

Zanzibar, Tanzania

Zanzibar blends Arab, Swahili, and colonial influences into a UNESCO-listed Stone Town maze — coral-stone palaces, carved doors, spice-scented alleys, and warm Indian Ocean waters all within a short tender ride.

 Tender port (anchor in harbor)

 Typical call: 8-10 hrs

 Tanzanian Shilling / USD widely accepted

 Swahili & English

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____

Arrive: _____

All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____

Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Ships anchor offshore; passengers tendered to Zanzibar Port quay at Stone Town's edge

Best For: History, spice culture, giant tortoises, Indian Ocean snorkeling

Walk to center: 5–10 min from tender dock into Stone Town UNESCO core

Don't Miss: Old Slave Market & Christ Church Cathedral, Forodhani Gardens, Prison Island tortoises

Getting around:  Taxi  \$10–\$20 USD ·  Rideshare  Bolt

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Stone Town Walking Tour** — Guided walk through the UNESCO-listed core: Old Slave Market, Christ Church Cathedral, House of Wonders (Beit-al-Ajaib), Old Fort (Ngome Kongwe), and...
 - Prison Island & Giant Tortoises** — A 20-minute dhow or speedboat ride to Changuu (Prison Island) brings you face-to-face with Aldabra giant tortoises — some over 150 years old.
- Spice Farm Tour** — Zanzibar earned its 'Spice Island' name from centuries of clove, cinnamon, cardamom, and vanilla cultivation.
 - Jozani Forest & Red Colobus Monkeys** — Tanzania's only national park on Zanzibar protects the rare endemic Zanzibar Red Colobus monkey.
 - Sunset Dhow Cruise** — Traditional wooden dhow sail along Stone Town's seafront as the sun drops over the Indian Ocean.

BEST WALKS

- Stone Town Heritage Loop** 2–3 km · 1.5–2 hrs · Easy · Paved alleys — Start at the Old Fort (Ngome Kongwe) on Mizingani Road, walk to the House of Wonders next door, then duck inland through the alleys toward the Old Slave Market and...
- Waterfront Stroll — Mizingani Road** 1 km · 20 min · Very easy · Flat seafront — A breezy flat walk along the harbor front from the tender quay north along Mizingani Road, passing dhow builders, fish traders, and colonial-era buildings.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		84°	77°	27d
Jun		82°	74°	14d
Aug		83°	72°	13d
Sep		85°	72°	13d
Oct		86°	74°	16d

 **DAYLIGHT & MONEY**

Apr 6:24AM–6:22PM · Jun 6:30AM–6:16PM · Aug 6:30AM–6:24PM · Sep 6:16AM–6:20PM · Oct 6:02AM–6:15PM

 Tanzanian Shilling / USD widely accepted

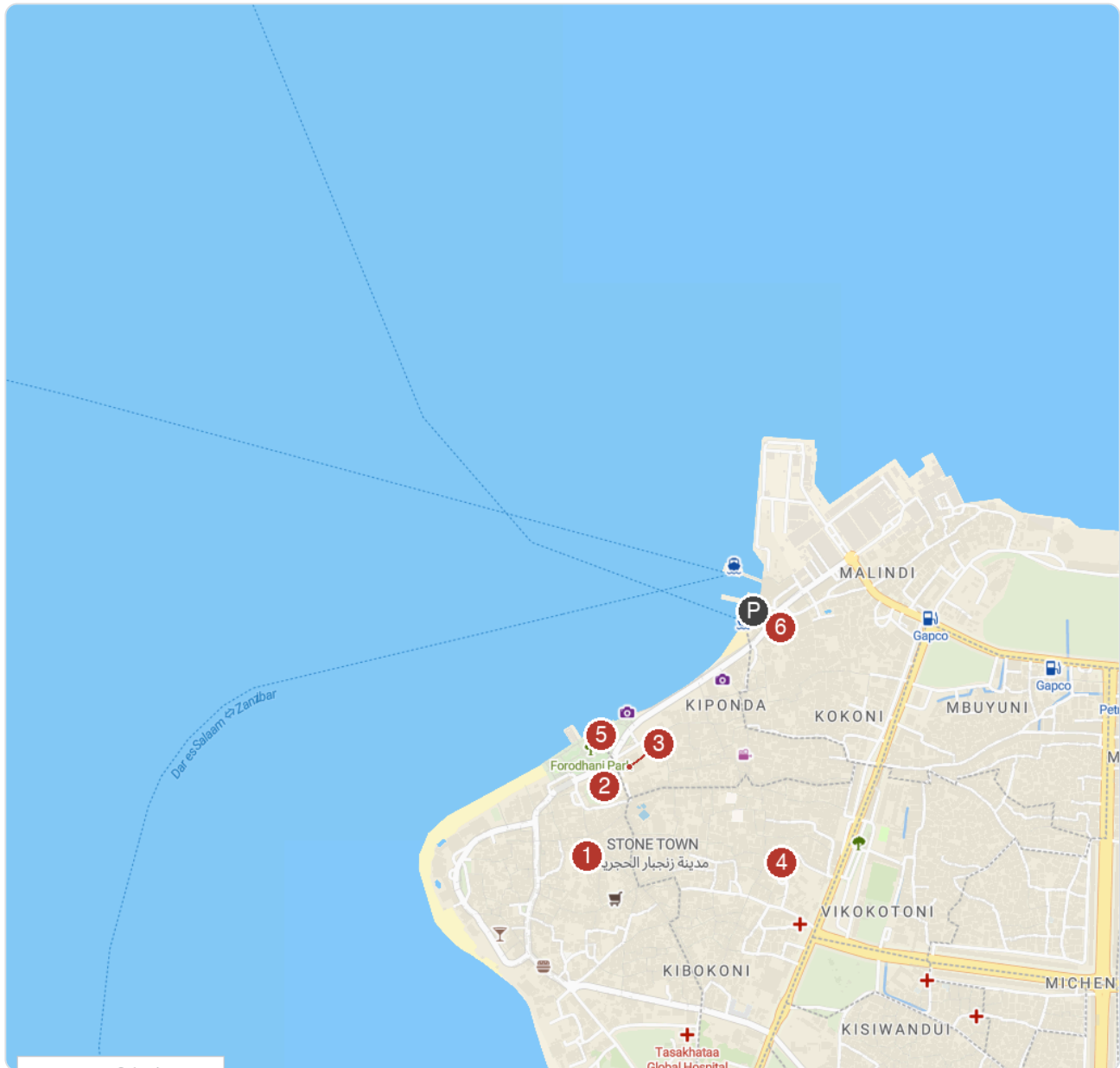
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- USD cash is king. Most vendors, taxis, and tour operators accept US dollars. Tanzanian Shillings work at Darajani Market. ATMs exist in Stone Town but can be unreliable — bring small USD bills.
- Dress modestly in Stone Town. Zanzibar is a majority-Muslim island. Cover shoulders and knees when entering mosques, markets, and the old town generally. Swimwear is for beaches only.
- Tender timing matters. Tender queues can be long on busy days — go ashore early or wait until mid-morning rush clears. Confirm last tender time with your ship.
- Negotiate taxi prices before getting in. No meters exist. Agree the total fare (in USD) upfront. A half-day to spice farms + Jozani is typically USD 30–50 depending on your bargaining.
- Prison Island is worth the side trip. The Aldabra tortoises are enormous and approachable. The 20-minute boat ride is scenic and the snorkeling off the island is decent. Book locally at the port for better rates than ship tours.
- Heat and humidity are significant. Zanzibar is equatorial — bring a hat, sunscreen, and a water bottle. Mornings are slightly cooler; pace yourself during Stone Town walks.

Zanzibar, Tanzania — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



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| 1 Saint Joseph's Cathedral | Historic twin-spired Catholic cathedral in the heart of Stone Town, completed in 1898. | 2 The Old Fort | Zanzibar's oldest building, a 17th-century Omani fort now hosting cultural events and craft stalls. |
| 3 House of Wonders | A former sultan's ceremonial palace on Stone Town's waterfront, one of the first buildings in East Africa with electricity. | 4 Zanzibar Slave Market Memorial | A memorial and museum on the site of the former slave market, now beside the Anglican Cathedral Church of Christ. |
| 5 Forodhani Gardens | A waterfront park facing the harbor, famous each evening for its open-air seafood night market. | 6 Old Dispensary | An ornately carved 1887 building on Stone Town's seafront, originally built as a charitable dispensary. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |