



RAW
AFRICA

ECO-TOURS

PEOPLE • COMMUNITIES • WILDLIFE



MADAGASCAR

Looking for Lemurs



19

DAYS



MADAGASCAR

This is your chance to uncover and explore the land of lemurs...Madagascar! This 19 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 rare aye aye of Palmarium Island, to the tiny mouse lemur of Ranomafana National Park and the swimming lemurs of Lake Alaotra, from the towering giants of Baobab Alley and the elusive fossa of Kirindy, this is a journey to indulge your passion for this unique wildlife island. 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

BLD

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

BLD

Lake Alaotra is the largest lake in Madagascar and forms the centre 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

BLD

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 **Dancing Lemurs of Berenty tour** or **Traditional Farm Homestay**



TRIP DETAILS

Price:
From AU \$5995pp
Solo Traveller
Supplement AU \$465

Inclusions

All transfers, transport, activities, accommodation, water with activities, meals (as per itinerary), all tips except your RAW Africa local leader, 2 x domestic flights.

Accommodation

2 nights hotel, 14 nights guest house, 2 nights beach villa.

Group Size Maximum 8.

Day 5: Analamazoatra National Park

BLD

This morning we will follow the paths of Analamazoatra 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 lemurs.

Day 6: Palmarium Reserve

BLD

After 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 Andasibe

BLD

After another venture into the reserve for a morning walk, we will travel by boat back through the canals and by road to Andasibe. This evening we will take a walk through the beautiful Orchid Garden before finishing our day listening to the calls of the brown lemur and Indri.



Day 9: Andasibe to Tana

BLD

After a leisurely morning we will begin our journey back 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. Spend the evening relaxing at our guest house.

Day 10: Kirindy National Park

BLD

After an early flight to Morondava, we will pass through the avenue of the Baobabs on our way to Kirindy National Park. This park is home to the rare sportive lemur and the unique fossa! The fossa is Madagascar's only carnivore and is specialised at climbing trees to hunt lemur species. Head out on an evening walk to spot some of the rare lemur of Kirindy.

Day 11: Baobab Alley

BLD

Wake up and enjoy an invigorating early morning walk in search of the fossa and the many endemic lemurs of the Kirindy Forest. We will then travel back to Baobab Alley. Here we get to plant our very own baobab sapling before relaxing to watch the sun set over this stunning landscape. We will continue on to Morondava where we will spend the night.

Day 12 : Travel to Antsirabe

BLD

After an early breakfast we set off on our journey to Antsirabe. This is a day of travel through the winding mountains and highlands of Madagascar. Located at the crossroads of Madagascar, Antsirabe was once the island's most famous trade centre. Antsirabe is known for its precious stones, crafts and locally made beer!



Day 13: 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. Tonight we finish the evening with a night walk to see how many of the 130 different species of frog we can spot!

Day 14: 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. In the afternoon we will visit one of the local villages and experience traditional Malagasy way of life.

Day 15: 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 16: 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 17: 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 18: 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 19: Return to Tana

B

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.

About your host - Brooke Squires



Brooke is the founder of RAW Africa Eco-Tours and has a degree in Zoology and a Masters in Community Development. Brooke began her career as a rhino keeper before implementing conservation projects in Kenya and DR Congo. She has a passion for integrating ecotourism, wildlife conservation and community programs, and currently runs conservation safaris and projects through 11 countries in Africa. Brooke would love to have you join her on this unique safari.



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

