Kilwa Beach Lodge Activities

We offer the following activities based out of the lodge; however due to the unpredictability and remoteness of some of the places we visit, we recommend first letting us know which activities you are interested in and then confirming them shortly before arrival.

**UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE KILWA KISIWANI HALF DAY TRIP**

A must see for any visitor to Kilwa; designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to its influence on the birth of Swahili culture, what is now a fishing village was a thousand years ago occupied by Shirazi Arabs. They minted gold and sold spices, jewellery and slaves. Once described as the most *beautiful city in the world* now a small fishing village.

**PRICE – all prices for children over 8**

**Government Fee** - 27,000 per person payable on booking along with passport photocopy (this price varies for Residents and Nationals – please enquire)

**Village Fee** – 5 US$ per person added to room bill

**Guide Fee** – 5 US$ per person added to room bill

**Boat Fee** – 30 US$ per group added to room bill

**Bajaj Transport Fee** – 10 US$ per group added to room bill

*This means for a group of 2 people*

54,000 payable on booking

60 US$ - 30 US$ per person - Trip costs

Please note this includes: transport from the lodge / guide services / boat transport to the island.

**SONGO MNARA ADD ON**

A little further away from Kilwa Masoko than Kilwa Kisiwani, this stonetown archelogical site is little visited but as an archaeological tool has provided a snapshot into the lives of..

By motorised dhow - Add US $ 15 per person (min. 2pax)

**SNORKELLING ADD ON**

The Kilwa Kisiwani half day trip can also be combined to make a full day to snorkel on beautiful reefs. We have a limited supply of equipment which may not be in your size please bring your own.

Combined with Kisiwani Trip including packed lunch - Add US $ 20 per person (min. 2pax)
Kilwa Beach Lodge Activities

SNORKELLING

There’s no better way to soak up the waters of Kilwa Masoko than on board one of our boats under the direction of our experienced captains. Over four or eight hours you will snorkel amongst the coral reefs off the coast of Kilwa.

3 to 4 hours US $ 60 (per dhow for a maximum of 5 pax)

6 to 8 hours US $ 120 (per dhow for a maximum of 5 pax)

There are many other activities available in the area; we have a full activity book in the bar for you to look at. We can also send you a live link online.

RUKIRA ISLAND

Rukila island is a perfect base for snorkelling, picnicking, watching birds or even spotting whales and dolphins. This small island is 12 km away from Masoko harbour. It takes only 1h30 minutes by boat to reach the place.

TUNG’ANDE CAVES

Tung’ande caves are in the southern part of Kilwa district, close to Lihimalyao village, 123 km away from Masoko.

It takes 3 hours by car and then 45 minutes by foot to see the caves.

The cave is well ventilated and easy to visit without using artificial light. The various nooks reveal amazing shapes created by stalactites and stalagmites including an elephant and a royal chair.

MTO NYANGE HIPPO POOL

Mto Nyange hippo pool is located in the southern part of Kilwa district, 140 km away from Masoko.

Access is possible by car only and the journey takes approximately 3 hours including a 5 minutes walk in the forest.

The trip is a nice journey in beautiful landscapes and well preserved villages. Visits should be proposed when water is rare and when many hippos gather in the forest (from June to February).
MAIN FEATURES
Salt farms, bird watching, natural sites, interesting views, fishing harbour, boat making, meeting craftsmen (mats production, blacksmith), canoe tours

DURATION
• 2 - 4 hours depending on time spent at the sites

DESCRIPTION
• From the information centre follow the main road towards the harbour.
• Opposite the Township office, turn right to walk down towards the beach. Here you can watch birds, visit fish/crab farms.
• On the beach, a small salt farm can be seen.
• Further north, on the slopes, small traditional houses overlook the mangrove, a blacksmith at work can also be met.
• At the end of the beach starts the mangrove, where large colonies of small crabs and birds live.
• If you walk up the slope, you will see a church and a bird watching tower that overlooks the entire landscape. Even Kilwa Kisiwani can be seen from the tower.
• You can walk down towards Makubuli, a small fishermen village composed of a few mud houses. Fishermen can be met repairing nets or fixing their boats. Women can be seen weaving beautiful mats. Small boat tours can also be organised in the mangrove, if the tide allows. Food can also be ordered in advance, including fresh sea food.
• After visiting the village, you can walk back to the information centre to close the trail or continue to a big salt farm (Mshindo salt farm). This is the last site along the trail.
• On the way back, you can see different kinds of birds.

FOOD and DRINKS
• Food can be ordered in advance to have lunch at Makubuli fishing harbour
• A bar is on the way between Makubuli and Mshindo salt farm

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED
• Drinking water, binoculars, sun protection (head, skin, eyes)

⚠️ Please ask permission before taking pictures of people
Makubuli

TRAIL 1  KILWA MASOKO WEST

Mshindo salt farm
Prison
Bar
Makubuli fishing harbour/village
Bird Watching tower overlooking the landscape
Mangrove/small crabs and birds
Blacksmith
Salt farm
Mud crab farm
Bird watching
Harbour

KILWA
Mshindo
Salt farm
Prison
Bar
Makubuli fishing harbour/village
Bird Watching tower overlooking the landscape
Mangrove/small crabs and birds
Blacksmith
Salt farm
Mud crab farm
Bird watching
Harbour

Info Centre
Township office

N
MAIN FEATURES
White sand beach, boat making, eating on the beach, bicycle tour

DURATION
Total: 2-3 hours tour, depending on where you stop.

DESCRIPTION
- From the Information centre, take the Dar road towards the Air Strip. At the air strip, turn right towards Masoko Pwani, pass by Kilwa secondary school and by the football ground, then continue towards the lodges (follow their signboards).
- Possibility to relax on the beach at the lodges.
- Note that it is not easy to swim, especially at low tide, water is too far.
- On the way, you can see Swahili houses, different kinds of birds, palm trees, before reaching the fishing harbour.
- Masoko Pwani is a white sand beach where you can meet with fishermen, people repairing dhows and women frying various fishes.

FOOD and DRINKS
- There are 3 lodges on the beach where it is possible to have lunch or dinner:
  - KILWA STAR BEACH ....... +255 783 745 539
  - KILWA DREAMS ........... +255 784 585 330
  - KILWA BEACH LODGE .. +255 788 065 445
- You can also get local food from the fish market (rice, chai, chapati...), served on the sand, under small bandas.
- Drinks can also easily be purchased on the beach, including water and soft drinks kept cold in cool boxes.

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED
- Birdwatching information, binoculars, drinking water, sun protection (head, skin, eyes)
- Possibility to do the tour on bicycles (it is advised to take a pump and repair kit)

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MAIN FEATURES
White sand beach, traditional houses, boat making, eating on the beach, swimming, bird watching

DURATION
Total: 2-3 hours tour, depending on where you stop.

DESCRIPTION
• From the information centre, you can visit the market where you can see fresh fish, fried fish, green vegetables, and different kinds of fruits then as you walk on the streets you observe the daily life of local people. Then you take the main road towards the harbour.
• At the harbour, take left towards Ngazi ya watumwa, a small beach surrounded with rocks. Possibility to swim there. After the beach, you can see mangrove swamps, and have a nice view of the open sea, Kilwa kisiwani and Jiwe la Jahazi (the petrified stone dhow). On the way to Jimbiza beach, you can also see different kinds of birds.
• Once at the beach, you can enjoy local food, buy fish, see boat makers at work... before proceeding back to the information centre through the village streets.

FOOD and DRINKS
• There are several hotels on the beach where it is possible to have lunch or dinner:
  • PAKAYA HOTEL .......... +255 222 761 085
  • KIMBILIO LODGE ........ +255 656 022 166
  • KILWA SEA VIEW ........ +255 784 613 335 (need to order one hour in advance)
• You can also get local food from the fish market (rice, chai, chapati...), served on the sand, under small bandas.
• Drinks can also easily be purchased on the beach, including water and soft drinks kept cold in cool boxes.
• There are several bars on the way, including the police officer’s mess, a nice thatched banda

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED
• Birdwatching information, binoculars, swimming costume, sun protection (head, skin, eyes)

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MAIN FEATURES
Beautiful caves, small lake where hippos can be seen very closely, crocodiles, bird watching, landscapes that differ from the coast, village life and traditional architecture

DURATION
- 2 days: 1 day to visit the caves and the second day to visit the hippos.

DESCRIPTION
Tung’ande Caves complex are found close to Lihimalyao village, a beautifully preserved village, very clean, entirely made of earth and thatched roof. The caves are 123 kilometres away from Masoko. It takes 3 hours by car to reach the area and another 45 minutes by foot to see the caves.

From Masoko, drive 29 km North to Nangurukuru (30 min), then drive 61km to the South on the national road going to Lindi. Once you reach Hoteli-Tatu village, turn left on the rough road towards Lihimalyao. You will cross several villages (Mkazambo, Luyaya). Once in Lihimalyao, you have to register yourself at the village office who will call the guide. It takes 45 minutes by foot to reach the caves. Visiting the caves and taking a rest takes approximately one hour.

Mto Nyange Hippo pool is located 140 km away from Kilwa Masoko. From Masoko, drive 29 km North to Nangurukuru (30 min), then drive 61 km to the South on the national road going to Lindi, up to the Kiranjeranji junction. The junction to the pool is in Kiranjeranji. It takes approximately 3 hours drive if you go straight from Masoko. The journey ends with a 15 min walk in the forest. The trip is a nice journey in beautiful landscapes and well preserved villages. Visits should be made when the water level is high and when hippos gather in large numbers in the forest. It is advised to visit the place early in the morning. Access to the lake requires hiring one of the 2 local guides in Makangaga, a village located 8km away from the hippo pool. When arriving at the forest, the local guide has to recite prayers to seek permission to visit the pool. Always stay close to the guide during the visit.

FOOD and DRINKS
- There are several options along the national road (Lindi-Dar)
- Food is not yet available in the villages, but shops selling soft drinks, water and biscuits can easily be found

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED
- Birdwatching information, binoculars, drinking water, sun protection (head, skin, eyes), mosquito repellent

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TRAIL 5 KILWA DISTRICT SOUTH  Tung'ande Cave & Mto Nyange hippos