



**Madagascar East Tour -10 Days – 9 Nights**

Day	Destination
1 Night	Antananarivo
1 Night	Andasibe
2 Nights	Akanin’ny Nofy
1 Night	Mahambo
3 Nights	Sainte Marie
1 Night	Antananarivo

**Day 1: Day 1: Antananarivo**

Meeting at Ivato international airport and transfer to the hotel.

Overnight Stay at Hotel.

**Day 2: Day 2: Antananarivo – Andasibe (140 Km About 4,5 Hours’ Drive)**

After breakfast, drive east by car, through a landscape characterized by its nested rice fields and wooded

hills. In Marozevo visit the Exotic Park (also called Peyrieras Park after its founder), where you can see

many chameleons from close up, as well as butterflies, frogs and other amphibians. Then on to Andasibe,

the place looks more like a poor wooden shack village, it is the starting point for the visit of the national

park, the realm of the legendary Indris. Once the only hotel in Andasibe was in the mighty train station

building with a few bungalows opposite on the hillside. But in the course of the years, thanks to the visitors from all over the world, numerous new hotel complexes were opened, in which a lot of jobs were

created. Possibility to walk with a local guide along the road near the National Park Perinet-

Analamazaotra in search of nocturnal animals before dinner. With a little luck you will see wool and mouse makis, chameleons etc.

Overnight Stay at Hotel.

### **Day 3: Day 3: Andasibe – Manambato – Akanin’Ny Nofy (125 Km Of Ordinary Road, Then 7 Km Of Earth Road (About 5,5 Hours’ Drive In Total, Then About One And A Half Hours By Boat On The Canal)**

After breakfast, an early morning visit to the 810 hectare reserve of Analamazaotra (930 to 1000 meters

altitude), the realm of the mysterious Indri lemurs with their distinctive calls heard for miles around, and

13 other species of lemurs. You can also find various species of birds, chameleons etc. This hike on the

Trail “Indri II” takes about three hours and leads on paths first in an upward gradient, and is then mostly flat. Afterwards you drive on the national road 2 about 113 km into the sugar cane and fruit growing area around Brickaville. After a few kilometres, the road turns right onto a 7 km long dirt road to the formerly busy holiday resort of Manambato. There we board a covered motorboat and transfer on the Pangalanes Canal (about 20 km) to the hotel in the middle of beautiful nature in Akanin’ny Nofy at Lake Ampitabe.

By the way, the Pangalanes Canal is considered to be the second longest canal in the world. It is a

continuous waterway of about 645 km in length, which leads from Tamatave, the northernmost end point, to the village of Farafangana in the south, running parallel to the Indian Ocean. The distance to the sea is sometimes only a few meters, at some points it also touches the sea, and therefore the water is slightly salty. During the colonial period, eight years of construction work created artificial

connections between the naturally formed lakes and river courses, which are fed with water from wooded elevations.

Artificially constructed branch canals were used to create connections to the nearest standing or flowing water sources.

Overnight Stay at the Hotel.

#### **Day 4: Day 4: Akanin'ny Nofy**

A whole day to discover the surroundings of the hotel on the shores of Lake Ampitabe. Among other things, you can visit the private Palmarium Park with a great variety of lemurs during a hike lasting several hours, or you can explore the area by canoe or on foot. A nocturnal excursion is planned, partly

by boat, in search of the rare and endangered Aye Aye lemurs (*Daubentonia madagascariensis*) with their unusual appearance. These strange lemurs have been settled on the island and are guarded around

the clock. In the evening during the Aye Aye stalking, coconuts are clamped between two tree trunks, and one can watch how they are opened by these creatures with the beaver-like teeth and spooned out with the long middle finger.

Overnight Stay at the Hotel.

#### **Day 5: Day 5: Akanin'ny Nofy – Tamatave – Mahambo (3 Hours / 60 Km By Boat On The Canal. 87 Km About 5 Hours' Drive)**

Transfer early morning by motor boat along the Pangalanes canal until Tamatave. And then road trip to

Mahambo on the road by the sea.

Overnight Stay at the Hotel.

#### **Day 6: Day 6: Mahambo - Sainte Marie (3 Hours Boat Transfer)**

Today you will have a boat transfer to Sainte Marie. Pick up at the port and transfer to the hotel.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

## **Day 7: Day 7 & Day 8: Sainte - Marie**

Days at leisure, possibilities: Swimming, snorkelling, diving, excursions by boat, bicycle, motorbike or on

foot (fishing villages, pirates' cemetery, Ile aux Nattes in the south of the island or up north etc). With a bit of luck you can see mighty humpback whales, some with calves, during a boat trip or even from the

beach from July to September.

In contrast to the long east coast of the main island, the beaches of Sainte Marie (Nosy Boraha) are surrounded by protective coral reefs. There are numerous walks to be made, over hills, through

meadows, along clear streams, past miles of sandy beaches, on the dunes of the Indian Ocean and in the

rainforest. Many Malagasy traditions of the mainland can be found on Sainte Marie, and both traditions of the Merina of the highlands and typical festivals of the Sakalava from the west coast have been

preserved in their original forms. The island now has a good 50 km long road with a bitumen layer from

the airport to the north. The island can be explored on foot, by bicycle, motorbike or tuk-tuk. Around

27,000 people live on the island, whose highest point reaches just 114 metres. A pirates' cemetery south of the clearly laid out capital Ambodifotatra reminds us of the time before colonisation, when pirates hid here.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

## **Day 8: Day 9: Sainte Marie – Antananarivo**

Transfer to the airport for the flight to Antananarivo. Pick up at the airport and transfer to the city.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

## **Day 9: Day 10: Departure**

Depending on the departure time of your international flight, you may be able to visit the historical sites of Ambohimanga (UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2001). It is the holy city of Merina, and was once the residence of the most powerful of all Merina princes, King Andrianampoinimerina. Until the conquest and final subjugation by the French in 1896, no foreigner was allowed to enter it. It had seven city gates, and the most powerful of them still serves as the entrance gate to the place today. Next to the gate there is a huge, smoothly polished and almost circular stone slab. In former times it

was rolled every evening in front of the entrance gate. From the top of the “Blue Hill” – that is the translation of Ambohimanga – at 1468 meters of altitude, you have a beautiful view of Tana and the surrounding area.

Afterwards visit a market with Malagasy handicrafts to buy last souvenirs and, if the flight is late in the evening, day use of a room in the hotel. Afterwards transfer to the airport and check-in for departure for

the flight home.

## Highlights

A tour to the rainy east, with a visit of the Perinet Nationalpark, then along the Pangalanes canal, at the end relaxing on Sainte Marie island. Beach Extension on Sainte Marie possible.

## Tour Includes

- Transfers to and from airport
- Accommodation based on bed and breakfast in midrange hotels, half board on Sainte Marie
- Transfer in the hotel-owned motor boat (there may be other passengers on board):  
Manambato-Akanin'ny Nofy -Tamatave
- Car with a driver from Antananarivo to Manambato
- Driver's indemnities and Fuel
- Entrance ticket at Exotic Park Marozevo, in Andasibe reserve and private park of Palmarium
- Excursion to spot the Aye Aye (if staying at Palmarium Hotel)
- Service of local guide in Andasibe
- Visit of the handicraft market and the historical site of Ambohimanga
- Tourist levy and VAT Powered by Benchmark travel Representatives.

## Tour Excludes

- **Tax of 5% over and above the Tour Cost mentioned**
- **Tax collected at source (TCS) applicable at 5% on tour price if PAN & Aadhaar is provided else it will be 20% of tour price**

- Any increase in Airfare, Visa fees, Airport taxes, Govt. Taxes, Fuel Surcharges and any applicability of new taxes from Govt.
- Any up gradation in Airline class or hotel room category
- Cost of Air ticket deviation charges
- Any Increase in the rate of exchange leading to an increase in all land arrangements which may come in to effect prior to departure
- Cost of pre or post tour hotel accommodation
- Any extra expense such as route change, Airline change, Date change, Accommodation facilities, etc incurred due to the unforeseen, unavoidable forced majeure circumstances during the tour
- Cost of insurance for 61years and above
- Porterage, laundry, telephone charges, shopping, wines & alcoholic beverages, items of personal nature and food or drink which is not part of a set group menu
- Any extra cost incurred on behalf of an individual due to illness, accident, hospitalisation, or any personal emergency
- Any services or activity charges other than those included in the group tour itinerary
- To and fro Air fare, Airport transfers, insurance, visa fees to join/leave the group for joining and leaving guests
- Anything specifically not mentioned in the 'tour price includes' column
- Conversion Rate on the date of actual payment will be based on the Rate of Euro on XE.com + INR 1.50
- Airfare to be calculated at the time of booking as per actual.