



chimpanzees are popular (the local tribe believes that chimpanzees were once people who retreated into the forest; only children of 12 and over can view the chimps) and other such creatures as leopard, bushbuck, bush pig, birds and butterflies are commonly sighted.

The waters of the lake (the world's second deepest after Russia's Lake Baikal) are no less rich with about 250 species of tropical fish and give rise to fishing, kayaking, and sundowners on the dhow. It also yields lake-fresh sashimi.

Accommodation comprises six double-bandas set on the edge of the forest at the foot of the mountains, from where guests enjoy a panorama of the lake and the beach beyond. Every banda has its own en-suite bathroom set behind the bedroom with hot and cold running water, flush toilets and high-pressure showers.

They also have an upstairs chill-out deck accessible by wooden canoe ladder. Communal areas include the bar and two-storey mess on the beach loosely modelled on indigenous Tongwe architecture. Its soaring prow-like wings look out to every point of the compass.

PRICE: From US\$2,085 for a three- to four-night package.

CONTACT: www.nomad-tanzania.com ■

GREEN CONSCIOUS

SONEVA KIRI, KOH KOOD, THAILAND

The latest Six Senses offering, Soneva Kiri is due to open in April. Located on remote Koh Kood on the east coast of the Gulf of Thailand, the keywords of the resort will be "space" and "privacy".

The hideaway will consist of 42 pool villas (along the beach/hillside) and 20 private residences, each occupying one to two acres of land. The latter are now available for sale from US\$4.5 million.

Every desire of the guest has been anticipated: each villa has a deck with an open-plan sitting area and a large dining table leading onto a lower poolside area with additional relaxation areas, various large terraced areas with sun loungers, and a large half-moon infinity-edged pool. Some villas also feature a separate spa treatment area, gym, entertainment area with 42-inch LCD TV and bathrooms outfitted with a blitz shower, steam room and tub. Guests are kept in the loop with the usual high-tech devices and have an electrical cart for personal use.

Communal areas will be provided at the Host Village (with a full programme of regular wellness activities including yoga, tai chi, jogging, tennis, volleyball and gardening classes), library, computer facilities, a barber

shop-cum-hair salon, restaurant and convenience store.

Conscience is top of the agenda. The resort will employ 350 hosts, of which 90 percent will be Thai nationals, to work on a five-day week. The materials used in the construction of the resort focus on natural materials from sustainable sources and are designed to tread lightly on the earth. A Six Senses Resorts & Spas garbage handling programme will be used to ensure that there is zero discharge of local and solid waste: all liquid waste will be treated and then recycled for landscaping and produce garden watering; and all solid waste will be collected, separated, and then further processed for use in composting and fertilising. Soneva Kiri will produce drinking water to replace the need to import bottled water negating the significant carbon trail caused by water being shipped from elsewhere.

Guests will arrive via Bangkok and board the resort's luxurious custom-fitted eight-seater Cessna Grand Caravan for the 60-minute flight to Soneva Kiri's own airport, located on an adjoining island. From there, it is just a two-kilometre trip by luxury speed boat to the arrival pier.

PRICE: From around US\$3,500 per night.

CONTACT: www.sixsenses.com/soneva-kiri

