



LOCATION

Off the north-eastern tip of Zanzibar lies the private &Beyond Mnemba Island, inhabited only by guests and the staff taking care of them. Just 1.5 km (less than a mile) in circumference, Mnemba is surrounded by an atoll of breath-taking coral reefs and boasts some of Africa's most magnificent dive sites. The calm azure seas surrounding the island offer irresistible snorkelling, scuba diving, kayaking, fishing, stand up paddle boarding and permanent swimming directly from the beach. Turtle season peaks between March and June (however, laying can occur year-round) and these prehistoric creatures can be seen laying their eggs on the beaches. Within nine weeks, the beaches are filled with tiny turtle hatchlings. This exquisite private island, with its white coral beaches and spectacular coral reefs, is renowned as one of the most romantic ocean destinations in the world, offering a privacy and rustic exclusivity unparalleled on the African coastline.

Pure barefoot bliss is the allure of Mnemba, where dawn is greeted by the song of doves and the smell of coconut bread baking in a wood stove. Mnemba Island offers an unpretentious paradise where just 12 rustic palm-frond bandas are tucked into a tropical forest fringed by a white coral sand beach. A covered walkway leads to a shuttered en-suite bathroom with a huge glass-beaded shower curtain. Zanzibar is famous for its intricate detailed woodcarvings and the scrolled headboards adorning the beds are created by some of the Island's most skilled artisans. Built-in Baraza on the veranda are perfect for afternoon siestas and ten private beach Salas feature traditional Zanzibari loungers' ideal for languid hours, a table, ceiling fan, personal bar, two-day beds and a shower. Thatched dining and sitting or bar areas boast beautiful open views of the beach and spectacular vistas of Zanzibar beyond. Baskets of fresh fruit, fish, lobsters, crabs and prawns sail into Mnemba daily on traditional ngalawa outriggers. Lunch is often served on large wooden carved Zanzibari platters heaped with delicious mezze. Romantic candlelit dinners are served on the beach, with the waves lapping gently at guests' feet. Private beach picnics delight newlyweds and not-so newlyweds alike. &Beyond Mnemba Island is reached by embarking on a 90-minute drive that begins in Stone Town, through the lush spice plantations that cover main Zanzibar Island. Reaching the water's edge, guests then leave their vehicle and wade knee-deep in the balmy ocean waters to board a waiting boat, for a 20-minute crossing to a warm island reception.

AT A GLANCE

- 12 beachside bandas (including a family Banda)
- Private Salas
- Overhead fans
- PADI dive school
- Beach Shop WHAT SETS US APART
- Private island getaway

- Barefoot luxury
- PADI dive school
- Variety of dive sites and easy availability of boats
- Ideal for swimming and snorkelling
- Beautiful beach walks
- Ideal for romance and relaxation
- House reef can be reached without a boat
- Outstanding marine life
- Situated in a marine conservation area
- Surrounded by a coral atoll
- Inhabited by suni antelope and Ader's duiker
- Turtle nesting sites and hatchlings
- Swimming and snorkelling directly off the beach
- Incredible diving with great coral reefs and sheer wall dives
- Dolphins and endemic Indian ocean species
- Rare coconut crabs

ACTIVITIES

- Swimming
- Snorkelling
- Diving
- Dhow cruises
- Birdwatching
- Fishing (fishing equipment can be rented with sufficient prior notice and at an additional charge)
- Water sports
- Walking
- Doing absolutely nothing at all ACCESS
- The lodge collects guests at Zanzibar International Airport or Stone Town.
- 1½-hour road trip (the last 20 minutes are on an unpaved, bumpy road)
- 10 – 15 minutes boat ride in an open ski boat
- As there are no jetties, departures and landings are directly to and from the beach and involve a little wading. Please note that boat transfers are weather dependent.