

MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique has had a chequered history, with its extensive coastline opening it up to many influences. Arab traders arrived in the 7th century AD, and by the 13th century a string of trading posts occupied its coast. The 16th century saw these taken over by the Portuguese and by the late 1800s, they ruled most of present-day Mozambique. Then a liberation movement in the 1960s precipitated independence in 1974, but a violent civil war started shortly after. In 1994 a ceasefire led to democratic elections, and then peace. In the last decade Mozambique has made great strides, and is increasingly seen as a model of progress in Africa.

Historically, war and lack of infrastructure discouraged development and so much of Mozambique's coastline and islands have remained pristine, with fine sand that squeaks underfoot, remarkable mangrove forests, and tropical islands surrounded by turquoise waters and vibrant coral. The deep Mozambique Channel is home to harmless whale sharks, game-fish, whales, dolphins and the rare dugong (sea cows).

We've long featured the Bazaruto and Quirimbas Archipelagos and this year we're delighted to introduce more of Mozambique. The once-important Portuguese trading centres of Ilha do Moçambique and Ibo Island will attract historians. Their streets are grand, but dilapidated – standing beside forts which date back to the 16th and 18th centuries.

Inland, after a lot of conservation work, the lovely Gorongosa National Park once again offers good wildlife-viewing, either by vehicle or on foot. The combination of an offbeat safari, pristine beach and one of the historical islands is magical, and well off any beaten track!

MAPUTO

Maputo was founded in the late 18th century, and originally named after the Portuguese trader, Lourenço Marques, who first reached the area around 1544. Some 350 years later, a railroad linked it to the goldrush areas of South Africa – and by 1907 it was Mozambique's capital.

To facilitate a few of the more esoteric Mozambique itineraries, you may occasionally need to overnight in Maputo. You'll find a vibrant, colourful African city where the roads are lined with makeshift stalls, old colonial buildings and modern office blocks. It doesn't appear to be neat or well ordered, but as a slice of modern Africa, Maputo is fascinating.

Most of our visitors to Maputo stop for a night or two, and stay at the recently refurbished, five-star Polana Serena Hotel: one of Africa's classic old colonial hotels. Marble floors and wrought-iron lifts lead to comfortable, well-appointed rooms and there's a huge swimming pool, a spa, grand restaurants and a great sea view.

More information online

Our website www.expertafrica.com has more information on our lodges than this brochure. It includes unedited traveller reviews plus detailed reference maps and Google satellite maps – which help you to locate the different lodges precisely on the islands, while the bird's-eye view often gives a very good feel for the beaches, sand spits and reefs around.

VILANCULOS AND THE MAINLAND

The coastal town of Vilanculos isn't a destination in its own right for our travellers, but is served by daily flights from Johannesburg. Hence it is the gateway to the lodges in the nearby coastal wildlife sanctuary and the stunning Bazaruto Archipelago. These are reached by air or speedboat, depending on the lodge.

Vilanculos Coastal Wildlife Sanctuary

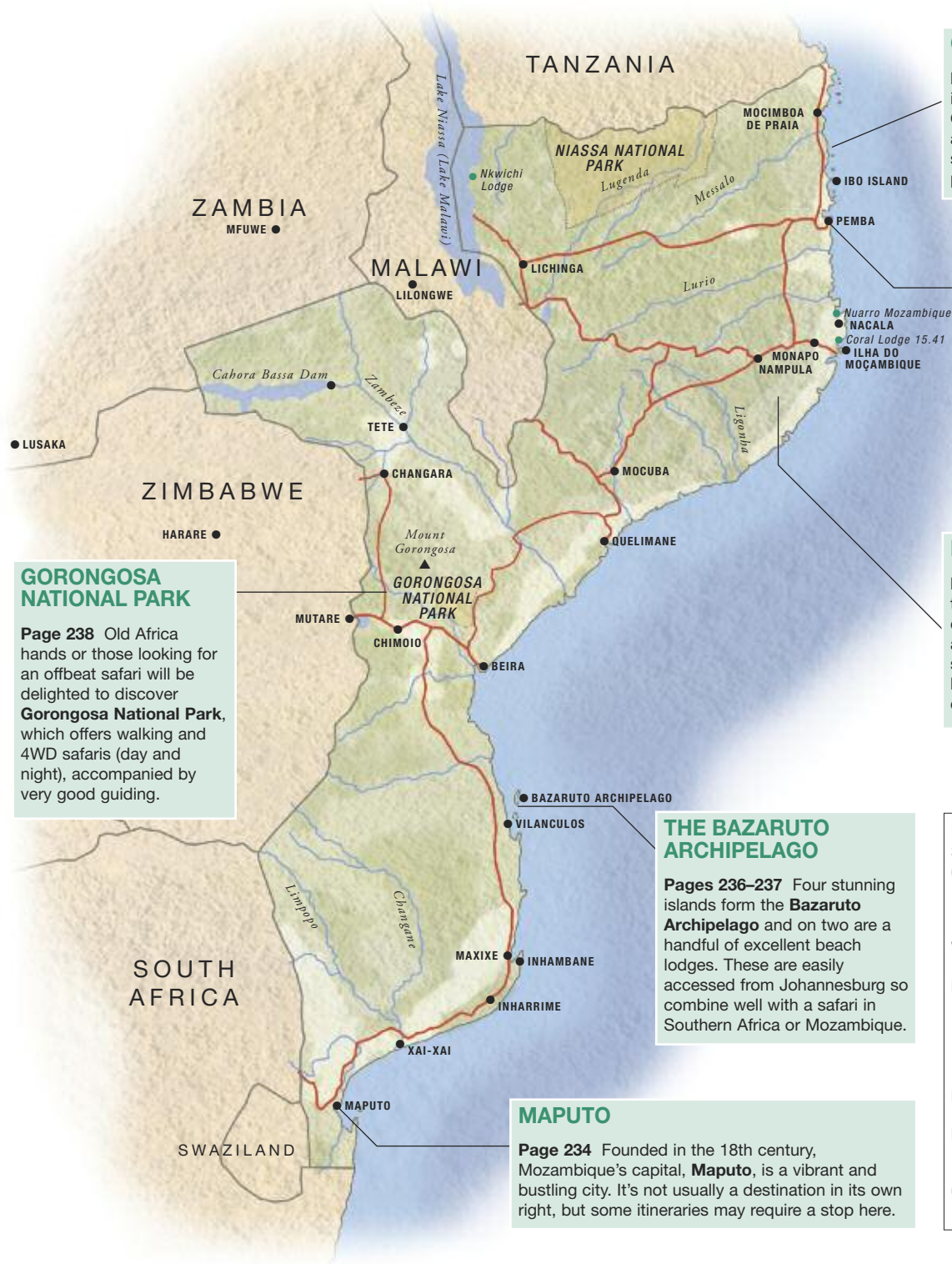
Just south of Vilanculos town on the mainland, but accessed by boat, about 250km² of the San Sebastian Peninsula is protected by the privately owned Vilanculos Coastal Wildlife Sanctuary. It has good birdlife and some game.

Within this is **Dugong Beach Lodge**, which has ten spacious, thatched chalets. Each has air conditioning and a fan, an indoor and an outdoor shower, a luxurious bath and a private deck with a 'sala' area. Dugong also has two large family villas, each made up of two chalets which share a plunge pool.

There is a swimming pool with a great view and the lodge offers a number of activities, including small sailing catamarans, kayaking, walking trails, island trips, deep-sea fishing, and dhow cruises; snorkelling and diving can also be arranged, albeit at a distance.



Traditional dhows are still used by fishermen in Mozambique – pictured here at low-tide



GORONGOSA NATIONAL PARK

Page 238 Old Africa hands or those looking for an offbeat safari will be delighted to discover **Gorongosa National Park**, which offers walking and 4WD safaris (day and night), accompanied by very good guiding.

QUIRIMBAS ARCHIPELAGO

Page 242 A string of small, pristine islands makes up the exceedingly remote **Quirimbas Archipelago**. Here you'll find a handful of exclusive beach lodges – several of which stand on their own private islands.

PEMBA & THE MAINLAND

Page 241 The coastal town of **Pemba** is the gateway to the Quirimbas Archipelago (page 242), and a convenient overnight stop, whilst on the nearby mainland are several good, small beach lodges.

NAMPULA PROVINCE

Page 239 This remote region can be time-consuming to reach, and so remains off any tourist trail. Its wild coastline has a couple of excellent beach lodges with strong community links, and the historic **Ilha do Moçambique** stands just offshore.

THE BAZARUTO ARCHIPELAGO

Pages 236–237 Four stunning islands form the **Bazaruto Archipelago** and on two are a handful of excellent beach lodges. These are easily accessed from Johannesburg so combine well with a safari in Southern Africa or Mozambique.

MAPUTO

Page 234 Founded in the 18th century, Mozambique's capital, **Maputo**, is a vibrant and bustling city. It's not usually a destination in its own right, but some itineraries may require a stop here.

Mozambique: the Facts

Speak to us for more details – but in brief:

Currency: Mozambique's currency is the metical. Currently £1 = 55,988MZM. Hotels and lodges accept US\$ and usually credit cards.

Visas: Usually needed for Mozambique, but can often be obtained on arrival.

Health: Malaria is endemic in Mozambique. The islands are generally healthy, though the usual vaccines (typhoid, polio and tetanus) are sensible and yellow fever certificates may be required. Check with your doctor before you travel.

Language: Portuguese is the official language; English is also usually spoken in hotels and lodges.

Food: The food is excellent, and the seafood superb. Mozambican beer is popular, as are South African wines and beers.

Climate: For details of Mozambique's climate, see 'When to go' on pages 23–25.

THE BAZARUTO ARCHIPELAGO

Away from the mainland, the Bazaruto Archipelago consists of four main islands surrounded by a maze of sandbanks and a marine national park which protects some of the best coral reefs in the region. The archipelago's two smaller islands are Santa Isobel and Santa Carolina; each is about 1km long and uninhabited. Bazaruto and Benguerra islands are substantially larger (33km and 8km long respectively); both have a number of small villages and a couple of lodges.

BAZARUTO ISLAND

We first visited the original lodge here some 12 years ago. Set in the middle of a sweeping bay, it was re-built several times, and its site is now taken by **Indigo Bay Island Resort & Spa** – looking west over the same amazing sunset.

Indigo Bay has 30 beach chalets and 14 bay-view villas; all are modern with air con, minibars and satellite TVs. Very much a resort-type hotel, its extensive amenities include two swimming pools, a spa, a diving/watersports centre, horseriding and a nine-hole 'golf' course (a cross between croquet and golf). Its children's club helps to make Indigo Bay particularly well-suited to families.

Pestana Bazaruto Lodge stands at the northern tip of Bazaruto Island, and is very laid-back and unpretentious – with a relaxed team of friendly staff. It has 40 A-frame chalets with solid walls and cool thatched roofs – all standing on a sandy beach. Each has air conditioning, tea/coffee-making facilities and a private

bathroom with an outdoor shower. The superior chalets and honeymoon suite are beside the ocean; the rest are set slightly back.

Bazaruto Lodge's meals major on seafood, which is good and fresh but not fancy, and are usually served as a buffet, close to the large outdoor pool.

Activities include fishing, a spa, 4WD safaris across the island with picnics, and a wide range of watersports. Diving and snorkelling can be done both from boats and (uniquely for this archipelago's lodges) from a beach that is a short walk to the north. Walking around this area of the island is lovely too, with the lighthouse on the hill particularly worth exploring.



Bazaruto Lodge is a relatively large but very relaxed spot





The stunning white beach at Azura Mozambique

BENGUERRA ISLAND

Both of the archipelago's better-known lodges are on Benguerra Island. **Marlin Lodge** is a very smooth operation with professional staff, and consistently high-quality food and service. It has 14 luxury beach chalets which all feature four-poster, queen-size beds, air conditioning, indoor and outdoor showers, and a private boardwalk directly onto the stunning beach. There are also three executive suites, which offer king-size beds and almost identical facilities, but boast a lot more space.

Marlin's large and usually social bar and dining area opens out onto a vast wooden sundeck, with loungers and a swimming pool beyond. The 'Beauty & Wellness Spa Centre' takes spa treatments seriously, whilst a watersports and diving centre organises activities including deep-sea fishing, snorkelling and excellent diving.

Built beside a long beach, **Benguerra Lodge** has been here for 20 years. Its décor mixes Moroccan influences – heavy, dark fabrics, patterned wooden furniture, Persian-style rugs and glass lanterns – with more southern African elements, like wooden beams and thatched roofs. The 13 rooms split into three different types. There are two 'cabanas', right beside the beach, each with a jacuzzi on its private deck; and 10 'casitas', which are larger and include a separate lounge area, a large deck with a plunge pool, and an outdoor gazebo. The 'villa' has two double bedrooms, even more space and a private chef.

Land-based activities from Benguerra include 4WD safari picnics to the beach, freshwater lakes, sand dunes, grasslands and mangroves, or simply lazing by the small beachside pool. Benguerra also has a well-equipped dive centre and plenty of watersports on offer, including snorkelling, sea kayaking, fly fishing, boat picnics and sunset dhow cruises.

Azura Mozambique is a luxurious boutique resort, which aims to offer a very smart, private and exclusive experience. Its 16 beachside villas, split into five slightly different types, are all thatched and have air conditioning. Plenty of pale wood and

pastel colours have been used in their contemporary design; you can bathe indoors, or shower outside – and each villa has its own small infinity plunge pool and outdoor 'sala' (a private lounge area with roof but no walls).

Every villa is assigned a helpful Mozambican butler/host who usually serves dinner and organises activities. These include 4WD island drives, scuba-diving, snorkelling, big-game fishing, salt-water fly fishing, kayaking and island-hopping trips. Key to Azura is its beachside spa, where indulgent treatments are based on local ingredients and traditions.



Marlin's rooms



On a 4WD island safari – climb a sand dune for amazing views

GORONGOSA NATIONAL PARK

GORONGOSA NATIONAL PARK

Designated a national park in 1960, Gorongosa covers 8,200km². It was regarded during the 1960s and '70s as one of Africa's premier wildlife areas; a 1976 census counted a staggering 14,000 buffalo, 6,000 elephants and 500 lions. However, during the civil war of the 1980s and early 1990s, Gorongosa suffered; elephants were shot for ivory, and other animals for food. Game populations plummeted, typically to less than 10% of their original numbers. By 1994 only 50 buffalo and nine zebra remained.

Although war decimated its game, Gorongosa's environments remained largely intact – and in recent years the park has had more luck. In the mid 1990s it attracted the attention of an American entrepreneur-philanthropist, Greg Carr. He made a 30-year/US\$40 million pledge to work with the Mozambican government to rejuvenate the park and the surrounding communities. Now its rainforests, savannah plains and fever-tree forests support an increasing number of animals; we were surprised and impressed by the strong populations of plains game when we visited in 2011. With few predators around, animals like waterbuck, warthog and impala have exploded in number – and this in turn supporting an increasing lion population, currently thought to be around 50.

Safari walks, 4WD drives and night drives are the main activities, though visitors

looking for something slightly different may also visit Mount Gorongosa. An estimated population of 2,000 lives on its lower slopes, but the higher slopes are protected within the park in an attempt to safeguard some of its forest and rivers. Visits take you through rural villages, and up into the forests where you can swim in waterfalls, seek out the rare green-headed oriole, or hike to the 1,862m summit on an overnight trip.

A visit to Gorongosa can be diverse and fascinating; you feel like you are witnessing a period of immense change. However expectations of wildlife must remain modest and though the numbers of plains game are increasing, the diversity is limited and your chance of seeing predators remains slim. That said, the walking is lovely, and with 412 bird species currently counted, birdwatchers will be in their element.



The tents at Explore Gorongosa are comfortable and private

EXPLORE GORONGOSA

Set on a 250km² private concession, **Explore Gorongosa** is currently the only safari operation within Gorongosa (though others are planned for 2012) and the name aptly describes the experience here. The base for your stay is **Explorers Camp** – a low-impact eco-camp with solar power and no running water. The five safari tents are wonderfully private and each is simply furnished. Outside, a hammock hangs from a tree alongside comfortable deckchairs and the open-air en-suite bathroom has a bucket shower and composting toilet. A simple wood-and-thatch tree-house is a quirky option if you don't want to be under canvas – although it isn't very private.

If you spend four nights or more here, then consider a night of **fly-camping**. You'll walk to a remote area, to find a simple camp of dome tents equipped with camp beds and proper linen, plus a shared short-drop toilet and bucket shower. Dinner is around the campfire. These camps aren't usually private, but only take a maximum of six guests. For able hikers, a two-night fly-camping trip to climb Mount Gorongosa is fantastic!

The emphasis at Explore Gorongosa is on excellent guiding, wilderness and wildlife. Guests head out on walks, drives and night drives, either in the private concession or in the public area of the park. Whilst our initial expectations of game were low, and we were pleasantly surprised, we'd still recommend Gorongosa for old Africa hands that are likely to love it here.



There are plenty of warthogs here



Lion populations are increasing in Gorongosa and if you are lucky you may catch a glimpse of one

NAMPULA PROVINCE

Few visitors come to the stunning Nampula Province, and those who do usually head straight for its rugged and untouched coastline, which is dotted with small villages and a couple of lovely beach lodges. Travel here is off the beaten track; it can be time-consuming, but the reward is finding few other visitors; it's the antithesis of mass tourism!

The four-hour 4WD journey from Nampula to **Nuarro Mozambique** is half on a rough dirt road – so not for the faint-hearted. All the same, we think it's worth it to reach this impressive eco-lodge, which focuses on responsible tourism. Set beside rural African villages on a long stretch of beach, it opened in June 2009. Local craftsmen used traditional methods to build it, and the result is rustic but good quality. The lodge has a beach bar and activities centre, set on a broad deck overlooking the sea. It's then a ten-minute wander to the restaurant on the other side of the lodge.

Nuarro's 12 chalets are comfortable, with polished stone floors, beds draped in mosquito netting, storage for clothes and 24-hour solar power. The en-suite bathrooms have composting toilets with proper seats, and hot showers supplied with biodegradable toiletries. Each chalet has a small veranda with a hammock and private access to the beach.

Activities are the attraction here, as Nuarro stands beside a protected marine reserve sheltering some of the best coral we have seen in African waters. Although the area lacks larger pelagic fish, sharks or rays, divers can head out with the PADI team for fantastic underwater exploration, and there is an excellent house reef off the beach for snorkellers too. Other activities include kayaking, beach picnics, village visits and dhow sailing.

Also new to this area, the luxurious **Coral Lodge 15.41** combines a contemporary, minimalist style with the odd piece of African art to beautiful effect. There are nine spacious villas, some overlooking the sea and others by a mangrove-filled lagoon. These incorporate an open-plan bedroom and lounge, an en-suite bathroom with shower, twin sinks and a huge bath. Mod-cons include air conditioning, a telephone and a minibar.

Coral Lodge's open-sided restaurant serves some superb food, and below this a broad deck houses a swimming pool. Snorkelling in the mangroves beside the lodge is good,

but for more coral and marine life, head further afield by boat. The PADI dive centre also organises diving trips – including to a couple of wreck sites. Other activities include kayaking, windsurfing, island picnics and village visits. We especially enjoyed a trip to the village of Grande Pequena, to help buy fresh fish, and then learning to cook it with head chef Carlos. Coral Lodge is a 25-minute boat ride from Ilha do Moçambique (see below), and so is also perfect for exploring this fascinating island.

ILHA DO MOÇAMBIQUE

Those interested in history and culture should include a visit to Ilha do Moçambique (Mozambique Island) in their trip. Located 3km offshore, it's only 2.5km in length, but has an estimated population of 7,000 people. The Portuguese founded a port here in 1507, and soon it became a vital trading link between Asia and Europe. For the next 400 years, it was the capital of Portuguese East Africa. A 'stone town' developed here, of grand buildings built from coral rock excavated from the southern end of the island; most of these are still standing.

The most impressive building is the imposing Fort São Sebastião, which is a commanding structure built with limestone from Lisbon – many regard it as Africa's most formidable fortress. Other fascinating

sites include the dilapidated hospital built in 1877, and the Chapel of Nossa Senhora de Baluarte, dating from 1522 and believed to be the oldest European building in the southern hemisphere.

Today, much of the population lives in the 'makuti town', a settlement at the southern end of the island. Located in the depression created by the quarrying of coral rock for the stone town, it is named after the type of thatch which covers the roofs. Wander around here for an insight into everyday life: dhow builders at work, fishermen coming ashore and women washing clothes.

On the island itself, there are a couple of small boutique hotels. **Terraco Das Quintandes** is a rather idiosyncratic yet charming Portuguese villa dating from the 18th century, and overlooking the sea. It has been restored and is now stuffed with antiques, so feels more like a museum than a hotel. The six rooms are individually styled with dark wood furniture, and all have private bathrooms, although only some are en suite.

Villa Sands is new to Ilha do Moçambique. In stark contrast to the dilapidated buildings that are the norm here, its Swedish owners have incorporated a minimalist European style. Eight chic standard rooms are on the ground level and three suites are upstairs. The restaurant serves tasty food prepared in an open kitchen, and an elegant swimming pool looks over the sea.

A good-value, low-key option is the friendly **O Escondidinho**, which offers 10 rooms varying in size and price. Only seven are en suite, but all are spotlessly clean. The décor is very simple, with polished stone floors and locally made furniture. In a central garden is a pool, beside which a relaxed restaurant serves excellent food.



The luxurious villas at Coral Lodge 15.41

Women on Ilha do Moçambique paint their faces with a beautifying paste called musiro





*Deserted beaches are usually
the norm in Mozambique*



PEMBA & THE MAINLAND



Most lodges in Mozambique are able to offer lovely relaxing sunset dhow cruises

Mozambique's gateway to the Quirimbas Archipelago is Pemba (not to be confused with the Tanzanian island, page 223). It's a neat but unremarkable town, although it does have one good hotel. The **Pemba Beach Hotel** sits beside the ocean and has 105 pleasant rooms. It has a great pool, landscaped gardens and a good restaurant.

Diving in Mozambique

The marine life around Mozambique's more remote coastline and islands is outstanding. There is first-class diving to be had in many areas, from the mainland to the islands. Most lodges have dive centres with qualified instructors and quality equipment. Novices can usually take short 'resort courses', or finish PADI courses that were started at home – learning in amazing shallow reef areas.

In the Quirimbas there are some lovely dive sites and arguably Mozambique's best, including spectacular underwater drop-offs. Manta rays, groupers and potato bass are common, while magnificent whale sharks visit from December to February.

The Bazaruto Archipelago also has some superb diving. So far, over 354 species of reef fish, five species of turtle and 30 different genera of coral have been catalogued here. Whale sharks visit between October and December, and there are some very impressive coral walls.

On the mainland, Nuarro Mozambique stands out for its untouched and vibrant corals, with fantastic dive sites accessible from the beach, whilst Coral Lodge 15.41 offers some interesting wreck dives in the channel off Ilha do Moçambique. Ask our advice: several of the Expert Africa team are keen scuba divers.

Also on the mainland are two small lodges: Londo and Guludo. **Londo Lodge** stands above a small sandy cove within Pemba Bay, one of the world's largest natural harbours, and the Quirimbas National Park. Its six large, octagonal villas are perched high on a coral cliff. The quality of Londo's construction is impressive, from its curved wooden decking to a hand-dug, coral-stone swimming pool.

About four hours' drive (200km) north of Pemba, or a short boat ride from Matemo Island, is the very different **Guludo Beach Lodge**. Beside a long golden beach, Guludo's approach focuses firmly on the environment and local community development. The lodge largely uses local materials and employs local staff, and five percent of its income goes directly into community projects. Its seven innovatively designed chalets, two of which are suites, are bright and spacious but simple – though each has a private open-air shower and clever composting 'loo with a view'.

Standard water-based activities like kayaking, diving and snorkelling are complemented by opportunities to spend time with the community here. So whilst Guludo is basic in comparison with other Quirimbas lodges, it is friendly and one of the finest examples of grassroots responsible tourism in Africa.

PEMBA & THE MAINLAND



Clownfish on a sea anemone

QUIRIMBAS ARCHIPELAGO

The most spectacular jewels in Mozambique's marine crown rest in the far north. Stretching for 200km, the Quirimbas Archipelago consists of 12 major islands and about 20 smaller, coralline outcrops – and is in part protected by the Quirimbas National Park.

This archipelago lies adjacent to Mozambique's Cabo Delgado Province; at over 2,500km from Maputo, it is exceedingly remote. We believe that it's the last large stretch of East African coastline where the marine environments are ecologically pristine and largely unexplored. However, its isolation also means that the logistics of operating any lodge here are difficult and costly.

Almost six years ago, a stunning lodge opened up on Vamizi, a beautiful, crescent-shaped island in a very isolated location near the Tanzanian border.

Vamizi has 13 luxury villas tucked into the island's forest fringe, beside a long white beach. Each has a veranda under a thatched roof; a lounge dotted with handmade wooden furniture; a huge open-plan bathroom; and a stylish bedroom draped in colourful muslin cloth with a king-size four-poster bed. Two new private villas have just been launched, each sleeping up to 12 guests in four large double en-suite rooms. Vamizi offers excellent snorkelling and fishing, as well as phenomenal diving – the best we have done in the Quirimbas. The ultimate beach getaway, it boasts great service and luxury in a relaxed atmosphere.

The Saudi-owned group, Rani Resorts, now has two islands in the Quirimbas: Matemo and Medjumbe. Both have a restaurant, bar, large pool and a PADI watersports centre.

Matemo Island Resort has 24 thatched chalets, all in a row beside the beach. The chalets each include a minibar, air conditioning and satellite TV. All have a bath, hot showers inside and out, and a private veranda.

Medjumbe is an idyllic island paradise that's barely a kilometre in length. Here **Medjumbe Island Resort** consists of 13 thatched chalets, each with similar facilities to those on Matemo, plus a private plunge pool.

In the heart of the Quirimbas National Park, Quilálea Island is home to **Quilálea Island Resort**. After a few years under private ownership, it was taken over in 2011 by the same team that owns Azura (see page 237) and has reopened after some major refurbishments. We have not had a chance to visit the new Quilálea, though having always loved the location and knowing the quality of Azura we have very high hopes for this private island beach getaway.

IBO ISLAND

Within the Quirimbas National Park, Ibo is a unique island outpost with a turbulent yet fascinating history. It turned from a prosperous Portuguese trading post in the 1500s to a place where fading colonial buildings crumble beside quiet streets. Traditional crafts remain today though, with local artisans still seen making painstakingly detailed, silver-filigree jewellery, and many of the ruins have been rehabilitated, including a beautiful church and three impressive forts, as the island is zoned for World Heritage Site status.

A day trip to Ibo is possible from Matemo or Guludo, though we would strongly recommend a longer stay to immerse yourself in island life. To get a real feel for the place, you need to stay for at least a couple of nights to explore the island in full with a guide, adopt its slow pace and accept its dusty charm.

The charming **Ibo Island Lodge** consists of three old mansions beside the ocean. They have been lovingly restored into a boutique hotel of nine rooms – complete with huge wooden doors, traditional shutters and four-poster beds. Some of the furniture is antique; the rest has been beautifully crafted locally.

You can relax by one of the pools, have a massage, or be active here. Activities such as a daily snorkelling trip to a nearby sandbank and trips to explore the mangroves by sea kayak are all accompanied by excellent guides. Birding is popular here, and a guide can help you seek out some of Ibo's red-listed species. The professional guides at Ibo also offer great insights into the island's history, culture and birdlife.

Ibo Island also now offers a range of overnight island-hopping dhow and kayak safaris, staying on a variety of small islands. These provide a chance to explore the further reaches of the Quirimbas National Park and are great for the more adventurous traveller. There are scheduled departures that you can join, or talk to us about tailoring a mobile trip to suit you.

Manda Wilderness

On the western side of Mozambique's mainland, far from the ocean, is an exciting conservancy: Manda Wilderness. Here, **Nkwichi Lodge** stands beside the stunning shore of Lake Malawi, and enchants most who visit! As it is currently most easily accessed from Lake Malawi, we have included it in that section of this brochure – so see page 144 for full details. However, new flights are set to change this in 2012, so ask us for the latest information if you'd like to include Nkwichi in a trip to Mozambique.



The private and romantic villas at Vamizi

TRIP IDEAS FOR MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique offers a variety of options; some people may choose to spend all their holiday in Mozambique, combining safari, culture and beach; others may choose to safari elsewhere in countries like Botswana, Zambia or Tanzania and then travel to Mozambique purely for its beaches.

To help give you an idea of possible trip costs we have split our suggested itineraries into three different types:

- **Fly-in Trips** – complete trips to Mozambique, flying between different areas, and including international overnight flights from the UK.
- **Beach Add-ons to Southern Mozambique** – designed to add on to a safari elsewhere in southern Africa, these include flights from Johannesburg and transfers within Mozambique.
- **Beach Add-ons to Northern Mozambique** – designed to add on to a safari in Tanzania, these include flights from Dar es Salaam and transfers within Mozambique.

All of the suggested trips on this page include internal transfers, most meals and some activities (which differ between properties; ask us for details). Departure taxes are excluded and must be paid locally. All prices are for 2012.

Fly-in Trips

These trips are designed for those who want to focus their time on Mozambique; some combine a safari with a visit to a stunning beach; others stay on Mozambique's coastline. All include return overnight flights from the UK, with costs noted in the table below.

Leaf-nosed Bat Fly-in Trip

Fly-in: 11 nights/12 days

- 4n Gorongosa NP – Explore Gorongosa (fba)
- 5n Nampula Province – Nuarro Mozambique (fb)

Gorongosa Gerbil Fly-in Trip

Fly-in: 11 nights/12 days

- 4n Gorongosa NP – Explore Gorongosa (fba)
- 5n Bazaruto Archipelago – Marlin Lodge (fb)

Feather-tailed Stingray Fly-in Trip

Fly-in: 11 nights/12 days

- 4n Central Mozambique – Nuarro Mozambique (fb)
- 1n Ilha do Moçambique – Terraco Das Quintandes (fb)
- 4n Central Mozambique – Coral Lodge 15.41 (fb)

Beach Add-ons to Southern Mozambique

Many of our travellers who visit southern Mozambique come for a relaxing beach stop after a trip to Namibia, Botswana or the Cape. Hence we have designed these trips as 'add-ons', with return flights from Johannesburg.

Marlin Beach Add-on

6n Bazaruto Archipelago – Marlin Lodge (fb)

Costs £2,188pp sharing, for a luxury beach chalet throughout the year.

Bazaruto Beach Turtle Add-on

6n Bazaruto Archipelago – Bazaruto Lodge (fb)

Costs £1,730pp sharing for a standard room (12 Jan–29 Mar, 10 Apr–31 Jul & 1 Sep–10 Dec); £1,865 for the rest of the year. The cost to upgrade to a superior room is £97 per person per night.

Benguerra Beach Add-on

6n Bazaruto Archipelago – Benguerra Lodge (fb)

Costs £2,030/£2,401pp sharing for a cabana/casita (1 Jan–31 Mar); £2,159/£2,562 (1 Apr–30 Jun & 1 Oct–19 Dec); £2,336/£2,723 (1–15 Jul & 16–30 Sep); £2,497/£2,885 (16 Jul–15 Sep).

Azura Beach Add-on

6n Bazaruto Archipelago – Azura Mozambique (fb)

Costs £3,155pp sharing for a beach villa (16 Jan–31 Mar & 1–18 Dec); £3,543 (1–31 Aug & 19–31 Dec); £3,310 (1 Apr–31 Jul & 1 Sep–30 Nov).

Beach Add-ons to Northern Mozambique

Many travellers to northern Mozambique's islands come here for the beach, after a safari in Tanzania. Hence we have designed these trips as 'add-ons' to such safaris, with return flights from Dar es Salaam.

Spinner Dolphin Add-on

1n Pemba – Pemba Beach Hotel (bb)

3n The Mainland – Guludo Beach Lodge (fb)

3n Ibo Island – Ibo Island Lodge (fb)

Costs £1,887pp sharing (1 Jan–31 Mar); £1,984 (1 Apr–31 Jul & 1 Sep–31 Oct); £2,129 (1–31 Aug & 16–31 Dec).

Medjumbe Beach Add-on

1n Pemba – Pemba Beach Hotel (bb)

6n Quirimbas Archipelago – Medjumbe Island (fb)

Costs £2,837pp sharing (1 Jan–22 Dec); £3,152 (23–31 Dec).

Vamizi Beach add-on

6n Quirimbas Archipelago – Vamizi Island (fb)

Costs £3,896pp sharing (1–14 Jan, 20 Mar–15 Apr, 15–30 Jul & 1–14 Sep); £3,606 (16 Apr–14 Jul & 15 Sep–14 Dec); £2,735 (15 Jan–19 Mar); £4,283 for the rest of the year.

Quilalea add-on

1n Pemba – Pemba Beach Hotel (bb)

6n Quirimbas Archipelago – Quilalea Island (fb)

Costs £2,820pp sharing (16 Jan–31 Mar); £3,339 (1 Apr–31 Jul & 1 Sep–18 Dec); £3,610 for the rest of the year.

Getting to Mozambique

See the map on pages 4–5 to appreciate the sheer size of Mozambique. You'll see why the **Bazaruto Archipelago** is easiest to approach using a (daily) flight from Johannesburg – and twice weekly flights link these islands with Gorongosa.

For the **Quirimbas Archipelago**, currently there are flights between Dar and Pemba, and between Dar and Vamizi; flights also operate between Jo'burg and Pemba, on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Flights to/from northern Mozambique are prone to changes – check with us for the latest news as you plan your trip.

Nampula Province is most easily reached using *Kenya Airways'* direct flights from Nairobi, which operate on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.

In addition to all the above, *Air Mozambique* operates a complex schedule of internal flights.

Accommodation Codes

- bb... bed & breakfast
- fb.... full board
- fba...full board and activities

- Prices are quoted per person, based on two people sharing a room; single supplements are available on request.
- Departure date generally determines pricing. If your trip straddles two pricing bands, then request a precise quote.
- Credit card payments will incur a 2% processing charge (3% for AMEX). This may change if the credit card companies change their charges. You will always be advised of this at the time of payment.
- An additional voluntary amount (currently £21) will be automatically added to your invoice. This is to offset the carbon emissions caused by your international flights and to support the Travel Foundation. This is not compulsory; if you do not wish to pay it, then simply subtract it from your final payment. You can read more about these voluntary donations on page 277.

MOZAMBIQUE SAFARI PRICES

	Safari duration	1 Jan - 31 Jan	1 Apr - 30 Apr	1 May - 13 Jul	14 Jul - 18 Aug	19 Aug - 30 Nov	1 Dec - 31 Dec
Leaf-nosed bat Fly-in Trip ≠	11 nights / 12 days	-	£2,837	£3,567	£3,867	£3,567	-
Gorongosa Gerbil Fly-in Trip ≠	11 nights / 12 days	-	£3,179	£3,908	£4,208	£3,908	-
Feather-tail Stingray Fly-in Trip	11 nights / 12 days	£2,702	£2,702	£2,702	£3,179	£2,702	£2,702

≠ The Leaf-nosed bat Fly-in Trip and Gorongosa Gerbil Fly-in Trip have a supplement of £115 per person from 11–28 Oct.