



MADAGASCAR 2012



INTRODUCTION

Manahaona! Madagascar is an island in the Indian Ocean, ±400km's from Southern Africa's east coast. Over millions of years, Madagascar developed a unique flora and fauna. This is the place where evolution has run wild and it has such a high degree of endemism, that it is truly a place like nowhere else on earth! Madagascar is famous for its remarkable selection of lemurs (51+ lemur varieties occur here!), primitive primate's endemic to the island, brilliantly coloured chameleons & lizards, tenrecs, fossas, bats and rodents. Several early evening walks are also planned for this tour, in order to experience the "darker" side of the nocturnal creatures - first hand! This Tour Programme is designed to offer guests of all ages a unique experience. We concentrate on nature and not just lemurs or plants or birds - we make time for it all! A medium level of fitness is required, as we can do quite a bit of walking. This Tour Programme is also designed to be family-friendly and photographers will love it!

INCLUDED IN PACKAGE:

- Destinations:** Antananarivo, Morondava, Bekopaka, Tsingy, Kirindy, Tulear, Ifaty, Ranohira, Ranomafana, Antsirabe & Mantadia
- Date:** 7 to 22 April 2012
- Duration:** 16 Days / 15 Nights
- Accommodation:** En suite accommodation at the following: Palissandre Côte Ouest, Orchidée de Bemaraha, Au camp amoureux, Le Paradisier, Jardin du Roy, Setam Lodge, Résidence Camélia & Vakona
- Transfers:** 2 x air transfers – Antananarivo to Morondava on day 1, Morondava to Tulear on day 7, 2 x road transfers – Tulear to Ifaty on day 7 & Tana to Antananarivo on day 16
- Meals:** Meals as listed in itinerary
- Park Entrance Fees:** All park entrance fees included
- Vehicles:** Vehicles & Fuel: 4WD vehicles from Morondava to Bekopaka and back and from Tuléar to Ifaty and back.
- Guides:** Local English speaking guide & Neil as SafariWise tour leader
- Pre-tour:** Palissandre Hotel & Spa, dinner & airport transfer





EXCLUDED FROM PACKAGE:

- All International flights
- Visa Fee (FOC at the moment, might be GBP45 in 2012)
- Gratuities
- Optional activities e.g. excursions in Ifaty, watersports, etc.
- Travel insurance
- Laundry
- Beverages
- Items of personal nature

TOUR PROGRAMME

Pre-tour: 6th April 2012

Fly in to Antananarivo

Meeting with Neil will be at the hotel in the evening. Time to be announced.

Accommodation: Palissandre Hotel & Spa

Meals: Dinner

Day 1: 7th April 2012

Antananarivo - Morondava

Meeting at the airport we then fly to Morondava. We are picked up at the airport and then drive to the famous Baobab Alley, and also see the "baobab in love". Stay around there until sunset and experience magic moments before driving back to our hotel.

Accommodation: Palissandre côte Ouest

Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Included activities: Baobab excursion

Optional activities: N.A.

Day 2: 8th April 2012

Morondava – Bekopaka (250km, about 10 hours drive)

This morning we depart Morondava in 4WD cars. We then travel to Bekopaka along dry forest and savannah like landscapes, and cross two rivers. The river crossings are a great adventure. While the road infrastructure is basic, the photo opportunities are not. A varied day of photo opportunities.

Accommodation: Orchidée de Bemaraha

Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

Included activities: Wildlife photographic opportunities en-route

Optional activities: N.A.



Day 3 & 4: 9th & 10th April 2012

Bekopaka: Petit Tsingy & Grand Tsingy

We visit the incredible limestone formations found at Tsingy of Bemaraha - a National Park of pointed rocks: this is the biggest protected area in Madagascar and is classified a Natural World Heritage by Unesco. During our visit at Petit Tsingy, we may see Broad billed rollers, Whistling ducks, Madagascar Fish Eagles, herons, Malagasy King fisher, Pied crows, as we get close to the Manamabolo River. The next day when we visit the Grand Tsingys, we may see Giant Couas, Back kites, Greater Vasa parrots, Grey headed love birds, Namaqua dove & Madagascar hoopoe.

Accommodation: Orchidée de Bemaraha
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner
Included activities: Day 3: Petit Tsingy excursion and Day 4: Grand Tsingy excursion
Optional activities: N.A

Day 5: 11th April 2012

Bekopaka – Kirindy (180km, about 8 hours drive)

Drive to Kirindy, which is a tropical, dry deciduous forest which is 60 km north of Morondava on the West Coast. Tonight we do a nocturnal visit in the Kirindy Reserve.

Accommodation: Au camp Amoureux
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner
Included activities: Nocturnal visit at Kirindy Reserve
Optional activities: N.A

Day 6: 12th April 2012

Kirindy – Morondava (70km, about 2 hours drive)

Half day visit of Kirindy Reserve. Dominated by majestic Baobab trees (*Adansonia grandidieri*), this reserve is home to the world's smallest known primate as well as dozens of amphibian and reptile species (and no poisonous snakes). There are more than 60 species of birds. Possible endemic sighting includes: White-headed Vanga, Rufous Vanga, White-breasted Mesite, Coquerel's Coua, Crested Coua, Sickle-billed Vanga, Chabert's Vanga, Cuckoo Roller, Madagascar Nightjar, and Banded Kestrel. Along with a stunning variety of unique flora the Kirindy forest is home to 8 lemur species such as Sifaka, Brown lemurs, variety of tenrecs species, the Narrow-striped mongoose, Giant jumping rat and Fossa. We head back to Morondava in the afternoon, with a stop to take some pictures at sunset on the Baobab Avenue.

Accommodation: Palissandre côte Ouest
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner
Included activities: Kirindy Reserve excursion
Optional activities: N.A

Day 7: 13th April 2012

Morondava – Tulear – Ifaty

This morning we transfer to the airport and fly to Tuléar. Upon arrival at the airport in Tulear we transfer to Ifaty, which is situated about 27 km north of Tuléar.



Accommodation: *Le Paradisier*
Meals: *Breakfast, lunch & dinner*
Included activities: *Air transfer to Ifaty*
Optional activities: *N.A*

Day 8: 14th April 2012

Ifaty

Today, we will have a half day visit in the Reniala Reserve where a big variety of birds can be seen such as Madagascar buzzard, Madagascar harrier hawk, Madagascar kestrel, Madagascar button quail, Sub desert mesite, whimbrel, Common greenshank, Black-winged stilt, Grey plover, Madagascar plover, Lesser crested-tern, Madagascar turtle-dove, Madagascar green pigeon, Greater vasa parrot, Lesser vasa parrot, Grey-headed lovebird, Madagascar lesser Cuckoo, Red-fronted Coua, Running Coua, Green-capped Coua, Crested Coua, Madagascar coucal, Madagascar nightjar, Madagascar swift, Madagascar bee-eater, Madagascar cuckoo-shrike, Red-tailed vanga, Hook-billed vanga, Sickle-billed Vanga, White-headed Vanga, Chabert Vanga, Madagascar magpie robin, Long-billed greenbul, Sub desert brush-warbler, Thamnornis warbler, Common newtonia, Archbolds newtonia, Common jery, Madagascar munia, Sakalava weaver, Madagascar fody & Madagascar lark.

Accommodation: *Le Paradisier*
Meals: *Breakfast, lunch & dinner*
Included activities: *Reniala Reserve excursion*
Optional activities: *N.A*

Day 9: 15th April 2012

Ifaty – Tulear – Ranohira (260km, about 6 hours drive, including stops en-route)

After breakfast we drive back to Tulear with a visit to the Arboretum with many species of endemic plants. We then continue to Ranohira. The landscape is composed of high bushes, thick gallery forests and some proudly decorated Mahafaly tombs. Again, fantastic opportunistic shoots that your guide will maximise.

Accommodation: *Jardin du Roy*
Meals: *Breakfast, lunch & dinner*
Included activities: *Arboretum excursion*
Optional activities: *N.A*

Day 10: 16th April 2012

Ranohira

This morning we trek inside the Isalo National Park to discover the massif of Isalo, famous for its canyons and flora that are unique. The road offers panoramas of vast savannah areas and hills with evocative profiles. Discovering Monicola sharpie, Rock blackbird, Coua cristata or Crested coua. Here, our main goal is only to find a Benson's rock-thrush, which has officially been lumped with Forest Rock-thrush. Afterwards we travel back to the hotel. In the afternoon we visit the "window of Isalo" to see a wonderful sunset and to take memorable photos.

Accommodation: *Jardin du Roy*
Meals: *Breakfast, lunch & dinner*
Included activities: *Isalo National Park & Window of Isalo excursions*
Optional activities: *N.A*



Day 11: 17th April 2012

Ranohira – Ranomafana (365km, about 10 hours drive, including stops & visit of Anja Park)

After an early breakfast we drive to Ranomafana. En-route we stop 12 km before Ambalavao to see the commercial centre of the southern Betsileo region, renowned for its folks, arts and crafts. Here we visit Anja Park, where you can see some families of ring-tailed lemurs in their natural surroundings.

Accommodation: Setam Lodge
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner
Included activities: Anja Park excursion & arts/crafts stop at commercial centre
Optional activities: N.A.

Day 12: 18th April 2012

Ranomafana – Antsirabe (255km, about 6 hours drive)

Today we do an early morning visit in the Ranomafana National Park. Ranomafana means ‘hot water’ in Malagasy. Ranomafana National Park is a rainforest site situated in the east of Madagascar, 445 km south of Antananarivo and 65 km east of Fianarantsoa. This is a superb area of rainforest where a new species of lemur, the Golden Bamboo Lemur, was discovered in 1985. This site has actually more to offer than the National Park. This is at higher elevation and better for a few species: Pollens vanga, Yellow-billed sunbird-asy, Velvet asity, and Yellow-browed oxylabes. After the visit we drive to Antsirabe and overnight.

Accommodation: Résidence Camélia
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner
Included activities: Ranomafana National Park excursion
Optional activities: N.A

Day 13: 19th April 2012

Antsirabe – Andasibe (305km, about 7 hours drive, including lunch break)

After breakfast we drive to Antananarivo and then continue further to Andasibe. This route takes us through a landscape composed of rice fields, waterfalls, and scarce forest stations. On the way we visit the exotic Parc of Marozevo.

Accommodation: Vakona
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner
Included activities: Scenic drive to Parc of Marozevo; Parc of Marosevo excursion
Optional activities: N.A

Day 14 & 15: 20th & 21st April 2012

Andasibe & Mantadia

We visit the Mantadia & Andasibe National Park. We may see Madagascar starlings, Short-legged and Scaly ground-rollers, Crested ibis, tiny Madagascar Fluff tail, Ward’s flycatcher, Brown wood-rail, Madagascar pygmy kingfisher & Madagascar Sparrow hawk. We may also see some species of lemurs such as the Indri indri, Bamboo lemurs & Brown lemurs. During our evening walk, we may find the Malagasy scops-owl, Greater dwarf & Brown mouse lemurs and several chameleons.

Accommodation: Vakona
Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner





Included activities: Mantadia & Andasibe National Park excursions & an evening walk
Optional activities: N.A

Day 16: 22nd April 2012

Andasibe – Antananarivo – fly out

This morning we drive back to Tana (135km, about 3 hours drive). Then transfer to the airport for our flights back home.

Accommodation: N.A.
Meals: Breakfast
Included activities: Scenic drive to Tana
Optional activities: N.A

Quoted price: 2012

6 pax:

Pre-tour:

GBP 133.00 per person sharing
GBP 58.00 single supplement

Day 1 – 16:

GBP 4,140.00 per person sharing
GBP 1,150.00 single supplement

Notes:

- a) The costing for the Tour Programme is based on a minimum of six (6) guests.
- b) This is a quotation and is valid for 2012.
- c) No reservations have been made and all accommodation, flights and transport are subject to availability.
- d) Should any of the accommodation mentioned not be available, we reserve the right to substitute it with an alternative suitable venue, which might affect the final quoted price.
- e) Quoted price is also subject to availability, fuel/gas price and possibly exchange rate fluctuations.
- f) 15% non-refundable deposit is required on confirmation of safari.
- g) Full payment is required sixty (60) days prior to arrival.

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