



Tanzania

Planning a trip to Tanzania? Then you should talk to us... We offer independent expert advice and the ability to deliver top quality itineraries with the best tour operators that are exceptional value for money. Arranging your travel through The Specialist Travel Consultancy also reduces the time you have to spend researching and planning your trip. And our service is completely free!

Contact us to discuss your travel requirements on **0845 838 7667** or for more information on the service we offer please visit our website: www.thestc.co.uk

We can arrange:

- Expeditions and Projects •
- Kilimanjaro & Mt. Meru •
- Walking & Camping Safaris •
- Geography Tours •
- Link school visits •
- Cycling tours •
- Biology and Ecology tours •

Facts & Highlights

Full Country Name: United Republic of Tanzania

Area: 945,000 sq km (365,000 sq miles)

Population: 36 million

Capital: Dodoma

People: Sukuma, Nyamwezi, Ha, Chagga, Masai, Haya and Gogo as well as many smaller ethnic groups. Asian and expatriate minorities.

Languages: Kiswahili (official), English is also widely spoken.

Religions: Christianity (45%), Islam (45%) and traditional beliefs (10%).

Currency: Tanzania shilling (TSH)

Government: President & National Assembly elected every five years.

Electricity: 230 volts AC, 50Hz. Plugs may be round or square three-pin.

Time: GMT + 3 hours



Kilimanjaro: see the sunrise and the world's longest view from the top of the world's highest free standing mountain.

Ngorongoro Crater: Spectacular wildlife viewing in the world's biggest unbroken caldera.

Tribal Encounters: Visit a Masai tribal village and barter for your souvenirs.

Usambara Mountains: Hike in the lush rolling hills of this little visited corner of Tanzania.

Selous Game Reserve: Remote wildlife safaris in the biggest reserve in Africa.

Zanzibar: Snorkel and dive in the stunning turquoise seas off this exotic spice island.

Tanzania is one of Africa's most varied countries and offers schools a diverse and stimulating destination, whatever type or length of trip you are considering.

Africa's Rift Valley and associated lakes, plains and volcanoes are a stunning setting for any adventure, but a visit to Tanzania is so much more than just the scenery and wildlife. It is an absorbing immersion into a country with vibrant music, dance and markets, and a rich cultural heritage. Experiencing the colourful Masai and their traditional ways is a highlight of any trip and it may be possible to arrange a project phase in a Masai village enabling the pupils to experience how this unique tribe live a still largely traditional lifestyle.

For an active phase to the trip, trekking is the obvious choice for Tanzania, although it is also possible to arrange cycling trips. With its many mountains and volcanoes and numerous trekking options in terms of length, difficulty and altitude, schools are spoilt for choice.

Top of many lists is Kilimanjaro, which at 5,895m (19,340ft) is the highest freestanding mountain in the world. However, the altitude makes it a serious undertaking and it should therefore only be attempted with proper acclimatisation beforehand and a team of fit, determined individuals. Kilimanjaro is not instantly associated with "beauty", but it is an extraordinarily scenic mountain. The journey through the ever changing ecosystems as you climb higher is a highlight of the climb, and the view from

the summit plateau as dawn breaks is truly breath-taking!

For acclimatisation for Kilimanjaro or even indeed as summits in their own right as part of a shorter itinerary, the nearby mountains of Mt Meru (4566m) and Oldonyo Lengai (2890m, Tanzania's only active volcano, and the world's only volcano erupting carbonate lava) are excellent options. Other options include the Usambara Mountains in the East of the country - more reminiscent of the tea plantations of Sri Lanka or Southern India than East Africa.

No visit to Tanzania would be complete without at least a short safari, and in the parks of Tarangire, Lake Manyara and of course the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater, you have the choice of the best game reserves in the world.

Add to this a possible visit to the historical spice island of Zanzibar with its rich Arab, slave and spice history, as well as stunning beaches and turquoise seas and you have the perfect formula for a relaxing end to a trip.

Through our contacts with a wide variety of experienced East African tour operators, we can arrange trips to Tanzania in many different ways. Student led expeditions, bespoke self-supported camping adventures, tours, safaris, community project work and more besides. We will take time to fully understand your requirements for the trip and work with you in establishing a suitable itinerary.



Suggested Itineraries

2 weeks trekking adventure

- DAY 1** Fly UK to Arusha.
- 2** Lake Natron and Oldonyo Lengai.
- 3** Walk to Lake and waterfall.
- 4/5** Climb Lengai (2890m).
- 6** Ngorongoro crater, game drive.
- 7** Lake Manyara, after lunch to Arusha.
- 8/11** Climb Mt. Meru (4566m).
- 12/14** Community Project work.
- 15** PM departure for flight home.
- 16** Arrive UK.

2 weeks Best of Kenya / Tanzania

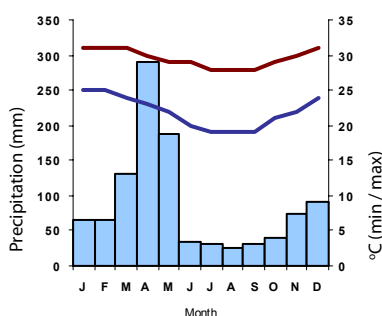
- Day 1** Depart London.
- 2** Arrive Nairobi; transfer to Lake Naivasha, with time to enjoy the lake.
- 3** Boat trip on the lake; drive to Kambu.
- 4** Full day in Nakuru N.P. with its huge flamingo population.
- 5** Enter Tanzania and camp Lake Victoria.

Geography & Climate

Tanzania is East Africa's largest country and a diverse land of plains, lakes glorious beaches and spectacular mountains. The coastal region is low-lying, while the majority of the country is a highland plateau. The habitats range from semi-desert, savannah and scattered bush to lush forests in the west of the country. The north of the country is home to the highest mountain in Africa, Mt. Kilimanjaro (5895m/19,340ft).

Tanzania's climate is defined by its wet and dry seasons, but much of the highland country is cooler than the country's tropical situation would suggest. The "long rains" of March to early June are followed by the main dry season which lasts until the end of October. This is the best time to visit as the views and wildlife watching possibilities are at their best. November sees the "short rains" which can sometimes extend into December, but this period of rainfall is often not as intense as the main rain season earlier in the year. January and February are also normally good times to visit.

Dar Es Salaam



6 Into the Serengeti, game drives and camp at Seronera.

7 More time in the Serengeti then drive to the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater.

8 Game drive in Landrovers on the crater floor, then drive along the Rift Valley escarpment, with views of Lake Manyara.

9 Camel safari or walk to a Masaai village; short drive to Marangu.

10 Day walk on Kilimanjaro.

11 Through the sisal plantations to Korogwe and on to Dar-es-Salaam.

12-14 Take the ferry to Zanzibar for 3 days. Explore old Stone Town and enjoy the spectacular Indian Ocean beaches.

15 Morning free; afternoon depart.

16 Arrive London.

1 month

DAY 1 Fly UK to Arusha.

2/5 Acclimatisation climb Mt. Meru.

6/11 Climb Kilimanjaro (5896m).

12 Rest day.

13/18 Project work.

19 Drive Arusha to Usambara Mountains.

20/23 Walks in the Usambaras.

24 Drive to Dar, transfer to Zanzibar.

25 Stone Town.

26 Transfer to beach for rest & relaxation.

27/28 Rest day.

29 Afternoon return to Dar, depart for UK.

30 Arrive UK.

National Holidays

Jan 1: New Year's Day.

Jan 12: Zanzibar Revolution Day.

Easter: March/April

Apr 26: Union Day.

May 1: Labour Day –Eid al-Moulid.

Jul 7: Saba Saba (Peasants' Day).

Aug 8: Nane Nane (Farmers' Day).

Dec 9: Independence Day.

Dec 25: Christmas Day.

Dec 26: Boxing Day.

Other: Eid al-Kebir, Eid al-Fitr, Ramadan (dates vary according to Islamic calendar).

Festivals

Mid July: The Festival of the Dhow Countries is East Africa's largest cultural event and occurs on Zanzibar around the historical areas along the waterfront of Stone Town. The festival celebrates the unique heritage of Africa and the Dhow countries of the Indian Ocean region.

Regulations & Red Tape

A full passport, valid for 6 months after your return date, is required for travel to Tanzania. British passport holders need a visa (currently US\$50) which can be obtained on arrival or prior to departing the UK. Travellers on itineraries taking in Zanzibar must be in possession of a valid yellow fever vaccination certificate.

Price Guide

Prices vary enormously depending on the length and style of trip required, as well as the number of participants involved. Prices for a two week itinerary start at around £1,600 per person (including international flights) rising to around £3,500 for an extended expedition including Kilimanjaro.

Useful Addresses

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More Information

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