



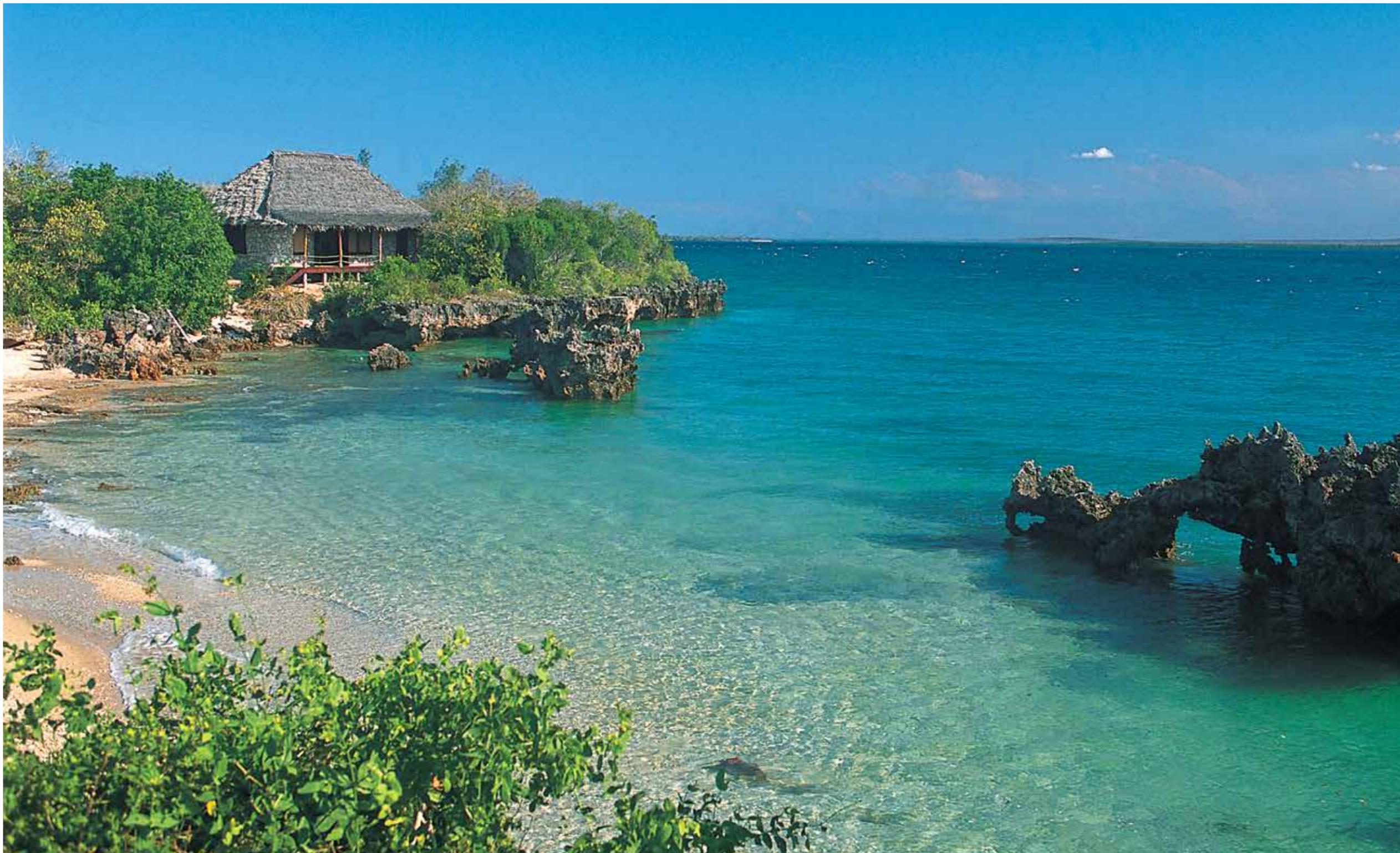
Quilála
PRIVATE ISLAND, MOZAMBIQUE
by AZURA

The Quilalea Experience

Azura at Quilalea is a hidden gem, somewhere to retreat from the hustle and bustle of daily life, with a relaxed and understated 'Robinson Crusoe' castaway style that belies the comforts and experiences on offer in the 9 handcrafted seafront villas. A wholly uninhabited island paradise, ensuring total privacy and exclusivity for our guests, and surrounded by the magnificent pristine waters of a marine sanctuary.

Quilalea Island is one of the southernmost islands in the pristine Quirimbas Archipelago, a scattering of beautiful unspoilt islands in remote northern Mozambique. Lying some 30 nautical miles north of Pemba, Quilalea has the only deep-water mooring in the area, where the Portuguese and Arab traders traditionally found sanctuary for their dhows. Along with its sister island Sencar, it is one of the few properties in the entire Archipelago to lie within a fully protected marine reserve, ensuring an abundance of marine life, and a spectacular snorkelling and diving experience for our guests.

Relax on one of the island's 4 fabulous beaches, snorkel the island's shores, dive the house reef that spans the main beach, watch whales breaching from the bar deck, picnic on remote Turtle Beach, kayak through mangroves or relax in a hammock beneath the giant baobabs that stand sentinel over the island. Quilalea is the ultimate private luxury hideaway in a stunning undiscovered destination, an untouched paradise for the just a discerning few to discover.





The Villas

The villas at Quilalea provide you with your own private island castaway home, somewhere to relax, unwind, and forget about the world.

There are just 9 seafront villas on this private uninhabited island, accommodating a maximum of eighteen guests in absolute privacy. They are hewn from local materials, with natural coral stone walls, carved wooden beams, makuti thatch roofs, and timber wooden decks. Windows have no glass, but have shutters made from local reed that can be opened to allow the breezes through, or closed for privacy at night.

Inside, there are handcrafted oversize beds, comfortable, all natural, designer 'beach-chic' finishings and furnishings, and spacious bathrooms with baobab tiled showers with a view out to sea. There are no telephones and Ipod docks here, just a fan to cool you down, an aircon should you need it, a fridge full of your favourite beverages, and a wooden pirate chest to store your most precious belongings. Outside, there are daybeds and sun-loungers for relaxing, and the private decks have fabulous uninterrupted views out to the beach and sea beyond.

The villas are stretched out some 16m – 70m apart from each other, and surrounded by indigenous gardens or natural bush. There are 4 Sunrise Villas, with fantastic views across multiple turquoise seas to Quirimba Island beyond. The 4 Sunset Villas have more exclusive locations, an extra outdoor bush shower, and hammocks for relaxing. And the ultimate, Villa Quilalea, is located on its own private cliff top on the sunset side of the island.

The whole island can also be booked if you would like complete exclusivity.



Villa Quilalea

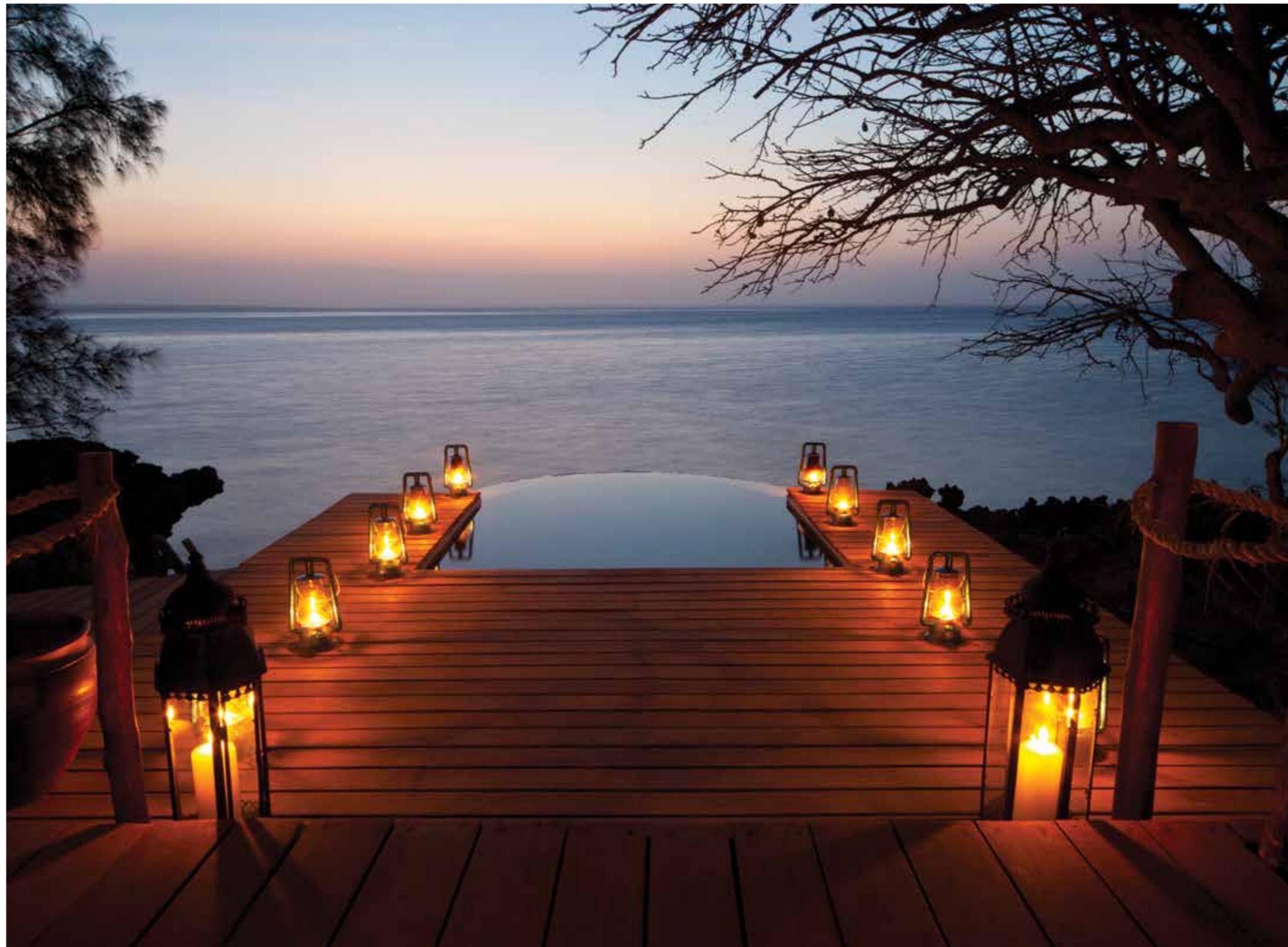
The cliff-top Villa Quilalea offers the most astounding accommodation for a couple in the whole Quirimbas Archipelago, located on its own private part of the island where guests can enjoy magnificent views over the turquoise seas with dhows sailing by.

Sip cocktails on the extended outdoor deck of the villa while watching the beauty of the sunset, or delight in an exquisite candlelit dinner served in the private dining area. Alternatively luxuriate in your private infinity plunge pool.

Villa Quilalea has a feature bathroom with free-standing bath, a magnificent mosaic shower featuring the island's baobab trees, and panoramic views to delight in through the open doors. It has a separate toilet and walk in dressing room, a romantic draped king size four poster bed and enlarged sitting areas.

Guests can access the ocean from their own cliff top step-ladder, which leads into a private alcove with a small beach at low tide, and immediate swimming and snorkelling at high tide, so to experience the impressive underwater world of Quilalea Private Island.





Our Facilities

Each 'public' area of the retreat is designed with its own particular ethos in mind, creating unique vibes and experiences out of which guests will find their own favourite haven, be it a hammock under the trees, a perch at the bar, or a dip in the main feature pool.

The main bar and pool area offers plenty of areas to relax in, including a chill zone with large cushions for lazing around, whilst enjoying the views of the ocean with its swarms of fish, and the main beach. The pool is surrounded by day beds and umbrellas to settle with books or enjoy sun-bathing. The informal lounge coming off the bar area offers satellite TV and a laptop with internet access available for use. Wifi is available in the lounge, bar and pool deck area and is offered on a complimentary basis to our guests.

The Jellyfish Dining Room is open on the sides to make best use of the trade winds that come through this area and that are wonderfully cooling on a summer night. There is also a wine cellar for private dining and to showcase the proprietor's wines.

We have a fully equipped Padi Dive and Watersports Centre on the main beach, a feature Baobab reception and a Boutique with local crafts and designer beachwear.

Azura African Spa

Azura offers unique African Spa treatments at the beautiful cliff top spa. Lie back and relax to the calming sounds of the ocean lapping against the headland cliffs, while you indulge in one of our signature treatments. We use only natural ingredients sourced from the wilds of Africa, for the ultimate relaxing and pampering African Spa experience.



Wining & Dining

Our aim is for you to never eat in the same place twice. At Azura, dining is all part of the experience, from breakfast at the water's edge, to a picnic on a sandy island, to dining on a candle lit beach beneath the stars. Our Butler-hosts take huge pride in their innovative dining set-ups, and little touches to make your stay special.

Our menus are based on what is fresh and available, with a focus on light meals, simple ingredients, and lots of fresh fish and seafood. It's a simple understated affair. The huge Mangrove Crabs are a particular speciality, as well as Crayfish which is available in abundance. All meals and certain house drinks are currently included at Azura.

Dinner is always a special event, eaten on the beach by candlelight beneath the stars whenever we can. We offer a variety of special dining options too, including secluded beach picnics, wine cellar dining or romantic private dinners at your villa.

Activities & Experiences

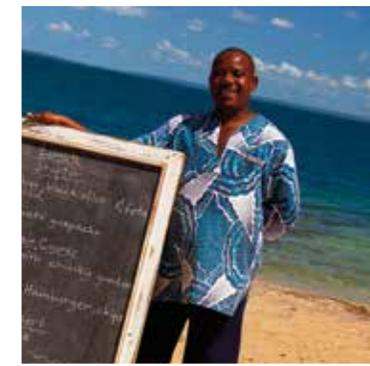
This is paradise for lovers of marine life. The protected reefs in the Quirimbas Archipelago offer some of the most spectacular snorkelling and diving in the world. With just a few guests on the island at a time, you will be the only people snorkelling and diving here, and as a result the plethora of sea life on view is spectacular.

Uniquely in Mozambique, Quilalea has snorkelling and diving right off its beaches and headlands. The sea is patrolled by huge Potato Bass, Napoleon Wrasse, and schools of Hunting Jacks. There are walls and rarely visited reefs just a short boat hop away, and a spectacular house reef for day and night diving. We have a fully equipped dive centre and offer the full range of PADI dive courses.

Fishing here is quite simply world class, with huge GT's and tuna in abundance for the Sportfisherman, as well as the local catch of the day to bring home for supper. Circle the island by kayak, picnic in splendid isolation, cruise to other deserted beaches, gaze at the dolphins we often spot from our villas, or track down Humpback Whales on their seasonal migration past our shores. Culture buffs shouldn't miss a trip to nearby Ibo Island, where the old fort and ruins are steeped in the area's history.

There are more than 140 bird species on Quilalea island. The Madagascar Bee-eaters that nest every year are a real highlight. The island is covered in indigenous vegetation, with statuesque age old baobab groves and stunning flora and fauna.

There are 4 sandy beaches providing plenty of space for relaxing. Remote and beautiful Turtle Beach is home to nesting turtles which our guests are often lucky enough to see. It is also an excellent spot for a private picnic lunch. And don't miss the night-time star talks to discover our magnificent night sky.

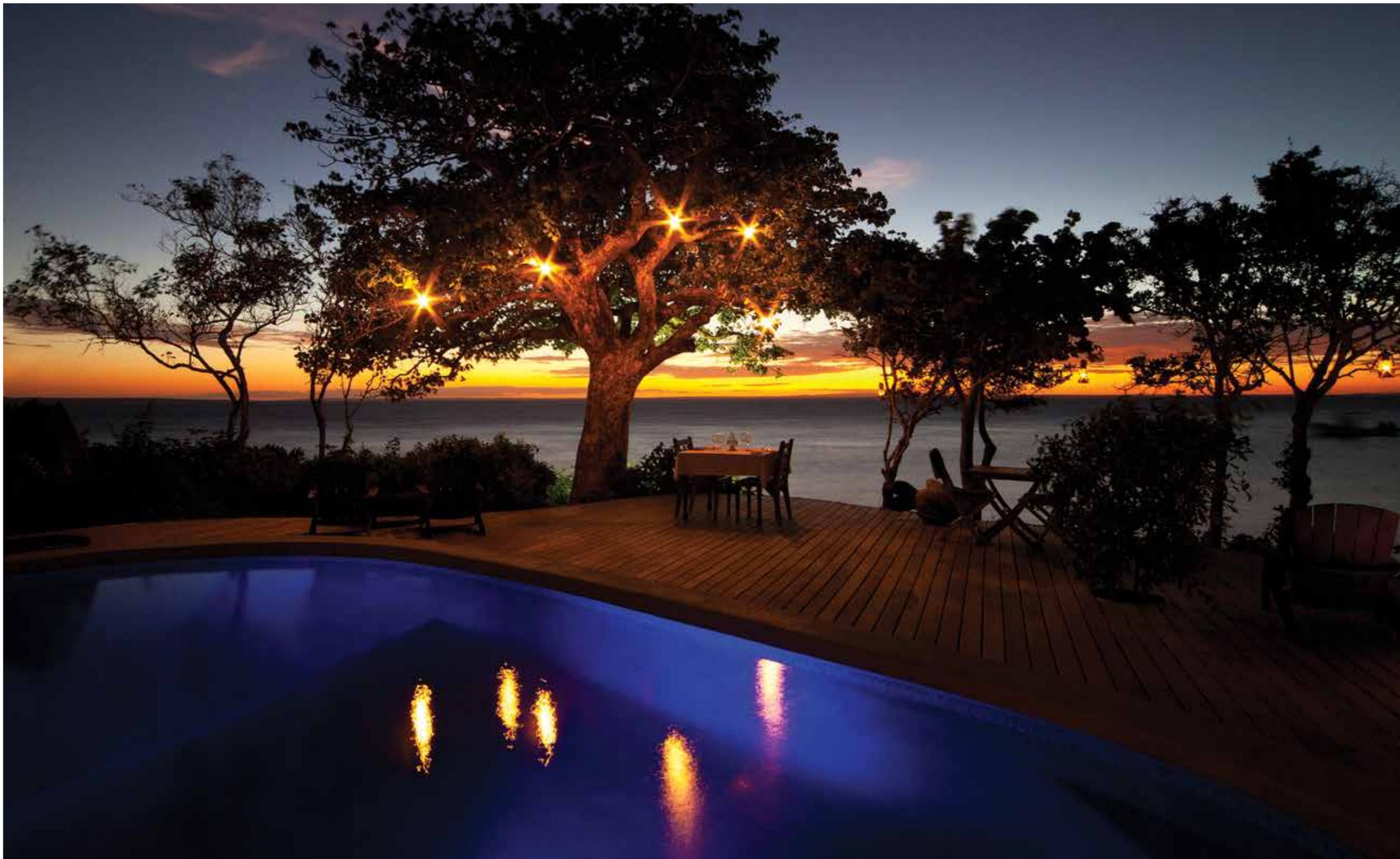


Eco-Boutique Retreat

Azura at Quilalea is an Eco-Boutique Retreat, where we focus as much on protecting and preserving our pristine environment as we do on providing an exceptional experience for our guests. Whilst the Quirimbas Archipelago stretches from Pemba to the northern border with Tanzania, only the very southern part of the archipelago, where Quilalea is located, forms a fully protected marine sanctuary. Quilalea has been focused on preserving that sanctuary since the reserve was first declared back in 2001.

Uniquely at Quilalea, guests can control their own energy consumption through a wall switch at their villa. They can opt for 'ECO' or 'LUXE', Eco resulting in power for the bare minimum requirements for the room, such as basic lighting and fan, or Luxe providing all mod cons including air conditioning.

So by staying with us, whilst you kick back and relax and enjoy our island style luxury, you will also be able to do your part in helping to preserve and protect this very unique part of the world.





Conservation & Community

Our dedication to conservation, the community, and preserving the pristine environment that we find ourselves in lies at the heart of everything we do. Azura is seen by the Mozambican authorities as a model for ethical sustainable community based tourism. We have a firm policy of upliftment at Azura, which means all of our butlers, house-keeping staff, gardeners and so on are Mozambican. Typically they have grown up in disadvantaged communities with poor education, and are being trained by us. By staying with Azura you are helping them to advance their skills.

Please remember they are welcoming you to their home, a country which until recently was amongst the poorest in the world. In return, with your help, we do our best to make their home a better place for them and their families.

Our Rainbow Fund is the first registered charity of its kind in Mozambique. It supports a variety of social and environmental projects large and small. At Quilalea, that particularly includes monitoring and marking turtle nests, as the island is one of the most important turtle nesting sites in the whole Quirimbas Archipelago, and ensuring protection of the reefs from local fishermen. We work alongside the National Park and local communities wherever we can.

We will add \$10 a night to your stay towards our Rainbow Fund. It's not compulsory, but we hope that you will want to be part of helping preserve what you will have discovered during your stay at Azura.

Facts at a Glance

Quilalea was completely refurbished in 2011 by the Azura Retreats Group.

Location:

Quilalea Island is one of the southernmost islands in the pristine Quirimbas Archipelago, 30 nautical miles north of Pemba. The nearest international airports are Pemba in Mozambique and Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania. Co-ordinates: 12°29'39.50"S, 40°36'08.95"E.

Access:

Guests can arrive at Azura Quilalea Private Island via Pemba in Mozambique or via Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania. Pemba can be accessed from South Africa with flights from Johannesburg on SA Airlink and LAM, from Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), from Nairobi (Kenya), and from other centres in Mozambique including Maputo, Beira and Nampula. From Pemba Airport, it is a 25 minute scenic flight by helicopter to Quilalea, or take a light aircraft flight to Quirimba Island, a short scenic drive across the coconut plantation, followed by a quick 10 min boat ride to Quilalea Private Island. From Dar-es-Salaam, Coastal Airlines fly to Quirimba Island (with a stopover in Mocimboa da Praia to clear customs). From Quirimba Island guests will be transferred by boat or helicopter to Quilalea Private Island. There is always deep water access at the main beach at Quilalea, but a walk through water is needed at Quirimba Island except at high tide.

Visas:

Are normally available on arrival but we recommend that they be purchased in advance from your local Mozambican embassy. Not required by South African passport holders.

Accommodation:

4 Sunrise Villas, 4 Sunset Villas, and Villa Quilalea. The villas are stretched out some 16m – 70m apart from each other. Sunrise and Sunset Villas can be set up as king or twin sharing, have air-conditioning and fans, Egyptian cotton sheets and oversized mosquito nets, a large bathroom with feature indoor /outdoor shower, double vanities, separate toilet and bidet, Mozambican Butler-host service, mini bar and tea/coffee making facilities, private undercover deck with daybed and sundeck with loungers. Sunset Villas have the premium locations, with an additional outdoor shower, hammock and beach sala.

The cliff-top Villa Quilalea offers the most astounding accommodation for a couple in the whole archipelago. Master bedroom with king size bed with an indoor/outdoor feel with door opening up to lounging deck. Bathroom with freeform bath, feature handmade mosaic shower, doors opening onto the deck, separate toilet and bidet, walk-in wardrobe, extended sitting area, private plunge pool, Mozambican Butler-host service, mini bar and tea/coffee making facilities, private undercover deck with daybed, sundeck with loungers, private dining area with views over sea and private alcove for swimming with step ladder leading into your secluded part of the sea.

Guest Facilities:

The main bar/pool area offers a bar, chill zone for lazing around, and TV and media room off the main lounge with DSTV/TV and desk with laptop for guests' use. This whole area has complimentary wireless internet access. There is also now a fully equipped PADI Dive and Watersports Centre and a Boutique with local crafts and designer beachwear, located next to the Reception with guest relations staff.

Dining:

The Dining Room has an all new wine cellar for private dining and to showcase the owner's wines. We hold regular beach dinners for all guests under the stars. In room dining is usually available through our butler/host service, as well as private picnics and beach dinners on request. All standard meals and certain drinks are included currently.

Dress Code:

Informal by day, and smart beach casual by night. Evenings can be a little chilly in winter (Jun – Aug) and a light sweater may be required.

Activities:

Snorkelling and diving throughout the day from the main beach, scuba diving (range of PADI courses offered), fishing, bird viewing and island baobab walks, kayaking around Quilalea Island or through mangroves on Sencar Island, beach picnics, star gazing, cultural visits to Ibo Island.

Children:

Children are welcome and we offer a full range of activities and experiences tailored for their needs. Sunrise villas 1 and 2, and Sunset villas 6 and 7 are best suited for families because they are located closer together. We request that your children respect the privacy of our other guests, and younger children dine in villa.

Malaria:

Mozambique is a malarial area and suitable prophylactics are advised. Quilalea Island is considered a low risk malarial area as it does not have a local population or any natural standing water.

Weather:

Azura at Quilalea is hot and humid year round, with long sunny days and temperatures rarely below 24 degrees day and night. Trade winds do bring cooling breezes, North Easterly from October to March with the chance of some showers, and the slightly stronger but dry South Easterly trade wind from April to September. Rainy season: 'Mango Rains' commence in late October, bringing occasional light showers. Jan – March are hot and humid months, where temperatures often hit 35 degrees+, with tropical rain bursts, most often in the late afternoons or overnight bringing welcome relief from the heat. April to October are normally hot and dry months.



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Owned by: Archipelago das Quirimbas Lda
Managed by: Indian Ocean Eco-islands Ltd, trading as Azura.

Awards & Accolades

Qantas Travel Insider Top 13 ultra luxurious couple retreats brought to you with Tiffany & Co.

Harper's Bazaar – Travel Hot 100

Tatler Travel Guide – 101 Best Hotels in the World

Brides Magazine – Hottest New Hotels

Condé Nast Traveller – Word of Mouth

Condé Nast House & Garden SA – A Drop in the Ocean

Financial Times Weekend – Hot Destinations

Quintessentially Travel's Hot List

Travel + Leisure USA – 100 Greatest Trips

Country & Townhouse Magazine – Top 10 Private Islands

Nine MSN Australia – World's Top 20 Most Romantic Hotels