



TANZANIA TRAVEL GUIDE

Tanzania Travel Guide will make your travel to Tanzania easier, a success and more informative. Below are some travel tips that will come in handy whilst preparing your holiday. While we endeavor to update this information as soon as possible, we advise you to consult the nearest embassy or consular office for up to date information as some of this information may change with time. This information helps you prepare for your holiday and be aware of what to expect in landing in Tanzania.

ENTERING TANZANIA

a) Road: The best way to enter Tanzania is overland from Kenya. This can be either through Namanga border, Sirare Border or Taveta Border.

b) Air: There are plenty of flights from Europe to Tanzania. Most people fly into Dar-Es-Salaam but there are also international flights to Kilimanjaro International Airport near Arusha. You can always fly to Kenya and then connect a regional flight to Arusha using Kenya Airways, Air Kenya, fly 540, Safarilink, and Precision Air among other airlines.

TIME: - 3 hrs + GMT

PASSPORT AND VISAS:

Your passport must be valid six months after arrival date. Please check with our Mission Overseas whether you require visas. Where needed, visas are readily obtainable from consulates and diplomatic missions. Where no diplomatic representation exists, visas may be issued on arrival. However, it is standard that 2 passport-sized photographs must accompany your application. An onward ticket and sufficient funds are required when entering Tanzania.

HEALTH AND IMMUNISATION:

Yellow fever vaccination is no longer compulsory in Mainland Tanzania. Malaria is endemic but is preventable: use insect repellent, cover up at sundown, sleep under a mosquito net and take ant-malaria prophylactics as advised by your doctor. Bring prescription medicines, spare glasses, contact lenses and solution as well as sunscreen, a first aid kit, cream for bites/stings and diarrhoea remedy. Drink only boiled or bottled water, bottled or canned drinks.

(See Mountain Climbing section for altitude sickness advice.)

Since rules concerning disease prevention vary from time to time, most current information should be sought from the following authorities; the Tanzanian Embassy/High Commission, Tourist Office or from any airline flying scheduled services into Tanzania from your country of residence prior to traveling.

DRINKING WATER:

Bottled mineral water is available widely everywhere in the country at all supermarkets, lodges and hotels and we highly recommend the use of mineral water. Please do not consume any tap water during your trip.

CURRENCY AND CREDIT CARDS:

Tanzania shilling is the official currency for Tanzania. Major foreign currency – particularly US\$, Euros and GBP are accepted and convertible in banks and bureau de change in the main town and tourist areas. Credit cards are widely accepted but may carry poor exchange rate. Some banks in Arusha, Dar es Salaam and Moshi offer ATM facilities against international credit cards. Don't change money in the street.

BAGGAGE:

Baggage space on safari is limited to one medium suitcase or duffle bags we prefer duffle bags, plus hand baggage (private safaris where there are less than 5 people in the vehicle are not subjected to this restriction). A baggage weight restriction of 15kgs person including hand luggage applies on air safaris, and where very small aircraft are used, this restriction may be reduced to 10kgs. Baggage and personal effects are at owner's risk throughout the tour and baggage insurance for member is strongly advised.

INSURANCE:

You are strongly advised to have your own insurance cover to cover baggage, personal accident and medical attention. Upon request we can cover you for flying doctor evacuation at a cost.

ON SAFARI

Distances in Tanzania are vast, and travel by road can be wearing. Plan to spend more time in fewer parks. You will see more and won't return home exhausted. Keep your distance from animals and be quite to avoid distressing the wildlife. Follow instruction of your driver-guide. Don't leave your vehicle in the parks except in designated places. Keep to recognized tracks to avoid damaging the vegetation.

CLIMATE

Generally dry and hot with cool nights/mornings June-October; short rains November to mid-December; long rains March-May but the seasons can vary. The coastal strip is hot and humid all year round. Temperatures on Mount Kilimanjaro and Meru drop to below freezing. Tanzania and Kenya are at the same altitude as the equator, and as a result, we have a very similar tropical climate.

SEASONS:

The dry season is from July to October, and around November - December it gets short rains. January to March can be quite hot in Tanzania and from April to May the country gets heavy rain. The rain pattern however has been less regular in recent years.

WHAT TO WEAR

Pack lightweight, washable clothes plus a sweater for early morning game drives, as well as sun hat, sunglasses and sunscreen for day game drives are recommended. Long sleeves and trousers in light-coloured fabrics help discourage insect bite should also be considered.

Shorts for women are acceptable (but not too short). Women should carry a wrap to cover legs in the village and town as revealing clothes can cause offence, especially in Zanzibar and Moslem areas. On the beach and within the confines of beach hotels normal swimwear is acceptable (but not nudity). For climbing on Kilimanjaro and Meru, takes thermal under-wear, light layers, sweater, rains jacket, good socks and sturdy boots.

- Summer clothing is worn throughout the year, although at times a jacket and light raincoat may be necessary.
- July through to September are our 'winter months' where temperatures at altitude level can drop to 10 C. So carry a pullover/sweater to stay warm.
- In safari, wear neutral colours, such as brown, beige and khaki - bright colours may alarm the animals. Casual wear is the norm during the day.

LANGUAGE:

Kiswahili is the official language. English is widely spoken, a few words of Swahili can be useful and will be appreciated greatly by locals. All the people you will interact with in hotels, lodges, airport and your driver guides are fluent in English while some are multi-lingua; speaking fluent Spanish, French, German, Italian and Mandarin among other languages.

WHAT TO BRING

A pair of binoculars will greatly enhance game viewing while a torch to find your way around camp after dark is a good idea. Don't forget the camera, camcorder and a plentiful supply of film or extra memory card and spare batteries. Books, pencils, crayons and candy are very welcome as gifts to the children of local villages that you would pass (or visit) whilst on safari.

TIPPING & GRATUITIES

Tipping is customary in Tanzania but not mandatory. Tips are highly appreciated at the end of the trip. Below rates are just guidelines. Safari Driver: \$20-50 per day/per group, Mountain Head Guide: \$20-50 per day/per group, Mountain Assistant Guide: \$15-30 per day/per group, Mountain Cook: \$10 per day/per group, and Mountain Porters: \$5 per porter/per day/per group.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

1 January, 12 January, 26 April, 1 May, , 7 July, 10 September, 9 December, 25 December, 26 December, Start of Eid-ul-Fitr, Eid-ul-Haj and Easter.

SHOPPING / SOUVENIRS

There is a big variety of souvenirs to take home. Most hotels have licensed souvenir shops and there are a large number of such outlets in the main towns. Tanzania offers the visitor a treasure trove of art, handicraft, spices, furniture and other collectibles. Curios are sold in markets and in city and town center.

SECURITY:

Tanzania is a generally safe country, but normal precautions as in any other destination should be taken. Keep an eye on your belongings. Don't walk in the town or cities at night – take a taxi. Don't carry cameras or large amount of cash; beware of pickpockets. Use hotel safety deposit boxes to safeguard valuables and obtain a receipt. Leave valuable jeweler at home.

PHOTOGRAPHY:

It is courteous to ask permission before photographing local people. If you intend to take a lot of people pictures, be sure to bring an instant camera with you so that you can leave a picture with the people you photograph. Some locations like Military barracks and military installations are prohibited

BEHAVIOUR IN PARKS

The animals are at home, do not disturb their daily life, do not throw litter and do not encourage your driver to drive off the track. Don't be disappointed if you have not seen all the species on your list, consider on the contrary that you have been lucky to see what you have seen and enjoy the landscape and the immensity

ZANZIBAR

Yellow fever certificates are essential for entry into Tanzania and in particular, Zanzibar.

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