

CENTRAL MADAGASCAR

OCTOBER 2025

Day 0 – Sat, 04 Oct – Antanarivo

Arrive in Antananarivo (TNR), with a wide variety of airlines having regular schedules: Airlink from Johannesburg, Air France, Emirates, Turkish, Ethiopian, Kenya-Airways, Air Mauritius (if coming from Asia or Australia), Air Austral (via Reunion), Corsair.

BUY SIM CARD UPON LANDING. Thorough registration system required for a SIM. Further opportunities to get a SIM might be patchy and WiFi is not guaranteed in the countryside.

*** TRIP STARTS ***

Day 1 – Sun, 05 Oct – Antsirabe

Visit Crocodile Farm to see some animals of Madagascar, lunch, supermarket for snacks, move to Antsirabe after lunch.

Day 2 – Mon, 06 Oct – Miandrivazo

Morning tour of Antsirabe (rickshaws, market, clothing, horn products factories), shower, checkout. Move to Miandrivazo, visiting a gold-panning operation on the way.

Day 3 – Tue, 07 Oct – Morondava / Camp

Default group: Drive to Morondava, afternoon pool/beach

River group - optional: Get on boat and cruise slowly down the river - Google *"Tsiribihina River Descent"* for more details. Several operators with minor variations on essentially the same programme.

Day 4 – Wed, 08 Oct – Kirindy / Camp

Default group: 4 AM to Avenue of the Baobabs to watch sunrise for those who want to only (the whole group will be doing the famous sunset on day 8). Alternatively sleep late and chill by the beach and pool, have brunch and check out.

Move to and visit Kirindy Forest (the one North of the Avenue of the Baobabs - not be confused with Kirindy Mitea National Park south of Morondava, which is not on our itinerary).

River group: Continue on the river, seeing animals, waterfalls, etc. along the way.

Day 5 – Thu, 09 Oct – Bekopaka

Default group: Morning visit in Kirindy and set off mid-morning to Belo Tsiribihina to meet the river group by lunch time.

River group: Finish river cruise and arrive in Belo Tsiribihina by lunchtime. All together, continue to Bekopaka, were we will stay in one place for three nights.



Day 6 – Fri, 10 Oct – Bekopaka

Visit the Little Tsingy, karst "mountains" that are very unique and full of fossils. This is an unaided climb, which should give you a good indication about whether to do Big Tsingy tomorrow.

Afternoon at leisure/do laundry, swim, etc.

Evening look for night lemurs and chameleons

Day 7 – Sat, 11 Oct – Bekopaka

Big Tsingy for those who want (or rest and spa or viewpoint picnic for those who don't want to).

Big Tsingy, as the name implies, is the bigger and more challenging brother of Little Tsingy..

In spots, it requires the use of harnesses with chains and karabiners supplied by trained guides to keep you safe in case of slipping. Truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience!

Day 8 – Sun, 12 Oct – Morondava

Drive back to Morondava, doing Avenue of the Baobabs for sunset with group photo.

*** ESSENTIAL MADAGASCAR ENDS ***

Day 9 - Mon, 13 Oct - Belo sur Mer

Those not continuing: Fly back to Tana to arrive 11:30, possibly do city tour. Fly out evening or next day.

Continuing group: Drive to Belo sur Mer (possible speedboat option available also from Morondava).

Day 10 – Tue, 14 Oct – Morombe/Adavoaka

Drive to Morombe/Andavoaka region

Day 11 - Wed, 15 Oct - Morombe/Adavoaka

Day in and around Morombe/Andavoaka region, visiting giant baobabs, snorkelling, swimming, etc.

Day 12 – Thu, 16 Oct – Salary

Drive to Salary

Day 13 – Fri, 17 Oct – Salary

Day in and around Salary, doing pirogue cruises, picnic with local fishermen, visit Spiny Forest, and *maybe* some whale spotting (it is at the tail-end of the whale migration season), more reefs and snorkelling.



Day 14 - Sat, 18 Oct - Ifaty/Toliara

Drive to Ifaty/Toliara Those not continuing, take evening or next morning flight out to Tana. Continuing group, overnight in Ifaty/Toliara.

*** COASTAL MADAGSCAR ENDS ***

Day 15 – Sun, 19 Oct – Ifaty/Toliara

Rest and laundry day

Day 16 - Mon, 20 Oct - Isalo

Drive to Isalo National Park

Day 17 - Tue, 21 Oct - Isalo

Isalo National Park, hike while exploring unique rock formations, spotting some ring-tailed lemurs and having a lunch picnic.

Day 18 – Wed, 22 Oct – Ranomafana

Drive to Ranomafana National Park.

Evening mouse lemur and chameleon spotting. Chillax in hot spring.

Day 19 – Thu, 23 Oct – Ranomafana

Ranomafana National Park, a lush forest housing several species of lemurs, birds and insects.

Buy some last souvenirs and spices.

Afternoon at leisure - chillax in hot spring.

Day 20 – Fri, 24 Oct – Antsirabe

Drive back to Antsirabe.

Day 21 – Sat, 25 Oct – Antanarivo (optional)

Drive back to Tana in the morning.

Tana city tour.

Those who want to fly out same evening can do so, or stay the night and fly next day.

*** TOUR ENDS ***

Day 22+ - Sun, 26 October onwards

Those who want (and still have energy) can fly to Nosy Be for a few days of beach holiday.