Explore

Madagascar

GTW **GUIDING TI** 

Join private guide Pierre Duval on a journey to Madagascar, a fascinating and unique destination, where a tour of the island nation promises to be a truly unforgettable experience.

Madagascar will take visitors through a variety of landscapes, from dense rainforests to arid savannahs, and introduce them to a rich diversity of cultures and wildlife. This magnificent paradise is famous for its unique wildlife, including lemurs, fossas, chameleons, and many other endemic species.

Madagascar is a melting pot of different cultures, and visitors can expect to experience a rich tapestry of traditions and customs. From the colorful markets of Antananarivo to the traditional villages of the highlands, there is much to explore and discover.

Join us on this unique, one of a kind trip to a truly magical place, where nature, culture, and adventure come together to create an unforgettable travel experience.



Day 1 - Arrival in Antananarivo As you step off the plane at Ivato International Airport and breathe in the warm, tropical air, you will immediately sense the energy and excitement of this unique and fascinating place. Antananarivo is a city of contrasts, where modern skyscrapers and historic colonial buildings sit side by side with traditional markets and street vendors. Overnight at Pavillon de l'Emyrne Hotel - Half board basis.

Day 2 - Antananarivo - Andasibe The journey to Andasibe offers first time travelers to Madagascar a gentle introduction to rural life with rice fields, redbrick houses and roadside stalls selling seasonal fruits and vegetables lining the route. Have a stop at Peyrieras private reserve, home to a stunning variety of wildlife, from playful lemurs and colorful chameleons to exotic birds and butterflies. Then, heading to Andasibe, you will check into the hotel, and later a night walk will be organized within the forest surrounding the reserve with a local guide. 145 km ~4 hour-drive; Overnight at Vakôna Forest Lodge – Half board basis

### Day 3 - Mantadia National Park

**GUIDING T** 

With its towering trees, cascading waterfalls, and rare wildlife species, including the elusive indri lemur, Mantadia National Park is a nature-lover's paradise. Enjoy a picnic by the Rianasoa Waterfall before hiking back to the vehicle and returning to the lodge. Have an afternoon walk into the VOI reserve, a private park run by local villagers. Another night walk will be organized in the late afternoon to end off the day.

~ 1-hour 30mn drive; Overnight at Vakôna Forest Lodge – Full board basis

Day 4 - Andasibe - Antananarivo - Antsirabe We are now in the Vakinankaratra region. Crossing through the village of Ambatolampy, the capital of the mimosa flower, where we will see the Ankaratra massif, the third highest mountain of Madagascar and is known for the aluminum foundry and workshops. We then arrive in Antsirabe, a charming and picturesque town located in the heart of Madagascar's central highlands. With its quaint colonial architecture, colorful markets, and natural hot

#### springs.

315 km ~ 8 hour-drive; Overnight at Couleur Café guest house - Half board basis



Day 5 - Antsirabe - Miandrivazo Departure for Miandrivazo, a small but vibrant town located on the banks of the Tsiribihina River in western Madagascar. It is also a popular starting point for river expeditions and adventures into the remote and rugged landscapes of the region. You will continue forward Betsiriry, through a typical landscape of the highlands, rice fields, savanna and Tanety. We will also be viewing the Malagasy traditional houses, made of earthenware. 220 km ~ 4 hour-drive; Overnight at Princesse Tsiribihina - Full board basis

GTW

Day 6 - Miandrivazo - Down the Tsiribihina River Today your 3 days / 2 night-cruise "down the Tsiribihina River" starts. As you float down the meandering river, you will pass through dense forests, towering gorges, and traditional villages, all while encountering a stunning variety of wildlife along the way. In the late afternoon, a refreshing stop and swim at the waterfall of Nosy Ampela. Then camp will be set up nearby on a large sandbar. Overnight in Bivouac - Full board basis

## Day 7 - Down the Tsiribihina River

The barge continues its navigation in the heart of the meanders of the Tsiribihina River. You will meet pirogues, motor barges for the freight of local products and by means of transport and exchange for the villagers. In the day, we stop at the village of Begidro famous for its old tobacco concessions. The villagers still cultivate it in a traditional way, which you will see when you visit the warehouse. We resume the cruise, landscapes following one another. You will see cliff bats, the giant cappoquin, rice fields, and the village of Berevo. At the end of the day, stop for 30 minutes to the village of Ambatomisay. The crew will put up the camp on a beach that can change from one year to another, depending on the rains. After dinner, you will participate, around a campfire, in a traditional dance

show.

ght in Bivouac - Full board bas

Day 8 - Down the Tsiribihina River - Bekopaka Last day of the river-cruise. The landscapes are confused with tamarinds, mango trees, jujube trees, ricins, sensory mimosas, balsas, and date palms. We are greeted once more by herons, fishermen, drongos, green bee-eaters, teals, humpback ducks and more as we end our rivercruise. Arrival at the end of the morning at Belo sur Tsiribihina. On touchdown, hit the road to Bekopaka, the gate to the Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park. Late arrival in Bekopaka, and check-in to the hotel. Overnight at Soleil des Tsingy Hotel - Half board basis. GTW

Day 9 - Bekopaka - The Great Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park With an early morning start, there will be a car transfer for about one hour and a half from the hotel to the start line of the Grand Tsingy visit, with an approximately 4 to 5 hours hike for the Andamozavaky tour. The park's sharp limestone pinnacles and deep canyons create a surreal and dramatic setting, while its rich biodiversity is home to a variety of rare and endemic species. This forest has been declared as a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1990. There will be a picnic lunch on the hike. Overnight at Soleil des Tsingy Hotel - Full board basis.

# Day 10 - Bekopaka - Manambolo gorge and The Small Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park

After an early breakfast, we embark on a dugout descent of the Manambolo gorge in the morning. Picnic lunch. Then, in the afternoon visit of the Petit Tsingy de Bemaraha and its caves. The caves are home to a variety of unique wildlife, including bats, lemurs, and rare insects, making them a must-see destination for anyone interested in the natural world. Overnight at Soleil des Tsingy Hotel - Full board basis.





#### Day 11 - Bekopaka - Kirindy

Today's journey is a long drive to Kirindy Forest. The road will be bumpy and tiring, but such an amazing adventure in the Sakalava territory. The Sakalava tribe is well known to raise humpbacked zebu cattle for its meat, for its ceremonial purposes, and their two-wheeled wooden carts. Once you are settled in your lodge, you will be able to have a nocturnal visit of the reserve.

196 km ~ 12 hour-drive; Overnight at Kirindy Forest Lodge - Half board basis.

a fait of the

N NUMBER OF STREET

Day 12 - Kirindy - Morondava We will have a morning visit of the **Kirindy Forest which hosts** biodiversity unique from the rest of the world such as the Fosa, the largest carnivore of Madagascar, the Lemur Sifaka, the giant jumping rat, land tortoises, the striped mongoose, the Microcebus berthae, and other species of lemurs. Then its a gentle drive to Morondava, a charming coastal town known for its beautiful beaches, stunning sunsets, and vibrant local culture. You will then enjoy a sundowner and a lovely sunset at the Allée des Baobabs. 50 km ~ 2 hour-drive; Overnight at Palissandre Côte **Ouest hotel - Half board basis**.

GTW

Day 13 - Morondava -Antananarivo Transfer to the airport and boarding on the flight back to Antananarivo. Then transfer to your hotel near the airport. This would be the end of the tour, however, if you choose to have the Nosy Be add-on, then stick around! Or else, this is the end of our journey together, and we hope you had an excellent time with us here in Madagascar. Tsaradia Domestic Flight; Overnight at Combava Hotel - Half board basis.

GTW

**GUIDING TH** 

GTW GUIDING THE WILD

> Day 14 - Antananarivo - Nosy Be If you chose to have the Nosy Be add-on, you will continue your journey by being transferred to the airport and board a flight to Nosy Be. Nosy Be is a tropical paradise located off the northwest coast of Madagascar. With its crystal-clear waters, pristine beaches, and lush tropical forests, this island is a haven for nature lovers and beach-goers alike. Tsaradia Domestic Flight; Overnight at Nosy Lodge - Half board basis.

Day 15 - Nosy Be - Excursion to Nosy Komba Today, you'll have an excursion to Nosy Komba, the 2nd largest island after Nosy Be in the area. Visitors can explore the island's charming fishing villages, sample its delicious local cuisine, or simply relax and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere of this enchanting

**island paradise.** Overnight at Nosy Lodge – Half board basis.





Day 16 - Nosy Be - Turtle Safari to Nosy Tanikely & Nosy Sakatia Morning departure for a **Turtle Safari to the Marine Reserve of Nosy Tanikely and** the islet of Nosy Sakatia. Accompanied by a specialized guide, you will go by boat to reach Nosy Tanikely to observe the marine fauna and flora of this reserve which is a giant aquarium. You will then go to the well preserved islet Nosy Sakatia for lunch on an idyllic beach. Then in the afternoon we will take you swimming with green turtles feeding on meadows. Overnight at Nosy Lodge - Half board basis.



Day 17 - Nosy Be - Antananarivo Depending on the domestic flight schedules, you will be picked up at your hotel and transferred back to the Nosy Be airport and board on a flight back to Antananarivo. You will then be transferred to your hotel in Antananarivo. Tsaradia Domestic Flight; Overnight at Combava hotel - Half board basis.

Day 18 - Antananarivo - Out Transfer back to the airport for your international flight back home. We hope that your visit has left you with unforgettable memories and a deep appreciation for the natural beauty, rich culture, and warm hospitality of the Malagasy people. We look forward to welcoming you back in the future for more adventures and discoveries. Veloma!

GTW

Price is in Euro and is per person sharing, based on a private tour. RATES 2 people E7895 pps 4 people E5045 pps 6 people E4450 pps Inclusions: All accommodation local flights, all meals, transport, fuel and tolls, bed levies, professional guides (Pierre Duval), excursions, conservation fees, as laid out in the itinerary. Exclusions: International flights and airport taxes, drinks and hotel extras, items of a personal nature, travel insurance and gratuities. To Book for get further information email n@bushbaby.co.za

