



Population: 1.5 million, predominantly Muslim with diverse ethnic origins from Oman, Persia, India & Africa.



Time Zone: 00:00 | GMT/ UTC +3



Inbound Airlines: Ethiopian Airlines | Precision Airways | Qatar Airways | Fly Dubai & a number of charters from Europe



Languages: Swahili | English



Currency: Local: TZ Shilling
International: US Dollar



Size: 2 main islands:
Zanzibar - 100km long
Pemba - 60km long



National Bird: Crowned Crane
(National Bird of Tanzania)

CLIMATE

Just south of the equator, Zanzibar follows a similar weather pattern to Tanzania but, being an island, has a more humid climate. May - August enjoys the south easterly trade winds making it cooler but sunshine is never in short supply apart from in April & May when there can be periods of longer spells of rain and cloud cover.



Peak temperatures can hit 40°C in January & February.
Hot and humid

Dry season: June - October
Lovely long sunny days between 36 - 38 °C. Best time for scuba diving.



April & May welcomes the rainy season with a fresh, average daytime temperature of 24°C. November into December expects the short rains

Capital: Stonetown

Whale Sharks

September- December | Annual

Whilst diving conditions are good year round, whale sharks can be seen off the Mnemba Atoll between Sept & Dec.



Sauti za Busara

February | Annual | Stonetown

Sauti za Busara is a pan-African music festival celebrating cultural diversity & live performance. Africa's best loved and the largest music festival in East Africa, Sauti za Busara (Sounds of Wisdom) unites people from all corners of the world attending over three days of cultural extravaganza.

Showcase a diversity of performing arts, rooted in Swahili language and traditions.

Zanzibar International Film Festival

July | Annual | Stonetown

The largest cultural event in East Africa. ZIFF was built as a platform for reaching out to communities through film & the arts promoting local talent and providing in depth cultural tours.

Humpback Whale Migration

July - October | Annual

Best time to see Humpback Whales off Zanzibar.
Whitetip reef sharks, dolphins, and hawksbill turtles.

Manta & Eagle Rays

December - April | Annual

Best time to see Manta Rays. Eagle rays can be seen throughout most of the year (not April & May)

Stone Town Food Festival

October | Annual | Stonetown

Showcasing the town's offerings, from traditional Swahili cuisine through new additions from other countries. Also striving to increasing food and nutritional awareness, inspired by the UN World Food Day.