

Located on the ancient Arabian island-paradise of Lamu, Kipungani is one of Africa's most remote, relaxing, and richly romantic coastal hideaways



# KIPUNGANI EXPLORER

#### Location

Overlooking the tranquil waters of the sheltered Kipungani Channel, on the remote southwestern tip of Lamu Island, Kipungani is a dream destination for those seeking a true away-from-it-all desert island holiday. After a 90-minute flight from Nairobi, you will be met at Manda Island and transported by boat to the lodge, which is located two degrees south of the Equator, on the edge of a near-deserted 12-kilometre beach.

#### **Accommodation**

Our 16 spacious bandas sit at one end of Kipungani Bay, which is Swahili for 'the place of fresh air'. Shaded by the palm trees that line our 600-metre beachfront, the bandas are constructed entirely from local materials, with mkeka palm floors and makuti thatch roofs woven by the residents of neighbouring Kipungani village. The large interiors are a picture of rustic simplicity, with giant king-size beds and furniture all handmade from local mangrove and palm woods. Each banda has an oceanfacing veranda with local funzi sofas and chairs piled high with colourful cushions. Amenities include freshwater showers, flush toilets, and separate dressing areas with wash basins.



#### **Public Areas**

The sunset-facing lounge and bar at Kipungani are furnished for complete relaxation, with cushion-piled driftwood furniture, hanging moon-beds, and a variety of natural discoveries 'combed' from our shores. The dining room sits in a small tropical garden, with an adjoining library offering guests a selection of books, magazines and board-games. In front of the building is a horizontouching swimming pool, which offers the perfect venue for the ultimate romantic sundowner!

### **Local Links**

Kipungani enjoys a uniquely harmonious relationship with the residents of neighbouring Kipungani village. Fifteen of the lodge's full-time staff come from the village, from where we also buy all our seafood and materials for repairing our bandas. The lodge has been responsible for building and equipping Kipungani's model primary school, and recently helped to build and staff its first health clinic in partnership with the Canadian charity, ADRA. The property also supports the planting of indigenous trees and the promotion of marine and mangrove conservation messages among the local community.

## **Facilities and Services**

- Freshwater swimming pool with all-day bar service
- Gift shop with local handicrafts and 'beach essentials'
- Safety deposit facilities for all guests' valuables
- Fresh water for bathing from our own wells
- Reliable generator-backed electricity supply
- Mobile telephone coverage and VSAT Internet links
- Boat connections to Lamu town and Manda airport.



## **Activities**

- Snorkelling and swimming with 'Africa's friendliest dolphins' on the reefs of Kinyika and Manda Toto
- Waterskiing and kayaking in the Kipungani channel
- Sailing and sunset cruises aboard our Arab dhows
- Barracuda fishing from beach, dhow or speedboat
- Deep sea game fishing (please book in advance)
- Crab-catching excursions with expert fishermen
- Bird walks around the property and beach dunes
- Visits to Lamu's historic mosques, markets and museums
- Day trips to the ruined 14<sup>th</sup> century fort on Manda Island
- Tours of local boat-building and mat-weaving industries.





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