



HEMINGWAYS
WATAMU

WONDERS OF WATAMU

#HemingwaysCollection #HemingwaysWatamu
#LuxuryTravel #MagicalKenya

EXPLORE DINE RELAX

INTRO

AS WELL AS ENJOYING OUR FANTASTIC SERVICE AND HOSPITALITY, WE WANT OUR GUESTS TO EXPERIENCE THE BEST BITS OF WATAMU SO THESE ARE OUR RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BEST PLACES TO SEE, EAT AND DRINK IN THIS TROPICAL PARADISE. OUR LOCAL TUK TUKS AND TAXIS WILL SHUTTLE YOU AROUND AND HELP YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH THE WONDERS OF WATAMU.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN EXPLORING WATAMU, DINING OUT AT THE MANY RESTAURANTS OR BOOKING ANY OF THE ACTIVITIES, OUR ACTIVITIES CENTRE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO HELP YOU MAKE ARRANGEMENTS.



EXPLORE



MARINE PARK

A BEAUTIFULLY QUIET FISHING VILLAGE LOCATED ON THE KENYAN COAST, WATAMU IS 120 KM NORTH OF MOMBASA AND 25 KM SOUTH OF MALINDI. THE AREA HAS DEVELOPED A FANTASTIC REPUTATION FOR ITS WHITE-SAND, REEF-PROTECTED BEACHES, WHICH LINE THE WATAMU NATIONAL MARINE PARK.

ESTABLISHED IN 1968 AS KENYA'S FIRST MARINE PARK, WATAMU HAS DEVELOPED INTO ONE OF THE WORLD'S BEST SNORKELING AND DIVING SPOTS. THE MARINE PARK HOSTS 600 SPECIES OF FISH IN JUST 10 SQUARE KM, ALTHOUGH THE RESERVE AREA ITSELF SPREADS OUT OVER MORE THAN 32 KM² IN TOTAL.

IT IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO SNORKEL IN WATAMU WITHOUT SEEING AT LEAST A FEW DOZEN SPECIES INSIDE THE MAIN REEF; DIVERS OUTSIDE THE FRINGE REEF STAND AN EXCELLENT CHANCE OF VIEWING THE MAGNIFICENT WHALE SHARK AND MANTA RAYS THAT ARE WELCOME SEASONAL VISITORS.

IF UNDERWATER EXPLORING IS NOT YOUR STYLE, NOT TO WORRY! FROM WINDSURFING, SAILING AND KITE SURFING TO DOLPHIN WATCHING BOAT TRIPS, BIRD SPOTTING WALKS OR BOAT RIDES, GENTLE WALKS TO EXPLORE THE ROCK POOLS OR SIMPLY LYING ON THE BEACH, THE WATAMU BEACH OFFERS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.

BIO-KEN SNAKE FARM

THE BIO KEN SNAKE FARM OFFERS A FASCINATING INTRODUCTION TO THESE INCREDIBLE CREATURES. BIO KEN HARVESTS AND PROVIDES FOR MOST OF THE ANTI-VENOM IN EASTERN AFRICA AND THE INCREDIBLE, LIFE SAVING WORK THEY DO HERE WILL TEACH YOU TO LOOK AT SNAKES IN A VERY DIFFERENT WAY.

MIDA, SOKOKE & GEDE

AS WELL AS THE MARINE PARK, WATAMU IS A SHORT TUK TUK AWAY FROM TWO OTHER SPECIAL NATURAL RESERVES, MIDA CREEK AND ARABUKO-SOKOKE FOREST, AND ONE FASCINATING SITE OF ARCHEOLOGICAL INTEREST, GEDE RUINS.

MIDA CREEK

A FABULOUS LITTLE INLET OF EXTENSIVE MANGROVE FORESTS, WARM SHALLOW WATERS AND LARGE AREAS OF MUD FLATS AT LOW TIDE. THE AREA HOSTS NOT ONLY MANY LOCAL BIRDS, SUCH AS GREATER FLAMINGO, YELLOW-BILLED STORK, GREAT WHITE EGRET AND MALACHITE KINGFISHER, BUT IS ALSO THE WINTER HOME OF MANY MIGRANTS SUCH AS THE CRAB PLOVER, CURLEW SANDPIPER, WHIMBREL AND SANDERLING. THE OSPREY AND AFRICAN FISH EAGLE ARE OFTEN OVERHEAD. THE 'CREEK' IS USED BY THE LOCAL POPULATION FOR SUBSISTENCE LEVEL FISHING. MANY SMALL, DUGOUT CANOES WILL PASS AS YOU CRUISE THE CREEK AND YOU'LL OFTEN SEE DIVERS FISHING FOR MUD CRABS ON THE SHALLOW BED. A BIRD-LOVERS PARADISE, THE CREEK IS ALSO THE SPOT TO WATCH THE SPECTACULAR AFRICAN SUNSET WHILST SIPPING AN ICY COLD DAWA ABOARD AN OLD SWAHILI DHOW AT THE END OF A SPECTACULAR WATAMU DAY.

A SUNSET DHOW CRUISE

ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF ANY TRIP TO WATAMU AND PERHAPS THE BEST WAY TO EXPERIENCE THE CREEK IS TO SIT ATOP A TRADITIONAL SWAHILI DHOW AS IT SAILS SERENELY ALONG THE LENGTH OF THE CREEK WHILST YOU SIP ON AN ICE COLD DAWA COCKTAIL. GET YOUR CAMERA AT THE READY AS THE SUN SETS OVER THE MANGROVES OR JUST SIT BACK AND TAKE IT ALL IN FOR THE MEMORY BANK WHEN YOU'RE BACK AT WORK.

CANOES AND CREEK RIDES

GET OUT ON THE WATER AT SUNSET IN A LOCALLY MADE BAMBOE CANOE WITH A FISHERMAN GUIDE, YOUR CAMERA AND

YOUR BALANCE!

VERY FAMOUS IS THE CRAB SHACK AT DABASO FISH LANDING SITE. THIS IS A WOODEN WALKWAY LEADING TO A NUMBER OF WOODEN SHELTERS WHERE YOU CAN RELAX WITH AMAZING VIEWS OF THE CREEK. THE TEAM AT THE CRAB SHACK DO A TRADITIONAL SWAHILI FUSION LUNCH AND DINNER, OR SIMPLY HEAD THERE FOR DRINKS WATCHING THE GLORIOUS SUNSET.

CANOES CAN BE CHARTERED EITHER FROM THE MAIN CREEK BOARDWALK OR FROM THE DABASO LANDING SITE, A SMALL ANCHORAGE GROUND FOR CANOES ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE CREEK. MIDA CREEK CONSERVATION COMMUNITY GROUP OFFER SPECIAL TRIPS TO KIREPWE ISLAND INCLUDING A PICNIC WITH TRADITIONAL FOOD OF FISH, RICE AND FRESH FRUIT. ALTERNATIVE EXPERIENCES INCLUDE A TRIP TO DONGOKUNDU TO BE ENTERTAINED BY TRADITIONAL GIRIAMA DANCERS.

SOKOKE FOREST

THE ARABUKO-SOKOKE FOREST IS EAST AFRICA'S LARGEST REMAINING AREA (420 KM²) OF INDIGENOUS COASTAL FOREST. THE FOREST CONTAINS SIX SPECIES OF GLOBALLY THREATENED BIRD, INCLUDING THE CLARKE'S WEAVER, WHICH IS FOUND NOWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD. THE FOREST IS ALSO HOME TO RARE MAMMALS, INCLUDING THE GOLDEN-RUMPED ELEPHANT SHREW, BUSHY-TAILED MONGOOSE AND ADER'S DUIKER.

RARELY SEEN BUT ALSO FOUND IN THE FOREST ARE ELEPHANT, BUFFALO, LEOPARD AND HYENA AND OVER 260 SPECIES OF BUTTERFLIES. THE FOREST ITSELF IS MADE UP FROM CYNOMETRA, WHICH FORMS THICK FOREST AND THICKETS ON THE RED COMPACT SOILS OF THE WESTERN AREA, AND THE MORE OPEN, SHADY TREES OF THE BRACHYSTEGIA WOODLAND ON THE EASTERN SIDE. WITH SEVERAL PICNIC SPOTS AND SHADY WALKING PATHS, THE FOREST IS A FAVORITE SPOT FOR MANY.

WELL-TRAINED AND KNOWLEDGEABLE LOCAL GUIDES ARE ON HAND TO TAKE VISITORS ON EDUCATIONAL WALKS. THERE ARE OVER 40 KM OF ROUGH DRIVING TRACKS AND A NETWORK OF WALKING PATHS TO EXPLORE. A WELL-EQUIPPED VISITORS CENTER IS OPEN DAILY FOR INFORMATION AND FOREST GUIDE BOOKINGS. THE FOREST IS OPEN FROM 6AM TO 6PM DAILY.

GEDE



GEDE RUINS, AN ARCHEOLOGIST'S DELIGHT, WAS ONE OF THE ANCIENT ARAB TOWNS THAT DOTTED THE EAST AFRICAN COAST. IT DATES FROM THE LATE 13TH OR EARLY 14TH CENTURY AND WAS FINALLY ABANDONED IN THE EARLY 17TH CENTURY. EXCAVATED SINCE 1927, MANY AREAS HAVE BEEN REVEALED, INCLUDING THE GREAT MOSQUE, THE PALACE, SEVERAL RESIDENTIAL HOUSES AND PILLAR TOMBS. SURROUNDED BY TALL SHADY TREES, A WALK THROUGH GEDE IS A MUST FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE SWAHILI PEOPLE AND KENYA'S HISTORY.

GEDE IS ABOUT 10 MINUTES DRIVE FROM WATAMU AND IS OPEN FROM 6AM – 6.30PM DAILY.

THE HIGH SEAS



BIG GAME FISHING

HEMINGWAYS IS RENOWNED FOR ITS BIG GAME FISHING. HOST OF THE ILTTA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, MANY ESPN, DSTV AND

SKY TELEVISED EVENTS AND NUMEROUS OTHER TOURNAMENTS ANNUALLY, IT IS A FOCAL POINT OF FISHING OFF THE EAST AFRICAN COAST.

THE MAIN BILLFISH (SAILFISH AND MARLIN) SEASON IS BETWEEN NOVEMBER AND APRIL, BUT SAILFISH AND BLACK MARLIN OFTEN COME INSHORE IN NUMBERS IN AUGUST. SAILFISH (KNOWN LOCALLY AS “SULI SULI”) ARE BY FAR THE MOST NUMEROUS OF THE BILLFISH IN WATAMU.

SAILFISH ARE MAJESTIC EXCITING DISTINCTIVE FISH. INDO-PACIFIC SAILFISH, RANGE THROUGHOUT THE WARM AND TEMPERATE PARTS OF THE WORLD’S OCEANS. THEY ARE BLUE TO GREY IN COLOR WITH WHITE UNDERBELLIES. THEY GET THEIR NAME FROM THEIR SPECTACULAR DORSAL FIN THAT STRETCHES NEARLY THE LENGTH OF THEIR BODY AND IS MUCH HIGHER THAN THEIR BODIES ARE THICK.

THREE TYPES OF MARLIN ARE FOUND IN WATAMU’S CLEAR SEAS: STRIPED, BLUE AND BLACK. STRIPED MARLIN TEND TO RUN OFFSHORE IN CLEANER WATER AND TRAVEL IN LARGE NUMBERS. THE STRIKINGLY BEAUTIFUL BLUE MARLIN IS THE LARGEST OF THE SPECIES AND ONE OF THE BIGGEST FISH IN THE WORLD. FEMALES, WHICH ARE SIGNIFICANTLY LARGER THAN MALES, CAN REACH 4.3 METERS IN LENGTH AND WEIGH MORE THAN 1,985 POUNDS (900 KILOGRAMS). THEY ARE USUALLY IN THE DEEP WATER FOLLOWING THE YELLOWFIN OR OTHER TUNA SHOALS. BLUE MARLIN MAY BE EXPECTED MID-FEBRUARY TO MID-MARCH. BLACK MARLIN COME CLOSER TO SHORE AND ARE OFTEN ENCOUNTERED IN VERY SHALLOW WATER.

OTHER SPECIES INCLUDE BROADBILL SWORDFISH, YELLOWFIN TUNA, GIANT TREVALLY, KINGFISH, DORADO AND WAHOO.

A DAY’S BIG GAME FISHING ON THE BLUE WATERS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN IS A MUST FOR VISITORS SEEKING THAT EXTRA THRILL. IT’S NORMALLY AN EARLY RISE WITH BOATS DEPARTING WATAMU BAY JUST AFTER SUN RISE TO CATCH THE EARLY FEEDERS. ANY LULL IN ACTIVITY IS AN OPPORTUNE TIME TO HAVE A QUICK 30 MINUTE POWER NAP AND THEN IT’S BACK TO WATCHING THE RODS. HEAD BACK INTO SHORE AROUND 4PM WITH YOUR FLAGS ALOFT AND A COLD BEER IN HAND.

DOLPHIN WATCHING

WATAMU IS A HAVEN, A NATURAL SANCTUARY FOR FAMILIES OF DOLPHINS INCLUDING MOTHERS AND CALVES. PROTECTED BY KENYA WILDLIFE SERVICE, THE MALINDI WATAMU NATIONAL MARINE PARK AND RESERVE AND ITS PROTECTED LAGOONS AND ISLANDS ARE THE PERFECT WAY TO WATCH OUR DOLPHINS PLAYING, FEEDING OR HAVING A PARTY! ALTHOUGH THEY STAY IN WATAMU ALL YEAR ROUND, DOLPHINS ARE BEST SEEN FROM NOVEMBER TO APRIL WHEN THE WATERS ARE CALMEST. TAKE A MORNING TO VIEW INDO PACIFIC BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS, AND INDIAN OCEAN HUMPBACK DOLPHINS IN THE WILD, NATURALLY. WATAMU MARINE EXCURSIONS ARE THE ESTABLISHED DOLPHIN WATCHING TOUR GUIDES WITH MANY YEARS OF EXPERIENCE. THEY OFFER AN INFORMED EXPERIENCE, COMPLIANT WITH DOLPHIN WATCHING GUIDELINES. CHECK OUT THEIR DO’S AND DON’TS TO HELP YOU AND THE DOLPHINS HAVE THE BEST EXPERIENCE. GUESTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO STAY IN THE BOAT FOR YOUR AND THE DOLPHINS’ SAFETY, AND REMINDED THAT WATAMU DOLPHINS ARE WILD ANIMALS AND VERY PROTECTIVE OF THEIR YOUNG.

WHALE WATCHING

HUMPBACK WHALES ARE THE MOST MAJESTIC ANIMALS IN THE OCEAN, AND ARE SEEN ANNUALLY PASSING WATAMU BETWEEN JUNE TO OCTOBER.



ASK ANY TOURIST TO NAME THE BIG FIVE OF KENYA, AND THEY WILL NO DOUBT GIVE YOU THE USUAL LIST OF LAND ANIMALS. ALTHOUGH VISITORS TO KENYA ARE AWARE OF KENYA’S BEAUTIFUL BEACHES, CORAL REEFS, FISHES AND SEA TURTLES, NOT MANY KNOW THAT 10 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF DOLPHINS AND WHALES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN WATAMU, WHICH COULD EASILY BE INCLUDED IN THE “MARINE BIG FIVE”.

EACH YEAR WHALES ARE FIRST SIGHTED ALONG THE COAST OF EAST AFRICA IN EARLY JUNE AS THEY MAKE THEIR ANNUAL MIGRATION NORTH FROM ANTARCTICA. WHALES TRAVEL TO WARM TROPICAL INNER REEFS DURING BOTH BREEDING AND BIRTHING. NEWLY BORN CALVES TYPICALLY REMAIN WITH THE MOTHERS FOR ABOUT TWO YEARS, UNTIL WEANED. THE RETURN JOURNEY IS MADE IN OCTOBER, SWIMMING OVER 4,000KM TO THE COLD, FOOD-RICH SEAS OF ANTARCTICA, THEIR MAIN FEEDING AREA FOR SARDINES OR KRILL. THESE MAGNIFICENT MAMMALS REACH A LENGTH OF 15 METRES AND WEIGH AROUND 30 TONNES (ABOUT SIX TIMES THE WEIGHT OF AN ELEPHANT).

WATCHING THEM IN THEIR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT LEAPING OUT OF THE WATER, SOMETIMES IN PAIRS, OR LARGER FAMILY GROUPS, IS AN UNFORGETTABLE SIGHT. THEY CAN SOMETIMES EVEN BE SEEN FROM LAND IN WATAMU, AS YOU SIP A COLD BEER FACING THE MARINE PARK.

MALINDI CITY TOUR & HISTORICAL SITE VISIT



ENJOY A HALF DAY TOUR TO MALINDI JUST FOR GENERAL SHOPPING WITH A CHANCE TO VISIT THE OLD TOWN, THE FAMOUS JUMAA MOSQUE, HISTORICAL SITES TO INCLUDE THE VASCO DA GAMA'S PILLAR, THE PORTUGUESE CHAPPEL AND THE BRITISH GOVERNORS HOUSE WHICH NOW HOSTS THE MIJIKENDA CULTURAL INSIGHT AMONG OTHERS.

SABAKI ESTUARY:



APPROX. 5KM NORTH OF MALINDI 40 MINUTES DRIVE FROM WATAMU LIES THE SABAKI RIVER ESTUARY A MUST SEE SITE FOR BIRDERS WHICH HOSTS LARGE VISITING STOCKS OF MADAGASCAR PRANTICOLE. THE ESTUARY WHICH COVERS AN AREA OF ABOUT 6KM SQUARE IS ALSO AN IMPORTANT NESTING, ROOSTING AND FEEDING GROUND FOR GULLS AND TERNS. OVER 68 OTHER BIRD SPECIES HAVE BEEN RECORDED AND A HOME TO OVER 100 HIPPOS WHICH CAN BE SEEN BASKING ON THE SAND AND MUD BANKS.

THE MARAFA HELL'S KITCHEN



THE MARAFA HELL'S KITCHEN A GEOLOGICAL ODD SUNKEN SANDS TONE CANYON WHICH SITS 20KMS AWAY NORTHWEST OF MALINDI . IT WAS ONCE A SANDSTONE RIDGE WORN OUT BY WIND, RAIN AND FLOODS FORMING A SERIES OF JAGGED GORGES. THE CANYON IS FULL OF MYTHS AS IT IS BELIEVED A WOMAN WHO ONCE RESIDED HERE WAS BURIED UNDER THE CANYON AFTER REFUSING TO LEAVE THE SITE. A WALKIN THROUGH THE CANYON IS AN ADVENTURE AND AN EXERCISE WITH AN EXPERIENCE OF THE DIFFERENT LAYER COLORS OF SOIL STRIKING AT SUNDOWN.

MAMBRUI SAND DUNES



THE SPECKS OF GOLD IN THE SAND “THE DUNES OF MAMBRUI” IS A HAVEN FOR TRAVELERS JUST LOOKIN G FOR A CHILL. THE SOUND OF THE ROLLING WAVES, THE FOOTSTEPS OF WALKING CAMELS ON A COMPLETELY DESERTED BEACH. A DAY SPENT OUT HERE EITHER BIRDWATCHING, SWIMMING WALKING OR JUST SITTING LEISURELY SIPPING A COLD GLASS OF WINE IS AN ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME.

SNORKELLING

SNORKELLING IN THE MARINE PARK IN WATAMU IS SPECTACULAR.

EXCEPTIONAL SNORKELLING CONDITIONS IN THE PARK ALLOW ALL VISITORS EASY ACCESS TO THE SPECTACULAR UNDERSEA LIFE. WHETHER A NEWCOMER TO THE SEA, OR AN EXPERIENCED DIVER, YOU’LL BE ABLE TO FIND SOME EXCITING THINGS TO DO.

THE MARINE PARK IS ABOUT 5 KMS LONG FROM NORTH TO SOUTH AND APPROXIMATELY 1 KM FROM THE SHORE TO THE FRINGING REEFS. SNORKELLING CONDITIONS ARE IDEAL AT LOW TIDE, AND ESPECIALLY GOOD AT SPRING LOW TIDE.

THE NORTH PART IS THE MAIN MOORING SPOT FOR FISHING, DIVING AND LEISURE BOATS. HERE YOU FIND EXCELLENT SNORKELLING AT THE LARDER, TURTLE REEF AND THE POTHOLE.

THE CENTRAL PART OF THE PARK IS THE HOT SPOT FOR SNORKELLING AT THE CORAL GARDENS, WHERE THERE IS A STRING OF BUOYS WHERE BOAT OPERATORS CAN TIE UP, WHILST YOU SNORKEL IN VERY SAFE CONDITIONS. THE MAIN CORAL GARDENS ARE CONCENTRATED IN A SMALL, 500M LONG AREA. THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF BEAUTIFUL CORAL REEF FISH HERE WHICH LEAVE YOU DAZZLED BY THEIR VIBRANT COLOURS. KEEP A LOOK OUT FOR TURTLES, GUITARFISH AND LARGE GROUPER.

THE SOUTH END OF THE PARK IS BY THE MOUTH OF MIDA CREEK. THESE WATERS CAN BE TREACHEROUS DUE TO THE TIDAL WASH FROM THE CREEK, BOTH IN AND OUT, SO YOU NEED TO KNOW THE CREEK AND BE AN EXPERIENCED SNORKELER. THE FAMOUS MIDA CREEK CAVES ARE FOUND HERE ALONG WITH THE OCCASIONALLY GIANT GROUPER - HUGE 200LB FISH THAT WILL LOOK YOU IN THE EYE AND DARE YOU ANY CLOSER.

WATERSPORTS

WITH THE WARM, TURQUOISE WATERS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN EASILY ACCESSIBLE, WATAMU HAS NUMEROUS OPPORTUNITIES TO GET OUT ON THE WATER AND EXPERIENCE VARIOUS KINDS OF WATER SPORTS WHICH TAKE PLACE INSHORE IN THE WATAMU MARINE PARK

KITE SURFING



A GROWING SPORT WORLDWIDE AND WATAMU PROVIDES THE PERFECT ENVIRONMENT TO LEARN AND IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS. WITH THE HARNESS STRAPPED TO YOUR WAIST, IT ELIMINATES THE NEED TO BE STRONG AND MAKES THE SPORT OPEN TO ALL AGES MAKING IT PERFECT FOR THE FAMILY.

WIND SURFING

A FANTASTIC SPORT TO ENJOY IN WATAMU AS THE AREA PROVIDES THE RIGHT CONDITIONS WITH CONSTANT WIND AND FLAT WATER. IT IS A GREAT WAY FOR THE FAMILY TO ENJOY A BEACH HOLIDAY AND DISCOVER A NEW WAY TO BE ACTIVE ON THE WATER.

SUP

STAND UP PADDLE IS ONE OF THE MOST UP AND COMING SPORTS FOR EVERYONE, WHICH IS FUN AND GREAT FOR COMMUNING WITH WILDLIFE ON THEIR LEVEL. WHETHER IT'S WATCHING SEA TURTLES TAKE A BREATH OR THE SHARKS AND RAYS SWIMMING IN TURTLE BAY, OR TO ENTICE THE CURIOUS WATAMU DOLPHINS WHO MAY JOIN YOU, THIS IS THE BEST, MOST NATURAL WAY ABOVE THE WATER TO VIEW THE MARINE LIFE IN OUR PARK AND RESERVE.

SCUBA

DIVING TAKES PLACE ALL YEAR ROUND ALTHOUGH IN OUR RAINY SEASON CAN BE LIMITED TO INSIDE THE LAGOON. DIVES RANGE IN DEPTH FROM ONLY 6 OR 7 METRES TO 30 METRES, ALL TAKING PLACE ON THE FRINGING REEFS THAT GROW ALONG THE SHORE OF KENYA. THE WATAMU MARINE PARK IS AMAZINGLY RICH WITH OVER 500 SPECIES OF FISH INSIDE THE LAGOON AND OVER 1000 IF YOU INCLUDE THE SECOND AND THIRD REEFS. LION FISH, GROUPERS, BARRACUDA, DAMSELS, MORAY EELS, BUTTERFLY FISH AND PAROT FISH ABOUND. WONDERFUL NUDIBRANCHS ARE ALSO FASCINATING TO WATCH. WHALE SHARK AND MANTA RAYS ARE ALSO SEEN AND PROVIDE A VERY SPECIAL EXPERIENCE EVEN TO THE EXPERIENCED DIVER. OVER 200 BRIGHTLY COLOURED CORAL SPECIES ALSO INHABIT THE WATERS GIVING FOOD AND SHELTER TO THIS UNDERWATER WORLD.

TRIBE WATERSPORTS IS THE MOST ESTABLISHED AND BEST KITE SURFING SCHOOL IN WATAMU. YOU CAN RENT STAND UP PADDLE FROM TRIBE AND TURTLE BAY DIVE CENTRE. THERE ARE TWO ESTABLISHED DIVE CENTRES IN WATAMU – TURTLE BAY DIVE CENTRE AND AQUA VENTURES BASED AT OCEAN SPORTS RESORT

FOOD AND DRINK



EAT

THE CRAB SHACK

RUN BY MIDA CREEK CONSERVATION COMMUNITY, THE CRAB SHACK IS THE IDEAL PLACE FOR A RELAXED MEAL IN A RUSTIC SETTING OR DRINKS WHILST WATCHING THE SUN SET OVER THE CREEK. THE RESTAURANT IS A DISCREET, COMMUNITY RUN LOW IMPACT WOODEN CONSTRUCTION STANDING AT THE EDGE OF THE MANGROVE FOREST WITH PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE CREEK.

THE SHACK OFFERS LUNCH AND DINNER. GUESTS ARRIVING FOR DINNER ARE RECOMMENDED TO COME EARLY AND ENJOY A DRINK AS THE SUN DIPS SPECTACULARLY OVER THE CREEK. THE LOCAL MENU INCLUDES DELICIOUS FRESH FISH, PRAWNS AND CRAB COOKED BY TRAINED CHEF AND MCCC MEMBER DIXON. OR SAMPLE A SELECTION OF SNACKS, INCLUDING THE SHACK'S SIGNATURE CRAB SAMOSAS. SOFT DRINKS AND BEERS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE, BRING YOUR OWN WINE AND SPIRITS AND PAY CORKAGE.

PILI PAN

LOCATED ON THE EDGES OF MIDA CREEK, PILIPAN OFFERS CASUAL, AL FRESCO DINING WITH AN ORIENTAL FUSION THEME. BLACK PEPPER CRAB IS A FAVOURITE DISH AND THEY ARE WELL KNOWN FOR THEIR COCKTAILS AND SATURDAY NIGHT HAPPY HOUR FROM 5 – 7PM TAKING IN THE SUNSET OVER MIDA CREEK.

KOBE

A DELIGHTFUL ITALIAN BEACH RESTAURANT WITH GOOD SEAFOOD AND A LOVELY RELAXED AMBIANCE, EATING WITH YOUR FEET IN THE SAND. LOCATED ON THE TOP OF THE SAND DUNES AT THE SOUTH END OF THE PENINSULA, KOBE HAS SOME OF THE BEST RESTAURANT VIEWS IN THE AREA. TRADITIONAL ITALIAN SEAFOOD PASTAS, GRILLED OCTOPUS AND DELICIOUS GELATO ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MENU.

ASCOT PIZZA RESTAURANT

ONE OF THE ORIGINAL RESTAURANTS IN WATAMU AND STILL GOING STRONG AFTER 30 YEARS. ASCOT OFFERS SUPER THIN CRUST PIZZAS WHICH IS THEIR SPECIALITY BUT THEY DO OFFER A WIDER SELECTION OF CHOICES AS WELL. TABLES ARE LAID OUT IN THE GARDENS PROVIDING ACCESS TO A COOL BREEZE. DINNERS ONLY. **CLOSED APRIL - JULY**

VASIWA / AMICI MIEI

IN A NEW LOCATION THIS WONDERFUL RESTAURANT SET AROUND A LARGE SWIMMING POOL WITH BEAUTIFUL SEA VIEWS HAS AN EXCELLENT SICILIAN MENU WITH DELIGHTS SUCH AS BLACK RAVIOLI WITH LOBSTER SAUCE AND LOVELY FRESH SALADS AND DRIED MEATS.

HOSTERIA ROMANA

A CLASSIC ITALIAN STREETSIDE BISTRO, HOSTERIA IS LIVELY AND ACTIVE. PIZZAS, PASTAS AND A VARIETY OF SPECIALITY BEEF AND CHICKEN DISHES ARE ON OFFER AND THE OWNER HOSTS ARE ALWAYS THERE TO ENSURE YOUR ENJOYMENT.

PAPA REMOS

THIS RELAXED ITALIAN RESTAURANT/ BEACH BAR WILL HAVE YOU THINKING YOU'RE IN CAPRI RATHER THAN WATAMU. PAPA REMOS IS A GREAT SPOT FOR A LONG LUNCH FOLLOWED BY AN AFTERNOON ON A SUN LOUNGER. THE MENU INCLUDES TASTY ITALIAN PASTAS AND PIZZAS COOKED FROM THEIR PIZZA OVEN AS WELL AS FRESH FISH CARPACCIOS AND OTHER SEAFOOD SPECIALS.

NON SOLO GELATO

VISIT ANNA, THE INSPIRATION BEHIND THE BEST GELATO OUTSIDE OF ITALY, IN THE ORIGINAL NON SOLO GELATO CAFE JUST OFF THE MAIN ROAD. BE PREPARED TO LEAVE WITH MORE THAN YOU CAME FOR.

THE DABASO ECO WORLD & CRABSHACK RESTAURANT

THE ONLY WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE IN WATAMU WHERE MARINE DEBRIS IS TURNED INTO ART STARTED BY WATAMU MARINE ASSOCIATION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY IN AN AIM TO PROMOTE HEALTH, COMMUNITY WEALTH AND MAKE WATAMU BEACHES CLEAN. CRAB SHACK RESTAURANT – A COMMUNITY RESTAURANT SET ON THE MANGROVE SHORES OF MIDAS CREEK FAMOUS FOR ITS FRESH CRAB SAMOSAS AND OTHER DELICACIES. ENJOY A RIDE IN THE CREEK ON A TRADITIONAL DUG- OUT CANOE AT SUNDOWN OR JUST RELAX AT THE SHACK WITH A COLD DRINK AND BITING AS YOU WATCH THE AFRICAN SUN SET.

DRINK

ALL OF THE GOOD RESTAURANTS IN WATAMU HAVE THEIR OWN BAR AND THERE ARE ALSO SEVERAL BARS AND NIGHTCLUBS IN THE AREA AS WELL.

OCEAN SPORTS

HOME OF THE KC (KENYA COWBOY) AND POPULAR WITH BACKPACKERS OCEAN SPORTS IS A LEGEND OF WATAMU AND IS STILL GOING STRONG. A FUN SPOT FOR AN AFTERNOON DRINK ON THE DECK OVERLOOKING THE BAY. DON'T BE SURPRISED TO FIND YOURSELF HERE LONGER THAN EXPECTED AS YOU WATCH THE WORLD GO BY.

ASCOT

THERE IS A SMALL CASINO LOCATED AT THE ASCOT PIZZA RESTAURANT FOR THOSE THAT DO NOT WISH TO VENTURE ALL THE WAY TO MALINDI.

CAR WASH

THIS IS A TYPICAL ROADSIDE BAR THAT ALSO OFFERS SOME OF THE BEST LOCAL 'NYAMA CHOMA' (BBQ MEAT) AROUND. CAN GET ROWDY AS THE HOURS TICK BY.

SPA



IF ALL THE HIGH OCTANE WATERSPORTS AND EXPLORING SOUNDS A LITTLE TOO MUCH LIKE HARD WORK, TAKE A MORNING TO RELAX IN THE SERENE HEMINGWAYS WATAMU SPA. CHOOSE FROM OUR SELECTION OF AFRICAN INSPIRED SKINCARE AND MASSAGE TREATMENTS TO REINVIGORATE AND RECHARGE AFTER A LONG DAY IN THE SUN. THE TREATMENT MENU COMBINES SIGNATURE TREATMENTS FROM TERRES D'AFRIQUE, AN AFRICAN SKINCARE COMPANY THAT TAKES INSPIRATION FROM THE TRADITIONAL USES OF AFRICAN PLANTS, AS WELL AS HEMINGWAYS' OWN TREATMENT RECIPES USING THE BEST LOCALLY SOURCED INGREDIENTS.

SHOPPING

THE BEACH

THIS IS NOT THE NAME OF A SHOP BUT THE FANTASTIC LOCAL SELLERS SITTING RIGHT ON THE BEACH. THEY'RE EXTREMELY FRIENDLY AND ONLY TOO HAPPY TO HELP. TAKE YOUR PICK OF KIKOYS, JEWELLERY AND SANDALS PARADED AT THE STALLS OR HAVE THEM TAILOR SOMETHING UNIQUE FOR YOU BY GIVING THEM MEASUREMENTS OR HAVING THEM COPY SOMETHING. NOTHING IS TOO MUCH TROUBLE AND THEY'RE USUALLY VERY QUICK.

WATAMU VILLAGE

THERE ARE TWO GOOD MATERIAL SHOPS OFFERING THE TRADITIONAL KIKOY AND KHANGA WRAPS PLUS A VARIETY OF SOFT COTTON SHIRTS, TROUSERS AND TABLE CLOTHS. SHIRTS, DRESSES AND TROUSERS CAN BE MADE TO ORDER QUICKLY, ALLOWING YOU TO TAKE THEM HOME WITHIN A ONE WEEK VISIT.

THE LOCAL COBBLER MAKES BEADED SANDALS TO ORDER AS WELL AND YOU HAVE A WIDE RANGE OF BEADS TO CHOOSE FROM TO CREATE YOUR OWN OR IF YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH ONE OF HIS OWN DESIGN YOU CAN SIMPLY PURCHASE THAT PAIR.

THE LOCAL COMMUNITY MAKE A WIDE RANGE OF MORE TRADITIONAL ITEMS – CARVED WOODEN ELEPHANTS AND GIRAFFES FOR EXAMPLE, OR SMOOTHLY CARVED SOAPSTONE HIPPOS. THE MORE ENTERPRISING ARE CREATING FANTASTIC COLOURFUL ARTWORK FROM MARINE DEBRIS WHICH MAKE A STUNNING CENTERPIECE TO A ROOM; OR SIMPLY PURCHASE 'STOCKING FILLER' KEYRINGS OR LITTLE MARINE MAMMALS MADE FROM FLIPFLOPS.

LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS MAKE DELICIOUS MANGROVE HONEY AND GORGEOUS COCONUT OIL; OR TRY THE TRADITIONAL NEEM SOAPS AND OILS TO HELP KEEP YOUR SKIN SMOOTH AND GLOWING.

KENYA IS FAMOUS FOR ITS CASHEW AND MACADAMIA NUTS WHICH ARE ALL FREELY AVAILABLE IN THE SUPERMARKETS; AND DON'T FORGET TO TAKE HOME A BOTTLE OF OUR FAMOUS KENYA CANE RUM.

ESSENTIALS

SUPERMARKET

BLUE MARMALADE ON THE MAIN ROAD HEADING INTO WATAMU VILLAGE IS THE BEST AND ONLY SUPERMARKET IN WATAMU.

ATM

THERE ARE NOW 3 ATMS IN WATAMU - ABSA AT THE SUPERMARKET, DTB AND KCB IN THE VILLAGE.

PHARMACY

IN THE SAME SPOT AS BARCLAYS, YOU'LL FIND THE MEMOSA PHARMACY WHICH SHOULD HAVE WHATEVER YOU NEED.



HEMINGWAYS COLLECTION

OUR FOUR ICONIC PROPERTIES – HEMINGWAYS OL SEKI MARA, HEMINGWAYS NAIROBI, HEMINGWAYS WATAMU AND HEMINGWAYS EDEN – BUILT ON DECADES OF EXPERIENCE IN TAILORED TRAVEL, WILL MAKE YOU FEEL AT HOME IN THE MYRIAD LANDSCAPES OF THIS DIVERSE COUNTRY. FROM THE GLOWING AMBER SUNSETS OF THE MASAI MARA TO THE AZURE HORIZON OF THE WATAMU COASTLINE, WE WILL HOST YOU WITH THE EFFORTLESS REFINEMENT FOR WHICH HEMINGWAYS IS RENOWNED.

RELAX IN OUR SPAS, INDULGE IN OUR CUISINE, ENJOY THE VERY BEST OF KENYAN HOSPITALITY AND SERVICE AND ULTIMATELY EXPLORE THE QUINTESSENTIAL EXPERIENCE OF AFRICA WITH HEMINGWAYS COLLECTION.



HEMINGWAYS
NAIROBI

HEMINGWAYS
OL SEKI MARA

HEMINGWAYS
WATAMU

HEMINGWAYS
EDEN





HEMINGWAYS
COLLECTION

Telephone: +254 20 2295 011 – 15
central.reservations@hemingways.co
www.hemingways-collection.com