



# Tanzania, Monduli (Arusha)

## Location

Monduli is a charming district located in the northern part of Tanzania, within the Arusha Region. Situated amidst the breathtaking landscapes of the Great Rift Valley, Monduli offers a captivating blend of natural beauty and cultural heritage. The district's administrative center, also known as Monduli, serves as a gateway to explore the wonders of this enchanting region.

With its varying elevations, Monduli showcases diverse terrain that ranges from lush green plains to rugged highlands. The district's elevation from sea level can vary significantly, from around 1,200 meters (3,937 feet) in the lower parts to approximately 2,800 meters (9,186 feet) in the higher regions, creating a picturesque backdrop for adventurers and nature enthusiasts alike.

The Monduli district is an extremely popular spot for tourists to learn how the local Maasai people live as well as observe the natural environment. Numerous attractions such as Lake Manyara, Mount Meru, Kilimanjaro, the Serengeti, and Ngorongoro can be found nearby and are the wonders of the region.

## Geolocation

**Gps coordinates:** -3.2974535, 36.4531081

**Accuracy:** Accurate

## Accommodation & Food

### About the Accommodation

During your stay in Monduli, you will reside in our local program center, where you will enjoy basic comfort throughout your experience. The accommodations may offer modern western-style toilets, but it's possible that traditional squat-style flush toilets may also be available. Additionally, showers may require water to be heated, often using a bucket-style method. However, we assure you that, despite these differences, the facilities are designed to meet your needs.

The program center is situated on a vibrant local school campus, surrounded by ample green spaces for you to enjoy and unwind. A spacious garden area provides the perfect spot to relax during the daytime, while clear nights offer a magnificent opportunity for stargazing, with the dazzling Milky Way visible right from this very location.

For your convenience and connectivity, we highly recommend obtaining a local "Halotel" or "Airtel" SIM card and purchasing a data bundle, ensuring you maintain personal internet access during your

stay. This will allow you to stay connected with loved ones and keep up with your online needs while fully immersing yourself in the enriching experience of our program.

### Electricity

Tanzania uses both “**Type G**” (British Standard) and “**Type D**” electrical sockets and operates on a voltage of **230 volts** at **50 hertz** (Hz) rated at **13 amps**. It’s essential to bring the appropriate plug adapters or universal travel adapters that support Type D and Type G sockets to ensure you can plug in and use your electronic devices without any issues.

### Available Room Types

	<b>Standard Room</b>
<b>All meals included</b>	Yes *
<b>Free beverages</b>	Yes **
<b>Persons per room</b>	2-6
<b>Wifi in public areas</b>	No
<b>Laundry facilities</b>	Yes ***
<b>Safety box</b>	No
<b>Lockable rooms</b>	Yes
<b>Hot shower</b>	Yes ****
<b>Private bathroom</b>	No
<b>Bed linen</b>	Yes
<b>Towels</b>	No
<b>Air conditioning</b>	No
<b>Fan</b>	No
<b>Mosquito protection</b>	No

\* 3 meals on weekdays, 2 on weekends

\*\* Water and tea provided

\*\*\* Buckets and brushes available

\*\*\*\* Water may need to be heated in some cases

### Food Arrangements

During the program, you will enjoy three wholesome meals each day, including breakfast, lunch, and dinner. On weekends, there will be a delightful brunch and dinner provided. The meals are primarily

inspired by the delicious flavors of the local cuisine, offering a true taste of the region's culinary traditions.

Expect the daily meals to feature a delightful array of locally sourced ingredients, such as corn, rice, potatoes, and bananas. To ensure a balanced and nourishing diet, you'll also savor dishes that incorporate beef, goat meat, beans, and nutritious green leafy vegetables.

While the focus is on typical local dishes, we understand the importance of accommodating dietary requirements. If you have any specific dietary needs and/or allergies, kindly inform us in advance, and we will ensure that appropriate meals are prepared for you.

Be ready for a food adventure, as the menu may differ from typical western-style dishes. The experience of trying new flavors and embracing the local culinary heritage is an integral part of your journey in the Maasai Village.

Please note that the meals will be served at the Accommodation Center, and in some instances, packed meals may be provided based on local circumstances. Rest assured, each meal will be thoughtfully prepared to offer you a delightful and memorable dining experience during your stay.

## Facilities

The accommodation is conveniently surrounded by a plethora of shops, small local restaurants, salons, pharmacies, an ATM, and local markets, all within walking distance. In case of medical needs, the well-equipped hospital is also easily accessible on foot. For those seeking a broader range of amenities and activities, the local "dala-dala" area offers minibus services to Arusha, a major city in Tanzania, located just an hour away. Arusha serves as a bustling hub with numerous markets, shops, malls, restaurants, and supermarkets, catering to all your requirements.

As one of Tanzania's main cities, Arusha is a gateway to exciting wildlife experiences, as most safari companies depart from here to the surrounding national parks. In addition to safari adventures, Arusha offers a diverse range of activities, including visits to Maasai markets with unique crafts, cinemas, shopping malls, and a variety of Western dining options. During your weekends off or after your program schedules, you can explore these attractions alongside fellow participants.

Moreover, within the district's center, there are local restaurants serving delectable dishes that blend both traditional and Western flavors. You have the freedom to indulge in these culinary delights and savor the local taste.

If you wish to plan weekend trips or excursions, we are here to assist you by providing information on prices and local tourist agencies. However, please note that the costs and arrangements for these trips will be your responsibility.

## Weather & Climate

Monduli, Tanzania, experiences a typical East African climate with distinct wet and dry seasons. The weather can vary significantly throughout the year, offering diverse experiences for visitors.

**Dry Season (June to October):**

The dry season in Monduli typically occurs from June to October. During this time, the weather is characterized by sunny and warm days, making it an ideal time for outdoor activities and wildlife viewing. The temperatures tend to be moderate, with daytime highs ranging from 20°C to 28°C (68°F to 82°F). Nights can be cooler, with temperatures averaging between 10°C to 15°C (50°F to 59°F).

#### **Short Rainy Season (November to December):**

November to December mark the short rainy season in Monduli. Although rain is more frequent during this period, it is usually characterized by short, heavy showers that don't last all day. The temperatures remain moderate, with daytime highs ranging from 20 to 25 degrees Celsius (68 to 77 degrees Fahrenheit). The humidity increases compared to the dry season, but it still remains relatively comfortable for travelers.

#### **Long Rainy Season (March to May):**

The long rainy season spans from March to May. This is the period of the heaviest rainfall, and it can rain consistently for several days. The weather becomes more humid during this time, with temperatures ranging from 18°C to 25°C (64°F to 77°F).

The long rains bring life to the flora and fauna, with the landscape bursting with color and blooming vegetation. However, the wet conditions may make certain outdoor activities challenging, and it's advisable to come prepared with suitable rain gear if visiting during this season.

#### **Humidity:**

Overall, the humidity levels in Monduli are generally higher during the rainy seasons, especially during the long rainy season from March to May. Humidity can range from 60% to 80% or even higher during these months, creating a lush and humid environment. During the dry season, humidity levels drop to around 30% to 50%, providing a drier and more comfortable atmosphere.

## **Mandatory Orientation Day**

On the Monday of your first week at this location, you will join our orientation day, to familiarize you with the surroundings as well as the local culture. Your program will continue as usual from Tuesday onward throughout the rest of the week.

### **Schedule**

- Introduction meeting, House rules, Setting Expectations, Health and Safety advice, and handling of documents.
- Tanzanian Do's and Don'ts, Culture Introduction and Country history and Intensive Swahili Language Lessons.
- Lunch
- Tour around the compound and local area; where to find local shops; and arrange a sim-card if necessary.
- Hike up the beautiful Monduli Mountains if time and weather permit.

## Activities & Events

### Tuesday Evening

Movie night! We will show a great movie on our big screen at the accommodation.

### Wednesday Evening

Game Night! The local team will organize exciting and fun games for you to get involved with.

### Thursday Evening

Team Building activities! Come and enjoy some team building activities and learn more about yourself and your fellow camp buddies.

### Friday Evening

BBQ with a great movie! Enjoy the last evening of the week with a delicious BBQ while watching one of your favourite movies on the big screen at the accommodation.

## Sights & Surroundings

### Ngorongoro Conservation Area

Expanding over plains, forests, and savannas, Ngorongoro Conservation Area hosts Ngorongoro Crater, the world's largest caldera, where incredible wildlife coexists with the Maasai. Here, you will be able to find wildlife—in a crater! It is a must when in Tanzania, as it is one of the most emblematic locations on the continent.

### Tarangire National Park

Tarangire is famous for its population of elephants and the symbolic Baobab tree. During the dry season, wild animals inhabit the park, and you will be able to find zebras, giraffes, buffaloes, elephants, wildebeests, and more! While not as common, you might be able to find a lion here as well if you are lucky!

### Serengeti National Park

The Serengeti is probably the most worldwide known National Park in the world. It is believed to hold the largest population of lions in the world! Aside from that, cheetahs, buffaloes, zebras, giraffes, rhinos, and hippos live here. Make sure you allow yourself at least two days to visit and stay overnight in either a campsite or a lodge. The Serengeti cannot be done in just one day, as it is so huge!

## **Arusha National Park and Mount Meru**

Mount Meru is the second largest peak in Tanzania after Kilimanjaro. While it is not the best place to spot wildlife compared to Ngorongoro or Serengeti, it is still the home of many species, including giraffes, warthogs, Cape buffaloes, lions, elephants, flamingos, and more! However, the main attractions here are the landscapes that line the park on every side: to the west, you will find Meru Crater and the Jekukumia River. To the south, you will find Ngurdoto Crater, and to the north.east, Momella Lakes, which vary in colour due to algae and are made even brighter by many different species of birds who love to swim in the water!

## **Lake Manyara National Park**

During the wet season, pink flamingos brighten up the lake, which makes it the go-to place for bird watchers. They do leave during the wet season, but Masai Lions, Leopards, hippos, giraffes, zebras, elephants, blue monkeys, gazelles, and cheetahs can be found here year-round!

## **Moshi and Mount Kilimanjaro**

Moshi is located about two and a half hours away from Monduli and can be easily reached from Monduli by taking a “dala dala” to Arusha and then another one to Moshi from there.

Moshi is a sleepy town with a Western vibe, as it is the starting point of the Mount Kilimanjaro climb! On a clear day, you can get excellent views of the highest mountain in Africa (tip: head over to Moshi Train Station for a top-notch view. This station is no longer in use for transportation purposes, but the locals have made the most out of it by placing some chairs and selling drinks and snacks with a view!).

## **Kikuletwa Hot Springs**

A lesser-known but still amazing attraction located between Arusha and Moshi is Kikuletwa Hot Springs. The water isn't actually hot, but its temperature is perfect for swimming and relaxing. It is known as an oasis as it is covered with jungle, and the water here is so blue that you wouldn't believe it! It is a favourite go-to place for locals and expats alike, and there is even a rope you can use to dive into the water with style.

## **Arusha**

Arusha is one of the main cities in Tanzania and is easy to reach from Monduli in less than an hour and a half. From here, most safari companies depart for many of the national parks surrounding it, so it is your go-to place for wildlife! In Arusha, you will be able to find a myriad of things to do - from Maasai markets selling crafts to bring back home, to cinemas, shopping malls, Western food, and more!

## **Hiking Around Monduli**

Monduli is set amidst lush mountains that are a great opportunity for hiking off-the-beaten-path. There are numerous trails, one of which leads to a gorgeous waterfall. Speak to our coordinator to arrange, as the government needs to grant you permission (for a fee) to visit beyond certain spots in order to conserve the area.

## **Iringa and Ruaha National Parks**

Not that close by, but an interesting place nonetheless if you have the time after finishing our programs! Ruaha National Park is a much less visited place for wildlife, but its few visitors are never disappointed by its beauty! In fact, it is the largest National Park in Tanzania and boasts cheetahs, the second largest population of Leopards in Africa, buffalo, hippos, and more!

## **Zanzibar**

While a bit far, it is possible to fly to Zanzibar for a weekend from Arusha Airstrip, a small airport that operates domestic flights and is not too far from our centre! Zanzibar is known for its sandy beaches and unique culture. While here, don't miss Stone Town, a place that is emblematic for its mazes and spices (take a spice tour for sure!). Another must is a visit to Prison Island, where you can spot dolphins and marine life. Travel north or east of the island for some of the best and cleanest beaches in the world and enjoy the Indian Ocean at its best!

## **The Clock Tower**

Situated slap-bang in the centre of town, it is a great meeting point for both locals and tourists. Urban legend has it that this is the middle-point between Cape Town and Cairo. It's completely untrue, but a great story nonetheless.

## **Central and Maasai Markets**

Chaotic and vibrant markets that sell everything from meat and fish to fabrics and electronics. Maasai Markets have a wide array of curios and African art. They're crowded and busy, but they're a great way to experience real Africa. Beware of pickpockets and be prepared to haggle!

## **The Boma Museum**

Originally a fort built by the Germans in the early 1900s, it chronicles the colonial history of the town and the tribal history of the area. It also houses the Natural History Museum, with fascinating information on the archaeological and paleoanthropological sites in the area and wildlife.

## **Shanga**

Out on the Dodoma Road, is a fabulous centre incorporating a workshop for disabled artists who make beautiful glasswork, beadwork, jewelry, and clothes, boutiques, and an open-air restaurant.

## **Meserani Snake Park**

A little further out of Arusha, you can see a wide range of snakes, learn about them, and even hold some! There's also a small Maasai Museum and camel rides there.

## **Transportation**

From this location, we do not provide free transportation to other locations.