

## **Common Reef Fishes of Northern Tanzania**

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At least 423 species of coral reef fishes can be found in nearshore waters of northern Tanzania. This app is intended to help identify the fishes a diver or snorkeler might reasonably expect to encounter between the surface and 10 m depth. It is not, by any means, intended as an exhaustive treatment of Tanzania's marine fish diversity. Images for 385 species along with information on abundance and habitat on species of fishes observed among coral reef habitats along the northern coast of Tanzania during reef surveys conducted in the region over a twenty year period (2004 - 2023). Abundance and habitat information is also provided. Most surveys were conducted within reef habitats of Maziwe (5°30'0"S, 39°4'0"E - a protected marine area) and adjacent Funguzinga, both ~ 6.5 km east of the Tanzanian coast, just south of the Pangani river mouth

Additional resources to aid with fish identification include: A Field Guide to the Seashores of Eastern Africa, M. D. Richmond (1977); Coral Reef fishes, E. Lieske & R. Meyers (2002); Reef fish Identification - Tropical Pacific, G. Allen et al. (2005), and Coastal Fishes of the Western Indian Ocean, Vols. 1 - 5, P. Heemstra, et al. (2022). The online resource [Fishbase](#) is another good source of information.

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Photo credits: All photos by the author except *Gymnothorax chilospilus* and *Antennarius commersoni* (credit: Kerstin Erler)

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