

We Know

TANZANIA

Tanzania, formerly known as Tanganyika, is situated on the East Coast of Africa, south of the Equator. It borders Kenya and Uganda in the north, Zaire, Rwanda and Burundi in the west, and Zambia and Mozambique in the south. Off the mainland lie the islands of Zanzibar, Pemba and Mafia in the Indian Ocean.



TANZANIA

Useful Information



Tanzania's mainland has a coastline of hundreds of miles of palm fringed beaches, but the major attractions of Tanzania are the national parks teeming with wildlife, the majestic Mount Kilimanjaro, and Lake Tanganyika, the deepest and longest freshwater lake in Africa. Tanzania has reserved a total of 46,000 square miles for National Parks.

CLIMATE

There is no real winter, but the climate is governed by altitude. The average temperature in the central plateau which covers most of the country is 70-85 degrees in winter and 80-100 degrees in summer. Nights are generally chilly on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater. Long rains occur from March to June and short rains in November.

CURRENCY & CREDIT CARDS

Tanzania Shilling is the official currency of Tanzania. It is against the law to import or export Tanzania Shilling. Foreign currency may be exchanged at commercial banks, authorized dealers, or at the bureau de change operating at the international airports and major towns. Your local driver-guide will be available to assist. It is illegal to exchange money to individuals who are not authorized dealers.

US dollar bills, Pound Sterling, and Euros, as well as Visa and MasterCard are accepted in most tourist hotels and lodges. American Express is not widely accepted even by major hotels. Cash can be withdrawn from ATMs in major towns using Visa and MasterCard. Small denomination USD bills are useful for miscellaneous expenses on safari but change will be given in Tanzania Shillings. NOTE: If carrying cash, take only recently minted U.S. currency.

SHOPPING HOURS

Shopping hours are generally Monday through Friday 8:00AM to 5:30PM; Saturday from 8:30AM to 12:30PM. Some shops open on Sunday. In the larger cities markets are open daily 8:00AM – 6:00PM.

LANGUAGE

Swahili is the official language. English is widely spoken.

VOLTAGE

240 Voltz, 50 Hz

ELECTRICAL PLUGS



240V 50Hz

PHOTOGRAPHY

Visitors should respect the outlook of the local people towards photography and only use cameras if they have permission from the person or people the picture is being taken. Never try to "steal" a photo against the will of the person concerned. Let your tour guide or escort help you negotiate terms before you start shooting! It is also against the law to take photographs of border posts, persons in uniform, and of course, military installations.



We Know ZANZIBAR

Zanzibar is located off the East Coast of Tanzania. Zanzibar archipelago is a collection of several islands. It contains two main islands, Unguja, commonly known as Zanzibar, and Pemba, and several smaller islands. Known as the Spice Island, Zanzibar is bursting with culture and history, seemingly at odds with its idyllic geography of pristine white-sand beaches with palms swaying lazily in the sea breeze.



ZANZIBAR

Useful Information



CLIMATE

Zanzibar's tropical climate is a major reason it is such a popular tourist destination. The heat of summer is seasonally often cooled by windy conditions, resulting in pleasant sea breezes, particularly on the North and East coasts. The islands remain warm year-round because Zanzibar is so close to the equator. Highs above 30C (92F) are year-round. Rainy seasons occur from March to May and from November to December. The months in between receive significantly less precipitation.

CURRENCY , BANKS & CREDIT CARDS

The Tanzanian Shilling (TSH) is the main unit of currency. It would be best to exchange dollars for TSH and use that to buy food. If you buy curios with dollars you will get a better deal, since the vendors are more prone to bargaining when buying with foreign currency. Credit cards such as Visa and MasterCard are accepted at large establishments. There are ATM cash machines in Zanzibar Town and can be used with Visa and MasterCard. NOTE: If carrying cash, take only recently minted U.S. currency.

SHOPPING HOURS

Shopping hours are generally Monday through Friday 8:00AM to 5:30PM and Saturday from 8:30AM to 12:30PM. Some shops close for siesta around 12:00PM to 3:00PM but stay open later until 7:00PM. Some shops are open on Sunday.

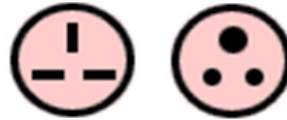
LANGUAGE

Swahili and English are spoken here. Many people say the Swahili spoken here is the purest, true Swahili.

VOLTAGE

230 Volts, 50 cycles AC

ELECTRICAL PLUGS



230V 50Hz

PHOTOGRAPHY

Visitors should respect the outlook of the local people towards photography and only use cameras if they have permission from the person or people the picture is being taken. Never try to "steal" a photo against the will of the person concerned. Let your tour guide or escort help you negotiate terms before you start shooting! It is also against the law to take photographs of border posts, persons in uniform, and of course, military installations.

SPECIAL NOTE

If you are diving or snorkeling, you may be tempted to collect some pretty shells from Zanzibar's many coral reefs. Please do not, as this kills entire reefs, the devastating effects of which can be seen in the well-trodden areas of East African coast. Although there are shell sellers, you are asked not to buy shells from them, as it simply encourages this harmful industry.

