

Madagascar Private Journey

CUSTOM-TAILORED ADVENTURE IN THE LAND OF LEMURS



Wilderness Travel



Madagascar Private Journey

WHEN TO GO

April to November

ABOUT PRIVATE JOURNEYS

Wilderness Travel Private Journeys are designed for people who want to travel with their own small private group, but who still want to experience the same superb itinerary design, great accommodations, and signature quality of Wilderness Travel's escorted group trips. These Private Journeys allow you to choose your own dates and your traveling companions—even if it's just the two of you—yet still enjoy a guided adventure.

The island-nation of Madagascar shelters an unmatched abundance of rare plants and animals, including more than 100 species of lemur, the engaging treetop acrobats found only here. Even Madagascar's chameleons are unique, from the huge, multi-colored Parson's chameleon to the inch-long *Brookesia micra*. In this natural history paradise of unique ecosystems, we bring you a Private Journey with exclusive accommodations, charter flights, top-notch naturalist guides, and flexible activities each day, from sundowners among the baobabs to early morning bird walks and exciting night excursions into the forests. Explore the trails of the lush eastern rainforests at Andasibe, one of Madagascar's premier reserves, home to the famous "singing" indri lemur as well as a host of birdlife and endemic flora. On Madagascar's northwest coast, Anjajavy, a deluxe Relais & Chateaux property in its own private wildlife reserve, is a unique tropical ecosystem that shelters a multitude of wildlife, from the common brown lemur to the Coquerel's sifaka or tiny nocturnal mouse lemur. Reptiles range from amazing native chameleons to leaf-nose bats, and the birdlife is prolific. With activities tailored to your taste, enjoy abundant lemur-viewing, night walks, sunset boat rides, snorkeling, and kayaking in the mangroves. Extend your Madagascar journey by tracking mountain gorillas in Rwanda's Parc National des Volcans.



Itinerary

DAY 1 WELCOME TO MADAGASCAR

Arrive in Madagascar's capital city, Antananarivo, often referred to simply as "Tana." You'll be met and transferred to the Hotel Carlton for overnight...Meals on your own

DAY 2 TANA / LA MANDRAKA / ANDASIBE-MANTADIA NATIONAL PARK / MANTADIA LODGE

After breakfast, join your private guide for a drive through highland countryside to the upland rainforests, stopping at La Mandraka Nature Farm where you are introduced to the incredible variety of Madagascar's reptiles—La Mandraka has a breeding project for chameleons. Continue to Andasibe, a rainforest reserve that includes both Anamalazaotra Reserve and Mantadia National Park. The reserve protects montane forest that is home to the famous "singing" indri lemur (nearly 300 live here) and the Parson's chameleon. Both are the largest and perhaps most impressive examples of their respective species. The park also teems with a vibrant collection of butterflies, birds, orchids, and ferns. Visitors almost always see common brown lemurs, grey bamboo lemurs, eastern bamboo lemurs, and woolly lemurs, as well as several species of the nocturnal tenrec, an insectivorous mammal resembling a hedgehog. Black-and-white ruffed lemurs, diademed sifaka, and red-bellied lemurs are also seen here. During easy walks, you'll become familiar with the special flora and fauna of Madagascar's eastern rainforests. Because you're staying in the park for several days, you have the opportunity to take a night hike for a glimpse into the fantastic nocturnal world of Madagascar's forests. Overnight at Mantadia Lodge...

BLD

Approximate driving time: 4 hours



TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Length: | 9 days |
| Arrive: | Antananarivo, Madagascar |
| Depart: | Antananarivo, Madagascar |
| Lodging: | 8 nights hotels and wildlife lodges |
| Meals: | All meals included except 2 dinners (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner) |
| Activity: | Cultural Adventures, Walking, Wildlife and Natural History |
| Trip Level: | 1 2 3 4 5 6 Easy to moderate nature walks, rugged road travel |

DAYS 3-4 ANDASIBE / INDRI INDRI LEMURS / MANTADIA LODGE

Today will be memorable as you visit Andasibe with your private guide and local naturalist. The southern part of the Andasibe-Mantadia National Park is the best place to see the Indri Indri, the largest living lemur. These highly endangered primates (only a few hundred left) are nearly three feet tall, have charming teddy-bear-like faces, and travel across the tree canopy in great leaps. You'll see them in action and hear their calls echoing for miles across the rainforest. More than 11 species of lemur are in Andasibe's forests, and you may see troops of grey bamboo lemurs, brown lemurs, and with luck, the diademed sifaka. There are also many fascinating endemic chameleons and orchid species here. A night walk from the lodge will be arranged with a local guide one evening, an opportunity to see a variety of nocturnal lemurs: mouse lemurs, white-footed sportive lemurs, fat-tailed dwarf lemur, and woolly lemur. Overnights at Mantadia Lodge...BLD each day

DAY 5 LEMUR ISLAND / ANTANANARIVO

A morning visit brings you to Lemur Island, a home for orphaned lemurs who would not have survived on their own. Because they're cared for by rangers, the brown lemurs, bamboo lemurs, and black-and-white ruffed lemurs that live

here are habituated, allowing close encounters and excellent photo opportunities. The sociable inhabitants might even jump onto your shoulder and offer a "lemur massage" with their soft little paws. This afternoon, return to Tana, with dinner on your own and the evening at leisure. Your guide will be happy to make restaurant recommendations, depending on how fancy or local you want to go. Overnight at Le Relais des Plateaux...BL

Approximate driving time: Andasibe-Antananarivo, 4 hours

DAY 6 ANTANANARIVO / ANJAJAVY LODGE

Depart Antananarivo on a scheduled charter flight to the airstrip at Anjajavy Lodge, set along the isolated Anjajavy Peninsula on the northwest coast of Madagascar. The flight takes approximately one hour and 40 minutes, and you'll be met on arrival for transfer to the lodge.

Anjajavy consists of 24 two-story rosewood villas dotting a long, sandy beach on the lodge's private estate. The villas are air conditioned and have a spacious terrace facing the sea, a living room, and a breakfast nook. There is a large swimming pool overlooking the ocean. Fresh fruits, crabs, shrimp, and local fish are on the restaurant's menu, with indoor or outdoor dining available. Private dinners can be organized by staff on the veranda, poolside, or on the beach.



In the late afternoon around 5pm, enjoy tea time at the Oasis, a specially designed native garden surrounded by trees that are a playground for wild lemurs as well as parrots, sunbirds, Malagasy kingfishers, and Malagasy paradise flycatcher.

At 7 pm, head out for an hour-long guided night walk, an opportunity to learn about the nocturnal wildlife of the forest. Overnight at Anjajavy leLodge...BLD

Note: Scheduled charter flights depart on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

DAYS 7-8 ANJAJAVY RESERVE

Deciduous dry forest is one of the world's richest and most distinctive tropical dry forests, sheltering communities of rare and endemic faunal and floral species and scattered with small traditional villages. The Anjajavy forest is home to chameleons, frogs, and common brown lemur, as well as nocturnal species such as sportive, and mouse lemur. More than five lemur species can be seen on walks in the Anjajavy Reserve (and even while you're on the deck of your villa). Birdlife includes flocks of grey-headed love birds, vangas, crested couas, and vanga parrots.

Activities on these days can be tailored to your taste. (Other guests may join you on excursions.) Enjoy a walk through the towering baobab forest or through a tsingy labyrinth, or cove to cove hikes along the cliff path. Some walks you can do on your own and some require a lodge guide. Mountain bikes are offered, as are guided catamaran trips. Single and double kayaks are available for a paddle along the south coast of the reserve. More than 135 bird species have been recorded at Anjajavy, many of them rare or endangered; for birders, an early morning trip accompanied by a birding guide is a memorable experience. An optional excursion is offered out to island-dotted Moramba Bay for fishing, snorkeling, or swimming. The bay has one of the largest coral reefs outside Australia. Visit the nearby fishing village that is home to many of the friendly people employed by the lodge. Overnights at Anjajavy Lodge...BLD each day

DAY 9 FLY ANJAJAVY / ANTANANARIVO

Depart for the lodge airstrip and fly to Antananarivo to connect to international flight (international flights should depart after 3:00 pm). A dayroom will be held for you at Le Relais des Plateaux...BL



Trip Details

DATE AND PRICING INFORMATION

TRIP COST

Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$6995 (4-10 members)

\$7595 (2-3 members)

Single supplement: \$1590

Internal airfare: \$990 (subject to change)

Two extra nights Anjajavy \$1990 per person (share)

Prices are based on double occupancy and not guaranteed until services are confirmed.

Make it Your Trip!

The prices above are for the ready-to-book adventure outlined in this Detailed Itinerary, a popular option that has been handcrafted by our Area Specialists to include the best of every destination. While many travelers choose to book this tour as is, our Area Specialists are also happy to work with you to customize this Private Journey to suit your specific interests and style of travel. We can arrange for longer or shorter stays, or add an extension to additional places of interest. We can even add special activities or customize excursions depending on your interests. We invite you to contact us to discuss your options!

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Accommodations, based on double occupancy
- All meals included except 2 dinners
- Services of local lodge guides and camp staff
- Land transportation as noted
- Entrance fees
- All airport transfers

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, internal airfare, any meals not specified after each itinerary day in the Detailed Itinerary, any activities described as optional, airport departure taxes, optional tipping or gratuities to staff, additional hotel nights made necessary by airline schedule changes or other factors, pre-trip expenses such as medical immunizations (if any), travel insurance, or passports and visas; and other expenses of a personal nature.

SIGNING UP FOR A TRIP

Early reservations are recommended since accommodations often sell out far in advance. Please call 1-800-368-2794 and ask for our Africa Manager or email africa@wildernesstravel.com with any questions that you may have about this trip. To reserve your Private Journey, we will need to know your preferred dates of travel. We will then check availability and send you a proposed itinerary with exact pricing for your adventure. We can typically hold a provisional booking for one week. At that time, we must collect your initial deposit or accommodations will be released. We accept Visa, Mastercard, or American Express card. Upon receipt of your deposit, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a letter of confirmation, Detailed Itinerary, Trip Application, Medical Form, and Pre-Departure Information Booklet with information to help you prepare for your adventure. Please see our Cancellations and Transfer Fee Schedule for specific payment information.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation: 25%

90 days prior to departure: Balance

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Minimum fee: 25% of trip cost

90 days or less: 100% of trip cost

*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details:

<http://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan/travel-insurance>

Extend Your Adventure

To help you make the most of your adventure, we've created several exciting trip extensions. For detailed information, including full itineraries and complete pricing, please visit our *Madagascar Private Journey* webpage and click on the "Extensions" tab:

www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/madagascar/andasibe-perinet-lemurs-private/extensions



GORILLA TRACKING IN RWANDA'S PARC NATIONAL DES VOLCANS EXTENSION

Join your ranger-guide for the exhilarating experience of tracking and observing the mountain gorilla clans that reside in the spectacular montane forests of Parc National des Volcans, where researcher Dian Fossey was based for 13 years. The hiking terrain ranges in altitude from 3,800 to 8,500 feet and preserves one of the largest natural forests in East Africa. *4 days. From \$3395.*

SHUMBALALA AND GREATER KRUGER SAFARI EXTENSION

A stay at Shumbalala Game Lodge, in the Thornybush Reserve bordering Kruger National Park, South Africa, is an ideal way to experience additional game viewing while enjoying the amenities of a deluxe wildlife lodge. Set on the banks of the Monwana River, Shumbalala is an oasis of luxurious comfort in the heart of the African bushveld. Activities include morning and late afternoon game drives in search of the Big Five, bush walks in the company of an expert ranger and tracker, or simply relaxing on decks overlooking a waterhole where animals frequently congregate. The lodge caters to a maximum of eight guests in four suites, each with its own fireplace and spacious bathroom with indoor and outdoor showers.

4 days. From \$3545.



Lodging

DAY 1 (1 NIGHTS): ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR



HOTEL CARLTON

Set along the shores of Anosy Lake, this contemporary hotel is just a few minutes' walk from the historic city center. Guest rooms have air conditioning and complimentary Wi-Fi, and there is a swimming pool and shaded garden area where you can shift into relax mode, tucked away from the sounds of the city. Enjoy breakfast on the terrace, fresh pastries from the bakery, and world-class wines in the bistro. There's also a fitness center, casino, night club, tennis courts, and beauty salon.

DAYS 2 TO 4 (3 NIGHTS): ANDASIBE NATIONAL PARK, MADAGASCAR



MANTADIA LODGE

The modern Mantadia Lodge has a beautiful setting on a high ridge overlooking a private rainforest. Guest bungalows have sliding doors opening onto a private patio, and the lodge's restaurant was designed with large windows to take in the spectacular views. There is also a lounge, large outdoor terrace, and bar. The calls of indri lemurs in the surrounding rainforest can often be heard from the property, and there is good birdlife all around.

DAY 5 (1 NIGHT): ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR



LE RELAIS DES PLATEAUX

Located near the international airport, this modern hotel offers light and airy rooms, excellent food, a good gift shop, and a swimming pool for a relaxing dip.

DAYS 6 TO 8 (3 NIGHTS): ANJAJAVY, MADAGASCAR



ANJAJAVY LODGE

Accessible only by light aircraft, Anjajavy Lodge is set on an isolated peninsula on the northwest coast of Madagascar and encircled by a fabulous forest reserve. This stunning Relais & Chateaux property offers air-conditioned villas overlooking a natural seaside oasis where lemurs roam freely and the birdlife is abundant. The lodge's infinity pool is inviting, and afternoon tea is served in a serene garden-oasis where brown and sifaka lemurs play in the trees above. Nature walks, night walks, kayaking, sunset boat tours, and other activities are available. From the naturalist guides to the restaurant staff, the service is attentive and welcoming. Anjajavy has a strong community partnership, and most staff members are from the local village.

Arrival & Departure

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

If you have booked extra services before or after the trip, an Extra Services Confirmation will be sent with your Final Documents.

ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Antananarivo, Madagascar

Suggested Airport: Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 1, by 3:00 pm

Meeting Place: A complimentary transfer is provided to the Hotel Carlton. There is a Welcome Dinner on Day 1.

DEPARTURE

Antananarivo, Madagascar

Suggested Airport: Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 9, after 2:00 pm

On Day 9, you will fly from the airstrip at Anjajavy Lodge to Antananarivo to connect with your homeward-bound flight.

INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from Madagascar.

We recommend:

The **South African Airways** schedule (via Johannesburg) works best for this trip. Website: www.flysaa.com

Other airlines:

Ethiopian Airlines offers several flights a week from Addis to Antananarivo. Website: www.ethiopianairlines.com

Kenya Airways offers daily flights a week from Nairobi to Antananarivo. Website: www.kenya-airways.com

Air France flights have been subject to change without notice and usually require extra nights in Paris and in Antananarivo.

We do not recommend Air France unless you have flexibility in the event of schedule changes. Website: www.airfrance.us
If you plan to visit Mauritius, you may want to consider **Air Mauritius**. Website: www.airmauritius.com

There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exitto Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada, or www.exitototravel.com.

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the US one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your air ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

Please do not purchase your tickets until you have checked your schedule with our office. Once your tickets have been purchased, please forward the email confirmation from the airline so we can reserve your airport transfers. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for the trip.

INTERNAL FLIGHTS

We need to issue your internal flights as soon as you are confirmed on the trip. Your Trip Leader will handle your international ticket. We will need a PDF copy of your passport page emailed to us.

EXTRA HOTEL NIGHTS

We are happy to arrange additional hotel nights for you in Antananarivo, Madagascar. Please contact our office to book these reservations.

What the Trip is Like

TRIP LEVEL

The trip is Level 2+, Easy to Moderate. It features day hikes in national parks, with accommodations that range from city hotels to basic wildlife lodges. You should be fit, healthy, and ready for adventure because the walking trails in Madagascar's parks can be quite slippery and muddy and temperatures can be extreme. Several of the travel days involve long drives and road conditions can be rough.

A Special Note about Travel in Madagascar

Traveling in Madagascar is always an adventure! Changes and delays are all part of the experience. We will make every effort to follow the Detailed Itinerary as described, but please note it may be rearranged due to unforeseen circumstances beyond our control, including internal flights that are often subject to delay, cancellation, and last-minute schedule changes. In addition, travelers should be aware that there is a scarcity of medical facilities outside of Antananarivo and they may not be up to international standards. A spirit of adventure and a flexible, cooperative attitude are musts. Your reward is an unparalleled experience of one of the world's most intriguing countries and its fascinating wildlife.

WEATHER

Madagascar has a tropical climate with many microclimates, so the weather can vary greatly depending on the time of year and region of the country. The north and south tend to be warm and dry, while the highlands, including the capital, Antananarivo, are cooler. The east is mostly rainforest, where wet weather is always possibility.

The ideal time to visit is between April and November. (There are heavy rains from December to March, so travel during that time is not recommended.) Each season is unique and offers its own attractions: April and May's landscapes are lush and vibrant, July provides cooler temperatures good for extensive hiking, September and October bring a new generation of baby lemurs, and warmer days in November are especially good for reptiles.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Africa Manager or email us at africa@wildernesstravel.com.

This is a new adventure for 2021 and one that we are particularly excited about offering. However, as with all new departures, flexibility and a spirit of adventure are always appreciated! Activities are described in the itinerary but they can vary, sometimes considerably, depending on weather conditions, the group, and other factors.

REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

| Average Daily Max/Min °F | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| Antananarivo | 79/61 | 78/61 | 79/60 | 76/58 | 73/54 | 69/50 | 68/48 | 70/48 | 74/51 | 80/54 | 81/58 | 80/60 |
| Andasibe | 82/66 | 82/66 | 81/66 | 80/63 | 77/60 | 73/56 | 71/54 | 73/54 | 76/56 | 80/59 | 81/63 | 82/65 |
| Anjajavy | 88/73 | 86/73 | 88/73 | 90/73 | 88/70 | 86/68 | 86/66 | 88/66 | 88/68 | 90/72 | 88/73 | 88/73 |
| Rainfall - Inches | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Antananarivo | 11.8 | 11.0 | 7.0 | 2.1 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 2.4 | 5.3 | 11.3 |
| Andasibe | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Anjajavy | 17.1 | 14.9 | 8.6 | 3.3 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 1.6 | 4.9 | 11.3 |

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TOUCAN CLUB / TRAVEL AGENTS

Please note that travel agent commissions and Toucan Club discounts do not apply for our Private Journeys. However, your participation on these trips will count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular expeditions. For more information regarding our Toucan Club bonus program, please visit our website at www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At www.wildernesstravel.com, you can find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and special WT Expeditions that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access a complete library of our detailed itineraries and browse the customized reading guides for each of our adventures.

HELPFUL LINKS

Wilderness Travel has compiled a list of useful websites for travelers. Find the Client Forms & Helpful Links page of our website: (<http://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan/links>).





WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 2021, 10-time winner

Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Condé Nast Traveller*, 2021 & 2020

Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row

Best Adventure Travel Companies: *USA Today*, 2020

Trip of the Year: *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner

50 Tours of a Lifetime: *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row

Best Adventure Travel Companies: *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

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Wilderness Travel

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