

BEACH HOLIDAYS

Tanzania Beach Holiday

Tanzania's reputation as one of Africa's greatest safari destinations often overshadows the fact that it has over 800 kilometers of dazzling Indian Ocean coastline to explore - and that's before you get to exotic Zanzibar and Tanzania's other tropical islands.

With enough variety to make it the ideal finale to a Tanzania safari or as a stand-alone vacation, a Tanzania beach holiday will appeal to every traveller. The beaches themselves are some of the finest on the East African coast while the range of world-class dive sites will delight scuba divers and snorkellers. Honeymooners will love the exclusive and indulgent beachfront lodges while parents will appreciate the range of family-friendly accommodation and activities available.

But it's not all about beaches and coral reefs: the highly diverse Tanzanian coast has a fascinating blend of cultures and cuisine. Spend time exploring back-street markets, tasting local dishes and interacting with local traders; the atmosphere is friendly and relaxed though - due to the strong Islamic influence - somewhat conservative, and you're advised to respect local traditions and sensibilities.

Pack lightly for your Tanzania beach holiday: it's usually pretty hot, sunny and humid all year round with temperatures averaging between 25 and 30°C. There are however distinct rainy seasons: try to avoid the coast during the long rains of March to April (when a number of lodges close) but there is less to worry about with the short rains of November to January.

It's generally agreed that the best time to go on a Tanzania beach holiday is during the drier and milder June to September months; the December - January holiday period is also popular but temperatures are high and there is some rain around.

We've split the coast into two distinct travel regions - the coast itself and Tanzania's islands, including Zanzibar.

Best Tanzania Beach Accommodation

Accommodation on Tanzania's coast and islands ranges from popular beach lodges to intimate island retreats and vibrant resorts, and there is plenty to suit all tastes, budgets and trip types. Whether you're looking for a Zanzibar island getaway, a family resort or a relaxing beach holiday to combine with your safari, our selection of Tanzania beach accommodation is sure to inspire you and will make planning your Tanzania holiday so much simpler.

Mnemba Island Lodge

Just 1.5km in circumference and lying off the clove-and-cinnamon-scented coast of Zanzibar lies Mnemba Island, a proverbial paradise of coral reefs, powdery beaches, turquoise water and frolicking dolphins. Lying on this fantasy isle is Mnemba Island Lodge, where the dedication is to true 'barefoot luxury' for all ages.

Only 10 thatched chalets - known as 'bandas' - make up the accommodation and the indigenous suni antelope and adorable Ader's duiker are known to wander happily past them on their way to fresh grazing. Footsteps away from your banda is the beach - occupied by rare coconut crabs - and beyond that the tempting ocean, with its treasure trove of warm water, good visibility, sheer drops, a coral atoll and about 430 species of fish, including quizzical whale sharks. Mnemba Island Lodge is equipped with a PADI dive school and two dive boats, meaning you will always be able to take to the waters when it suits you. Water babies will also thrive on kayaking, windsurfing, swimming on the permanent beach and late-afternoon dhow cruises in this marine conservation area. All non-motorised water sports are included.

Landlubbers are not forgotten: spend the day bird watching (there is a large colony of doves that lives on the island) or relaxing on a daybed set up on the beach with a book from the library. Mnemba Island is also home to a fascinating green turtle population; peak turtle season is from April to August and privileged guests may even be able to witness these incredible creatures being born. Whatever you do, do not bother unpacking your shoes... no shoes and no dress code means a laid-back ambiance second to none.

Facilities

- 10 private thatched bandas
- PADI dive school & 2 dive boats
- Child-minding & butler service
- Wi-Fi & library
- Water sports & bird watching
- Nesting turtle population

DHOW PALACE HOTEL (STONE TOWN)

The Dhow, being the heart beat of the East African culture, has been carrying people, goods and treasures to and from Zanzibar for hundreds of years. Today, the Dhow Palace serves as a meeting point for people and cultures from all over the world amidst a decor and artefacts from a time gone by.

Dhow Palace was originally the home of a rich merchant, Sheikh bin Mujbia. Bin Mujbia and his descendants kept the building for more than three centuries before it was sold. The Dhow Palace building, being right in the heart of the stone town, has bore witness to many events taking place in Zanzibar, before the Dhow building itself became the centre of attention back in 1993 when it was transformed from a family mansion to this elegant hotel. In 2005 it again sought the attention when the new wing was added.

The Dhow Palace can easily be described as a living museum dedicated to furniture, art and oriental ornaments which have found their way to the shores of Zanzibar over the past centuries.

RAS MICHAMVI BEACH RESORT

Welcome to one of the best Zanzibar Family Beach Resort, Beach Hotels in Zanzibar for warm and inviting accommodations on Zanzibar's beautiful East coast. A Zanzibar Tanzania Hotels has exceptional location and outstanding staff to make your stay in Michamvi memorable. Ras Michamvi Beach Resort is a remote and idyllic hotel accommodation on the beach, hidden on east coast Zanzibar. Our resort is a little Eden harmoniously set in a large natural area with access to 2 powder-white beaches, a garden, a forest and a stunning oceanfront swimming pool. Cooled by the gentle ocean breeze, it makes the perfect getaway to an exotic African paradise!

The hotel offers 15 spacious Sea View rooms and Garden View rooms surrounded by a luxury tropical garden. Comfort and attention to detail, with a choice of king, twin or triple beds, every room is furnished with hot shower, mosquito nets, air conditioning, ceiling fan, digital safe, mini fridge, hair dryer, wardrobe, desk and luggage holder. Our 15 rooms have a spacious and private veranda. The open restaurant of the hotel overlooking the turquoise water of the Indian Ocean and the coral reef. The cuisine reflects diverse culinary and cultural influences, combining international touch with local flavors and ingredients. Tropical fruits and various desserts are enjoyed by the guests in this intimate atmosphere. A typical Zanzibar Swahili tasty dinner with traditional food, local dancers and drumming is held once a week on BaoBeach.

Additional facilities include 2 private beaches, free Internet wireless 1Mb/s in lounge/bar area, a conference room accommodating up to 40 delegates, all Zanzibar excursions and snorkeling from the hotel, laundry service, massage service and a car park. You can simply enjoy a massage whilst listening to the waves gently rolling onto the shore, or have a drink at our pool bar. Our Resort is the ideal location for groups, honeymooners, incentives and individuals wanting to discover and enjoy everything this enchanting spice island has to offer. Come to Ras Michamvi Beach Resort and experience the magic of Zanzibar!

SWAHILI BEACH RESORT

Swahili Beach Resort is the new beach bungalow resort situated on the most beautiful part of Zanzibar, the south famous Dolphin coast - Kizimkazi.

The entire resort is embedded in a lush and spacious garden. In front of the resort lies the Indian Ocean, offering you a stunning view from all public areas including the swimming pool. In addition to the magnificence of the natural surroundings, a wide range of facilities and activities are available to make your vacation (or conference) as relaxing and inspiring as possible.

Kizimkazi is an unexploited village, indulged in traditional Zanzibarian life style, full of rich culture and surrounded by peaceful, warm and welcoming people. It is one of the oldest habitats in East Africa and the oldest known mosque in the region is situated here. The philosophy behind Swahili Beach Resort is to provide you with an experience that blends in and enhances the natural beauty and serenity of Zanzibar.

As a Swahili saying goes, "Slowly is indeed the way to proceed".

SUGGESTED ITINERARIES

Day 1

Transfer from airport to Stone Town, check-in at Dhow Palace Hotel or similar. In the evening have a traditional Swahili dinner in Stone town (the heart of Zanzibar) and overnight at Dhow Palace or similar (BB)

5 DAYS/4 NIGHTS

Day 2

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning, guided tour through Stone Town, followed by a tour through a spice plantation. Lunch at spice farm, and then depart for Nungwi Beach in the North of Zanzibar. Dinner and overnight at Ras Nungwi Beach Hotel in Superior (Chalet Sea view room) (HB)

Day 3

Full day in Nungwi. Dinner and overnight at Ras Nungwi Beach Hotel or similar (HB).

Day 4

Full day on in Nungwi. Dinner and overnight at Ras Nungwi Beach Hotel or similar (HB).

Day 5

Transfer from Nungwi to airport on time for your flight.

5 DAYS/4 NIGHTS

Day 1:

Arrive at Zanzibar Airport/Sea port. Meet and greet and transfer to Ras Michamvi Beach Resort for lunch; relaxation and overnight (HB).

Day 2:

After breakfast, drive to the Safari Blue. After the tour drive back to Rasmichamvi beach resort for dinner and overnight (HB)

Day 3:

After breakfast, drive to Jozani Forest to enjoy seeing the Red Colobus monkeys and Kizimbani Spice farm. After the tours, drop you off at Tembo Hotel for dinner and overnight (HB).

Day 4:

Your day at leisure and swim at the Tembo Hotel (HB).

Day 5:

After breakfast, take a half day Stone Town Tour and shopping with Lunch (under your own arrangement) before drop you off at the airport for your flight

7 Days/6 nights

Day 1

Meet and greet at Zanzibar Airport and transfer to Swahili Beach Resort. Dinner and overnight at Swahili Beach Resort. (HB)

Day 2

A day at leisure at Kizimkazi Beach. Dinner and overnight at Swahili Beach Resort. (HB)

Day 3

After breakfast depart for a full day Safari Blue. After the tour dropped off at Swahili Beach Resort for dinner and overnight (HB)

Day 4

After breakfast, you will be picked up by our driver/guide for a guided Stone Town Tour. Lunch in stone town restaurant. In the afternoon tour through a Spice Plantation. Dinner and overnight at Swahili Beach Resort. (HB)

Day 5

Day at leisure at Kizimkazi Beach. Dinner and overnight at Swahili Beach Resort. (HB)

Day 6

Day at leisure at Kizimkazi Beach. Dinner and overnight at Swahili Beach Resort (HB)

Day 7

After breakfast, transfer to Zanzibar International Airport for your flight back home.