



# Southeastern Tanzania

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## Best of Nature

- » Selous Game Reserve (p286)
- » Mafia Island Marine Park (p284)
- » Mnazi Bay-Ruvuma Estuary Marine Park (p302)

## Best of Culture

- » Kilwa Kisiwani Ruins (p292)
- » Mafia Archipelago (p281)
- » Mikindani (p301)

## Why Go?

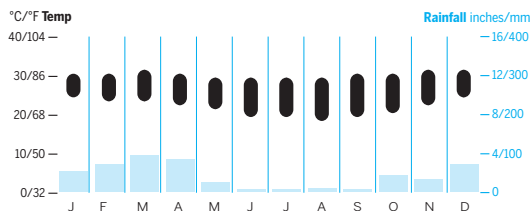
Time seems to have stood still in Tanzania's sparsely populated southeast. It lacks the development and bustle of the north, tourist numbers are a relative trickle and Arusha's crush of Land Cruisers and safari companies is so far removed that it might as well be in another country. Yet, for adventurous travellers seeking to learn about traditional local life, for safari enthusiasts and for divers, the southeast makes an ideal destination.

Selous Game Reserve offers top-notch wildlife watching. Along the coast, white-sand beaches shimmer under an unrelenting sun, colourful fish flit past the corals at Mafia Island and Mnazi Bay Marine Parks, and the Kilwa Kisiwani ruins testify to days when the East African coast was the centre of trading networks stretching to the Far East.

Mafia and the Selous offer comfortable accommodation and Western amenities. Elsewhere, infrastructure is undeveloped, and road journeys long and rugged.

## When to Go

### Mtwara



**Mar-May** Selous boat safaris and road access can be difficult, but birding is excellent.

**Oct** Diving is at its prime around Mafia.

**Nov-Feb** Whale sharks swim offshore from Kilindoni (Mafia).



## Southeastern Tanzania Highlights

- 1 Take a boat safari and enjoy the wonderful wildlife watching and birding in **Selous Game Reserve** (p286)
- 2 Dive or relax on white sands in the **Mafia Archipelago** (p281)
- 3 Explore traces of bygone days at the old Swahili trading

- towns of **Mikindani** (p301) and **Kilwa Kivinje** (p294)
- 4 Visit the ruins of the famed medieval city-state of **Kilwa Kisiwani** (p292)
- 5 Relax on the beaches around **Mtwara** (p297) and the **Mnazi Bay-Ruvuma Estuary Marine Park** (p302)

- 6 Immerse yourself in local life in **Kilwa Masoko** (p290), **Lindi** (p295) and other southeastern Tanzania towns
- 7 Get to know the Makonde around **Newala** (p303) and elsewhere on the seldom-visited **Makonde Plateau** (p303)