

FACT SHEET

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW



Pole Pole is located in the Chole Bay area, near Utende village on the southeast coast of the Mafia Island Marine Park. It lies on the beach, within a tropical garden, overlooking a spectacular view of the Mafia Archipelago and the Indian Ocean.

ACCOMMODATION

Seven luxury bungalow suites, elegant and spacious, are set among the coconut palms overlooking the bay. The rooms are furnished with carved and antique pieces, and both twin and double beds are available.

Two bungalows are family suites, containing two rooms separated by a shared bathroom and a small corridor for privacy. The large private verandas are furnished with a Zanzibari day-bed, chairs and a coffee table. All bungalows are self-contained, and all have ceiling fans to keep them cool.

CUISINE

The cuisine is a combination of diverse culinary traditions and cultures, with an Italian touch of class. Swahili dinners are served once a week, or upon request. The resort caters for special dietary requirements whenever possible. Most of the food we serve is organically grown and bought on the island to help fishermen and farmers benefit from tourism development.

DRINKS

A selection of alcoholic beverages, wines, beers, juices and cold drinks are always available at the bar. The bar remains open until all guests have retired. The ice served with drinks is safe and drinkable. Bottled water, served every day in jugs in the bungalows and available at the bar/restaurant, is drinkable and safe.

MEAL TIMES

Breakfast is served from 07:30 am onwards

Lunch is served from 13:00

Dinner is served from 19:30

Early or late breakfast and/or lunch are served according to the diving and excursion programmes.

LIBRARY

Books, magazines and articles about nature, archeology, history, anthropology, wildlife, underwater life and photographs and diving information are available.

Playing cards and board games are also available.

MASSAGE

You can enjoy a variety of relaxing and rejuvenating essential-oil massages in our peaceful Alasiri Spa, located in the garden surrounding the swimming pool.

SWIMMING POOL

Set apart in the sunniest stretch of Pole Pole and surrounded by gently swaying palm trees, our swimming pool is shaped by a series of circles and set in a beautiful locally-sourced coconut wood deck. Its design is reminiscent of a traditional Arabic sailing dhow, with weathered parts of old sailing boats integrated into its features.

It is partially shaded by a dramatic dhow sail rigged up on old masts, and a bar area and shaded seating area are also incorporated into the surrounding garden for your comfort and convenience.

Please note that when using the pool area, children should be supervised by adults at all times, and that use of this facility is entirely at your own risk as we cannot be held responsible in case of any unfortunate accidents.

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COMMUNICATION

You can roam with your cellular phone in Mafia. To preserve the tranquility of the resort, and in order to respect other guests peace, the use of mobile phones is limited to your bungalow, and we kindly ask that you keep the ringtone on silent mode.

OTHER SERVICES

Laundry service is available and complimentary. Beach kitenge (or local cloth) are provided for your use on the boats and on the beach. Hot and cold water is available 24 hours. A hair dryer can be borrowed from the reception. A few useful items as well as gifts and souvenirs are for sale at our gift shop. VISA and Mastercard credit cards are accepted (authorisation costs are involved). A safety box is available and located at the reception. Voltage: 220

HOW TO REACH POLE POLE

Mafia Island is approximately 30 miles off the Tanzanian coast, about 30 minutes by air from Dar es Salaam and 45 minutes from the Selous Game Reserve and Zanzibar Island. Mafia is reachable by light aircraft only. The resort is a 20 minute drive from Kilindoni, the main village and airstrip. The transfer to and from the airport is included in the accommodation cost.

THE MARINE PARK

The Mafia Archipelago and the delta of the Rufiji River form one of the most interesting marine ecosystems and coral reefs in the world. The area has a high bio-diversity and is considered an important habitat for endangered species. There are over 400 species of fish. On land the rich vegetation is dominated by large palm groves, baobabs, mangroves and fruit trees. The wildlife is extremely varied; monkeys, small antelopes, wild pigs, bush babies as well as a small colony of elusive hippos.

There are also countless types of birds. The warm, safe waters of the inland bays and lagoons are a paradise for both expert and beginner scuba divers as well as those simply wishing to snorkel. Mafia Island Marine Park was established as the first Marine Park in Tanzania and covers a surface of 821 km².

EXCURSIONS AND ACTIVITIES

There are different types of activities or excursions: by boat, by 4x4 car or walking and light trekking. The activities in the marine park are: scuba diving, snorkeling, sailing and visiting the local villages. Pole Pole organises boat excursions and picnics to isolated islets, sandbanks or islands every day, according to the tide. The Diving Centre provides PADI Federations certificates (medical certificates are mandatory to do a beginners course). The excursions by 4x4 car take you right across the island through villages and changing landscapes up to the northern tip where a lighthouse stands.

CANCELLATION CHARGES

LOW SEASON: 31 days+ before arrival date: no charge
15-30 days before arrival date: 50% deposit (non-refundable)
0-14 days before arrival date: full payment (non-refundable)

HIGH SEASON: 60 days before arrival date: 30% deposit (non-refundable)
30 days before arrival date: full payment (non-refundable)

CHILDREN

In order to preserve our tranquil and peaceful atmosphere, and because Pole Pole does not have suitable facilities for young children, we do not accept children below the age of 10 years.