

PRIVATE ISLANDS INC.

PRIVATE ISLAND RENTAL · LAKE TANGANYIKA, TANZANIA

LUPITA ISLAND

110 ACRES · TEN COTTAGES · 28 GUESTS AT MOST · PRIVACY 76 COTTAGE STAY

THE ISLAND · LAKE TANGANYIKA

An Island on the Great Lake

Lupita Island is a private island lodge in the Kipili archipelago of Lake Tanganyika, in western Tanzania — 110 acres of indigenous forest and rocky shoreline, five kilometres off the mainland.

The lake is the longest freshwater lake in the world, the second oldest and the second deepest, and this southern stretch of it sees almost no tourism. The lodge is the only property on the island, built between 2004 and 2008 with local people, local thatch and local wood.

110

ACRES OF INDIGENOUS FOREST AND ROCKY SHORELINE

10

THATCHED COTTAGES SCATTERED OVER THE HILLSIDE

28

GUESTS AT MOST NEVER MORE AT ANY TIME







STAY

Rustic Luxury, Open to the Lake

The ten cottages are built into the hillside among the indigenous trees, each positioned for privacy and an uninterrupted view of the lake — roofs thatched from local grasses, locally sourced wood and African antiques, and the lake side of every cottage left completely open-air.

THE COTTAGES

The smallest cottages	1,800 sq ft
Deluxe cottages	open-plan · private plunge pool
Bathrooms	open-air bath · waterfall shower
The family cottage	2,500 sq ft · two bedrooms
Children	two extra beds can be added

The deluxe cottages are open-plan, with a king-sized bed or two large singles, a sitting room with a private bar and a plunge pool on the deck. The family cottage adds a second bedroom and bathroom — and in any cottage, meals can be served by the lodge's waiters.









LIFE ON THE ISLAND

Life on the Island

THE TABLE

Meals are taken in the open-air dining room at the island's highest point — three- and four-course dinners by candlelight. The cooking is modern African, built on the lake: grilled Nile perch and seasoned Kuwe straight from the water; on some days a catered buffet is set on the beach.

THE WATER

Snorkelling runs along the island's coves, and PADI-certified diving works a reef world of hundreds of cichlid species found nowhere else on earth. Kayaks and canoes wait at the beach; fishing is by hand line with a local fisherman, or by speedboat with rods.

THE DAY

The Dhow bar, built from boats once used on the water, has a viewing deck above it, and a boma fire is lit under the stars before dinner. High on the hillside stand the spa and the open-sided gym; the large main pool is set apart for quiet, with its own pool bar.

THE REGION · WESTERN TANZANIA

The Kipili Shore

Lupita stands in the Kipili archipelago, five kilometres off the mainland shore. Kipili village lies three miles south-east across the water, and the inhabited island of Ulwile two miles north-east — the only neighbours on this stretch of the lake.

Ashore stand the remains of the Kipili monastery, built by the Italian White Fathers in the 1860s, fifteen minutes' drive from the mainland jetty; the Kipili church choir visits the island to sing and dance. The Windsor Rose, the lodge's 46-foot cruise boat brought overland from Lake Kariba, runs the sunset cruise around the island.



GETTING THERE

By Air, by Road, by Boat

BY AIR

A PRIVATE AIRSTRIP ON THE MAINLAND

The lodge's safari itineraries fly in from Dar es Salaam, Ruaha and the Serengeti to its private airstrip on the mainland shore, across the water from the island.

5 MIN

THE DRIVE TO KIPILI JETTY

From the airstrip, a five-minute drive runs down to the mainland jetty at Kipili, where the lodge's boat waits at the water's edge.

10 MIN

THE BOAT TO THE ISLAND

The speedboat crossing takes ten minutes. There is no public ferry and no other way onto the island — everyone who lands here is staying or working at the lodge.

The lodge also arranges the road link to Katavi National Park, three and a half hours away by its own transport, and builds the island into longer Tanzanian safaris of three to twenty-one days.





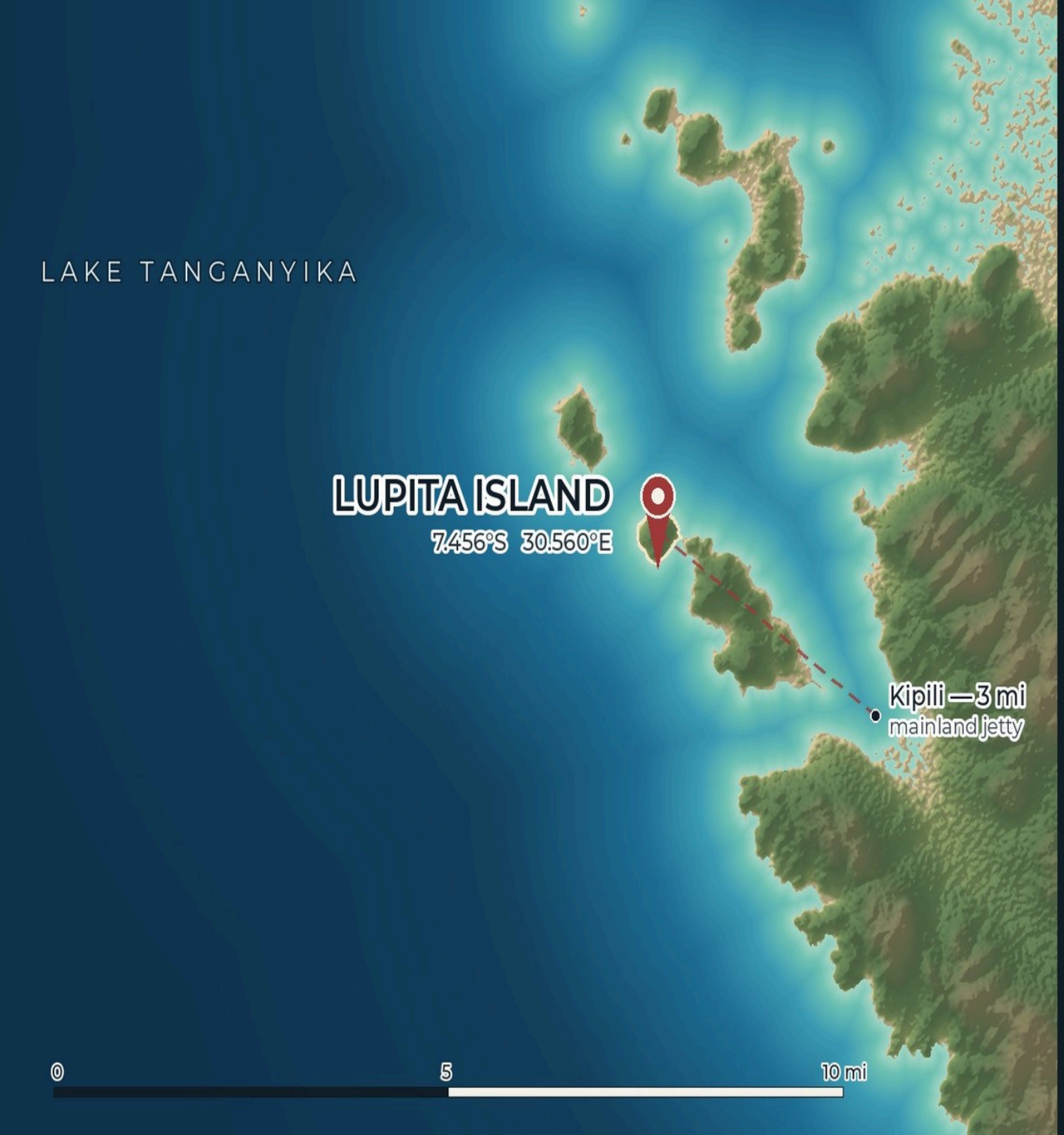
CLIMATE

The Tanganyika Year

SEASON	HIGHS	LOWS	LAKE	
DEC – FEB	82–84°F	66–67°F	77°F	The rains at their height — December is the wettest month of the year, the forest at its greenest
MAR – MAY	84–88°F	64–66°F	77°F	The rains ease through April and end in May — skies clear as the long dry season opens
JUN – AUG	88–91°F	60–63°F	77°F	The dry season — July is the driest and clearest month of the year; cool nights on the lake
SEP – NOV	89–93°F	68–70°F	77°F	The hot season — October is the hottest month; the first rains return in November

THE SHORT VERSION

Figures are the long-term averages for Mpanda (WeatherSpark), the town some eighty miles north-east; the lake temperature is the lodge's own figure. The lake is warm enough to swim in all year.



LUPITA ISLAND

Kipili archipelago · Lake Tanganyika — straight-line distances

DISTANCES – STRAIGHT LINE

Kipili village & mainland jetty	3 mi
Ulwile Island	2 mi
Katavi National Park	56 mi
Mpanda Airport (MPD)	83 mi
Mahale Mountains National Park	93 mi
Kigoma Airport (TKQ)	188 mi

CLIMATE

Air, dry season (May–Oct)	highs 88–93°F
Coolest nights	Jun–Jul · lows 60°F
Lake temperature	77°F year-round

ACCESS

Safari flights from Dar es Salaam, Ruaha and the Serengeti to the lodge's private mainland airstrip

5-minute drive from the airstrip to the mainland jetty at Kipili

10-minute speedboat ride from the jetty to the island

No public ferry — the lodge's boat is the only way in

Straight-line distances, approximate.
Island coordinates: the position published by the operator itself (7.4562155 S, 30.5599959 E) in the Google Maps place link on lupitaisland.com.
Climate: WeatherSpark long-term averages for Mpanda (records proxied from Sumbawanga Airport); lake temperature is the lodge's own figure.

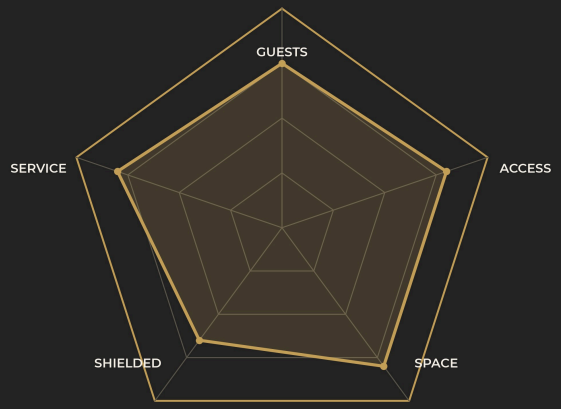
THE PRIVATE BRIEFING

76

PRIVATE BUT CONNECTED

LUPITA ISLAND · PRIVACY INDEX / 100

COTTAGE STAY — TEN COTTAGES LET INDIVIDUALLY



Gold fill — Cottage Stay, the only way the island is let.

LUPITA ISLAND

WHO ELSE IS THERE — 15 / 20

Ten cottages and never more than 28 guests in total — but a shared lodge life around the dining room, the main pool and the Dhow bar.

WHO CAN GET IN — 16 / 20

The only way in is the lodge's own boat from its mainland jetty, after a flight to its private mainland airstrip. No public ferry, no day trade — though local boats move freely on the lake.

SPACE TO DISAPPEAR — 16 / 20

110 acres of forest and rocky shoreline for at most 28 guests, the ten cottages scattered over the hillside, each positioned for privacy and a view of the lake.

OUT OF SIGHT, SOUND & TRAFFIC — 13 / 20

An open lake on every side — but Kipili village lies across the water, Ulwile Island two miles away, and local fishing boats cross at night with their lanterns lit.

INVISIBLE SERVICE — 16 / 20

A small team's personalised service: meals can be served in the cottage, by the pool or under the stars — staff there when wanted, invisible when not.

Current pricing is always on the listing

View the live listing — privateislandsonline.com



PRIVATE ISLANDS INC.

THE WORLD'S AUTHORITY ON PRIVATE ISLAND SALES & RENTALS

LUPITA ISLAND

LAKE TANGANYIKA · TANZANIA · PRIVATE ISLAND RENTAL

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View the live listing