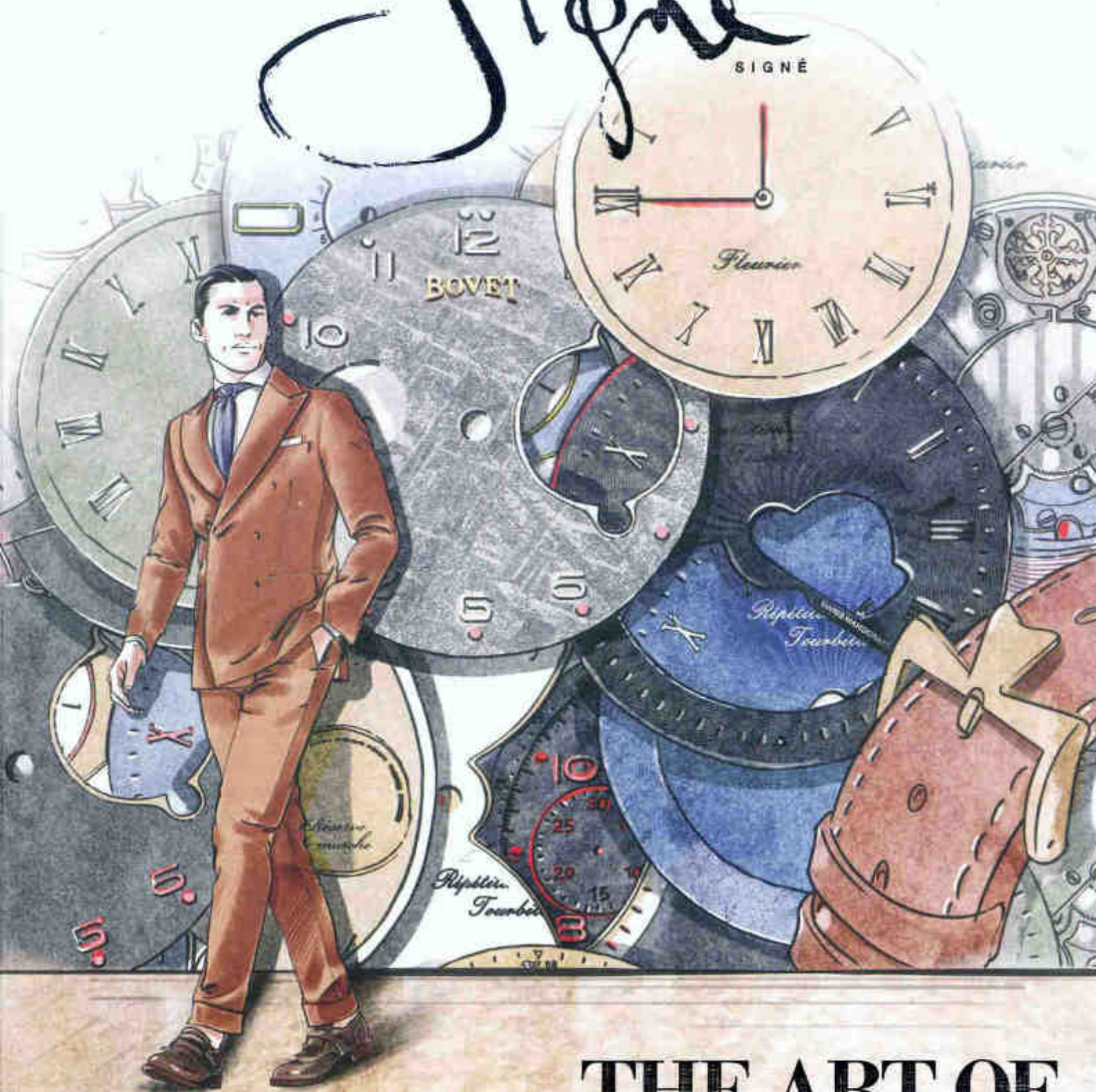


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IBO ISLAND

The journey begins in earnest once the flying is complete. Travelling on planes of ever decreasing size, passengers arrive in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania where they board a flight to Pemba in Mozambique. From Pemba, a small private plane delivers them in maximum comfort to Ibo Island.

Located off the northern Mozambique coast, in the Quirimbas Archipelago, the island is an unusual yet fascinating place. Alongside Ilha da Mozambique, Ibo is a key example of the cultural hegemony achieved throughout the use of the coastal trade routes.

Influences as divergent as African, Arabic and Portuguese can all be seen here and the history of these places is utterly fascinating. Beautifully maintained, it is a destination that has as much to do with the island's people as it does the sun and the sea, and as such Ibo Island Lodge is one of the most unusual places on the whole East African coast.

Set along the entrance to the harbour from the main sea, the Ibo Island hotel is made up of a number of colonial buildings over a hundred years old. Each property, including the former governor's residence, has been most carefully restored and has thick walls and high ceilings and large verandas typical of architecture from the island's colonial period. The Ibo Island Lodge consists of a main house and nine sleeping rooms, two with a sea view, and the rest facing onto a closed courtyard with a small plunge pool. The design of the rooms is very much in keeping with the local aesthetic and are characterised by white walls, stone floors, hand-woven rugs, antique side-tables and old storage chests. The style is Moroccan, and veers towards the kinds of designs one might find in Zanzibar. This is not a classic beach resort in the modern sense and many of the rooms come with outdoor showers, however it is an off the beaten track coastal experience set within stunning surroundings.



OCEAN RESPITE

The Quirimbas Archipelago itself is a key attraction and the exploration of the islands on-board a traditional dhow is an unforgettable experience.

Two nights on-board will give an unprecedented experience among the pristine beaches and impeccably clear waters. Island hopping can be tailored to individual interests. If snorkelling is a preference, equipment can be provided and if kayaking is more your thing a paddle can be arranged to access each island, which individually offers something exceptionally unique and a solitude unlike anywhere else.

These are private islands ripe for exploration, and while guests enjoy the scenery a private chef is busy preparing the evening meal.

The sailing adventures are led by a professional guide, experienced in the surrounding waters with Mozambican skipper, crew and chef on board, at guests' service to whip up seafood extravaganzas around the campfire.

The mobile camps are set up on various tropical islands and special spots. Weather conditions permitting, there should be ample kayaking in calm, clear and turquoise water and traditional dhow sailing to break up the endless view of the horizon.





MEDJUMBE ISLAND

From the ocean, visitors travel back to land and the beautiful and unsurpassed beauty of Medjumbe Island – a private retreat fit for a king or queen. Medjumbe Island is the ultimate in intimate island accommodation, the ideal Mozambique island getaway for those who wish to experience exclusivity and privacy in a remote tropical location. This tiny pristine strip of sand with its breath-taking coral reefs and ocean views is world-renowned for delicious seafood, gracious hospitality and exceptional diving. A 'can-do' attitude and slow pace makes Medjumbe both remarkable and memorable. Outside each chalet, a private plunge pool with stunning Indian Ocean views provide relief from the tropical Mozambique heat and a hammock ensures ultimate relaxation, the Quirimbas way. Ensnared in a private beach haven, this is as close as it gets to having a private heaven on earth.

The thirteen palm-thatched beach chalets on Medjumbe are the ultimate in sophisticated simplicity, just steps away from the warm Indian Ocean. Nestling on the white sands, they offer privacy and seclusion, yet are situated conveniently close to our guest areas. Each chalet is furnished in crisp blues and whites, offering a full en-suite bathroom with indoor and outdoor shower, and is refreshingly air-conditioned.





VAMIZI ISLAND

The third and final island destination on this sensational trip through the Indian Ocean is Vamizi Island with sensational beachfront villas with access to sultry sand beaches and glassy blue water. Vamizi Island offers world-class accommodation for the intrepid traveller and is the flagship of the Quirimbas Archipelago. A highly ambitious conservation project is underway here, with a 33,000-hectare wildlife safari area called the Messalo wildlife area which is funded by the small lodge on the northern tip of the island. With four kilometres of completely undisturbed white sand beach encircled by rich and lush tropical forest behind and coral reefs in front, the chalets are a revelation. Huge, with their own sitting area and large marble showers they are oases of comfort. The light and airy rooms offer a cool respite from the more ferocious temperatures that can creep up during the middle of the day. While visiting the region it is also possible to avail yourself of some even more exclusive and exciting possibilities. Humpback whales travel through the area between July and September, and scuba enthusiasts can also go diving in the beautiful waters, exploring the ocean that remains relatively untouched here.

