PINK SAND
An expert selection of 50 fabulous beach holidays for 2019
Medjumbe Island, Mozambique

Medjumbe is the tropical fantasy of travel brochures - a sandy question mark scrawled in the Indian Ocean, with a derelict lighthouse punctuating one end. There's a stretch of white beach, a skirt of coral reefs and just one lodge, with staff on hand to cater to your every need. Each of the 12 thatched bungalows has a private plunge pool and hammock. No snakes, no malaria, no worries. The scuba diving is exceptional, and the birding is surprisingly good.

The Anantara Medjumbe Island Resort (anantara.com) has doubles from £740; it's a 45-minute light-aircraft flight from Pemba.
6 — Bahia, Brazil

There are many landscapes in this state in eastern Brazil, but its Atlantic beaches - from the verdant Coconut Coast in the north to the coral reefs of Whale Coast in the south - are increasingly enticing travellers to branch out from Rio de Janeiro. This year, a lavish new 30-room Anantara resort, complete with spa and Bahian-inflected restaurant, will open up the region’s remote Maraú peninsula. Anantara Maraú Bahia Resort (anantara.com) will open late 2019; prices not yet available. See also visitbrasil.com