

TRACKS SAFARIS
WE GET YOU CLOSER



IBO ISLAND LODGE

8 Day Island Hopping Dhow/Kayak Safari

Quirimbas Archipelago - Northern Mozambique



Ibo Island Lodge - Island Hopping Mobile Dhow Safaris - Quirimbas Archipelago - Northern Mozambique

Sail the Indian Ocean in a traditional Arab dhow. Explore from one tropical island to another in the awesome Quirimbas Archipelago northern Mozambique. Combine with the luxury Ibo Island Lodge for an unforgettable holiday experience.

This holiday caters for the discerning adventurer seeking a unique island hopping experience in one of the most magical places in Africa. You may be a group of friends with a particular interest, or a family seeking a different kind of tropical holiday. Accommodating the most diverse of needs of adventurers, or birders, kayakers, holistic retreat style travellers, honeymooners, fishermen, photographers, younger children, older travellers, and anything in between! We aim to be totally flexible and each day's pace is up to you.

Under the expert leadership of a professional guide and local crew, explore a coastline fringed by tropical islands. Sea kayak or sail up wide coastal river mouths teeming with red listed bird species and pristine mangrove forests. Snorkel off deserted white sandbanks and into turquoise sea, and sleep in mobile eco camps on uninhabited tropical islands. All mobile safaris end at the mystical and ancient Ibo Island which is zoned for World Heritage Status and is the head quarters of the Quirimbas National Park.

The chef conjures up the freshest of seafood and traditional cuisine over an open fire under island stars leaving you free to explore, contemplate and relax. All safaris include time in the comfort and luxury of Ibo Island Lodge.



Island slumber

Guests sleep in mobile safari style 3m by 3m walk in dome tents with fitted ground sheet, insect screen, safari style stretcher beds with 2 inch high density foam mattresses. Linen, sleeping bags and shower/beach towels are all provided. Children are accommodated in 2,4m by 2,4 m tents with stretcher beds, towels and sleeping bag.

Bush shower bliss - mobile eco camp bathrooms include bush showers and bush toilets. Basic laundry service on request (no ironing required!)

Fully guided

All mobile safaris are led by an English speaking professional guide, with a local Mozambican dhow skipper and crew. Further service is provided with a waiter and chef. The dhow with local experienced skipper and crew will be at guests' disposal for day trips, picnics and explorations to other close by islands and mainland villages.

Wine and dine

All meals are prepared by the chef with an accent on fresh seafood. A 5m by 5m dining and tent accommodates guests for meals which are either served sit down table cloth style or more relaxed around the fire with your toes in the sand - yours to decide each day. Experience it all to the full and leave no trace of existence!

Dependent on guests' interests double sea kayaks are supplied for paddling or exploring. The region plays host to a range of birdlife; storks, fish eagles, mangrove kingfisher, plovers, Madagascar Pratincoles to name but a few!



INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS

- **Meet and greet in Pemba and road transfer to Mucoja**
- **4 nights island and mainland hopping by traditional motorised dhow**
- **Experienced English and Portuguese speaking crew**
- **Fully catered eco and NON participation mobile camp with guide, chef and local crew**
- **All camping and catering equipment**
- **Meals as per itinerary - dine under the stars on an uninhabited island**
- **Cultural exchanges and guided tours**
- **Snorkelling and swimming usually in seclusion**
- **3 nights at beautiful Ibo Island Lodge on full board basis (excluding all drinks)**
- **Guided historical and cultural tours of Ibo Island**

NB:

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive Pemba - road transfer via Mucojo to Mogundula Island:

You will be met off your flight at Pemba airport by Oscar Soares, our meet & greet representative, and shown to the transfer vehicle for the approximate 3-hour road transfer to Mucojo through parts of the Quirimbas National Park and arriving at the little coastal village where you will board a traditional dhow bound for Mogundula Island.

The ancient art of traditional dhow travel has been practiced in this region for centuries. Today for the local population of the region it still remains the only way of travel between the islands. In our opinion, Mogundula Island is one of the prettiest and uninhabited islands in the archipelago, which is why we usually spend our first 2 nights here giving you a fantastic base from which to explore the area.

On Mogundula we usually set up our mobile eco camp under the shade of the islands beautiful Chestnut trees. Your guide and crew will offer you cold drinks and settle you in to your tents and no doubt you will be keen to hit the beach for a swim and explore. The very essence of our mobile safaris is that we carry everything we need, allowing us to be flexible in our itinerary and eco camps. We also leave no trace of our existence after the safari is over.

Aside from at Ibo Island Lodge, there are no fixed facilities what so ever on safari, and many of our eco camps are uninhabited or habited only by migrant local and rural communities. Please note that our eco camps are comfortable, but they are not 5 star luxury!

Accommodation: Overnight mobile eco camp on Mogundula Island.

Meals: Dinner (drinks to your own expense).



Day 2: Clear day to explore Mogundula Island and her surrounds

The 32 islands that make up the Quirimbas Archipelago are among the most undiscovered islands in the world. The Quirimbas also remains one of Africa's most sought after cultural destinations and in our opinion, have that 'wow factor' that makes it quite simply, the most exciting hot new destination in Africa.

The establishment of the 7,500 km² Quirimbas National Park represents a globally significant conservation achievement. This park is a conservation jewel, boasting an exciting mosaic of wildlife, and helping protect one of the richest areas of coral reefs in the world as well as a rich array of coastal forests and mangroves.

At Mogundula, we carry you beyond the reach of holiday crowds to sights and experiences few have seen. Exotic, little hideaway's offer intimate bays to explore. The sand spit beach offers sublime swimming and snorkelling at all times of the tide, and don't forget to explore the lake and look out for a good range of bird life.

Accommodation: Overnight mobile eco camp on Mogundula Island.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner (drinks to your own expense).

Day 3: Mogundula Island, via Rolas Island to Ulumbwa River mouth:

Today will have you climbing aboard your dhow accompanied by your trusty guide and crew, carrying all mobile camp equipment and supplies. Depart Mogundula Island for your exploration into the Quirimbas Archipelago! Sail south into the clearest of blue water with pristine corals below to explore under snorkel.

Generally our dhow safaris are skippered by Juma Chande and his crew. Juma is one of our most experienced dhow captains. He is unflappable and has been navigating these waters since he was a small boy. For the sailors amongst you there is nothing more majestic than sailing in a graceful traditional dhow at full tilt with the wind in your hair and the sails up and the clear waters below.

Dependent on conditions – we'll stop at the tiny Rolas Island and its clear waters with excellent reefs to snorkel and a stunning white sandy peninsular to swim from. Local legend says the island is owned by the sacred, resident coconut crabs, the largest species of land crabs. After a few hours' sail and exploring we'll set up our camp south of Ulumbwa village which is home for two nights.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner (drinks to your own expense).

Accommodation: Overnight mobile eco camp at Ulumbwa.



Day 4: Clear day to explore Matemo Island

Rise early with the tropical sun to enjoy a fortifying tea or coffee and followed by an early morning sail up the Ulumbwa river mouth and estuary. This is a river mouth seen by very view travellers and you'll be viewing a variety of bird species of which the beautiful Mangrove Kingfisher is always a highlight.

The riparian forest along the river is great habitat for a wide range of birds and you should see flocks of Black-bellied Starlings and other birds. The mangrove forest in this region is some of the most impressive in Africa and makes for great roosting spots. Dusk and dawn should reward us with sightings of Dimorphic Egret, Great White Egret, Yellow-billed Egret, Little Egret, Pink-backed Pelican, Yellow billed Stork, Crab Plovers and Woolly-necked Storks. The guides who lead these safaris are avid birding guides and will bring this unique ecosystem alive for you.

Next we'll sail into the blue water for a day trip to the southern tip of Matemo Island. Matemo is one of the larger islands inside the park. It's a great place to relax, enjoy a leisurely swim and later lie under the stars on a tropical island. We return to our camp in Ulumbwa

Accommodation: Overnight mobile eco camp at Ulumbwa.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner (drinks to your own expense)



Days 5, 6, and 7: Spent at leisure at beautiful Ibo Island Lodge:

You can be as active or as relaxed as you desire. There are included guided heritage and cultural experiences each day with your guide, as well as a full range of other activity options – and don't forget to relax at one of the pools, take a massage and soak up the unique atmosphere that is Ibo.

Ibo Island lodge is located on the prime waterfront site, where romantic dhows sail out to sea on each high tide. The lodge encompasses old mansions each over one hundred years old with walls over a meter thick and lofty high ceilings. The wide verandas are furnished with hand crafted furniture and soft cushions. All rooms are air-conditioned and also have ceiling fans. The lodge has two swimming pools set in tropical gardens, a lounge and private dining room as well as a roof terrace restaurant. Ibo Island Lodge was built and developed by over 120 men and women from the Ibo community who all received intensive training and mentorship.

Ibo Island Lodge Guest Experiences:

Guests partake in a multitude of experiences in combination with relaxing and taking in the islands tranquillity, history and ambience: The lodge is famous for its cultural and heritage guided experiences as well as its very fine birding and guided bird walks.

Aside from history and culture and guided activities, there are also daily excursions to a pristine sand bank beach for a totally unique beach experience guided night time walks, swimming and sunbathing, massage and snorkelling.



Day 8: Ibo Island to Pemba for flight out:

An included beautiful light aircraft flight over the islands and turquoise waters transfers you to Pemba International Airport from Ibo Island Lodge.

Included Meals: Breakfast

All drinks to clients own expense.



Please also note whilst on kayak safari all camping will be bush or island camping. Washing water will be limited, and meals simple and nutritious based on the dry stocks able to be carried enhanced by the availability of fresh fish and seafood. The itinerary is provided as a guideline only and will need to be very flexible based on local conditions and is therefore weather and tide dependent. You are however assured of a true island adventure against a backdrop of extremely varied and pristine island and coastal Mozambican scenery.



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