

Information

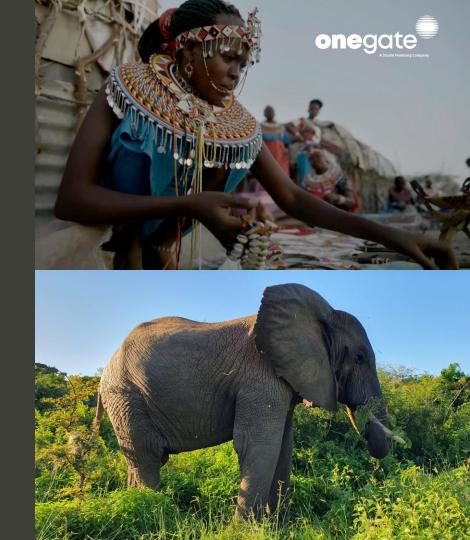
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Country of origin: Kenya



Series Synopsis

Located in East Africa, Kenya is known for its wealth of natural resources. Evergreen rainforests, rugged mountain ranges, pristine white beaches along the Indian Ocean, and the world's largest desert lake make Kenya a land of fascinating contrasts. As well as its familiar savannah and renowned wildlife, the three-part series will explore its different regions.

While modern life has reached the cities, many rural areas still uphold the country's ancient traditions. In the cities, we will meet creatives from the fashion and music industries. Out in the countryside, we will learn more about the customs of different ethnic groups. Over the course of the series, we will discover Kenya's hidden natural treasures, fascinating animals and unique landscapes.



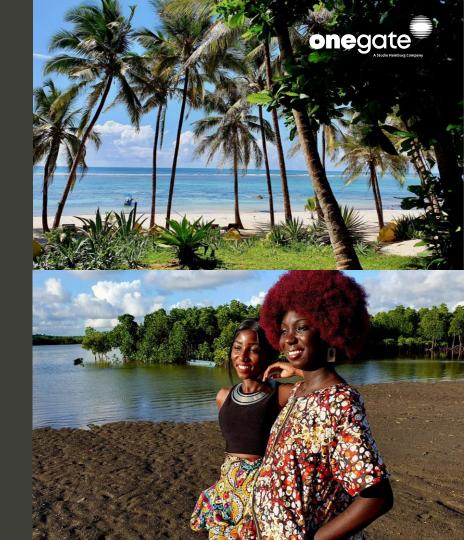


Episode 1

In the Kakamega rainforest

Deep in the west of the country lies Kakamega Forest, Kenya's last rainforest. It is a vital ecosystem, home to 380 species of tree, 330 species of bird, and seven species of primate. Nearly destroyed by 2003 due to logging hunting, and poaching, conservationist Wkesesa and other initiatives are now working to protect the forest and its wildlife.

One project produces Upesi clay stoves, which use half as much firewood as traditional stoves, thereby helping to reduce wood consumption and protect the forest. Locals benefit from the healing properties of the region's diverse plant life, and herbalist Jennifer Bahati Embosa introduces us to some of their homemade remedies.

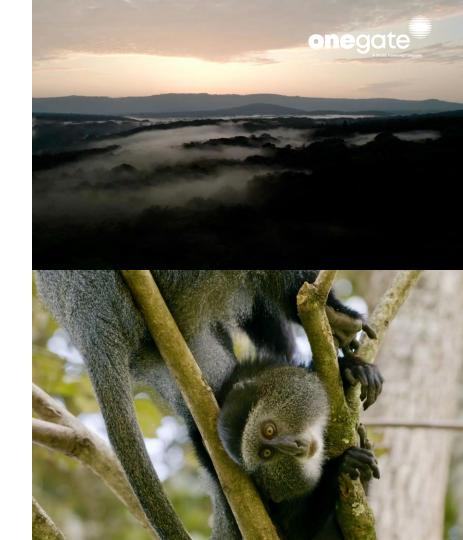


Episode 2 By the Indian Ocean

To the east, Kenya borders the Indian Ocean, rich in snowy white beaches and offshore coral reefs. In Tiwi, Maisha Madrugada from the Turtle Police patrols the coastline daily, checking for turtle nests and relocating eggs to safer spots. Only one in a thousand hatchlings survives to adulthood.

In the region's last remaining coastal forest, Arabuko Sokoke, locals earn money by catching butterflies, which are then dispatched to botanical gardens worldwide. This reduces the need to exploit the forest's remaining resources. Every day, Mwaka Mwatsuma scours the area for exceptional specimens.

The turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean are also ideal for surfing. In Kilifi, Sammi Mkuzi dreams of starting a local kite school to compete with those run by expats.

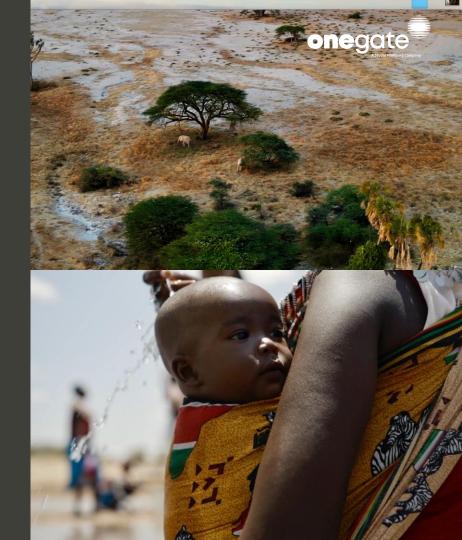


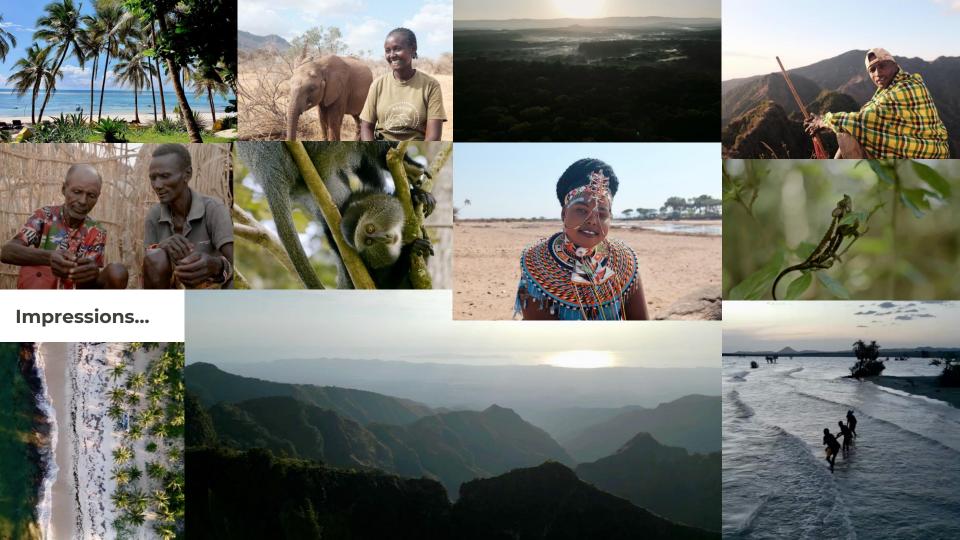
Episode 3

By Lake Turkana and out in nomad country

Lake Turkana, Kenya's largest inland body of water, spans over 6,400 km² and is nearly twelve times the size of Lake Constance. Its northernmost tip extends into Ethiopia, surrounded by a desert of volcanic rock. The saline waters teem with fish and algae, and are home to water birds and Nile crocodiles.

Kenya's smallest ethnic group, the El Molo, numbering between 300 and 1100 members, populate its southeast shore. Raphael Lenapir, the village elder, recalls how his tribe once hunted hippos and crocodiles – a practice now banned in favour of conservation efforts.







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