



KINONDO KWETU ~ FACT FILE 2020

LOCATION Galu Beach, Diani Beach, South Coast, Kenya

DESCRIPTION Home to Ida and Filip Andersson and their 3 children, a Swedish family related to the famed Baron Blixen, Kinondo Kwetu is often described as a 'home away from home' – a paradise for those wanting a more personal experience on the Kenyan coast. Located on a tranquil private beach on a 16-acre plot south of Diani Beach, distanced from residential neighbors by rocky cliffs and endless beach, Kinondo Kwetu is classified as a 'Kaya' area (protected by the National Museum) due to its surrounding holy forests and sacred land. With various forms of accommodation, all surrounded by green shady gardens and just a few steps from the white sandy beach, Kinondo Kwetu can cater for up to 43 people and is also able to facilitate exclusive use of the whole property or of selected parts. In addition to relaxing in the sun and swimming in the Indian Ocean, Kinondo Kwetu offers an impressive selection of exciting activities – ranging from water sports such as Kite Surfing, Deep sea fishing and Scuba Diving, to land activities such as Game Drives in the nearby Shimba Hills, Horse Riding and Yoga and more.

ACCOMMODATION*

Mama Taa Villa/ Sold individually or the full Villa exclusively

8 SUITES - 4 upstairs & 4 downstairs

- 3 Suites with ensuite double bedroom, connecting doors to a private lounge area /2nd twin or triple bedroom. Air condition.
- 1 suite with a double bedroom connecting to a small single bedroom. Air condition.
- 2 suites are ensuite doubles. Air condition.
- Andersson room /Honeymoon Suite: double bedroom with enough space for 2-3 children, airconditioned, balcony & sea view. Air condition.

- Borelius Suite/ Family Suite: perfect for families, spacious ensuite double room connecting to a large ensuite twin or triple room with air-conditioned, balcony & sea view. Air condition.

5 Cottages

- Cottage one, two & three / Shimba, Twiga & Songoro - 3 double cottages with king size beds & ensuite bathrooms (no extra beds) – ceiling fans & sea view. Air condition.
- Cottage four / Mbuyu - 1 double bedroom cottage with a connecting single bedroom (shared bathroom) – ceiling fans & sea view. Air condition.
- Cottage five / Ubani Beach house - 1 double story cottage sold as a family house or couples travelling together - upstairs is 1 ensuite double bedroom with an outside private entrance & downstairs is 1 ensuite double & 1 single bedroom with connecting doors - fans & sea view. Air condition.
- **Mama Tina Villa / Main house (children & singles only)**
- 1 Double bedroom with ensuite bathroom - Garden view. Air condition.
- 2 single rooms with queen size beds & shared bathroom (the room interconnects via the bathroom) - Garden view. Air condition.

*Baby cots, baths, bottle warmers & extra beds are available on request. A baby car seat is available for children up to 3 years

UNIQUE SELLING POINTS

Exclusive usage – Kinondo Kwetu is a perfect location for wedding celebrations, Birthday celebrations, Yoga retreats or other group gatherings. It will make you feel like it's your own home with full service. These packages are always quoted individually depending on time of year and number of people so please ask us!

Horse riding - With their own stables and 4 horses, experienced & young riders can choose to explore the local holy forests or canter along the beach, giving less advanced riders a chance to practice their steps in one of Kinondo Kwetu's riding paddocks.

Scuba diving – Kinondo Kwetu caters for all levels of scuba diving enthusiasts, from beginners taking their first PADI lesson to experienced divers who want to explore the reef. The reef is located so close to the coast, that incredible dives can be taken as near as 5 minutes away by boat! Best time for this is Sept – March when the winds are favorable.

Health and wellbeing- Exclusive yoga weeks, drawing masters from all over the world, are held at Kinondo Kwetu several times per year. As a completely holistic experience, not only does the exercise and ambiance give off a sense of health and wellbeing, but even the cuisine is suited to detox and revitalize the body. In addition, there are massages, beauty treatments, a wood-fired sauna, 2 swimming pools, a professional tennis course and a small exercise area.

Sacred Kaya Forest - Kaya Kinondo is the first Mijikenda sacred forest to open up for controlled ecotourism and the first such activity on the Kenyan Coast. You will discover beautiful trees,

corals, spectacular lianas, monkeys, spectacular birdlife as well as the spiritual rituals of the local communities which are carried out in the Kaya.

AWARDS

- World Luxury Hotel Awards 2017 – Luxury Beach Lodge Africa Continent
- World Luxury Hotel Awards 2017 – Luxury Wedding destination Kenya
- World Luxury Hotel Awards 2017 – Luxury Holistic retreat Kenya
- Trip advisor Certificate of excellence award 2018, 2017, 2015 2014 § World Travel Awards – Kenyans Leading Resort 2015
- The Safari Awards nominee and runner up in several categories 2018, 2017, 2015, 2014, 2013 (Best Family Safari Experience, Best Marine Property, Best Safari Cuisine, Best Community Focused Property, Best Ecologically Responsible Property)
- Trip advisor Travelers choice award 2015, 2014
- 101 Best Hotels– The Tatler Travel Guide
- SDIT Award 2013 in the category of Rural Accommodation.
- Kinondo Clinic (established and funded by The Kinondo Kwetu Trust) - Best Clinic in the Kwale District, 2010

ACTIVITIES

- Scuba diving (ranging from first PADI diving lesson to advanced reef dives and international diving 'passport')
- Snorkeling (on site) § Sailing (Hobie Cat & Traditional) & Canoeing (on site)
- Kite surfing (courses available off site but close by)
- Deep-sea fishing (from Kinondo)
- Water skiing & Wakeboarding (on site)
- 2 x Swimming Pools (on site)
- Boat Excursions (Kinondo Kwetu boats) to 'Paradise Lost' island
- Skateboarding at Kinondo Kwetu (on site)
- Tennis court (on site)
- Horse-riding (on site stables/ on beach, in sacred 'Kaya' forests and paddock) Shopping / sight-seeing trips to Ukunda or Mombasa
- Massage & beauty treatments (on site)
- Wood-fired Sauna (on site)
- Yoga platform and instructors (on site)
- Gym and Private trainer (on site)
- Cultural visits to Kinondo village & Kinondo Kwetu Community works
- Golf (available off site)
- Game drives within Shimba Hills National Reserve

NEED TO KNOW

HOW TO GET THERE

Ukunda Airstrip is a 15-20 min drive from Kinondo Kwetu.

Several flights daily from Safari lodges and Nairobi with Safarilink, Mombasa Air, Blue Sky & Jambo Jet

Mombasa International Airport is a 1,5-2-hour drive from Kinondo Kwetu, including crossing the ferry.

A private charter from Mombasa to Ukunda Airstrip is a 10 min flight.

AIRSTRIP COORDINATES

Ukunda Airstrip coordinates are:

S 04° 17.626; E 039° 34.280

Elevation 98ft

ROAD ACCESS

From Mombasa:

- Take the Mombasa ferry to Likoni
- Drive straight down to Ukunda
- Turn onto Diani Beach road & Continue until it becomes Galu Beach, and there you will find Kinondo Kwetu.
- The whole journey takes 45 mins (from Likoni).

WHAT FORM OF PAYMENT DOES KINONDO KWETU ACCEPT?

Cash (US\$ newer than 2006, Euro, Sterling, KSH), Cheques, Visa, & MasterCard.

Note: Transaction fees are charged for all credit card payments. Please bring cash for tipping.

TIPPING GUIDELINE

All tips are at the guests' discretion. Should guests wish to leave a tip at the end of their stay, they can place it in the main tip box located in the office. Tips are distributed evenly to all staff members. Recommended are US\$ 10-20 per room per day.

WHAT FORM OF ELECTRICITY DOES KINONDO KWETU HAVE?

- International airlines.
- Multiple daily scheduled flights from Nairobi JKIA with Kenya Airways, Fly 540 & Jambo Jet.
- Private charters from anywhere
- Kinondo is on the main electricity line (Kenya Power) but we also have a back-up generator.
- Most guest rooms have Kenyan/UK plug sockets as well as European/Scandinavian sockets.
- Kinondo Kwetu's electricity does support hairdryers. There are spare hairdryers for guests to borrow, which can be delivered to room on request.

MEAL POLICY

Individual dining. Flexible Hours.

Breakfast: 0800 to 1000 hrs.

Lunch: 1300 to 1500 hrs.

Dinner: 1800 to 2200 hrs.

Kinondo Kwetu has a daily set menu, however the menu itself as well as the times are always changed on any request. Please inform us about any dietary requirements or allergies prior to arrival. All food and in-house drinks except Fine selection drinks are included in the guests stay.

WATER

Bottled drinking water is provided free of charge. The tap water is safe for brushing teeth.

WHAT VEHICLES / BOATS / EQUIPMENT DOES KINONDO KWETU HAVE?

- 1 x 4x4 Vehicles: 1 x Land Cruisers, closed, seats 8

Boats / Watersports:

- 1 x Diving & excursion boat (30ft center console, 2 x Yamaha 150hp)
- 1 x Diving, water skiing & excursion boat (20ft center console, 2 x Yamaha 150hp). \$
- Hobie Cat catamaran.
- Sports Canoes / boards:
- 4 x double person open canoe 2 x single person open canoe 3 x Eskimo kayaks 2 Stand up paddle board \$
- Scuba Diving equipment (Poisedon, Mares - PADI)
- Water Skiing & Wakeboard equipment
- Snorkeling equipment

SOUTH COAST CLIMATE

- Altitude: Sea level
- Rainfall: Approximately 1000mm per year
- 70% Sun throughout the year
- Hot days, warm nights, moderate humidity
- Rain Season May & June, the hotel is closed during those months.

SEASONS

- Jan – Feb – Hot but windy and cooling
- Dec – Mar – Kaskazi wind, 35 C but cool breeze
- Mar – Apr = Cooler, humid before the rains

- May – Jun = Rains, hotel closed
- Jul – Aug = Little rain. Good temp 24 C night, 30 C day, sea bit rough
- Sep – Oct = warmer, winds drop
- Nov – Little nightly rains, nice time for most activities

MALARIA

Malaria is endemic on the Kenya coast so there is an effective risk all year round. However, Kinondo Kwetu is remote from urban centers with a strong breeze all year around, and with correct prophylactics & sensible use of insect repellents the risk of malaria is minimal. All rooms are equipped with impregnated mosquito nets.

WHAT LANGUAGES ARE SPOKEN AT KINONDO KWETU?

- Guides – English and Kiswahili.
- Management – Swedish, English, German, French and Kiswahili.

COMMUNICATION SERVICES

Internet: Wireless internet all over the property. But cannot be guaranteed into all rooms. Mobile phones:

Phone signal is available (Airtel and Safaricom) at all times

Additional Information

RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

- We founded the Kinondo Kwetu Health center in 2008, from 2019 it is a registered Hospital. The health center has been awarded 'best clinic in the district' and caters to over 120,000 patient visits yearly and give birth to 1700 Babies yearly
- We are supporting the primary school in Kinondo village.

- We are supporting the Kindergarden in Kinondo Village.
- We created the "Kinondo Kwetu Sponsorship Programme".
- We have inhouse staff training from the community.
- We are sponsors of the Whale Shark Trust and members of the Colobus Trust.

<https://kinondo-kwetu-trust.org/>

SPECIAL FEATURES & KEY WILDLIFE IN THE AREA

- Kinondo Kwetu is an area of holy trees and some very old graves, declared as a Kaya area. A Kaya is protected by the National Museum of Kenya, in this case protected due to its traditionally sacred meaning to the inhabitants of the area. Many of the trees in Kinondo Kwetu are sacred to the Kinondo people (who believe their old ancestors live amongst the trees), especially the very old Baobab tree with an open trunk. Therefore, people from Kinondo are always welcome to visit Kinondo Kwetu, and are allowed to hold their ceremonies at the holy trees and under the holy cliff. It's a truly magical experience for guests to witness these events.
- Shimba Hills National Park is just 45-minutes' drive from Kinondo Kwetu, great for game drives. Guests can expect to see elephants, sable antelopes, giraffes and many other species of wildlife.
- The unspoilt coral reefs along Galu Beach boast a generous variety of marine life. One can see a range of exotic species – from angel and parrot fish to dolphins, sea turtles, Barracuda black and white tipped reef sharks, as well as humpback whales (July through to October) and whale sharks (October through to March).
- Deep sea fishing is also available with catches such as Tuna, Wahoo, Barracuda and Marlin.
- The bird life around Kinondo Kwetu is exceptionally rich – often described as a "bird lovers' paradise". Apart from that, Colobus monkeys are frequent visitors to the lodge as well.

PRESS COMMENTS

- "Kinondo - Best for relaxation, romance and the authentic luxury Kenyan experience." Wine & Style ZA
- "The south coast of Kenya has a constant breeze, and the Indian Ocean is deliciously warm – ideal conditions for the novice kite surfer. Diani and Galu is a postcard beach, with turquoise water and talcum-powder sand, all protected as the area is surrounded by sacred land." – Metro SWE
- "An amazing hideaway, with a style that reflects the sophisticated Swedish owners... An instant hit." - Tatler Magazine – Tatler Travel Guide UK
- "Soak up the wonderful ambiance of peace and relaxation that emanated from this beautifully appointed, Swedish-owned boutique hotel... It's no wonder that it's one of the King of Sweden's favorite holiday places." – Irish Wedding Diary IR

- "The calm, the personal environment, the fantastic service and wonderful views make it impossible not to fall in love with Kinondo." – Connoisseur SWE
- "To live your dream, that is something that Ida and Filip really do. Every day they wake up to the sound from turquoise water of the Indian Ocean." – Svenska Dagbladet SWE
- "Here the beach is so untouched that the giant turtles still come up to lay their eggs." – RES Magazine SWE

COMMENTS FROM KINONDO KWETU VISITORS BOOK

- "When does a person begin talking about a dream? Our wedding was here, yesterday...and it was perfect and magical. It could not have been more special. Kinondo Kwetu is truly a gateway to the gods!"
- "We had an absolutely amazing time and loved every moment of this hotel, we call Paradise."
- "What can I say? I am leaving only kicking & screaming – this place is magic – peaceful, refined, wonderful staff. All I could ask for. I will be back many times over!"
- "Thank you so much for a SUPER week, dolphins, excellent food, wonderful, kind and professional staff as well as a super host couple. A personal, non-snobbish and still totally luxurious atmosphere – rare to find!"
- "We had a wonderful time, everything more than lived up to expectations!"
- "Thank you very much for the most fabulous vacation we have ever had. It has been a fantasy come true. The attention to detail has been phenomenal and very much appreciated. Your staff is exceptional, truly a 5star resort. You truly have a 'Gem'. Thanks for your wonderful hospitality!"
- "Kinondo Kwetu has been the perfect place for our family celebration – Thank you for making it a time we will never forget. Everything has been superb!"
- "The most perfect holiday ever! Totally exceeded expectations, but more than anything it was made by everyone here – wonderful! Thank you!"
- "Kinondo Kwetu is an idyllic spot! We have been enchanted by the endlessly shifting seaside, the mystery of where the next delicious meal will take place, the friendliness of everyone here, the professionalism of all – the perfect holiday hideaway!"

Reservations & Contacts

Reservations: 254(0) 710 898 030

- Reservations: info@kinondo-kwetu.com or office@kinondo-kwetu.com
- On Site: 254(0) 710 898 030 or 254 (0) 702 405 543
- On Site: gm@kinondo-kwetu.com or office@kinondo-kwetu.com
- Or book Kinondo Kwetu through your preferred ground handler

www.kinondo-kwetu.com