



SOUTH AND MORONDOVA PACKAGE

15-DAY EXPLORATION OF SOUTHERN & WESTERN MADAGASCAR

Enjoy this varied 15-day tour of bush and beach, where you will see a variety of wildlife, dry forests, humid rainforests and canyons and spend some time hiking and relaxing. The coastal vibe will invite you to sit back for the last 4 days of your trip!

Tour Code: MSMI
Rev: 2024/20230522

SOUTH AND MORONDAVA PACKAGE 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

Antananarivo:	The picturesque capital of Madagascar	Ranomafana National Park:	One of the richest parks for discovering biodiversity in the eastern humid forest
Antsirabe:	A pretty thermal town that combines a typical Malagasy style with the tranquillity of a small European provincial town	Fianarantsoa:	The capital of the Betsileo tribe
Ambalavao:	Renowned for its folks, arts and crafts	Isalo National Park:	Here, erosion has carved fantastic figures in the sandstone, from sharp needles standing up in the sky to rocky blocs apparently unstable on their base
Morondava:	Known for the royal sculpted tombs of the Menabe ancestors	Kirindy Reserve:	Take the chance to see 6 species of lemurs

QUICK FACTS

Tour type:	Private Lodge Tour	Meals:	14 x Breakfast
Duration:	15 days	Vehicle:	Car for 2 - 3 people Minivan for 4 - 8 people Bus 10 + People
Start & End:	Antananarivo	Group Size:	Min. 2 / Max. 10
Country visited:	Madagascar		

DEPARTURE DATES 2024

Every day of the week – subject to availability.
For advice, please contact our office or your travel agency.

ITINERARY

B – Breakfast

L – Lunch

D – Dinner

DAY 1: ANTANANARIVO

On arrival in Antananarivo, you will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel in Antananarivo, the picturesque capital of Madagascar. With its bustling markets, friendly people and ancient town on a hill with freestone churches and ancient royal places, it is unique among the world's other capitals.

Accommodation: Residence Lapasoa or similar.

DAY 2: ANTANANARIVO - ANTIRABE

B

Depart to Antsirabe, a pretty thermal town that combines a typical Malagasy style with the tranquillity of a small European provincial town. Antsirabe means 'where there is much salt' and is one of Madagascar's major trading centres for semiprecious stones and minerals. We will drive through landscape, which is mainly composed of mountains and rice fields. In Antsirabe we will go on a city

tour with a visit of Andraikiba Lake and the legendary Tritriva crater lake. It is said that the lake's water level decreases during rainy season and increases in dry season. We will visit a gemstone factory, where you can watch the cutting and polishing process and purchase souvenirs.

Accommodation: Chambres Du Voyageur or similar.

DAY 3: ANTSIRABE – RANOMAFANA	B
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After breakfast, we will drive to Ranomafana National Park, one of the richest for discovering biodiversity in the eastern humid forest. It is nestled in a mountainous and extremely rainy region, which accounts for its nickname the 'misty land'. The tropical forest is home to 12 species of lemurs such as the golden bamboo lemur, brown lemurs and various species of birds, colourful chameleons and frogs.

In Ambositra we will stop for the visit of some Zafimaniry woodcarving shops. This art, classified as World Intangible Heritage by UNESCO, was revealed to the public in the fifties, when food shortage obliged this population of foresters to sell their furniture and sculptures on the market. Zafimaniry Art expresses itself through daily life objects (honey pots, weaving-loom, stools, plates...) as well as construction parts (doors and windows). We then head to Ranomafana National Park, where we will rest in preparation for our park visit the next day.

Accommodation: Centrest Sejour or similar.

DAY 4: RANOMAFANA - FIANARANTSOA	B
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In the morning we will explore the Park to see lemurs, chameleons and frogs living in the rainforest and discover some of the pandanus, ferns, orchids and medical plants in the undergrowth. After lunch, we will go on a city tour of Fianarantsoa - the capital of the Betsileo tribe. Fianarantsoa was built on 3 levels and the highest level and its old and picturesque quarters are classified as a protected area because of its historical and architectural interest. It lies in the heart of Madagascar's most fertile agricultural areas and is renowned for its vineyards, tea plantations and terraced rice fields.

Accommodation: Villa Sylvestre or similar.

DAY 5: FIANARANTSOA - RANOHIRA	B
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In the morning we depart early for Ranohira. On our way we stop in Ambalavao - the commercial centre of the southern Betsileo region, renowned for its folks, arts and crafts – we will visit a wine producer for a wine tasting and the "Antemoro Paper" factory, where you can watch the paper being made and buy locally made cards and other paper products. The famous Antemoro paper is a delicate, handmade, flower-decorated paper made of the fibres of a tree called "Avoha". We continue our drive to Ranohira and visit Anja Park along the way, where you can see some families of ring-tailed lemurs in their natural habitat. On arrival in Ranohira we check in at Isalo Ranch and simply relax to prepare ourselves for the next day of trekking.

Accommodation: Isalo Ranch or similar.

DAY 6: RANOHIRA	B
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Today we will spend the whole day trekking in Isalo National Park, which is chronologically the second one in Madagascar. Here, erosion has carved fantastic figures in the sandstone, from sharp needles standing up in the sky to rocky blocs apparently unstable on their base. Apparently dry, the Isalo National Park is a land endowed with an important network of streams feeding the tributaries of the river Mangoky. It is a sacred land, as it also shelters the Bara ancestors' cemeteries, dug on the cliff sides to prevent pillage. We will discover the massif of Isalo, its canyons and its endemic flora (Pachypodium, aloes, etc.) and fauna (lemurs and birds). We will even have the chance to go for a refreshing swim in the natural cascades swimming pool.

Accommodation: Isalo Ranch or similar.

DAY 7: RANOHIRA - TULEAR

B

After breakfast, we drive along a long straight road, where the landscape is composed of dry and spiny forests, baobab trees and some proudly decorated Mahafaly tombs. We will visit the Arboretum, an interesting private garden, established by a Swiss botanist, has close to 1000 species of plants endemic to south-western Madagascar. We will then go on a city tour of Tulear, which is Madagascar's most recently established provincial capital and south-western Madagascar's major town. The city tour also includes a visit to the museum.

Accommodation: Hotel Victory or similar.

DAY 8: TULEAR - ANTANANARIVO

B

You will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Antananarivo, where you will be met and transferred to the city. The afternoon is at leisure.

Accommodation: Residence Lapasoa or similar.

DAY 9: ANTANANARIVO – MORONDAVA

B

This morning you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Morondava, where you will be met and transferred to the city. Morondava is situated in the heart of Sakalava territory and is known for the royal sculpted tombs of the Menabe ancestors. These tombs are frequently decorated with well-executed, often erotic, funerary carvings representing life and fertility.

Accommodation: Hotel Chez Maggie or similar.

DAY 10: MORONDAVA – KIRINDY - MORONDAVA

B

Today we set out for a day excursion to the Kirindy reserve – a dry forest that covers approximately 10,000 ha. You will have the chance to see 6 species of lemurs, including the fat-tailed lemur and the tiny *Microcebus Myoxinus*, believed to be the world's smallest primate. There are also 45 bird species and 32 reptile species, including the rare Madagascan flat-tailed tortoise, the side-necked turtle, Madagascar's only freshwater turtle, and numerous chameleons. On our way back to Morondava, we will stop to admire the beauty of the famous Baobab Avenue.

Accommodation: Hotel Chez Maggie or similar.

DAY 11-13: MORONDAVA

B

The next 3 days are spent at leisure. Soak up the sun and enjoy the pristine white beaches and the warm Agulhas current. Explore the area on excursions and day trips or discover the marine life on deep-sea fishing trips or diving excursions. On the southern edge of town are tranquil mangrove swamps, which you can explore by pirogue, observing kingfishers, egrets and more along the way.

Accommodation: Hotel Chez Maggie or similar.

DAY 14: MORONDAVA - ANTANANARIVO

B

Today you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back to Antananarivo, where you will be met and transferred to the city. You can wander through the capital's steep and narrow streets, taking in its architecture, atmosphere and pace. Or you can climb up to the old *rova* (palace) and enjoy the views over Antananarivo and the surrounding countryside. The town is at its best in the evening when the setting sun spectacularly illuminates its hillsides.

Accommodation: Residence Lapasoa or similar.

DAY 15: ANTANANARIVO – HOME DESTINATION

B

After breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight to your home destination, where your unforgettable tour ends. We look forward to welcoming you in Madagascar again very soon!

PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION

DEPARTURE:

When arriving in Antananarivo in the morning of Day 1 of the tour you will be picked up from the airport and embark on your tour. Should you arrive prior to day 1, pre tour accommodation can be arranged and you will be picked up from your hotel on the morning of day 1. (Pick up time will be confirmed on arrival).

TRANSPORT:

Transport will depend on the size of the group:

- A small car for 2 - 3 people
- A minivan for 4 - 6 - 8 people
- A bus for 10 people or more

A 4WD vehicle is provided for the day excursion to Kirindy reserve.

ACCOMMODATION:

Accommodation will be in basic Hotels. Please note that Madagascar is a country which is in its infancy when it comes to tourism. Accommodation is limited therefore all the above mentioned accommodations are subject to availability and we reserve the right to change these using similar accommodation of the same or higher standards. The hotels used are simple, clean and of a basic – mid-range standard, with bathrooms en-suite.

VISAS:

A visa is required to enter the territory of Madagascar and can easily be obtained upon arrival at the airport of Antananarivo with a validity of up to 60 days. Tourists staying for less than one month, can purchase a visa for 115'000 Ariary (around 35 €). Paying with the exact amounts or small currency is advised. No photographs are required, however please ensure that passports are valid for at least 6 months after return date. Kindly note that for the visa upon arrival, a valid return ticket is required.

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Please note that travel and cancellation insurance is mandatory for every guest travelling with Jenman Madagascar Safaris. All insurance is solely the responsibility of our guests. Please ensure you arrange your own insurance with protection for the full duration of your journey to cover personal injury, damage and loss of personal items including but not limited to camera equipment and other electronic items, medical expenses, repatriation expenses and loss of luggage, etc. Please speak to your travel agent if you require assistance.

MAKING YOUR TRAVELS MEANINGFUL:

The Grow Africa Foundation (163-738 NPO) is the responsible tourism initiative started by Jenman African Safaris and Hideaways. The focus of Grow Africa is to make a positive impact on the environment, society and economy in the places we travel to. We do this by instigating and supporting local social and environmental projects.

Your booking makes a difference: With every booking to the value of R10,000 / US\$1,000 / EUR1,000 or more a donation of R50 / US\$5 / EUR5 will go to the Grow Africa Foundation. Click here to see the projects your booking is supporting: <http://www.jenmansafaris.com/about-us/grow-africa/>

For more information regarding the attractions, accommodations and areas visited on this tour, we invite you to click through to the tour listing on our website www.jenmansafaris.com. You will also find information regarding availability and possible extensions to our scheduled tours. Our reservations office is at your service and we look forward to welcoming you to Jenman online!