

EXPLORE!

Family Serengeti, Safari and Zanzibar
12 days

Tanzania - Trip code FTZ



Family Serengeti, Safari and Zanzibar

On this exhilarating family holiday we track Africa's greatest wildlife, visiting three of Tanzania's famous safari parks in the search of the Big Five. We walk through coffee plantations and waterfalls on the slopes of Kilimanjaro, we canoe on a crater lake and visit local tribes in their villages. From the mainland we fly to the exotic Spice Island of Zanzibar, where we explore the narrow streets of Stone Town and unwind beside the Indian Ocean. **TRIPLE ROOMS** This trip allows the option for triple rooms to be included within the booking on a selected number of night stops within the holiday. If you would like this option, a discount may be applicable on the cost of the trip - please ask our Sales team for further information.

Trip highlights

- ★ **Views of Kilimanjaro** - Walk on the slopes of Kilimanjaro and meet local people in their villages surrounded by coffee plantations.
- ★ **Ngorongoro** - Stunning wildlife in the world's largest crater
- ★ **Serengeti** - Seeking out predators in the most iconic national park in Africa.
- ★ **Stone Town** - Labyrinthine of alleys and whitewashed houses
- ★ **Zanzibar** - Swimming in crystal clear water

ACCOMMODATION GRADE:

Standard

Our standard, mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service, often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en suite facilities.

TRIP PACE:

Moderate

Moderate pace tours are ideal if you want a holiday which combines exciting activities and experiences with plenty of time to relax and unwind. Typically you'll be active and busy for part of the day but then also have time to rest and recharge your batteries.

GROUP SIZE:

10 - 16

Maximum group size ranges from between 6 to 20 people, depending on the type of trip, the transport and accommodation used and activities included. We rarely have groups that are smaller than five or six people and the average is 12 people plus an Explore leader.

Itinerary

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

DAY 1 - In Moshi; coffee plantation visit

This afternoon we take a walk around our lodge that comprises of 30 acres of arable land that is all situated in the foothills of Kilimanjaro. We stroll through lush gardens, visit the coffee plantation and learn about how coffee is grown, harvested and processed.



Accommodation: Kilemakyaro Mountain Lodge (or similar)



Premium Lodge



Swimming pool available



Meals Provided: Dinner

DAY 2 - Visit Materuni Waterfalls and forest walk

Today we head out to the small village of Materuni which is a short distance outside Moshi and set in dramatic landscape with hills and deep valleys covered in tropical rain forest. You will get a taste of life of the local Chagga tribe who live here. From the village it is a short walk to a 150m high waterfall passing smaller waterways and irrigation systems along the way as well as seeing farmland where local farmers grow coffee, bananas and other fruit and vegetables. You can even take a swim near the waterfall.



Accommodation: Kilemakyaro Mountain Lodge (or similar)



Premium Lodge



Swimming pool available



Meals Provided: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY 3 - Visit Lake Duluti for canoeing, drive to Arusha and visit Meserani Snake Park

Today we will visit Lake Duluti, a small crater lake located 11km east of Arusha. The dense forest around the lake is home to a variety of wildlife, reptiles and over 140 species of birds including giant kingfisher, fish eagle, darters and barbet. The canoeing will last a couple of hours on the tranquil waters of the lake, allowing you the opportunity of getting close to nature in the serene surroundings. We will then continue onwards to Arusha and our hotel. In the afternoon we will visit the Meserani Snake Park. Here you will learn about some of the most dangerous snakes in the world, from the Black and Green Mamba, Egyptian Cobra and Puff Adders as well as watch the crocodiles at feeding time.



Accommodation: Ilboru Safari Lodge (or similar)



Standard Lodge



Swimming pool available



Meals Provided: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY 4 - Drive to Lake Manyara National Park: afternoon game drive

Our adventure begins this morning as we drive toward the Great Rift Valley, one of the continent's most geologically important features. We continue our journey on to the western escarpment and the dramatic setting of Lake Manyara, a shallow soda lake that abounds with birds, hippos and elephants. On arrival at our lodge you may like to take an optional walk down to the edge of the lake with a local guide from our lodge to enjoy the surroundings with the local baobabs and prolific birdlife in the area. Alternatively you may prefer to relax and take a swim in the pool. In the afternoon we will embark on our first game drive in Lake Manyara National Park. Despite being one of Tanzania's smallest parks its incredible diversity has earned it status as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and much of the 360 sq km of parkland is taken up with water, affording a spectacular variety of habitats along the shoreline for a dazzling concentration of animal and birdlife. The algae rich waters of the lake attract huge flocks of flamingos, while the rich vegetation and cooling pools attract elephant, hippo and buffalo in large numbers. Antelope, zebra, giraffe and baboons also graze along the lakeshore and the rare sight of tree-climbing lions has also been seen in the park sharing the branches with some of the 380 recorded species of birds found here. Please note that drones are not permitted in any Tanzania National Park without a permit, please refer to the equipment section of the trip notes for more information.



Accommodation: Manyara Wildlife Safari Camp (or similar)



Standard Lodge



Swimming pool available



Meals Provided: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY 5 - Full day's drive to Serengeti National Park via Ngorongoro Conservation Area

Today we have a long but rewarding journey into the world famous Serengeti National Park. The scenery and views are spectacular as we drive along the Ngorongoro Crater and through the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. We pass several Maasai homesteads and then arrive at the Olduvai Gorge, where in 1959, anthropologists Dr and Mrs Leakey discovered the remains of an almost intact

human skull named Nutcracker Man. It was here at this important prehistoric site, together with other startling discoveries, that have contributed to the furthering understanding of early human development. Olduvai Gorge and the fossils that it contains give a unique insight into the way that this part of the world has changed and humans with it. Accompanied by a local guide we visit Olduvai Gorge visitor centre and museum to learn more of this fascinating place and its secrets. Later today we will enter the Serengeti at Naabi Hill Gate. Serengeti is the Maasai name that means the endless grass plains and it is through these plains interspersed with granite outcrops that we travel to our lodge. Once in the Serengeti we'll move slowly through the park, keeping a close eye out for game.



Accommodation: Serengeti Simba Lodge (or similar)



Premium Tented Camp



Swimming pool available



Meals Provided: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY 6 - Game Drives in Serengeti National Park

Covering some 15,000 sq km the Serengeti is the oldest and largest park in Tanzania. It is on these plains that we focus most of our attention with early morning and late afternoon game drives in search of the 'Big 5' and so much more. Our exact movements are dependent upon the location and concentration of wildlife. We may head to the Retima Hippo Pool, the Moru Kopjies or perhaps the Seronera River area in search of leopard and lion. Cheetahs are often seen out on the Serengeti plains and during the annual migration hundreds of thousands of wildebeest and zebra move north-westward, covering some 800 km from the central plains through the park's 'long corridor', towards richer grazing lands and fresh water. These spectacular journeys are often fraught with danger as their long trek invariably draws the attention of the ever present predators - lion, leopard, hyena and crocodile. This is nature in its rawest sense, where the struggle for survival is played out daily across these expansive plains.



Accommodation: Serengeti Simba Lodge (or similar)



Premium Tented Camp



Swimming pool available



Meals Provided: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY 7 - Drive back through the Serengeti to Ngorongoro Crater for game viewing and continue on to Karatu

This incredible natural amphitheatre presents us with the perfect setting for some remarkable game viewing and this morning we enter the caldera in search of big game. Not that we have to look far, as this setting provides a rich haven for herbivores and carnivores alike. The open plains thunder beneath the hooves of countless zebra, buffalo, black rhino and antelope, whilst predators like lion and hyena thrive amidst this plentiful open-air buffet, and all against a stunning backdrop of dramatic cliffs and lush vegetation that present perfect photo opportunities. After our morning's safari we drive back through the Serengeti with further opportunities for game viewing including descending into the crater where we have lunch before heading to Karatu where we stay overnight.



Accommodation: Karatu Simba Lodge (or similar)



Premium Lodge



Swimming pool available



Meals Provided: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

DAY 8 - Drive Arusha; fly to Zanzibar

This morning we may have the opportunity of visiting a village orphanage in Mto Wa Mbu before returning to Arusha for our onward flight to Zanzibar. If you would like to give useful gifts such as stationary, footballs and toys to the children, this is possible - mention this to your Explore Leader before the visit itself. The exotic spice island of Zanzibar, a land of sun-kissed beaches, Arabian dhows and swaying palms, where the rich smell of spice in Stone Town's old quarter mingles with colonial and Arabic architecture to create a perfect getaway island. Zanzibar's glorious scenery, fascinating culture and remarkable history makes any visit to the island a captivating experience, with beaches and reefs to explore, plantations to wander through and a rich history of conquests, slavery and pirates to investigate.



Accommodation: Tembo Hotel (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Meals Provided: Breakfast & Lunch

DAY 9 - In Stone Town; optional 'Spice Tour'

Today we take a walking tour of Zanzibar's ancient capital of Stone Town. We meander through a landscape of labyrinthine alleys and whitewashed houses, where the pungent aroma of coffee and spices permeate the town and the backstreets are filled with a cacophony of noise and colour. Much of the town was built on the back of trade and slavery, which at its height saw some 60,000 unfortunate souls processed through these narrow streets, to be shipped off to the far lands of Arabia, India and the overseas colonies of the European powers. The town still retains the feel of its Arab roots, many of the existing buildings dating back to the reign of Sultan Barghash in the 19th century. The end of the slave trade and a devastating cyclone saw the end of Zanzibar's heyday. The island passed from Arab to British to African hands over the intervening years and neglect followed, until Stone Town's inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage Listings saw a return to something of its previous glory. Those who wish to learn something of Zanzibar's rich history, visit the Sultan's palace and see clove plantations established by the Sultan in the 19th century can take an optional 'Spice Tour' of the island (including lunch).



Accommodation: Tembo Hotel (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available



Meals Provided: Breakfast

DAY 10 - Drive to Nungwi and relax on the beach

Today we drive to Zanzibar's north coast, an enchanting community of fishing vessels, coral reefs and wild beauty. The rest of the day is free to explore, or just relax on the beach.



Accommodation: Sunshine Hotel (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available

DAY 11 - Free day for optionals & beach activities

Our final day on the island has been left free for optional activities. It's easy to spend time watching the fishermen bringing in their catch. Stroll along the beach admiring the idyllic vistas, or venture out by boat onto the colourful offshore reefs with mask and snorkel. The rich seas around the island teem with a colourful array of tropical fish and marine life, everything from sharks and turtles to tiny bright damsel fish. For anyone qualified these waters also present fabulous opportunities to scuba dive.



Accommodation: Sunshine Hotel (or similar)



Standard Hotel



Swimming pool available

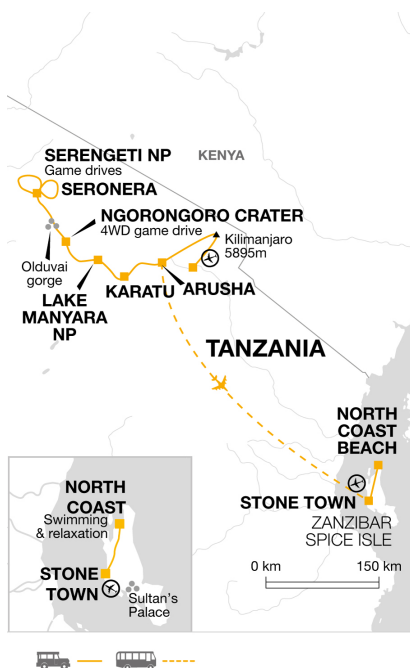
DAY 12 - Tour ends at Zanzibar Airport

Today we drive back to Stone Town, where our tour ends at the international airport.

Family information

Minimum age

7



Why book this trip

Families who are looking to view a wide range of wildlife need look no further than our adventure around Tanzania. The country boasts a number of premium game viewing locations including the famous Serengeti National Park and the Ngorongoro Crater which is renowned for its plentiful wildlife and this is combined with canoeing, meeting the local villagers and tribes and relaxing on the beach with swimming opportunities in Zanzibar. A wide range of accommodation awaits and a number of meals are included which all contribute to a good value game orientated holiday.

What's included?



Included meals

Breakfast: 11
Lunch: 7
Dinner: 7



Transport

4WD
Flight
Minibus



Trip staff

Explore Tour Leader
Driver(s)
Local Guide(s)



Accommodation

4 nights standard hotel
3 nights premium lodge
2 nights standard lodge
2 nights premium tented camp

Trip information

Country information

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Climate

The climate is tropical but varies greatly with altitude. Coastal areas are hot and humid, the central plateau dry and arid. It can be cold at night, particularly in June & July and at altitude. Generally the long rains arrive April/May and the short rains Nov/early Dec. Although this pattern can be completely erratic. Additional information and climate charts can be accessed at <http://www.explore.co.uk/weather>. Seasonal weather patterns can be unpredictable. Up-to-date information on the weather worldwide can be found by following the BBC weather link on this page.

Time difference to GMT

+3

Plugs

3 Pin Flat

Religion

Christian, Islam

Language

Swahili, English

Budgeting and packing

Optional activities

Zanzibar: Half day Spice Island Tour from Stone Town US\$27 - 40pp, from North Coast Beach Hotel US\$43 - 82pp; Sunset Dhow cruise from Stone Town US\$47pp, from North Coast Beach Hotel US\$75 - 107pp; Full day boat ride from Stone Town US\$43 - 94 pp, from North Coast Beach Hotel US\$55 - 119pp; North Coast Tour from Stone Town US\$43 - 88pp. Excursions fees are dependent on number of passengers booking.

Clothing

Clothing should be lightweight. A waterproof is recommended for the wetter months (April to May and mid November to mid December). Although it has been known to rain through June, July and August on the plateau. Warm sweaters or fleeces are advisable for tours in July and August, especially at the Ngorongoro Crater, and for the evenings and on early morning game drives. Bring a swimming costume and a towel plus water shoes. A scarf is useful to protect you from dust on game drives. Bright clothes should be avoided for walking safaris. A laundry service is available in some of the accommodation, your tour leader will advise accordingly. Binoculars are certainly handy.

Footwear

Lightweight safari boots or walking shoes/trainers and sandals plus plastic sandals or water shoes for the beach due to sea urchins.

Luggage

15Kg

Luggage: On tour

One main piece of baggage (a kitbag or holdall) plus daypack. Please note that it is important to keep within these restrictions. The limit does not include your camera equipment. Please note that the flight to/from Zanzibar allows a maximum luggage allowance of 15kg, for both hold and hand luggage combined. Any additional weight is applicable to excess luggage fees.

Equipment

A water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen and sunblock. Binoculars are useful, as is a telephoto lens - for photographing game. Snorkel and mask may be useful for Zanzibar and, while normally available locally, you may prefer to bring your own. Drones: Are not permitted in any National Park in Tanzania without a permit. Permits cost approximately US\$250 per 24 hrs. Please advise us at time of booking if you wish to take a drone with you into the National Park, as permits are difficult to obtain. If you launch a drone without a permit this will be confiscated by the Park officials.

Tipping

Explore leader

At your discretion you might also consider tipping your Tour Leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you receive.

Local crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, the Tour Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour. Accordingly, you should allow US\$30.

International Departure Taxes

Please note that a \$48 departure tax is applicable on all international flights departing from Zanzibar. Most international tickets should include this tax in the cost of the ticket, please ensure you check with your flight agent/company concerning this. If your international ticket does not include the tax, it must be paid in cash at the airport.

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Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Dinner price

£13

Beer price

£1.6

Water price

£0.7

Foreign Exchange

Local currency

Tanzanian Shilling.

Recommended Currency For Exchange

US Dollars are preferable. Please be aware that any notes issued before 2006 will not be accepted

Where To Exchange

Banks or 'Forex' offices only in main towns/cities. Your Tour Leader will advise you on arrival.

ATM Availability

Major towns and cities will have ATMs available.

Credit Card Acceptance

Credit cards are generally not accepted.

Travellers Cheques

Take some to act as reserve funds.

Transport, Accommodation & Meals

Transport Information

4WD, Flight, Minibus

Accommodation notes

Booking a Single Room

All of our group tours are planned and operated on a twin-share basis, meaning that the standard cost is based either on individual travellers sharing accommodation with another group member of the same sex, or people who book together sharing accommodation. Please refer to the tour notes where the single room option availability is detailed on a night by night basis for this tour, and the price for the available nights is detailed on the dates & prices tab by departure date. For Self-Guided trips the Single Room supplement offers the option of a single room each and is charged per person. The Single Room supplement also applies to the third person in a party of three that will be accommodated in a single room.

Our first two night's accommodation is located at the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro and is an ideal base for safaris into the National Parks. The lodge is surrounded by beautiful tropical gardens with facilities that include a bar and restaurant which is in the main building that was originally the farmhouse for the coffee plantation. Local and international cuisine is served. The swimming pool has great views of Kilimanjaro itself and the rooms are tastefully decorated in a traditional design. We then move onto a hotel that is just outside Arusha city, located with splendid views of a banana plantation and close to the countries National Parks. The rooms are stylish, with all modern amenities combined with a restaurant, bar and lounge facility. There is also a veranda which overlooks the swimming pool with an extensive sun deck. The safari camp in Manyara is close by the Serengeti, Ngorongoro and Manyara game reserves and is set in wilderness surrounded by the rugged hills of the rift valley escarpment and views of the hills and Lake Manyara. Accommodation is in safari tents and cottages, complete with modern facilities with a restaurant serving continental classics and contemporary Indian and traditional dishes - vegetables and herbs are grown from the local villages. The swimming

pool is located in front of the dining area which is great for cooling off after a day spent on safari. We then move into the Serengeti National Park with a stay in tented accommodation with dining and lounge facilities that have been specifically designed for minimum impact on the environment and to blend into the surrounding habitat. Each tented unit contains an en-suite shower and toilet facility which uses solar water heating and a deck that overlooks the savannah woodland of the Serengeti. Power connections are available for charging telephones and cameras. As the camp is located in a wilderness area, wildlife can frequently enter the camp which provides a close up safari experience. We stay on an old colonial farm house in Karatu which faces the Oldeani Volcano. The accommodation is rustically decorated with local materials and rooms are spacious with en-suite bathrooms and built in showers. Meals are normally served in the main building close to the pool. Our hotel accommodation in Zanzibar once served as the American consulate and has a range of antique furniture and ornaments from all over the world including wood carved furniture which are rarely seen in other countries. We sleep on the unique Swahili beds with most rooms over-looking the beach and swimming pool courtyard. Each air-conditioned bedroom is self-contained. Facilities include a restaurant, swimming pool and roof terrace. The final two nights are spent in the beach resort in the north of the island in bungalows by the beach with great views of the Indian Ocean. All the properties used on this tour have Wi-Fi.

Essential information

FCO Advice

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice [click here](#).

For more information from Explore about travel advice, [click here](#)

Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

Essential Information

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. [Booking Conditions](#)

Visa Information

Tanzania: A single visa is required by UK, New Zealand, Australian, US & Canadian citizens. Visas can be arranged on arrival, but due to queues at immigration we recommend for the visa to be arranged in advance.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

Booking conditions

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our [Essential Information](#) and [Booking Conditions](#).

Transfers

[Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.](#)

Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer [click here](#)

Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. [Read more about them here.](#)

Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

Non refundable permits

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Vaccinations

We strongly recommend protection against malaria, hepatitis A, tetanus, typhoid, polio and yellow fever. Please note you are required to produce a valid yellow fever certificate on arrival in Tanzania if you have spent 10 hours or more transiting through an endemic country. Consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. Travellers may also wish to take immunisation against meningococcal meningitis. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at <http://www.explore.co.uk/Travelhealth/> and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed before departure
