

# VAMIZI NEWS

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## A SKY LIKE NO OTHER...

There aren't many places in the world with a sky like Vamizi's; from the darkest sky, filled with millions of stars on a new moon night, to the brightest of full moon skies.

Vamizi is a unique place in many different ways, from coral reefs with one of the most biodiverse ecosystems of the Western Indian Ocean, to a community that greets you with the most welcoming smile. When you find yourself in Vamizi, make sure you look up, to see one other thing that makes this place unique: the sky. From walking down the beach late at night, no torch in hand with your shadow following behind you, to being surrounded by millions of shining dots as far as the eye can see, the Vamizi sky will be one more reason to make you fall in love with the island. This stunning photograph was taken by a recent guest who fell head over heels for this majestic night sky. ■





## FRESH FROM OUR GARDEN

One of the best and most efficient ways to reduce a company's environmental impact is to try to source as many products as locally as possible. And that's what we've been trying to do for a few years now in Vamizi. Ever wonder where the greens in your salad come from? Since 2007, the Friends of Vamizi Trust has been supporting a growers' association on the mainland in Olumbe, who grow different kinds of vegetables and bring them to the island by dhow on a weekly basis. We also have small kitchen gardens at the Lodge and each of the Private Villas, supplying delicate herbs and salads such as baby rocket, mizuna, radish, basil, mint, parsley and coz lettuce. ■

## MEET JOSIE

Josie has been working in Vamizi for four years now, as a host in Kipila, one of our private villas. This is Josie's first experience as a host in a tourism environment, but she used to be a host at her church back home. Josie loves socializing with guests and colleagues from different cultures, and is eager to learn new languages. Alongside her work on the island, Josie is also completing a 3 year course in hospitality to develop new skills. Some of Josie's favourite things about Vamizi include looking at the most beautiful beach she has ever seen, the animals that dwell on the island, the traditional dance from local women and playing with the children from the villages. When she's not working, Josie enjoys going for a swim, listening to gospel music, watching football on television, jogging and studying. If you're staying at Kipila, Josie will always greet you with a welcoming smile, immense kindness and a beautiful voice. ■



## COMMUNITY MATTERS



One of the most important things to focus on when it comes to conservation is to get children involved and excited about it. Teaching them about the wildlife around them and developing their passion for nature at a young age is the best way to ensure they will protect it as adults. That is why we created the Wildlife Club of Vamizi. Working with the children from school with the support of their mothers, we started engaging, teaching and involving them in our conservation projects. We have started by teaching them how to build toys out of recycled material, and they showed us how to make dolls from small pieces of fabric. We are also building a playground area at the cultural centre, and hope to continue educating them about the beautiful natural world that surrounds Vamizi. ■