

The villa balances luxury and beach-side simplicity in a spacious open plan living area, connecting the villa’s internal and external living spaces, the mesmerizing island vistas and immersing our guests in a sense of complete peace and tranquility.

Perfect for a romantic couples’ getaway, an intimate group of friends or a memorable family holiday. Whatever the size of your party, SAUDADE will be for your exclusive use and our on-site team will cater for all your personal needs.

****The villa sleeps a maximum of 12-16 guests in 5 private suites (2 guests each) and a funky bunk room, ideal for children and young adults. The three premium suites sleep 2 guests each (king size bed), two suites sleep 2 guests each (queen size bed) and the bunkroom sleep up to 6 guests (2 double, 2 singles). All 6 bedrooms are fully air conditioned and all are ensuite. All bedrooms have percale cotton linen, luxurious cotton bath sheets, mosquito netting and the option of either plantation ceiling fan or full air-conditioning for balmy tropical nights.

The airy living spaces are thoughtfully curated, featuring plush furnishings, natural materials, and touches of local artistry that reflect the vibrant culture of Mozambique. A sun-drenched patio invites you to unwind and enjoy vistas showcasing the ever-changing colours of the sea.

Wonder down through the beautiful tropical garden to the rim-flow swimming pool with exquisite views of the ocean and islands. There is direct access to the beach down a private beach path, through the gate and you will be on the beautiful sweep of the Vilanculos beach.

For those that wish to remain connected to the outside world, complimentary high-speed fibre Wifi is provided.

Board games, puzzles, and a pool table are available in for those rare occasions when Mother Nature is not on her best behavior.

Our SAUDADE garden is a haven for many beautiful birds. We have a Sasol Bird Guide available for guests to use. Please feel free to mark down what you see in the guide. For the less fanatical, there is also a set of bird cards with photos and descriptions of some of the more common species seen regularly.

If anything gets broken by mistake whilst you are there, please just let me know so that I can organize to have it repaired / replaced so that everyone can enjoy the villa to the fullest.

Please do sign our Guest Book before leaving as we love to receive feedback on your stay with us.

**Staff**

Our warm hearted and friendly SAUDADE Team comprises Chef’s Sergio & Papi as well as Manga, Manuel, Adolfo, Nelson and Moses. The team and aim to deliver a once in a lifetime holiday experience.

Chefs Papi and Sergio are in charge of your SAUDADE dining experience. It is all about delicious, simple cuisine to complement our spectacular natural surroundings. We aim to offer unpretentious “home cooked” cuisine, using locally sourced, fresh seasonal ingredients.

Manga, Manuel and Adolfo take care of all housekeeping and complimentary laundry activities, whilst Nelson and Moses look after the magnificent tropical garden and the pool deck area.

Mel, is our Estate Manager. She will pop in to ensure that all is in order and is available in case of emergencies – but really, I expect that our Saudade team will be able to look after you perfectly well without any outside attention.

Mike’s number: +27 82 5634817

Mel’s number: +258 82 9177720

Sergio’s number: +258 84 1970000

**Gratuities**

Staff gratuities are at your discretion.

We have 8 staff members on duty at any one time. 2 Chefs who look after all thing’s kitchen and catering, 4 housemen who look after all things housekeeping & laundry and 2 gardeners who looks after the garden and ensures pool and pool deck are always spic and span (and will gladly help you to get canoes and SUPs up and down from the beach too!)

Depending on the size of your guest party, I’d suggest a gratuity as follows:

If you are only a "smaller group" of up to 8 people, I suggest a total gratuity of Mts24,000-Mts26,000 per week (approx. R7,000 in total for the week).

If you are a "medium size group" of 9-12 people, I suggest a total gratuity of Mts28,000-Mts30,000 per week (approx. R8,500 in total for the week).

If you are a "larger group" of 13 or more people, I suggest a total gratuity of Mts32,000-Mts35,000 per week (approx. R10,000 in total for the week).

Should you wish to leave a gratuity, please could I recommend a single combined gratuity as laid out above - an envelope will be provided and can be placed into the gratuity box on the final day. The team will then share the gratuity appropriately according to seniority and length of service between the team members. Let me assure you that this is a fair and transparent process between the team as they all realize that it really takes a combined effort by all eight of the team to run Saudade and deliver a memorable holiday for our guests.

Gratuities do need to be paid in cash please (unfortunately, they cannot be paid by card as part of the final in country payment).

**Catering**

SAUDADE is let on a fully catered basis only.

Our catering consists of 3 delicious, family style meals per day plus afternoon teas on a daily basis, with in between snacks available on request. Our chefs strive to provide delicious, family style meals based on seasonally available fresh local produce, with a focus on local seafood. Our chefs are always willing to provide an alternative option (especially for our younger guests) based on tastes or special dietary requirements – so please just make me aware of these prior to arrival.

We do not cater on an a la Carte basis.

I have attached a copy of our full list of Menu Items as well as a Typical 7 Night Meal Plan.

Once your booking has been confirmed, I will liaise with the Primary Guest to ensure that we finalize a personalized menu and meal plan for your group according to your preferences and length of stay. Whilst the meal plan will be prepared and finalized in advance, there is relative flexibility for you to switch the meals around according to your fancy during your stay - mostly driven by changing weather patterns in Vilanculos meaning island days or other boat excursions may need to be switched around to take advantage of the best weather days. You will just discuss and adjust the meal plan order with our Chefs on duty as required.

The cost of full catering is included in the adult daily rate. We offer a child catering rebate for all children under 13 years old. This rebate is detailed in our introductory email and is already included in the final quoted daily rate.

The fully catered rate includes a curated selection of locally available spirits, beers, wines, soft drinks and bottled waters. This will typically include the following subject to local availability:

Spirits:

Gin (Bombay Saphire / Gordons), Whiskey (Jamesons / Johnny Walker Red), Vodka (Absolut / Smirnoff), Brandy (KWV 5-year-old / Klipdrift Premium)

Beer & Wine:

Locally available wines are often of questionable quality (due mostly to poor storage conditions) and so we import the following wines from SA as part of our standard fully catered offering.

Beer - DosM Lager (MacMon Larger is the most popular local Mozambican beer), Castle Lite, Heiniken

Wines:

White & Rosé - Cape Point Vineyards Sauvignon Blanc, DMZ Chenin Blanc, Warwick Cape Lady Dry Rosé, Simonsig Chenin Blanc/Pinotage

Sparkling wine - Steenberg Sauvignon Blanc MCC, Kleine Zalze Brut MCC, Italian Chiaro Prosecco

Red - Villiera Merlot, Kleine Zalze Shiraz

Water and Soft Drinks:

Bottled Still and Sparkling water, Roses Lime and Passionfruit Cordials, Selection of Liquifruit fruit juices, Selection of Coke, Coke Zero, Sprite, Soda water, Indian Tonic water

You are of course also welcome to bring along any particular favorite duty-free alcohol that you may have purchased on your inbound journey.

**Special Occasions**

At SAUDADE we are ideally positioned to host your unforgettable "Special Occasion" event or family get-together. Planning and executing these fantastic celebrations require extra care and attention to ensure they are everything you are dreaming of.

Special Occasion events will typically entail an extra special celebratory feast at some point during your stay, additional personal favourite drinks or specialist wines and champagnes as well as a personalized itinerary of excursions and activities for your guests to enjoy. Please talk to me about your requirements so that we can create a personalized quote for your Special Occasion based on your specific requirements.

Since these items are often sourced all the way from South Africa or require the participation of additional service providers (for an island trip with a magical picnic and snorkeling or the community-led seahorse safari for example), it's best to plan ahead. We typically need around 4-6 weeks to make sure we have everything ready to meet your wishes.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you require any further information and let's make your Special Occasion holiday is truly extraordinary!

**Experiences**

SAUDADE is so much more than just a luxury holiday destination. The waters of the Bazaruto Archipelago World Heritage Site are an ecological paradise teeming with magnificent sea life. Dolphins, whales, rays, turtles and the endangered dugong swim in the crystal-clear waters of the archipelago that are also home to starfish, seahorses, magnificent corals and an array of beautiful tropical fish.

The Saudade garden is home to a fabulous selection of birds. If you are a birder then it is well worth bringing your binoculars with you on the trip. Amongst the many “garden regulars” including southern boubou, brown hooded kingfisher, white throated robin chat, dark capped bulbuls, bronze manikins, purple crested turacos and various sun birds, do keep an eye out for the following specials; gorgeous bush shrike, yellow-rumped and yellow fronted tinkerbirds, eastern nicator, Neergaard’s sunbird, both olive and blue cheeked bee-eater and mangrove kingfisher to name but a few. There is also an abundance of waders and other marine birds on the beach and within the archipelago islands more generally. Keep an eye out for greater flamingos when on a trip to the islands. There is a copy of the Sasol Birds of Southern Africa available to guests and we’d love it if you mark what you have seen in the book.

Whether you prefer the tranquil pastimes of soaking up some gentle tropical sunshine with a good book; enjoying the cool turquoise waters of our infinity pool; watching the local fisherman pull in their nets in the time-honored process of their forefathers; a lazy sundowner dhow cruise to end off another magical day or if…………….

You prefer something a little more energetic and exciting, like the adrenaline rush induced by the screaming reel of a solidly struck fishing lure; the anticipation of a snorkeling safari to “the aquarium” at Two Mile Reef and a chance encounter with wild dolphins, turtles or the elusive dugong; island hopping from one unspoiled and untouched beach to another in search of the iconic pansy shell; the thrill of skipping across the shallow azure waters on your kiteboard with the wind in your hair, powered by the self-same trade winds that have driven the lateen rigged dhows across these tranquil waters for millennia before us…………….

These are experiences that cannot easily be distilled into words, they are the essence of your holiday, your perfect island moments and the core of memories that will last a lifetime.

Our SAUDADE team is dedicated to giving you the best possible experience. Please talk to us about the various Experiences and we will arrange to put you in touch with the relevant operator. All excursions are optional extras unless indicated otherwise in the rates package.

* Island hopping day trips – including snorkeling safari. Mark +258 84 449 2263 (Africa Ocean Safaris) or Scott +258 84 4152027 (nice boat called Venus)

This is a perfect day trip. The chefs will organize to pack you a picknick and cooler box of ice-cold drinks. The team will help you get everything down to the beach and Mark or Scott’s team will collect you off the beach directly in front of the house. Speak to Mark or Scott about different locations but some of my favorites include

* + Margaruque Island. Only about 20 mins by boat, it is a fun place to snorkel on the turning tide but we seldom actually stop on the beach there as there are a number of dow safaris that use this as their base and it tends to be a bit commercial. We often stop in for a snorkel either on the way to or from Benguera south point. It is however also a great place for a quick fishing trip where you can do drift casting to the reef from the boat. Good place to catch small reef fish.
	+ Benguera Island South Point. About 25 mins by boat. Great secluded beaches and very calm water for skiing etc. On the seaward side of the island there are waves for the kids to boogey board. You can find hundreds of pansy and other shells on the sandbank. This spot is particularly sheltered from the northerly winds.
	+ Benguera Island North Point. This is about 40 mins by boat. Again, great secluded beaches with a deep-water channel for skiing. The kids can also fish directly off the beach. It’s only a short 10-minute ride to either Two Mile Reef for the best snorkeling in the area at low tide or to Pansy Island sandbank (where there are literally thousands of pansy shells on the beach). This spot is particularly sheltered from the southerly winds. (See details below about Lunch at PeriPeri Beach Bar @Azura Lodge)
	+ Pansy Island. This is a sandbank just off the south point of Bazaruto Island and is about 40 mins by boat. Pansy Island tends to be a bit exposed to the wind but you will be amazed at the hundreds and hundreds of pansy shells on the beach – crazy stuff!
	+ Paradise Island (Santa Carolina). A great island to visit but you need a really still day and the wind preferably from the North so that if it picks up in the afternoon you will be coming back with the wind and the wave direction at your back. It is about 50 minutes by boat. There are many beautiful spots on the island, with the best snorkeling along the reef on the south west tip of the island.
* Fishing charters.
	+ Morgan at Big Blue +258 84 566 5006. Morgan / Big Blue has been in Vilanculos for many years and run a beautiful fleet of boats with first class tackle.
	+ Dean at Taylor Made Fishing Safaris +258 84 9695670. Dean is an independent fishing guide and has been contracting to a number of the top-end lodges in the archipelago for many years.

Both of these guys are first class operators. Tell them you are from SAUDADE and they will arrange to collect you off the beach directly in front of the house.

* Sea kayaks and SUPs. Available free at the house. Ask Moses or Nelson to help get them down to the beach
* Beach horse riding. Mozambique Horse Safari +258 84 251 2910. Mozambique Horse Safaris are located in Chibuene (south of the airport) which is about a 30 minute drive from the villa. They offer a variety of options according to rider ability; from a gentle beach walk and swim with the horses which can be enjoyed by everyone to an extensive outride which is aimed at advanced riders only.
* Guided Bird Walk. Jay Retzlaff +258 84 6866341 or Alfredo +258 844549. If you are an enthusiast, please talk to me and I’ll happily point you in the right direction to add some endemic Vilanculos specials to your Lifer-list.
* Kite Surfing lessons or gear rental. Mark +258 84 449 2263
* Sunset Dhow Trip. Contact either Sailaway Dhow Safari Kerry +258 84 3280520 or Sunset Dhow Jeff +258 829 120 658. Both of these operators offer an evening sunset show cruise. For each of them you will need to get a taxi to their respective departure pints (both are about a 15 min taxi trip away)
* SCUBA diving. Odyssea Dive +258 84 799 4328 (info@odysseadive.com) or Casa Babi +258 84 412 6478
* Beach walks. The beach is great for walking. We often walk south (back towards town) and stop for a drink or bite to eat at one of the beach bars along the way – check Bars and Beach Restaurant info below. If you head north (away from town) there are no spots to stop for a drink but it is a beautiful peaceful walk. There is a magnificent sunset from the top of the Red Dunes at end of Kingfisher Bay
* Red Dune Sundowners. There is a great sundowner spot at the top of the red dune on north side of Kingfisher bay. It is a 15-minute drive but you will need 4x4 – exit the gate and turn right, follow the road north all the way to asDunas Lodge. You can park outside (safe to leave car) and climb to the top of the dune for a beautiful view of the entire bay and sunset over the bush.
* Indigo Seahorse Safari. Support seahorse conservation and go on a local dhow, guided by locals (poachers turned conservationists!) to see these amazing creatures in their natural seagrass habitat. +258 84 5574462. Great to support this community driven initiative.
* Massage and beauty treatments. Rosa offers a full range of options in house on the pool deck. Please see the separate options list. Rosa +258 84 789 6811. Sergio will assist you to book a time with Rosa directly.
* Beach Bar Lunch at PeriPeri Beach Bar @Azura. Azura Lodge on Benguerra Island has a great beach bar where you can enjoy cocktails and lunch and swim on the beach or at their beach bar pool. I’d suggest combining this with a boat day trip to Bazaruto North Point and 2 Mile Reef. Leave home after an early breakfast, spend the morning at North Point and snorkeling at 2 Mile Reef and then book lunch for 13h30 or so at PeriPeri Beach Club. The boat guys will drop you back off on our beach at the end of the afternoon. It’s a hoot! The beach club is only open a couple of days a week so you need to check days, co-ordinate with an island day and book in advance. Azura PeriPeri Beach Bar contact details: +27 76 705 0599

**Location and Security**

SAUDADE is situated in the Avia secure private estate, about 5 km north of the town on a good road, which is accessible in a standard car (no 4x4 required).

Avia is a secure estate with guards patrolling day and night. (If you hear anything noise at night, don’t be alarmed it will be a guard.) We do however suggest locking doors when going to bed at at night, simply to ensure that no animals can get into the house when everyone is asleep.

The GPS coordinates for the Avia main gate are

21 degrees 56’ 34.51” S, 35 degrees 18’ 59.21” E

We are approximately 20 minutes from the Vilanculos International Airport. There are return daily flights from Johannesburg on both SA Airlink and LAM airlines.

We will collect you from the airport on the day of arrival and drop you off again on the day of departure in our complimentary airport shuttle.

Should you wish to go into the village to visit a local market or for any other excursions, please just talk to our villa team and they can arrange for a shuttle bus or a local tuk-tuk to collect you from the villa.

Whilst it is generally not required to have your own vehicle whilst visiting SAUDADE, should you specifically wish to have access to a rental car please feel free to contact the service providers below.

* Airport Shuttle / Private Car Rental. Alfonso +258 84 238 8188
* EuropeCar Rental. Kerry +258 84 322 3476

**Windguru – Weather Forecasting**

I have found the best site to be [www.windguru.cz](http://www.windguru.cz) as it is remarkably accurate at forecasting temperature, wind and waves for the entire archipelago.

The best days to go on the boat are when the wind speed is under 10-12 knots (depicted by a light blue colour on windguru) maximum. Most afternoons the wind will pick up a bit, but as long as it stays under 14 knots, you will be fine for boat trips and island excursions. Once the wind speed indicator gets in excess of 15 knots (depicted by a green colour on windguru, and then strengthening to dark green, yellow orange and finally red colours) it just gets too uncomfortable and I don’t recommend boating on these days.

**Currency and Money Exchange**

The local currency is Meticals.

Most of the local establishments will accept Rands and US Dollars if you prefer to pay in cash.

The easiest way to access Meticals is to draw cash from the ATMs. All South African bank cards work in the local ATMs and you can usually draw up to Mts5000 per transaction but they will allow up to four or five transactions per day. The exchange rate offered via ATMs is always competitive and transaction fees are insignificant

There is an ABSA ATM directly outside the Netcare Clinic less than 5 minutes away from SAUDADE – this is never busy!

You can exchange money either informally in the market or at the bank (but then you will need your passport).

**Beach Bars, Restaurants etc.**

There are a number of bars and restaurants along the beach between the house and the town. They are generally fun for a drink and a light lunch snack but our Villa Coco Chefs’ food is generally far better. We tend to just use them for a light lunch snack from time to time or a drink (or two!) if we are walking along the mainland beach.

I mention a few below but feel free to explore for yourself! Whilst you can walk to all of these along the beach you can get there by car from the house in about 10 mins or so. Contact details for all these spots are in the guest file at the house.

* Beach Lodge. Nice food and has a big pool right on the beach. Good for a pizza and couple of toots. You can walk there from the house along the beach in about 30 mins
* Aquilla Negra. Also has a new pool deck and is a popular sports bar – always popular for “big matches” on TV. You can walk there from the house along the beach in about 30 - 40 mins. It’s a short 10min tuk tuk ride from the house.
* Bahia Mar. Conference Centre (and hotel). Really nice hotel and pool bar. Wifi available. You can walk there from the house along the beach in about 30 - 40 mins.
* Villa del Mar. Also has a nice pool deck right on the beach. Cool place for a snack and a drink. You can walk there from the house along the beach in about 30 - 40 mins – though only seems to be open during main holiday periods
* Casa Micah. This is definitely the best restaurant in town. It is run by a French lady and her partner and the food is delicious. If you feel like a night out for dinner away from Villa Coco then I can highly recommend Casa Micah. Do call ahead to make sure its open and that they can accommodate you in their quaint garden setting.
* Samara. This is the best little bar/ restaurant on the beach. The kite surf school is located directly next door to Samara and as a result is a fun place to stop and watch the kiters and enjoy a drink when going for a beach walk from the villa. You can walk there from the house along the beach in about 40 – 50 mins. This is generally our preferred haunt for a cold beer or a refreshing cocktail on the Vilanculos beach.
* Donna Anna. Hotel on the point of the harbor. Don’t bother its dreadful!
* Frutos do Mar - Top Deck.Around the corner from Taurus shop.Fun restaurant with beautiful view over the harbor and across to the islands. Good for an early evening dinner and sundowner drink. About 10 mins drive from the house.
* Casa Rex. Hotel with a beautiful view in a nice garden. About 10 mins drive from the house. They make some delicious puddings! Unfortunately, it’s currently closed.
* Casa Babi. Also a dive centre. You need to drive to this spot, about 20 mins from the house.
* Archipelago Sun Hotel. About 30 mins drive, south of Vilanculos past the airport. Worth a drive if the weather is a bit iffy, they make a nice pizza and their peri-peri chicken is delicious.

**Clinic**

Whilst Vilanculos is a remote place, there is now a 24-hour Netcare Emergency Hospital at the Sasol Residential Village which is less than 1 km away from the house. The contact number is +258 84 378 1911.

In addition, we have a basic medicine box at the house which contains medical basics like plasters, headache tablets, bandages, Dettol etc in it. Please ask the team if you need anything.

**Travel**

* By road. Getting to Vilanculos by road is now a very easy drive on great roads.

It takes about 16 hours to get there from Johannesburg and generally you do it in two days (though on the way back I tend to do it in a single stretch). Please see

separate document with directions, places to stay over, border times etc etc.

* By air. You can fly directly to Vilanculos from Jhb International and Cape Town International with SA Airlink (www.flyairlink.com). There are flights every day of the week. A return flight costs approximately R8,500-R9500 per ticket.
* Shuttle Service from Airport. It’s a 15-minute trip from the airport to Villa Coco. A return airport shuttle trip is included in the cost of your stay with us. Alfonso runs a very reliable private shuttle service. His number is +258 84 238 8188

**Passports and Visas etc**

South African passport holders do not need a visa to visit Mozambique. You will however need to have a valid SA passport that needs 2 blank pages and a minimum of 31 days additional validity past your departure date. South Africans may visit visa free for up to 30 days at a time.

Children under the age of 18 need to travel with both parents and have their original unabridged birth certificate with them. Any children below the age of 18 that are not travelling with their parents need additional consent in the form of an affidavit in specific format from parents giving the responsible adult permission to travel with the child. Please check the Home Affairs website (<http://www.dha.gov.za/>) for latest rules on this issue.

The visa regime for Vilanculos has recently been reviewed and there are now an additional 35 odd countries that no longer require a visa. For those countries for where a visa is still required, it has become infinitely easier and less costly. Should a visa be required you can now get them on arrival at Vilanculos airport and the cost is less than USD10 per visa. Please note that you must have 3 blank pages in your passport and at least 6 months additional validity past your departure date. In addition, you will need to pay for your visa with cash as they do not have electronic payment facilities at the airport. Please bring new notes with you as the Immigration Authorities will not accept old / marked / torn bills. They are very strict about this.

If in doubt visit this handy site to determine if you require a Visa or not. <https://www.handyvisas.com/visa-policy/mozambique/>

**Malaria**

Vilanculos is a malaria area but as we are about 5 kms out of town the incidence of malaria at SAUDADE directly is very limited. That is not to say that it will never happen but you can minimize any risk by spraying yourselves with Tabard or Peaceful Sleep after your shower at night (and also early morning if you get up for an early coffee on the deck).

Additionally, the staff will shut windows, turn on the air-conditioning, let down the mosquito nets and spray the rooms with an insecticide as part of the turndown service.

You should definitely spray yourselves with Tabard or Peaceful sleep if you are going into town in the evening.

Please talk to your doctor about malaria medication that fits your personal preferences.

**Indemnity and Travel Insurance**

Every reasonable precaution is taken to ensure your enjoyment, comfort and safety whilst visiting SAUDADE.

We will provide you with our SAUDADE Indemnity Form as part of the booking and reservation process and would request that it is fully completed with all guest details (including Name, Passport Number and Passport Issue Date), signed and returned to us in advance of your visit.

This is for our mutual benefit and will ensure that all guests are appropriately covered under our extensive public liability insurance cover.

Please note that a failure to return the completed and signed SAUDADE Indemnity Form before arrival may result in delayed transfers to the villa as we are not allowed to welcome guests to SAUDADE without the completed signed documentation in place.

In addition, we strongly advise that all guests should have appropriate travel insurance to cover any unforeseen medical emergencies.

**Directions to SAUDADE from Taurus Supermarket / MileniumBim Bank in Vilanculos**

SAUDADE is located in the Avia Estate.

The GPS coordinates for the Avia main gate are

21 degrees 56’ 34.51” S, 35 degrees 18’ 59.21” E

From Taurus Supermarket (in the village) follow the road north out of town for approximately four km keeping the bay on your right.

The first 2km after Taurus is a tarmac road. Then it becomes a grey brick paved road. Continue to follow the grey brick paved road. Pass Golden Sands then Terra Linda on your right – these are both residential complexes. Pass the new Sasol Namachunda staff village and 24-hour Netcare clinic on your left.

After the Netcare Clinic the road becomes a red sand road. 500m past the Netcare clinic you come to a wall with a mural of a camel on your left-hand side, pass by this entrance.

Avia Estate is in the next residential estate on your right-hand side. There are 3 coconut palms at the entrance and a reed covered gate. There will be a guard at the gate, enter the estate and proceed to SAUDADE (Casa 10).

GPS coordinates (-21.9435316,35.3174783)