



Western Tanzania

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Why Go?

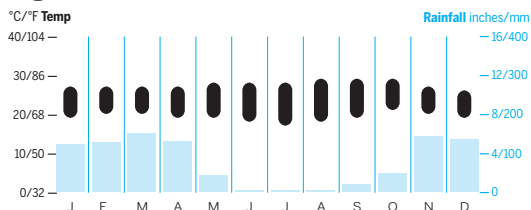
Western Tanzania is rough, remote frontier land, with vast trackless expanses, minimal infrastructure and very few visitors: much as it was back when Stanley found Livingstone here. The west serves a sense of adventure now extinct in the rest of the country; and this is precisely what attracts a trickle of travellers, many of whom plan their itineraries around the schedules of the MV *Liemba*, which sails down Lake Tanganyika and the Central Line train, which crosses the country.

But, it's wildlife watching that brings most people. Gombe, Jane Goodall's former stomping grounds, and Mahale Mountains National Parks are two of the world's best places for chimpanzee encounters, while the vast floodplains of rarely visited Katavi National Park offer an almost primeval safari experience.

Unless you use chartered planes as part of a tour, you'll need plenty of time and even more patience to travel here. But, for that certain sort of traveller, Tanzania's west is Tanzania's best.

When to Go

Kigoma



Dec-Apr Rains bring washed-out roads but brilliant lightning displays.

May-Nov Dry-season travel is easiest, but forests turn leafless.

May-Jun Chimpanzees are most likely to be seen in large groups.

