

TANZANIA'S MANDATORY INBOUND TRAVEL INSURANCE TAKES EFFECT ON 1 OCTOBER 2026

USD 44 Premium per person	UP TO 92 DAYS Policy validity	1 OCT 2026 Effective date
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Foreign visitors travelling to Mainland Tanzania should take note of an important new entry requirement.

With effect from 1 October 2026, Tanzania will implement mandatory inbound travel insurance for foreign visitors entering Mainland Tanzania by air, land or sea.

The requirement follows the Insurance (Inbound Travel Insurance) Regulations, 2026, published under Government Notice No. 256 of 2026 pursuant to section 134A of the Insurance Act, Cap. 394, as amended by the Finance Act, 2025. The Ministry of Finance has officially confirmed that implementation of the mandatory insurance scheme will commence on 1 October 2026.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR FOREIGN VISITORS?

Foreign visitors entering Mainland Tanzania will be required to obtain the prescribed inbound travel insurance. The insurance premium is the Tanzania Shilling equivalent of USD 44 per person, and the policy provides cover for a period of up to 92 days. The policy also permits multiple entries during its period of validity.

The mandatory cover includes, among other things: emergency medical treatment; loss of luggage; emergency medical evacuation; and repatriation.

The National Insurance Corporation of Tanzania Limited (NIC) has been designated as the provider of inbound travel insurance for visitors entering through Mainland Tanzania.

WHO IS EXEMPT?

The mandatory insurance requirement does not apply to foreigners who are residents of East African Community (EAC) Partner States or Southern African Development Community (SADC) Partner States. Travellers falling within an exemption should nevertheless ensure that they have appropriate documentation to establish their status when required.

WHEN SHOULD THE INSURANCE BE PURCHASED?

Travellers are advised to obtain the insurance before travelling to Tanzania to avoid delays during immigration and entry procedures. NIC has established an online platform through which eligible foreign visitors can obtain the mandatory insurance. Proof of insurance may be required for verification upon arrival. The policy may also be obtained at designated entry points.

WHAT ABOUT ZANZIBAR?

The Government has also clarified the arrangements between Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. NIC is the designated inbound travel insurance provider for visitors entering Tanzania through Mainland Tanzania, while the Zanzibar Insurance Corporation (ZIC) remains the designated provider for visitors entering through Zanzibar.

Where an insured visitor subsequently travels between Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar, emergency services within the United Republic of Tanzania will be handled by the insurance provider through which the visitor obtained the policy, subject to the applicable policy terms and conditions.

IMPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS

The new requirement is not relevant only to tourists. Companies, NGOs, investors, professional firms, contractors, tour operators and other organisations receiving foreign directors, consultants, employees, technical personnel and business visitors should incorporate the insurance requirement into their pre-travel arrangements.

In particular, organisations expecting international visitors on or after 1 October 2026 should ensure that affected travellers are informed of the requirement before departure. Failure to have the required insurance may result in difficulties or delays during entry procedures.

CONCLUSION

The introduction of mandatory inbound travel insurance represents an important change to Tanzania's entry requirements for foreign visitors. From 1 October 2026, affected foreign visitors entering Mainland Tanzania should ensure that they have obtained the prescribed inbound travel insurance and carry appropriate proof of cover when travelling.

Travellers should also remember that the mandatory inbound insurance is separate from immigration requirements relating to visas, residence permits and other entry authorisations.

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