



Discovering Our Planet Together



Madagascar Explorer

Discover the Essence of the 'Eighth Continent' in Eight Days



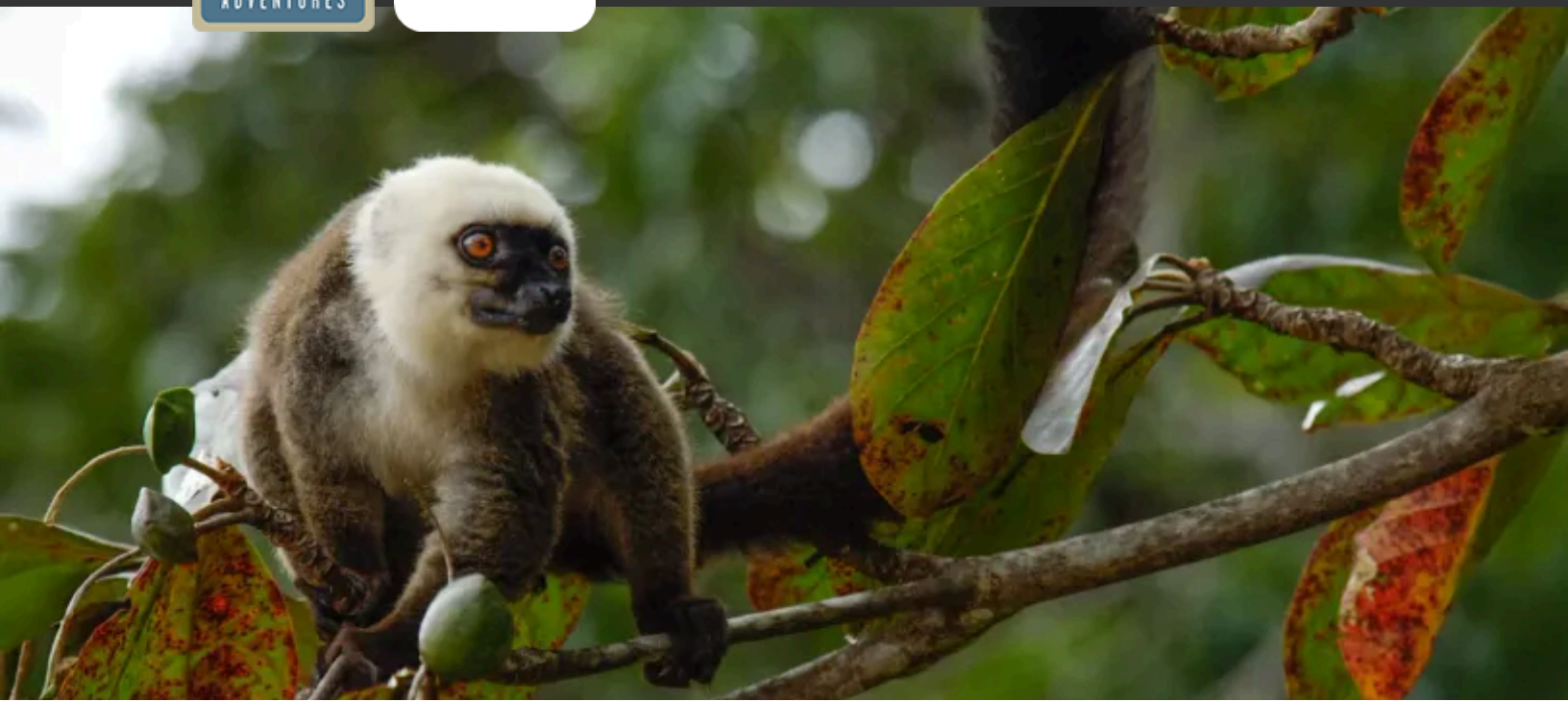
Discovering Our Planet Together

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Trip Details:

Days
8 Days / Jul–
Nov

Price
From
\$11995
(+Air)

Madagascar Explorer

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Among giant tree ferns and bromeliads, a flash of orange darts through the green shadows. Hoots and shrieks echo through the canopy. Intrigued, you look up and spy a red-ruffed lemur. Deep within the primeval rainforests of Madagascar, an astounding menagerie of unique animals thrives, from these ancient primates that hop upright to foot-long panther chameleons that change color to match their surroundings. These creatures live among a multitude of unusual flora found nowhere else on Earth, products of biological isolation over eons. Alone in the Indian Ocean, the island of Madagascar is sometimes called the planet's eighth continent—more than 90% of its species, many of which are rare and endangered, exist only here. Our itinerary reveals a rich sampler of the country's highlights, as we travel by chartered aircraft and private launch into wild places that evoke the dawn of time.

Trip Highlights

Madagascar holds a wealth of unique and endemic species including lemurs, chameleons and tropical birds, which we search for on rainforest forays

From a tranquil seaside lodge accessible only by boat or foot, plumb the depths of Madagascar's largest rainforest preserve

View the distinctive silhouettes of Madagascar's most famous trees—tall, cylindrical baobabs more than 800 years old—against the setting sun



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Itinerary At A Glance

Day 1

Antananarivo, Madagascar

Day 2

Private Flight to Maroantsetra /
Masoala National Park

Days 3 - 5

Exploring Masoala National Park
& Tampo Marine Reserve

Day 6

Private Chartered Flights to
Antananarivo & Morondava /
Avenue of the Baobabs

Day 7

Sunrise at the Baobabs / Fishing
Village / Mangrove Exploration

Day 8

Private Chartered Flight to
Antananarivo / Depart

Madagascar Explorer Itinerary

Discover the Essence of the 'Eighth Continent' in Eight Days

Day 1: Antananarivo, Madagascar

Our adventure begins in Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar. Known locally as "Tana," Madagascar's largest city is home to roughly 3 million people, while the balance of the island nation's population lives mostly in rural areas. A transfer is included from the airport to our hotel on the outskirts of the city. An optional day tour of the capital is available for those who arrive early. This evening, meet your Expedition Leader and traveling companions at a welcome dinner.





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Day 2: Private Flight to Maroantsetra / Masoala National Park

From Antananarivo, we fly by chartered plane to the small coastal trading town of Maroantsetra in the far northeast corner of the country. Here, we board a private boat across Antongil Bay to the Masoala Peninsula, covered in primary rainforest and protected within Masoala National Park, the largest of Madagascar's conservation reserves. Containing extraordinary biodiversity, the park is part of the Rainforests of the Atsinanana World Heritage Site, which holds 50% of Madagascar's species and 1% of the entire planet's life forms. It contains the last remaining extensive coastal lowland rainforest in Madagascar, as well as interior mountain rainforest, flooded forest, marsh, mangroves and coral reefs.

Our base for four nights is Masoala Forest Lodge, a blissfully secluded eco-retreat accessible only by sea or on foot. On the edge of a sheltered cove surrounding by Masoala National Park and fronting a pristine beach that stretches for miles, the lodge is one with its environs. It faces the warm, coral-rich waters of the Tampolo Marine Reserve, home to colorful reef fish, endangered green, hawksbill and loggerhead sea turtles, bottlenose dolphins, and from July through September, hundreds of humpback whales that visit Antongil Bay during their long migration. Behind the lodge, a dense, untouched rainforest teems with life. This afternoon, we make our first foray along the beach and into the forest, commencing our quest to spot a wide variety of Madagascar's intriguing wildlife. Eventually it's time for cocktails around the bonfire, as the sky is transformed into shades of orange and rose by one of Madagascar's famous sunsets.



Days 3 - 5: Exploring Masoala National Park & Tampo Marine Reserve

The next three days offer an immersion in the magic of coastal Madagascar. With our Expedition Leader and local Malagasy guides, head into this richly layered ecosystem in search of wondrous wildlife. Coveted bird sightings include helmet vanga, blue coua, nelicourvi weaver and various kingfishers. Lemurs are a highlight and our odds are good to spy red-ruffed lemurs, endemic to the Masoala Peninsula. We are also likely to spot northern bamboo lemurs and white-fronted brown lemurs—some of the nearly 100 lemur species found in Madagascar and nowhere else, as these primitive primates evolved in isolation on the island over the last 50 million years. Our guides also help us look for the greater hedgehog tenrec, brown-tailed mongoose, leaf-tailed geckos, Madagascar serpent eagle and dozens of butterfly species. After dark, forest walks reveal animals that become active at night, including sportive, woolly and mouse lemurs. With exceptional luck, we might glimpse a highly elusive aye-aye, surrounded by a chorus of night sounds created by frogs, insects and nocturnal birds.

In the forest, waterfalls pour off verdant cliffs into crystalline streams. The sea beckons, too, inviting us to snorkel in the clear aquamarine waters of the Tampo Marine Reserve. Or kayak among the islands, basalt formations, reefs and rocky coves fringed with palms as we watch community fishing boats pursue their sustainable daily catch. During our stay, we'll walk along the coast to the mouth of the Tampo River where we board a pirogue—a traditional dugout canoe—to glide up the glassy waterway in search of more intriguing wildlife.

On a visit to the village of Ambodiforaha, meet the people, learn about their culture, and enjoy a song and dance performance. Crafts created by local artisans are available for sale at a small market at our lodge, along with vanilla, cloves and other spices that are hallmarks of Madagascar. We may also visit a reforestation project for a close-up look at how native habitat is being successfully restored to provide a home for returning wildlife. A highlight of our stay is a traditional Malagasy dinner, plus tastings of local rums infused with native fruits and spices.



Day 6: Private Chartered Flights to Antananarivo & Morondava / Avenue of the Baobabs

Today we retrace our flight route to Antananarivo, then transfer to another chartered flight to Morondava on the west coast of Madagascar. On landing, we drive to our hotel, a collection of thatched bungalows overlooking the powdery white sand of Nosy Kely Beach on the Mozambique Channel. The bungalows are set among gardens scattered with coconut palms, perfectly situated to take in the stunning sunsets over the Indian Ocean. On our first evening, however, we enjoy the sunset from a different location: the famous Avenue of the Baobabs, about 40 minutes away by road. These massive trees, which line a dirt path leading to the Tsiribihina River, are a nearly thousand-year-old legacy of the dense tropical forests that once covered this landscape. Over the centuries, as Madagascar's population grew, the forests were steadily cut down, yet these dramatic specimens remain, icons of the country's native ecosystems and cultural heritage. Rising almost 100 feet tall, baobabs have straight, cylindrical trunks that grow up to 10 feet in diameter. Their flat-topped crowns create an evocative silhouette at sunset. With rains, baobabs put out a profusion of flowers, drawing bats, beetles, moths and other insects to feed on their sweet nectar. The baobab's fruit is about the size of a large coconut and is eaten by lemurs as well as humans. The bark of the baobab is used as a fiber for rope, cloth, nets, baskets and paper. The baobab's status as a keystone species holds special importance in its ecosystem, yet in addition to deforestation, climate change also threatens their survival, and we learn about conservation efforts to protect the remaining trees. Of the seven baobab species that grow in Madagascar, six are endemic to the island.

Day 7: Sunrise at the Baobabs / Fishing Village / Mangrove Exploration

Those who wish to rise early may return to the Avenue of the Baobabs at dawn for sunrise photographs. Later today, we visit a local fishing village to meet some of the fishers and learn about this traditional sustainable lifestyle. We also explore a mangrove ecosystem to discover why this threatened habitat holds such importance for Madagascar, which has the second-largest expanse of mangroves in the western Indian Ocean. In addition to providing nesting sites for birds and sea turtles and sheltering commercially valuable crab and shrimp, mangrove forests support connections between ecosystems such as coral reefs and seagrass beds. With stilt-like root systems, mangroves trap mud, filter water and safeguard coastlines against tidal surges. They are also amazing carbon sinks, storing up to four times more carbon than tropical rainforests. However, mangroves are rapidly disappearing, threatened by sea level rise, upstream erosion and deforestation. Since 2007, WWF has partnered with local communities to protect and regenerate these incredibly biodiverse coastal forests, and we learn about their achievements during our visit. Tonight, we conclude our Madagascar discovery with a festive farewell dinner.

Day 8: Private Chartered Flight to Antananarivo / Depart

After breakfast this morning, fly back to the capital city of Tana by private chartered aircraft, then transfer to the international airport to departing flights.



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Accommodation Details:

Novotel Antananarivo

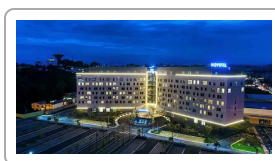
Masoala Forest Lodge

Hotel Palissandre

For detailed descriptions, visit
nathab.com/africa/madagascar-explorer-safari/accommodations

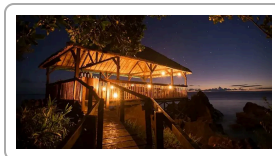
Madagascar Explorer Accommodations

Discover the Essence of the 'Eighth Continent' in Eight Days



Novotel Antananarivo

Just 15 minutes from the international airport serving Madagascar's capital, this contemporary 5-star hotel features sleek modern rooms plus a swimming pool, fitness center and rooftop terrace Skybar overlooking the courtyard and gardens.



Masoala Forest Lodge

An ecolodge with tree houses featuring screened walls and en suite bathrooms. Elevated walkways weave through lush foliage to a spacious pavilion with panoramic ocean and forest views.



Hotel Palissandre

A beach-front resort on the western shore of Madagascar featuring individual guest bungalows with air conditioning and thatched roofs, two outdoor pools and a full-service spa.



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The Ideal Addition to Your African Safari—Or a Great Adventure on Its Own

At just eight days, this compact yet diverse adventure offers you a rich experience of Madagascar in about a week—a much shorter duration than most other scheduled tours—making it a perfect extension to an African safari. Find out more about the benefits you'll enjoy on our carefully crafted itinerary:

1

Explore a Biodiversity Hotspot Before the Rest of the World Gets There

Nat Hab is one of few tour operators offering naturalist-guided trips to this less-discovered destination. Madagascar is a truly distinctive option to add to your safari or visit on its own—due to the island nation's isolation in the Indian Ocean, 90% of the species here are found nowhere else! You'll be astonished at the array of unique animals and plants, and you'll witness firsthand how important your presence is to conserving Madagascar's endemic wonders.

2

Chartered Flights are Key to a Superlative Experience

When you're tight on time on your quest to see a solid swath of Madagascar in a short duration, chartered flights are the only way to go. The country's national carrier has an abysmal track record for delays and cancellations, so we avoid them, instead arranging private chartered flights that work for our timing. That way, you don't lose out on precious wildlife viewing! It's a costly commitment, but charters ensure we get to where we need to be in a quick and convenient manner.

3

A Very Small Group Ensures Intimate Wildlife Encounters

The best wildlife experiences are always more likely to occur in the presence of fewer people. We explore Madagascar with no more than eight travelers—likely the smallest group you'll find—ensuring a quieter, more wondrous experience in nature.

4

Travel with a Top Naturalist Expedition Leader

Compare the quality of guides and guest-to-guide ratio: You'll travel with a highly experienced Nat Hab Expedition Leader with outstanding knowledge of Madagascar's nature and culture, with support from local guides at our destinations. Our Expedition Leader provides seamless tour management and the integrated perspective of a professional naturalist, while our Malagasy guides add in-depth local knowledge, helping to maximize our wildlife sightings. Our Expedition Leaders get training and resources from WWF scientists—a Nat Hab exclusive! **See Expedition Leader bios** and traveler comments regarding the quality of our leaders.



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5

Activities Tailored to Varied Physical Abilities

We often divide our groups on hikes and other outings in order to accommodate different physical capacities. Since we explore with a complement of guides, from our own Expedition Leader to various local guides in the places we visit, we're able to split up based on physical challenge, ensuring you won't feel let down or frustrated when other travelers' abilities may not match yours (though all guests must be able to meet our minimum physical requirements for this trip).

6

Distinctive Accommodations Close to Nature

You won't get closer to nature than from our secluded ecolodges that are surrounded by it! Fronting a pristine beach, Masoala Forest Lodge lies within the dense primary rainforest of Masoala National Park, the largest of Madagascar's conservation reserves. And on the west coast, offering access to the famous Avenue of the Baobabs, Hotel Palissandre features individual thatched beachfront bungalows shaded by palm trees.

7

Be Part of a Conservation Success Story

It's not an exaggeration to say that without our presence, and that of other eco-conscious travelers, most of Madagascar's remaining wild habitat would be gone. By demonstrating the economic value of nature tourism, bringing visitors to observe the intriguing species found in Madagascar's remarkably biodiverse forests, we show local communities the value of protecting their wild surroundings. Conservation travel is imperative to the future of nature in Madagascar. And when you travel with us, you're central to that mission.

8

Our Quality-Value Guarantee Ensures Your Outstanding Nature Adventure

With Natural Habitat Adventures, you receive our exclusive guarantee that clearly states that we will meet the high expectations we set forth in our promotional materials. To our knowledge, this is the most ambitious guarantee made by any adventure travel company. **Read our important promise.**

9

Feel Good About Your Carbon-Neutral Journey

We care deeply about our planet, as we know you do. When you travel with us, the carbon emissions from your trip are 100% offset—including your round-trip flights from home. Natural Habitat Adventures has been the world's first carbon-neutral travel company since 2007.

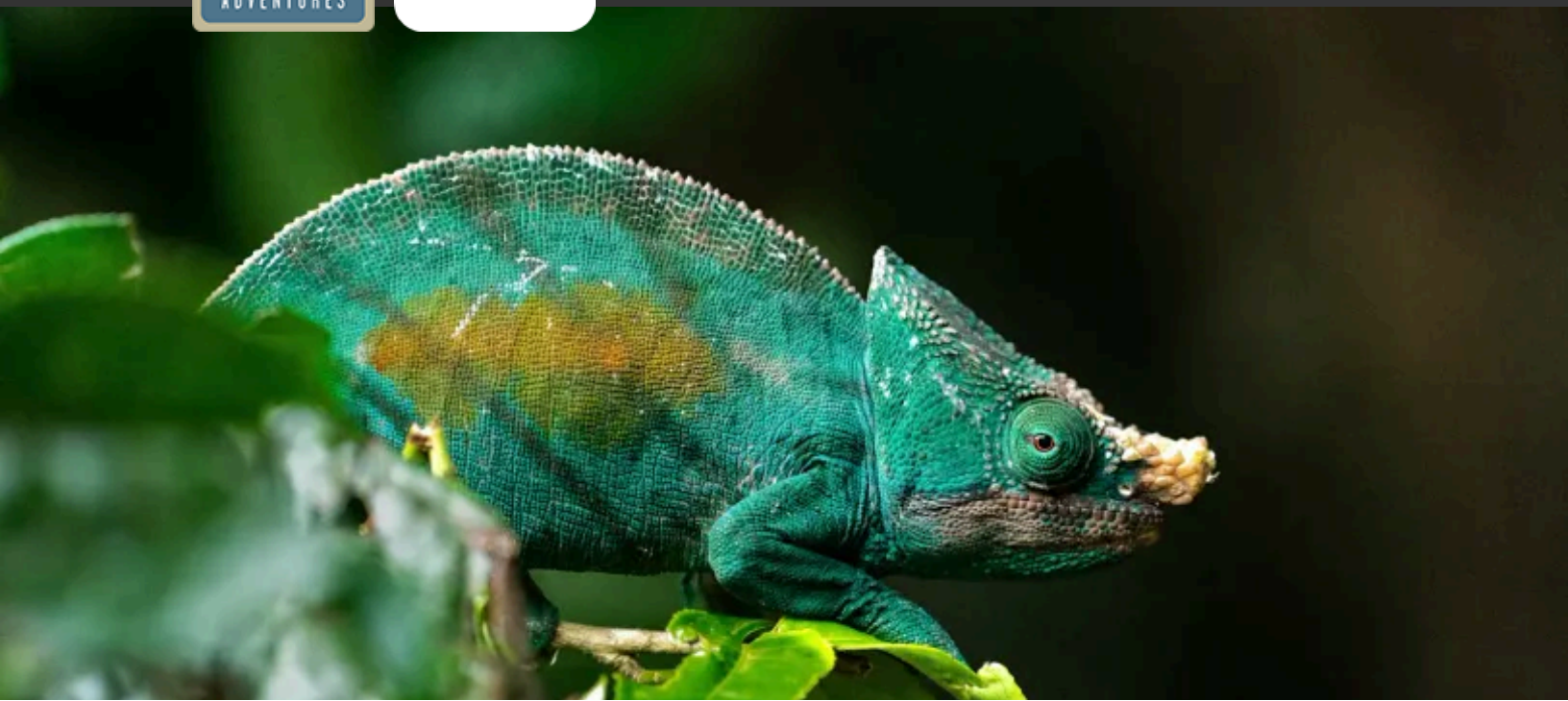
10

Natural Habitat Adventures Is World Wildlife Fund's Travel Partner

Because of our commitment to environmentally friendly travel, as well as the exceptional quality of our small-group nature adventures, World Wildlife Fund, the world's leading environmental conservation organization, has named Natural Habitat Adventures its worldwide travel partner—a designation that makes us exceedingly proud!



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Dates & Pricing Summary:

Prices:
From \$11995
(+Air)

Group Size:
Limited to 8
Travelers

Madagascar Explorer Dates, Pricing & Info

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2026 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
Jul 7, 2026	Jul 14, 2026	\$12495 USD (+internal air)
Jul 21, 2026	Jul 28, 2026	\$11995 USD (+internal air)
Aug 11, 2026	Aug 18, 2026	\$11995 USD (+internal air)
Aug 25, 2026	Sep 1, 2026	\$11995 USD (+internal air)
Sep 8, 2026	Sep 15, 2026	\$11995 USD (+internal air) Habitat Club Pricing Available
Sep 22, 2026	Sep 29, 2026	\$11995 USD (+internal air)
Oct 6, 2026	Oct 13, 2026	\$12495 USD (+internal air)
Oct 20, 2026	Oct 27, 2026	\$12495 USD (+internal air)
Nov 3, 2026	Nov 10, 2026	\$11995 USD (+internal air)
Nov 17, 2026	Nov 24, 2026	\$12495 USD (+internal air) Habitat Club Pricing Available

2027 Departures

Departure	Return	Notes
! Prices and dates not confirmed for 2027		
Aug 10, 2027	Aug 17, 2027	\$11995 USD (+internal air)



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Departure	Return	Notes
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! Prices and dates not confirmed for 2027

Aug 24, 2027	Aug 31, 2027	\$11995 USD (+internal air)
Sep 7, 2027	Sep 14, 2027	\$11995 USD (+internal air)
Sep 21, 2027	Sep 28, 2027	\$11995 USD (+internal air)
Oct 5, 2027	Oct 12, 2027	\$11995 USD (+internal air)
Oct 19, 2027	Oct 26, 2027	\$11995 USD (+internal air)
Nov 2, 2027	Nov 9, 2027	\$11995 USD (+internal air)
Nov 16, 2027	Nov 23, 2027	\$11995 USD (+internal air)



Pricing

See <https://nathab.com/africa/madagascar-explorer-safari/dates-fees> for the latest pricing details.

Included

- **Trip price includes:** Accommodations, services of Nat Hab's professional Expedition Leader(s), local guides and camp staff all meals from dinner on Day 1 through lunch on final day, some gratuities, airport transfers on Day 1 and final day, all activities and entrance fees, all taxes, permits and service fees.
- **Internal air cost includes:** All charter flights within the itinerary (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

Not Included

Travel to and from the start and end point of your trip, some alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees (if any), optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, laundry and internet, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes (if any), required medical evacuation insurance, optional travel protection insurance.

Important Information About This Trip

Madagascar's varied ecosystems offer a range of nature encounters. We will hike in rain forests (which can be hot and humid), take boat rides to view wildlife, and we may have the chance to snorkel, for those who desire. Participation in all physical activities is optional. We ask our guests to understand that the accommodations in Madagascar are not, collectively, of the standard that may be found in other more established African safari countries. Some lodgings are relatively luxurious while others are plain but clean and comfortable. In all cases, we have selected the best accommodation available at each location. Changes to the itinerary may occur in order to take advantage of conditions unique to the season and/or to accommodate unexpected internal chartered flight schedule changes; therefore, itineraries may on occasion need to be rerouted or redesigned without notice.

Mandatory Insurance

Since the areas we travel to on this trip are remote and wild (that's why we go there!), we require medical evacuation insurance for our guests' safety. If you decline the medical evacuation insurance coverage offered by Natural Habitat, we request that you send us documentation of the independent coverage you have selected. We will add the cost of a medical evacuation policy to your tour invoice until you provide our office with proof of coverage including your insurance company's name, contact number and your individual policy number. Thank you for understanding that our policy exists exclusively in the interest of our guests' safety.



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Getting There & Getting Home

You must arrive in Antananarivo, Madagascar by 5 pm on Day 1 for a 7 pm welcome dinner. You are free to depart Antananarivo any time after 2 pm on the final day.

We can best serve you if our Natural Habitat Adventures Travel Desk makes your reservations, as we are intimately familiar with the special requirements of this program and can arrange the most efficient travel. Please call us at 800-543-8917. Note that while we offer you the best possible rates available to us on airfare and additional nights' accommodations, you may find special web rates or better fares online.



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Extension Details:

Secluded Botswana Safari
\$17795

Cape Town Extension
\$1995

Sabi Sand Extension
\$4395

Namibia Desert Extension
\$5795

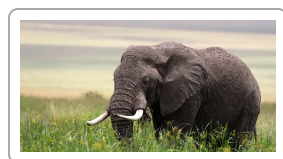
Wild Cape Coast Extension
\$2995

The Great Uganda Gorilla Safari
\$13695

The Great Kenya Migration Safari
\$11995

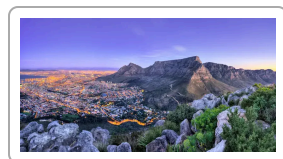
Madagascar Explorer Extensions

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Secluded Botswana Safari

Our flagship Botswana safari—for just seven guests! A truly exclusive wilderness immersion in the Okavango Delta's best private wildlife reserves and beyond, plus Victoria Falls.
\$17795 (+air)



Cape Town Extension

Discover one of the world's most entrancing cities and its natural environs. Survey the view from Table Mountain, explore the Cape Peninsula, visit Cape Point Nature Reserve, see penguins at Boulders Beach, and tour the Winelands.
\$1995

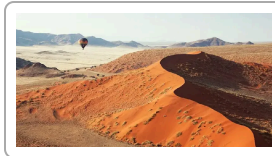


Sabi Sand Extension

An exclusive safari experience on a 160,000-acre private reserve that's one of Africa's best places to spot the famous Big Five—choose among intimate luxury camps and secluded boutique lodges.
\$4395



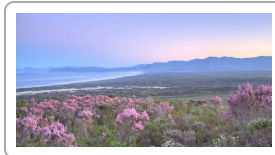
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Namibia Desert Extension

Namibia's towering sand dunes, arid canyons and desert-adapted wildlife offer a distinct contrast to other southern Africa safari destinations—look for endangered black rhino, desert elephant and more.

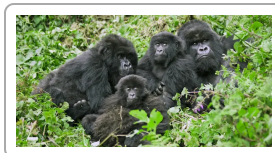
\$5795 (+air)



Wild Cape Coast Extension

From our luxury ecolodge base on the Grootbos Private Nature Reserve, explore pristine coastal wilderness including the rare Cape Floral plant kingdom and Stony Point penguin colony.

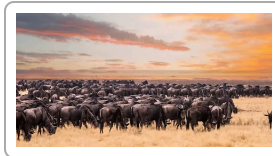
\$2995



The Great Uganda Gorilla Safari

On rainforest treks, revel in face-to-face encounters with endangered mountain gorillas and see chimpanzees in Kibale Forest as we explore Uganda's diverse natural wonders.

\$13695 (+air/permits)



The Great Kenya Migration Safari

Experience one of the world's most incredible wildlife events in Africa's most classic safari destination—Kenya, home to the massive movement of creatures that is the Great Migration!

\$11995 (+air)



Natural Habitat & WWF: Discovering Our Planet Together

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WWF's membership travel program is operated by Natural Habitat Adventures (Nat Hab). To date, Nat Hab has provided more than \$6 million in support of WWF's mission and will continue to give 1% of gross sales plus \$175,000 annually through 2028. WWF® and ©1986 Panda Symbol are owned by WWF. All rights reserved.