



Swahili Language Guide (Useful for Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya & Tanzania)

The Basics

Hello = Jambo
Goodbye = Kwaheri
No worries / No problem = Hakuna Matata
How are you? = Habari?
Very well = Mazuri Sana
And You? = Na wewe
Where are you from? = Unatoka wapi?
I'm from.... = Natoka.....
Excuse me = Samahani
Please = Tafadhali
Thank you (very much) = Asante (sana)
OK = Sawa sawa
Yes = Ndiyo
No = Hapana
I = Mimi
You = Wewe
Friend = Rafiki
There is = Kuna
There is not = Hakuna
How do you say..... = Unasemaje
I don't know = Sijui
I don't understand = Sielewi
How much / many? = Ngapi?
(Too) expensive = Ghali (sana)
Money = Pesa
Open = Fungua
Closed = Funga
Shop = Duka
What? = Nini?
When? = Lini?
Where? = Wapi?
Which? = Ipi?
Who? = Nani?
Why? = Kwa nini?
Good = Muzuri
Bad = Mbaya
Quick = Upesi
Slow = Pole pole (pronounced poley poley)
Hot = Moto
Cold = Baridi
Big = Kubwa
Small = Kidogo
Empty = Tupu
Full = Kujaa
Very = Sana
Absolutely = Kabisa

Days of the week

Sunday = Jumapili
Monday = Jumatatu
Tuesday = Jumanne
Wednesday = Jumatano
Thursday = Alhamisi
Friday = Ijumaa
Saturday = Jumamosi

Times

Today = Leo
Tonight = Usiku
Tomorrow = Kesho
Yesterday = Jana
Morning = Asubuhi
Afternoon = Alasiri
Evening = Juoni
Night = Usiku
Daytime = Mchana
Now = Sasa
Not yet = Bado
Soon = Sasa hivi

Useful Phrases

Where are the toilets? = Wapi choo
Danger! = Hatari
Fetch a Doctor = Ita daktari
Stop thief! = Mwizi!
Help! = Nisaidia!
I'm just looking = Mimi na angalia tu
I don't want.... = Sitaki.....
I am hungry = Nina njaa
I am thirsty = Nina kiu
I'd like a cold beer = Tadfadhali nataka bia (pombe) baridi
The bill = Hundi

Food and Drink

Food = Chakula
Tin can = Kopo
Meat = Nyama
Beef = Ng'ombe
Chicken = Kuku
Bread = Mkate
Butter = Siagi
Cheese = Jibini
Eggs = Mayai
Fish = Samaki
Flour = Unga
Fruit = Matunda
Rice = Wali
Vegetables = Mboga
Salt = Chumvi
Hot / Spicy = Kali
Coffee = Kahawa
Tea = Chai
With / without = Na / Bila
Milk / sugar = Maziwa / Sukari
Ice = Barafu
Water = Maji
Beer = Tembo
Wine = Mvinyo

Transport

Car = Gari
Bicycle = Baiskeli
Motorbike = Pikipiki
Train = Gari la moshi
Boat = Mashua
Aeroplane = Ndege (Eropleni)
Truck = Lori
Petrol = Petroli
Mechanic = Fundi
Road = Barabara
River = Mto
Lake = Ziwa
Hill = kilima
Valley = Bonde

Accommodation

Tent = Hema
Camp = Kambi
Room = Chumba
Telephone = Simu
Bed = Kitanda
Sheet = Shiti
Pillow = Mto
Light = Taa

Numbers

1 = Moja
2 = Mbili
3 = Tatu
4 = Nne
5 = Tano
6 = sita
7 = Saba
8 = Nane
9 = Tisa
10 = Kumi
11 = Kumi na moja
12 = Kumi na mbili
13 = Kumi na tatu
14 = Kumi na nne
15 = Kumi na tano
16 = Kumi na sita
17 = Kumi na saba
18 = Kumi na nane
19 = Kumi na tisa
20 = Ishirini
30 = Thelathini
40 = Arobaini
50 = Hamsini
60 = Sitini
70 = Sabini
80 = Themanini
90 = tisini
100 = Mia
1000 = Eflu moja