

An underwater photograph showing two divers in the foreground and several Moorish Idol fish swimming in the background. The scene is set in clear blue water with a rocky seabed visible at the bottom.

# TO DIVE FOR

Dive master *Antonio Zivane* from Anantara Bazaruto Island Resort recommends five ocean adventures to add to your diving bucket list when you next visit Mozambique.

**T**he islands scattered across Mozambique's coastline are as breathtaking as the extraordinary sights that lie just beneath the ocean's surface.

Mozambique is renowned for its marine life, making it a popular destination for divers seeking their next big oceanic adventure. Rated among the world's best dive sites according to Africa.com, the islands of Bazaruto and the Quirimbas Archipelago, home to Anantara Bazaruto Island Resort and Anantara Medjumbe Island Resort, are the ideal destinations for the ultimate dive experience.

Each location offers its own set of unique experiences, including rare sightings of dugongs and humpback whales that swim among thousands of tropical fish that occupy the protected reefs in Bazaruto, and Spanish mackerel, reef sharks and rays that can be seen 18 feet below the surface of the warm waters of the Quirimbas Archipelago.

Both Anantara Bazaruto Island Resort and Anantara Medjumbe Island Resort offer the PADI scuba dive course and I've been taking guests around some of these islands' premier diving destinations for four years.



MOZAMBIQUE

LEISURE

## HERE ARE A FEW OF MY FAVOURITES

### MANTA REEF

Anantara Bazaruto Island Resort offers excursions to the famous Manta Reef that requires two dives to complete. Manta Reef is vast and flat, boasting kaleidoscopic gardens of sea anemones and corals that attract large numbers of bright clownfish, as well as green turtles and populations of graceful manta rays.

### RAINBOW RUNNER REEF

The Rainbow Runner Reef is perfect for beginners. It is renowned for its forests of green-tree corals and thrilling opportunities to see Zambezi sharks in their natural habitat. It's also a great area for observing other marine life passing along the ocean floor such as mantas, spotted eagle rays, kingfish as well as potato and brindle bass.

### NEPTUNE'S NURSERY

Only a short boat ride from the incomparable luxury of Anantara Medjumbe Island Resort lies a diver's dream – a selection of 12 unique dive sites featuring untouched marine ecosystems and some of the world's most beautiful coral reefs, a highlight being Neptune's Nursery. This is a 15m-deep flat reef with delicate coral, and a rich hunting ground for game fish and blue-spotted stingrays.

### SAMBI SAMBI

Intermediate divers visiting Medjumbe Island Resort might prefer to tackle Sambu Sambu's 40-metre sloping wall, frequented by elusive leopard sharks as well as green and hawksbill turtles.

### EDGE OF REASON

For the truly seasoned diver, there can be no greater thrill than peering over the 800-metre sheer drop at the Edge of Reason, which gets its name from the sensations that you feel when you're there. Hollows embedded in the ocean floors at this site are home to species such as humphead wrasse, groupers, reef sharks, snappers and unicorn fish.

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