



Sustainability Guidelines: Mozambique

You are about to embark on a wonderful trip to Mozambique, known for its stunning natural beauty and wildlife. Your trip will show you all that Mozambique has to offer, leaving you with a great appreciation of this country.

Environmental Issues:

Mozambique's natural beauty is, however, threatened by environmental challenges. The main environmental struggles that Mozambique faces are the following:

- Movement of populations from rural to urban communities leading to development of many coastal areas
- Desertification due to drought and land clearing practices
- Elephant poaching for ivory.

Environmental Initiatives:

While it seems as though the environmental issues might be overwhelming this country, Mozambique is committed to conserving its pristine beaches and colorful coral reefs as well as building an eco-tourism industry.

In 2005, Mozambique launched a "*Small Grants Programme*" with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This provides grants of up to US\$50,000 and other support to community-based groups and non-governmental organizations for activities that address land degradation, biodiversity, and climate-change issues at the local level.

In the early to mid-2000's an American internet executive committed more than \$30 million to rebuilding *Gorongosa National Park* in central Mozambique as an ecotourism destination. Greg Carr, former chairman of Prodigy Internet and Boston Technology, planned to reintroduce animals from elsewhere in Africa.

As a traveler to this exotic location, you will have the opportunity to experience incredible biodiversity, specifically in the reefs. Be sure to respect all the species that you see and leave the reef exactly how it was when you entered it. Do not take home shells or other items from the reefs and beaches. While visiting national parks, be sure to throw away your trash, respect the species and their habitats, and stay on the marked trail. As a traveler with Elevate Destinations you are fortunate enough to stay in state of the art lodges that are committed to the natural environment of Mozambique, so take the time to educate yourself on the lodges' initiatives.



Guide to Eco-Lodges in Mozambique

Guludo Beach Lodge has established the Nema Foundation working in the areas around the lodge to achieve their charitable goals. Nema currently works with 12 communities around Guludo and some of the current activities are: feeding 550 children one nutritious school meal every day, providing clean water for over 12,000 people, providing over 4,400 mosquito nets to mothers, and funding 79 secondary school scholars. In addition to tackling issues of health, poverty, and education, Nema also works on conservation projects. The Humpback Whale Research project was developed to help the international conservation of this species, funded by the guests of Guludo who want to continue to be able to go and see these creatures. The Seafood Buyers' Guide promotes responsible purchasing of seafood within the hospitality industry of the region. Another project is working with two primary schools to help them develop school gardens and to work with families to help them develop kitchen gardens.