

Tanzania Prelude

Entrance Requirements

Passports

- A valid passport is required for entry into Tanzania.
- Passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your scheduled return.
- You will need 2 blank pages per country for entry and exit stamps. "Two blank pages" is defined as the front and back of a page.
- If you need a new passport to be issued act now: It can take up to 6 weeks to receive your new passport. It is no longer possible to purchase additional pages for an existing passport. If you travel frequently, please consider purchasing a 52-page passport. For more information contact the National Passport Information Center at <http://www.travel.state.gov>.

Advisory: When you travel, we recommend that you make two copies of your first passport page; keep one copy at home in the unlikely event that your passport is lost, and take one copy along to use as an ID, should you leave your passport behind in the hotel safe deposit box.

Visa

A visa is required for U.S. citizens to enter Tanzania. You may obtain a Tanzanian visa on arrival at Kilimanjaro International Airport in Arusha however we recommend securing your visa in advance in order to avoid long lines; the process is simple but can take some time.

To secure your visa in advance you must submit a completed application form, two passport-sized photos, along with your passport and the processing fee.

You can use this excellent service to obtain your visa: www.g3visas.com/ClassicEscapes.html

If you choose not to use the suggested visa services, you may elect to obtain your visa directly through the proper consulate office. Further information can be found at: www.tanzaniaembassy-us.org/

The current fee is U.S. \$100 payable by personal check, money order or by credit card with a Visa or MasterCard; American Express is not accepted. Processing takes approximately 5 business days however express service is available for an additional fee.

- Please note that Tanzania no longer issues multiple-entry visas in advance. If your program necessitates multiple entries, the additional entry visa can be obtained on site at the time you re-enter the country.

To secure your visa on arrival you should proceed to the booth identified with a large sign- *I NEED A VISA*, located to the right inside the arrivals hall. The process is easy but depending on the number of arrivals the lines may be quite long.

Passengers must present the following documents:

- US Passport, valid for at least 6 months beyond your departure date from Tanzania. The passport must have two (2) blank pages available for each country you will be visiting.

- Air ticket or a copy of your flight itinerary showing your departure
- US\$100 cash in clean, undamaged bills not older than 2006. We recommend paying in denominations no greater than \$20 notes.

At the Immigration booth, your photo and fingerprints will be taken then your single-entry Tanzanian visa will be placed in your passport and you may proceed to the immigration booth and then on to baggage claim to collect your luggage.

Health & Wellness

A Yellow Fever shot is mandatory for visitors entering Tanzania but only if you are coming from a Yellow Fever endemic zone. This is being reinforced at immigration posts at borders and airports. In general, the easiest and safest thing to do is to get a yellow fever vaccination before you depart the USA and a signed yellow fever certificate, which you should carry with your passport. After immunization, an International Certificate of Vaccination is issued. It becomes valid 10 days after vaccination to meet entry and exit requirements for all countries. The Certificate is good for life. You must take the Certificate with you.

In addition, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) suggest that you be up to date on routine vaccines such as:

- MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
- DTP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis)
- Varicella (chicken pox)
- Polio
- Influenza

The CDC recommends these vaccines for MOST travelers. They are NOT mandatory:

- Hepatitis A
- Influenza
- Typhoid

In addition, consult your doctor for a prescription for a **Malaria** suppressant at least two weeks prior to departure as some tablets must be taken a week before you depart, as well as during and after trip.

Zika Virus

Zika is endemic to both Kenya and Tanzania; the CDC notes the risk of contracting the virus in either country is very low but recommends steps be taken to prevent mosquito bites. The Zika virus is spread mainly by mosquitoes but there is also a risk of contracting the disease through sexual contact. For most people, symptoms are so mild that they are unaware of having contracted the virus. Once infected it may take several days before any symptoms occur, and last for up to a week. The most common symptoms are fever, headache, rash, joint pain and red eyes. The Center for Disease Control provides the following advice for protection from contracting the Zika Virus:

- Use insect repellent that contains at least 20% DEET such as Cutter Backwoods and Off! Deep Woods and Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus. If you are using Sunscreen, apply it first,

let dry and then apply repellent. (Do not use products that contain both sunscreen and repellent)

- Cover Exposed Skin as much as possible with long-sleeved shirts, long pants, socks and a hat.
- Consider using clothing and gear that are treated with permethrin (an insecticide). You can purchase a solution to treat your own clothes or purchase pre-treated clothing available through outdoor outfitters such as REI or Columbia Sportswear.
- Zika can be spread through sexual contact, so use latex condoms for up to eight weeks.

When you return home, you should continue to take these precautions for up to three weeks, watch for symptoms and call your doctor if you suspect Zika.

Additional Information:

The CDC offers information regarding malaria prevention at:

- www.cdc.gov/travel/malariadrugs.htm

The CDC offers information regarding Zika virus prevention at:

- www.cdc.gov/zika/about/index.html

The CDC issues regular travel health notices on their website:

- wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/tanzania

The CDC publishes a helpful Healthy Travel Packing List here:

- wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/tanzania/traveler/packing-list

Please consult your physician, local health authority or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's hotline for international travelers at 877-FYI-TRIP (877-394-8747) or via their web site at www.cdc.gov/travel for any additional health precautions. For outbreaks of infectious diseases abroad consult the World Health Organization's web site at www.who.int/en. Further health information for travelers is available at <http://www.who.int/topics/en/>.

Water & Food

Food, even on safari, is carefully prepared, and the local cuisine is refreshing. Most meals will include a buffet of some kind, whether it is the entire meal or a portion of it. Generally, water throughout eastern Africa is **NOT** safe to drink directly from the tap. Fortunately, bottled water is readily available, so please do not allow yourself to become dehydrated. In remote areas water is usually boiled or bottled and is safe to drink but not from the tap. It is very important that you drink plenty of water especially during the warmer months. It is generally recommended that guests drink at least 2 to 3 litres (4 to 6 pints) of water per day to limit the effects of dehydration. This excludes tea, coffee and alcoholic beverages, which act as diuretics and actually contributes to dehydration.

Physical Conditioning

To enjoy your trip to the fullest, you should be in good physical and mental health. Your safari will not include strenuous activity. Your biggest workout may be at the buffet table at meals! It is an easy climb into the safari minibuses and open vehicles and your game drives allow you to sit back and take in the view around you. Rough roads may bounce you around so you should be prepared. Walking safaris (when available) are given at a decent pace in order to closely examine the flora and fauna of the area.

Travel Insurance & Medical Evacuation

We recommend that you consider a Trip Cancellation policy that also includes medical coverage and evacuation against unforeseen circumstances.

Climatic Conditions

Located just south of the equator, Tanzania has a sunny, tropical climate. Your safari will take place between 3,000 and 8,000 ft. of elevation, giving you warm days and cool nights.

Altitude

Eastern Africa holds many variations in altitude. At certain heights, the phenomenon known as altitude sickness can occur. There are no specific factors such as age, gender, or physical condition that correlates with susceptibility to altitude sickness. Some people get it and some people don't, and some people may experience it one visit and not the next time. Symptoms include headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, lack of concentration, nausea, swelling of ankles, and in extreme cases, hallucination. Avoid alcohol, cigarettes, heavy food and strenuous physical activity. Citrus fruits and bananas may diminish the effects. If you do not feel well, take it easy. Put your feet up, drink plenty of clean (boiled or bottled) water, and take a siesta after lunch.

Altitude Chart: (Feet)

Arusha	4,475
Dar es Salaam	3
Lake Manyara National Park	3,959
Mt. Kilimanjaro (peak)	19,340
Ngorongoro (lodges)	7,800
Ngorongoro Crater	5,600
Ruaha National Park	2,460 - 6,230
Selous Game Reserve	118-4793
Serengeti National Park	3,000 - 6,000
Tarangire National Park	3,325
Zanzibar	131

Temperature

From December to March, temperatures average in the 80's and 90's during the day and 60's and 70's at night. You might need a sweater or sweatshirt when riding in the safari vehicle in early morning, but it warms up quickly. April brings long periods of rain, but the rest of the year the weather is glorious for safaris. When staying on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater, it gets chilly in June, July and August - as low as 40 degrees at night, so bring warm clothing. November brings shorter periods of rain and a shift toward warmer temperatures. These short showers are often followed by brilliant sunshine, presenting incredible photo opportunities.

Average Temperature (°F)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Arusha	50/ 84	51/ 84	53/ 81	57/ 77	52/7 2	48/7 0	49/6 9	48/7 2	47/7 6	51/8 0	51/8 1	50/8 1
Dar es Salaam	76/ 95	77/ 95	77/ 98	74/ 94	73/8 3	70/9 3	70/9 2	72/8 9	73/8 6	76/8 7	78/8 8	75/9 6
Lake Manyara National Park	61/ 86	63/ 86	64/ 84	64/ 81	63/7 9	59/7 7	57/7 7	59/7 9	59/8 2	61/8 4	63/8 4	61/8 4
Ngorongoro Conservation Area	50/ 73	50/ 73	50/ 72	52/ 70	50/6 6	46/6 6	46/6 6	46/6 8	46/7 0	48/7 2	50/7 2	50/7 2

Ruaha National Park	66/84	66/84	66/84	66/84	63/82	59/82	57/81	59/82	61/86	64/88	66/90	68/86
Selous Game Reserve	72/84	72/84	72/84	70/82	68/81	64/79	63/79	64/81	66/82	70/84	72/86	73/86
Serengeti National Park	61/82	61/82	63/82	61/79	59/77	55/77	55/77	57/81	59/82	61/84	59/81	59/81
Tarangire National Park	61/84	61/84	63/82	64/81	61/77	57/77	55/75	57/77	59/81	61/84	63/84	63/84
Zanzibar	76/90	76/91	77/91	77/86	75/84	74/83	72/82	72/83	72/84	73/86	75/89	76/89
Average Rainfall (inches):	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Arusha	2.3	3.3	7.1	14.5	8.3	1.3	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.4	4.4	3.9
Dar es Salaam	0.7	2.8	7.4	11.2	3.8	0.9	0.6	1.3	0.7	3.5	5.5	1.8
Lake Manyara National Park	2.4	3.1	4.5	6.3	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	2.8	3.0
Ngorongoro Conservation Area	4.3	3.5	5.4	8.4	3.9	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.4	2.2	4.5	5.4
Ruaha National Park	5.9	4.8	5.2	4.1	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.3	1.7	5.9
Selous Game Reserve	8.7	4.8	5.2	4.1	0.7	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.9	2.6	6.0
Serengeti National Park	3.2	3.9	4.8	5.4	2.7	0.9	0.4	0.7	1.3	2.0	3.9	3.8
Tarangire National Park	3.1	3.1	5.1	6.7	2.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.6	4.4	4.3
Zanzibar	3.0	2.4	5.9	13.8	9.9	2.1	1.7	1.5	1.9	3.4	7.9	5.7

Recommended Packing List

Clothing

- Long-sleeved shirts, slacks and socks to protect you from insect bites and sunburn
- Shorts/skirts
- Long trousers/slacks
- Good quality sunglasses (preferably polarized).
- Sun hat with a brim
- Good walking shoes (running/tennis shoes are fine)
- Sandals or rubber flip/flops for poolside
- Swimsuit with light cover-up garment

- Lightweight jersey for cooler mornings
- Light raingear for summer months

Toiletries

- Personal toiletries (basic amenities supplied by many establishments)
- Moisturizing cream & suntan lotion
- Insect repellent e.g. Tabard, Rid, Jungle Juice, OFF, etc.
- Basic medical kit (aspirins, Imodium, antiseptic/Antihistamine cream, etc.)
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Packaged wet tissues ("Wash & Dry" "Wet Ones")
- If you wear contact lenses, we recommend that you bring along a pair of glasses in case you get irritation

Other Things To Pack

- Visas, tickets, passports, money, etc.
- Backpack to use during the day as you tour
- A small flashlight with extra batteries
- Adapter plugs & converters for electrical appliances
- A tiny calculator for estimating cost while shopping
- Binoculars

Camera Equipment

- Camera, memory cards, chargers and extra batteries
- Lenses, cleaning fluid, lens tissue
- Waterproof/dustproof bags/cover for your camera

Tips on Clothing

Three changes of clothes at the minimum is recommended and should be lightweight, breathable, and versatile. Pack items that will layer well together as the mornings will be cooler and you will want to be able to shed them as the day heats up. Supplex pants and chinos travel better than jeans, which take forever to dry. Avoid bright colors, blues and reds which can be distracting to wildlife and also dark colors which absorb heat. Your best bet is to stick to light muted colors. Pale earth colors such as tan or olive are best for viewing wildlife and birds, but camouflage clothes are illegal in many African countries.

Your primary footwear should be closed toe and comfortable. Open toes can "open" you up to insect bites, stubbed toes, thorns, et cetera. Flip flops should be limited to poolside, the beach or a shower stall. Take care of your feet and they will take care of you, and that includes having socks which can prevent blisters and insect bites.

Power & Connectivity

Most lodges and camps are situated in remote areas and generate their own electricity. Each camp has a generator that runs for about six hours per day (three hours in the morning and three in the afternoon when guests are out on activities). These generators charge batteries located at each tented room or supply power to each lodge room. Typically, power will be available when you are in the lodge or camp, except for overnight. It is imperative that you have your own flashlight handy. Electrical plug outlets are not always available in guest rooms however there will be charging stations in a central location such as a "Charging Tent" or Lounge.

At a Glance

Voltage	220-240 Volts / 50Hz
Adapter Type D	
Adapter Type G	

Cell Phones

Many travelers bring along their cell phones, not only for connecting to the internet and making phone calls, but for the easy to use camera functions. If you plan on using it as a phone keep in mind North American phones may not in Tanzania, particularly in remote areas. Check with your service provider to determine if you can purchase a plan, or if your phone can be “unlocked”. If it can, you should be able to purchase inexpensive prepaid SIM cards.

Advisory: As most people travel to “get away from it all,” some limitations on the use of these phones when on tour need to be set. We suggest the following guidelines on the use of cell phones:

1. Keep the ring tone at a low volume to avoid disturbing other guests.
2. Use your phone in the privacy of your room and not any of the common areas: dining room, bar/lounge area, or on any of the vehicles.
3. Use your phone for outgoing calls and to check messages only. Incoming calls, and the loud ringing that ensues, should be curtailed.

Time

Tanzania is in the Eastern Africa Time Zone which is 8 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time(EST). When it's noon in New York, it is 8 PM in Tanzania, except during Daylight Savings Time, when Tanzania is only 7 hours ahead of the eastern U.S.

EQUIPMENT

Cameras

From smartphones to SLR cameras, digital photography has now made it simpler than ever to preserve the memories experienced during once-in-a-lifetime adventures. Most digital cameras use either an SD (secure digital) card or a CF (compact flash) card that comes in a variety of storage capacities ranging from 2-128 GB (gigabytes). Depending on the megapixel size of your particular camera and the format in which you choose to shoot your images, an 8GB card can hold as few as 200 images shot in RAW format (normally shot by pros and serious amateurs) to just over 2000 images shot as JPEGs (most common format shot by enthusiasts). For those cameras with megapixels higher than 12, it is recommended that at least 4-8GB cards are used and that you should always bring more than one card in case of card failure or corruption (rare but possible). If you are bringing a laptop, external USB hard drives of 1-2 TB (terabytes) are compact, relatively inexpensive, and an excellent way to store tens of thousands of images. In addition to ensuring that you bring the charger and adaptor/converter for the location to where you are traveling, it is highly recommended that you bring at least one spare, fully charged battery for your camera. There may be locations where dependable power is not available for charging and spare batteries may prove to be invaluable and help ensure that you don't miss any photo opportunities.

Video

Charging facilities for video AND digital cameras should be available in every camp or lodge on the safari, as long as you have a standard charger that will plug into 220 volts. Please bring along enough batteries to last you at least three days of filming.

Binoculars

There will be an opportunity to observe some of the natural treasures of Namibia. Binoculars will add immeasurably to your viewing enjoyment. Preferably, binoculars should be at least 8 power (8x) and have a wide field of view to allow you to quickly find whatever it is you want to see. Some binoculars have the added advantage of "gathering light," making objects brighter in dim morning and evening conditions. This light-gathering capability is determined by a measurement called the "exit pupil", which is calculated by dividing the diameter of the front (objective) lens in millimeters by the power (8x, for example). These two measurements are commonly designated on binoculars as a measurement such as 8x42, which translates to 8 power with a 42 mm objective lens. The exit pupil in this instance is $42/8$, or 5.25. Since the human eye can process light delivered by an exit pupil of about 4.0, these binoculars will appear bright even in dim light.

Some very small binoculars are relatively inexpensive, such as 8x21. With a very narrow field of view (usually about 400 feet at 1,000 yards) and an exit pupil of only $21/8 = 2.6$, these binoculars are designed for viewing stationary objects in bright light, such as at the opera, and are poorly designed for looking at wildlife. You will be far happier with binoculars designated in the range of 8x40 to 10x50.

Flashlights

As the grounds of many lodges and camps are unfenced, it is essential that you bring a small flashlight as you may encounter wild animals at night. You should also bring a spare globe as well as batteries as they may be unobtainable en route.

MONEY MATTERS

Currency

There are several options available for payment of goods and services: U.S. Dollars are commonly accepted, credit cards and, of course, local currency. Foreign currency in cash may be exchanged at the commercial banks, lodges and camps during your journey, or at the bureau de change operating at the international airports, major towns and border posts.

The unit of currency is the Tanzania Shilling (TShs) which is divided into 100 cents. It comes in notes of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 1,000, 5,000 and 10,000 denominations. Visitors can bring with them any amount of foreign currency but it is against the law to import or export Tanzania Shillings therefore, try not to exchange more currency than you will need.

Credit Cards/ATMs

Some major credit cards are accepted such as MasterCard and Visa, but American Express, Discover and Diners Club are often not accepted. You should not depend on your ATM card outside of the U.S. unless your bank advises otherwise. Local banks will give you notes in local currency.

Note: As there is a potential for fraud anywhere in the world, we highly recommend that you do not use your debit cards overseas and exercise caution when using your credit cards. Do not let the card out of your sight and if a vendor tries to take the card into a back room, ask for your card back immediately and

refrain from using it. Keep your valuables on you, including passports and credit cards, or locked in the safety deposit boxes when provided.

Shopping:

The art of shopping and negotiating in Tanzania is dominated by souvenir sellers. Handmade items may be purchased at market stalls, roadside stands, and from street peddlers. Be prepared for a strong sales pitch, offering bargain prices on handicrafts. Prices are initially determined based on what these sellers believe you will pay, but can generally be bargained down to a low price. A good rule of thumb is to counter at slightly below half the first price given and take it from there. Chances are you will get a fair price, and the vendor will still walk away with a good profit. Don't be intimidated by the number of peddlers offering similar goods, or you may end up with more souvenirs than you can easily carry home.

If quality is an issue you may want to make your purchases at some of the more established shops in the larger cities, but be prepared to pay higher prices. Tanzanite gems can be found in many shops. Baskets made from sisal are durable and generally well made. Batiks and wax paintings may be found in the larger shops and stalls. Tribal beads and bracelets are predominant, and will be presented to you for purchase almost anywhere you go. Check the quality closely and be prepared to bargain before you make a purchase. Wood carvings are economical and are found in every animal shape as well as salad servers and napkin rings. Makonde statues are wood carvings traditionally made from ebony. Watch for fakes made from lighter woods and shoe polish, which can be identified by the lighter weight and scratches showing the true color of the wood.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Etiquette

Handshakes are commonly used as the form of greeting one another. Many times Tanzanians will continue to hold your hand throughout a conversation. You greet the person with most seniority first, followed by others, with women last. A man should not try to shake a woman's hand unless she extends hers first. Elders deserve an enormous amount of respect and appreciation as they are considered more knowledgeable. Try not to pass anything or touch anything with your left hand. Public display of affections should not be shown as is it seen offensive and should remain behind closed doors.

Respecting Wildlife

- The wild animals are not like those found in theme parks – they are **not** tame.
- Many safari camps are unfenced and dangerous animals can (and do!) wander through the camps. Many of the animals and reptiles you will see are potentially dangerous. Attacks by wild animals are rare. However, there are no guarantees that such incidents will not occur.
- Please listen to the lodge and camp staff and guides. The safety precautions need to be taken seriously, and strictly adhered to.
- Don't go wandering off on your own without a guide – even to your rooms. After retiring to your rooms at night, don't leave them.
- Observe animals silently and with a minimum of disturbance to their natural activities. Loud talking on game drives can frighten the animals away.
- Never attempt to attract an animal's attention. Don't imitate animal sounds, clap your hands, pound the vehicle or throw objects.
- Please respect your driver-guide's judgment about proximity to lions, cheetahs and leopards. Don't insist that he take the vehicle closer so you can get a better photograph. A vehicle driven too close can hinder a hunt or cause animals to abandon a hard-earned meal.

- At Classic Escapes, we respect wildlife and are committed to the preservation of the national parks. Off-road driving is strictly prohibited. Please do not encourage your driver to drive off-road where it is not allowed simply to get a good photo, as the damage to the environment might be irreparable.
- Litter tossed on the ground can choke or poison animals and birds and is unsightly.
- Never attempt to feed or approach any wild animal on foot. This is especially important near lodges or in campsites where animals may have become accustomed to human visitors.

Refrain from smoking on game drives. The dry African bush ignites very easily, and a flash fire can kill animals.