



## **Benguerra Lodge**

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## **Dive Sites**

### **Two-Mile Reef**

This is a short barrier reef protecting a narrow channel between Bazaruto and Benguerra. There are excellent snorkeling sites on the inside of the reef (such as the Aquarium) and 3 exciting dives on the outside. These spots have alluring names such as The Arches, Shark Point, The Boulders, Cathedral and The Gap. All of these dives range between 6 and 18 metres. The flat-topped reef supports a colourful diversity of hard and soft corals, with numerous schools of reef fish, such as coachman, fusilier, snapper and surgeon. Schools of large pelagic and reef fish also frequent the area and there is a chance of encountering huge potato bass; kingfish; barracuda; devil, manta and honeycomb rays and grey reef sharks, Zambezi, tiger and whale sharks.

### **Five-Mile Reef**

This reef has a rock shelf that slopes gently down to 18m – the maximum depth of the dive. There isn't a lot of coral here, but there are lots of shoaling fish and it is possible to snorkel on the inside of the reef.

### **Deep Reef**

This is an adventurous dive of 30 metres to a flat coral reef in the gap between Bazaruto and Benguerra. It is a gathering point for large gamefish such as ignobilis kingfish. However, the area can be dangerous during strong currents.

### **Fossil Reef**

Sheltered by Benguerra Island, this unusual dive is named after an accumulation of fossilised trees rising from the sea floor at 13 metres. It is also a good site to photograph moray eels and lionfish.

### **Pinnacle Reef**

This ridge of rocks at 14 metres on the inside of Bazaruto and Benguerra is a popular gathering point for gamefish and usually provides an exciting dive.

### **Pompano Reef**

Situated off the southern extremity of Benguerra, this is one of the few places where divers can encounter large concentrations of pompano (ovoid-shaped fish that resemble a kingfish). Numerous anemones and lionfish offer good photographic opportunities.

### **Shark Reef**

Just north of Two-Mile Reef, this 20-metre-deep reef is almost devoid of life but is an ideal place to see large reef fish such as brindle bass as well as various species of shark.

### **South Point Reef**

This is a shallow, rocky reef on the southern tip of Bazaruto which is usually a snorkelling site and also ideal for resort courses. The rocky recesses are famous for harbouring moray eels.

### **The Wreck**

This is a 25 metre steel fishing boat that went down about 40 years ago and now lies on a sandy bottom at 8 metres. It can be dived only during calm conditions and schools of kingfish and queenfish often shoal.

### **From Cabo San Sabastian:**

Situated on the southernmost extremity of the archipelago and attached to the Mozambican mainland, this is another rarely visited, long-distance site which offers conditions for experienced divers. The reefs are much deeper than the regular Archipelago sites (down to 30 metres) and have spectacular coral growth. Schools of game fish, brindle bass, manta rays and sharks are regularly seen here. There is also a strong possibility of seeing whale sharks during the lengthy boat ride.

### **From Magaruque:**

#### **Deep Hole**

On the eastern, exposed side of Magaruque, this is a 26 metre-deep depression with a sandstone base where schools of parrotfish, surgeon, stumpnose and barracuda are known to congregate. It can be dived only in calm conditions.