

Dzaoudzi, Petite-Terre, Mayotte

A French territory tucked in the Mozambique Channel, Mayotte offers one of the world's largest enclosed lagoons, nesting sea turtles, and the surreal emerald-green Lac Dziani — all on a small island barely touched by mass tourism.

 Tender port  Typical call: 7–9 hrs  Currency: Euro (€)  French / Shimaore  One of the world's largest lagoons

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender — ships anchor in the lagoon; tender to Dzaoudzi Jetty, Petite-Terre

Best For: Snorkeling, sea turtles, volcanic scenery, off-the-beaten-path culture

Walk to center: 5–10 min to Boulevard des Crabes; Lac Dziani needs a taxi (4.5 km)

Don't Miss: Lac Dziani crater hike and a lagoon boat tour for dolphins or humpback whales (Jul–Oct)

 Getting around:  Taxi  ~€1.40–€2.10/ride ·  Rideshare  not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Lac Dziani Crater Hike** — Hike to the rim of an ancient volcanic crater to see the startling emerald-green crater lake, its color driven by unique sulfurous microorganisms.
- **Lagoon Snorkeling & Dolphin Tour** — Mayotte's double barrier reef encloses one of the largest lagoons in the world.
- **N'Gouja Beach — Turtles & Lemurs** — Drive across to Grande-Terre for N'Gouja Beach, where giant green sea turtles graze in the shallows just meters from shore, and Mayotte brown lemurs...
- **Historic Dzaoudzi Rock & MUMA Museum** — Walk the old colonial capital: see the former Governor's Palace (a prefabricated metal-frame building by the Moisant workshops, c.
- **Moya Beach — Sea Turtle Nesting Site** — A pristine, wild crescent beach on Petite-Terre and one of Mayotte's most important sea turtle nesting sites.

BEST WALKS

- **Dzaoudzi Heritage Walk** 45 min · Easy · Flat · Free — Stroll from the Dzaoudzi Jetty along Boulevard des Crabes — a causeway lined with cafes and views of the turquoise lagoon on both sides — then up through historic...
- **Pointe Mahabou Sunset Walk** 30 min · Easy · Scenic — A short stroll to Pointe Mahabou on the eastern tip of Petite-Terre, where locals gather for football on the sand and sweeping views extend across the lagoon toward...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				DAYLIGHT & MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:04AM–5:53PM · Jun 6:18AM–5:40PM · Aug 6:13AM–5:53PM · Sep 5:53AM–5:54PM · Oct 5:33AM–5:55PM	
Apr	85°	78°	19d	Currency: Euro (€)	
Jun	81°	75°	6d		
Aug	80°	73°	10d		
Sep	81°	73°	12d		
Oct	83°	75°	15d		

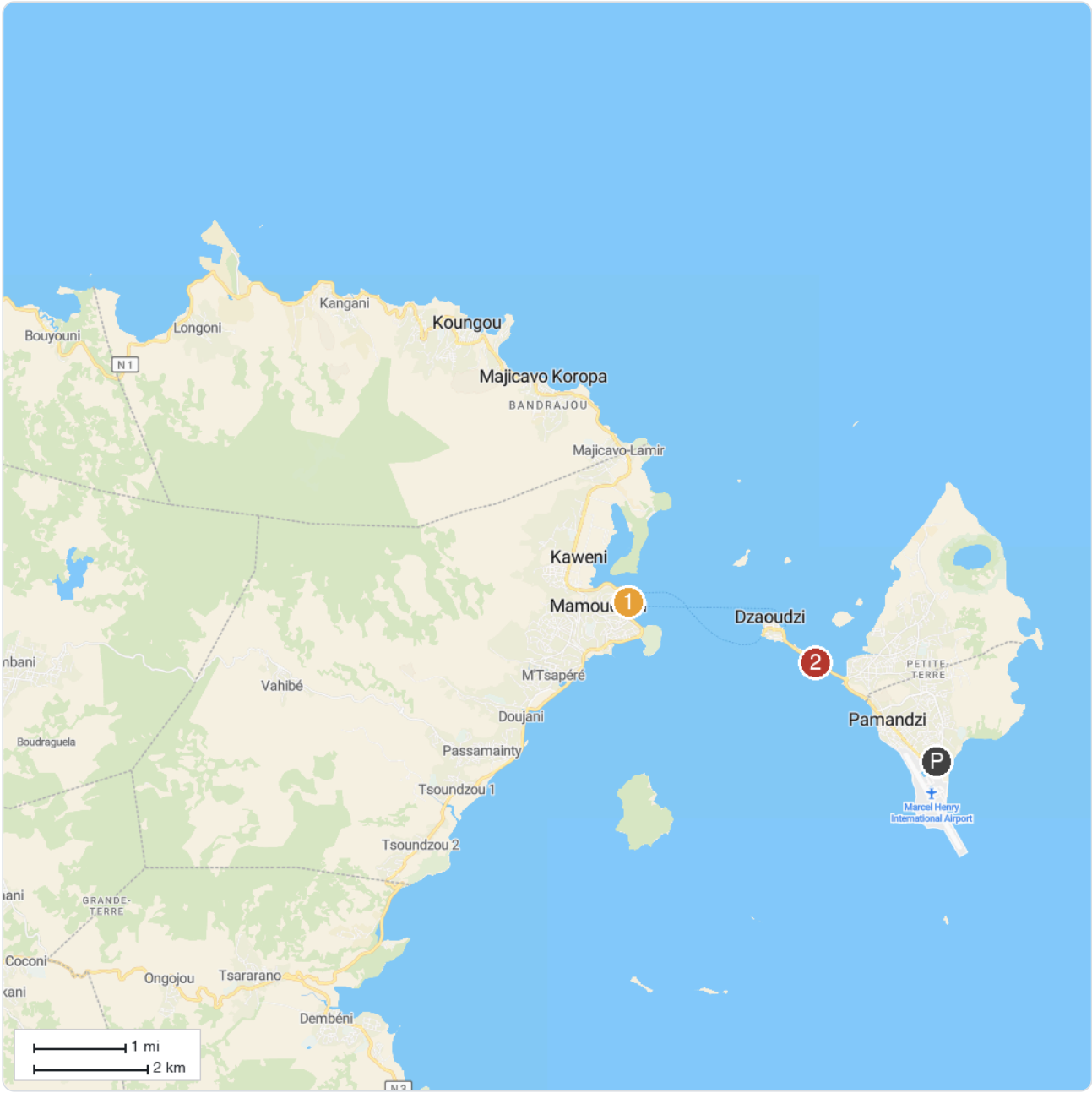
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Carry cash euros. Taxis, shared vans, the barge, local markets, and beach vendors are cash-only. ATMs exist in Dzaoudzi but can run out — draw cash before you go ashore.
- Agree taxi prices upfront. Yellow shared taxis (taxis de place) are cheap (€1.50–3) but slow — they fill up with multiple passengers. For reliability, negotiate a private fare before you get in and confirm the return pickup time.
- Dress modestly in town. Mayotte is predominantly Muslim. Swimwear is fine on beaches, but cover shoulders and knees when walking through Dzaoudzi or Mamoudzou.
- Sunday closures. Most shops, markets, and supermarkets close on Sunday. Only some beachside restaurants and cafes stay open. Plan accordingly if your ship calls on a Sunday.
- Best souvenirs: ylang-ylang oil and vanilla. Mayotte is the world's largest producer of ylang-ylang. Buy pure essential oil from local vendors — far better quality than anything you'll find back home, and inexpensive.
- Whale season: July–October. Humpback whales enter the lagoon to calve between July and October. If your port call falls in this window, a lagoon boat tour is almost guaranteed to include whale sightings — book before boarding.

Dzaoudzi, Petite-Terre, Mayotte — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



1 Tourist Office Get local information and maps here.

2 Plage du Faré Relax on this beautiful sandy beach.

P Cruise port / terminal