



RAW
AFRICA

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MADAGASCAR

Looking for Lemurs



16

DAYS



MADAGASCAR

This is your chance to uncover and explore the land of lemurs.... Madagascar! This 16 day adventure will take you through epic landscapes and incredible wildlife diversity. Get up close and personal with over 40 species of lemur, chameleons and frogs! From the ring tailed lemur of Anje Reserve to the rare aye aye of Palmarium Island, to the tiny mouse lemur of Ranomafana National Park and the swimming lemurs of Lake Alaotra, this is a journey to indulge your passion for this unique family of primates. On our journey gain an understanding of the conservation work in Madagascar with Centre ValBio and Palmarium Reserve. This is a trip with a lot of heart!

Support the wildlife of Madagascar

- Say no to plastic straws!

Plastic straws are a significant threat to marine life along Madagascar's Coastline, particularly to the reefs of the south west. Madagascar is also known for its cocktails, which are said to be some of the best in Africa. When you order your drink at the end of the day, remember to say "no straw thank you", or better yet, bring a reusable one from home, there is a great selection at Biome Australia. www.biome.com.au

Key

B: Breakfast

L: Lunch

D: Dinner

Day 1: Antananrivo (Tana), Madagascar

D

Welcome to Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar! We will meet you at the airport and take you to your accommodation where you'll have plenty of time to relax. Tonight we will gather to meet our fellow travellers and to discuss what lemur species we all hope to discover.

Day 2: Lemur Park

B L D

After an early breakfast we head to the outskirts of Tana to Lemur Park, a sanctuary where seven species of lemur are free to roam across 5 hectares of land and winding paths. This is an opportunity to observe different species of lemur up close and is the perfect introduction to the wildlife of Madagascar.

Day 3: Lake Alaotra/ swimming lemur

B L D

Lake Alaotra is the largest lake in Madagascar and forms the center of the island's most important rice growing region. The lake is a RAMSAR site and home to several endemic species. Once we arrive on the edge of the lake, we will take in the views while visiting a local bat colony, one of the largest on the island. Tonight we spend the evening at our simple accommodation on the shores of Lake Alaotra.

Day 4: Swimming Lemur

B L D

Rise before dawn and head to the shores of the lake to set out in locally made canoes in search of the Alaotra gentle lemur. This is the only species of primate that is found exclusively in wetlands and can be seen either swimming in the water or leaping among the bamboo thickets along the edge of the wetlands. After spending the morning with this unique lemur we will drive to the forest town of Andasibe.



TRIP EXTENSION

Combines seamlessly with Baobabs, Fossa & Tsingy Adventure.

TRIP DETAILS

Price:
From AU \$4295pp

Solo Traveller Supplement
AU \$465

Inclusions

All transfers, transport, activities, accommodation, water with activities, meals (as per itinerary), all tips except your RAW Africa leader, 1 x domestic flight (AU \$230), Volunteer fee CVB.

Accommodation

12 nights hotel, 1 night mobile tented camp, 2 nights beach villa.

Group Size Maximum 8.



Day 5: Analamazaotra National Park

BLD

This morning we will follow the paths of Analamazaotra National Park looking for a variety of lemur species, including the indri (largest of the lemur species), Diademed sifaka and bamboo lemur. After lunch we will get up close and personal with the brown lemur of Lemur Island and in the evening we head out for a night walk to look for chameleons, frogs, dwarf and woolly lemur.

Day 6: Palmarium Reserve

BLD

After another lively breakfast on the edge of this stunning forest, we will drive to the shores of Lake Rasoabe. The lake is the entry way to the Pangalanes canals and Lake Ampitabe, where Palmarium Reserve is located. After a 2 hour boat ride we will reach this private reserve and spend the afternoon wandering the many park trails in search of black and white ruffed, crowned, brown and red bellied lemur.

Day 7: Aye aye of Palmarium

BLD

Not only is the reserve home to a dozen species of lemur but is also a haven for various frog, orchid and carnivorous plant species. Spend the morning on a guided walk and the afternoon relaxing on the beach before we head out at sunset to Aye Aye Island. The aye aye of Palmarium are individuals that have been rescued from nearby communities due to threats from local superstition. While attitudes are changing

slowly towards these incredible creatures, they can find safety and security within the reserve.

Day 8: Return to Tana

BLD

After another venture into the reserve for a morning walk, we will travel by boat back through the canals and by road to Tana. En route we will visit Peyrieras Reptile Reserve where you will learn about some of the unique reptiles, amphibians and butterflies of Madagascar.



Day 9: Antsirabe

BLD

After an early breakfast we set off on our journey to Antsirabe, famous for its precious stones and fossils. Upon arrival, we will take a walk around the city centre and learn about the importance of this area as a central trade route pre and post colonisation. The city is well known for its architecture as well as its horse drawn carts and locally produced beer!

Day 10: Ranomafana National Park

BLD

This morning we'll travel to the lush forests of the south east. We'll enjoy lunch with traditional music before arriving at Ranomafana National Park. We'll spend the evening with staff at Centre ValBio(CVB) to gain an understanding of the pressures facing the forests of Madagascar and some of the innovative solutions being implemented by the centre through research and community engagement.

Day 11: Centre ValBio

BLD

Ranomafana National Park is famous for its rare lemur species such as the golden and greater bamboo lemur and Milne Edwards sifaka. We'll start our day with an early morning walk through the park with CVB researchers and see first hand how CVB works to protect Madagascar's unique and biologically diverse ecosystems. Tonight we finish the evening with a night walk and see how many of the 130 different species of frog we can spot!

Day 12: Anje reserve

BLD

Anje Reserve was established in 2001 by the local community in order to preserve their forest habitat and the charismatic ring tailed lemur. Today we'll travel south from Ranomafana to this reserve to spend an hour within a few feet of this lively lemur species. After lunch we will visit a community paper-making workshop before continuing on to the stunning valley of Isalo.



Day 13: Isalo National Park

BLD

The Isalo National Park is a rocky valley filled with waterfalls and striking rock formations. We'll spend this morning on a fabulous gorge walk before having lunch in the wonderful lemur picnic ground. Spend the afternoon relaxing by the pool, or maybe indulge in a massage before taking in the spectacular sunset.

Day 14: Zombitse National Park

BLD

Today we set off early from Isalo to the coastal town of Ifaty. We'll visit Zombitse National Park, made up of spiny thickets and dry deciduous woodlands. The park is home to several endemic lemur species such as the Zombitse sportive lemur as well as Verreaux's sifaka.

In the afternoon we will arrive at the beachside town of Ifaty. Enjoy a walk along the beach or a dip in the ocean!

Day 15: Lemur Rescue Centre

BLD

This morning we visit a project with real heart. Many lemurs are rescued from the pet trade and are brought to the Brigitte Bardot Lemur Rescue Centre for rehabilitation. As the centre is located inside the Ifaty Botanical gardens, we'll also learn about the unique flora of Madagascar on a short guided walk of the gardens. Spend the afternoon relaxing before enjoying our last night with a beach BBQ.

Day 16: Return to Tana

BLD

After breakfast we head to the Tulear Airport for our flight to Antananarivo.

Depart Tana anytime after 2pm for home, with memories of this truly unique island - its wildlife, culture and people.



RAW Africa Eco-Tours specialises in community & conservation based ecotourism with over 80% of your tour money going directly to our field partners.

For all tour bookings and enquiries contact team@rawafricaecotours.com.au



General information and conditions.

This itinerary is a guide only, as circumstances beyond the control of the operators will sometimes necessitate changes or modifications to the scheduled program. All travellers must have a valid passport for international travel with at least 6 months validity from the date of return. It is the responsibility of the traveller to ensure that they have all valid entry visas, including multi-entry, as required. Please contact RAW Africa Ecotours for more information. Tours do not include return flights from point of origin; internal international/domestic flights; travel insurance; alcoholic beverages; soft drinks, snacks and food outside the itinerary; additional activities beyond the scheduled itinerary; laundry; transport between locations other than those stated on the itinerary.

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