



**INNOVATION
AWARDS 2018**

DISCLAIMER

To keep things fair, all entries included are shown exactly as they were submitted. We Are Africa Innovation Awards has endeavored not to edit for spelling, grammar or readability – as such, please be aware that we take no responsibility for such errors.

DESIGN AFRICA

Whether it's a showstopping art installation, interiors overhaul or pace-setting new build, we're recognising the groundbreaking designs changing the look and feel of modern Africa.

SEGERA

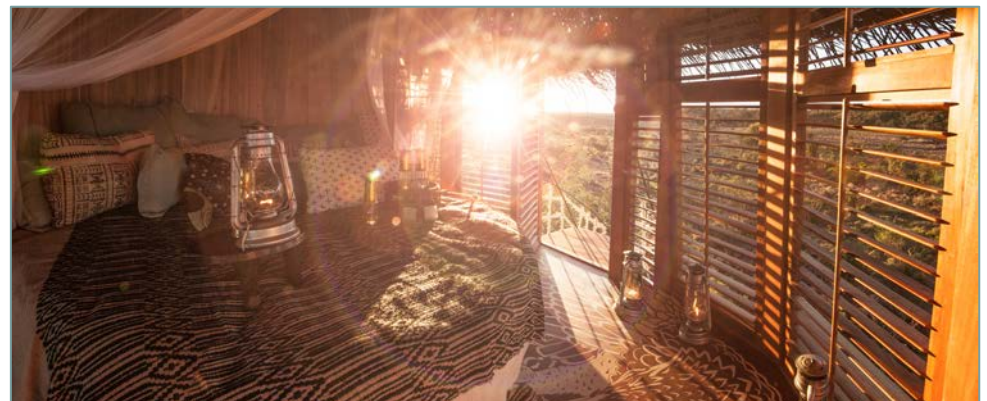
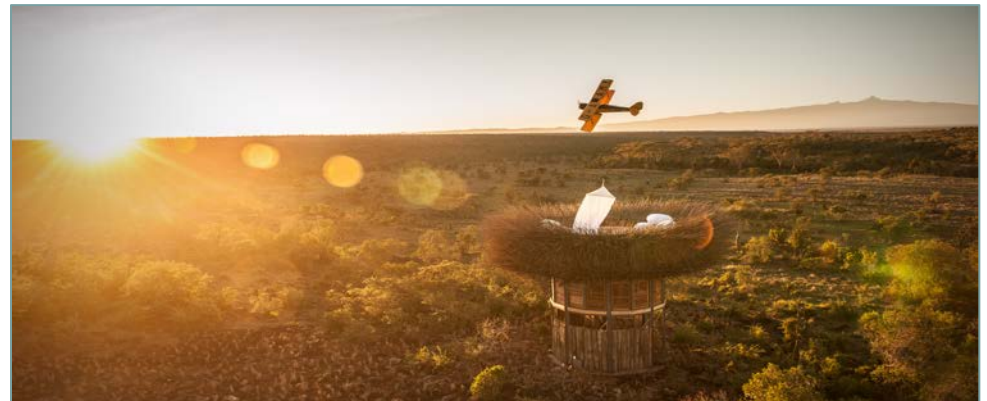
PROJECT TITLE: NAY PALAD BIRD NEST

WHAT WAS THE OBJECTIVE?

Segera's NAY PALAD Bird Nest is one of Kenya's most innovative accommodation types, inspired by a unique concept of nesting and sleeping like a bird - above the ground, with 360 degree sceneries and a bird's eye view over a beautiful wilderness and river teeming with wildlife. The entire nest structure is built and designed from raw materials such as farmed wood and tree branches that have been woven into a nest by local community members. The NAY PALAD Bird Nest includes a fully equipped bathroom with running water (solar heated) and a flushing toilet. Guests are brought to the NAY PALAD Bird Nest just before sunset, to enjoy "Sundowners" and various culinary delights al fresco on the top deck, with luxurious beds prepared in the shelter of the first floor (as well as on the roof). The following morning, a picnic breakfast is delivered to their doorstep, to be enjoyed while watching elephants, giraffe and other wildlife at the river. To wake up to the magical sounds of wild animals at play, surrounded by pristine nature as far as the eye can see - this is a place of true, untouched wonderment. Despite the sound of elephants munching leaves and the stirring groan of lions, the unique design and elevated structure of the NAY PALAD Bird Nest makes it a safe and comfortable place to relax, whether you choose to stay in the warm comfort and shelter of the first floor, or to sleep out under the stars...

DESCRIPTION:

Envisioning a unique jewel at the heart of the natural world, Segera and NAY PALAD brought a bird nest to life - an inspiring living space unlike anything else in the world.



ASILIA AFRICA

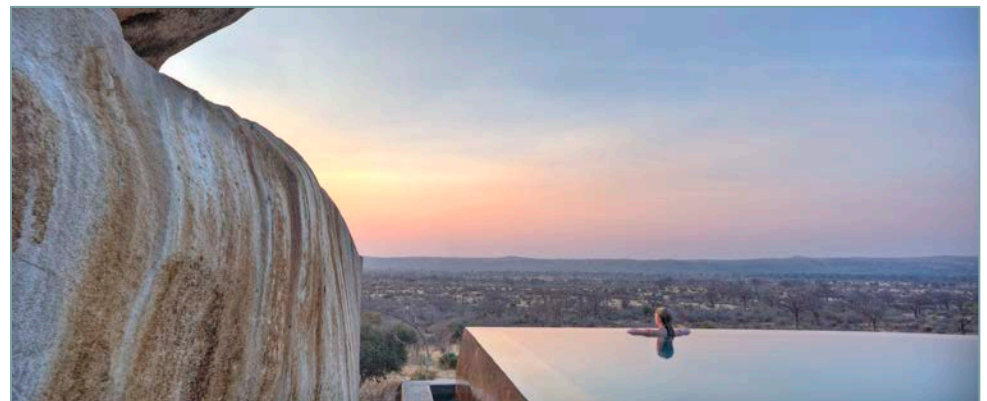
PROJECT TITLE: JABALI RIDGE, RUAHA

WHAT WAS THE OBJECTIVE?

The objective of Jabali Ridge was to pay homage to the startling landscape of Ruaha National Park whilst bringing an unprecedented level of comfort and sophistication to Tanzania's largest and least-known national park. Every element of the design was inspired by the natural environment to help guests connect with nature and disconnect from their busy lives. From the vertical elements which jut out of the rooms and represent the bulbous baobab trees the park is famous for, to the muted, hand dyed linens which mirror the colours of the granite boulders around which the lodge was built; Jabali is Asilia's rough luxe interpretation of this vast wilderness. Handmade wooden headboards, dip-dyed mosquito nets and stone wash basins pay homage to Ruaha's ancient and unique landscape. Jabali blurs the lines between inside and out and is designed to connect guests with the magnitude of their surroundings; retractable doors and louvred shutters allow guests the option to open their rooms entirely to the wild. Wherever possible the natural granite boulders which cocoon the lodge were used instead of formal walls, giving each room an organic shape. A key objective was that the lodge should be invisible to the human eye from a distance and blend seamlessly into the rocks, so as in no way to disturb the vista for safari goes exploring the park. Jabali was, as with all Asilia projects, built with the highest respect for the natural environment.

DESCRIPTION:

Jabali's three way rim flow pool, suspended high above the savannah, is cocooned between hulking granite rocks. Elephants moving between the baobabs below are a common sight and a it is the ideal spot for a sundowner.



ANGAMA MARA

PROJECT TITLE: THE SHAMBA

WHAT WAS THE OBJECTIVE?

Angama Mara, located in one of the iconic spots from the film *Out of Africa*, now has a "farm" of its own. Swahili for vegetable patch, the 'Shamba' is fast becoming a much-loved experience for Angama Mara's guests. Designed by architect, Ian Dommissie, the Shamba is built with environmentally friendly construction methods, and is divided into five zones for different produce, including: pumpkins and fruit trees; citrus and blooming red spirals; "crop circles" and helping herbs; dining and lazing; and a Kenyan medicinal healing garden. When the Shamba is fully planted it will provide most of the lodge's need for fine salads, herbs, tomatoes and baby vegetables. Located within easy walking distance of the lodge, most guests stop by on their way to or from the Reserve. The Shamba keepsers welcome guests at the passionfruit bower that forms the entrance to the garden. They then guide guests via meandering paths through the one-acre garden, explaining all the produce and encouraging guests to pick and taste the produce along the way. The design is magical and the Shamba keepers share the story behind its unique layout. Angama Mara now offers private Shamba-to-table lunches in the garden under romantic towering shade trees. Guests can pick their own ingredients, which are then washed and readied for the freshest possible salad. Angama Mara's butlers prepare a wicker basket filled with loaves of bread, local Kenyan cheeses and chilled rosé wine to accompany the salad. Guests are left to while away the afternoon taking in sweeping views of the Mara below, while watching the butterflies and birds dance around the garden.

DESCRIPTION:

The most stand aspect of The Shamba is the beautiful chaos of a fully-fledged 1 acre kitchen garden that provides garden-to-table lunches amongst the butterflies in a remote corner of Kenya, on the edge of The Great Rift Valley.



PELICAN POINT LODGE

PROJECT TITLE: PELICAN POINT LODGE

WHAT WAS THE OBJECTIVE?

Next to the Walvis Bay lighthouse at the end of a 28km pure-sand peninsula we took the challenge to revamp the old and abandoned guard-house which was rusting away. After stripping it down and fixing all the major structures we turned it into a small lodge, today known as Pelican Point Lodge. Surrounded by hundreds of seals, flamingos, pelicans, jackal and frequently even whales and dolphins, the tip of the peninsula is a wildlife haven and we're constantly thriving to keep it clean and safe thanks to our small operation. This project was launched before 2016, but is an ongoing process of maintaining and adjusting to the destination that it is today.

DESCRIPTION:

By renovating this building and turning it into a low volume tourist destination we are able to maintain the vastness of the peninsula and run operations without disturbing the wildlife in the surroundings.

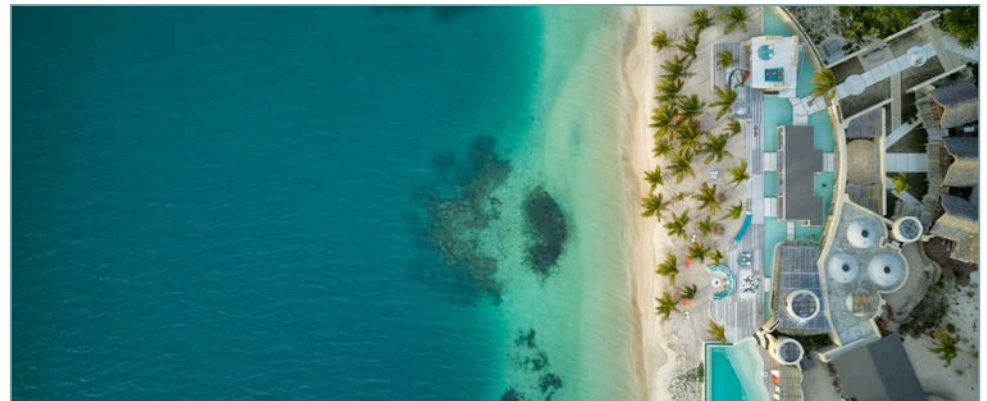


TIME + TIDE

PROJECT TITLE: TIME + TIDE MIAVANA

WHAT WAS THE OBJECTIVE?

We wanted to create an island/beach resort unlike anything else the world had ever seen. A timeless architectural feat at the ends of the earth that enhanced the intrepid allure of Madagascar and reflected the incredible diversity, rawness and endemicity of this land where evolution has run wild. We first encountered Madagascar's Nosy Ankaos archipelago in 2009, recognising the need to create a long-term conservation for this very unique part of the Indian Ocean. With our background in bringing architecturally innovative camps to the continent's remotest corners, we were confident in the power of high-end tourism to create lasting impact through marine and terrestrial conservation and sustainable employment for the local community. RESULT: Working with our extended architectural 'family', we have spent the last 5 years developing Time + Tide Miavana. We were inspired by the magical space between the moon and tide, the underwater world and like civilizations of old, by light and time measured in the arcing sun. The design reconnects you with the Earth, surrounding you with native plants and elements of sand, sea and air to bring you closer to the ground. Natural and recycled materials in soothing tones that reflect the island's beach and forests make the structures feel like they have grown from the earth. An effortless flow between the in and out, you feel the ocean-scented breezes, hear the singing birds, see the shimmering turquoise waters and feel the warm Madagascan sun through skylights and the villas' turreted showers. Roofs collect rainwater and house solar panels for power. Through the open design and floor to ceiling windows the aim was to create a stage from which you have a 360-degree view of the island's forested heart, the turquoise ocean and the dramatic mountains of Madagascar beyond.



DESCRIPTION:

The entire site is around 2kms long and every nail, piece of piping or stone has gone on an immense journey to get to Nosy Ankao. Not only that, but with only one tractor and a JCB, pretty much everything has been crafted and created by hand. The result is a resort with historic, cultural, architectural and design significance. A pioneering development in luxury travel.

VIDEO LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHmmszkHbnk&t=5s>

