

DANCING BAOBAB

A Touch of Turquoise in the Tropics

E-BROCHURE

DANCING BAOBAB HOLIDAY HOME

A Touch of Turquoise in the Tropics...



DANCING BAOBAB HOUSE, KILIFI

OUR HOME

Situation & Access



DANCING BAOBAB HOUSE, KILIFI

Dancing Baobab is a private home situated on a cliff above the sea and sandy beach of Takaungu creek in Kilifi, Kenya. It is a spacious and comfortable five bedroomed house (each double room has its own bathroom and all have sea views, fans & nets), a large central seating and dining area with a downstairs loo, large verandahs, pool & pool house and an outdoor dining area (sleeping a total of 12 pax comfortably). There is also an external tower room with an upstairs double bedroom and bathroom below. We also have a baby cot, travel cot and a high chair. The house is fully staffed and visitors have full and exclusive use of the house and grounds, and access straight onto the secluded public beach.



With its high, makuti thatched (palm-tile) roof, large, breezy bedrooms and beautiful original paintings and simple furniture, Dancing Baobab feels comfortably lived in. Our home is decorated with turquoise, blue and white bringing the colours of the sea to our living environment. There's plenty of comfy seating here in the form of sofas and armchairs, and large tables. Although you have meals here, meals can be had en plain air under a shady tree or by the pool.



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We have hosted large events such as weddings and parties before by collaborating with the other house on Takaungu creek. There is also a festival at New Year called "Under the Baobabs", which is very popular with the youth. Book early for Christmas and New Year.



DANCING BAOBAB HOUSE, KILIFI

Amenities & Security



Although Dancing Baobab is on a secluded beach, it is not remote, making transfers straightforward. The house is just under 3km from the main Mombasa - Kilifi road and only 30 minutes from Vipingo airport or alternatively 1 hour from Malindi airport.

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Access is 10 minute stunning drive along a sandy track running through shady groves on the sisal plantation / dairy farm with huge baobabs and fig trees everywhere, herds of cattle followed by flocks of egrets. On arrival, you will be met by the staff (a cook, his assistant and a maid) and shown around the grounds.

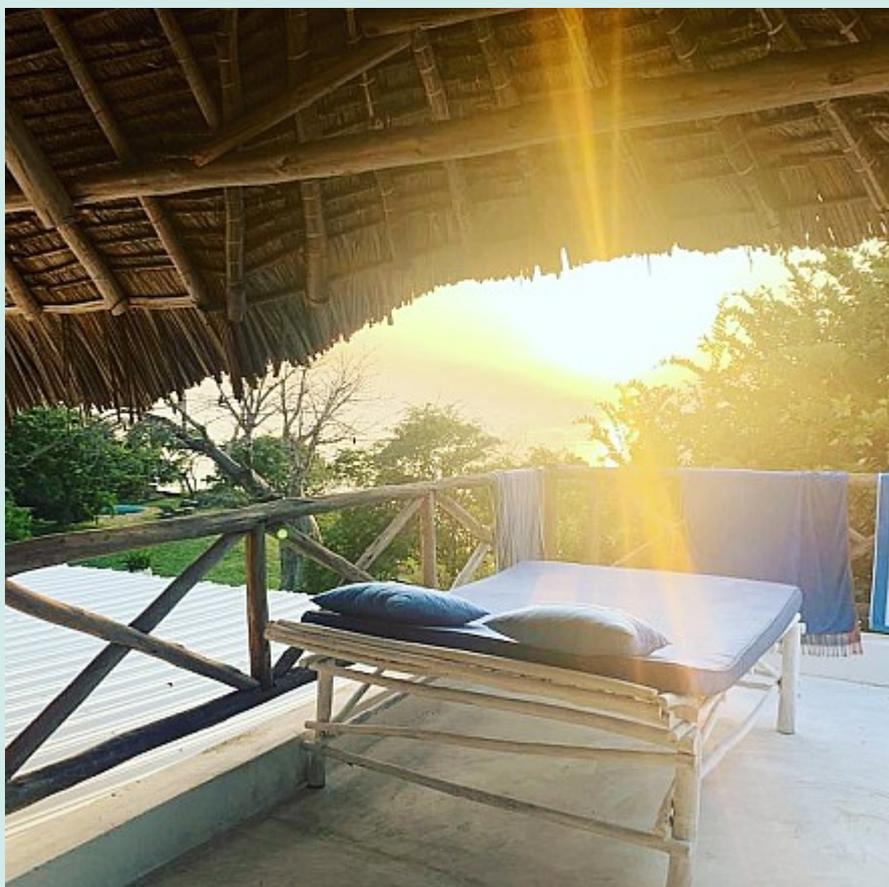
The whole house is on the mains electricity grid, and there are plenty of UK-style three-pin sockets with a pay as you go power meter, that is kept topped up. There is wifi available for those who need to be in touch with family and friends. Hot water is heated by a solar system.



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The two downstairs rooms open out onto their own verandahs and are secure with bars and locks. The upstairs section is secured by one main door and all bedrooms are off one passageway. These rooms are open to the wonderful sea view and have weather blinds. The two master bedrooms either end of the house have their own balconies. There is also a central seating area upstairs.



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STUNNING SITUATION



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The Garden

The front area leads out onto a covered terrace where you'll find more chairs and sofas and a hammock, with sea views between the trees. From the terrace, a grassy lawn slopes down to pool area with incredible views of the creek / sea and the dancing baobab tree that the house is named after. The garden has beautiful fig trees, six large baobabs, borders of flowering plants and many other indigenous Kenyan plants & trees.

The Beach



The Takaungu beach is a secluded and isolated beach with only a few fishermen going out to fish in their local dug-out canoes (called ngalau's). It is the most incredible place to relax and be with your family. As we are set on the cliff the beach is a small walk through historic and impressive coral rock caves – large vertical openings in the ground that are typical of this ancient, coral-reef coastline. Once on the beach, there is so much to do – kayaking, swimming, surfing, fishing and walks on the beach. Altogether, the effect is magical and mysterious.

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Food & Shopping



Dancing Baobab staff are very flexible on meal times as this is a private house and the food very much reflects the taste and appetites of individual guests. After breakfast guest talk to the chef about what they would like for lunch and dinner and he can then organise to buy fresh deliveries of fish, prawns, crab and calamari as requested (some items are seasonal).

Shopping is possible for meat, vegetables, drinks and alcohol and other groceries as necessary at the local vegetable / fruit markets and supermarkets in Kilifi town.

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NORTH COAST INFORMATION

About Kilifi



Located about 60km north of Mombasa, Kilifi town is the main stop on the Mombasa-Malindi highway. The town is set on Kilifi Creek between Mombasa and Malindi, which is about 52km away. Kilifi is renowned for its tourist attractions such as Takaungu Creek, Bofa Beach - located 2.5km from the town & Mnarani Ruins (C14th ruins).

Bofa Beach is a wide slash of white sand, with swaying palms and rolling Indian Ocean surf. It's the stuff of which fantasies are made and perfect for long walks.

Climate & Weather



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Kilifi is generally warm throughout the year with temperatures ranging between 21°C during the coldest months (June and July) and 32°C during the hottest months (January and February). The county receives between 900mm and 1000mm of rainfall annually. It has two rainy seasons; April to June (long rains).

Nearby Attractions

Malindi and Watamu are great places for day trips, including sites such as the historic Vasco da Gama pillar (which marks Vasco da Gama's last destination in Africa before the Portuguese explorer cruised across the Indian Ocean to India in 1498), Gedi ruins (Built in the 13th century), Arubuko Sokoke Forest (a protected tropical forest where you can walk along nature trails with your guide to locate and identify avi-fauna, colorful butterflies, as well as birds and mammals), Casinos, great restaurants and a Snake park. Malindi is also fantastic for a bit of local shopping - places like Shakir's for wonderful fabrics and the local kikoiis / kangas or Muller's for artefacts and furniture.

ACTIVITIES IN KILIFI



What to Do

The leisurely pace in Kilifi is the perfect way to spend your relaxing beach holiday in home rentals in Kenya. You will find a variety of souvenirs and artwork at the shops and small market. There is an incredible variety of watersports on offer in the Kilifi creek such as water-skiing, sailing, kayaking and windsurfing.

For vacation rentals in Kilifi, we recommend you visit the Kilifi Boatyard where you can book fishing trips, walk amongst the many fishing boats and yachts that line the dock or sit at the cafe and have a light meal and a drink. You can also golf, quad bike and horse ride at Vipingo Ridge.

Snorkelling

Snorkelling is great just off the reef at low tide (choose your times around an hour each side of low tide), south of Kilifi in Kirawitu. Masks and fins can be provided there. Green turtles feed inshore just off beach at high tide in front of the houses. there is also a 'turtle watch' system with the locals to try and protect them on the nesting beaches. Humpback whale watching excursions during the months of June – September can also be booked. The migration of the majestic humpbacks along the coast of East Africa is truly something to behold.

Diving

Diving can be arranged through Aqua Ventures, who offer SCUBA and a full range of PADI courses and who are based at the Mnarani Club, Kilifi.

The local reefs are good and Vuma caves to the south of Takaungu can be very dramatic and are rated as one of the finest dives on the coast. There are caves and blowholes, with deep water just a few yards from the cliffs, frequented by grouper and snapper, giant Napoleon wrasse and visiting pelagic.

Sailing, Waterskiing, Kayaking & Windsurfing

3 Degrees South are a watersports & activities company based at Mnarani Club in Kilifi Creek, Kenya. They specialise in sailing & windsurfing and are a registered RYA Training Centre .

In addition they offer kayaking, SUP, waterski & wakeboard lessons. With a team of trained, professional RYA instructors they are focused on providing safe, fun, accessible and exciting sailing and windsurfing for adults and children.

Deep Sea Fishing

Kilifi, Watamu and Malindi are renowned for deep sea fishing

and host the ILTTA World Championships, many ESPN, DSTV and SKY televised events and numerous other Tournaments annually, being a focal point of fishing off the East African Coast. The waters offer hugely diverse fishing opportunities and it is one of very few places where three types of Marlin, Sailfish, Broadbill Swordfish and Short bill Spearfish are all available. With a series of underwater mountains easily accessible offshore, bait and the predators are concentrated unlike the situation in the open Ocean. they also pioneer the practice of 'tag and release' of billfish on the Kenyan coast.

Golf At Vipingo Ridge

There is an excellent new golf course at Vipingo Ridge, just 15 minutes south of the turn off to Takaungu

The course has been designed and built to the exacting USGA standard and is of international class.

It has a spectacular setting, at the top of the ridge overlooking the Indian Ocean.

ACTIVITIES IN KILIFI WHEN STAYING AT DANCING BAOBAB HOUSE



Dhow Cruises

There is a great dhow cruise - either out to the reef for snorkelling (and seafood lunch cooked on board), or a an evening sun-downers cruise up Kilifi Creek. Dhow cruises also allow visitors to watch the local birdlife and the carmine bee eaters roosting on the islands in the creek.

Kivukoni Creek Club



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The Creek Club at Kivukoni is a new fitness and leisure center in Kilifi, Kenya overlooking the beautiful Takaungu Creek. A range of activities are offered including swimming in a large school pool, tennis, yoga, pilates, and kick-boxing. The Creek Club is also an events venue, hosting unique events on occasion (such as Christmas carols), as well as private functions availability.

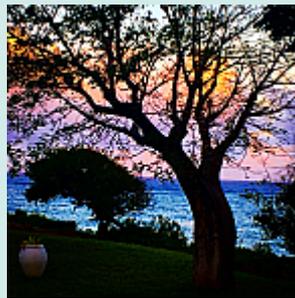
Restaurants

If you are yearning for a meal / have a good serving of prawns, mussels, calamari, oysters, red snapper or yellow-tail, fish or shellfish on your mind then visit one of these seafood restaurants within ten minutes of Dancing Baobab: Nautilus Restaurant, Kilifi Boatyard, Mandarin club or Mnarani Club. For child friendly casual food try the following: Wild Living Café, Twende Pizza, or The Food Movement (within walking distance).



DANCING BAOBAB HOUSE, KILIFI

PHOTO GALLERY



DANCING BAOBAB HOUSE, KILIFI



