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## Madagascar: Island of Lemurs

**Date: 24 September to 5 October 2016**

**Price: £3285\***

*The itinerary for this 12 day adventure to Madagascar is designed to provide the best opportunities to see and photograph Lemurs in the wild and marvel at the incredible range of other wildlife in this amazing large and diverse country. We concentrate on two prime locations that are home to many species of Lemur, and offer an optional 5 day extension to Kenya's Masai Mara*

Madagascar may be only a few hundred kilometres from Africa but it is like another world. Indeed it is far enough from the mainland that, over millions of years of evolution, the plants and animals have evolved into some of the strangest on the planet with over 80% being found nowhere else on Earth. There over 70 species of lemur - unique to the island - and even amongst these species there is a great diversity including the Aye-aye, the Sifakas and the Indri. In this biodiversity hotspot many species of birds, reptiles, insects, amphibians and flora are also endemic to the island. On this tour we concentrate on Berenty Private Nature Reserve famous for the "dancing" Verreaux's Sifaka and Andasibe-Mantadia National Park where the Indri may be seen.



This tour will be led by Peter Smart, owner of Going Digital South Midlands. Peter is a Wildlife Photographer and Tour Leader with a wealth of experience having escorted nearly 100 tours to a variety of countries including Kenya, Madagascar, Tanzania, Rwanda, Botswana, Namibia, India, Sri Lanka, Borneo, Brazil, Ecuador, the Galapagos Islands and the Arctic. Peter treats it as a genuine privilege to introduce people to the wildlife, landscapes and people of

the countries he visits and his knowledge, organisational skills and sense of fun ensures that not only will you have excellent photographic and game-viewing opportunities but also a highly enjoyable holiday!

The safari is arranged by and will be booked through African specialists, Safari Consultants Limited, a fully bonded UK tour operator; your financial protection when travelling. Safari Consultants are able to book your international flights and arrange customised extensions.

*Please contact us if you require any further information or if you wish to make a booking*

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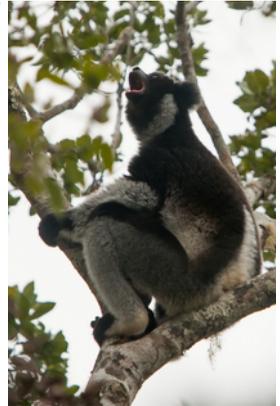
[www.petersmartwildlifephotography.co.uk](http://www.petersmartwildlifephotography.co.uk)

[www.goingdigital.co.uk](http://www.goingdigital.co.uk)

## Tour Description

Our tour starts with an evening flight from London Heathrow which arrives in Nairobi, Kenya the following morning. We then join a flight to Antananarivo (Tana) in Madagascar where we spend the rest of the day.

The following morning we transfer to our lodge near Andasibe, on the edge of the Analmazaotra Special Reserve, for four days. The humid montane forests contain a huge range of plants including hundreds of orchid species which flower from September to January. The wildlife is superb with 13 lemur species, over 100 bird species, some 50 reptiles, and over 80 amphibian species. Early mornings are spent in search of the famous Indri, whose haunting cry will be heard echoing through the forest, the rare Diademmed Sifakas and other Lemur species. Night walks in the forest can be very rewarding, particularly for chameleons and other seldom seen nocturnal species.



We then return to Tana and fly to Berenty Nature Reserve for four days where we explore on foot by day and by night. Berenty offers a great opportunity to view and photograph several lemur species including Verreaux's Sifaka (the famous 'dancing' lemur), Ring-tailed Lemur, Red-fronted Brown Lemur, the nocturnal White-footed Sportive Lemur, Grey Mouse Lemur and the Fat-tailed Dwarf Lemur. At the time of year we visit, many of the species are breeding and the young are frequently seen.

After returning to Tana, we fly back to Nairobi in Kenya the following morning and then either connect with the onward flight to London or continue to Kenya's Masai Mara for five days to perhaps witness the Wildebeest Migration, see the Big Cats and enjoy photographing a superb variety of other wildlife.

In addition to providing great photographic opportunities, our tours are designed to offer a wide appreciation of the natural beauty of Africa's wildlife,



people and the environment. The itinerary provides you with the maximum time in the field so we can offer you the best photographic opportunities, including giving help when it is needed. We aim to give you a highly enjoyable holiday and for you to feel that our knowledgeable guides have provided you with unique opportunities to view and capture images of the natural world.

This exciting adventure offers a wonderful opportunity to see some of the world's rarest wildlife and provides a magnificent variety of game viewing and photographic opportunities.

Please contact us regarding any questions you may still have. You are advised to make your reservation immediately once you have decided to join us, as places are strictly limited on this wonderful adventure to *Madagascar: Island of Lemurs*.

## Tour Details

**Price (Main Tour)** Land Only cost of £3285 per person based on two people sharing twin accommodation. International flights from the UK may be booked by Safari Consultants Ltd. Estimated cost of economy class international flights from London, UK is £815 per person, giving an estimated total price of £4100 per person

**Price (Masai Mara extension)** An additional £2485 per person.

All prices at prevailing exchange rates at the time of preparing this tour information in February 2016

**Duration** 12 days (17 days if joining Masai Mara extension)

**Single supplement** £385 (and an additional £795 if joining Masai Mara extension), subject to availability. If you are a single person booking this holiday you do not have to pay single supplements if you are happy to share. If you are travelling by yourself you will be paired with another single client of the same gender. However your booking is accepted only on the understanding that if no roommate is available then you accept a single supplement will be levied. Single supplements are payable if you specifically request to have a room to yourself. If you have requested single accommodation we will do our best to secure this although this may not always be possible.

**Deposit** £650 per person required to confirm booking (£850 if joining Masai Mara extension)

**Availability** 24 September to 5 October 2016 (to 10 October 2016 if joining Masai Mara extension)

**Travel insurance** You must be covered by insurance, which must include adequate cover for baggage, medical expenses and the cost of repatriation should you become too ill to continue, including air ambulance.

**Group size** 6 to 8 plus photography tour leader

**Fitness Level** Moderate wildlife touring involving leisurely walking, usually on well used trails although some can be steep and muddy. This tour is suitable for guests of most levels of fitness.

**Photography Level** This tour is suitable for all levels of photographic experience. The tour leader will be available throughout the tour to support and advise clients on their photography.

**Cost includes** Hotel/lodge accommodation on a twin share basis (unless single has been requested), meals as shown on itinerary, transfers for group departures using our chosen airline, all internal flights and transport as per the itinerary, sightseeing tours where specified, all wildlife activities escorted by English speaking driver/guides, park fees, services of photography tour leader during the tour.

**Cost excludes** International flights from the UK, airport taxes, transfers for Land Only packages and group tours when choosing your own flight arrangements, visa fees, medical examination (if required) & vaccination costs, personal expenditure, telephone calls, etc, porters, guides & other tips, meals not specified, personal clothing & equipment, travel insurance, optional trips, trekking permits, increases in park fees and taxes levied by the Government on the tourism sector, fuel surcharges, charges incurred as a result of delays beyond Safari Consultants' control, anything not specified in the Cost Includes.

Please note that for those joining the extension, mineral water, drinks, laundry, internal flights and Masai Mara park fees are included during the extension; dinner on the final evening in Nairobi is excluded.

**Booking procedure** Going Digital's tours in association with Peter Smart Wildlife Photography (PSWP) are organised through Safari Consultants Limited, a fully bonded UK tour operator holding ATOL licence 3783. Also bonded through AITO Trust (No. 1091) and holding an IATA licence. Your financial protection when travelling. All clients will be required to complete a Safari Consultants Limited Booking Form which supersedes any information presented on Going Digital's or PSWP's websites or other promotional literature. Bookings will be subject to acceptance of Safari Consultants' Terms and Conditions and the following will also apply for this tour:

1. Safari Consultants reserve the right to cancel the tour if the minimum numbers specified is not reached at least 45 days prior to the departure. In this event, you will be offered the chance to travel individually or to receive your deposit back in full
2. In the unlikely event that Peter Smart is unable to join the tour, Safari Consultants reserve the right to send a suitable replacement if available. In such circumstances, the tour will not be cancelled and no compensation will be paid
3. The tour is based on shared accommodation but a single supplement may be paid for single accommodation, subject to availability.

## Tour Itinerary

**Day 1 London, UK.** Depart London Heathrow on an overnight flight to Nairobi, Kenya.

**Day 2 Nairobi, Kenya - Antananarivo, Madagascar.** Morning arrival into Nairobi and connect with the onward Kenya Airways flight to Antananarivo (Tana), Madagascar arriving late morning. The afternoon is at leisure to explore the capital. Overnight hotel

**Day 3 Antananarivo - Andasibe.** After breakfast we drive to Andasibe, stopping off at a Reptile Park on the way, before reaching Vakona Lodge which is situated on the edge of the Analazaotra Special Reserve in beautiful lakeside setting. Overnight lodge (BLD)

**Days 4 and 5 Andasibe.** Two full days spent exploring the forested Andasibe-Mantadia National Park. The humid montane forests contain a huge range of plants including hundreds or orchid species which flower from September to January. The wildlife is superb with 13 lemur species, over 100 bird species, some 50 reptiles, and over 80 amphibian species. Early mornings are spent in search of the famous Indri, whose haunting cry will be heard echoing through the forest. Afternoons may be spent around the lodge, visiting the nearby Lemur Island or exploring a local reserve. Night walks in the forest can be very rewarding, particularly for chameleons, frogs and other seldom seen nocturnal species. Overnight lodge (BLD)

**Day 6 Andasibe - Antananarivo.** Return to Tana and fly south to Fort Dauphin on the southern tip of the island. On arrival, we will be transferred to the private Berenty Nature Reserve where three nights are spent at the lodge. Overnight lodge (BLD)

**Days 7 & 8 Berenty.** Two full days exploring the reserve on foot, both by day and night. Berenty offers a great opportunity to view and photograph some of the iconic lemur species, using flat trails through the forest. The main attraction for visiting Berenty is the six species of lemur which are regularly seen. Four are endemic to the area - the diurnal Verreaux's Sifaka (the famous 'dancing' lemur), Ring-tailed Lemur, the nocturnal White-footed Sportive Lemur and Grey Mouse Lemur - while the others are the Red-fronted Brown Lemur and the Fat-tailed Dwarf Lemur. During September and October when we visit some species of lemur are breeding and the young are frequently seen. Overnight lodge (BLD)

**Day 9 Berenty - Fort Dauphin.** After a morning walk followed by breakfast, we drive back to Fort Dauphin for an overnight stay (BLD)

**Day 10 Fort Dauphin - Antananarivo.** After breakfast we return to the airport and connect with the scheduled return flight to Tana and transferred to a hotel. Overnight hotel (B)

**Day 11 Antananarivo - Nairobi, Kenya.** After breakfast a transfer back to the airport and connect with the early afternoon scheduled Kenya Airways flight to Nairobi. On arrival in Nairobi,

*For those NOT joining the Masai Mara extension:*

Connect to the late evening return flight to London (B)

**Day 12 London, UK.** Early morning arrival into London Heathrow

*For those joining the Masai Mara extension:*

Transfer to a hotel in Nairobi. Overnight hotel (B)

**Day 12 Nairobi – Masai Mara.** After breakfast, fly to the Masai Mara for a four night stay at a delightful camp (BLD)

**Days 13 to 15 Masai Mara.** Three full days exploring the Masai Mara during the period of the famous Wildebeest Migration, searching for Big Cats and the wide variety of other wildlife in this area. Please see our Kenya: The Great Migration tour for more details of what may be seen at this time of year (BLD)

**Day 16 Masai Mara – Nairobi.** After a morning game drive, fly back to Nairobi for the overnight flight to London, UK (BL)

**Day 17 London, UK.** Early morning arrival at London's Heathrow airport.

Please note:

- The itinerary is provisional and subject to change depending on local conditions
- Not all wildlife mentioned can be seen well at all times of the year and some activities mentioned may not always be available
- Meals included are as shown by the following key: B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner