

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

You're heading to the wild plains of Tanzania with an inevitable night in Dar on the way. Now there's a reason not just to stop off but to really tuck in. Oyster Bay overlooks the sparkling ocean with lazy, buttery beaches just a pad away. It is gloriously elegant, its cool white interiors dotted with contemporary African art and sculptures. With only eight bedrooms it has the feel of a private house party; manager Meretha is a fine host who will have you crying with laughter. Sip rum cocktails, play backgammon by the pool, have lobster delivered to your room. A driver is on hand to take you around the city. Shopping? The best beaches? Just ask. Dar now has a real sting in its tail. **Website** theoysterbayhotel.com. **UK reservations** African & Indian Explorations (tel: 01993 822443). **Rates** Double, from £165, full board.

