

## A Private Journey to Madagascar



Prepared for  
Steppes Travel

Based on dates of travel:

3 September 2010 to 15 September 2010

## QUICK REFERENCE ITINERARY

03/09/2010	Fly Heathrow / Nairobi (overnight)
04/09/2010	Fly Nairobi / Antananarivo Road transfer to city Pallisandre Hotel and Spa
05/09/2010	Road transfer Antananarivo / Andasibe Mantadia National Park Vakona Forest Lodge
06/09/2010	Vakona Forest Lodge
07/09/2010	Vakona Forest Lodge
08/09/2010	Road transfer Andasibe Mantadia National Park / Antananarivo Pallisandre Hotel and Spa
09/09/2010	Road transfer to airport Fly Antananarivo / Ile Sainte Marie Princesse Bora Lodge
10/09/2010	Princesse Bora Lodge
11/09/2010	Princesse Bora Lodge
12/09/2010	Princesse Bora Lodge
13/09/2010	Princesse Bora Lodge
14/09/2010	Fly Ile Sainte Marie / Antananarivo Fly Antananarivo / Nairobi Fly Nairobi / Heathrow (overnight)
15/09/2010	Arrive Heathrow

## YOUR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Date	Route	Flight No.	Check in	Depart	Arrive
03/09/2010	Heathrow/Nairobi	KQ 101	18:00	20:00	06:30*
04/09/2010	Nairobi/Antananarivo	KQ 756	06:20	08:20	11:40
09/09/2010	Antananarivo /Ile Sainte Marie	MD 534	06:45	08:45	10:35
14/09/2010	Ile Sainte Marie / Antananarivo	MD 535	06:50	08:50	10:40
14/09/2010	Antananarivo /Nairobi	KQ 757	10:40	12:40	16:00
14/09/2010	Nairobi/Heathrow	KQ 102	21:45	23:45	06:45*

\*Arrival the following day

Your flights are being held in the names of tba & tba, if these are not the names in your passports please let us know immediately. If these are not correct Steppes Travel cannot be held responsible and you may incur additional charges after ticketing.

**FLIGHT NOTES:** The fare is a special discounted fare and therefore carries very strict booking conditions. Travel is restricted to the dates and flights as indicated on your air tickets, which are not valid for any other dates or services.

**GENERAL NOTES**

If you are travelling to or via South Africa or Kenya, you will need 2 blank adjacent pages in your passport and it must be valid for at least 6 months after your return date in order to clear immigration.



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## DETAILED TRIP ITINERARY

Friday 3 September

**Heathrow / Nairobi**

Depart Heathrow on the Kenya Airways flight to Nairobi, flying overnight.

Saturday 4 September



**Nairobi / Antananarivo**

Depart Nairobi on the Kenya Airways flight to Antananarivo. Following your arrival, you will be met and transferred by road to the city centre where you will *overnight in one standard double room*.

**Palissandre Hotel & Spa**

*The Palissandre Hotel is situated in the heart of Antananarivo, on a hillside, just 10 minutes walk from the hub of the city. The rooms are simple, but very comfortable with en-suite facilities and air conditioning. Service at the hotel is good and there is a bar and restaurant which is situated on a terrace overlooking the city. The hotel also has a spa offering some treatments using local essential oils.*



Overnight at Palissandre Hotel & Spa on a full board basis.

Sunday 5 September

**Antananarivo / Andasibe Mantadia National Park**

Today you will be met and transferred by road to Andasibe Mantadia National Park where you will stay in *one standard bungalow for three nights*.



The drive takes approximately two and a half hours and journeys through eucalyptus trees and highland villages. There will be plenty of time to stop at some of the towns and villages en-route.



After settling in to your hotel, take a nocturnal walk in the nearby reserve run by the Mitsinjo Association, a local NGO promoting reforestation and other conservation measures. This is a rewarding place for night walks, especially as these are not permitted within Andasibe or Mantadia National Park. Here, you will have a good opportunity of seeing Goodman's mouse lemur and a variety of reptiles such as Parson's chameleon and Uroplatus geckos.

**Vakona Forest Lodge**

*Vakona Forest Lodge is situated ten minutes drive from the Andasibe Mantadia National Park entrances and comprises of 17 comfortable bungalows, set amongst the lush, green vegetation. Each bungalow has its own bathroom and basic amenities. The main area includes a bar, reception, large dining room and small curio shop.*



Overnight at Vakona Forest Lodge on a full board basis.

**Monday 6 September**



**Vakona Forest Lodge**

This morning, after breakfast, you will be met by your driver / guide for the 10km drive to the Andasibe National Park (Perinet), home to the largest lemur, the magnificent Indri. Here, you will meet a national parks guide who will accompany you on your forest walk. The eerie, wailing calls of the Indri encountered during your walk is truly a memorable moment and one not to be missed! Other species of lemur are also located here include the grey bamboo lemur and common brown lemur. This is a great place for birdwatching, with species such as the velvet asity, blue coua and nuthatch vanga.



Nocturnal walks are not permitted within Andasibe Mantadia National Parks, but it is worth going on a guided nocturnal stroll along the road as the frogs and chameleons, found in the secondary growth are easier to see at night. It can be a little daunting walking alongside a busy road, but it can be rewarding.

Overnight at Vakona Forest Lodge on a full board basis.

**Tuesday 7 September**



**Vakona Forest Lodge**

This morning, after breakfast, you will be met by your guide for the 10km drive to Mantadia National Park. Here, you will be met by a national parks guide who will accompany you on a walk in this 10'000 hectare protected area. Mantadia comprises of virtually untouched primary forest and it varies more in altitude than Andasibe. Here, you will have a good chance of seeing the diademed sifaka and some indri. There are also some great birdwatching possibilities, including the scaly ground-roller, pitta-like ground-roller and red-breasted coua.

An optional (extra) excursion from this lodge includes a visit to 'Lemur Island' - a great photographic opportunity as the lemurs are semi-habituated.

Overnight at Vakona Forest Lodge on a full board basis.



**Wednesday 8 September**



**Andasibe Mantadia National Park / Antananarivo**

Today you will be transferred back to Antananarivo where you will *overnight in one standard double room*.

Overnight at Palissandre Hotel & Spa on a full board basis.

**Thursday 9 September**



**Antananarivo / Ile Sainte Marie**

Today you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the airport where you will depart Antananarivo on the Air Madagascar flight to Ile Sainte Marie. *Stay at Princesse Bora Lodge in one luxury bungalow for five nights.*

**Princesse Bora Lodge**

*The Princesse Bora Lodge & Spa is located in a vast palm tree grove right next to a white sandy beach and a lagoon in the southern part of the island. All of the villas have been built using local materials. The comfort villa, accommodating a maximum of two people, includes one double bed, bathroom with a shower and sink and a terrace with a hammock. The air conditioned Luxury Villas include a double bed on the main floor, two single beds on the mezzanine, a bathroom with a shower and a double basin and a large terrace with a hammock.*



*The Lodge has two private beaches (Coco Bay and Clipper Bay) which are surrounded by a large forest of coconut trees and which are accessible either by 4x4 or by boat. The restaurant is known for being the best on Sainte-Marie Island and the major culinary influences re Creole, French and Malagasy. Specialities such as grilled lobster or tournedos of zebu are a must. The hotel also has a spa where you will be able to indulge in a pure Ylang Flower Massage or a skin peel using wild honey.*



*Facilities include a bar and own dive centre. Four hour long whale watching excursions are offered from July to end September, departing at 8am or 1pm accompanied by eco-volunteers Swimming in the sea only possible at high tide.*

Overnight at Princesse Bora Lodge on a half board basis.

**Friday 10 September**



**Princesse Bora**

Overnight at Princesse Bora Lodge on a half board basis.

**Saturday 11 September**

**Princesse Bora**

Overnight at Princesse Bora Lodge on a half board basis.

**Sunday 12 September**

**Princesse Bora**

Overnight at Princesse Bora Lodge on a half board basis.

**Monday 13 September**

**Princesse Bora**

Overnight at Princesse Bora Lodge on a half board basis.

**Tuesday 14 September**

**Ile Sainte Marie / Antananarivo / Nairobi / Heathrow**

Today you will depart Ile Sainte Marie on the Air Madagascar flight to Antananarivo. Following your arrival in Antananarivo, you will be met and assisted with check-in for the Kenya Airways flight to Nairobi. Following your arrival in Nairobi you will meet the Kenya Airways flight to Heathrow, flying overnight.

**Wednesday 15 September**

Arrive Heathrow



## TRIP PRICE

**Estimated cost:** £3,719.00 per person

**Includes:** International and domestic economy class flights, British departure Taxes, all road and light aircraft transfers. Accommodation based on two persons sharing one twin/double room. All meals where stated on the itinerary.

**Excludes:** Visas and visa fees. All items of a personal nature, travel insurance, gratuities.

**Additional Information:**

**Notes:** This is a quotation only - no reservations have been made. The rates quoted are subject to the availability of all services, currency fluctuations, unexpected increases, written confirmation and Steppes Travel's terms and conditions.

Airfares are quoted on current rates and availability and are subject to change without notice. Airfares quote on London Heathrow / Nairobi Class H, Nairobi / Antananarivo Class Q.

The international air fares that we use are special discounted IT (inclusive tour) fares, which, whilst good value for money do carry strict booking conditions (e.g. have to be bought in conjunction with elements on the ground and are subject to certain restrictions, conditions and class availability).

Here are some suggestions of ways to enhance and therefore make even more special your holiday; upgrade your flight from economy to premium economy or business class, upgrade your hotel room, organise a personal shopper or expert guide to show you around, organise a special celebration meal or unique activity or excursion. Prebook valet, airport parking, airport hotels and airport lounges. If you wish to upgrade or prebook any of the above options then please do contact us.

N.B Visa fees will be free of charge up to a maximum stay of one month but only until December 31 2010.

Please note that it can be difficult to change travellers cheques in Madagascar and we therefore recommend using a VISA card and taking Euro's in cash to change for extra's.

Travel to Africa especially Madagascar, for whom tourism is a relatively new industry, involves lifestyles and conditions that are very different from our own - the pace of life is slower and delays occur. You must be prepared to cope with unusual situations, local inadequacies and unpredictable events as and when they occur. We meticulously arrange your holiday arrangements, however you must understand things can and do go wrong. Therefore patience and a sense of humour are important prerequisites to the enjoyment of your holiday.

We also advise clients to have a least a very basic level of conversational French - it can be difficult to communicate in English.

## YOUR CONSULTANT



### Consultant Profile:

Born and raised in South Africa, Mandy's passion for the African bush and its people began at a private game reserve adjacent to the Kruger National Park. This led to far dustier and wilder experiences further afield in Botswana, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia. Considering herself privileged to have witnessed raw Africa at its finest - from nesting leatherback turtles and endangered mountain gorillas to the simple beauty of everyday life in the bush - Mandy is passionate about the conservation of Africa and its wildlife.

From now on you may also be contacted by;

### Lara Hammond

Africa, Sales Support

[larah@steppestravel.co.uk](mailto:larah@steppestravel.co.uk)

Tel: 01285 650011

Fax: 01285 885888

or

### Rosie Liggins

Africa, Sales Support

[rosie@steppestravel.co.uk](mailto:rosie@steppestravel.co.uk)

Tel: 01285 650011

Fax: 01285 885888

24/06/2010