The Holiday Factory Story – The Fun Starts Right Here

Give yourself a high five! You’ve made the best choice by picking up this brochure – and we thank you for that. We’re fast and willing, our prices are super competitive and we know our stuff.

Take a look through our brochure and you will see what a great range of products we have. We have only chosen hotels we would stay at ourselves or recommend to our friends and, to be honest, we are pretty picky. With only a couple of weeks leave a year, it’s important to choose your down-time wisely and pick the best holiday for you.

We DO travel! But we don’t just “do” travel – we live for travel, we breathe travel and we make dreams come true.

Our leadership team have over 100 years of wholesale travel experience. We’ll let that sink in for a second... a century of experience is at your fingertips. Our stuff complement of 60 – the heart & soul of our organisation – are passionate, committed and ready to make your dreams come true. Our offices are based in the prime areas of Century City, Cape Town and Sandton, Johannesburg.

As a leading wholesale tour operator, we specialise in holidays ranging from fabulous-luxury to happily-affordable in Mauritius, Seychelles, Maldives, Zanzibar, Thailand and Bali.

Factory Style Surfing
There are travel websites and then there is www.holidayfactory.co.za. It’s informative without being information overload, it’s easy to navigate, it looks beautiful and the search functionality is super-fast and very comprehensive.

Why Book With The Holiday Factory?

- Our bonus offers really do add up to amazing savings, it’s well worth doing the maths.
- We have great relationships with our suppliers, which means flexibility, availability and the best deals.
- We are members of ASATA and are IATA accredited – not to be sneezed at.
- We win awards! Since we started in 2008, we have won many awards and accolades from airlines, hotels and our travel agent partners.
- We are fussy and only choose hotels that we know will meet our customers’ requirements.
- You’ve got to see our website! It is packed with great packages, destination info, hotel facts and so much more. And if you still need some extra advice (or just want to chat to one of our holiday pro’s) please feel free to give us a shout.
- Our technology is fast so we are quick, real quick.
- Our documentation is full of information, we often say that the devil is in the detail.
- Our 24/7 Emergency contact number means you are never out of touch with The Holiday Factory in case of an emergency.
Welcome to Zanzibar

Jambo! This is the Swahili greeting that you will hear on arrival when you are welcomed by the warm and inviting locals of Zanzibar.

Zanzibar is the name of an archipelago in the Indian Ocean just off the coast of East Africa. There are many small islands and two large ones: Unguja (the main island, informally referred to as ‘Zanzibar’), and Pemba Island. As the number one beach location in East Africa, Zanzibar offers lush plantations, an incredible history and a fascinating culture. Apart from historic Stone Town, with its labyrinth of narrow streets, Zanzibar is known for its beautiful palm-fringed beaches and pristine coral reefs.

Being a few degrees South of the equator, Zanzibar enjoys a very tropical climate. The average daytime high is between 28˚C and 32˚C and the night-time lows are between 20˚C and 25˚C. Temperature wise – this island is an all-year-round winner. February is very hot and very humid (leave your hair straightener at home!) and March to May are the wettest months.

Whether you spend your days lazing by the pool, sipping cocktails on the beach at sunset, diving in warm waters or enjoying a Dhow cruise around small islands, your Zanzibar holiday will be a memorable experience.

History

Zanzibar was inhabited by Portuguese navigators at the end of the 15th century and they were ousted 200 years later by the Omani Arabs. Zanzibar became a major centre for slave trading. The island became an Arab state and was an important centre of trade and politics in the region. European explorers, including Stanley and Livingstone, began their expeditions into the interior of Africa from Zanzibar in the late 1800’s. In 1964, the sultan and the government were overthrown in a revolution and in the same year, Zanzibar and Tanganyika combined to form the United Republic of Tanzania.

Diving

With living reefs surrounding the islands, Zanzibar has excellent dive locations. The water temperature is warm, visibility is usually excellent, and currents are weak, all of which contributes to an ideal location for first time and novice divers. The waters are filled with colourful fish and there are many challenging dives as well. If you want to surf the current through a ravine, explore deeper water, or search for wrecks, there are dive companies that can make it happen for you. Many of the larger resorts on the North and East Coasts have professionally-run dive shops on-site. Qualified divers must produce their certification and a log book.

Shopping

Whether you’re in the market for T-shirts, spices, kangas, furniture or hand sewn pillow covers, Stone Town is a great place for shopping and bargain hunting. You will find the inevitable ashtray carved out of a coconut shell, but there are also beautiful Tinga tinga paintings, woodcarvings and woven goods to keep almost everyone in the market for a tasteful souvenir.

Stone Town

Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2001, Stone Town is a mishmash of cultures, languages and architecture. Over the centuries, it has grown from a small fishing village to a thriving town with an extraordinary history. Walking around Stone Town, you can see the influence of the different cultures which make up Zanzibar. Coral and stone houses show off imposing Zanzibari doors with brass studs and carvings with scriptures from the Quran. A tour of the town is highly recommended.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Due to its proximity to the Equator, Zanzibar is warm throughout the year and has equal length of days and nights (12 hours each).
- Zanzibar is popularly known as the Spice Island.
- Zanzibar has the largest number of carved doors in Africa.
- Freddie Mercury, lead singer of the band Queen, was born in Zanzibar in 1946. His birth name was actually Farouk Bulsara.

* The resort star rating indicated in this brochure is that certified by the Zanzibar Ministry of Information, Culture, Tourism and Sports and is not necessarily equivalent to South African star ratings.
Gold Zanzibar Beach House & Spa

The location of this 5 Star property is superb, right on the most magnificent stretch of beach at Kendwa on Zanzibar’s North West Coast.

There is very little tidal movement so the warm turquoise ocean is available for swimming all day. A combination of African and Arabic influences, elegant touches of Italian style, and the hallmark gold and white décor theme permeate the resort.

Experience the spacious and stylish rooms and suites with their funky gold bathrooms and cool calm atmosphere or one of the new Jungle Villas - each has two bedrooms, a private pool and butler service – wow!

We recommend lazy days here on the fabulous beach - you can even opt for an a la carte lunch served under the shade of your beach umbrella in your own private corner of paradise. If you upgrade to the Gourmet All Inclusive package, there is no additional cost to enjoy this spoil.

This is a beach holiday that is hard to beat.

WHAT’S ON OFFER

- Best beach in Zanzibar
- Jungle Villas with private pools & butler service
- Honeymooners paradise

2 Restaurants
2 Bars
Beachfront Hotel
Preferred Resort
Kids Club
Renewal of Vows
Spa
Gym/Fitness Centre
Conferencing
Weddings
Swimming Pool
Wifi
Diving On-Site
Motorised Watersports On-Site
Kite Surfing
Land Sports
Anniversary/Honeymoon Discounts
Kids Stay Free*
60 Min Transfer
Rooms 74
Luxury Villa
Accommodation
Wheelchair Friendly
All Inclusive
Premium All Inclusive
6 Star Transfer
Kids Accommodation
Butler Service

The WOW Factor
Best beach in Zanzibar
Jungle Villas with private pools & butler service
Honeymooners paradise
If you are not impressed by the entrance, dominated by the highest roof in Zanzibar, wait until you see the enormous jetty stretching out into the sea.

Framed by the turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean in a natural cove on the North East Coast of Zanzibar, this cleverly constructed hotel takes advantage of the most stunning views over an idyllic lagoon. The simplicity and serenity of an island lifestyle is complimented by the soothing neutral colour scheme and fabulous traditional artworks. Suites, three and four bedroom Villas, two restaurants and three bars, a superb Spa featuring Africology treatments and products, and a dedicated Kids Club make this the perfect pick for pretty much everyone! You can also access Ras Nungwi Village on foot at low tide, the perfect way to round off your Zanzibari experience!

Here are just some of the things guests can expect at no extra charge: check-in and out anytime from anywhere in the resort, no dedicated meal times, private transfers upon request, complimentary Wi-Fi resort-wide and in-villa dining. At Essque Zalu, even the smallest things come with a BIG dose of personalization and all guests enjoy an assigned ‘Navigator’ to see to their every wish, however big or small. If attention to detail is your ‘thing’, you will be blown away here.
Dream of Zanzibar

Nestled in the middle of exotic gardens on the beachfront at Kiwengwa on Zanzibar’s North East Coast, this 5 Star hotel, with its modern and contemporary Arabic architecture is a perfectly exclusive and elegant hideaway.

The white sandy beach is beautiful and ideal for an early morning stroll. Deluxe Gardens Rooms; Ocean Facing and Ocean View Junior Suites; Junior Suites with a Jacuzzi bathtub; and Ocean View Beach Villas with a private plunge pool make up the classic and stylish accommodation options. With the daily entertainment on offer there is a particular and very cool vibe to the hotel. The All Inclusive package allows guests to dine at a choice of five different restaurants at no extra cost, plus there is an à la carte option for special occasions.

If you dream of a palm fringed beach of powder white sand bordering turquoise, emerald and deep cobalt crystal clear water, this dream will come true here at Dream of Zanzibar.

The WOW Factor

Excellent value for money
A choice of 5 restaurants on the All Inclusive Daily entertainment

Sea Cliff Resort & Spa

With its remote location on the West Coast, this resort lies in one of the less developed regions of Zanzibar, only 20 minutes from the historic town of Stone Town.

It is hidden away down a 4 kilometre track through a coconut plantation and you emerge through the trees to a courtyard filled with tropical flowers, palms and a stunning view of the deep blue ocean. Modern and chic in typical Zanzibar Arabic style, and offering a selection of interleading rooms and a Kids Club, this resort is perfect for families. The main restaurant and bar have panoramic views of the ocean whilst the jetty is perfect for cocktails at sunset.

Whilst the atmosphere is relaxed and tranquil, there is lots to do; watersports, a gym, tennis courts and a squash court will keep you occupied, not to mention the Par 71 Peter Matkovitch designed golf course (9 holes and 18 tees) where you can even play ‘golf at twilight’.

A visit to Stone Town via the resort’s complimentary shuttle service is highly recommended, as is a horse ride along the beach at sunset or opt for a soothing massage at the Mali Spa.

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Mapenzi, one of the most established hotels on the island of Zanzibar remains an excellent and affordable choice for people who are after an action-packed holiday.

Accommodation is simple and comfortable with a great veranda to enjoy the early morning breeze or have a quiet drink at night. The watersports facilities are brilliant with complimentary windsurfing equipment and canoes. The All Inclusive package covers a choice of three restaurants (the buffet is one of the best on the island) and two bars plus a daily stocked mini-bar. It couldn’t be better! The a la carte restaurant on the beach offers a seafood feast (a supplement is payable).

The low tide on the East Coast adds to the experience when you can walk out across the beach for 1.5km to the reef. The nightly entertainment ensures a vibrant party atmosphere. This resort is great value for money and is unpretentious with a fantastic fun vibe.

Sandies Baobab Beach

This 105 Room modern style resort is located just where you want to be – at Nungwi on Zanzibar’s North West Coast. The resort takes its name from the majestic, century old Baobabs, found dotted around the gardens making it a unique tropical oasis immersed in nature.

The lovely beach is unaffected by the changing tides so guests can take full advantage and swim in the crystal clear waters any time, and of course, the sunsets are pure magic.

The resort operates on an excellent value All Inclusive plan which includes all meals at the buffet restaurant and a good range of non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverages available from 09h00 to 24h00 daily at the Pool Bar. The a la carte Beach Grill is open for dinner only, seafood and fish are the specialities here, and a supplementary charge applies. Selected cocktails and spirits are served from 18h00. Non-motorised watersports are available off site and there is also a massage centre.

If it’s a relaxing and fun holiday you are looking for with good swimming and a great beach you have found it here.
This sanctuary of 11 private one or two Bedroom Villas each with their own plunge pool in the confines of the Diamonds La Gemma dell’Est property makes this flagship Diamonds resort an exclusive retreat.

The Villas are the real highlight with spiral shaped plunge pools, butler service, four-poster beds draped in white linen and indoor/outdoor bathrooms. Each Villa sits in its own tropical garden walled by foliage and offers a hilltop view of the Indian Ocean.

Star of the East guests enjoy exclusive access to a private beach, plus an All Inclusive programme that covers all drinks (including a personal bar stocked to order with premium brands) and meals in the private restaurant. Guests also have access to selected Diamonds La Gemma dell’Est facilities and food and beverage outlets.

Soak up the splendours of the Spice Island and be pampered by the exclusive butler service which makes this resort the perfect escape and the ultimate statement in secluded luxury.
Bluebay Beach Resort & Spa and its sister property Sultan Sands Island Resort are situated on the wide, sparkling beaches of Kiwengwa on the North East Coast of the island. The two resorts share a 500 metre stretch of white sandy beach.

Bluebay’s three room categories are spread across 30 acres of beautiful gardens that house over 1000 palm trees. All rooms are spacious, bright and beautifully decorated in Zanzibari style. The Garden Rooms have their own pool area, Superior Rooms overlook the gardens and are sea facing, whilst the Junior Suites and the two sumptuous Sultan Suites are closer to the beachfront.

Traditional Swahili charm with all the modern comforts is the hallmark of this resort – a main buffet restaurant, two a la carte restaurants on the beachfront (and you can choose different meal package options), a terrace cafe for coffee, cakes and sandwiches, a full Spa including its own pool, a dive and watersports centre on site and lively evening entertainment – plenty to keep you relaxed and entertained.

Bluebay’s ‘sister’, Sultan Sands, is positioned right next door to Bluebay and the two resorts share most facilities and activities, as well as the beautiful stretch of beach on the North East coast.

The resort’s 76 rooms are divided into three categories and are built in traditional African ‘rondavel’ style, with two rooms in each rondavel. All rooms offer a spacious bedroom with four poster beds, billowing mosquito nets, separate dressing area, an en-suite bathroom and either a veranda or a balcony. The rooms are bright and exquisitely decorated in a traditional Swahili style using local fabrics. The Bahari Rooms and Junior Suites share a private plunge pool.

Mwambao the main restaurant offers fabulous themed evenings but there are also two a la carte options for both lunch and dinner. The Kivuli specialises in Far Eastern cuisine - located directly on the beach the restaurant provides a true ‘toes in the sand’ experience. The Bahari Grill at Bluebay serves seafood and local specialties.

If a great value, fun filled Zanzibar experience is what you need, Sultan Sands fits this bill.
My Blue Hotel

Simply stunning location on the Northern Coast at Nungwi: where the water is blue, the beaches are beautiful, the tidal movement is minimal and the sunsets are spectacular.

The hotel has comfortable rooms in five different categories, the Ocean View Rooms are the best in terms of the view and location but they do of course come at a small premium. All of the rooms are equipped with air conditioning and mosquito nets, as well as flat screen TV's.

My Blue offers a comprehensive All Inclusive package that caters for late risers with the option of a late light breakfast available at the pool bar from 10h00 until 12h00. Mwezi on the beachfront offers light lunches including pizzas, and an a la carte restaurant, aptly named Ali Baba, offers a gourmet menu selection and shisha pipes for leisurely after dinner pleasure.

When the tide is right, you can snorkel off the beach, and the resort team can arrange snorkelling and diving excursions to ensure the best of Zanzibar’s underwater life. Nightlife is not forgotten with a Ngoma Ngoma show and a Masai dance show weekly, as well as live duos music evenings.

Karafuu Beach Resort & Spa

With architecture and décor in the traditional Zanzibar style, this is an incredible value for money hotel in a secluded area on the island’s East coast, about a 50 minute drive from the airport and Stone Town.

With a choice of Garden Rooms, Cottages, Junior Suites, Beachfront Villas and more there is sure to be an accommodation style to suit your taste and budget. Guests on the All Inclusive package have a choice of three restaurants plus the resort’s Masai Village offers barbecue dinners twice a week together with traditional Masai entertainment. The a la carte restaurant with its fabulous sea views is perfect for that special celebration.

Hands-on and attentive management, daily entertainment, a PADI dive school, 3 large pools, swim up bars and a scenic Spa with a Jacuzzi pool complete the picture of this established holiday resort. Even at low tide, Karafuu guests can swim in the ocean as a depression close to the shoreline creates a natural swimming pool - just a short stroll out across the sand on the specially constructed walk-way.

The WOW Factor

Fun and vibey
Good snorkelling and swimming directly off the beach
Lush tropical gardens and 2 sparkling pools

What’s On Offer

- Half Board
- All Inclusive
- Garden Rooms
- Beachfront Villas
- Kids Club
- Non-Motorised Water Sports
- Spa
- Gym/Fitness Centre
- Conference Venues
- Weddings
- Land Sports
- Kite Surfing
- All Inclusive
- Half Board
- Spa
- Gym/Fitness Centre
- Conference Venues
- Weddings
- Land Sports
- Kite Surfing
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- Spa
- Gym/Fitness Centre
- Conference Venues
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- Land Sports
- Kite Surfing

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Zuri Zanzibar

Newly opened in 2018, this luxury development is on Zanzibar’s prized North West Coast where the sun sets in splendour and the ocean constantly and gently laps the shoreline.

Award winning interior designers, Jestico+Whiles, have combined beautiful and elegant interiors with a unique African atmosphere which includes paintings from local artists. The 55 Bungalows, Suites and Villas enjoy outside showers – as well as a full bathroom - and spacious terraces. Suites and Villas feature private Jacuzzis. The Villas are positioned on the ocean front and have their very own private or semi-private beach area, plus a Villa host service in the Three Bedroom Villa.

Zuri Zanzibar promises exceptional dining experiences with three dining options and four bars plus a Dining by Design concept where guests can choose their own romantic and private spot. This does come with a small supplement.

For guests looking for something new, different and unique in Zanzibar, we recommend Zuri Zanzibar.

Constance Aiyana – Pemba

Set on the North Western Coast of fragrant Pemba Island along the 2000 year old Indian Ocean trade route Constance Aiyana is a place to surrender to your senses.

Access is by air from Zanzibar followed by a scenic road transfer through Pemba’s Ngezi Forest Reserve with its towering clove trees, endemic species and stunning flora.

The 30 magnificent Villas, architecturally enthralling, all face the dreamy Pemba ocean, and are ecologically built with locally sourced materials like limestone, aggregates and coconut brooms and are dressed in a minimalist luxury décor of pastel colours and original artworks surrounded by fragrant gardens and water features. The lobby and reception overlook the sea with large open areas ensuring a free flow of wind, air and energy. A mystical atmosphere, simplicity, sensuality and harmony with Mother Nature are just some of the features that make Constance Aiyana so special.

In the words of the resort’s General Manager, “If you are in search of natural beauty, you love authenticity and your soul longs for tranquility - Constance Aiyana will be your home. Karibu sana - welcome!”

The WOW Factor

Stylish and unique
Safe swimming
Private relaxation pods
Melia Zanzibar

Luxury, privacy, beauty, tranquility on Zanzibar's North East Coast sums up Melia Zanzibar perfectly.

300 metres of white sandy beach with a natural coral reef ringing the resort provides safe swimming and great snorkelling, plus plenty of space to soak up the sun.

Choose from a range of accommodation options to tailor your stay to your needs. If it's a romantic holiday you're after the Ocean Front Romance Pavilions are the ultimate luxurious and romantic retreat. You can also opt for the exquisite new Ocean View Bungalows on the cliff top which offer spectacular views. Family Rooms and exclusive Villas are a good option when travelling with children. Five Stars means that everything is the best of the best and All Inclusive means you don’t have to worry about anything.

The Bali-style beds at Gabi Beach tucked under the palms provide an informal and relaxed atmosphere with chill out music and a vibey bar and restaurant. Melia Zanzibar has all the amenities you could wish for including a Spa with six treatment rooms and activities for everyone from easy aqua gym to professional diving, snorkelling and a variety of watersports.

Uroa Bay Beach Resort

Away from it all...
Spectacular beach
Family friendly resort

Uroa Bay Beach Resort, named after the nearby local fishing village, is a vibey resort located on 300 metres of wide, powder-white soft beach on Zanzibar’s beautiful East Coast.

The raised private beach is equipped with typical, locally crafted sun loungers and umbrellas with the Pwani Bar in close proximity. Makuti thatched accommodation is decorated in traditional style amidst lush green foliage and all room categories have a family option with 2 bedrooms. Kite surfing enthusiasts need look no further - nearby Paje is one of the best areas on the island for this sport. The Uroa Blue Adventure is a must – on this full day excursion you sail off in a traditional dhow, snorkel the coral reef and enjoy a seafood buffet on a beautiful beach.

Dongwe Ocean View

This boutique hotel sits amongst the palms in a stunning location right on the most beautiful beach on Zanzibar’s South East Coast near Bweju, Paje and the Michamvi peninsula.

The resort comprises 18 Rooms in two double storey buildings, all with balconies and views of the ocean. There is a central reception area, a pool just a few steps from the sand and a beachfront bar which serves a full range of drinks and cocktails throughout the day. The open sided restaurant with its position on the beachfront provides uninterrupted views of the beach and ocean.

The vibe at Dongwe is definitely relaxed so leave your shoes in your room and enjoy a barefoot, laid back, beach holiday.

The WOW Factor

Breathtaking cliff-top location
Unique Bali-style beds on the beach
Landmark jetty lounge

WHAT'S ON OFFER

Uroa Bay Beach Resort

Non-Motorised Water Sports On-Site
Motorised Water Sports Off-Site
Kite Surfing
Swimming Pool
Spa
Room Service
Bars
Swimming Pool
Weddings
All Inclusive
Babysitting
Butler Service
Motorised Water Sports Off-Site
Non-Motorised Water Sports Off-Site
Snorkelling
Land Sports
Honeymoon Discounts

WHAT'S ON OFFER

Dongwe Ocean View

Half Board
All Inclusive
Babysitting
Swimming Pool
Wifi
Diving Off-Site
Motorised Water Sports Off-Site
Non-Motorised Water Sports Off-Site
Snorkelling
Land Sports
Honeymoon Discounts

WHAT'S ON OFFER

Melia Zanzibar

1 Restaurant
1 Bar
Babysitting
Swimming Pool
Wifi
Diving Off-Site
Motorised Water Sports Off-Site
Snorkelling
Land Sports
Honeymoon Discounts

WHAT'S ON OFFER
Excursions in Zanzibar

The island has a fascinating history and some unique flora and fauna too – no visit would be complete without experiencing the UNESCO World Heritage site that is Stone Town, the Spice Farm and one of the many water based excursions.

Stone Town City Tour
Follow the trail of the sultans, slaves and explorers through the winding streets and alleys of this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Zanzibar Spice Tour
Zanzibar is not known as the Spice Island for nothing – the plantations are a tribute to the island’s past and the popular spice tour provides a guided walk through the spice farm with the opportunity to touch, smell and taste the different spices.

Prison Island
Home to a tortoise sanctuary, the ruins of the prison that was never used and a hotel, this excursion allows time for interacting with the tortoises, snorkelling the spectacular coral reef and following the island’s hiking trails.

Sandbank Picnic
Full day excursion with a 5 Star seafood lunch on a sandbank, time to swim and snorkel, and then on to visit the tortoises on Prison Island before returning to Zanzibar.

Sunset Dhow Cruise
A magical sunset cruise with canapes, drinks and live music.

Safari Blue
Full day excursion on a traditional dhow to explore the Menai Bay conservation area, home to humpback and bottlenose dolphins. There is time for snorkelling and sunbathing plus a barbecue lunch on Kwale Island.
# Compare our Zanzibar Resorts

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* Hotel information and Star rating on this grid correct at time of printing. Holiday Factory terms & conditions apply. E&OE.