

IBO ISLAND LODGE OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Ibo Island guided historical experience – Complimentary

A guided journey recounting the history of Ibo and introducing Ibo Island of today. Guided historical and cultural activities enable guests to immerse themselves in the unique culture of Ibo and a rare chance to understand this unchanged lifestyle.

Ibo Island Lodge offers one guided historical tour complimentary to each guest's stay.

Ibo of today – Complimentary

A guided walk into the villages of Ibo reveals the day-to-day life of the Kimwani people. Discover how Muslim and African traditions have blended to create a way of life unique to Ibo. Visit the local witch doctor, meet some of the islanders, get an "Ibo face-mask" or enjoy a game of football.

Silversmiths Project- Complimentary

One of the key approaches of Ibo Island Lodge has been that of supporting initiatives on Ibo that will serve to create income and livelihoods for other members of the communities not directly employed in the lodge.

The Ibo Island Lodge silver project aims to stimulate a fairer and more equitable distribution of the benefits of silver sales via tourism, to provide raw materials so that the quality of the jewellery and therefore its value can increase, to set up a distribution network to provide a far greater return for the crafters, and to ensure that the craft is taught to younger members of the Ibo community ensuring it continues.

Cultural and Community interactive experiences – Complimentary

Ibo Island Lodge has embarked on a range of community projects and training programs. The central aim is to provide long term, sustainable means of generating income and to implement and manage programs that provide training, mentorship and education. Tourism is the primary economic engine for conservation on Ibo and is a new industry. Therefore skills need to be constantly developed within the local communities. During 2006 over 60 people were trained by Ibo Island Lodge in the English language, hospitality and tourism with real employment opportunities available at Ibo Island Lodge and our surrounding projects. Training is still ongoing.

Beach Visit – Complimentary

A 15 minute motorized boat trip takes you one of Ibo's best kept secrets.... A perfect sand bank beach totally surrounded by sea and luxurious in seclusion and we think one of the most pristine beaches for snorkeling and swimming in the Quirimbas Archipelago. One transfer to this beach is included each day for guests, and depending on tides and operational requirements breakfast or lunch on the sandbank is possible. Dolphins and turtles regularly spotted en-route. Weather and tide dependent.

Ibo Island Montessori School visit – Complimentary...

Educational levels are typically low in Mozambique, especially in the North. On Ibo there is just one primary school that works three shifts a day in order to cater for the needs of children as well as

adults. There are currently no other facilities for preschool children and Ibo toddlers normally grow up on the streets, with often just a slightly older brother or sister to keep an eye on them.

In conjunction with our Project Coordinator, Winnie De Roover we have started a pilot class. Teaching is done in English, a language that is foreign to the local children but vital for tourism development. We currently have 13 pupils and attract voluntary kindergarten teachers. The aim is to extend the training to identified adult learners who can then become teachers so that a larger part of the community's children can benefit from the system. The school also aims to be an eco friendly initiative in which young children are taught to respect Ibo's natural resources, the unique eco-system in which the island is situated, and where the basics of personal hygiene, recycling and waste management are addressed.

Malnutrition is one of the challenges on Ibo. Hence we provide all our pupils with a nutritional snack and aim to extend this to a nutritional lunch to ensure our pupils are getting correct nutrition.

Another way of building local capacity in the Ibo community will consist of training local carpenters and parents to make educational materials and toys. The aim is to not only provide our own school with materials, but to develop a business idea for the local community and market the educational materials and toys for them to NGO's involved with education.

The schools hours are from 8 till 12h on weekdays. If you want to make a donation please speak to the management.

Guided sea kayak excursion into the mangroves - \$30 per person

One of our most popular excursions and a chance to navigate the winding, peaceful channels in one of the largest mangrove forests in Africa. Guests kayak deep into Ibo's lush, fertile mangrove channels to understand more about Ibo's precious ecosystem and the wide array of bird and marine life it supports.

Guided nature & bird walk - \$25 per person / \$35 per person including picnic

Ibo sits in a breathtakingly beautiful and unique location surrounded by Indian ocean and coral reefs, the Quirimbas National Park and one of the largest groves of mangroves in Africa.

A guided walk is one of the best ways to discover Ibo's varied flora and fauna and outstanding bird life. Early to mid morning or later in the afternoons is best recommended when it is generally cooler for walking. Walks can be tailor made to suit your specific interests and are arranged with your guide the day before.

Snorkelling excursion from the lodge to the wreck - minimum charge for boat is \$140 or \$35 per person. Add on excursion to the wreck from the sandbank is \$15 per person, minimum charge \$50

Discover the underwater paradise that surrounds Ibo Island – either by boat or traditional dhow and snorkel some of the best soft corals in the Quirimbas Archipelago. Weather and tide dependent

Traditional Sailing Dhow excursion - Minimum charge \$120 or \$35 per person

Dhow travel is one of the most traditional and ancient ways of travelling the archipelago. The last sea faring dhow expedition sailed from India to Ibo Island in 1969! Enjoy relaxing on a traditional Quirimbas sailing dhow with a picnic lunch on Matemo Island or surrounds. Weather and tide dependent and needs to be pre booked with your guide the day before.

Traditional dhow cruise - Minimum charge: \$120 or \$35 per person excluding drinks

Sunsets are usually a legendary pink, red and orange affair on Ibo Island and a sunset cruise gives you the chance to photograph mother nature's spectacle against the back drop of historic Ibo whilst sipping a cocktail or two out in the bay.

Trip to Quirimba Island - Minimum charge \$200 or \$40 per person

For the adventurous a one and a half hour walk takes us through the mangroves to the fascinating neighboring Quirimba island. Explore the village and churches and then travel home leisurely by boat through the canal cut by the slaves in the eighteenth century (boat travel is available both ways).

Private lunch on Mogundula Island - Minimum charge \$500 or \$135 per person

Probably one of the most beautiful islands in the Quirimbas Archipelago is yours to explore. Enjoy total privacy on this uninhabited tropical paradise island with white secluded sand spit beach, and sleep off a lunch under the shade of the coconut tree's.

Mogundula lies north of Ibo and is accessible weather and tide dependent by power boat transfer - approx a one hour journey each way. This excursion has to be planned in advance and pre booked and is subject to availability.

Ibo Massage treatments - From US\$ 40 per hour

Massage is culturally inspired and can include traditional body scrubs prepared using Ibo coarse sea salt, and zesty lemon grass grown locally as part of the lodges garden project.

The characteristic Ibo Island mussiro 'white face mask' is utilised. Traditionally made from the bark of a tree and painted onto the face using a coconut husk brush, the gentle paste ensures skin is protected from the sun and when removed leaves skin silky soft. The Mussiro mask is typically traditional to northern Mozambique and is the exotic and beautiful mask that many of the Ibo women wear daily.

Bicycle hire – US\$ 10 per person for 3 hours

Being mostly flat it's a pleasure to peddle around the island at your own pace and explore further parts of Ibo not reached on the guided walks.

Ibo Island Guided night walk – US\$ 12 per person

Take a guided night walk in the cooler night air to seek out the nocturnal life of Ibo.

The stone town and its architecture in moonlight is also particularly beautiful and a night time walk offers a completely different atmosphere on Ibo.

Scuba diving: Please note that presently Ibo Island Lodge does NOT offer fishing as part of its guest activities. It is possible for Ibo to arrange diving at neighboring properties subject to availability. Please contact our Head Office for assistance: The marine area of the Quirimbas National park includes 11 islands and is one of the richest, most biologically diverse marine environments on earth. An underwater playground with illuminating and phenomenal drop-offs, walls and coral caves, you can expect to see all coral species typical of the Indian Ocean region. Game fish are the feature, with sightings of yellow fin tuna, dogtooth tuna, marlin, manta rays, eight species of shark (to date), huge schools of feeding barracuda, king fish of many species, red snappers, green and hawksbill turtles, not to mention the hump backed whales in season.

Fishing:

Please note that presently Ibo Island Lodge does NOT offer fishing as part of its guest activities. It is possible for Ibo to arrange diving or fishing at neighboring properties subject to availability. Please contact our Head Office for assistance.

The waters surrounding Ibo boast legendary fishing with dogtooth tuna, numerous species of kingfish, marlin, sailfish, mackerel and the famous bonefish, while St. Lazarus Banks ranks amongst the best fishing destinations in the world.

Should clients wish to fish whilst at Ibo Island Lodge, all gear must be supplied by the client. No fishing equipment is available at the lodge.

Ibo has access to a rich marine environment that is ideal for targeting various species with fly rod. Although there are good flats around Ibo and neighbouring islands, the best fishing is to be found around the drop-offs, surf lines and reefs that provide the hunting grounds for the numerous predators in this area. Giant trevally (kingfish), other types of trevally, barracuda, queen fish, bonito, dorado and yellow fin tuna are all common in these waters and may be targeted by the fly fisherman. Bonefish are also occasionally seen on the flats if the tides are right.

Visiting fishermen should come well equipped with nine foot rods from 8 weight up to 12 weight if specifically targeting the larger species such as giant trevally. Most fishing will be done with sinking lines, from medium to fast sinking, and clouser type flies. Floating lines are however useful for the flats or for fishing poppers in shallower water. Sight fishing for hunting trevally in the surf can also require a strong rod matched with a floating line and an ability to spot and cast to these fish with only a few seconds notice.

Overall, this area is still largely to be discovered by the serious fly-fisher but what is without doubt is that there is a large population of fish and the opportunity to tangle with a real specimen.