



DESTINATION GUIDE

REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

We're delighted that you're travelling with us to Mozambique. The following information has been compiled to provide you with guidelines and interesting facts about the country you will be visiting. Further information is available to you at www.visitmozambique.net



Mozambique is three times the size of Great Britain. Situated in the south-east of the African continent, it shares borders with six countries: Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia to the north; Zimbabwe to the west; and South Africa and Eswatini to the south. The 2500-kilometre-long coastline boasts superb beaches fringed by lagoons, coral reefs and strings of small islands, with the Bazaruto and Quirimbas archipelagos being among the most well-known. The country's national parks and game reserves, some under private management, are being restocked and returned to their former glory, while the establishment, with neighbouring countries, of cross-border wildlife reserves is a vital factor in this resurgence. Culturally, Mozambique provides a delightful contrast to other countries in Southern Africa, with its blend of African, Arabian and Portuguese influences.

GREAT TO KNOW FACTS



Red, and the weapon, represent the struggle for independence, which was granted in 1975. Green is for the country's fertile land. Black represents the African continent. Yellow is for the country's minerals.

Government

Mozambique is a republic and multi-party democracy.

Economy

Mozambique's natural resources include hydroelectric power, coal, natural gas, titanium ore, graphite, iron ore, semi-precious stones, and arable land. Agriculture accounts for about 24% of GDP (2018) with exports of cotton, cashew nuts, sugarcane, tea, cassava (tapioca), corn, coconuts, sisal, citrus and tropical fruits, potatoes, sunflowers, beef and poultry. Almost half of the country's GDP comes from industry, and makes up another 24% – which includes food, beverages, chemicals (fertiliser, soap and paint), aluminium, petroleum products, textiles, cement, glass and tobacco – while related services and tourism contribute to the rest.

Currency

Mozambique's currency is the Metical (MZN or MT). However, US Dollars, the South African Rand and the Euro are widely used for tourism.

Language

Portuguese is the official language of Mozambique, although many people speak English in the capital, Maputo, and in tourist areas.

Time

Mozambique is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+2) in the Central African Time Zone (CAT).

Climate

Mozambique has a tropical climate with two main seasons; the wet season is from October to March, and the dry season from April to September. The Bazaruto, Bengueerra islands, and Quirimbas Archipelago are generally warm with cooler evenings in the winter months.

Temperature (°C) – These are the average lows and highs, and can vary depending on geographical location

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Vilanculos	23/31	23/31	22/31	20/29	17/28	15/26	14/25	15/26	18/27	20/28	22/29	23/30
Benguerra	24/31	23/31	23/31	21/29	17/28	15/26	15/25	16/26	18/27	20/28	22/29	23/30
Pemba	24/31	24/32	23/31	23/31	21/30	19/29	19/28	20/29	20/30	22/31	23/31	24/32

Temperature (F) – These are the average lows and highs, and can vary depending on geographical location

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Vilanculos	73/88	73/88	71/88	68/84	63/82	59/79	57/77	59/79	64/81	68/82	72/84	73/86
Benguerra	75/88	73/88	73/88	70/84	63/82	59/79	59/77	61/79	64/81	68/82	72/84	73/86
Pemba	75/88	75/90	73/88	73/88	70/86	66/84	66/82	68/84	68/86	72/88	73/88	75/90

Average rainfall (mm) – This varies according to the year and location

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Vilanculos	155	156	81	42	36	24	17	23	10	39	60	142
Benguerra	175	170	95	50	40	30	20	25	15	35	65	155
Pemba	145	155	200	120	30	15	10	8	2	10	40	125

Average rainfall (inches) – This varies according to the year and location

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Vilanculos	6.1	6.1	3.2	1.6	1.4	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.4	1.5	2.4	5.6
Benguerra	6.9	6.7	3.7	2.0	1.6	1.2	0.8	1.0	0.6	1.4	2.6	6.1
Pemba	5.7	6.1	7.9	4.7	1.2	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.4	1.6	4.9

Public Holidays

Mozambique's public holidays are listed in the table below.

01 January	New Year's Day
03 February	Heroes Day
07 April	Women's Day
Varies	Good Friday
01 May	Workers' Day
25 June	National Independence Day
07 September	Victory Day
25 September	Revolution Day
04 October	Peace & Reconciliation Day
25 December	Family/Christmas Day

USEFUL TRAVEL INFORMATION

Visas & travel regulations

Some nationalities require visas on arrival, where visa fees are paid in cash – more information on visas can be accessed at www.evisa.gov.mz. A valid passport, sufficient funds for subsistence while in Mozambique, a return ticket or onward ticket to their country of origin, and either an invitation from family/friends or a confirmed hotel reservation are also required.

Arrival tax

The current departure tax fee for domestic travel is USD5 and USD10 for flights to Johannesburg, to be paid in cash at the airport. Other taxes such as Air Passenger Taxes, Safety Tax, Passenger Service Charge and Departure Taxes are included in the price of the air ticket.

Payment

US Dollars, Euro and South African Rands are widely used in the tourism sector, and many hotels/resorts insist on payment in these foreign currencies.

Credit cards

Major hotels and some banks accept credit card transactions. MasterCard, Visa and American Express credit cards are accepted in many places. Commissions may apply.

Banks

Open from Monday to Friday 07:30 – 15:30

Value Added Tax

There is a 16% tax levied on all products.

Excess luggage

For light aircraft and helicopter flights, luggage is limited to one soft-sided bag per person at a maximum weight of 20kg. Please discuss excess baggage storage requirements with your Travel Designer – these services may incur additional expenses.

Power Supply

The Mozambique power grid uses 220V/240V running at AC 50Hz. Wall sockets (round 3-pin) are rated to carry a maximum of 15 amps. While some camps can supply adaptors (3-prong round, 3-prong square, 2-prong round, 2-prong flat), it is advisable that you carry your own.