

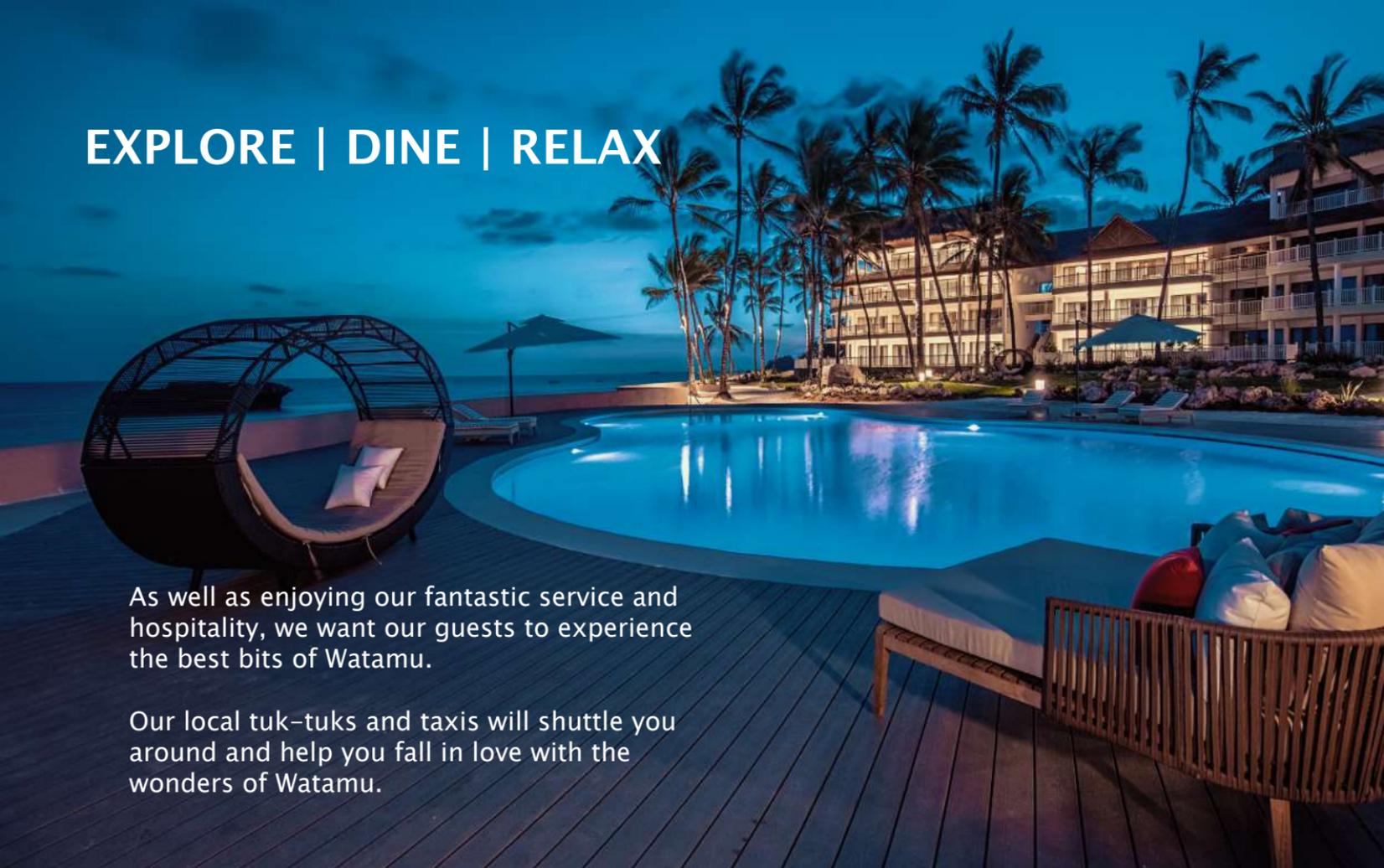


HEMINGWAYS
WATAMU



Wonders of Watamu

EXPLORE | DINE | RELAX

A night view of a resort pool area. In the foreground, there is a wooden deck with a large, round, dark metal frame lounge chair with cushions. To the right, a curved lounge sofa with cushions is visible. In the center, a large, irregularly shaped swimming pool is illuminated with blue light. The background features a multi-story hotel building with balconies, surrounded by numerous palm trees. The sky is a deep blue, and the ocean is visible in the distance.

As well as enjoying our fantastic service and hospitality, we want our guests to experience the best bits of Watamu.

Our local tuk-tuks and taxis will shuttle you around and help you fall in love with the wonders of Watamu.

EXPLORE

Marafa Hell's Kitchen



A sight to behold and a must visit when in Watamu!

A hidden gem that stands in magnificence, leaving anyone who sees it in awe. Located 40km from Malindi, in the quiet town of Marafa, this 'mini grand canyon' is known locally as "Nyari" which translates to "The place broken by itself".

It is said that the depression formed naturally over thousands of years through harsh weather, forming this beautiful sandstone canyon with colorfully layered gorges. A magnificent sight, especially at sunset.

Mambrui Sand Dunes



A breathtaking natural wonder that should be on every traveler's #watamubucketlist!

These 30-meter-high dunes, which were created by the accumulation of sand over ages, provide stunning views of the surroundings.

Falconry of Kenya



The Falconry of Kenya is located just 30 minutes away from Hemingways Watamu and serves as a rescue center for injured animals. With an extensive collection of birds, snakes and their famous tortoise, the Falconry of Kenya is a must-visit for any animal lover!

Malindi City Tour & Historical Sites Visit



Enjoy a half day tour to Malindi as you visit the Old Town, the famous Jumaa Mosque and historical sites such as the Vasco Da Gama Pillar, Portuguese chapel and British governor's house.

Sabaki Estuary



Approx. 5km North of Malindi 40 minutes drive from Watamu lies the Sabaki River Estuary a must-see site for bird lovers. Sabaki Estuary is also an important nesting, roosting and feeding ground for Gulls and Terns. It is also home to over 100 Hippos which can be seen basking on the sand banks.

Mida Creek Sunset Dhow Cruise



One of the highlights of any trip to Watamu and perhaps the best way to experience the Mida creek. Cruise serenely through Mida Creek whilst you sip on an ice cold dawa cocktail and take in the sights and sounds of beautiful Watamu.

Gede Ruins



The “Gede ruins” are about 10- minutes drive from Watamu and can be accessed from 6am – 6pm daily.

This was once an ancient Arab town that dotted the East African coast. And dates back to the late 13th/ early 14th century. A walk through Gede is a must for anyone interested in the Swahili people and Kenya’s history.

Arabuko 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 birds, 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. Open from 6am to 6pm daily.



Big- Game Fishing

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 sunrise 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.

Whale Watching

Every year Humpback whales migrate along the East African coast. The best time for whale watching is generally from July to September when the whales are on their annual migration from the Antarctic to the warmer waters off the Kenyan coast for breeding and calving.

Watching the whales leap out of the water, sometimes in pairs, or larger family groups, is an unforgettable experience for sure and should be on everyone's #watamubucketlist experience.



Dolphin Watching



Watamu is a haven, a natural sanctuary for dolphins, including mothers and calves. 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 their natural habitat.

Watamu Marine Park



The Watamu Marine Park is a protected area that was established in 1968, making it one of the oldest marine parks in Kenya. It is renowned for its biodiversity, including colourful coral reefs, various fish species, sea turtles, dolphins, and other marine creatures. The park offers excellent opportunities for snorkeling, diving, and other water-based activities, making it a haven for nature enthusiasts and tourists interested in marine life.



WATER SPORTS

If you're a water sport enthusiast you're in for a treat as Watamu offers numerous water sport activities.

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 its 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, Damselfish, Moray Eels, Butterfly Fish and Parrot 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.

Water Skiing & Wake Boarding

Wind or no wind, Mida Creek offers the best conditions for wakeboarding and waterskiing in Kenya.



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 will 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.

Bio-Ken Snake Farm



With 127 different species, Bio-ken farm is known for having the largest collection of snakes in Kenya that includes 93 harmless non-venomous species, 10 species that inflict painful non-lethal bites and 24 deadly species. While at the farm, you not only get to see these animals up close, but you also watch as the staff milk the snakes for their venom which is used to make anti-venom for local communities and medical facilities.

Tsavo & Amboseli Safaris



Elevate your stay with an extraordinary excursion to two of Kenya's most iconic national parks: Tsavo East and Amboseli. Embark on a mesmerizing safari where you'll encounter nature's grandeur up close and personal as you journey through vast savannas and lush landscapes, encountering a diverse array of wildlife along the way.



FOOD & DRINK

Eat

Tamu

Located on the beach, this lovely fine dining restaurant offers a beautiful and unique dining experience.

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.

Kokomo Beach Bar & Restaurant

Enjoy a beautiful evening at this relaxed Lebanese restaurant, with your favorite cocktail in hand, as you take in the beautiful Watamu sunset.

Pilipan

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.

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.

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

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. 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 eat as you watch the african sunset.

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.

Lunch at Che Shale Beach

Located about 20km from Malindi, Che Shale beach offers a unique experience.

Enjoy delicious seafood lunch, cold beers or potent cocktails as you take in the sight and sounds of the beautiful and untouched golden beach.



Drink

All of the good restaurants in Watamu have their own bar and there are also several bars and night clubs in the area as well.

Lichthaus

Laze about on an over the creek hammock, munch on skewers fresh from the hanging grill while watching boats pass by and sip on cocktails as the sun sets over the Mida Creek.

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.

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

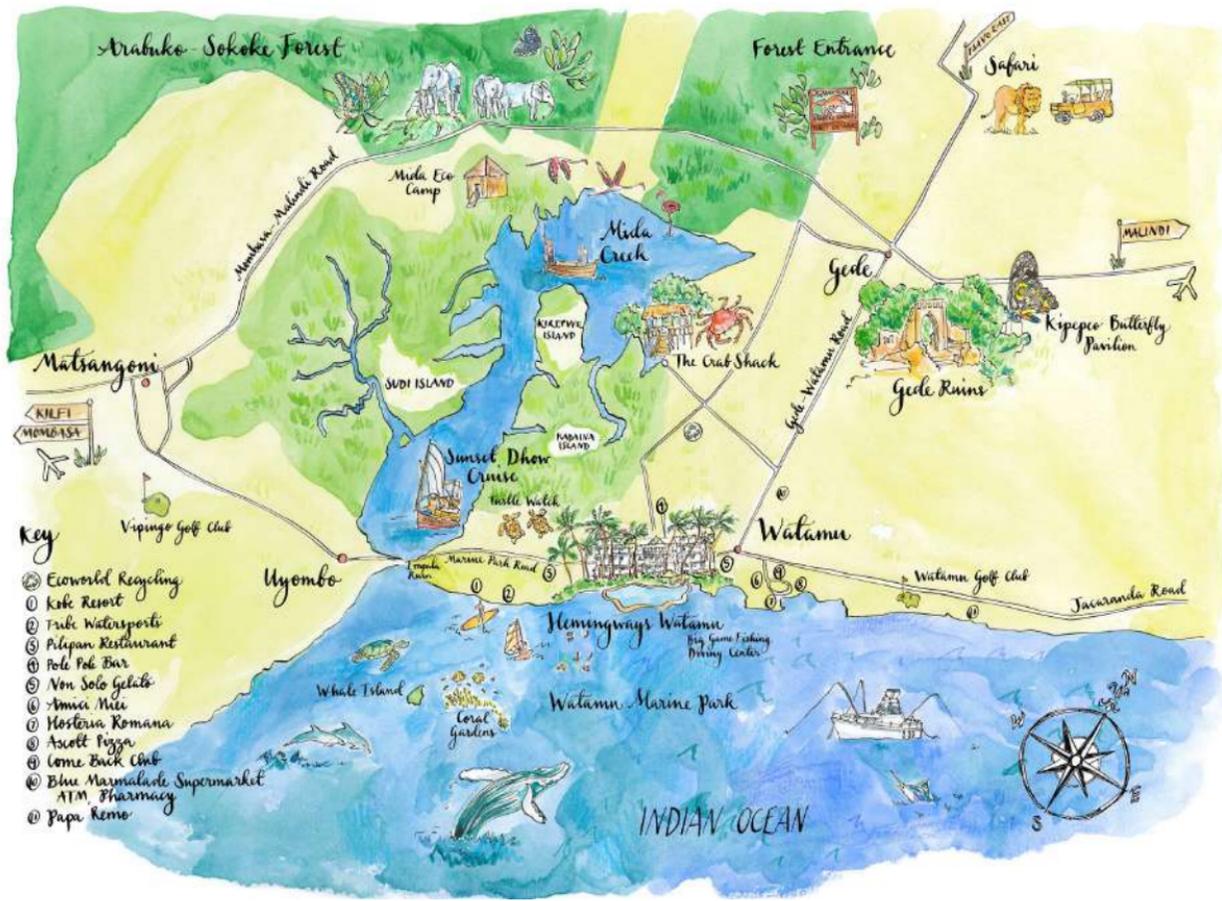
Blue Marmalade on the main road heading into Watamu Village is the best and only supermarket in Watamu.

ATM

There are now 3 ATMs in Watamu - ABSA at the supermarket, DTB and KCB in the village.

Pharmacy

In the same spot as ABSA, you'll find the Memosa Pharmacy which should have whatever you need.



Key

- ⑫ Ecoworld Recycling
- ⑪ Koki Resort
- ⑩ Triki Watersports
- ⑨ Pilipan Restaurant
- ⑧ Poli Poli Bar
- ⑦ Von Solo Gelato
- ⑥ Amica Mice
- ⑤ Hosteria Romana
- ④ Ascott Pizza
- ③ Lome Duck Club
- ② Blue Marmalade Supermarket
ATM Pharmacy
- ① Papa Kemo





HEMINGWAYS
COLLECTION

Our four iconic properties – Hemingways Ol Seki Mara, Hemingways Nairobi, Hemingways Watamu and Hemingways Eden Residence – 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.



#WatamuBucketList



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WATAMU



Tel: +254 709 188 000
central.reservations@hemingways.co
www.hemingways-collection.com