

Tembo Tours-Zanzibar

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ZANZIBAR TOURS & EXCURSIONS

Spice Tour (half day) Start 09h00 or 14h00

The cloves, nutmeg, cinnamon, pepper and many other spices, which brought the Sultans of Oman and the beginnings of the infamous slave trade, are the scenes that complete the history of Zanzibar. They can be seen in the spice farms just outside Stone Town: you will have an opportunity to dazzle the senses with fresh spices and a detailed description about the variety of spices and their uses in cooking and cosmetics.

Indeed no trip to Zanzibar could be considered complete without a visit to one of our carefully selected spice farms
Finally you will visit the Kidichi Persian Baths that were built by the first Sultan of Zanzibar named Sultan Said Said bin Sultan in 1850.



Assorted spices



Bixa (lipstick fruit)

Stone Town Tour (half day): Start 09h00 or 14h00

Zanzibar's capital, Stone Town, is what makes the island so different from a thousand other tropical isles. Behind its elegant waterfront, it is a place of winding alleys, bustling bazaars, mosques and grand Arab houses whose original owners fought with each other over the extravagance of their dwellings.

One of the most characteristic aspects of these ancient mansions is the brass-studded, carved, wooden doors - there are more than 500 different examples of this handiwork. The magnificent colors and perfumes and smells of Stone Town leaves a strong impact of a life time. The senses are heightened and the impact is sometimes overwhelming.

Amongst tour highlights are visits to the Town Market, Slave Market, National Museum, , Slave Chambers, Old German Consulate, Former English Gentleman's Club, Tip-Tip House, House of Wonders, Old Fort and Sultan's Palace,



The old dispensary building near the port



At the market



one of the many alleys

Kizimkazi- (half day): recommended start 06h00 am

Situated on the southern point of the island, Kizimkazi fishing village is home to several schools of bottle-nosed dolphins and Humpback dolphins, which can often be sighted following a short boat trip from the village. If you are lucky, you may be able to swim quite close to the dolphins, which can be a very rewarding experience. The best time to view the dolphins is the morning hours. Kizimkazi is also the site of a 12th century mosque, the earliest evidence of Islam in East Africa, and is thus worth a visit for both natural and cultural reasons.

The little village and beautiful beach of Kizimkazi, is located to the South of Zanzibar and is about an hour's drive from Stone town. The local fishermen have organized themselves to take visitors on trips to see the dolphins. Dolphins are frequently seen in this cove but like all wild animals there is never a guarantee that they will appear



Jozani Forest (half day) : Start 09h00 or 14h00

The Jozani forest reserve lies between Chwaka bay and Uzi bay and it is the only remaining natural forest of Unguja and represents a very important refuge for the fauna of the island. The most interesting animals include the rare red Colobus monkey and two small antelope species (Zanzibar Duiker and Sunni).

A day out in the Jozani forest reserve is no doubt a well worth while and rewarding experience.

. Red Colobus monkeys are the most famous inhabitants of the forest; a sub-species only found on this island, they can be seen calmly lazing around or fooling amongst themselves in the branches, their red coats a reminder of British colonial rule. But keep your eyes open and you may lucky enough to see Sunnis (small deer) and chameleons



Red Colobus monkeys

Prison Island (half day) Start 09h00 or 14h00

Prison Island is one of the nearest islands from Stone Town, just 20 minutes by boat. It is also known as Changuu Island. There are many trees and plants on this island and it is a delight to walk safely and unhindered through the dappled shadows. Birds a bound and bird watchers will find plenty of species to delight them.

Its original use was as a prison and later it was taken over to be used as quarantine station by the British Army. Another prison was then built but never used. Today prison Island is a pleasant destination for a day trip. It has some excellent coral formations just offshore providing a good opportunity for snorkeling.

Another main attraction is the giant tortoises which are over 100 years old. These tortoises are only found on this island. Not indigenous to continental Africa, the original tortoises were brought from Aldabra in the Seychelles in an effort to extend the tortoise conservation efforts. Aldabra is famous for harboring endemic and rare marine life species, and along with the Galapagos Islands, is one of the worlds few places where giant tortoises exist. Some of the tortoises at Prison Island were

rescued from poachers who were intercepted on their way from Aldabra to other parts of the world, where they would sell the animals to private collectors or zoos. These giant tortoises have been living in the Indian Ocean Islands for over 100 million years, but their numbers have fallen to such critically low levels that they are now classified as endangered. The adult tortoises of Prison Island are already producing the next generations, and the future is looking good for the continued survival of this ancient reptile



Giant tortoises

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Cultural Tour (half day) Start 09h00 or 14h00

Tour highlights

- *Visit of Mchangani village*
- *Kidimni village visit*
- *Visit a local school*

We'll get a firsthand glimpse at the everyday lives—and enduring traditions—of the Zanzibari people this morning, on a visit to two separate and very special villages. We begin by venturing to the island's northeast coast, to a beach community. Here we observe the local engage themselves in seaweed cultivation as a means of livelihood. We learn how the seaweed is nurtured from the initial stages to the point where it is ready for sale as a source of income for the beach community.

More than 30 world-class beaches line the coasts of Zanzibar Island—which itself is just 50 miles long. With its warm currents year-round, the sea here attracts a variety of marine life, as we can see in its pristine, shallow waters and lush coral reefs. On a visit to the village of Mchangani this morning, the local people who call this region home will teach us the many different uses of coconut and coconut products.

Next, we ride to Kidimni, a village that specializes in the construction of the famous Zanzibari doors that adorn Stone Town and the many homes in Zanzibar. Here, we'll meet the villagers, learn about their craft, and also visit a local school. Afterwards return to hotel in time for lunch



A brass studded Zanzibar door



A village woman weighing seaweed

Safari Blue (Full day) Start 08h00

The original and the best “Safari Blue” is a full day excursion using locally made traditional sailing dhows of between 8 to 10 metres in length. We currently operate 6 passenger-carrying dhows that are finished to the very highest standards and fitted with outboard engines, marine VHF radios, gas inflatable life jackets, sunshade, boarding ladder, waterproof bags and first aid kit. We also have public liability and marine insurance.

The excursion starts at the fishing village of Fumba, 30 minutes drive from Stone Town. Fumba is situated in the southwest corner of the island and is an ideal starting point to explore Menai Bay, designated a Conservation Area. The bay has a number of beautiful uninhabited islands and sandbanks and is frequented by humpback and bottlenose dolphins.

On arrival at Fumba, clients are given a briefing on the day and a life jacket demo. We then board the dhows and set off to explore the bay and find the dolphins. We are lucky enough to see dolphins on at least 85% of our trips.

Later in the morning we stop on a sandbank where we set up sunshades and fit the clients with snorkelling equipment. We have a large range of sizes and good quality equipment. Guides, who can safely lead the snorkelling session and show points of interest, accompany the clients. For beginners or those who are not confident swimmers, we have inflatable snorkelling vests and our guides can give tuition.

After snorkelling we offer fresh green coconuts before we move to a desert island for lunch. During the morning our catering boat has gone on ahead to prepare lunch, which is served on teak picnic tables set up beneath the shade of some tamarind trees.

Lunch is a traditional Zanzibari meal and includes a selection of grilled fish, slipper lobster, squid, and rice, tamarind and coriander sauces. A gastronomic fruit tasting follows with a selection of between 10 to 15 different tropical fruits. Cold drinks are available throughout the day and include mineral water, sodas and beer. Coffee and Amarula liqueur are also served after lunch. Toilets are available on the island.

When the tide allows we visit a beautiful mangrove lagoon where it is possible to swim through the mangrove forest.

We return to Fumba by sail and arrive back at 6 p.m. in time to see the colourful African sunset.

We advise clients that there are no formal changing facilities at Fumba so please wear your swimming things under your clothes. We also advise clients to bring waterproof shoes for boarding the dhows and to bring towels, sunscreen and a spare T-shirt for snorkelling.



assorted tropical fruits



Safari Blue typical boats

Sunset Dhow Cruise (Evening) (17:00 – 19:30 Daily)

Take a ride in one of our traditional sailing boat of the type used for centuries for carrying cargo between Zanzibar and the Arabian Gulf. The boat ride will give you an insight into the real Zanzibar. Our boats are equipped with safety equipment, sunshade, snorkeling equipment and boarding ladder. Sit back and relax, enjoy the Zanzibar breezes and crystal clear turquoise waters. Every day we offer a sunset cruise or an island hop including drinks and snacks



A dhow on the cruise

Nungwi Tour (full day)

A full day excursion to the extreme north of the island via Mkokotoni fish market, and Mvuleni (Fukuchani) where you can visit the Portuguese Ruins. There are a number of very interesting things to see and do including the traditional fishing village itself with residents speaking a peculiar Swahili dialect.

Then the turtle aquarium with various species. A traditional boat yard and local market are amazing. At the end of the walk you can either relax on the sandy beaches or go swimming in the natural sea. Lunch and refreshments are arranged there to taste local delicacies or international food as per you wish.



Turtles in the natural aquarium



A boat under construction at the boat yard

Swahili Breeze (full day)

Discover the hidden secrets of Stone Town's colourful past with Swahili Breeze. This fascinating city, with its narrow streets and stunning eclectic mix of architecture, cultures and religions, holds clues to a wealth of stories and amazing facts. This is a tour with a difference - discover the streets, buildings and people that make Stone Town such a special place to be.

Mid-morning, we leave the town and it is time to kick off your shoes and come aboard a traditional hand built Swahili Breeze dhow. At sea, find out how the trade winds and the dhow, together helped to shape Zanzibar's unique history.

The Swahili Breeze tour then sets you down on a natural sandbank rising out of the Indian Ocean - a true desert island experience. Here seated under our Sultan style shade, sip a cool drink, relax and enjoy a freshly cooked lunch using the finest fresh and local produce prepared with recipes from the Zanzibar kitchen.

For marine lovers, we'll kit you out with a snorkel and pair of fins and our Swahili Breeze crew will guide you over the coral reef close to the sandbank for another fascinating journey of discovery.

The Swahili Breeze sails you back to Stone Town with its colourful waterfront of historic buildings.

