

## Enjoy an African taste of paradise in a Mozambique spa

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The sea view pool at Anantara Bazaruto's villa has breathtaking views (Picture: supplied)



Jane Mulkerrins

Less than 20 miles from the coast of mainland Africa lies Mozambique's Bazaruto Archipelago, a group of protected national park islands. The largest of the group, Anantara Bazaruto Island Resort & Spa, accessible only by a light aircraft ride, promises to fulfil all your desert island dreams.

The resort's 44 villas are set among lush gardens along the shoreline. They're constructed from indigenous wood, reed and soft thatch, all featuring four-poster beds, outdoor showers, plunge pools, hammocks and sunken bathtubs.

Three on-site restaurants cater to a wide range of appetites. Those who don't want to leave the comfort of their hammock can order in-villa dining, while honeymooners may fancy trying Dining By Design in romantic settings around the island with a private chef and butler.

'Days at the resort can be lazy and relaxing or refreshingly adventurous,' says Dillip Rajakarier, chief executive of the Minor Hotel Group. There are several swimming pools, a fitness centre, tennis, volleyball and golf, as well as a spa.

'Beyond the resort, guests can tour the island by 4x4 to discover pristine bays, exotic flora and fauna, local life and a 19th-century lighthouse,' says Rajakarier. Or they can explore the island on horseback. Riders can even take their steed into the sea for a swim.'

And, of course, there's the azure ocean – the snorkelling, scuba diving and fishing are all world class, with dolphins, whales, turtles and the largest population of the rare dugong on the African east coast. Plus there's windsurfing, water-skiing and wake-boarding, as well as the rather more gentle sunset sailing aboard a traditional dhow.

From £3,020 per person for seven nights, including flights, transfers, all meals, house drinks and selected activities. [www.audleytravel.com](http://www.audleytravel.com); [www.bazaruto.anantara.com](http://www.bazaruto.anantara.com)

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