



## HARTLEY'S SAFARIS

FINDING YOUR AFRICA



## Mozambique

Bazaruto Archipelago  
Quirimbas Archipelago  
Pemba  
Ponte Malongane  
Gorongosa National Park  
Niassa Game Reserve  
Maputo



## INTRODUCTION

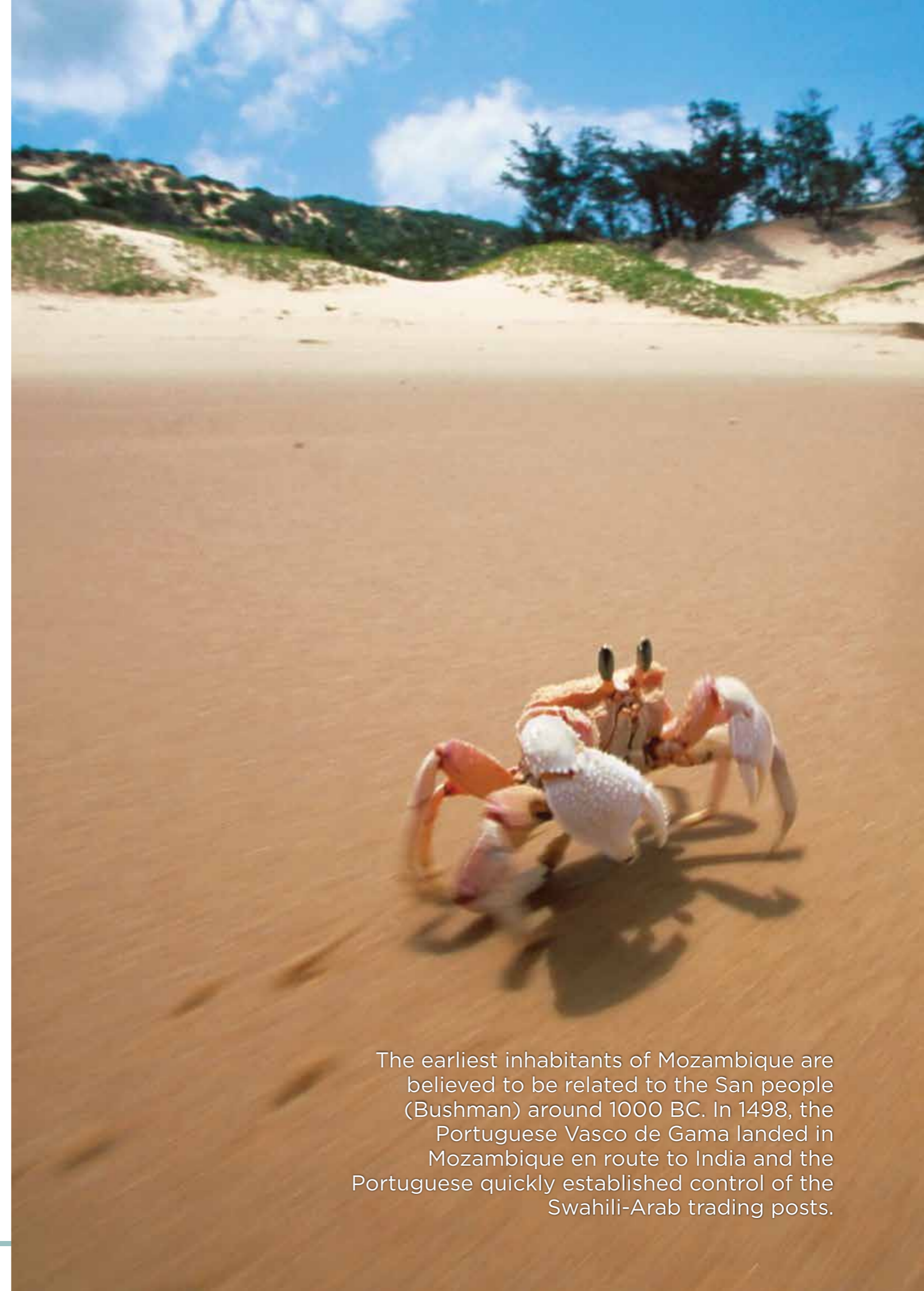
Mozambique has a remarkable 2,470 kilometre (1,940 miles) coastline fringed with necklaces of small islands, long white beaches and coral reefs all washed by the warm waters of the Indian Ocean. Sea-life along this coast is extremely diverse where fishing, diving and snorkelling are excellent.

Inland the Gorongosa National Park and Niassa Game Reserve offer big game and prolific birdlife, while the capital of Maputo is full of colonial architecture and vibrant restaurants. The Quirimbas and Bazaruto Archipelagos are exclusive destinations with top class lodges and most guests get to the region by air.

The mainland town of Pemba, the largest centre close to the Quirimbas, has a wealth of interesting buildings, especially

in Baixa, the old town. Many locals owe their heritage to the influences of the Arab and Portuguese explorers and traders who travelled along this coast 100 years ago. A long way further south Inhambane and Ponta Malongane offer good diving and snorkelling.

Huge whale sharks are relatively common, particularly in the south, while graceful manta rays and several species of dolphins occur along the entire coast.



The earliest inhabitants of Mozambique are believed to be related to the San people (Bushman) around 1000 BC. In 1498, the Portuguese Vasco de Gama landed in Mozambique en route to India and the Portuguese quickly established control of the Swahili-Arab trading posts.



# HISTORY

About two thousand years ago Bantu speaking people from central Africa began moving into what is today Mozambique, sometimes displacing the hunter gatherers who had roamed the region for centuries.

Sometime later Swahili and Arab traders began establishing permanent ports along the coast, forging business links that extended all the way up the East African coast to Zanzibar and the Middle East. Arab and Swahili businesses dominated the coast for several centuries before the arrival of the Portuguese in 1498 who soon established dominance along the coast.

Initially Portugal struggled to suppress the people of the interior of the country but systematically increased their influence in the region over the next few centuries. The country formally became a colony after 1891 when Britain, which controlled all the countries to the west, and Portugal, agreed on the boundaries of what was then known as Portuguese East Africa.

In the early 1960s nationalist forces launched a guerrilla war which lasted until 1974 when there was a military coup in Lisbon. The country achieved independence in 1975 but soon afterwards a civil war erupted. The apartheid regime in South Africa supported the anti-government forces and the war lasted until 1992 when a peace agreement was signed. The country has held several elections since then.

## PEOPLE, CULTURE AND ECONOMY

The major ethnic groups in Mozambique are the Makhuwa, Tsonga, Makonde, Shangaan and Shona but there are many other groups. Many people, particularly in the cities, speak Portuguese and in the north some people along the coastal belt speak Swahili.

The country has a large rural population who plant crops such as cassava, maize, sorghum and vegetables. Along the coast and near the rivers fish is an important source of protein. Some agricultural crops including coffee, cashew nuts and sugar cane are exported. Mozambique has large off shore gas deposits and substantial coalfields have been developed inland in recent years. Some hydro-electricity is generated at the Cahora Bassa Dam. A huge aluminium smelter operates near Maputo.

## MOZAMBIQUE IN BRIEF

- Capital City: Maputo
- Area: 799,380 km<sup>2</sup> / 309,495 mi<sup>2</sup>
- Population: 23.5 million
- Time zone: GMT +2
- Currency: Metical (MZN)
- Electricity: 220-240v
- Geography: Wide coastal plains, mountains and plateaus with three major rivers and almost 2,500 km (1,500 miles) of coastline dotted with islands.
- Language: Portuguese



## WHEN TO GO

Mozambique enjoys a tropical to sub-tropical climate with high coastal temperatures for much of the year. April to October - dry season, minimal rainfall, low humidity, lots of sunshine! November to March - rainy season, afternoon storms or showers, high humidity, risk of cyclones

## CLIMATE

Maputo	Temp °C		Rainfall
	Min	Max	mm
Jan	24	30	150
Feb	23	30	130
Mar	23	29	90
Apr	21	27	50
May	18	26	20
Jun	15	24	10
Jul	15	23	10
Aug	16	25	10
Sep	18	25	30
Oct	20	26	50
Nov	21	27	70
Dec	23	29	90





# HIGHLIGHTS

## BAZARUTO ARCHIPELAGO

Bazaruto, Margaruque and Benguerra are the most popular of the six islands in the archipelago. All offer excellent accommodation and fantastic beaches, fishing, diving and snorkelling. Two Mile Reef lies two miles east of Benguerra and offers some of the best reef diving in Mozambique with beautiful staghorn corals and tropical fish from tiny clownfish to moray eels and black-tipped reef sharks. On Bazaruto there are high sand dunes and inland lakes with a good bird population.

As can be expected all the lodges on the islands offer excellent seafood. The islands form part of the Bazaruto Marine National Park and are a short distance from the mainland. Fishing by lure and by fly is also very popular but carefully monitored and all catches are tagged and then released.



## QUIRIMBAS ARCHIPELAGO

The Quirimbas Archipelago lies off north eastern Mozambique, just south of the Tanzanian border, and is one of Mozambique's most spectacular holiday destinations. The archipelago consists of around twenty six islands, including Ibo, Vamizi, Matemo, Quilaluia, Quirimba, Quisiva and Rolas Island. The southernmost 11 islands of the archipelago are included in the Quirimbas National Park which also includes some mainland coastal habitats.

The Quirimbas offer visitors spectacular lodges and fantastic beaches, diving and snorkelling. The ocean floor drops off dramatically near some islands which enhances diving experiences. Many of the islands are undeveloped. Visitors can take dhow trips between the islands or partake in other water sports. Deep sea fishing in the region is excellent. The architecture on some of the islands bears testimony to the Arabic influences in the region.



## OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

For a unique holiday experience, there are few better ways to discover the real heart and soul of a country than to travel away from the traditional tourist destinations and go 'off the beaten track'. With the wealth of experience we have gained through our many years creating luxury safari holidays to Africa, Hartley's Safaris offer an extensive portfolio of experiences that allow you to embrace the true spirit and adventure of this magnificent country in a safe and secure manner.



Tofo is a stunning stretch of sandy beach located on the southern coast of Mozambique, within easy driving distance from Johannesburg. Tofo beach offers excellent surfing, scuba diving, deep sea fishing and horse riding through the dunes. It also has easy access to the historical town of Inhambane.



## PEMBA

The city of Pemba lies in Pemba Bay, one of the largest inland bays in the world – it extends from an opening of a little more than 1.6 kilometres (one mile) wide into an area of water roughly 375 km<sup>2</sup> (145 mi<sup>2</sup>).

Pemba is an historic town, its colonial and Arabic trading history reflected in the local architecture to local cuisine. Bazaars sell a wide range of goods, but traditional silverware and wood carvings are of particular interest. Pemba is a holiday destination in its own right but others use it as a stop-off point on their way to the Quirimbas. Pemba has excellent beaches, snorkelling and diving. Dhow trips can be arranged to the islands or along the coast.



## GORONGOSA NATIONAL PARK

A major wildlife restocking programme has taken place to rebuild populations to what they were before the long civil war which ended in 1992. Buffalo, elephant, sable antelope and other animals have all been brought back to the reserve which was once rated as one of the most impressive in Africa.

The birdlife in the region is exceptional. Although a relatively small area of the park has been reopened it represents a remarkable effort at rebuilding a priceless wildlife area. The Park is a few hours' drive from the port of Beira in central Mozambique.



## PONTA MALONGANE AND PONTO DO OURO

These two resorts are in southern Mozambique just north of the border with South Africa. They offer excellent diving and are amongst the best places to see whale sharks and to swim with dolphins. The best time to see whale sharks is from October to March but they can be found in fairly shallow water at any time of the year. Humpback whales on their migration route to Madagascar also pass by in June to September. The coast here is characterized by huge vegetation covered sand dunes, amongst the highest in the world, that run along the coast behind the beaches.



## MAPUTO

Maputo is a mixture of colonial Portuguese architecture and heritage combined with a unique blend of vibrant African street life, restaurants, markets and a spicy dose of Indo/African and Portuguese cuisine.

A local specialty is either prawns or chicken cooked in a peri peri sauce – peri peri is a particularly spicy chili. The city has a number of markets where a vast array of arts and crafts can be bought. There are several museums, including the National Art Museum which has collections of contemporary art and the Natural History Museum.

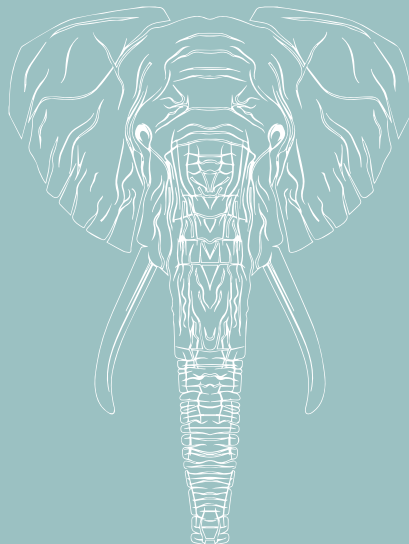


## NIASSA GAME RESERVE

This huge game reserve, it is almost twice the size of the more famous Kruger National Park in South Africa lies on Mozambique's border with Tanzania. It has a large population of lions and elephants and is a stronghold of the endangered wild dog.

Sable, roan, eland and many other antelope species are present. Due to its remote locations most visitors fly to the reserve by charter aircraft, usually from Pemba.





HARTLEY'S SAFARIS SOUTH AFRICA

PO Box 69 859, Bryanston, 2021, South Africa

Telephone: +27 (011) 467 4704

Fax: +27 (011) 467 4758

Email: [enquiries@hartleysgroup.com](mailto:enquiries@hartleysgroup.com)

HARTLEY'S SAFARIS UK

The Old Chapel, Chapel Lane, Hackthorn, Lincolnshire, LN2 3PN

United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 (0)1673 861 600

Fax: +44 (0)1673 861 666

Email: [info@hartleysgroup.com](mailto:info@hartleysgroup.com)

