Abercrombie & Kent Tanzania: Calendar of Activities

Tanzania is a superb year round destination-here is an idea of the best sights each month...



During these months the Great Wildebeest Migration will be in the South of the Serengeti and with the rains on the horizon this is also the calving season for the massive herds. The zebras will give birth in January and the wildebeest in February. All this activity also attracts a lot of predators and is one of the most exciting periods of the migration. Due to the scarcity of water Tarangire National Park is a fantastic area to view wildlife due to its permanent marshes that attract creatures of all sizes from miles around.

The annual Kilimanjaro Marathon & Sauti za Busara, a popular music festival in Zanzibar, take place in February. If you want to feel the African vibe, this is definitely the time to go visit the spice island. The festival is "one of Africa's best loved music festivals" (Rita Ray, BBC) and lasts for several days.

This is also the best time to trek Mt Kilimanjaro. Typically the early mornings on the mountain are sunny and dry, and clouds often form by noon. It is possible to hike Mount Kilimanjaro throughout the year but it gets more difficult during the rainy seasons.



This is the wet season in Tanzania and the landscape turns lush with the onset of the rains. The rain is usually in short showers with bursts of sunshine in between, making everything refreshingly beautiful and green. With a plethora of colours it is the perfect time for photography.

This is what we call the green season. The rates are at their lowest and with fewer visitors, guests can have the parks to themselves.

During these months the Great Migration will leave the strained fields in the South and move into the Central and Western corridors of the Serengeti. They will find food and shelter in the woodlands of the West and the Grumeti Game reserve. When the wildebeest and zebra attempt to cross the Grumeti river, the crocodiles will have their annual feast.





These are the country's **coolest months** and in the aftermath of the rains the wildlife is abundant in every park. The Great Migration will move up North this time of year, to the Northern part of the Serengeti, and they will eventually cross the border into Kenya.



This time of year is the equivalent of a tropical spring. The days are warm and the evenings cool. Short, scattered rains fall in November to freshen up the country and lay the dust.

These are particularly good months for birding. With winter approaching in Europe, migrant birds will fly to the warmth of Sub-Saharan Africa. Some beautiful indigenous varieties can be found in the Rift Valley .

September to December (even into February) proves to be the ideal time to go to the Mahale Mountains to trek for Chimpanzees. With the fruit trees on the lower slopes of the mountains providing an easy source of food, the chimps will be closer to the shores enabling the spotters to find them far more easily. With the occasional shower in November, it is still warm enough in this tropical climate to enjoy a boat ride or an afternoon fishing on Lake Tanganyika, the deepest lake of the African continent.

If you want to escape the winter on the Northern hemisphere, Tanzania is an ideal location for a beach holiday. The unique combination of beach, bush and wildlife can be found in Saadani National Park, or you may opt for the tropical white sandy beaches of Zanzibar. The less visited Mafia and Pemba islands will allow for an unspoilt experience away from the crowds.