



## MADAGASCAR: ISLAND OF LEMURS & BAOBABS - A LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEY (2025)

Immerse yourself in Madagascar's richly biodiverse national parks to encounter animals found nowhere else, including playful lemurs, colourful chameleons and countless species of birdlife.

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Small Group Journeys, Luxury Small Group Journeys



Africa, Madagascar



10 days from AU\$20,610 pp



14 Guests

## Journey Overview

Immerse yourself in Madagascar’s richly biodiverse national parks to encounter animals found nowhere else, including playful lemurs, colourful chameleons and countless species of birdlife. View stunning landscapes, from lush rainforests to arid spiny forests, and meet with locals to experience firsthand the unique culture of this enchanting island nation.

### Journey Highlights

- Fly point to point by time-saving private charter air between most destinations on this wide-ranging itinerary
- View wildlife up close in some of the island’s most renowned national parks and reserves, spotting endemic lemurs, chameleons, rare birds and many other species
- Experience the island’s varied topography, including highland rainforests, sandstone canyonlands and arid spiny forests
- Visit local communities, interact with indigenous tribes and learn about traditional customs and lifestyles
- Watch the sunset as it casts its entrancing glow of over a forest of more than 100 baobabs in the southeastern region of Madagascar



## Itinerary

### **Day 1: Arrive Antananarivo, Madagascar**

Arrive in Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar, affectionately known by locals as Tana, where you are met and transferred to your hotel.

***Radisson Blu Hotel, Antananarivo Waterfront***

### **Day 2: Andasibe-Mantadia National Park | Vibrant Rainforest Life**

This morning, journey overland to your local lodge located in Andasibe-Mantadia National Park, a bastion of biodiversity. After enjoying lunch at the lodge, set out on a guided walk through lush rainforest habitat, keeping watch for any of the island's many endemic species of lemurs, especially the Indri lemur with its teddy bear-like face, twitchy tail and black and white markings. This largest of lemurs is known for its haunting calls that echo through the forest. Other flora and fauna you may observe include a host of distinctive birds, reptiles and insects. Tonight, back at your lodge, gather with your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner.

***Mantadia Lodge | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 3: Andasibe-Mantadia National Park | Private Lemur Visit**

Devote your morning to hiking the trails of Analamazaotra with a local guide, taking in the verdant forest scapes and looking for lemurs such as the Indri, diademed sifaka, grey bamboo, red-bellied and white-ruffed varieties. This afternoon, travel by boat to Lemur Island, a unique sanctuary where visitors can experience close encounters with lemurs in their natural habitat, for a private up-close visit. Listen as local guides offer insight into the behaviour, biology, and conservation status of the lemurs, their importance to Madagascar's ecosystems and the threats they face from habitat loss, deforestation and illegal wildlife trade. Return to your lodge for dinner before embarking on a nighttime walk through the reserve in search of nocturnal wildlife. You may encounter the Goodman's mouse lemur, eastern woolly lemur and greater dwarf lemur, along with chameleons, frogs, geckos and myriad insect species that become active when the sun goes down.

***Mantadia Lodge | Meals: BLD***

#### **Day 4: Antananarivo | Rainforest Drive & Malagasy Cuisine**

Return to Antananarivo, driving through the countryside with scenic stops along the way. Gaze out at misty mountains and small rural villages, and pass by farmland where locals cultivate crops like rice, cassava, and coffee. Turn to your guide for cultural insights along the way, enjoying this memorable experience of Madagascar's diverse landscapes and way of life. Tonight in Antananarivo, savour a Chef's Table experience with dinner at the top restaurant in Madagascar, which offers a unique blend of Malagasy and European cuisine. Choose from a diverse menu featuring classic French dishes infused with local ingredients and flavours, providing a unique dining experience.

***Radisson Blu Hotel, Antananarivo Waterfront | Meals: BD***

#### **Day 5: Isalo National Park | Dramatic Canyonlands**

This morning, board a private charter flight to Isalo National Park, where you are met and transferred to your hotel, situated amid deep canyons eroded into spectacular shapes that serve as dwelling places for rare endemic plants, such as aloe and spine-bearing palm trees. In addition to being home to sifaka, brown and ring-tail lemurs, Isalo is sacred to the Indigenous Bara tribe who, for hundreds of years, have used caves in the canyon walls as burial sites. This afternoon, visit Giorgio's Window for a fantastic sunset photo opportunity.

***Jardin du Roy | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 6: Isalo National Park | Guided Nature Hike**

Set out today on a guided walk to explore this diverse park, observing the lush, diverse tropical vegetation to the east as well as vast rolling plains interspersed with stunning rock formations. Choose from two trails, depending on your interests and physical abilities. Wind through spectacular landscapes, ranging from lush palm-lined canyons to rocky plateaus dotted with endemic plants. View the natural rock pool known as the Piscine Naturelle and keep your camera at the ready for encounters with resident wildlife. You may encounter the ring-tailed lemur and Verreaux's sifaka, which can often be spotted foraging among the trees and rocky outcrops. Birdwatchers will delight in the chance to observe the Benson's rock thrush and the Madagascar kestrel soaring overhead. Stop for an al fresco hot barbecue lunch experience set amid the stunning natural scenery. Afterward, enjoy time at leisure to explore the park before returning to the lodge. This evening, tip back a refreshing Scenic Sundowner while listening to local musicians perform traditional Malagasy music and absorbing breathtaking views of the setting sun as it paints the magical Madagascar sky.

***Jardin du Roy | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 7: Ifotaka | Nighttime Walking Safari**

Board a flight to Ifotaka, in the remote south of Madagascar. Upon arrival at your permanent tented camp, settle in and enjoy the majestic views over the Mandrare River. Later, take a guided night walk in the prehistoric spiny forest, keeping watch for diurnal lemur bedding down and nocturnal lemur as they begin to awake. Back in camp, sleep under African skies on your first of three nights in this unique ecosystem, with its captivating blend of arid scrubland, lush oases, and otherworldly baobab forests.

***Mandrare River Camp | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 8: Ifotaka | Ancestry of the Antandroy**

This morning, cross the Mandrare River to reach the largely deciduous gallery forest that provides critical habitat for wildlife. Keep your eyes peeled for inquisitive ring-tailed lemur and the always-entertaining Verreaux's sifaka. Return to camp for lunch and a relaxing afternoon by the pool. Later, head out for a walk through the sacred spiny forest filled with the ancestral tombs of the local Antandroy tribe, as well as an extraordinary array of flora and fauna unique to spiny forest. Listen as your guide and a tracker from the local community introduce you to Antandroy culture and customs.

***Mandrare River Camp | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 9: Ifotaka | Sunset Over the Magnificent Baobabs**

Rise early to walk in the spiny forest as dawn's sunlight breaks through the octopus trees to observe the many endemic birds such as crested coua, a variety of vanga and the running coua. Return to camp for a sumptuous breakfast followed by a visit to the local market or the local village to meet the fascinating Antandroy tribe. Afterward, enjoy lunch at your camp followed by an afternoon at leisure watching life along the river from your tent's terrace. Later this afternoon, drive out to an imposing forest of more than 100 of Madagascar's iconic baobab trees. Gaze out over the baobabs as the sun sets over their distinctively rounded trunks and crowns of branches. Tonight, celebrate your last evening in Madagascar with a special farewell dinner, sharing unforgettable moments with your fellow guests.

***Mandrare River Camp | Meals: BLD***

### **Day 10: Depart Antananarivo**

After breakfast, fly by charter air back to the capital, where you enjoy the use of a dayroom until transferring to the airport for your departing flight.

***Radisson Blu Hotel, Antananarivo Waterfront (dayroom) | Meals: B***

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## Journey Details

Internal Air Included: Antananarivo/Isalo/Ifotaka/Antananarivo  
Travel in this remote region entails active elements such as walking over steep, uneven terrain.

Minimum age is 10 years.

Each guest on this journey will receive an A&K Safari Duffel.

First group event: welcome briefing at 7:30 a.m. on Day 2.

Last group event: hotel transfer at 12:00 p.m. on Day 10.

Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests.

## Included with every Luxury Small Group Journey

- English-Speaking Resident Tour Director® and Local Guides
- Hand-Selected Luxury Accommodations
- Airport Meet and Greet with Private Transfers
- Travelling Bell Boy® Luggage Handling
- Full Breakfast Daily; Select Lunches and Dinners
- Traveller's Valet® Laundry Service
- Internet Access
- Entrance Fees, Taxes and All Gratuities Except Resident Tour Director
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support
- Guaranteed Departures with Just Two Guests

## Customise this Journey

**Talk to one of our expert Journey Designers** or your travel agent about booking this tour as a private journey for your own small group with family or friends. Or, if you would prefer to travel privately, find out more about creating the perfect bespoke tailor-made journey based on this itinerary.

## Map





## Extensions



Nosy Be Post-Tour  
Extension - A Luxury Small  
Group Journey (2025)

**See Details**

## Accommodation

### **Mantadia Lodge, Andasibe-Mantadia National Park**



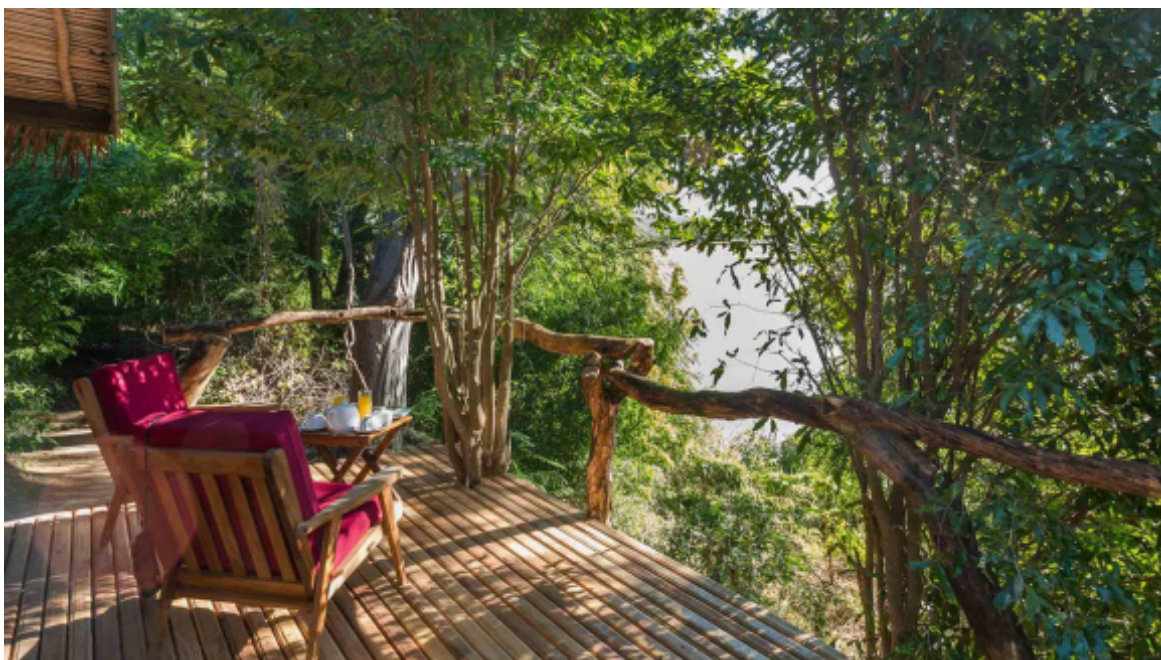
Lying just south of Madagascar's Andasibe-Mantadia National Park is Mantadia Lodge, opening its hilltop doors outside the tiny town of Andasibe, the gateway to the breathtaking rainforest.

The lodge's 25 comfortably appointed rooms include 10 twin rooms and one family suite, suitable for up to five people. All rooms offer panoramic views with individual private terraces, an indoor lounge and a wood stove to keep you warm during the cooler months.

The on-site restaurant serves three courses to a set menu for lunch and dinner, as well as a sweet and savoury breakfast buffet. If you are out and about all day on safari, a picnic lunch can be packed on request, to be enjoyed between spotting Indri Indri lemur and other endemic wildlife.

Relax after a day of safari with a visit to the lodge spa, indulging in a massage with natural Madagascan oils, a dip in the spa or some laps in the outdoor pool.

## Mandrare River Camp, Ifotaka Forest



Nestled in the shade of tamarind trees on the banks of the Mandrare River, the secluded Mandrare River Camp offers exclusive accommodation in just six large tents all with four poster bed, en suite bathrooms, bucket showers and hot water on demand. Each tent has a balcony allowing beautiful views over the river which is the lifeblood of the region. Dining is a treat with meals prepared from the finest of ingredients and fresh home-baked patisseries. Activities include day and night walks, 4WD trips, birding and cultural visits.

In an area so richly diverse and removed from the western world, revel in the opportunity to see first-hand the life and culture of the Antandroy. By protecting the Sacred Forests, where the Antandroy ancestors rest in their ornate tombs, the tribe has managed to preserve large pristine wilderness areas and through the traditions of Fady (social taboos) they not only protect but genuinely live in harmony with their environment.

Day and night walks reveal the forests in detail and the wildlife that lives within them. In this area there are four species of lemur, the ring-tailed, Verreaux's sifaka, mouse and white foot sportive (both nocturnal). The birding is also exceptional with at least 15 resident species in camp and many more in the surrounding wooded areas, including scops owl, malachite kingfisher, Verreaux's coua and many raptors.

### Why we like it?

- Within close proximity to the village of Ifotaka and opposite the sacred ancestral forests of the Antandroy Tribe
- Awake to the sound of locals singing as they fetch water from the river
- Tents with views of the Mandrare River and mountains beyond

- Visit Gallery Forest with its excellent sifaka and ring-tailed lemur populations
- Freshly baked French patisseries prepared daily

## Dates & Pricing

Prices are in AUD, per person, based on double occupancy

### Jun 19, 2025 - Jun 28, 2025

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
<b>AU\$20,610 pp</b>	AU\$3,055	Included	Call for Availability

### Jul 18, 2025 - Jul 27, 2025

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
<b>AU\$20,610 pp</b>	AU\$3,055	Included	Call for Availability

### Aug 20, 2025 - Aug 29, 2025

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
<b>AU\$20,610 pp</b>	AU\$3,055	Included	Call for Availability

### Sep 17, 2025 - Sep 26, 2025

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
<b>AU\$20,610 pp</b>	AU\$3,055	Included	Call for Availability

### Oct 17, 2025 - Oct 26, 2025

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
<b>AU\$20,610 pp</b>	AU\$3,055	Included	Call for Availability

### Nov 4, 2025 - Nov 13, 2025

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
<b>AU\$20,610 pp</b>	AU\$3,055	Included	Call for Availability

# Abercrombie & Kent

**Call Us Now on  
1300 851 924  
within Australia**

Melbourne Office:

T: +61 (0)3 9536 1800

F: +61 (0) 3 9536 1805

E: [contact@abercrombiekent.com.au](mailto:contact@abercrombiekent.com.au)

Address

Level 26 (North Tower)

80 Collins St

Melbourne, VIC, 3000

International:

New Zealand Call: 0800 441 638

Asia Call: 800 4747 7700