

CLASSIC MADAGASCAR



HIGHLIGHTS

- DISTINCT GEOGRAPHY AND DIVERSE WILDLIFE
- SPOT PLAYFUL LEMURS
- TWO THIRDS OF THE WORLD'S CHAMELEON SPECIES

The distinct geography and vastness of Madagascar makes it unlike any other country. An astonishing 97 per cent of its mammals and 98 per cent of its amphibians are found nowhere else on the planet; most famous of these are the various species of lemur and chameleon.

DAY 1

London/Antananarivo

Depart early this morning on your flight from London Heathrow to Antananarivo via Paris. This unique city known as 'Tana' to the locals has a distinctive French flavour. On arrival transfer to the Royal Palissandre Hotel & Spa, an elegant hotel standing on a hill in the heart of Antananarivo. After settling in you may like to spend the evening on Avenue de l'Independance, a boulevard lined with many restaurants, bars and shops where you can observe local life around you.

DAY 2

Antananarivo/Perinet Reserve

Return to the Antananarivo Airport this morning for your flight to the Perinet Reserve. Stay at the Vakona Forest Lodge set in the middle of lush forest on the edge of the Andasibe-Mantadia National Park.

DAY 3

Perinet Reserve

In Perinet National Park, you will find around eight different species of lemur and some of Madagascar's most unique chameleons. Spend time searching for

the nose-horned chameleon, the two-foot long Parson's Chameleon, and Madagascar's largest lemur - the Indri.

DAY 4

Perinet Reserve/Antananarivo/Fort Dauphin

Travel today to Fort Dauphin on the southern coastline. In the centre of the city and just a short distance from the ocean is the Kaleta Hotel. Enjoy a delicious dinner and the panoramic sea view at Le Dauphinois Restaurant serving a mix of seafood, Malagasy and international cuisine. The St Louis

Bar is a great place to spend a relaxed evening after a day of travelling.

DAY 5

Fort Dauphin/Mandrare River Camp

Three hours drive north west of Fort Dauphin, you will find the Mandrare River Camp, nestled under the shade of tamarind trees on the banks of the Mandrare River - the lifeblood of the region. Set in the grounds of an old colonial sisal plantation house, the camp is just three kilometres from the village of Ifotaka and opposite the sacred ancestral forests of the Antandroy Tribe.

The six large luxury tents are generously spread out high up on the shady river bank, all with views across the tranquil water and the mountains beyond. With bathrooms to the rear of the tents, hot water is supplied on demand to fuel the bucket shower or wash basin. By no means primitive, this is most definitely a luxury camp with grand four poster beds and delectable cuisine prepared on site from the finest of ingredients.

DAYS 6 TO 7

Mandrare River Camp

Awake to the sound of the local ▶



THE A&K DIFFERENCE With our leading reputation and rigorous selection policy, we employ the very best guides who ensure you acquire real insight into their culture and country. Our experienced team of experts, both in the UK and locally, are on hand to provide comprehensive support and ensure complete peace of mind. They anticipate individual needs and provide those extra little touches that make the difference between a good and an exceptional holiday, such as meeting you at the airport, private transfers in air-conditioned vehicles and a ready supply of chilled bottled water. With their unique contacts they can arrange special access to individuals, places and experiences not ordinarily available.

Abercrombie & Kent



Antandroy tribe singing as they fetch water from the river or the morning calls of the coucal and crested drongo. In an area so richly diverse and so far removed from the western world, revel in the opportunity to see firsthand the life and rich culture of the Antandroy. By protecting the Sacred Forests where the Antandroy ancestors rest in their ornate tombs, the tribe have managed to preserve large pristine wildlife areas. Through the traditions of Fady they not only protect but live in harmony with their environment. Day and night walks will allow you to see both forests in detail and the wildlife that lives in them. Search for the four species of lemur – ring tailed, verreaux's sifaka, mouse and white foot sportive (the latter two are both nocturnal). The birding is also exceptional with at least 15 resident

species in camp and many more in the surrounding wooded areas, including scops owl, malachite kingfisher, verreaux's coua and many raptors.

DAY 8
Mandrare River Camp/Manafiafy Lodge

In a tranquil setting on the south east coast is Manafiafy Beach & Rainforest Lodge. The lodge is next to the small sleepy village of Manafiafy. It was here in 1613 that the first Portuguese traders laid anchor in the bay whose calm waters and small islands provided safe anchorage. Manafiafy Beach & Rainforest Lodge has only six bungalows tucked amongst forest and is a short walk from the sheltered bay. Two of the bungalows are ideal for families. The lodge is entirely powered

by solar energy and each bungalow has hot and cold running water. The furniture is designed for you to relax and enjoy the magnificent views from your private deck.

DAYS 9 TO 11
Manafiafy Lodge

Many activities are available during your stay at Manafiafy Lodge. Choose from birding trips into the wetlands by motorboat, canoeing in the mangroves, seasonal whale watching from a 15ft observation tower (June through September), boat trips to nearby islands for picnic lunches and snorkelling, and day and night walks in the rainforest in search of Dwarf, Mouse, Sportive, Aye Aye and Brown Lemurs. At the end

of each day, return to the Lodge for a sumptuous dinner on your private deck or enjoy a seafood barbeque on the beach.

DAY 12
Manafiafy/Fort Dauphin/Antananarivo
Traveling back to Antananarivo, spend your last night at the Royal Palissandre Hotel & Spa. You may like to take some time to shop for local handicrafts in this wonderful city before your flight home.

DAY 13
Depart Antananarivo
Transfer from the Royal Palissandre Hotel & Spa to Antananarivo International Airport for your return flight to London via Paris.

With A&K all journeys are individually tailored to suit your interest and timescale. As a guideline, this 13 day suggested journey in Madagascar will cost from £3,998 per person based on two adults sharing with flights from the UK, subject to availability. *Please bear in mind this is not a prescriptive itinerary but a suggestion to give you a taste of what is possible with the very highest level of comfort, service and convenience. Accordingly, we aim to quote to a standard as opposed to a price.*

Please call **0845 0700 611** to speak to an expert or visit www.abercrombiekent.co.uk