

# ***DINING AT HEMINGWAYS***

## ***BREAKFAST 5.30 am – 10.00 am (last orders 0945)***

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*Breakfast is served in the main dining room. On our extensive buffet we have a range of cereals and fruits as well as traditional cooked breakfast items including varying Chef specials.*

## ***LUNCH (12 noon - 3.00 pm)***

*Lunch is available from a variety of menus by the pool, in the bar or in the restaurant.*

## ***AFTERNOON TEA (4.00 pm – 5.00 pm)***

*Free of charge to residents. Served at the main restaurant, including sandwiches and cakes and a different “Tea dish” daily.*

## ***‘KIDDIES’ SUPPER (6.00 pm – 7.00 pm)***

*The ‘kiddies’ menu is available in the restaurant. However, when we have a large number of children in the hotel, we serve a buffet. We encourage all children up to 12 years old to eat at this time.*

*In consideration of other diners, parents are requested not to bring very young children into the restaurant during dinner. Babysitting services or Room Service are available at a small charge.*

## ***DINNER (7.30 pm until last orders at 9.45 pm)***

*A table d’hôte dinner menu will be offered daily, featuring the best local produce and the pick of the catch from the Hemingways boats. A la Carte seafood specialties and grills are also available.*

*During High Season we offer a large buffet Spread on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday evenings which prove very popular. At other times of year this is subject to the number of guests in house.*

## ***WHERE WE DINE***

*During the 'Kaskazi' (northeast breeze), which blows late November to Easter, dinner is served on the terrace by candlelight. However, during the 'Kusi' (the cooler and stronger southeasterly wind) which blows between April and November, all dinners are served in the main restaurant.*

## ***SPECIAL REQUESTS***

*If you have any requests for a special occasion (such as birthdays or anniversaries) we would be more than happy to assist and produce a cake or whatever else is required. Please contact the head waiter or duty manager at least 24 hours before. We are more than happy to cater for 'Healthy Appetites'. Please let the headwaiter know if you would like extra portions.*

# ***THE FISHING CENTRE***

## ***ACTIVITIES, EXCURSIONS AND SAFARIS***

*The following schedule indicates the activities, excursions and safaris that can be booked or arranged through the Fishing Centre.*

1. *Fishing*
2. *Dhow trips round Mida Creek – Barbecues and Sundowners*
3. *Goggling and Trips to the coral gardens*
4. *Diving*
5. *Shopping trips to Malindi and Gede Ruins*
6. *Day trips to Lamu*
7. *Safaris of all kinds throughout Kenya*
8. *Car hire*
9. *Gym*
10. *Massage*
11. *Casino*

*In the following pages, we have outlined a number of the above activities and how you can go about organising them.*

***Please note that because any water based excursions are considered ‘adventure activities’, we will need to request you to sign our Indemnity Form prior to booking any of our boat trips.***

## ***1. FISHING***

### ***INTRODUCTION***

*Game fishing is fun and not just for seasoned anglers. With a bit of practice, anyone can catch fish and enjoy this magnificent sport. Kenya offers some of the finest deep sea fishing in the world with a huge variety of different species close to shore. A day spent fishing is an adventure in itself. We love it and would like to show it to you.*

## **BOATS**

*All HEMINGWAYS deep sea going boats are twin engined fishing craft and in touch with each other and the shore base by radio link. Each boat carries lifesaving and fire fighting equipment on board and all the big boats are equipped with a head (toilet).*

## **FISHING SEASON AND FISHING TO EXPECT**

*We fish from July through to sometime in May. The Southeast wind (kusi) blows from mid March to sometime in November and is cooler than the Northeast (kaskazi) which blows the rest of the time. The seas are warmer and generally calmer during the kaskazi months.*

*Most fish are passing through and not resident in the area and although we have a rough idea of when/what fish will be around, they don't read the record charts and pop up at times of the year when they should not be here and vice versa.*

*The main Billfish (Sailfish and Marlin) season runs from late November to mid March but Sailfish often come inshore in numbers in August and thereafter we are never really sure!*

*Sailfish (known locally as 'suli suli') are by far the most numerous of Billfish we have here. Finicky and sometimes skittish or playful, they can make a fool of the best anglers at times and are very dramatic when not overpowered by excessively heavy tackle. Pelagic, Sails will jump and slither across the surface of the water in a never to be forgotten display. Relatively easy to bring in when hooked (that's the tricky part) the Sailfish is a milestone of any anglers early fishing experience.*

*Then there is the Royal family, the Marlin. We have three types here – Striped, Blue and Black.*

*Striped Marlin tends to run offshore in cleaner waters and can travel in packs. Smaller and slimmer than the other two, this fish will still give a good account of itself.*

*A jumping Blue Marlin is the ultimate thrill as the power and fury of this fish under full throttle is simply awesome. Complete changes of direction by these fish will convince fishermen there are two on at once and frantic re-routing of the boat is the order of the day as the line is usually getting desperately low within seconds of hooking up. A big Blue Marlin is a*

*privilege to see and they are found usually in the deep-sea water following the Yellowfin or Tuna shoals.*

*Black Marlin come much closer to shore and are often encountered in very shallow water. The buffalo of this species, this guy is tough. If you haven't done your homework well, he'll find you out and be gone. Often fighting deep, they are worthy adversaries.*

*We support wholeheartedly the practice of 'Tag-and-Release' of Billfish and award certificates to anglers who have done so.*

### **CREWS**

*All our crews are well versed at taking out total newcomers to the sport and will enjoy showing you how it all works. Please let the Skipper know what you are interested in catching or fishing for.*

*Not everyone is enamoured with the prospect of slugging it out with something huge but just might like to have a family day out fishing for smaller Game fish.*

*It is also important that you let the crew know how much fishing experience you have and how much you want to be involved in the initial baiting/striking of fish. This is a skill that has to be learned and it might be wise to watch the crew perform a couple of times before you have a bash yourself (if you have never done it before). No one on board will mind at all what you decide as long as it is clear. Everything happens so fast, there is no time for casual conversation when big fish are crashing around in the baits!*

*The crew will happily prepare and put on ice any fish you have caught and would like to eat back at the Hotel after fishing. Tipping the crew (if you have had a good catch or received good service) is by no means compulsory but accepted with thanks.*

### **BOOKINGS**

*Boats are chartered by booking in the FISHING CENTRE at the hotel and can be booked for full 10-hour day or a 5-hour half-day (except in the hot Billfish season when all boats will be out for big stuff all day).*

*Boats must be booked in entirety but, should you want to share with others, we would do whatever we could to find someone to split the cost but could not guarantee it.*

*Fish caught belong to the boat except in the case of releases and any fish required by the clients for consumption that day. Absolutely nothing is wasted of the fish that are weighed-in as everything is eaten.*

*Anyone concerned by the possibility of seasickness, we have some very good pills. Let us know if you require them and we will get them to you.*

*We look forward to having you fish with us!*

## **2. HEMINGWAYS DHOW**

*Why not take a leisurely cruise aboard the Hemingway's Dhow on the tranquil waters of Mida Creek, a large tidal estuary 6km south of the hotel, that is believed was once the river mouth of the Sabaki which now flows into the sea north of Malindi.*

*Mida Creek, as a part of the Kenya Marine Reserve, is the perfect sanctuary for a vast array of exotic birdlife which people travel from all over the world to see. There are approximately 10km of unspoilt, mangrove lined waters where the only human inhabitants are a handful of local fishermen casting their nets in the traditional manner, thus creating the perfect atmosphere in which to watch the African sun settle slowly and bring yet another day in paradise to a close.*

### **SUNDOWNER CRUISE**

*This sets off from the jetty in Mida at 4.30 pm and returns around 7.30 pm. As the Dhow cruises, under sail, along the calm waters of Mida Creek, the cook and crew will be serving an assortment of bitings and drinks. Make sure you look out for our local specialty the 'DAWA' (Swahili for medicine). It is advisable not to arrange too large a meal after this trip as most people find the bitings on offer a meal in themselves.*

## **BEACH BBQ**

*Also taking place in Mida Creek, this is a daytime trip and clients leave from the hotel at around 10.30 am and are transported to a deserted island on the south shore. There, they are treated to a sumptuous BBQ including seafood, steak and assorted salads.*

*FOR PRICES AND FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE ENQUIRE AT THE FISHING CENTRE.*

### **3. GOGGLING AND THE MARINE PARK**

*We are fortunate to be situated on the edge of one of Kenya's finest National Marine Parks. This does, however, mean that a fee is payable to the Kenya Wildlife Service by clients wishing to snorkel in the Park.*

*Being a Marine Park means that no aquatic creatures (dead or alive) may be removed from the Park. The Kenya Wildlife Service strictly enforces this rule, and anyone who buys shells to take home as souvenirs, should ensure they have not contravened the law.*

*At Hemingways, we offer a free boat trip daily to the coral gardens on our glass bottomed boat called TUKU. The only cost is the Marine Park entrance fee. The time of this trip vary in order to visit the coral gardens on the best tides with the best snorkeling conditions.*

*Please help us to protect the Watamu National Marine Park and Reserve.*

### **4. DIVING**

*Steve Curtis operates from Ocean Sports next door to Hemingways and his diving is well equipped and fun. Very easy going and thorough, Steve is proving to be very popular with our guests. We can set up a meeting with him or his divers here at a time convenient to you or you can phone him on Watamu 32420.*

*Courses for all grades of divers from the absolute beginner are available, so for details of prices etc. please enquire at the Fishing Centre.*

### **5. SHOPPING TRIPS TO MALINDI / GEDE RUINS**

*We have a free shopping shuttle, which runs to Malindi in the hotel bus. We advise clients to book this in advance. The time of departure and return of these trips are as follows:-*

*Departure : 9.30 am  
Return : 2.00 pm  
No service on Sundays*

*Free trips to GEDE RUINS (except Sundays) at 3.00 pm returning to the hotel at 5.00 pm. A city mysteriously abandoned in the 14<sup>th</sup> Century, it is well worth the visit. We advise clients to book this in advance.*

*Please book in the Fishing Centre.*

## **6. DAY TRIPS TO LAMU**

*There are daily flights to the ancient Arab town of Lamu which depart at 9.00 am and returns at 4.00 pm. These are bookable through the Fishing Centre.*

## **7. SAFARIS**

*It is possible to organise a whole range of safaris through our Fishing Centre. These include everything from day trips to flying and tented safaris in the Mara, Amboseli, Tsavo and Tanzania.*

## **8. CAR HIRE**

*We have access to major car hire service companies operating in the area and can arrange your requirements quickly. Simply enquire at the Fishing Centre.*

## **9. GYM**

*Open from 7.00 am to 12.00 noon and 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm every day except Mondays. Please note that the hotel takes no responsibility for injury or accidents. Guests using the gym must wear suitable footwear and clothing.*

## **10. MASSAGE and HAIRDRESSING**

*Available from 10am to 6pm, Monday to Saturday. Sunday by appointment only. Please book at the Fishing Centre.*

## **11. CASINO**

*The Casino will send a vehicle from Malindi to collect and return anyone wanting to play the tables. It is about half an hour away from the Hotel.*

# ***ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES***

## **1. SNAKE FARM**

*Trips to Mr. Ashe's snake farm can be incorporated into the Gede Ruins trip.*

## **2. GOLF**

*Available at Malindi Golf and Country Club. Green fees are payable at the going rate.*

## **3. HORSE RIDING**

*The Fishing Centre will be happy to arrange horseriding in Malindi.*

# **GENERAL USEFUL INFORMATION**

## **RECONFIRMATION OF AIR TICKETS AND TRANSFERS**

*If you have local/international air tickets, which require reconfirmation, we will do this for you if you leave them with the Receptionist with your name and room number clearly marked on the cover. Regrettably, we will have to charge you for trunk telephone calls associated with ticket confirmation and this will be posted to your bill.*

*Should you require transfers to Malindi airport (which are provided free of charge by the hotel) please ensure your name is on the list the night before departure day. The list is kept at Reception.*

## **SECURITY**

*In your room, there is a safe, which can be set to a combination of your choice by following the instructions provided next to the safe. Should you require any assistance, contact Reception who will send a member of the Management to assist you.*

*Generally, we advise clients not to leave items unattended on their balconies particularly during the night. Please deposit your key at Reception whenever you leave the premises. Do not leave anything on the beach unattended.*

## **GRATUITIES AND SERVICE CHARGE**

*We leave this very much to the individual client to decide whether they feel the service is of an adequate or high enough standard to deserve some additional reward. We do have a gratuity box located at Reception next to the cashiers desk. Monies deposited in this box are divided evenly amongst all staff.*

*If clients wish to tip with every order or bill, this can also be done by adding the amount manually and countersigning the revised total.*

## **NEWSPAPERS**

*Local newspapers are provided free of charge to residents. Please place your order at Reception before 9.00 am.*

## **CHECKING OUT**

*Clients are asked to vacate their rooms by 10.00 am on the day of departure. Day rooms can be provided at 50% of the normal rates and we have a ladies and gents shower/locker/storage facility by the top swimming pool and these are provided free of charge.*

## **OTHER HOTEL FACILITIES**

### **THE BOUTIQUE**

*The Boutique caters for most of your day to day holiday requirements. In addition, its stock of casual clothing makes the most of local Kenyan brightly coloured pure cottons, which are handmade in fashionable styles.*

### **THE TV / VIDEO ROOM**

*We have a Video Room located opposite the bar, which is linked up to M-Net plus BBC World Service. Please do not adjust the television or attempt to operate it without first consulting the Receptionist on duty. There is a limited range of videos available upon request from the reception.*

### **THE SWIMMING POOLS**

*The pools are open from 7.00 am to dusk. The upper pool is a 'play pool' and is intended for use by children and permitted non-residents. The lower 'quiet' pool and pool bar is exclusively for the use of residents.*

### **E-MAIL, TELEPHONE AND FAX**

*All these services are available upon request both locally and internationally. Transmissions abroad as well as normal lines can sometimes be less than perfect, so please bear with us if things are going slower than you are used to in your country. We have an internet café available for our guests free of charge. Some rooms also have a wireless connection for your laptop use. Please ask at reception for assistance.*

### **FIRST AID**

*If you are in need of treatment please contact Reception. We have a doctor on call and he also visits the hotel twice daily, Monday to Friday.*

## ***DRESS CODE***

- *Please note that topless or nude bathing is illegal in Kenya.*
- *Please wear a top or kanga if wearing a dry swimming costume in the bar, and particularly, in the restaurant.*
- *Please do not sit indoors in wet costumes.*

***From 7pm in the Bar and Restaurant please note the following:***

- *It is sincerely requested that tailored shirts and long trousers be worn by gentlemen and boys over 12 years of age. (i.e. no shorts, sleeveless shirts, Jeans, T-shirts or kikois please).*
- *No swimming costumes are to be worn.*
- *Hats should not be worn in the restaurant and if worn in the bar after dark will render the wearer liable for a round of drinks for the whole bar!*

*We thank you for your co-operation.*