Tanzania is an East African country in the Great Lakes region. It has a population of 44,928,923 inhabitants according to the 2012 National Census. Regions showing high population growth rates are predominantly in urban areas, such as Dar es Salaam, but also in areas with high refugee influxes, such as the Kigoma region. The country has maintained relatively stable economic growth over the last decade. Although the poverty rate has decreased; about 12 million Tanzanians still live in extreme poverty and earn less than $0.6/day.

Kigoma is a region located on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, in the northwest corner of Tanzania. It shares borders with Burundi and the DRC (Congo) in the west across the lake. According to the 2012 Census, the region has a population of 2,127,930 with an average size of 5.7 people per household and an annual population growth rate of 2.4%. About 83 per cent of households in Kigoma are classified as rural, and their economy is based mainly on subsistence farming and fishing. Industrial development is hampered by its geographical location and poor economic infrastructure, which are responsible for the resignation of investors.

Because of its border location, Kigoma is the region of Tanzania that has received a large influx of refugees from neighboring countries in recent decades. Currently, Kigoma hosts 3 refugee camps, with a population of 280,500 from DRC and Burundi.

The region has two national parks, Gombe and Mahale, famous for chimpanzees, some idyllic beaches along Lake Tanganyika and the Livingstone Memorial and Museum.
Where to eat

**Bangwe**

**Acqua Lodge**: 1' walk down the main paved road towards the centre you will find it on the left hand side, over the lake and with a private beach. They prepare fish from the lake, fried, grilled or roasted, accompanied by salad and fried banana, beef skewers and chips.

**Unique Bar**: 3' walk down the main paved road towards the centre you will find it on the right hand side. They prepare grilled or roasted pork accompanied by salad and fried banana, beef skewers and chips.

**Bangwe Beach**: 2' walk down the main street towards Katonga on the right hand side with a private beach. They prepare fish from the lake, fried, grilled or roasted, accompanied by salad, rice or potatoes, mayai chips, chicken, and beef and french fries.

**Hilltop Hotel**: at 20' walking on the main street towards Katonga on the right hand side you will see it indicated, you will enter the private street of the hotel passing by the reception and the swimming pool, until arriving at the end, where the restaurant of the hotel is located in a terrace with splendid views on the lake. They prepare a variety of western and local food, and do not serve alcoholic beverages.

**Tanganyika Hotel**: 8' walk on the main street towards the centre, just before the Unique Bar on the left hand side there is an unpaved road, you follow it until you find a paved road and the hotel is on the left. In a tent by the lake and the pool they prepare varied western and local food.

**Metro Bar**: 8' walk down the main street towards the centre, to the right of the Congolese Consulate. They prepare fish from the lake, fried, grilled or roasted with salad, rice or potatoes, mayai chips, chicken, pork and beef skewers and chips.

**One Lounge**: After 15' walk, past the Metro Bar, continue straight on the same street until you find it on the left. They prepare fish from the lake, fried, grilled with salad, rice or potatoes, mayai chips, chicken, pork and beef skewers. French fries.

**Kigoma Park**: After 15' walk, past the Metro Bar, continue straight on the same street until you find it on the left. They prepare fish from the lake, fried, grilled with salad, rice or potatoes, mayai chips, chicken, pork and beef skewers. French fries.

**Ally’s**: 15' walk down the main street towards the centre, after the market, on the right hand side. They prepare local food and sambusas, mandazis, local pizza, chapatis and take away.

**The Wallet**: 20' walk or 5' in bajaji, direction Mwanga, on the left hand side in a big modern building in orange and green. They prepare fried fish, grilled, accompanied by salad, rice or potatoes, mayai chips, chicken, goat and chips.

**Mazana Bakery**: 25' walk or 5' in bajaji, past The Wallet, on the same main street you find it on the left, with a facade imitating gray brick. It is a small restaurant and bakery of local food, with some tables, although it is also Take Away. They prepare sambusas, mandazis, local pizza, chapatis, hamburgers, biscuits, natural juices, tea... They do not serve alcoholic beverages.

**& drinks...**

- Tanganyika Hotel
- Unique Bar: Billiard table
- Bangwe Beach: dancing area
- The Wallet: Disco.
- Metro Bar: Live music.
- One lounge
- Kigoma Park: Live Congolese music
Katonga Port: 2 km south of the city centre, you take the main street to the right past Hilltop Hotel and at the fork you take the street to the right until the end, the street dies in this small fishing port. It is better to visit it in the early morning when the boats arrive or in the late afternoon when the fishermen go out to fish at night.

Kibirizi Port: 2 km north of the city centre you will find this picturesque and active neighbourhood and fishing port. It is better to visit in the morning when the fishing boats arrive. You can get there on foot from the train station.

MV Liemba: boat anchored in the port is currently not working, although it can be visited. You will find it at the end of the unpaved parallel street just after the Tanganyika Hotel. It was one of the three ships that the German Empire used to control Lake Tanganyika during the first part of World War I. It was built in 1913 in Germany.

Train station: of German architecture, it is the last stop of the central railway line, built at the beginning of the 20th century during the German colonization.

Kigoma Market: walk around and see the vegetables, legumes, fish, meat, spices and many African cloth stands, which are famous throughout Tanzania for their quality and originality.

Jakobsen’s beach: is a good place to relax and spend a Saturday or Sunday 5 km southwest of downtown. To get there, on the road to Katonga, you pass by Hilltop Hotel and at the fork in the road you turn right until you find signs that will take you to the beach itself. In fact, they are 3 small and very beautiful coves, which can be reached by going down a slope full of vegetation and then stairs. Once on the sand, there are several umbrellas to protect you from the sun, although they do not serve food or drinks. You have to pay an entrance fee of 7,000TZS per person.
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**Swimming pools:** Hilltop and Tanganyika hotels have swimming pools where you can spend the day, lie in the sun, read, relax. If you don’t take service you have to pay an entrance fee of 10,000/15,000TZS.

**Shopping:** In the markets you can buy colorful African fabrics such as Kitenge, Kanga and Batiks, ready-made dresses and blouses, coffee from Tanzania, Kigoma honey. In Ujiji you will be able to decide on one of the typical Kigoma hand-embroidered bedspreads. There are two shops where you can buy African handicrafts, one in Bangwe next to Casa Karibia and another in the centre of the city.

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**Ujiji:** currently a district of Kigoma, although it was the oldest city in western Tanzania, on the shores of Lake Tanganyika. It occupies a great place in popular history because it was there that, on November 10th 1871, the journalist Henry Stanley found the explorer Dr. David Livingstone who had not shown signs of life for six years, and uttered the famous words “Dr. Livingstone. I presume”. One of the most media-friendly greetings in the history of exploration. And it is in this meeting place that a monument known as the Livingstone Memorial and a Memorial Museum were built. Under two centuries-old mango trees, the museum keeper will regale you with stories of Dr. Livingstone’s fascinating and famous expeditions to Africa.

You can visit its port, at the end of the cobbled street where the museum is located, the main dhows shipyard in the area; as well as go to the old market, which was one of the most important markets in Africa, heritage of its past as a stop on the old caravan route for the slave and ivory trade towards the coast. A walk through the streets will transport you to the history of Ujiji, see its old and decadent buildings, as well as the Atlas cinema already on the main road, on the right towards the centre of Kigoma.

**Trekking:** Especially in the area of Bangwe, between Jacobsen beach and Hilltop hotel you can make beautiful walks along paths between green hills and cliffs, with the Tanganyika lake in the background until you get down to the beaches. It is recommended to do it at sunset to enjoy the magnificent sunset over the Congo mountains.

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**What to do, What to see**
YOU'RE GOING TO MISS IT?

KARIBU

"We trace our own path in every moment with every choice we make."

Temperatures in Kigoma range from 18º to 28º all year round. And the rainy months run from late October to mid-May. The rest of the year it doesn't rain.