

# TANZANIA

*unsurpassed africa*



TANZANIA

The land of Kilimanjaro and Zanzibar

# A TOUCH OF AFRICAN MAGIC

*Imagine a country that can fulfill every holiday dream you ever had. A country of wide open spaces and magnificent wildlife, of idyllic palm fringed islands set in turquoise seas, of pirate tales and sultans' palaces, of smiling faces and warm hospitality.*

If you distilled everybody's quintessential dream of Africa into one country, Tanzania would be the result. It is an intensely sensual land, appealing to sight, sound, taste, touch and smell. Somehow everything seems to be bigger, wilder, more exotic and quite simply, more spectacular in Tanzania.

Africa's highest mountain, most famous national park, largest game reserve and three largest lakes lie within Tanzania's borders. It is a land that has inspired artists and writers such as Ernest Hemingway. It was here that Stanley uttered the immortal 'Dr Livingstone, I presume'. Here too lie the remains of one of the earliest human ancestors ever discovered.

Somehow, miraculously, Tanzania has managed to escape the well beaten tourist

track. Here you can rediscover the wild, romantic Africa of your dreams. Tanzania is a land of tropical forest, savannah grassland and shimmering lakes with some of the largest and most unspoilt wilderness areas in the world. Here too are sandy beaches and coral reefs, breathtaking mountains and ancient towns. There are national parks, conservation areas, game reserves, game controlled areas, forest reserves, biosphere reserves and World Heritage sites.

By no means least of Tanzania's attractions is the fascinating mix of people and cultures. Here the erect figure of a Maasai warrior striding across the Serengeti, is as much part of Tanzania as is the shadowy silhouette of the shrouded Arab women in the Stone City of Zanzibar. Tanzania enjoys the cultural heritage of

more than 120 tribes spiced with touches of Chinese, Persian and Arab influence from long ago traders.

As far as wildlife goes, the very word 'safari' originated here. It is Kiswahili for journey — and what a journey! Take the annual migration of the wildebeest — something so awe-inspiring, once seen it is never forgotten. Tanzania is elephant country with some of the largest herds in Africa and this magnificent land is also home to chimpanzees, now rarely seen in the wild.

While Tanzania embodies all the enchantment of ageless Africa, the visitor can enjoy all the comforts and amenities of modern life, making the adventure of exploration comfortable and extremely enjoyable.

There are so many ways to enjoy our country that you'll want to come back again and again — and that's just what we'd like you to do. So read this guide and then see your travel agent — we'll be waiting to say *Karibu* — welcome to Tanzania, unsurpassed Africa.

# A CRUCIBLE OF CULTURES

*The evocative mix of people and cultures in Tanzania creates a tapestry of memories that stays with the visitor for a lifetime.*

Since the dawn of mankind, when the savannahs of east and southern Africa saw the birth of humanity, Tanzania has been a haven to countless peoples of many different origins.

Tanzania's history has been influenced by a procession of peoples, from the original Bantu settlers from south and west Africa to the Arabs from Shiraz in Persia and the Oman; from the Portuguese to the Germans and the British until finally, Tanzanians took control of their own destiny with independence in 1961.

## The face of Tanzania

Tanzania has a population of over 26 million with more than 120 African tribes, none of which represent more than ten percent of the population. The SUKUMA, the largest tribe, live in the north-western part of the country, south of Lake Victoria. They are fairly commercial in outlook and have prospered with a mix of cotton development and cattle herding.

The HADZAPI, located in northern Tanzania have built a society based on hunting and gathering food, while the IRAQW live in the central highlands of Mbulu and are known for their statuesque, immobile posture and sharply delineated features. They grow their own food and tend cattle.

The MAASAI dominate northern Tanzania and are easily recognised by their

single red or blue garment and their ochre covered bodies. They are pastoralists and cattle are of the utmost importance to them, determining social status and wealth.

North of the Maasai steppe, on the slopes of Kilimanjaro, live the CHAGGA people who farm the mountainside. Through cooperative farming they have achieved a fair standard of living.

The GOGO live near Dodoma and have developed slowly due to lack of water. The warlike HEHE live in Iringa district's highland grasses.

The Makonde people are internationally famous for their wood carvings. They live along the coast on the Makonde plateau and their relative isolation has resulted in a high degree of ethnic



COURTESY

Above — One of the many faces of Tanzania. Above right — Maasai children proudly display intricate beadwork. Inset — Maasai shield. Right — Makonde wood carvers at work. The Makonde people originally came to Tanzania from Mozambique.

self-awareness.

The name of the NYAMWEZI translates as 'People of the Moon', probably given to these people because of their location in the west. The Nyamwezi, now cultivators, were once great traders and were known among 19th century European explorers as the most powerful tribe in the interior.

The HAYA, located along the shores of Lake Victoria, to the north-west of the Nyamwezi, grew and traded coffee long before the arrival of the Europeans and today have established tea and coffee processing plants. The Haya women are excellent craftswomen.

In an area of forest and bush live the HA who retain a deep belief in the mystical. They live in relative solitude with their long-horned cattle and wearing hides or fibres of bark. They are well known for their artistic expression, especially their dances and celebrations.