



Kenya

Joined the Commonwealth in 1963 - visited by the Queen in 1991

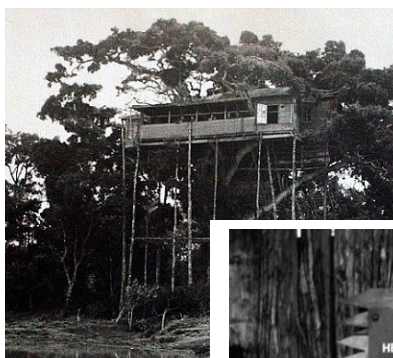


Kenya is an East African nation lying astride the equator

Pop: (2012) 43,178,000 Capital: Nairobi Area: 582,646 sq km

Mount Kenya, a volcanic peak, lies across the equator and towers to over 5,200 m. It is one of several mountains on Kenya's large plateau which rises sharply from the coastal strip. Elsewhere, the plateau is cut through by the Great East African Rift Valley, in places 1,000m deep and 65 km wide. Kenya's north-east around Lake Turkana is arid and low lying. In the far west, the land falls to Lake Victoria which is drained by the Nile.

Thornbush and grassland cover most of the country, though higher, wetter areas are forested. Although a major exporter of tea, coffee and horticultural products such as fresh flowers and green beans, Kenya is most famous for its wildlife. All major African game animals are found here together with a huge variety of birds and reptiles. A coral reef, sandy beaches and safari opportunities make tourism Kenya's main source of income.



Treetops in the Aberdares

HR Highness Princess Elizabeth arrived as a Princess in February 1952 and left as Queen Elizabeth II

