

TRACKS SAFARIS

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WILDLIFE OF MADAGASCAR A TAILORMADE JOURNEY



Day 1, TANA – ANDASIBE 145Km – 4 hour drive including stop

On arrival into Tana you are met and transferred around 4 hours by road to Andasibe through the highlands, then the green landscapes of the east. This journey takes you to the humid part of the country with many primary forest and lakes. Overnight at **VAKONA FOREST LODGE on Bed and Breakfast.**

Day 2, MANTADIA ANDASIBE NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast drive to Mantadia National Park which is 14 km from Vakona and enjoy a 5 hour walk inside the park with frequent stops. Mantadia is a Special Reserve which has been recently made accessible to visitors and is very rich in wildlife and the ideal place for nature lovers to see a wide variety of species of lemurs and reptiles. In the afternoon drive back to Vakona to visit private park “ Ile aux lémuriens” – Lemur Island – where you can get close to the lemurs. **Overnight at the same hotel.**

Day 3, ANALAMAZAOTRA ANDASIBE NATIONAL PARK

In the morning enjoy a 3 - 4 hour hike to Andasibe National Park - a huge tropical rainy forest in the east of Madagascar. 9 species of lemurs can be spotted and 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 like chameleons, tenrecs, and many birds. **Night at the same hotel.**

Day 4, ANALAMAZAOTRA ANDASIBE NATIONAL PARK

2 - 3 hour drive to Manambato then continue on a dirt track to Manambato where you take a 1 hour boat transfer to Akanin' ny Nofy. You cross the Rasoabe Lake then the Pangalanes channel built during the colonial period. You can admire many birds along the luxuriant vegetation of the east. Arrive in the afternoon. Ankanin'ny Nofy means nest of dreams. Surrounded by a huge, blue lake this is the ideal place to relax and to be in contact with nature. At around 17h you meet your guide for a nocturnal visit to see night active lemurs especially Aye-Aye. Overnight at hotel **PALMARIUM on bed and breakfast.**



Day 5, AKANIN' NY NOFY

Visit of PALMARIUM private park. The bungalows are situated inside the park so you'll be close to the lemurs. Palmarium reserve is home to 7 species of lemurs with "Indri Indri" being the highlight, many species of reptiles especially chameleons. Flora is also very rich - palm trees, orchids and the famous vanilla. **Overnight at the same hotel on Bed and Breakfast.**

Day 6, AKANIN' NY NOFY – TAMATAVE 3HOURS BOAT – TANA (domestic flight)

3 hours navigation along the Canal des Pangalanes. On arrival into Tamatave transfer to your hotel and overnight at **RELAIS DES PLTEAUX on Bed and Breakfast.**

Day 7, TANA – FORT DAUPHIN (domestic flight) – MANDRARE RIVER CAMP

Transfer to the airport for the flight to Fort dauphin and on arrival drive for around 5 hours to Mandrare River Camp, settle into your tent and enjoy the majestic views over the River. After a barbeque lunch of succulent grilled meats and salads leave for a walk to the Sacred Ifotaka community forests. The forests are filled with the ancestral tombs of the local Antandroy Tribe as well as a bewildering array of flora and fauna, unique to the spiny forest. After a freshen up enjoy an evening aperitif on the river terrace before a sumptuous 3-course dinner.

Overnight at **MANDRARE RIVER CAMP on an All Inclusive basis**

**Day 8, MANDRARE RIVER CAMP**

After breakfast continue to one of the nearby markets to see the full rich tapestry of valley life as people who have travelled for hours or even days buy and sell their local wares. With our expert guides to interpret all that you see, this is a rich fulfilling experience. Alternatively you can enjoy more wildlife viewing activities – your full itinerary will be decided at the camp.

Returning to camp for lunch, in the mid afternoon continue northwards to the Forest of Zenavo. This forest is excellent for night walks, we do a day into night walk first spotting Sifakas and sleeping White-foot Sportive lemurs, then once the sun has set we look for two mouse lemur species, sleeping birds, chameleons, owls and sportive lemurs. Overnight at **MANDRARE RIVER CAMP on an All Inclusive basis**.

Day 9, MANDRARE RIVER CAMP

After breakfast, drive to the Sacred Gallery forests to the south of the camp. These forests are deciduous mainly tamarind, and full of wildlife, especially lemurs with large groups of Ringtailed Lemurs. In the afternoon we head up to enjoy sundowners at the Baobabs, watching the sun set and moon rise with a view across the Baobabs to the mountains beyond. This is a magical experience the local village may come

to perform traditional dances.. Overnight at **MANDRARE RIVER CAMP on an All Inclusive basis.**

Day 10, MANDRARE RIVER CAMP – MANAFIAFY BEACH/ RAIN FOREST

After breakfast, transfer by road to Fort Dauphin for a relaxing seafood lunch. In the early afternoon continue by vehicle to Manafiafy Beach and Rainforest Lodge (2 ½hrs). Manafiafy, also known as Sainte Luce, is a beautiful white sandy bay fringed with forest covered mountains and wildlife rich mangroves. On arrival, check into your bungalow and overnight at **MANAFIAFY LODGE on an All Inclusive basis.**

Day 11, MANAFIAFY BEACH/ RAIN FOREST

After a breakfast take locally available activities. The lodge offers a wide range of activities which are all included in the cost: Canoeing in the mangroves, early morning boat trips for wetland birding, day and night walks in the rainforest to see 5 species of lemur, whale watching from the 15ft observation tower (June to December). Boat trips to the nearby islands for a secluded picnic lunch, trips to local village and school which are supported by Manafiafy Lodge. Optional activities, payable locally at the lodge include: massage treatments, whale watching trips (June to December), deep sea fishing trips, Overnight at **MANAFIAFY LODGE on an All Inclusive basis.**



Day 12, MANAFIAFY BEACH/ RAIN FOREST

Full days with activities at the lodge. Overnight at **MANAFIAFY LODGE on an All Inclusive basis.**

Day 13, MANAFIAFY BEACH/ RAIN FOREST – FORT DAUPHIN

Transfer to Fort Dauphin, upon arrival check into your hotel. Fort Dauphin lies in the south-east coast of Madagascar. It is dotted with two distinct climates which gives it two contrasted landscape: the east humid with its wet and green tropical forest and the south with its dry and desert plants such as the numerous spiny Bush. Overnight at **Croix Du Sud on Bed and Breakfast.**

Day 14, FORT DAUPHIN – TANA (Domestic flight VIA TULEAR)

Morning free. After lunch transfer to the airport for the flight back to Tana where you will be met and transferred to **RELAIS DES PLATEAUX on Bed and Breakfast.**

Day 15: TANA – ANJOZOROBE 120Km - around 3 to 4 hour drive

After breakfast you journey to Anjozorobe Forest Corridor where you can relax or take walks in the stunning forest. Anjozorobe is a hidden gem and despite its beautiful forest and biodiversity, receives relatively few visitors compared to more famous parks in Madagascar. You will stay at the beautiful Saha Forest Camp which offers a fabulous nature experience. Run by the NGO Fanamby and nestled in the heart of a humid and tropical forest, the structure is composed of 10 elegant bungalows. Equipped with private bathroom with hot water and mobile heating in winter, each bungalow has a large balcony opening to a lush green landscape. The restaurant and its raised balcony is an excellent place to enjoy the surroundings with a book or a pair of binoculars to observe the abundant birdlife. This evening you will be able to do a night walk in the forest, looking for nocturnal creatures.

Overnight at SAHA FOREST CAMP on Bed and Breakfast.

Day 16: ANJOZOROBE

Spend the day enjoying walks in the forest looking for flora and fauna. The forest at Anjozorobe is lush and teeming with life. It is also possible to see the Indri lemur, the largest of all the lemurs. If you do not wish to walk then it is also a pleasure to sit on the verandah of the lodge watching the forest and birds as they come and go. Anjozorobe is home to one of the last large and unfragmented remnants of the central highland's natural ecosystems. Two types of forest are present: high altitude humid forest (over 1500 m) and mountain humid forest (800 - 1500 m). The corridor is still of sufficient size and integrity to safeguard populations of plant and animal life. Anjozorobe is the richest known forest highland sites for biodiversity of flora and fauna.

Overnight at the same lodge.

Day 17: ANJOZOROBE – TANA 120km 3 to 4 hour drive - MORONDAVA (Domestic flight) – KIRINDY 60Km

Breakfast at the hotel then drive back to Tana. On arrival you are met and transferred to the airport for your flight to Morondava. On arrival you are met and drive to Kirindy and check into the lodge. At around 6pm you will meet your guide for a night walk to see night active animals. Overnight at **RELAIS DU KIRINDY on Bed and Breakfast.**

DAY 18: KIRINDY – MORONDAVA 60km – 2 hour drive

Early in the morning hike in "Kirindy Park" with a guide. 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" and the world's smallest primate as well as dozens of amphibian and reptile species (and no poisonous snakes). Kirindy boasts more than 60 species of birds. After lunch drive back to Morondava – on the way stop at « ALLEE DES BAOBABS » for photos; this is the region of splendid Grandidier's baobab, *Adansonia grandidieri*. Overnight at Hotel **PALISSANDRE COTE OUEST on Half Board.**

DAY 19: MORONDAVA – TANA (Domestic flight)

Morning free - afternoon transfer to the airport for the flight back to Tana. On arrival you are met and transferred to **RELAIS DES PLATEAUX on Bed and Breakfast.**

DAY 20: TANA – LHR (International flight)

After breakfast transfer to the airport in time to check in for your flight back to the UK.

INCLUDED:

- Accommodation in twin room based on itinerary
- Transport by private car with driver and fuel from Tana - Andasibe – Manambato
- Transfer boat from Manambato – Ankanin'ny nofy – Tamatave
- All transfers by private car from and to airport / all domestic flights
- Entrance fees with special guide for the visits mentioned in the above itinerary

NOT INCLUDED :

- Entrance visa, travel insurance and any optional extras



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