

by Andrew Ngozo

CREATING MEMORABLE FAMILY Moments

When an executive takes that much-deserved rest to be with the family on holiday, there is nothing more gratifying than knowing that there is an ideal place just on the shores of the Indian Ocean. White Pearl Resorts, Ponta Mamoli, not only offers the executive five-star treatment and a personalised experience on a retreat, but has also created an environment where families can reconnect. With the whale season upon us, there is no better place to experience this annual phenomenon than at this spectacular resort in Southern Mozambique.

White Pearl Resorts, Ponta Mamoli, recognises that the family is a priority, even for the busiest executive who may spend more than 12 hours a day in the office, leaving little or no time to really connect with the family. Jeremy Clayton, General Manager of White Pearl Resorts, says they encourage guests and families to enjoy raw nature and the surroundings in order to re-energise. "Through simple activities, and with an abundance of time, families are afforded the opportunity to once again get to know each other – long meals, body boarding and snorkelling as well as ocean safaris are a must," he reveals. Clayton adds that all the activities are managed through the Activities Centre, which has a dedicated team that focuses on activities for both adults and children.

A Happy Child Makes for a Happy Parent

According to Clayton, the family market is a vital one. In the fast-paced and changing world of today, parents want to

spend quality 'getaway time' with their spouses and children. However, in reconnecting with the family, there is a need for the executive guest to have that essential 'me time', he indicates. In this respect, White Pearl Resorts is the total package as a result of the Pirates of Ponta Programme which was designed with the young at heart in mind. He elaborates as follows on Pirates of Ponta: "The programme facilitates all of this through ensuring that, while parents have a spa treatment or sip on a glass of wine while reading a book, children, as part of Pirates of Ponta, can participate in any of the following activities: snorkelling, body boarding, surfing lessons, volley ball, turtle walks, whale watching, kiddies baking or beach football. Needless to say, diving is a hit that is often the most memorable experience which any family can embrace together." Some of these activities, such as turtle walks and whale watching, are seasonal, he points out.

White Pearl Resorts embraces the philosophy that a happy child makes for a happy parent. In living this philosophy daily and to the letter, they go beyond the conventional modus operandi of creating children's facilities at Ponta Mamoli. Clayton explains: "Essentially, we provide facilities that permit children of all ages to get back to their roots. The digital age is forgotten for a few days, with sun, sand and sea being the primary focus and truly allowing engagement time. The goal is to ensure that parents are comfortable and confident in the team's ability to entertain their children." This also allows parents some 'down time', whether it be in the form of long lazy walks, reading books or relaxing spa treatments during the



day or being afforded an opportunity at night to enjoy a romantic dinner under the stars while the resort provides child minders for the children "The options are endless!"

Personalising Each Experience

"Our aim is to build a brand that is recognised as being the most luxurious beach-chic resort in Southern Africa. We achieve this by knowing our guests and their requirements, and by building trust and confidence through consistent delivery of quality service. White Pearl Resorts doesn't just get to know guest preferences. Rather, it engages them regarding how we can personalise their stay." As an example, he cites the fact that every person with a dietary requirement has a daily personal menu with their name on it. "To me," he says, "that builds trust and creates an exceptional experience."

White Pearl Resorts, Ponta Mamoli, is described as 'the pearl of the Indian Ocean'. With the whale season quickly approaching, a holiday can hardly be called that if it is not a White Pearl experience. "Apart from offering the best sightings along any coastline in Africa, our ocean safaris bring you in touch with the whales. Once out there, it is an experience that is second to none," he shares. On a more personal note, Clayton was pleasantly surprised to experience more real and relevant whale sightings during last year's whale season at White Pearl than he ever experienced while living in the Cape for many years! There are numerous suites set high up on the dunes with incredible panoramic views and scarcely

a few minutes go by without one seeing some kind of activity, including breaching, fin-and-tail slapping, as well as calf interaction. "In this respect, we are really looking forward to the 2014 whale season."

After unwinding all day long, either in the quiet of your suite or simply lounging about, getting in touch with the office could never be easier. White Pearl Resorts has Wi-Fi connectivity throughout the property (in rooms and public areas). In this way, observes Clayton, a guest can keep tabs on the office without being overly involved. "There are no limitations and connectivity speeds are achieved through satellite. There is also cellphone connectivity and, through roaming, the executive can, if she or he wants, be available all the time," he concludes. □

For more info visit www.whitepearlresorts.com, email: reservations@whitepearlresorts.com or call +27 11 026 2674.

The Pearl of the Indian Ocean

White Pearl Resorts, Ponta Mamoli, offers the ultimate in beach luxury in Africa. Experience elegant simplicity at the exclusive beach resort set among the dunes of the untouched shores of southern Mozambique. On a magnificent stretch of coastline, tucked behind Casuarina trees, experience a place so beautiful and so pure, a place quite unlike any other in all of Mozambique.