

TRACKS SAFARIS

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**15 DAY MADAGASCAR WILDLIFE AND CULTURE
A PRIVATE JOURNEY**



DAY 1, ARRIVAL IN TANA (International flight)

On arrival into Tana you are met and transferred to your hotel

Overnight at Hotel GASSY COUNTRY HOUSE on B&B

DAY 2, TANA – MORONDAVA (Domestic flight) – KIRINDY 60Km: 2hours

Transfer to the airport for the flight to Morondava. On arrival transfer through the Baobabs forest and the red soil of the west to Kirindy where you will be checked into the lodge. Meet the guide for night walk of the reserve to see the fossa and other night active lemur's species; overnight at **RELAIS DU KIRINDY on B&B**

DAY 3, KIRINDY

Visit Kirindy forest - Kirindy is known for its baobab and its dry western forest. Rich in wildlife and home to 8 species of day active lemurs, Kirindy is also home to "the Fossa" the only predator for lemurs and the "Giant Jumping Rat", the world's smallest primate as well as dozens of amphibian and reptile species (and no poisonous snakes). The Kirindy boasts more than 60 species of birds. **Overnight at the same lodge**

DAY 4, KIRINDY - MORONDAVA

In the afternoon drive back to Morondava which is known for its baobab and its dry western forest. On the way stop in « ALLEE DES BAOBABS » for sunset photo. Arrival in Morondava late in the afternoon. Settling and night at Hotel **PALISSANDRE COTE OUEST on HB**.

DAY 5, MORONDAVA – ANT SIRABE: 480km – 08 hour drive

After breakfast drive up to Antsirabe through the beautiful landscape such as baobabs and rice fields arriving into Miandrivazo at lunch time. You will then continue your drive to Antsirabe with a landscape that keeps changing across the highlands - typically rice fields, then red soil, many erosion « lavaka », a very strange formation of granite formed by erosion. You will arrive into Antsirabe at the end of the afternoon.

Overnight at **CHAMBRE DE VOYAGEUR on B&B**

DAY 6, ANT SIRABE - ANDASIBE: 285 km : 7 hours

Drive up to Tana (around 3 hours), then drive another 4 hours to Andasibe through the green landscape of the east through tropical rainforest, alternated with eucalyptus and pine, hills, valleys, lakes and rivers, villages with huts, brick houses with thatched roofs. This journey takes you to the humid part of the country primary forest and lakes. Night at **ANDASIBE HOTEL on B&B**

Day 7, ANDASIBE NATIONAL PARK

In the morning enjoy a 3 - 4 hour hike to Andasibe National Park - a huge tropical rain forest in the east. 9 species of lemurs can be spotted, the highlight is the "Indri Indri" which is the largest lemur on the island. This 810 ha reserve is also home to numerous unique wildlife. It contains a wide variety of orchids, canopy, endemic animals such as chameleons, tenrecs, and many birds. After the hike you will visit the private park of Vakona in the "islands of lemurs" which is a fabulous place to take close up photos of lemurs.

Night at the same hotel.

DAY 8: ANDASIBE - MANAMBATO : 138km 3 hour drive - ANKANIN'NY NOFY 1 hour boat

After breakfast drive to Manambato – around 3 hours. Stop and visit the town of Brickaville - an old colonial city known for its sugar cane plantation. Then continue on a dirt track to Manambato where you take a 1-hour boat transfer to Ankanin'ny nofy. You cross the Rasoabe Lake then the Pangalanes channel built during the colonisation period for commercial use with the chance to see many birds amongst the luxuriant vegetation of the east. Arrival in the afternoon. Ankanin'ny Nofy means nest of the dreams. Surrounded by a huge, blue lake this is the ideal place for rest and relaxation. Overnight at hotel **PALMARIUM on B&B**

Day 9, ANKANIN' NY NOFY

This morning enjoy an early morning expedition to spot endemic birds around the area. Then, after breakfast you'll have another hike to explore « PALMARIUM » private park which is home to 7 species of lemurs, with "Indri Indri" as a highlight, many species of reptiles and birds. Flora is also very rich with its garden of palm trees, orchids and the famous vanilla. The bungalows are situated inside the park so you will be permanently

in contact with lemurs. Surrounded by a huge lake, this is one of the few places ideal for rest in the middle of nature. At around 5.30pm you take a 30 minutes boat trip across the Ampitabe lake and visit the “aye aye” island - a newly created park to protect the endangered “aye aye”. This 1-hour visit is a rare opportunity for you to see this unique and seldom seen lemur in its natural habitat. **Overnight in the same hotel**

Day 10, AKANIN’ NY NOFY – TAMATAVE: 60 km : 3 hours boat transfer -MAHAMBO 70Km : 3 hour drive

Breakfast at hotel then 3 hours boat transfer to Tamatave along the Pangalanes channel. During the journey enjoy the life of the people living along the channel where the only means of communication is by the canal. Bamboo pirogues transporting charcoals, boats transporting goods and passengers, women washing dishes and laundry, children swimming and many fishing nets are the scenery that you will see along the canal. Arrival in Tamatave, 3 hour drive to Mahambo, **overnight at LA PIROGUE on B&B**

Day 11, MAHAMBO – SAINTE MARIE (2 Hours boat)

After breakfast you will have a 2 hour transfer by boat to Sainte Marie. On arrival transfer to your hotel.

Day at leisure - Sainte-Marie is an island to the north-east of Tamatave . It used to be the home of pirates during the 17th century and the queen of the island was married to one of them. With beautiful beaches, wonderful creeks, a laid back ambience, an authentic atmosphere - Sainte- Marie is idea for guests looking for tranquillity and beauty. **Overnight at LIBERTALIA on HB**

DAY 12 : SAINTE MARIE

Half day whales watching! Sainte Marie is the best place for whales watching. From July to end September, humpback whales come to the warm seas around Madagascar to give birth, Afternoon free, **overnight at the same lodge on HB**

DAY 13 – 14 : SAINTE MARIE

Day at leisure. Dotted with beautiful beaches and wonderful creeks, Sainte-Marie is a haven of tranquillity and beauty. A tropical isle with luxuriant vegetation, the island is excellent for walking and cycling, snorkelling and diving. **Night at the same hotel.**

DAY 15: SAINTE MARIE – TANA (Domestic flight) – OUT (International flight)

Transfer to the airport to fly back to Tana. On arrival transfer to Hotel Gassy Country House with use of a day room before your transfer to the airport for your international flight back home.

INCLUDED

Accommodation in a twin room based on the itinerary
All transfers airport – Hotels – airport
Transport with private car with driver
Transfer boat Manambato – Palmarium – Tamatave
Transfer boat Mahambo – Sainte Marie
Half day whales watching in Sainte Marie
Entrance fees with special guide for the visit mentioned

NOT INCLUDED

International flights
All personal expenses, food not mentioned in the itinerary, drinks and tips
All optional excursions
Visa and travel insurance



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