



UMATU
PRINCIPE ISLAND

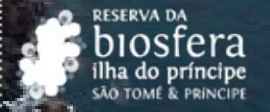
UMATU PRINCIPE ISLAND



UNESCO WORLD BIOSPHERE RESERVE

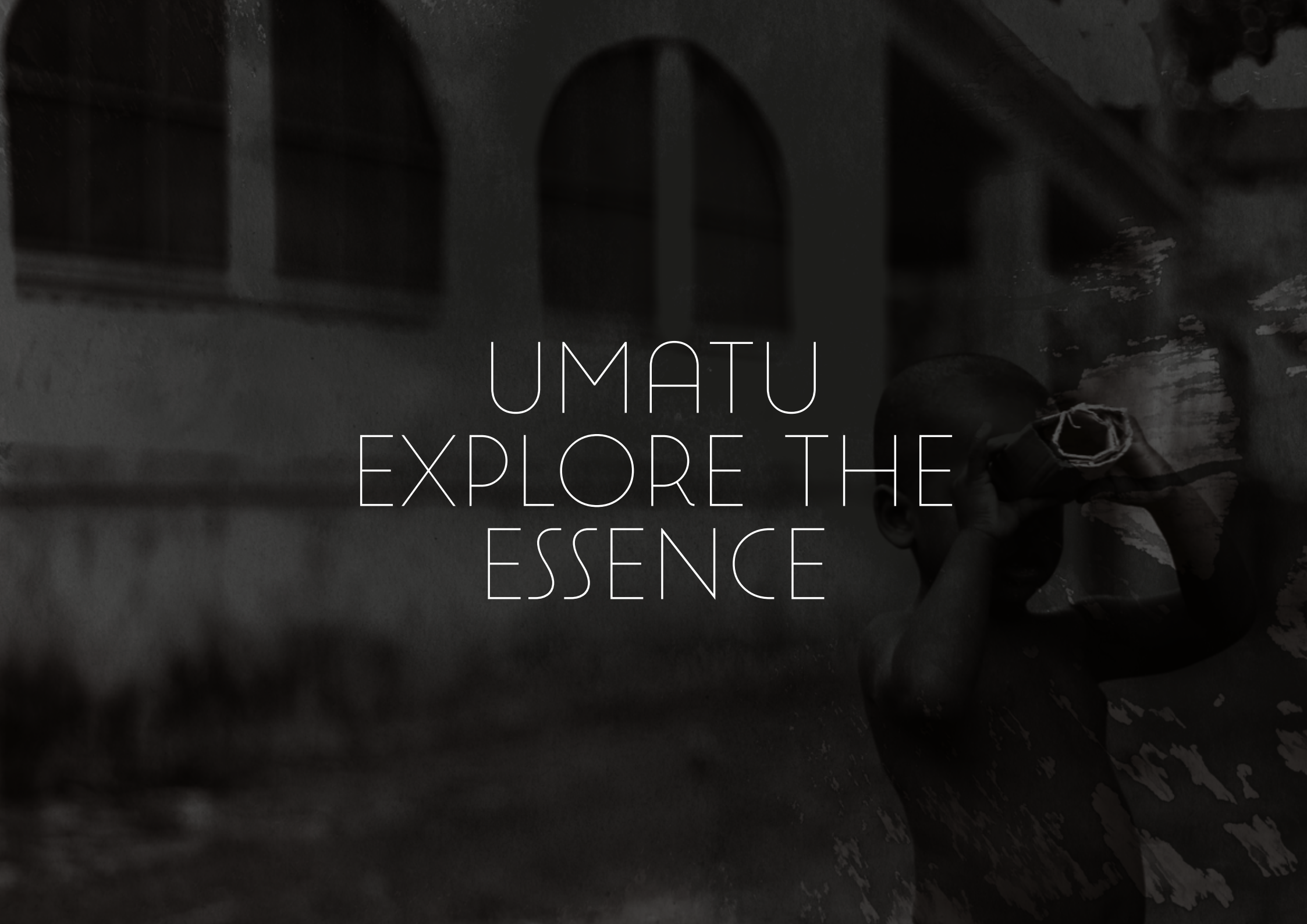
Príncipe Island is part of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, a global programme that fosters the conservation of biological and cultural diversity, promoting economic and social development based on partnerships between people and nature, whilst encouraging green development options such as sustainable tourism and training for eco-jobs.

PLAY VIDEO



UMATU

is a Lung'ie (creole language specific to Príncipe) word which means the forest / bush.



UMATU
EXPLORE THE
ESSENCE

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Umatu Príncipe contributes to the sustainable and responsible development of Príncipe Island and the conservation of its unique biodiversity, working in six areas:

**MARINE
CONSERVATION**

**TERRESTRIAL
CONSERVATION**

**KNOWLEDGE
SHARING**

**ORGANIC
AGRI-FORESTRY**

**COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

**SUSTAINABLE
TOURISM**



Umatu Príncipe is committed to furthering the preservation of the Island's fragile ecosystem and protecting its unique biodiversity. As an authentic destination, still unknown to most of the world, the Island of Príncipe is a global reference in sustainable development and responsible tourism.



MARINE CONSERVATION

We preserve biodiversity and engage local communities in this common goal by developing livelihood projects that encourage a sustainable use of natural resources. As part of the Marine Conservation program, a team of local guides has been trained and accredited. As a result, 1728 turtle nests were identified and protected in 2015-2016 compared to 352 the previous season. Proceeds of all visits to see turtles revert to funding local nature conservation programs.



TERRESTRIAL CONSERVATION

Initially we focused on rehabilitating the forest, removing invasive trees whilst nurturing the plant diversity. Through the Príncipe Foundation Trust our non-profit arm, we have secured partnerships with world renowned entities such as Flora and Fauna International and The Smithsonian Institute. These institutions are cataloguing the flora and fauna of the Island and its surroundings and seeking to understand the habitats of species to ensure that they and their environment are protected.



KNOWLEDGE SHARING

Knowledge Sharing Program – Umatu hired a team of teachers who worked with the locals in teaching English, Portuguese as well as mathematics, organizing seminars, workshops and other activities linked to sustainability (such as the planting of organic gardens at the schools). The team also taught life skills and health, sharply reducing the incidence of underage pregnancies and fostering the aspirations and motivation of young people through clubs and activities. After several years leading this initiative Umatu is now confident the local community can now carry on these efforts independently.



ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

Umatu's team is training locals to cultivate organic plantations in the forest. Our cocoa trees are protected by the forests' shade and grow in synchrony with the ecosystem; pods are harvested by hand to preserve quality. Vegetables are grown using the principles of permaculture and are used in the resorts guaranteeing freshness and nutritional benefits, ensuring employment for locals as well as reducing the carbon footprint. Traditional methods of production such as the drying of fruits in the sun prevent rotting and maximizing return on investment for the local communities.



Through the Biosphere Reserve (a joint venture between Umatu and the Government of São Tomé and Príncipe), we champion the recycling and re-purposing of waste materials, reducing the use of plastic, producing valuable compost from organic matter, and making clean drinking water more available to the population. 14 purified water fountains have been installed throughout the Island and **almost half a million plastic bottles have been collected and recycled**, incentivised by a program which exchanges plastic for stainless steel **Biosphere Bottles**.



UMATU PRÍNCIPE – VISION

To enable the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve of Príncipe and its populace to thrive through sustainable development, providing an inspiration and example for comparable environments around the world.



UMATU PRÍNCIPE – MISSION

To preserve and enhance the ecosystem of Príncipe and the surrounding waters and islets, by contributing to the sustainable development of its tourism, heritage, agri-forestry, fisheries and infrastructure.



UMATU PRÍNCIPE – VALUES

SUSTAINABILITY

EFFICIENCY

ADAPTABILITY

CREATIVITY

COLLABORATION

COMMITMENT

AUTHENTICITY

RESILIENCE

A photograph of two hikers walking away from the camera on a narrow dirt path through a dense, lush tropical forest. The hiker on the left is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt, shorts, and a wide-brimmed hat, with a black backpack. The hiker on the right is wearing a light-colored t-shirt, a green skirt, a wide-brimmed hat, and a black backpack. The forest is filled with various green plants, including large-leafed tropical species and ferns. The lighting is natural, suggesting daytime.

UMATU PRÍNCIPE TOURISM – TARGET AUDIENCE

We cater for experienced travellers who explore the world, conscious of their role in conservation and sustainable development. They are adventurous, educated, conscientious individuals who know that their choices do make a difference and want to contribute.

UMATU PRÍNCIPE TOURISM – PRODUCTS

Having been developed under the strict guidelines of sustainability, Umatu's tourism products are catalysts for people to embark on excursions and expeditions to explore this wild and beautiful place. Umatu offers 4 small, unique yet very different locations from which each visitor can enjoy both Islands. These are Omali São Tomé, Bom Bom Príncipe, Sundy Praia Príncipe, Roça Sundy Príncipe. All follow the principles of Responsible Tourism are fully integrated into nature and its surroundings and strives to have a minimum impact.

- Materials used in construction were chosen with a view to reducing environmental impact.
- Experiences proposed to guests maximize community engagement and promote authentic products and interactions.
- Operational procedures are based on practices of Responsible / Sustainable Tourism.



UMATU PRÍNCIPE TOURISM

Unique culinary journeys


Our cuisine relies upon sustainably sourced, organic produce, grown and gathered on the Island. Some of which is unique to Príncipe and found only in local dishes and gathered deep in the Island's rainforests.

Personalized, friendly and authentic service

Over 90% of our staff are locals, guaranteeing a friendly and authentic service to our guests while contributing to the local economy.

Distinctive experiences

Príncipe has a profound impact on the senses, it is an extraordinary place, and a remarkable experience.

A dark, monochromatic photograph of a woman carrying a large basket of produce on her head. The woman is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is dark and textured, possibly a wall or a natural setting. The text "TOURISM PRODUCTS" is overlaid in white, centered on the image.

TOURISM
PRODUCTS

SUNDY ESTATE

The Sundy Estate is nestled on the northwest coast of Príncipe Island and was once the largest Cacao plantation on the Island. The location is extraordinary, extending from a dense rainforest to beautiful beach front, the property includes two of Umatu's most recent projects.

SUNDY PRAIA | ROÇA SUNDY

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explore the essence



SUNDY

PRAIA · PRÍNCIPE ISLAND

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SUNDY

PRAIA · PRÍNCIPE ISLAND

DENSE FOREST MEETS BEACH FRONT

Sundy Praia nestles on the northwest coast of Príncipe Island, belonging to the Sundy Estate, the property is located on the beach at the edge of the tropical rain forest. Surrounded by majestic trees and the Atlantic Ocean, Sundy Praia is comprised of 15 tented villas, which merge seamlessly into the beautiful landscape. A breath taking natural environment creates the backdrop for the singular architecture and decor, achieving the perfect balance between design, comfort and respect for nature.



ROÇA

SUNDY · PRÍNCIPE ISLAND

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ROÇA

SUNDY · PRÍNCIPE ISLAND

HISTORY REBORN

Roça Sundy is located at the top of the Sundy Estate. The views are panoramic and history abounds. It was from this estate that most of the Island's Cacao was exported. It was also here that Sir Arthur Stanley Eddington proved Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity. The 6-room plantation house is complemented by a 6 room Guest House and has been meticulously renovated by the locals, trained by Umatu staff and artisans, using only traditional Portuguese crafts and techniques. The house includes a rehabilitated, original wood-burning bakery where delicious bread is cooked daily. At Roça Sundy, you will travel back in time in this setting collocated with the Roça's population.



BOM BOM

PRÍNCIPE ISLAND

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explore the essence



BOM BOM

PRÍNCIPE ISLAND

Set between two beaches of golden coral sand bounded by emerald green water, lie 19 bungalows surrounded by the Island's lush, tropical rainforest. Here the real luxury is the genuine warmth of those welcoming you, the 'leve-leve' spirit, where luminous but simple rooms await. These are complemented by the exotic scents of the area's flowers and a morning symphony orchestrated by Mother Nature to awaken you.



OMALI

SÃO TOMÉ

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OMALI

SÃO TOMÉ

OMALI MEANS "OCEAN" AND "SOURCE OF LIFE"

This is the perfect place from which to explore the natural and cultural marvels of the equatorial island of São Tomé. This elegant boutique hotel offers 30 comfortable rooms and suites for honeymoons, families and business trips and is the perfect pit stop before your escape to Príncipe Island.

UMATU
PRÍNCIPE ISLAND

explore the essence

WHAT WE ARE

WHAT
MAKES US
UNIQUE?



WHAT WE ARE

WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE?

- We define 'slow living' – We are... 'Leve-Leve'.
- Located on an African island with a unique way of being in the world.
- Located in a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.
- Respectful of nature and of the local culture.
- Offer guests unique culinary experiences using organic produce from the forest to transform meals into culinary journeys.
- Integrated in nature in an un-trammelled and unspoilt destination.

A group of children are sitting on a log on a beach, looking out at the ocean. The children are of African descent and are dressed in casual, colorful clothing. The background shows a rocky beach and lush greenery.

WHAT WE ARE

WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE?

- A benign Africa – located in a safe destination.
- Respectful of the local community (we work mainly with local people and support the economy under the principles of Fair Trade).
- Friendly and genuine.
- Responsible in actions with regards to the environment, always keeping in mind the safety and comfort of our guests.

WHAT WE ARE

WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE?

- A facilitator of unique experiences – “Maximising experience, minimising impact’.
 - Accompany the local guides on their mission to nurture and protect Príncipe’s turtle population (nesting or hatching season).
 - Hike through the forests of Príncipe’s UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.
 - Get to know more about the Island’s history.
 - Visit the local communities, and meet the people and sample their lifestyle.
 - Enjoy a relaxing massage under the canopy with organic essential oils produced locally.

UMATU

Príncipe Island



OMALI

SÃO TOMÉ



BOM BOM

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ROÇA

SUNDY·PRÍNCIPE ISLAND



SUNDY

PRAIA·PRÍNCIPE ISLAND

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