

Reef & Rainforest



Madagascar's Magnificent Wildlife & Landscapes

12-Day Group Tour - Led by Kenny Andriamaronjaka

02 – 13 October 2011

(Plus 7-Day Post-Tour Extension to Anjajavy if desired)



Madagascar's Magnificent Wildlife & Landscapes Group Tour

12-Day Itinerary

For those who prefer to enjoy the benefits of land-based travel, we highly recommend this classic overland route in Madagascar, promising a plethora of diverse and unforgettable experiences. The tour promises multiple enchanting encounters with various species of lemur, birds, chameleons, geckos and other wildlife, whilst enjoying the diverse and captivating landscapes, different forest types, strange flora, charming people, and fascinating culture of this other-worldly country.

Wildlife areas visited include ANDASIBE-MANTADIA (aka Perinet / Analamazaotra), RANOMAFANA NATIONAL PARK, ANJA PARK, and ISALO NATIONAL PARK. We stop at various places of interest en-route to allow a good insight into the local ways of life of the Malagasy people.

The small group size (maximum 10 people) allows minimal impact and good wildlife-viewing, along with great camaraderie and ability to share experiences with like minded people. A reasonable level of fitness is beneficial as some of the walks – although taken at an easy pace to suit the group and the nature of wildlife watching – can be moderately strenuous due to the terrain.

POST-TOUR EXTENSION (7-Days)

For those who have more time and would like to treat themselves, why not add a five-night stay at **ANJAVY L'HOTEL** – one of the most luxurious lodges on Madagascar which benefits from its isolated setting by a wonderful BEACH, with a wildlife-rich private TROPICAL DRY DECIDUOUS FOREST RESERVE behind. Seven species of lemur are found here, including the athletic and beautiful Coquerels sifaka, groups of which come to the lodge's gardens each evening. Birds are plentiful and include the rare Madagascar fish eagle, white-breasted mesite, and seven species of vanga. Visits can be made to deserted coves, sacred baobabs, rich mangroves, areas of Tsingy, Vezo fishing villages and secluded islands.

The bungalows at Anjavay are superb, as is the food and service and here allowing you to truly relax at the end of what has been a superb wildlife holiday.





MADAGASCAR'S MAGNIFICENT WILDLIFE & LANDSCAPES GROUP

GROUP LEADER:

KENNY ANDRIAMARONJAKA

A highly experienced leader of several years' standing, Kenny's excellent knowledge and never-ending enthusiasm about Madagascar's wildlife and culture as well as excellent spoken English (he has a Masters degree in socio-linguistics) has made Kenny a firm favourite with our clients. For example, previous group members have described Kenny as:

'Excellent' – he was friendly, knowledgeable, reliable and helpful. He has the most amazing smile!' – Miss K Scott, Hertfordshire

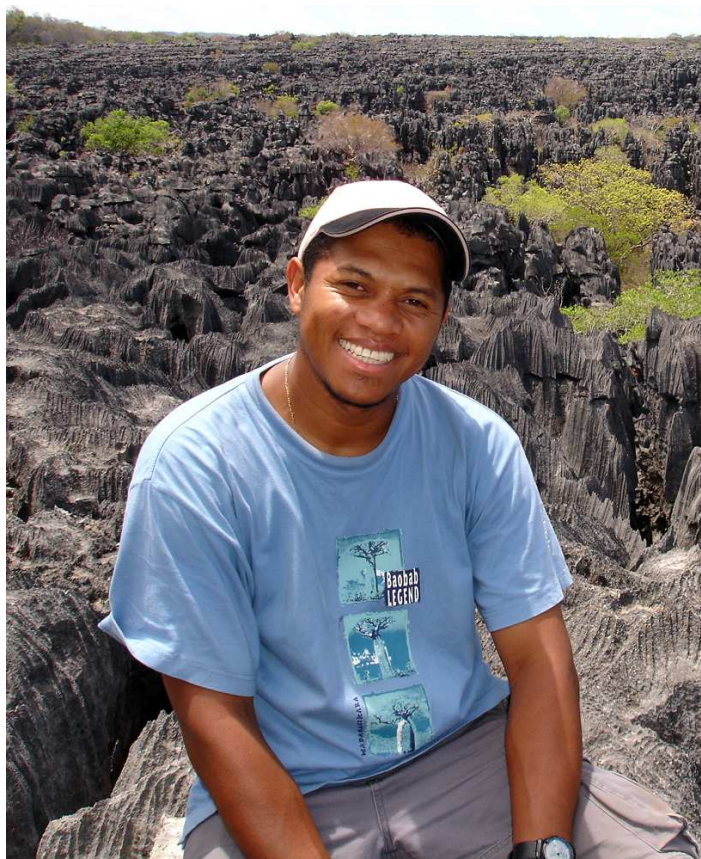
'Exceptional, always cheerful' - Mr R & Mrs AT, Dorset

'Kenny was an excellent guide, very knowledgeable about a broad range of issues and able to speak very clear fluent English. Nothing was too much trouble' – Ms L Scott, Bucks

'A gem. He was knowledgeable, enthusiastic and organized...and was invaluable in every way – from explaining history, to negotiating in Malagasy, to locating wildlife' – Ms GC, Chicago

We know you will enjoy his company and your experiences within Madagascar will be greatly enhanced as a result.

NB: Kenny will accompany the tour for all sections within Madagascar except the post-tour extension at Anjajavy where you would be looked after by the management.





MADAGASCAR'S MAGNIFICENT WILDLIFE & LANDSCAPES GROUP

12 DAYS – LED BY KENNY ANDRIAMARONJAKA

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

- Day 01 Depart **LONDON**. Change aircraft in PARIS. Continue to **ANTANANARIVO (TANA)**. O/n RELAIS DES PLATEAUX, BB.
- Day 02 Today visit to **AMBOHIMANGA PALACE**. Drive to **PERINET RESERVE** (aka ANALAMAZAOTRA / ANDASIBE). Evening walk for nocturnal wildlife. O/n VAKONA LODGE, FB.
- Day 03 Drive to **MANTADIA NATIONAL PARK**. Morning to explore the forest. Return to the hotel. Evening wildlife walk. O/n VAKONA LODGE, FB.
- Day 04 Morning visit to **PERINET RESERVE**. Then enjoy the Orchid Park. O/n VAKONA LODGE, FB.
- Day 05 Today drive thorough interesting scenery, stopping at places of interest. Arrive at **ANTSIRABE**. O/n COULEUR CAFÉ, FB.
- Day 06 Drive to **RANOMAFANA NATIONAL PARK** via **AMBOSITRA**. Night walk for nocturnal wildlife. O/n SETAM LODGE, FB.
- Day 07 Morning and afternoon to explore the TALATAKELY and VOHIPARARA areas of **RANOMAFANA NATIONAL PARK**. O/n SETAM LODGE, FB.
- Day 08 Drive to **ISALO NATIONAL PARK**, visiting **ANJA PARK** en route. O/n JARDIN DU ROY, FB.
- Day 09 Morning visit to **ISALO NATIONAL PARK** at the CANYON DE MAKIS. Evening visit to the Window of Isalo. O/n JARDIN DU ROY, FB.
- Day 10 Morning visit **ISALO NATIONAL PARK**, visiting NAMAHAHA. Walk through stunning scenery to the PISCINE NATURELLE. O/n JARDIN DU ROY, FB.
- Day 11 Drive to **TULEAR**. Visit the ARBORETUM D'ANTSOKAY if time allows. Fly to **TANA**. Afternoon visit to **TSARASAO TRA LAKE** if times allows (depends on the Tulear to Tana flight schedule). Day use of a room at RELAIS DES PLATEAUX HOTEL before transfer to the airport
- Day 12 Depart **TANA**. Change aircraft in PARIS. Fly to **LONDON**.



MADAGASCAR'S MAGNIFICENT WILDLIFE & LANDSCAPES SMALL GROUP TOUR

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 01

Depart LONDON and fly to PARIS. Change aircraft and fly to ANTANANARIVO (TANA). Met on arrival at the airport and transfer to the hotel. O/n RELAIS DES PLATEAUX, BB. Situated about 10 minutes' drive from the airport, this comfortable three-star hotel set in exotic gardens offers well equipped, en suite rooms including air conditioning, satellite TV and mini-bar, decorated in Malagasy design using local materials. Other facilities in the hotel include a local handicraft shop, restaurant serving French cuisine and local delicacies, bar and swimming pool (heated in the cooler months).



Day 02

Morning excursion to AMBOHIMANGA HILL, about 20 minutes out of TANA to see the old royal palace complex (now the last surviving example of Malagasy royal residences since the ROVA sadly burnt down), which is very atmospheric.

Later, drive (c. 3 – 4 hours) to PERINET RESERVE (also known as ANALAMAZAOTRA or ANDASIBE), passing through many villages and rice paddies. Perinet Reserve contains the largest lemur, the indri and seven other diurnal species, as well as chameleons, amphibians and the elusive Aye Aye (evidence of its presence much more easily seen than the animal itself!). The reserve is an excellent example of eastern rainforest habitat with many nature trails. Temperatures may become quite cool, especially in the evening and early mornings. Evening walk to spot mouse lemurs as well as pygmy chameleons and other nocturnal species. O/n VAKONA LODGE, FB. Located 7kms from the reserve, this is one of the best hotels in Perinet. It has a peaceful and attractive location and is three starred.



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Day 03

Drive 30 minutes to MANTADIA NATIONAL PARK, to the north. Morning to explore the NATIONAL PARK in search of the diademed sifaka and the black and white ruffed lemur, and other wildlife such as the extraordinary leaf-tail gecko. The walking here is a little harder than Perinet, but should be fine if one is fit with no mobility problems. Evening walk in search of nocturnal wildlife. O/n VAKONA LODGE, FB.



Day 04

Morning walk in ANALAMAZAOTRA (Perinet) Reserve to look for the indri and other diurnal species as well as chameleons and odd insects like the giraffe-necked weevil. Afternoon visit to the Orchid Park. O/n VAKONA LODGE, FB.



Day 05

Pick up from the hotel and commence the drive back towards TANA. Continue through Merina villages and mosaics of rice fields to ANTSIRABE, an attractive Hauts Plateaux spa town founded by Norwegian missionaries and noted for its rickshaws and thermal baths. O/n COULEUR CAFÉ, FB. A relatively new hotel, perhaps the best in Antsirabe. There are five comfortable bungalows with private bathroom, surrounded by beautiful gardens. There is a small restaurant serving traditional Malagasy cuisine.



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Day 06

Drive through Bestileo country to AMBOSITRA, stopping to visit the woodcarving centre - origin of the intricate inlaid wood designs that are found throughout Madagascar. Continue to RANOMAFANA, arriving and transfer to the hotel. Ranomafana is an exceptionally rich high-altitude rainforest reserve where the very rare golden bamboo lemur and eleven other lemur species exist. O/n SETAM LODGE, FB. Located close to the entrance of the National Park, this lodge offers good views to the forest. 20 bungalows each have a small lounge and private bathroom. Evening walk to spot dwarf lemur, lepilemur, striped civet and other nocturnal species (bring torches). O/n SETAM LODGE, FB.



Day 07



Morning and afternoon wildlife-viewing expeditions in the rainforest of RANOMAFANA NATIONAL PARK. Visit the areas of Talatakely and Vohiparara. The trails can be steep and tough but generally the going is moderate. O/n SETAM LODGE, FB.

Day 08

Morning pick up from the hotel and drive south to ISALO NATIONAL PARK, with various stops en route including FIANARANTSOA, AMBALAVAO, and a visit to the paper factory in ANTEMORO which involves important traditional skills for the tribe in this area (Picnic lunch included). There will also be a visit to the community-managed ANJA PARK to see habituated ring-tailed lemurs, offering good photographic opportunities. Arrive ISALO late in the afternoon and transfer to the hotel. O/n JARDIN DU ROY, FB. The hotel, on the edge of ISALO NATIONAL PARK, blends in wonderfully with its surroundings. New and luxurious – this is one of the best hotels in Madagascar, uses beautiful stonework throughout. There is a large swimming pool in a lovely natural setting and a wonderful restaurant offering beautifully presented food and service.



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Day 09 Morning exploration of spectacular ISALO NATIONAL PARK. Visit the CANYON DE MAKI with its gorge and riverine woodland of pandanus trees – three species of lemur may be seen, including ring tail. The Park, a runiforme limestone massif, contains wonderful scenery and unusual plants like the endemic 'elephant's foot' *Pachypodium rosalatum*, and is a sacred burial ground for the Bara tribe. Return to the hotel for lunch. Afternoon at leisure, before driving to the Window of Isalo for sunset. O/n JARDIN DU ROY, FB.

Day 10 Today enjoy some reasonably strenuous hiking in ISALO NATIONAL PARK. Morning visit to NAMAHAHA, a good place for bird watching. Continue the walk through wonderful scenery to the PISCINE NATURELLE (natural swimming pool) a beautiful lush oasis fringed by pandanus trees, where one may swim in a clear freshwater pool under a waterfall. Picnic lunch, then return to the hotel. O/n JARDIN DU ROY, FB.



Day 11 Morning transfer to TULEAR passing through Zombitse National Park and sapphire mining shantytown of Ilakaka en route. If time allows visit the ARBORETUM D'ANTSOKAY, containing many of the strange flora endemic to Madagascar, particularly focusing on the spiny forest plants of the south. As well as admiring the extraordinary adaptations, you will learn about the various practical and medicinal uses of the plants to local people. Transfer to the airport and catch AIR MADAGASCAR flight to TANA. Met on arrival at the airport.

If time allows, enjoy a visit to TSARASAOTRA LAKE (aka. LAC ALAROBIA) in a district of Tana for some unusual Hauts Plateaux birdwatching. Numerous dimorphic egrets and squacco herons can be found alongside the more familiar great- and cattle egrets. Ducks are abundant with white-faced whistling ducks, red-billed teal, knob-billed ducks, fulvous whistling ducks, hottentot teal, and with luck the rare endemic Meller's duck. Also found are swamp warblers, red fody, coucal, Madagascar kestrel and manikins and other endemics.



Transfer to RELAIS DES PLATEAUX HOTEL for day use of a room. Later, pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport to check in for your departing flight.

Day 12 Catch flight to PARIS CHARLES DE GAULLE. Connect with flight to LONDON.

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MADAGASCAR'S MAGNIFICENT WILDLIFE & LANDSCAPES GROUP

Minimum group size is 4, maximum 10 plus the tour leader.

<i>Departure Dates from London</i>	<i>Adult Price</i>	<i>Single Supplement</i>
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02 - 13 October 2011	£2,645	£440
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Please call 01803 866965 if you have any queries, would like to secure your place on the tour, and/or if you would like to extend the tour to include other locations.

NB: If you would prefer your flights to depart from a regional airport in the UK e.g. Manchester, Birmingham, or from Paris or any other airport please let us know as we will be pleased to look into the options for you.

**PLEASE SEE BELOW FOR DETAILS OF A SUGGESTED POST-TOUR
EXTENSION TO THE FABULOUS ANJAJAVY L'HOTEL**



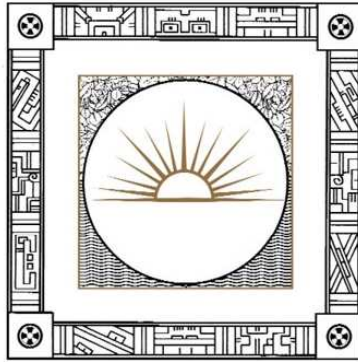
POST-TOUR EXTENSION TO ANJAJAVY L'HOTEL

7 DAYS EXTRA

ITINERARY IN BRIEF



- Day 11 **[MAIN TOUR ENDS]** O/n RELAIS DES PLATEAUX HOTEL, BB.
- Day 12 Transfer to the airport. Board Air Hotel charter flight from **TANA** to **ANJAJAVY**. Transfer to the lodge. Rest of day at leisure. O/n ANJAJAVY L'HOTEL, FB.
- Day 13 Day at leisure **ANJAJAVY** with various activities available if you wish. O/n ANJAJAVY L'HOTEL, FB.
- Day 14 Day at leisure **ANJAJAVY**. O/n ANJAJAVY L'HOTEL, FB.
- Day 15 Day at leisure **ANJAJAVY**. O/n ANJAJAVY L'HOTEL, FB.
- Day 16 Day at leisure **ANJAJAVY**. O/n ANJAJAVY L'HOTEL, FB.
- Day 17 Transfer to the private airstrip. Board Air Hotel charter flight from **ANJAJAVY** to **TANA**. Met and transfer to the hotel. Vehicle, driver and guide available should you wish to explore Tana and surrounds. O/n PAVILLION DE L'EMYRNE.
- Day 18 Day at leisure. Vehicle, driver and guide available should you wish to explore **TANA** and surrounds. Day use of room at PAVILLION DE L'EMYRNE. Transfer to the airport.
- Day 19 Depart **TANA**. Change aircraft in PARIS. Fly to **LONDON**.



MADAGASCAR'S MAGNIFICENT WILDLIFE & LANDSCAPES

POST-TOUR EXTENSION: ANJAJAVY L'HOTEL

Day 11 **[MAIN TOUR ENDS].** O/n RELAIS DES PLATEAUX, BB

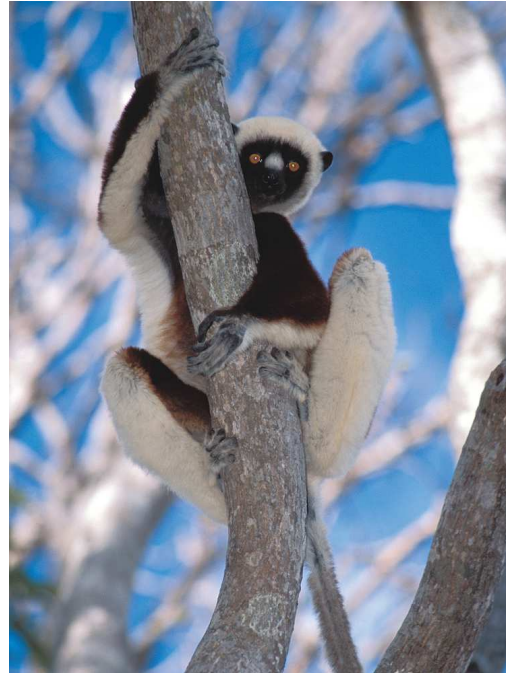
Day 12 Morning pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport. Catch charter flight to ANJAJAVY on the isolated north west coast, north of MAJUNGA. Met on arrival at the private airstrip and transfer to the lodge. Rest of the day at leisure. O/n ANJAJAVY HOTEL, FB. The luxury hotel sits on a beautiful beach at the tip of a peninsula jutting out into the Mozambique Channel, near a small fishing village of the same name. The surrounding dry forest reserve contains endemic species of trees and plants and is a refuge for many animal species including Coquerel's sifaka, mongoose lemur, chameleons, and the very rare Madagascar fish eagle may be found nearby. Wild lemurs visit the lodge most evenings – a very special and rare occurrence in Madagascar offering excellent photographic opportunities. There are many marked paths through the forest, leading to nearby inlets. Nature walks can be taken with or without guides and maps are available at the reception.

Accommodation is in a very comfortable, air-conditioned villa constructed of hardwood and thatch. Each detached villa has a large veranda overlooking the sea, double bed, private bathroom equipped with a large bath-tub, a second storey sitting room (which converts to a second bedroom), safe and mini bar. There is a swimming pool to augment the warm sea bathing, and other water sports available include catamaran sailing, windsurfing, fishing (pre-booking essential), canoeing and water skiing (some at extra charge). Four wheel drive and boat excursions, hiking and cycling are also possible optional activities. Nearby there are two local villages that may be visited, where you can see the benefits accrued to the populations from their proximity and involvement with the hotel.



(2).../ MADAGASCAR'S MAGNIFICENT WILDLIFE & LANDSCAPES – EXTENSION

Day 13 Full day at leisure. Perhaps take an OPTIONAL boat excursion to the sacred baobab. NB: Please note Anjajavy time is one hour ahead of the rest of Madagascar. O/n ANJAJAVY HOTEL, FB.



Day 14 Full day at leisure. OPTIONAL: Mangrove boat tour at sunset (depending on tides). O/n ANJAJAVY HOTEL, FB.

Day 15 Full day at leisure. O/n ANJAJAVY HOTEL, FB.

Day 16 Full day at leisure. O/n ANJAJAVY HOTEL, FB.

Day 17 Morning pick up from the hotel and transfer to the private airstrip. Catch charter flight to TANA. Met on arrival at the airport and transfer to the hotel. Use of car with driver and guide should you wish to explore Tana and surrounds. O/n ROYAL PALISSANDRE HOTEL, BB. This four star hotel affords stunning views over the markets of Tana. Built in traditional Malagasy style using local wood and stone, all bedrooms are well equipped with air conditioning, TV, safe, minibar etc. The excellent restaurant serves international cuisine, there is a gym and spa and an outdoor swimming pool

Day 18 Day at leisure to explore TANA with vehicle, guide and driver available. OPTIONAL excursions could include a visit to the TSIMBAZAZA ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS with its collections of reptiles, plants, lemurs (including the Aye Aye) and other mammals, and museum of extinct Madagascar fauna, including the complete skeleton of *Aepyornis maximus* (or elephant bird) - the heaviest bird that ever lived, and pygmy hippo.

Or perhaps a visit to TSARASAOTRA LAKE (aka. LAC ALAROBIA) in a district of Tana for some unusual Hauts Plateaux birdwatching. Numerous dimorphic egrets and squacco herons can be found alongside the more familiar great- and cattle egrets. Ducks are abundant with white-faced whistling ducks, red-billed teal, knob-billed ducks, fulvous whistling ducks, hottentot teal, and with luck the rare endemic Meller's duck. Also found are swamp warblers, red fody, coucal, Madagascar kestrel and manikins and other endemics. (Contd.../)



(3).../ MADAGASCAR'S MAGNIFICENT WILDLIFE & LANDSCAPES – EXTENSION

(Contd...) Or visit one of the many very worthy social projects in and around Tana which are in much need of support by way of supplies e.g. food, clothing, books etc.

Later, pick up from the hotel and transfer to the airport to check in for your departing flight.

Day 19 Catch flight to PARIS CHARLES DE GAULLE. Connect with flight to LONDON.

POST-TOUR EXTENSION TO ANJAJAVY

<i>Dates Continued from Main Tour</i>	<i>Adult Price</i>	<i>Single Supplement</i>
13 - 20 October 2011	£1,955	£425

NB: The price of the pre-tour extension is based on your taking the tour in conjunction with the main group tour itinerary as above.

NB: Pre- and/or post-tour extensions to different locations on a tailor-made basis may be possible (e.g. should you wish to include additional reserves, enjoy some scuba diving etc.).

Please call 01803 866965 if you have any queries, would like to secure your place on the tour. We look forward to hearing from you.

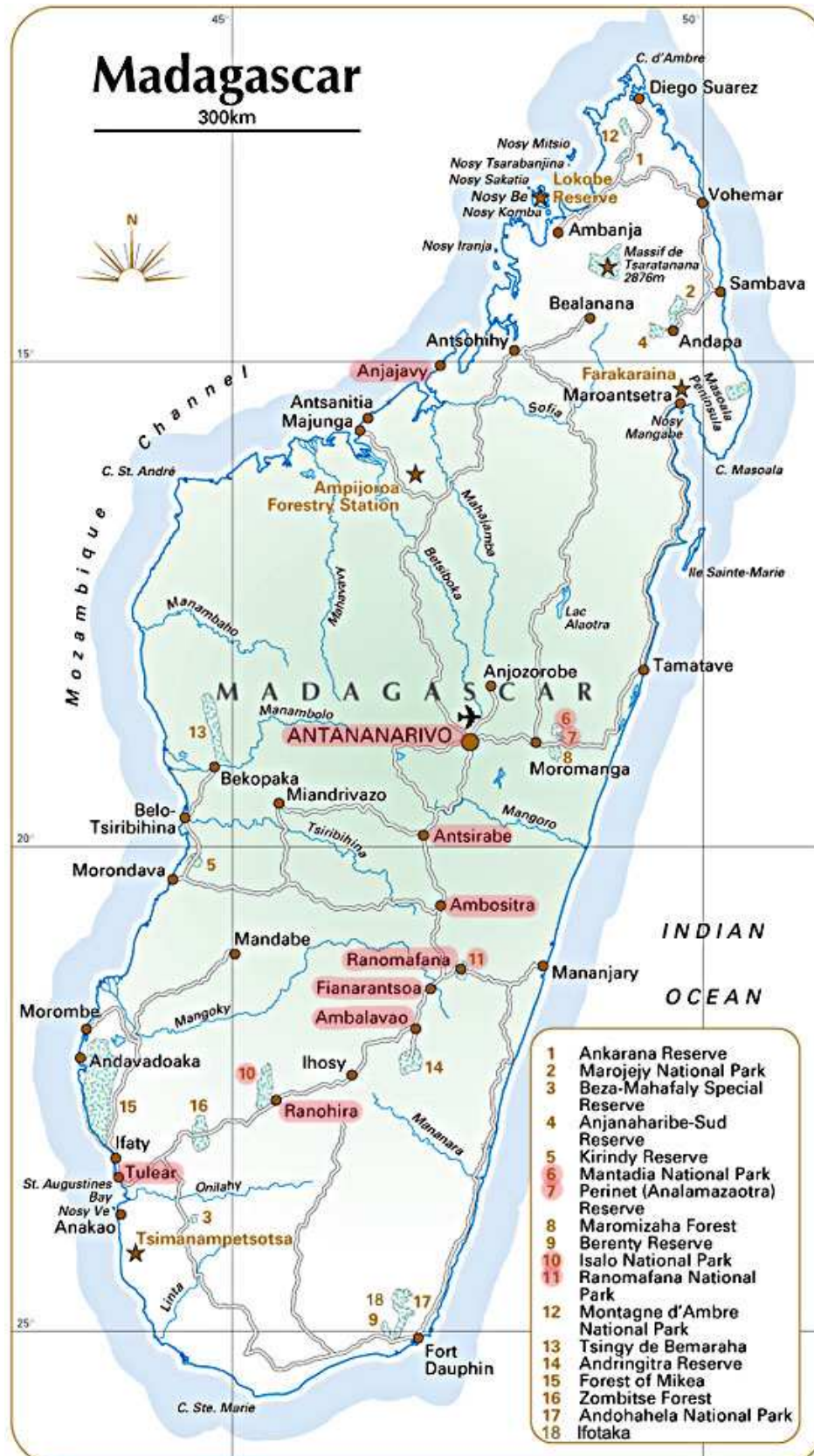




MADAGASCAR'S MAGNIFICENT WILDLIFE & LANDSCAPES SMALL GROUP TOUR

LOCATIONS MAP:

MAIN TOUR & POST-TOUR EXTENSION TO ANJAJAVY





IMPORTANT NOTES TO ACCOMPANY THE ABOVE ITINERARIES

NB: All itineraries are subject to change without notice to take into account possible airline flight schedule changes which can take place before departure date or during the tour, and other operational factors.

NB: The quoted price for the above itinerary is based on current exchange rates, airline fares (both international and domestic), fuel surcharges and taxes. These (and other tour costs) may be subject to unanticipated increases beyond our control at short notice, either before or after you have booked the tour, in which case the price would need to be revised accordingly.

NB: This tour involves some travel in remote areas. This adds to the adventure and increases the opportunity to enjoy a true wildlife experience. However, due to terrain, weather, road conditions, and other factors beyond our control, some elements of the tour may have to be altered. Times of some activities may need to be changed or even cancelled due to the conditions. If an activity is cancelled it will usually be replaced with an alternative activity that is more appropriate for the conditions. Advance notice will be given for any changes where possible, although at times changes may need to be made whilst the tour is in progress.

NB: With any trip involving wildlife it is impossible to guarantee a sighting, but each trip is designed around known habitats. Every effort will be made to ensure a sighting, but cannot be held responsible if no sighting is made due to the wildlife itself, weather, or any other elements beyond our control.

NB: Prices are based on a specific airlines and specific economy seating classes. Flights are booked on an ad hoc basis and so early booking is recommended to take advantage of the cheapest fare availability. Prices may rise if a more expensive seat class needs to be booked. Please call for information on price variations for using alternative airlines or for seat upgrades.

NB: Adequate insurance cover is mandatory. Please supply us with details of your cover.

NB: Should for any reason the specified tour leader be unable to accompany the group, a suitable substitute will be provided.

NB: All international flights should be re-confirmed at least 72 hours before departure.

NB: The above itinerary and its quoted price are based on specific hotels and lodges. Should there be insufficient availability at the time of booking, alternative hotels and lodges of a similar standard may have to be booked instead, in which case the itinerary and/or price may change.

NB: Inclusive tours and excursions as stated in the itinerary will have been pre-paid. Once full payment has been made and/or clients are actually at their destination, should clients be disinclined to partake of any inclusive tour or excursion, no refunds will be possible.

NB: Excursions marked as 'Optional' are not included in the price.

NB: Despite recent improvements, Madagascar still has some accommodation of a lower standards than that normally expected by western travelers, and a precarious infrastructure including unreliable domestic flights, poor telecommunications and bad roads. Many of our tours visit areas well off the beaten track, and therefore far from medical and other services. Trails can often be arduous and slippery, and campsites are usually very basic. Bookings will only be accepted on the understanding that the client accepts Reef and Rainforest Tours has done everything in its power to ensure there are no difficulties, but has no control over standards of some equipment, available accommodation and services, airline reservation policies, flight schedule changes or possible breakdowns in communication in Madagascar.

NB: Visas are easily obtainable on arrival for UK residents; approximate cost: GBP65 payable in USD or EUR. Please take sufficient currency to pay, or obtain your visa prior to departure from the Malagasy Embassy in London. Please ensure your passport has six months validity from the date of return. . PLEASE CHECK THE LATEST INFORMATION WITH YOUR LOCAL EMBASSY/CONSULATE.

NB: Local reserve guides' tips are payable at the reserves (c.£2-3 per full day's guiding per two people). Tips should also be given to your private guide, depending on level of satisfaction (c. £2-3 per day per two people).

NB: In some hotels, English will be spoken either badly or not at all.

Reef and Rainforest Tours Ltd.

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E-mail: mail@reefandrainforest.co.uk

