

DEC 28, 2024 - JAN 5, 2025 9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS MAPUTO & BILENE



WELCOME! BEM-VINDO!

(Portuguese)

We're glad you're thinking about joining the Travel Africa Movement for New Year's 2024 in Mozambique. We're ready to host you!

This document includes the Itinerary and Frequently Asked Questions about the trip. If you have additional questions or would like to move forward with a booking, feel free to reach out to us at info@travelafricamovement.com.



COUNTRY INFO

Mozambique is located in southeast Africa and is the 16th largest country on the continent. It gained independence from Portugal in June 1975, after 500 years of colonization and a long civil war. Portuguese is the official language and numerous indigenous languages are also spoken. English speakers can be found in most major hotels.

The capital and most populous city is Maputo, which is situated on Maputo Bay on the Indian Ocean. Maputo is noted for its vibrant cultural scene and distinctive architecture. It has many restaurants, art, music and performance venues, including Nucleo de Arte and FEIMA Arts and Crafts market. Popular landmarks include Independence Square, City Hall, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral, the Samora Machel statue, the Central Market, the Maputo Railway Station, the Iron House, the Maputo Fortress, and Mafalala, all of which we will visit.

Mozambique has 40+ islands and Africa's 4th longest coastline that is lined with numerous beach towns, including Bilene which we'll visit. With water everywhere, Mozambique is renowned for both its plethora of water activities and its excellent seafood and cuisine. It also has a dynamic art and music scene and vibrant nightlife. Mozambique's tourism infrastructure may be underdeveloped, but its natural beauty, beaches, national parks, wildlife reserves, and cultural heritage provide excellent ecotourism opportunities for the adventurous traveler. Come join us and enjoy the diamond in the rough that is Mozambique.





Do I need a passport?

A passport book is required for travel to Mozambique. Your passport must be valid for 6 months after your arrival date and have at least 2 blank pages or you will be denied entry.

Do I need a visa?

Mozambique has a <u>visa exemption</u> for US citizens and citizens of 28 other countries. The visa exemption allows tourists to visit up to 30 days and costs 650 mets (approximately \$10 USD). On arrival, you must present the following documents along with payment: (a) passport with a validity of at least 6 months; (b) evidence of return flight ticket; and (c) proof of accommodation. Mozambique also has visa on arrival which requires advance registration, but the exemption is our recommended option since it is easier and cheaper. If you are not a US citizen, check the visa requirements for your country.

Do I need any vaccinations or medications?

There are no required vaccines for Mozambique except in certain situations. For example, Yellow Fever (YF) vaccine IS required if traveling or transiting from a country with risk of YF virus transmission (typically countries in Africa, Asia or South America).

Because Mozambique is a high-risk malaria country, a malaria prophylaxis is also recommended (optional). Check the <u>CDC</u>

<u>Website</u> for more information about recommended vaccines and anti-malarial medications.

What are the Covid entry and exit requirements?

Currently, all Covid protocols have been suspended. Of course, this is subject to change if circumstances warrant.

What is the name of the arrival and departure airport?

The arrival and departure airport is Maputo International Airport (MPM) in the capital city, Maputo.

What is the cost of this trip?

This trip is \$2,700 per person for double occupancy and \$3,100 for single occupancy. Single occupancy spots are limited.

What is included in the tour package?

Your tour package will include airport transfers, ground transportation, hotel accommodations, daily activities and entrance fees, daily breakfast, Welcome & Farewell dinners, NYE dinner and party, New Year's Day brunch, daily water and snacks, photographer, bilingual tour guide, tour host/concierge services, and gift bag.

Are flights included in the tour price?

Flights <u>are not</u> included in the tour price and must be purchased separately. You have two options: (1) a round trip flight from your home city to Maputo (MPM). Current prices are around \$1,250 - \$2,200, depending on departure city; or (2) a round trip flight from your home city to Johannesburg, South Africa (JNB) and a separate round trip flight from JNB to MPM. Flights from the USA to South Africa are typically cheaper and require less connections for some US cities. Current prices are around \$900 - \$1,900. We can assist you with selecting the best option for your departure city.

We highly suggest that you purchase your flights well in advance of travel, as last-minute holiday travel to/within Africa can be very expensive. Search Google Flights or similar search engines for the best flight prices and schedules.

Is there a recommended airline?

For Maputo, Qatar Airways and Ethiopian Airlines appear to have the best flight options. For South Africa, Delta, Virgin Atlantic, Qatar Airways and Ethiopian Airlines appear to have the best flight options.

Can you match me with a roommate?

While we make every effort to match solo attendees seeking roommates, we cannot promise to find one for you. In the event that no roommate is available, you will be required to pay the single occupancy rate.

Are children allowed to attend?

This is an adults only trip, so all attendees must be age 18 or older.

When should I arrive in Mozambique?

We suggest that you arrive by 3:00 pm on December 28th, in order to get checked in to the hotel and refreshed before our evening Welcome Dinner.

Which hotel should I stay in if I arrive a day or two early?

We recommend staying at our arrival hotel, which will cost around \$250 per night. If you would like a cheaper option, we recommend the Bongavila Boutique Hotel or the Hotel Kapital.

When should I plan to leave Mozambique?

Your tour will officially end at 1:30 pm on January 5, 2025. You should plan your international departure anytime after 5:00pm.





Are airport transfers and ground transportation included?

Yes, airport transfers to/from the hotel are included in the package price. If other attendees are arriving in close time, you will likely be transported to together. Ground transportation to all activities on the Itinerary is also included.

What type of hotel lodging is included?

Hotel accommodations for 8 nights are included: 5 nights in Maputo and 3 nights in Bilene. All hotels will be 3.5 to 4 stars and well-rated for service and quality. In Maputo, our hotel will be the Southern Sun or the Radisson Blu. In Bilene, our hotel will be the San Martinho or Bilene Club Lodge.

Which meals are included?

Daily breakfast is included. Food will also be provided at the Welcome Party, New Year's Eve Dinner, New Year's Day Brunch, and Farewell Dinner. Other meals are at your expense and will typically average \$10-25 USD.

Are alcoholic beverages included?

Select alcoholic beverages are included for specific activities, including the Welcome Party, New Year's Eve Dinner and Party, New Year's Brunch, and Farewell Dinner. Other drinks are at your expense.

Which activities are on the Itinerary?

In Maputo, we'll visit important city landmarks, cultural and historical sites, and markets, take a boat tour to Inhaca Island, go on safari at the Maputo Special Reserve, and bring in the New Year with a NYE dinner and party and New Year's Day brunch. Next we'll move on to Bilene where we'll enjoy the beach, go on a village and market tour, and enjoy a sunset boat cruise.

Will I have any free time to relax and explore on my own?

Yes, although we have daily guided tours and activities, most evenings and several days will include free time. You can relax at the hotel, take in the beach, get a massage, go shopping, or enjoy various water or land sports, like jet skiing, kite surfing, canoeing, parasailing, quad biking, and more. Activities and transportation during free time will be at your expense.

What are the plans for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day?

We will attend a group dinner and party on New Year's Eve. Champagne and party favors will be provided. We will attend a mid-day brunch on New Year's Day. You will be free to relax, explore, or recuperate for the remainder of the day.

How much should I expect to spend for out-of-pocket expenses?

Since most of your expenses are covered, you will only have to pay for lunch and/or dinner on some days, tips, incidental charges, souvenirs and personal shopping. Because of the favorable exchange rate, you will find most restaurants and shopping to be very affordable. Meals average \$10 - \$25 USD. We suggest that you budget a minimum of \$50 per day for food, shopping, free time activities. etc.





Is travel insurance included?

Travel insurance is not included but it is required for all travelers. Cost typically averages \$50-100. Proof of travel insurance must be provided before departure. We will provide a list of insurers upon request.

How can I reserve a spot on this trip?

Full or partial payment can be made to hold a spot on this trip. If making a partial payment, a non-refundable deposit of \$250 USD is required. The deposit is applied towards the total balance due.

Are payment plans available?

Yes, a monthly payment plan is available. Payments are due on the 30th day of each month and all payments must be complete by the final payment deadline of September 30, 2024. All payment plans include a \$50 administrative fee. Payments can be made via Paypal or Zelle.

What if I pay for the trip and can no longer attend?

Payments are non-refundable, but they are transferable. You are permitted to resell your slot to another participant, but Travel Africa Movement is unable to offer a refund due to vendor rules and pre-payments. See our <u>Terms and Conditions</u> for more detail.





ITINERARY

MAPUTO

Day 1: Sat 12/28/24

Meals Included: Dinner

Arrivals, Meet and Greet, Itinerary Review,

Welcome Dinner

Day 2: Sun 12/29/24

Meals Included: Breakfast

Inhaca Island tour

Day 3: Mon 12/30/24

Meals Included: Breakfast

Maputo Special Reserve safari

Day 4: Tues 12/31/24

Meals Included: Breakfast

Maputo City Tour

NYE Dinner & Party

Day 5: Wed 1/1/24

Meals Included: Brunch

New Year's Day Brunch

MAPUTO/BILENE

Day 6: Thurs 1/2/24

Meals Included: Breakfast

Travel to Bilene

Free Afternoon

BILENE

Day 7: Fri 1/3/24

Meals Included: Breakfast

~ Free Day - On your own

Day 8: Sat 1/4/24

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

Village and market tour

Sunset Boat cruise

Farewell Dinner

BILENE/MAPUTO

Day 9: Sun 1/5/24

Meals Included: Breakfast

Return to Maputo

Departures

