

# TRACKS SAFARIS

## WE GET YOU CLOSER



## MADAGASCAR – HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GREEN EAST

**9 nights/10 days**



### **DAY1: TANA – AMPEFY: 107 km**

You are met at the airport by your guide and drive to Ampefy which takes around 2 hours and is north-west of Tana. The highland scenery is stunning with its small red villages overlooking the mountains, wonderful mountain views and red rivers and streams in the middle of rice fields. The landscape has deep valleys and has unique erosion formed characteristics. En route you visit Lemurs' Park which is a private park with 6 species of lemurs, reptiles and other birds. Arrive into Ampefy at around noon and check into the Hotel KAVITAH. In the afternoon, visit the Chute de Lilly waterfalls and the Geysers of Andanomandraotra which are around 7km and 12km respectively from Ampefy on a badly made road.

**Overnight at the hotel KAVITAH**

**Day 2: AMPEFY – TANA - ANDASIBE: 240 km: 6 HOURS**

In the morning after breakfast you drive back to Tana and then continue eastwards to Andasibe, driving through the lush, green landscape of the east. This journey takes you to the humid part of the island with many primary forests and lakes. On the way, you can choose to visit the Pyrereras Park - a private park with reptiles and butterflies. Arrival in Andasibe at the end of the afternoon

**Overnight at the GRACE LODGE**

**Day 3: ANDASIBE**

This morning enjoy a visit to the Special Reserve of Andasibe to see the Indri Indri - the biggest lemurs in Madagascar. The 810ha reserve houses many species of endemic fauna and flora, a wide variety of orchids, forest canopy, many bird species and endemic creatures such as chameleons and the unique tenrec. Tenrecs are unusual insectivores which have evolved into ecological niches filled in other countries by hedgehogs, mice, shrews, opossums, and even otters. There are around 30 species of Tenrec in Madagascar. In the afternoon, visit a Betsimisaraka (The-Many-inseparable) village. They are the second largest tribe in Madagascar and cultivate rice and work on vanilla plantations.

**Overnight at the GRACE HOTEL**

**Day 4: ANDASIBE - ANKANIN' NY NOFY 130 km: 2 HOURS**

After breakfast drive to Ankanin' ny nofy with a brief stop Brickaville and then continue to Manambato where a boat transfer takes you to Ankanin' ny nofy. Cross the Rasoabe Lake and traverse the Pangalanes channel enjoying the luxuriant vegetation and wide variety of birds.

**Overnight at the PALMARIUM**

**Day 5: ANKANIN' NY NOFY**

Enjoy a day of leisure. Ankanin'ny Nofy means 'nest of the dreams' and is surrounded by a huge, blue lake. A beautiful spot to relax, rest and enjoy the scenery – you can visit the Palmarium - a private park housing many lemurs including propithecus verreauxi, eulemur coronatus, and macaco.

**Overnight at the PALMARIUM**

**DAY 6: ANKANIN' NY NOFY – TAMATAVE - FOULPOINTE: 60 KM BY BOAT – 60 KM BY ROAD**

Journey by boat along the Pangalanes channel. During this cruise you can get an insight into the lives of the people living along the channel who use bamboo pirogues. Arrive into Tamatave in the afternoon and head to Foulpointe – a seaside resort with white sand beaches and a coral reef protecting the shore.

**Overnight in hotel MANDA BEACH**

**DAY 7: FOULPOINTE – SAINTE MARIE: 58 km: 1 hour**

After breakfast enjoy a little local life as you are transferred to the bus stop to catch the local bus to Sainte Marie arriving around 10am. A speedboat transfer then takes you to Ambodifototra.

**Then transfer to Hotel MORAMORA**

**DAYS 8 and 9: SAINTE MARIE**

Enjoy a couple of days at leisure in Sainte Marie. Sainte Marie, known as Nosy Boraha, is an island off the east coast of Madagascar - the main town is Ambodifototra. The channel between Sainte-Marie Island and Madagascar is a hot spot for whale watching and substantial groups of humpback whales (Megaptera) migrate from the Antarctic to this idyllic breeding place. These quiet giants arrive in July to find conditions favourable for the growth of their young and well suited to their courtship and acrobatic games before departing around October toward the cold seas.

Sainte Marie was also a popular base for pirates throughout the 17th and 18th centuries as it was not far from the maritime routes along which ships returning from the East Indies sailed in transit, their holds overflowing with wealth. The pirates were attracted Sainte Marie as it has many bays and inlets protected from storms and the island had abundant supplies of fruit.

Sainte Marie is ideal for walking, cycling, snorkeling and diving. There are also interesting sights in and around Ambodifototra and the Baie des Forbans - you can visit the Catholic Church built in 1837 and the Pirates' Cemetery.

**Overnight (2 nights) at the Hotel MORAMORA**

**DAY 10, SAINTE MARIE - TANA**

Transfer to the airport to fly to Tana where you connect to your international flight home.

**INCLUDED**

Accommodation in double room based on bed and breakfast

English speaking guide during days 1 - 7

Entrance fees with a local guide in the National Park and Reserve

Transportation throughout the tour and airport transfers

All excursions mentioned in the itinerary

**NOT INCLUDED**

Any excursions not in mentioned in the itinerary

Personal expenses such as drinks, laundry and tips

Travel insurance



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