Tanzania is the biggest country in East Africa. It borders the Indian Ocean, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Zambia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, Mozambique and Malawi.

Tanzania has the highest point in Africa (Mount Kilimanjaro) and borders the largest lake in Africa (Lake Victoria).
Climate
As Tanzania is on the equator it has a warm climate. Mainland Tanzania is dry, with less than 750mm of rain per year, but the islands and highlands have up to 1520mm per year.

The coast has two wet seasons, from October to November and from April to May, when there is more rain.

National currency: Tanzanian Shilling (TSh)
History
Tanzania is considered one of the oldest continuously inhabited places on earth. Prehistoric stone tools have been found in Olduvai Gorge in northern Tanzania.

1891 Germany established Tanzania as a colony, as part of German East Africa until 1919. After World War I the British governed until Tanganyika gained independence in 1961 and Zanzibar in 1963. The two merged in 1964 to form the United Republic of Tanzania.

Food
The Tanzanian cuisine uses vegetables and fruits such as courgettes, beans, tomatoes, okra and dates. Dishes are cooked with lots of spices such as cinnamon, coriander or cloves.

Ugali Samaki
Ugali and Fish

Ndizi Kaanga
Fried banana

Mandzai
Unsweetened donut

Culture and people
The people of Tanzania practise many different religions: three-fifths are Christian, and over a third are Muslim. Many people also follow traditional Tanzanian beliefs and enjoy their culture by storytelling and dancing.

All over Tanzania you can find talented artists creating baskets, pottery, and musical instruments.

The Makonde people are famous for beautiful ebony carvings, while Zanzibar is known for its intricate door carvings.

Language
The official languages are Swahili and English. But many Tanzanians also speak local languages. Some common Swahili phrases are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hello</th>
<th>Jambo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How are you?</td>
<td>Habari gani?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine (response)</td>
<td>Nzuri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Ndiyo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Hapana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank you</td>
<td>Asante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please</td>
<td>Tafadhali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OK</td>
<td>Sawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My name is...</td>
<td>Jina langu ni...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodbye</td>
<td>Kwaheri</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wildlife

Tanzania has over 14,000 species of living things so to keep all the animals safe a third of Tanzania's land is protected.

In the national parks, you can find herds of zebras and giraffes, as well as lions and elephants. You can also see chimpanzees in Gombe Stream National Park, and crocodiles and hippos in the rivers and lakes.

Zanzibar Stone Town is a historic area in Zanzibar. It has unique architecture that shows its diverse history and culture. This site has buildings of coral stone, intricate door carvings, and markets with reminders of the spice and slave trade past.

Olduvai Gorge is a place where archaeologists Louis and Mary Leakey discovered a 1.75 million year old skull, stone tools and fossils that belonged to our early ancestors. These help us to learn how humans lived thousands of years ago.

Serengeti National Park is a protected place for wildlife. The park is famous for its incredible animals and the annual Great Migration when huge herds of wildebeests, zebras, and gazelles travel the Serengeti in search of food and water.

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