

Perpetual Spring

These are Jacarundi trees. They have lovely purple flowers that attract little birds that pollinate them. When these stopped blooming they were replaced by a tree with brilliant yellow flowers and now those have been replaced with a tree with the brightest fuschia flowers.



Lots of construction

There is a lot of construction in and around Nairobi. This is an apartment building under construction and it will probably be along the same lines of what I live in.

It is excellent that more housing is being built, but this type of apartment is out of the price range of the majority of the population. Most of these are purchased like condos back in the States, and then rented out.



Downtown Nairobi

Downtown Nairobi is a typical modern city with skyscrapers and a combination of old and new buildings.



**Not sure what
business this round
building holds, but
it is one of those
landmarks that helps
me find my way
around the city.**



Typical street

Notice the poles to keep the traffic off the sidewalks.

Very necessary as many drivers will drive on the sidewalks if there are not barricades to keep them off.



Store fronts

Most of the stores have small store fronts, but once you enter they are usually long. Often times they are also multiple floors.

You might notice the chemist store, which in the states we would call a pharmacy. Surprisingly most of my prescriptions are cheaper here than in the states.



Still Nairobi, NOT downtown

This is actually a more common street in Nairobi. Once you leave downtown, many of the streets are not paved, there are no sidewalks and little parking. (Now you can see why we have had at least 6 flat tires since getting our car).



Dukas (stores)

The storefronts and shops change as you get farther from city center. They get smaller and more crowded and tend to have the goods on the sidewalk or even the street.



Veggies anyone??

Many sellers just set up a stall or selling space wherever they can claim a spot. This is a common site, seeing ladies selling the vegetables, they grew in a small garden plot, to passerby's on the street.



Vacant lots can turn into a market area rather quickly. Every type of merchandise can be found, some new and some used.



Road into the slums



Dukas in the slums

Some shops are constructed better than others, but there is usually not much to them other than 4 walls and some kind of door or gate on the front. The butchers usually have a carcass hanging in the window....not sure exactly how sanitary they are (a little scary...and no I don't buy my meat here).



The slums

Millions of people in Kenya live in slums around major cities. This is one example of a slum dwelling.

They are usually made of scrap wood and metal siding that is salvaged from other sources.

There is usually no furniture and few other items as well.

Blankets on the dirt floor for a bed, a few cooking utensils and a jika to cook over, and a water container might be all you would see.



Another slum dwelling.

This is another example of what people in the slums might be living in.



Share the road

It is very common to see livestock being grazed on the side of the road. It is illegal to bring them into the city, but that doesn't mean you won't see them.

This was taken out in the country, out beyond the city of Karen and near Nairobi National Park.

Herds of livestock are a common sight in our daily commute to and from school.



A Mud Brick house

You won't see these in the city, but this is a typical house in the country, built of mud bricks. They usually have one room with a dirt floor. If they are lucky they are able to build a door to put on it. Windows are cut in but rarely have any glass or shutters on them. The roofs here are covered in tin, but they usually are made of thatch.



City Skyline from the National Park

