June 2025 Trip Bulletin #9

May 26, 2025

Dear friend,

Hello from Tanzania!

We are officially one week away from our trip! I wanted to share some important information to help you prepare for your arrival in Kenya.

To my surprise, I was through passport control and had my luggage within 25 minutes of landing – definitely not the norm! The key word when you arrive is the word patience, something you will carry with you throughout our two weeks in Kenya. We are used to having everything done now and fast, but the life here is a bit slower.

At the Airport:

- Passport Control: Your first stop will be passport control. All you need is your passport and your electronic visa. You are entering as a tourist, so no need to mention anything else. We usually will not be asked any questions and do not volunteer any additional information. Those of you in the dental program have special permits, which you'll handle after exiting the airport. Dr. Hill can assist you with that.
- Customs: Generally, you won't have to declare anything. If asked to open your luggage and it contains medical-related items, you should have the proper paperwork.
- School Supplies/Gifts: If you're bringing small gifts or school supplies like pencils, simply explain that you're visiting schools built by A Better World and are bringing a few items for the school opening.
- Porters: My recommendation is for those that have four bags like couples that you ask the Porter to help you by the baggage area. Don't be afraid because this luggage has to go through an exit security and it's nice to have the porters take it on and off the belt, as well as bring it right out to the door until they find me an or the drivers. It will cost you about $10, and you can pay in USD if you wish.

In Case of Travel Delays:

If you miss your connecting flight or are delayed, please email me rather than texting, as I do not have a Canadian number. You can text me on my Kenya number (listed on your emergency contact sheet).

Trip Blog for Families:

A trip blog has been set up so your family can follow our journey. Posts will be added daily (depending on internet availability). They can also visit the A Better World Canada homepage and click the Kenya trip video link to access updates and blog posts. You will be able to see them HERE

Currency Reminder:

Gloria reminded me that the USD currency you should bring should be dated within 10 years or less. US dollar bills should be less than 10 years old to be accepted in Kenya. Currently, this means your bills should be dated 2015 or newer to ensure acceptance. Some institutions in Kenya may be even stricter, potentially refusing notes older than 2009.
You can read more about ithere.

Hotel Arrival:

Upon arrival at the hotel, have your passport ready, as it will be required at check-in. There is a 24-hour restaurant if you're hungry after your flight (you can pay the same evening or at checkout). I'll provide a briefing the next morning for our June 4 activities.

- Breakfast is included at the Sheraton.
- The rooftop pool is open if you'd like to relax.
- Please ensure all your belongings are packed and ready by 9:00 AM for departure.
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I'm currently enjoying my time visiting projects in Tanzania – the weather is beautiful, and everything is lush and green as the rainy season wraps up. All our bookings are confirmed, and I'm looking forward to a great trip with all of you.

Warm regards,

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