

Date: 2022-08-23

Place: Michamvi



# THE VIEW

OF ZANZIBAR

Zanzibar is an archipelago formed by two main islands, Unguja (also called Zanzibar) and Pemba, plus several smaller islands. It is a semi-autonomous region of Tanzania, a great African country just south of the Equator.

The climate is tropical, hot all year round, with two rainy seasons: one more intense, known as the "long rains" season, from March to May, with the peak in April, and the other less intense, known as the "short rains" season, between mid-October and December. Total annual rainfall is about 1,600 millimeters (63 inches) in Zanzibar and 1,900 mm (75 in) in Pemba. April and May are the wettest months, when downpours can be really strong and cause floods. However, some short thunderstorms can occur throughout the year. Here is the average precipitation in Zanzibar.

The View of Zanzibar  
Pingwe Beach, opposite The Rock Restaurant  
Pingwe Village road  
Michamvi, Unguja  
Zanzibar Tanzania

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## Zanzibar - Average precipitation

Month	Millimeters	Inches	Days
January	85	3.3	10
February	55	2.2	7
March	150	5.9	13
April	385	15.2	18
May	255	10	15
June	70	2.8	7
July	50	2	8
August	50	2	8
September	50	2	8
October	95	3.7	9
November	215	8.5	11
December	185	7.3	13
Year	1645	64.8	127

Temperatures are high throughout the year. The warmest period is from December to March, during which the maximum temperature hovers around 32/33 degrees Celsius (90/91 °F) and the humidity is high, although the breeze tempers a little the heat. In the worst moments, the temperature can reach 36/38 °C (97/100 °F). The period from May to August, when the trade winds predominate, blowing moderate from the southeast, is cooler, with highs around 29/30 °C (84/86 °F).

Here are the average temperatures in Zanzibar.

Zanzibar - Average temperatures (1991-2020)						
Month	Min (°C)	Max (°C)	Mean (°C)	Min (°F)	Max (°F)	Mean (°F)
January	24.7	32.8	28.8	76	91	83.8
February	24.5	33.1	28.8	76	92	83.9
March	24.8	32.8	28.8	77	91	83.8
April	24.7	30.8	27.8	76	88	82
May	24	29.9	26.9	75	86	80.5
June	23.2	29.4	26.3	74	85	79.3
July	22.3	29.1	25.7	72	84	78.3
August	21.6	29.5	25.6	71	85	78
September	21.3	30.4	25.9	70	87	78.5
October	22.5	31	26.8	72	88	80.2
November	23.5	31	27.2	74	88	81
December	24.4	32	28.2	76	90	82.7
Year	23.4	31	27.15	74.2	87.7	81

The amount of sunshine in Zanzibar is good enough all year round, except in the long rains season, from March to May, where cloudiness and downpours can last a little longer.

Zanzibar - Sunshine hours		
Month	Average	Total
January	9	275
February	9	250
March	7.5	230
April	6	185
May	6.5	210
June	8	240
July	8	250
August	8	250
September	8.5	255
October	9	275
November	8.5	250
December	8.5	260
Year	8	2920

The sea in Zanzibar is always warm enough for swimming: the water temperature ranges from 25.5 °C (78 °F) in August and September to 28.5/29.5 °C (83/85 °F) between December and April.

Zanzibar - Sea temperature		
Month	Celsius (°C)	Fahrenheit (°F)
January	29	84
February	29	84
March	30	85
April	29	85
May	28	83
June	27	80
July	26	78
August	25	78
September	26	78
October	26	80
November	28	82
December	29	83
Year	27.6	81.7

### Tropical cyclones

The archipelago is located near the Equator (Zanzibar is at 6 degrees south latitude and Pemba at 5 degrees), at the limit of the area where tropical cyclones can form. In fact, Zanzibar is hardly ever affected by cyclones, probably also because of the prevailing currents, however, it can not be excluded that a cyclone of the Southern Hemisphere may pass (over the ocean to the east) close enough to cause storm surges. This can happen from November to mid-May, but especially from late December to mid-April. However, according to the reports of that time, on April 15, 1872, the archipelago was hit at full force by a cyclone.

### What to pack

In winter (June to August): pack light clothes, a sweatshirt for the evening, a light scarf for the breeze, and sunscreen. When going to the reef, you can bring snorkeling equipment, including water shoes or rubber-soled shoes.

In summer (December to February): pack tropics-friendly, loose-fitting clothing, a light sweatshirt for the evening, a light raincoat or umbrella in December, and sunscreen. When going to the reef, you can bring snorkeling equipment, including water shoes or rubber-soled shoes.