In three large pools, you can see from tourism and conservation. The aim of this community initiative is to help locals benefit.

Uwemajo, Swahili Wonders (00 255 777 443 008; Jozani Sea Turtle Sanctuary (zanzibaranglican.or.tz; Anglican Cathedral (zanzibaranglican.or.tz; (Kizimkazi Dimbani) Kizimkazi Old Mosque (Mangapwani) Coral Cave

With a preposterously beautiful tropical coastline, a wealth of Swahili history and great food, this dreamlike island off the coast of Tanzania is quite the destination. This guide will help distil its highlights.

**SIGHTS**

**Anglican Cathedral**

(00 255 0779 093 066; Hurumi St)

Curated by the renowned historian Said al Gheithy, this museum tells the story of Princess Salme, a sultan’s daughter who eloped with a German merchant in the late 19th century and later wrote Memoirs of an Arabian Princess from Zanzibar.

**ZALA Park**

(00 255 0777 850816; Muungoni Village)

ZALA (Zanzibar Land Animals) Park was founded as a project to help the community appreciate the value of wildlife, with funds raised by tourist visits. There are tours exploring local woodland, a mangrove shoreline and nearby villages by foot, bike or kayak.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Nungwi Cycling Adventures**

(zanzibarcyclingadventures.com) Explore the world beyond Stone Town on bike tours to rural villages, ancient ruins, coral caves, traditional blacksmiths, villages, ancient ruins, coral caves, traditional blacksmiths, farms and secret beaches.

**Safari Blue**

(safariblue.net; Fumba)

Safari Blue is a tour company that organises day trips on beautiful traditional dhows around Menai Bay. Each dhow carries about 20 people, and each trip includes swimming, snorkelling (equipment provided), a seafood lunch on a remote island beach and time to relax on a sandbank. It’s a great activity for families (kids under six years old go free).

**Seaweed Centre**

(00 255 688 805597; seaweedcenter.com)

The Seaweed Centre is the HQ of a local social enterprise that enables the women of Paje to make a living harvesting seaweed and transforming it into organic soaps, scrubs and essential oils (also involving cloves, coconut and island honey).

**EATING**

**Mr Kahawa**

(00 255 0777 883 306; Kendwa North)

This is the place for a top-notch espresso or cappuccino, accompanied by a sweet pastry, savoury wrap, panini, juice or salad. It’s cool and stylish and has a fantastic position on the beach.

**The Rock**

(therockrestaurantzanzibar.com; Michamvi Pingwe)

Zanzibar’s most photogenic restaurant is perched on a coral outcrop in a stunning location surrounded by sea. At low tide you can walk to it; at other times (maybe after a long lunch) boats are provided. Of course, you’re paying for the location, but the food is good and, unsurprisingly, includes prawns, lobster, crab, fish and other seafood.

Don’t miss

Kendwa Community Tours are run by local people. On offer are tours to Stone Town and other parts of Zanzibar Island, but most interesting are the tours of Kendwa village itself. Leave the beach for a while and see how Zanzibaris live day-to-day. Be prepared for arrangements to be a little relaxed (00 255 778 883 306; Kendwa North Zanzibar, close to Gold Hotel).
Sleeping

Chumbe Island Coral Lodge
Best for the environment £££ (chumbeisland.com)
These are ‘eco-bungalows’ with solar power, rainwater collection, ocean views and a loft sleeping area that opens to the stars.

Emerson Spice
Best for a boutique stay £££ (emersonspice.com)
With stained-glass windows and a soft-hued colour scheme, this is one of the most stylish hotels in Stone Town.

Lost & Found
Best for a budget option £ (lost57.com)
Modern, friendly and well located, Lost & Found houses its guests in ‘pods’ (single or double), with curtains for privacy.

Mangrove Lodge
Best for a tropical feel ££ (mangrovelodge.com)
The delightful Mangrove Lodge is owned by a Zanzibari-Italian couple, and their gentle style imbues the whole place.

Zanzibar Coffee House
Best for caffeine lovers ££ (riftvalley-zanzibar.com)
This stylish hotel above a first-class coffee shop has eight rooms, all named after different types of coffee.

FURTHER READING
Lonely Planet’s Tanzania guide (£16.99) has a section on Zanzibar, which is also available to download as a separate PDF (£2.99; lonelyplanet.com).