.

## **1. From Nairobi**

The most direct and popular route is via the A2 highway. Starting from Nairobi, you'll head north on Thika Road and continue on the A2, passing through towns like Thika, Karatina, and Nyeri. The journey takes approximately 3-4 hours, depending on traffic and road conditions.

## **2. From Isiolo**

If you are approaching from Isiolo, you can take the B6 road, which connects Isiolo to Nanyuki. The journey is approximately 2 hours, offering scenic views along the way.

## **3. From Samburu and Northern Kenya**

If you are coming from Samburu National Reserve or other destinations in Northern Kenya, you can travel south on the A2 highway. This route will take you through Archer's Post and Timau before reaching Nanyuki.

You can also fly to Nanyuki, getting direct flights from Wilson Airport (Nairobi) to Nanyuki Airfield. The Airfield is also used for private and charter flights and helicopters.

Travelling to Nanyuki by train offers a convenient and scenic option for visitors. The train to Nanyuki usually operates on Fridays and returns back from Nanyuki on Sundays, and the journey lasts around 7 hours.

The journey begins in Nairobi and takes passengers through the beautiful landscapes of the region, including valleys, hills, and forests. Along the way, wildlife can often be spotted. The train ride provides a comfortable and relaxed experience, with the opportunity to enjoy the picturesque views.

# THINGS TO DO IN NANYUKI



## MOUNT KENYA

A constant backdrop to everywhere you go in Nanyuki, it would almost be an offence not to go and pay Mount Kenya a visit. If you're not ready to make the trip up to the summit just yet, there's a beautifully scenic day walk you can opt for. Just 23km from Nanyuki town is the Sirimon gate, at 2,650m above sea level. From here you can walk up and ascend up to 3,600m where you can clearly see Mount Kenya's two peaks: Nelion and Batian. Pack a picnic lunch and enjoy the views before you walk back down through the forest, bamboo, rosewood and heather zones back to where you left your car, or, if you're getting picked up, why not get collected from Old Moses Camp at 3,300m above sea level - saves you a few more steps!

## OL PEJETA CONSERVANCY

13km west of Nanyuki town is the Rongai gate that takes you into Ol Pejeta Conservancy. As well as conserving wildlife, preserving wilderness and providing sanctuary to endangered species, Ol Pejeta has a host of activities that'll keep even the most active visitor happy. Those who are interested in their innovative conservation techniques can 'get their hands dirty' working behind the scenes with the rangers. You can track lions, work with anti-poaching dogs, visit the endangered species boma (FYI a boma is traditionally known in Africa as an enclosure that protects people's livestock), participate in feeding time with the chimpanzees and drop in on the local communities alongside the rangers and spend a day in their shoes. For those who enjoy a safari, there are many ways to view the animals and birds: game drives, bush walks, bird watching and more. For the most energetic of all, try a safari on horseback or mountain bike.



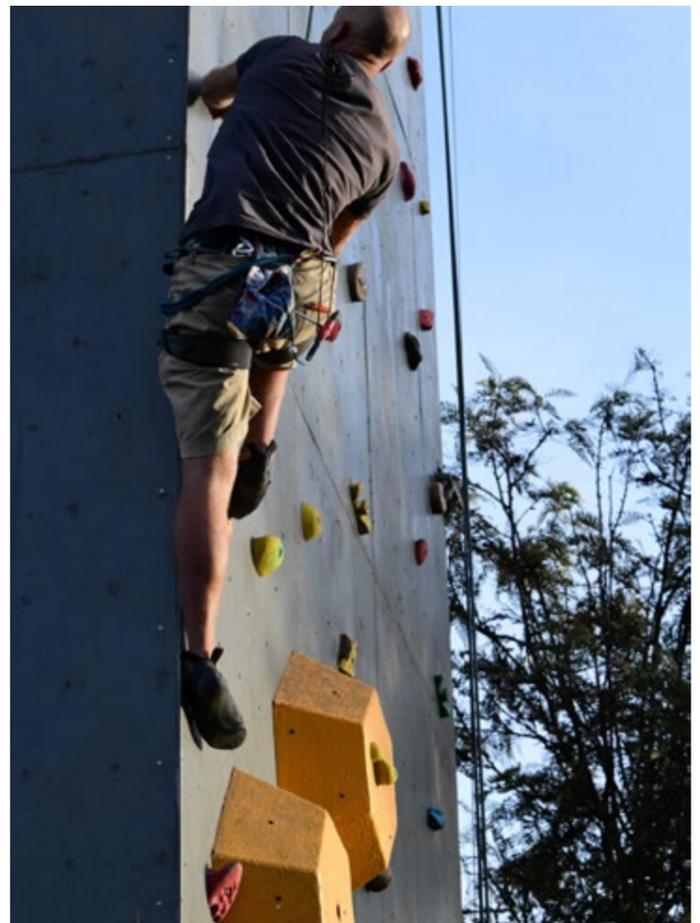


## GOLF AT NANYUKI SPORTS CLUB

The Nanyuki Sports Club has been a beloved establishment since its inception in 1921, with views of the majestic Mount Kenya behind it. The Club is particularly renowned for its 9-hole golf course, but you can also go for a swim, and play some squash, rugby and tennis. Alternatively, nobody will judge you if you sit in the shade of the outdoor tents with a cool drink and just take in the views!

## NANYUKI CLIMBING WALL

Nestled at the base of Mt. Kenya, a mere 4 km east of Nanyuki town, you'll find the Mt Kenya Climbing Gym. With its prominent climbing tower easily visible from the Nairobi/Nanyuki Road, it serves as an ideal spot for a workout, a fitness preparation for Mt. Kenya expeditions, or simply to enjoy a delicious lunch and coffee. You can also ask the staff for guidance on Mt. Kenya treks along with other information on climbing, hiking, and safari opportunities in the local area.



## DOWNTOWN NANYUKI

DownTown is widely recognized as Nanyuki's premier creative youth hub, offering an exciting array of experiences, including a restaurant, a bar, and a dedicated space for entertainment. The space is a vibrant and diverse collective of driven young entrepreneurs who excel in diverse fields such as food, fashion, design, and music. Within this community, individuals who are deeply passionate about their respective crafts thrive, and it's definitely a great place to visit and get inspired!



## THE EQUATOR

Fun Fact: Nanyuki is pretty much smack bang in the middle of Kenya, and not only this, but the earth's equator passes through town. Kenya is one of 13 countries in the world where the equator passes through! You can stand and take pictures on the equator, and for the geekier ones amongst us, why not try and see the Coriolis effect? The phenomenon is related to the behaviour of water at the equator, which varies depending on the hemisphere in which one stands. In the southern hemisphere, south of the equator line, water tends to flow in an anti-clockwise direction. Conversely, in the northern hemisphere, standing to the north of the equator, water is observed moving in a clockwise direction. However, when positioned precisely at the equator itself, the water appears motionless.

## AFRICAN ASCENTS

Inspired to become more adventurous from all the stunning scenery around Nanyuki? Why not pay African Ascents a visit! Based in Nanyuki town, they offer a wide range of adventure activities such as mountaineering, hikes around Mt Kenya, Ngare Ndare forest, Loldaiga Hills, Paragliding, abseiling, fly fishing and picnics on the mountain. They have a very professional team and you will be in the very best of hands with this company which offers anything from day trips to full safaris.

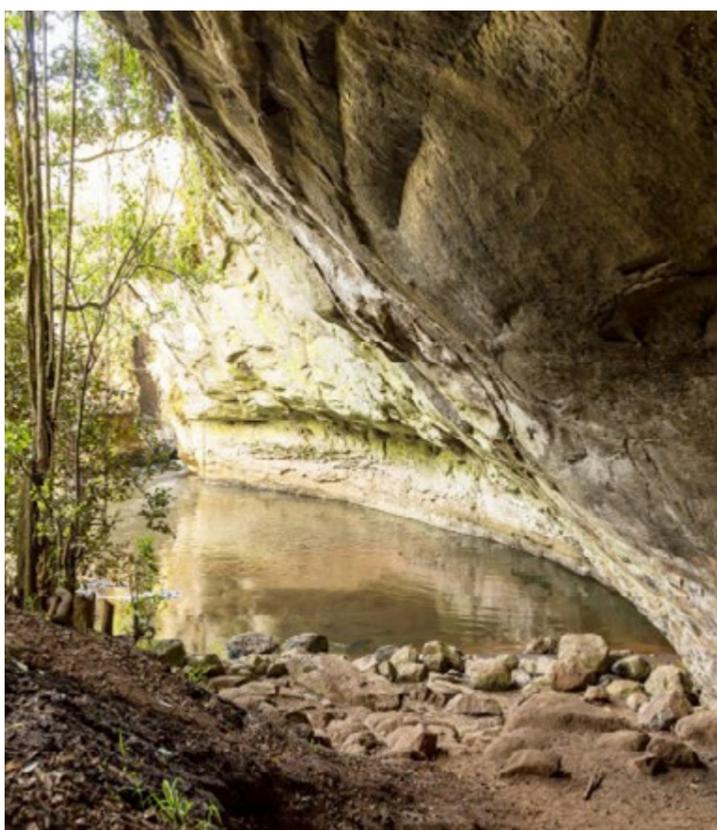


## NGARE NDARE

Nestled at the base of Mt. Kenya, Ngare Ndare Forest is a lush indigenous woodland teeming with life. Cascading waterfalls create shimmering azure pools while towering 200-year-old trees form a verdant canopy that provides a habitat for a diverse array of birds and animals. This forest serves as a crucial passageway linking the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy to Mount Kenya, a route elephants have traversed for centuries. Adventurous visitors can explore rock climbing sites and abseiling walls within the forest, while a series of enchanting waterfalls and pools adorn one of the flowing river systems. Pro tip: if you want to see the waterfalls and pools in their bluest most beautiful colours, then avoid going during rainy season!

## TAMALU FARM TOUR

Want to learn all about Regenerative and Agroforestry practices in Kenya? Tamalu Farm is about a 40-minute drive from Nanyuki town and is the perfect place to spend a day with friends and family. You can either tour the farm and stop for snacks and tea, or depending on the season, get a basket and pick your own produce as you go along.



## MAU MAU CAVES & BURGERET FALLS

On the slopes of Mount Kenya, you'll find the Mau Mau Caves that lead to a spectacular waterfall and the Burguret River pass-through boulders. Not only are these caverns beautiful and tricky to find, they also have a rich history as during Kenya's struggle for independence, particularly between 1952 and 1960, the Mau Mau Freedom Fighters used the tunnels as military bases to store supplies and hide from Colonial fighters.

## HELICOPTER TOUR OF MT. KENYA

Embark on a captivating heli-excursion at dawn, soaring above the majestic peaks of Mount Kenya. Experience the option to land near one of the alpine lakes, where you can savour refreshments, breathe in the invigorating mountain air, and immerse yourself in the beautiful scenery and unique vegetation. For those interested, there's even an opportunity to indulge in fly fishing for Rainbow trout. The helicopter excursions are exclusively conducted in the early morning, with a pickup time of approximately 7:00 am, ensuring arrival at the mountain and exploration of the peaks by 8:00 am. The duration of the ground experience and the related activities are subject to weather conditions, as clouds often descend by 11 am. Contact Nomad Africa or Tropic Air to get this excursion organised!



# CONSERVATION WORK

## SPACE FOR GIANTS

Headquartered in Nanyuki, Space for Giants is a charity that is tirelessly dedicated to safeguarding elephants and their habitats. With an unwavering commitment to securing a future for these magnificent creatures, Space for Giants implements a holistic approach that encompasses conservation, research, and community engagement. By forging partnerships with local communities, governments, and key stakeholders, the organization effectively combats the persistent threats of poaching, human-wildlife conflicts, and habitat degradation. Through innovative initiatives and collaborative efforts, Space for Giants encourages sustainable land-use practices and promotes harmonious coexistence between humans and elephants.

## MOUNT KENYA ANIMAL ORPHANAGE

Open daily from 10am to 5pm, the Animal Orphanage is a distinctive establishment designed to offer a renewed opportunity to orphaned, injured, neglected, abused, or frightened wild animals. This facility provides refuge and expert assistance with the objective of eventually reintegrating these animals into their natural habitats.

## CONSERVANCIES

Nanyuki's prime location makes it an excellent starting point for exploring Kenya's remarkable conservancies and experiencing the country's rich biodiversity. From stunning landscapes to protecting endangered species, and pioneering successful conservation initiatives each conservancy is unique and offers walking, bicycle, or horse riding safari experiences so you can get closer to the animals and limit carbon emissions.



# SHOPPING IN NANYUKI

## CEDAR MALL

As their Slogan says, at Cedar Mall there is something for everyone! From popular retail brands to smaller pop-up markets to commercial supermarkets, you can pick up just about anything from Cedars!



## NANYUKI SPINNERS & WEAVERS

If you're looking for a new rug or small runner, look no further. Started under the umbrella of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa, this women-run project started to train poor, widowed and single women so that they could become self-reliant. Nanyuki was chosen as a town due to the abundance of sheep (and wool) in the area. For over 40 years now, this is still the best place to go for a woven rug.



## CURIO SHOPS

A curio shop is a type of souvenir business that specializes in selling oddities and other novelties, and Nanyuki's curio shops have the most interesting things! Every curio shop has unique merchandise for sale, from hand-woven African baskets to wooden souvenirs, and all the beads and jewellery you could possibly imagine.



## ONE STOP NANYUKI

Located on the Nanyuki - Nairobi highway, opposite the airstrip, this is your one-stop shop to stay, shop, eat and sleep! One Stop has a stunning garden to relax in, along with a lovely shop that sells both fashion items as well as skincare and a few healthy snacks and treats.



## NORTHERN NOMAD

If you're at the Nanyuki Airstrip talking to Tropic Air or boarding a flight or eating at Barney's, why not stop in at Northern Nomad: a concept store that showcases entirely made-in-Kenya products. From homeware to clothes to accessories, there's something for everyone.





# WHERE TO EAT

## NOOK CAFE AND BAR

Every week, The Nook Cafe and Bar in Nanyuki town presents a different menu theme. There are various seating areas set in a laidback, semi-outdoor ambience. The Nook serves adventurous and unique dishes from around the world accompanied by tasty refreshments from Nook Bar. Open from Tuesday to Sunday.

## BARNEY'S RESTAURANT AND BAR

Situated on the main Nyeri-Nanyuki highway near the airstrip is Barney's Restaurant and Bar. A casual dining eatery, Barney's serves popular dishes including pizzas, pastas and steaks. Customers have the added excitement of watching planes landing and taking off while they eat. It is good value for money and a great place for a quick meal coming in and out of the Mt Kenya area.

## TROUT TREE RESTAURANT

Trout Tree Restaurant is located along the Naro Moru-Nanyuki highway, 3km from the Nanyuki airstrip. Situated under a giant mugumo (fig) tree, this is a real farm-to-table eatery inside a fish farm on the banks of the Burguret River. Freshly-caught river trout is prepared in different ways and the menu has non-fish and vegetarian options as well. Enjoy the serene wooded ambience with resident tree hyraxes and troops of colobus monkeys.

## LE RUSTIQUE

Situated close to Nanyuki town, the restaurant at Le Rustique Hotel has rustic, tastefully appointed interiors with Moroccan influences. The restaurant offers a range of modern Mediterranean meals produced from organic and artisanal ingredients. Open daily from breakfast until dinner.

## MORANI

Named in memory of Ol Pejeta's most famous rhino ambassador, this family-owned restaurant is located in the Ol Pejeta Conservancy - just a 20-minute drive from Nanyuki town. Open from 10am to 6.30pm Morani's boasts superb al fresco dining looking out across the plains of Ol Pejeta onto Mt Kenya and the Aberdares. A stunning spot for breakfast, lunch and dinner!

## CAROL'S CAFE

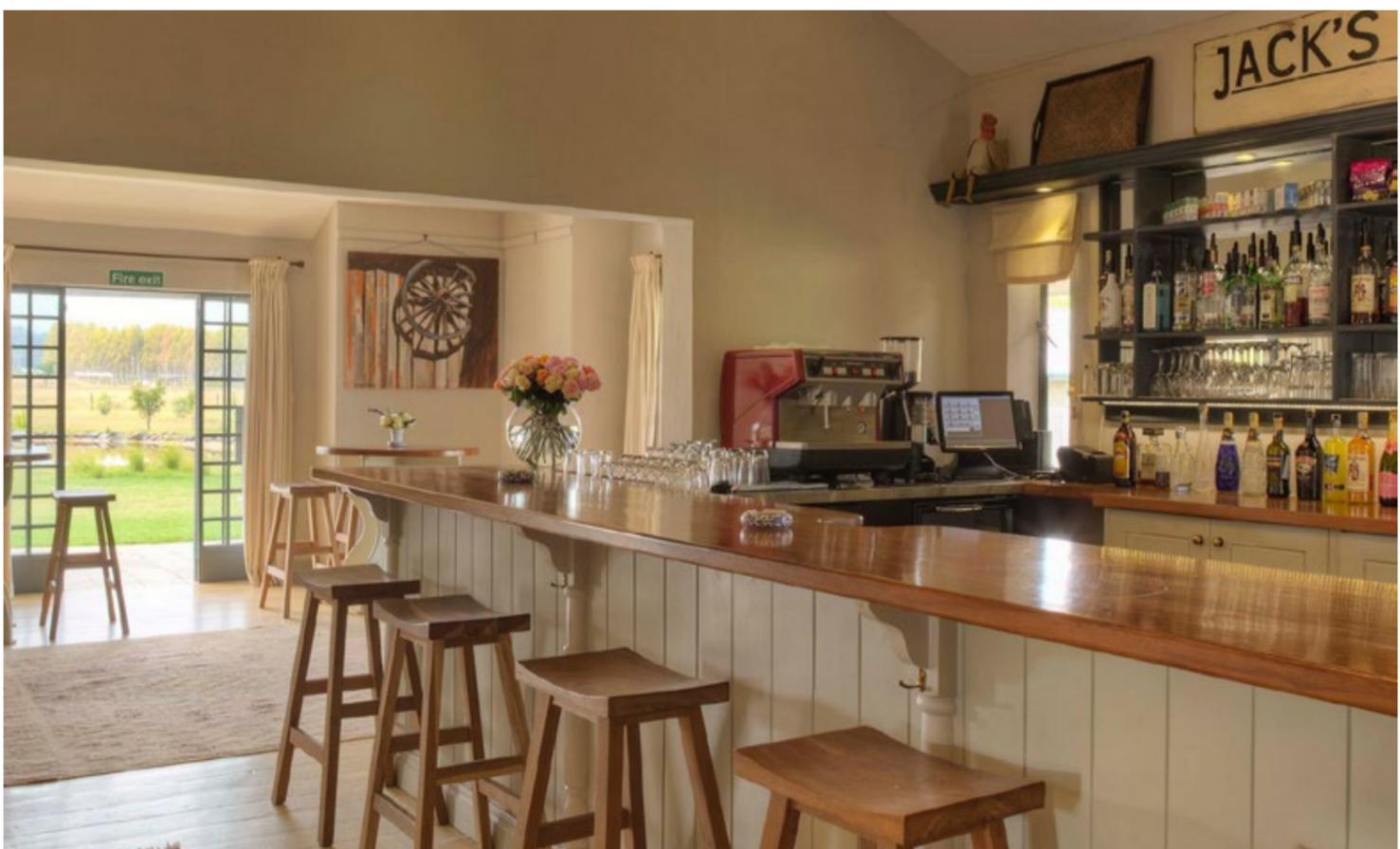
For a quick stop that provides constant delicious homemade food in a cozy family environment, Carol's Cafe is the go-to place. Open Monday - Saturday from breakfast to dinner, Carol's is known for its warm and inviting atmosphere, where visitors can enjoy delicious, homemade comfort food. Whether you're seeking a leisurely breakfast, a quick lunch, or a comforting dinner, this cute cafe is the perfect place to indulge in homemade goodness while feeling like part of the family.

## SOAMES HOTEL & JACK'S BAR

Soames Hotel and Jacks Bar is a beautiful hotel and restaurant, located 7km from Nanyuki town on the Nanyuki Naro-Moru highway. Even without being a guest at the hotel, you can enjoy the bright and breezy atmosphere at the restaurant, or sit by Jack's bar with some tasty snacks. Added perk for this place is that the wifi connection is great - so it's an awesome spot to work from for the day!

## SHOP 14

This charming deli offers an array of goods and wines and serves appetizing lunches and dinners. With its generous selection and well-stocked shelves, Shop 14 creates an inviting ambience, exuding a cheerful and vibrant energy. Shop 14 is open from Tuesday to Sunday, from 8am to 10pm.



# WHERE TO STAY



Ol Pejeta Bush Camp



Pelican House



Mukima House



Mukima Boat House



Lolldaiga House



Lavender Cottage



Olepangi Farm

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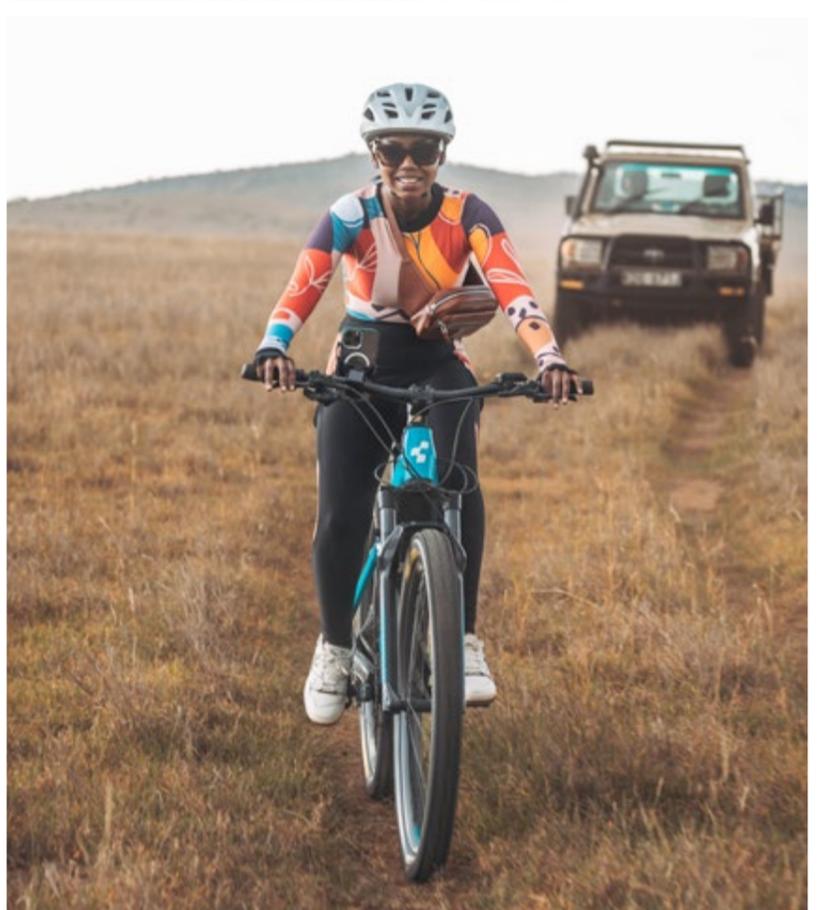
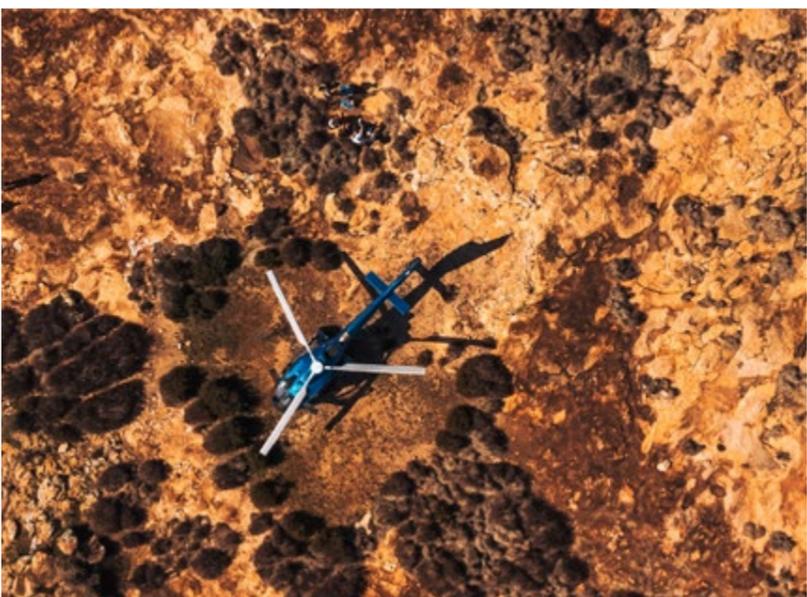
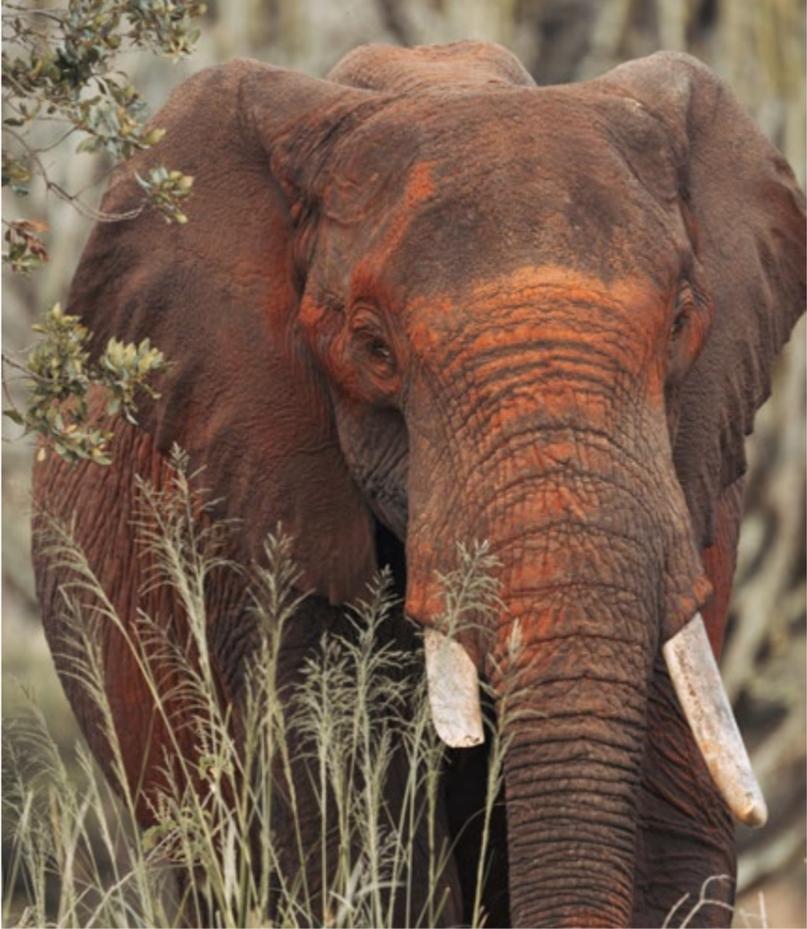


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# GOOD TO KNOW

**Climate:** Nanyuki experiences a pleasant climate throughout the year, with temperatures ranging from cool to mild. However, it can get chilly, especially in the evenings and early mornings, so it's advisable to pack some warm clothing.

**Altitude:** Nanyuki is located at a high altitude due to its proximity to Mt. Kenya. The altitude can range from approximately 1,950 meters (6,400 feet) in the town center to over 2,100 meters (6,900 feet) in surrounding areas. It's essential to take necessary precautions for altitude adjustment, such as staying hydrated and acclimatizing gradually.



# NOMAD

A F R I C A

Nomad Africa is a premier travel company committed to a more respectful, conscious, and uplifting way of travel. Blending luxury and adventure, we specialize in crafting unique journeys that provide unmatched access to East Africa.

Led by a passionate group of intrepid female explorers on a mission to find unique hidden gems and create lasting impact through travel, our team shares a common vision of showcasing the wonders of East Africa, providing customers with exceptional service, personalized attention, and a passion for travel that is unparalleled.

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