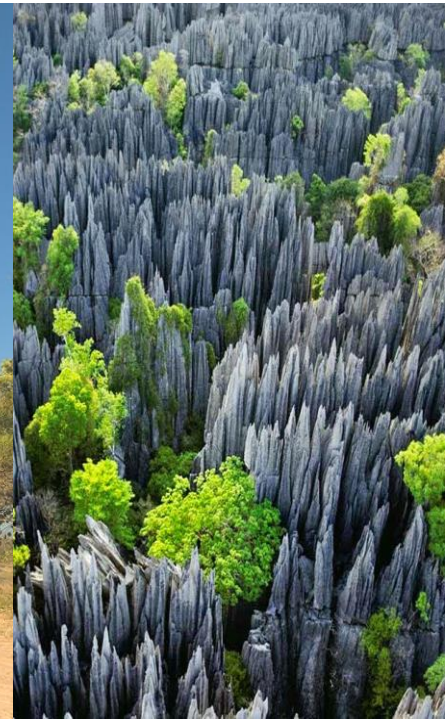


# MADAGASCAR TOUR 2018: Over water towards the Tsingy of Bemaraha



## Itinerary (10 days / 09 nights)

### Day 1:

#### **INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT – TANA : arrival at time to be confirmed (B, B)**

According to your international flight schedule, welcome at the airport and transfer at your hotel. The rest of the day will be free. Dinner and overnight at hotel of your choice.

Up market: LOKANGA BOUTIQUE

Mid-range: RESIDENCE LAPASOA:

Budget: CHALET DES ROSES:

### Day 2:

#### **TANA – MIANDRIVAZO: 390 km – about 7h (B, D)**

Early departure from Antananarivo to Miandrivazo, a big peaceful village without particular interest, but it's the point of departure for the descent of Tsiribihina River.

Accommodation at hotel of your choice. Dinner and overnight.

Up market: PRINCESSE TSIRIBIHINA.

Mid-range/Budget: LAKANA (-/-)

### Day 3:

#### **MIANDRIVAZO – MASEKAMPY – TSIRIBIHINA RIVER DESCENT (B, L, D)**

Transfer to the jetty of Masekampy (45 Km / 1h). Boarding on the barge and beginning of the descent of Tsiribihina River, through the landscape of Menabe formed by mangoes trees, tobacco plantations and Sakalava villages. After lunch we enter the gorge, and observe the first lemur. Stop navigating around 16:00 and set up the camp on a huge sandbank that borders the forest. **Overnight under tents.**

### Day 4:

#### **TSIRIBIHINA RIVER DESCENT (B, L, D)**

Continuation of navigation on the Tsiribihina River. Stop at a beautiful waterfall. The most 'courageous', after 30mn walk, can achieve a beautiful natural pool. After a refreshing break, the cruise continues, crossing high cliffs and villages. Arrival at the bivouac in the evening. The children of a village nearby will join us, and a small party with songs and pods will be held in honor of the guests. **Overnight under tents.**

## Highlights

- The Tsiribihina river descent, rich of beautiful landscape
- The National Park of Tsingy de Bemaraha, a very peculiar rock formation, only existing in Madagascar
- Morondava and the baobab alleys.
- Kirindy privately managed forest



**"Madagascar, the  
World's best kept secret"**

**Day 5:****END OF RIVER DESCENT - BEKOPAKA (B, L, D)**

The village wishes us "bon voyage", and the barge takes its way through the river. We perceive the first baobabs. We disembark in Belo Tsiribihina, where our 4WD is waiting for us to reach the Tsingy of Bemaraha in Bekopaka (100 km of bad track – 4 hours). Crossing the River Manambolo, then transfer to your Accommodation. Dinner and overnight.

Up market: SOLEIL DES TSINGY.

Mid-range: OLYMPE DU BEMARAHA :

Budget: ORCHIDEE DU BEMARAHA:

**Day 6:****TSINGY OF BEMARAHA: Visit (B, D)****BEKOPAKA: Exploration of the national park (B, B)**

Full day dedicated to explore the NP of Tsingy de Bemaraha.

The Tsingy are a very peculiar rock formation, only existing in Madagascar. These are limestone pinnacles, formed by the slow sedimentation of coral and shell, worked by wind and water movements, since Madagascar separated from Africa 165 million years ago. These strange "cathedral like" peaks can tower several hundred meters high. The NP of Tsingy of Bemaraha is classified UNESCO World Heritage. These "stone forests" contain caves, underground rivers, canyons, where bats, lemurs, birds and a specific flora have adapted. Dinner and overnight at your hotel.

**Day 7:****BEKOPAKA - KIRINDY: 160 km – about 6h (B, D)**

After your breakfast, drive to Kirindy.

Kirindy is a privately managed forest in one of Madagascar's most threatened ecosystems: its dry deciduous forests. It is famous for the giant jumping rat, but is also home to seven species of lemur and a number of endemic reptiles. The flora is equally unusual and a number of unique species are found at Kirindy. By the end of the afternoon, you will have a nocturnal visit (about 4h) to spot nocturnal animals. Installation at your hotel after the visit, dinner and overnight.

Up market: RELAIS DU KIRINDY:

Mid-range/ Budget: GITE DE KIRINDY:

**Day 8:****KIRINDY FOREST - MORONDAVA: 60 km – about 2h (B, D)**

Today, you will have a guided tour of 4h and picnic lunch on spot. After the visit, go back to Morondava with a stop at "allée des Baobab" to observe the baobabs at sunset. The dirt road between Morondava and Belon'i Tsiribihina is known for the group of these giant trees growing around this section. The road is one of the most popular and visited places in Madagascar. The avenue is also the most accessible place to see the Baobab trees in Africa. The Baobabs can be up to 800 years of age and reach heights of 98 feet (30 m). The diameter of the larger trees can reach up to 36 feet (11 m) and the circumference can be up to 160 feet (50 m) around. Return at your hotel. Dinner and overnight at your hotel.

Up market: PALISSANDRE COTE:

Mid-range: CHEZ MAGGIE :

Budget: TRECICOGNE:

**Day 9:****MORONDAVA – TANA: domestic flight MD [-/-] (B, D)**

Morning at leisure to discover the town of Morondava by foot with its colorful market and its naval carpentry workshop. In the afternoon, transfer to Morondava airport and fly back to Antananarivo according to the flight schedule. Dinner and overnight at your hotel.

**Day 10:****TANA – INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT: departure time to be confirmed (B)**

According to your flight schedule, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back.

**Are included:**

- Accommodation at hotels as mentioned
- Meals as mentioned (B : breakfast / L : Lunch / D : Diner)
- The 4WD car rental with A/C and English speaking driver, indemnities and gasoil included( D2 to day 8)
- Entrance at parks and reserves to visit : Tsingy of Bemaraha NP; Kirindy private reserve)
- Transfer hotel/airport mentioned in the program
- Boat trip along the Tsiribihina river with night in bivouac on full board basis (Day 3 to Day 5)