



Discovering Our Planet Together



Madagascar Explorer

Discover the Essence of the 'Eighth Continent'



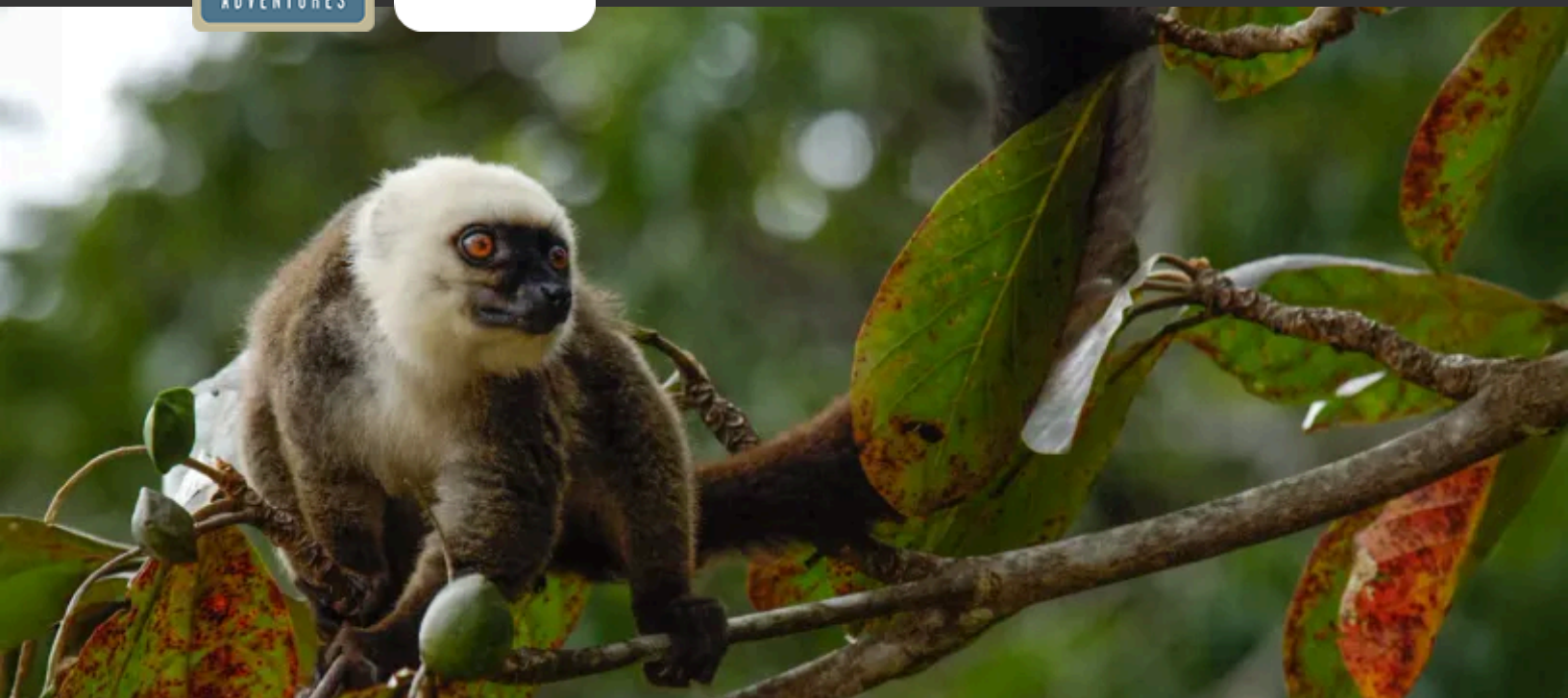
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Trip Details:

Days

10 Days /
Jul–Nov

Price

From \$11995
(+Air)

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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

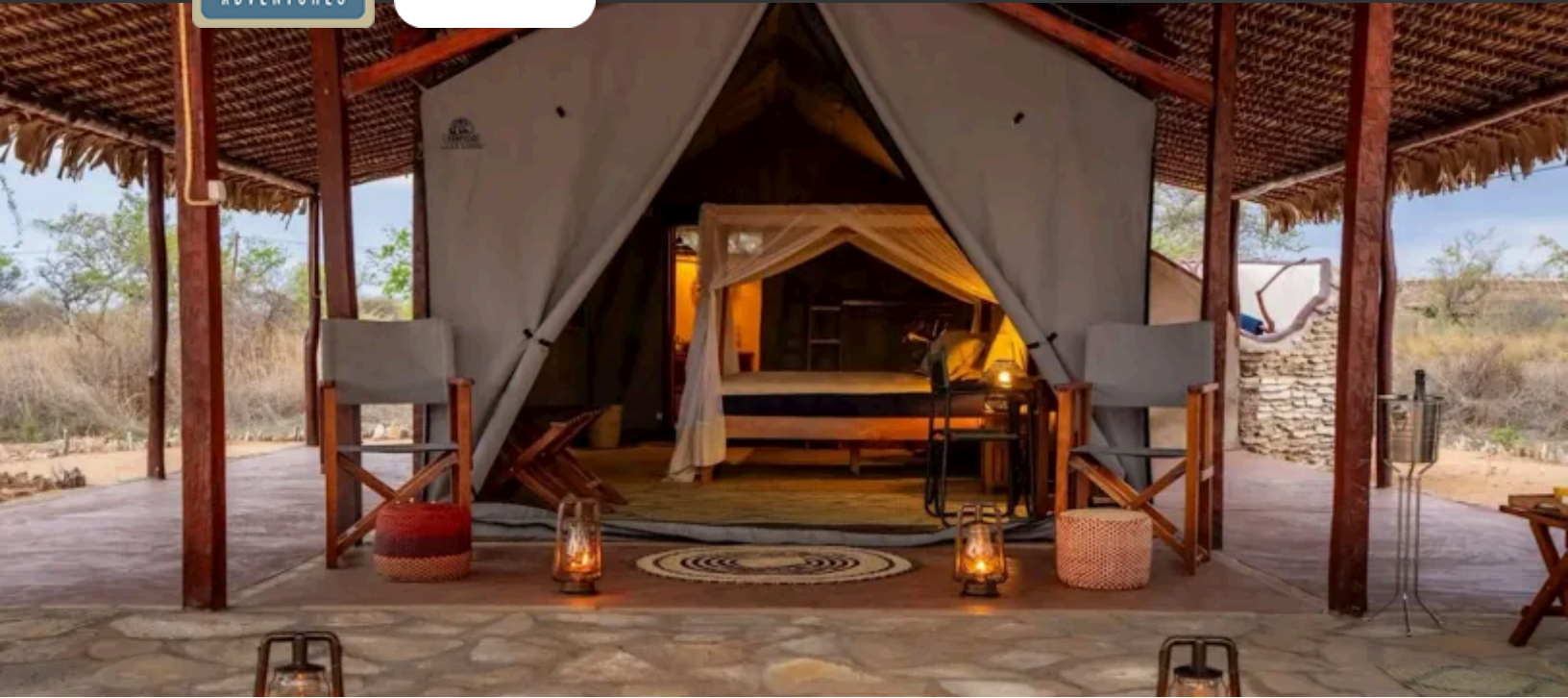
Madagascar holds a wealth of unique and endemic species including lemurs, chameleons and birds, which we search for on forays into diverse ecosystems

Discover a rarely visited karst tsingy landscape, then explore Madagascar's largest untouched rainforest from a seaside lodge accessible only by boat

Meet local Malagasy people who live in the remote destinations we visit, and learn about their crucial role in stewarding Madagascar's fragile wild places



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Itinerary At A Glance

Day 1

Antananarivo, Madagascar

Days 2 - 4

Tsingy de Namoroka National Park

Day 5

Private Flight to Antananarivo /
Malagasy Cooking Class

Day 6

Private Flight to Maroantsetra /
Masoala National Park

Days 7 - 9

Exploring Masoala National Park &
Tampolo Marine Reserve

Day 10

Private Flight to Antananarivo /
Depart

Madagascar Explorer Itinerary

Discover the Essence of the 'Eighth Continent'

ANTANANARIVO

Day 1: Arrive in Antananarivo for your island expedition

- Settle into your hotel in Madagascar's hillside capital
- Join your Expedition Leader for a welcome dinner and preview of the journey ahead

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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TSINGY DE NAMOROKA NATIONAL PARK

Days 2 - 4: Explore the limestone labyrinth of remote Namoroka

- Fly by private charter to one of Madagascar's least-visited national parks
- Hike among the limestone pinnacles and caves of Grand Tsingy
- Search for sifakas, fossas, aye-ayes and other endemic wildlife

Depart by private chartered aircraft for Tsingy de Namoroka National Park in northwest Madagascar, an extraordinary, unspoiled landscape that is one of the least visited of all national parks in the country. Our base for exploration is Namoroka Tsingy Camp, newly opened in 2024 and reminiscent of a luxury African safari camp with spacious, well-appointed safari tents. The camp sits on the edge of the dramatic Tsingy de Namoroka, a distinctive karst limestone formation characterized by razor-sharp edges, vertical spires and deep crevices. Lush forests and unique flora grow in pockets of fertile soil that punctuate the rock landscape. Six different ecosystems comprise the area: in addition to tsingy, there are caves, dry deciduous forest, bamboo forest, riverine forest and wetlands with freshwater springs.

The area abounds with wildlife, including 10 lemur species. Among them are the Von der Decken's sifaka—endemic to the arid forests of western Madagascar—and the elusive aye-aye, the world's largest nocturnal primate. These odd-looking creatures have rodent-like teeth and a long, thin middle finger used to catch grubs and larvae out of tree trunks. The park is also home to 21 bat species, more than 100 bird species, numerous reptiles including the Namoroka leafy chameleon, a master of camouflage, and the mysterious fossa, Madagascar's largest carnivore. Resembling a mix of cat, mongoose and weasel, the muscular fossa is an agile climber and hunter, and the top predator of lemurs. On varied outings, view the tsingy from multiple vantage points and venture into the caves of Grand Tsingy, where ancient fossils and traces of early human life exist.

As the sun sets, a whole new world comes to life as the forest awakens with nocturnal wonders. Watch as lemurs, tenrecs, geckos and bats emerge, scouring the wilderness to satisfy their appetites. Namoroka is also the sanctuary of endangered and endemic flying foxes, which are actually Madagascar's largest species of fruit bat. They are crucial seed dispersers, feeding on fruits, flowers, and leaves. We also visit a local village to experience the vibrant culture and traditions of the Sakalava people, the indigenous inhabitants of the Namoroka region.



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ANTANANARIVO

Day 5: Discover Malagasy flavors in a private cooking class

- Fly by private charter back to Antananarivo
- Prepare local dishes with a Malagasy chef
- Learn how African, Asian, Indian and European influences shape the island's cuisine

Depart Namaroka National Park to fly back to the capital of Tana this morning via our private chartered flight. Explore the city further this afternoon and enjoy a Malagasy cooking class, a chance to learn how to capture the unique melange of flavors that makes dining in Madagascar so enticing. Malagasy cooking is a fusion cuisine, blending Southeast Asian, African, Indian and European influences, centered around rice served with flavorful stews based on meat and greens or seafood, seasoned with garlic, ginger and chili. An abundance of fresh fruit and produce for tangy salads complement typical Malagasy meals. Spend the night in Tana before heading off in the morning to Masoala National Park.

MAROANTSETRA / MASOALA NATIONAL PARK

Day 6: Cross Antongil Bay to a secluded rainforest lodge

- Fly by private charter to Maroantsetra, then continue by private boat to the Masoala Peninsula
- Enter Madagascar's largest protected rainforest, part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Stay at a secluded eco-lodge accessible only by boat or on foot

From Antananarivo, 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 surrounded 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.



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MASOALA NATIONAL PARK / TAMPOLO MARINE RESERVE

Days 7 - 9: Search for endemic wildlife from rainforest to reef

- Look for red-ruffed lemurs, helmet vangas, leaf-tailed geckos and other endemic species
- Snorkel, kayak or travel by pirogue through the Tampo Marine Reserve
- Visit Ambodiforaha village and learn about local culture, conservation and reforestation

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.

ANTANANARIVO

Day 10: Fly to Antananarivo for homeward flights

- Travel by private charter from the Masoala Peninsula
- Connect with departing flights or continue on a safari extension

After breakfast this morning, fly back to the capital city of Antananarivo by private chartered aircraft, then transfer to the international airport to meet departing flights. We head home with a rich cache of memories, inspired by the wonders of this unique country, from its fascinating wildlife to the bright spirit of its resilient, hospitable people who are integral to the mission of conservation travel.



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Accommodation Details:

Novotel Antananarivo

Namoroka Tsingy Camp

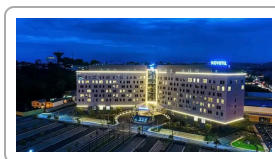
Masoala Forest Lodge

Hotel Palissandre

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

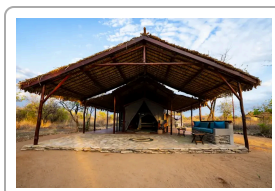
Madagascar Explorer Accommodations

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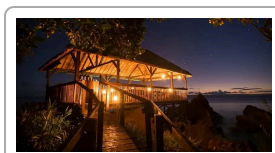
Novotel Antananarivo

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.



Namoroka Tsingy Camp

Set among Madagascar's limestone tsingy, this camp offers raised wood-floor tents with king beds, stone bathrooms, private terraces and open-air lounges with canvas chairs and carved wooden tables.



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

This compact yet diverse adventure offers you a rich experience of Madagascar, making it an optimal extension to an African safari on the continent. Read more about the advantages of 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, private 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 making our own arrangements that work perfectly 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 Malagasy Expedition Leader provides seamless tour management and the integrated perspective of a professional naturalist, while our local 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! A highlight is Masoala Forest Lodge: fronting a pristine beach, it lies within the dense primary rainforest of Masoala National Park, the largest of Madagascar's conservation reserves. Namoroka Tsingy Camp is also a high point, opened in 2024 with luxury safari-style appointments, on the edge of dramatic, little-visited Tsingy de Namoroka National Park, a karst limestone formation characterized by razor-sharp edges, vertical spires and deep crevices where lush vegetation grow in pockets of fertile soil.

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

Discover the Essence of the 'Eighth Continent'

2026 Departures

DEPARTURE → RETURN	PRICING	NOTES
Sep 8 - Sep 15, 2026	\$12495 +internal air	Natural Habitat Explorers Pricing Available
Sep 22 - Sep 29, 2026	\$12495 +internal air	
Oct 6 - Oct 13, 2026	\$12495 +internal air	
Oct 20 - Oct 27, 2026	\$12495 +internal air	
Nov 3 - Nov 10, 2026	\$12495 +internal air	
Nov 17 - Nov 24, 2026	\$11995 +internal air	Natural Habitat Explorers Pricing Available

2027 Departures



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Dates & Pricing Summary:

Prices:
From \$11995
(+Air)

Group Size:
Limited to 8
Travelers

DEPARTURE → RETURN	PRICING	NOTES
Jul 30 - Aug 8, 2027	\$14395 +internal air	Natural Habitat Explorers Pricing Available
Aug 20 - Aug 29, 2027	\$14395 +internal air	
Aug 27 - Sep 5, 2027	\$13895 +internal air	
Sep 10 - Sep 19, 2027	\$14795 +internal air	Natural Habitat Explorers Pricing Available
Sep 17 - Sep 26, 2027	\$14295 +internal air	
Sep 24 - Oct 3, 2027	\$14795 +internal air	
Oct 1 - Oct 10, 2027	\$14295 +internal air	
Oct 8 - Oct 17, 2027	\$14295 +internal air	
Oct 15 - Oct 24, 2027	\$14795 +internal air	
Oct 22 - Oct 31, 2027	\$14795 +internal air	
Nov 5 - Nov 14, 2027	\$13895 +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.



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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, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes (if any), required medical evacuation insurance, optional travel protection insurance.

Internal air: All charter flights within the itinerary (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

Important Information About This Trip

Madagascar's varied ecosystems offer a range of nature encounters. We will hike in rainforests (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.

Getting There & Getting Home

This trip begins and ends in Antananarivo, Madagascar. Because it's a long international journey, we recommend arriving one night before Day 1 to rest and start the trip refreshed. We do not suggest arriving more than one day early, as we cannot provide custom activities before the program begins. Recommended hotels for early arrivals will be listed in your pre-departure materials.

You must **arrive in Antananarivo by 5 pm on Day 1** to attend the 7 pm welcome dinner.

You may **depart Antananarivo anytime after 2 pm** on the final day.

Flight Note: Airlink—the only airline with direct service between Johannesburg and Antananarivo — flies six days a week in 2026 (every day but Tuesday). The 2027 schedule is subject to change.

Our Natural Habitat Adventures Travel Desk can best assist with your travel reservations, as our staff is familiar with the specific requirements of this program and can help arrange the most efficient itinerary. Please call us at 800-543-8917. While we offer the best available rates to us on airfare and additional nights' accommodations, you may occasionally find special web rates or lower fares online.



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Extension Details:

Avenue of the Baobabs Extension
\$2295

Secluded Botswana Safari
\$18995

Cape Town Extension
\$2495

Sabi Sand Extension
\$5495

Namibia Desert Extension
\$6395

Wild Cape Coast Extension
\$3595

The Great Uganda Gorilla Safari
\$14495

The Great Kenya Migration Safari
\$11995

Madagascar Explorer Extensions

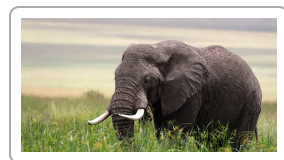
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Avenue of the Baobabs Extension

Discover Madagascar's west coast near Morondava, where towering baobabs rise above open plains and vast mangroves protect the Mozambique Channel. Stay on Nosy Kely Beach, visit a Vezo fishing village and explore coastal ecosystems shaped by conservation.

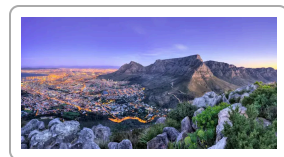
\$2295



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.

\$18995 (+air)



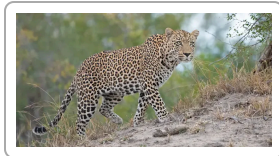
Cape Town Extension

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.

\$2495



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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.

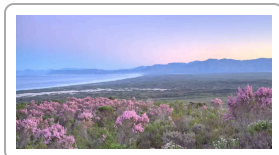
\$5495



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.

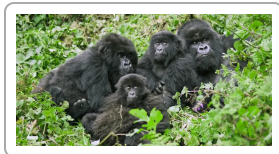
\$6395 (+air)



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.

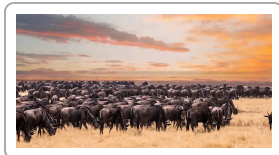
\$3595



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.

\$14495 (+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)

