



DMC - MADAGASCAR

A team at the office to prepare your trip

Reactivity - Creativity - Availability

A team on the ground to accompany you

Reliability - Safety - Responsibility

MADAGASCAR

THE SCENIC ROAD 7

8 days / 7 nights

November 2021

We ride on the major emblematic and natural routes of the Great Island. This route is characterized by an extraordinary enchainment of specific landscapes, a diversity of traditional cultures and a very welcoming population. We make a stop in Ambositra, which offers an approach to the creativity and the quality of the Malagasy handicrafts, in particular in the art of marquetry and the work of wood. Ambalavao village distinguishes itself by two main symbols that are zebu and tobacco.

It also has other major advantages such as ancestral Antemoro papermaking and silk weaving.

We discover Ranomafana National Park known for bamboo lemurs, Anja reserve for ring-tailed lemurs, Isalo National Park and its picturesque and preserved nature for a short hike, before ending our journey in a gentle Ifaty lagoon along the Mozambique Channel to an end of stay in total relaxation.



Highlights

- Crossing the highlands to the south west coast;
- An approach to Malagasy handicrafts;
- Ranomafana National Park;
- Anja reserve,
- The ruiniform landscapes of Isalo massif,
- Ifaty lagoon along the Mozambique Channel.

Travel identity card

- Duration: 8 days/7 nights
- Support crew: English -speaking Malagasy Guide
- Accommodation: The best hotels of the sites
- Vehicle: 4WD or minibus

Day 1 – Antananarivo --- Arrival



Welcome by the guide at the hall at the airport.

Transfer to our hotel in town.

Your accommodation in Antananarivo: www.hotel-palissandre.com

Day 2 – Antananarivo > Antsirabe



Meeting with your guide.

Get breakfast in the hotel and start heading south passing through Antananarivo. Rice fields and typical villages of the Highlands represent the landscape right after Antananarivo. We stop in Ambatolampy to discover how amazing the work of aluminium to make cooking pot for the whole country. Continuation towards Antsirabe in the afternoon. We take our time for a city tour.

Distance: 170 km Duration: +/- 3h30 mn drive

Your accommodation in Antsirabe: www.plumeriahotelantsirabe.com

Day 3 - Antsirabe > Fianarantsoa



We progress to the south by the road RN7. In Ambositra, we take time to wander around in the village and we hunt in Zafimaniry artisans' boutiques, looking for a piece of carved wood, or fine work of marquetry box.

We continue our journey and reach Fianarantsoa, the capital of the Betsileo. Like Tana, it extends over several hills and over a vast plain. It has its lake, its high town, its high houses, its staircases, and its labyrinth of alleys. The heights of the city offer a panoramic view of the rice fields and the vineyards.

Distance: 240 km Duration: +/- 5h drive

Your accommodation in Fianarantsoa: www.tsaraguest.com

Day 4 - Fianarantsoa > Anja reserve > Ranohira



We leave the highlands. At Ambalavao, we visit the Antemoro paper factory.

The secular process to make this paper by the bark of the mulberry tree Avoha (*Bosqueia danguyana*) was introduced in Madagascar in the XVth century by the first Arabic migrants to retranscribe the Koran. It is still made to the same processes in Ambalavao. Meet some lemurs in Anja small Reserve at this huge granite rock foothill. We continue towards the southwest and enter Bara region. We cross the largest plateau of Madagascar constituted by a beautiful herbaceous steppe, topped with

huge termite nests: it is IHorombe. We arrive at Ranohira which is close to Isalo massif and the National Park gate.

Distance: 290 km Duration: +/- 5 h drive

Your accommodation in Ranohira: www.lejardinduroy.com

Day 5 - Visit of Isalo National Park



A short drive to join Isalo foothill. We start the walk quietly with a small rucksack, through impressive landscape, canyons, natural pool and magic rock erosions. Isalo ruin form massif is a continental sandstone plateau from Jurassic era. There are many rock formations with different shapes here. Nature has adapted to the dry climate. This park has a different ecosystem, endemic rupicolous flora such as Aloe, Euphorbia, Pachypodium and Kalanchoe ... We picnic in the Tapia forest. Some walks are possible around, going up to summits gives splendid view.

NB: Walk pace and duration depend on clients (minimum 2h). The guide will advise you.

Duration: from 2 to 6 hours of visit, depending on you!

Your accommodation in Ranohira: SAME AS THE PREVIOUS DAY

Day 6 - Ranohira > Tulear > Ifaty



We progress to the southwest towards the Mozambique Channel. Drive from Ranohira to Tulear through different botanical settings in the morning. We stop on the way to see Mahafaly tribe typical tombs so nicely painted and decorated, on which are erected some amazing wooden sculptures. The sea can be seen from far away before we reach Tulear. Walk around to the market before taking lunch. Road along the coast leads us to Ifaty. Installation to the hotel.

Distance: 280 km **Duration:** +/- 6h drive

Your accommodation in Ifaty: www.lesdunesdifaty.com

Day 7- Day at leisure at Ifaty



You can explore different activities from the hotel during the day at leisure on the edges of Mozambique Channel. If you want to make the most of the sea and the lagoon: diving, dugout ride with Vezo fishermen, swim or just leisure. Hikers can discover the inland, specific and extraordinary vegetation composed of euphorbia, baobab, didiereaceae; aloes ... those with thorns are kings in the south.

Your accommodation in Ifaty: SAME AS THE PREVIOUS DAY

Day 8 - Ifaty > Tulear > Antananarivo

Transfer to the airport by the hotel. then we fly to Tana.