



# Remote River Expeditions

## MADAGASCAR



### Mangoky River / Rainforest & The West

Full Program 20 Days

May 23 – Jun 12, 2008

#### Detailed Itinerary

Day	Location / Activity
1	En route to Madagascar.
2	<b>Arrive Antananarivo.</b> Remote River Expeditions representative will meet you at Ivato Airport for the transfer to our hotel. Orientation and welcome dinner. Overnight Mahavelo Hotel or similar. (D)
3	Morning drive to <b>Andasibe (Perinet) Reserve</b> , crossing the famous cliff of La Mandraka with a panoramic view of the Anjiro plain. Andasibe is the domain of the Indri Indri, the tallest living lemur, smaller Fulvus, Bamboo and Rubriventer lemurs can also be seen. We enjoy an afternoon walking safari in the primary forest with it's wide variety of endemic birds, orchids, fern trees, pandanus and many palms. We'll take an evening walk for nocturnal lemurs (bush baby), chameleons, and birds (nightjars & owls). Accommodation at the Hotel Feon'ny Ala. (B,L,D)
4	Full morning walking safari in <b>Mantadia National Park</b> . Following lunch we return overland to Antananarivo and the Mahavelo Hotel. (B,L,D)
5	Early transfer to Ivato Airport for our flight from <b>Antananarivo to Toliara</b> (MD 740, 08:00 – 10:30). In Toliara we met by our 4x4 vehicles and begin overland journey to the Mangoky River. Traveling northeast to the town of Sakara we leave the tarmac and follow a sandy track north crossing the Fiherenena River. 4x4 Camp. (B,L,D)
6	After a quick breakfast we continue north as the road follows the plateau dotted with huge Mahafaly tombs. After a full day traveling overland we stop briefly in the quite village of <b>Beroroaha</b> for last minute shopping and a cool drink before camping at or near put-in for the Mangoky River. Camping. (B,L,D)
7 – 12	<p>We begin our calm water river journey on the majestic <b>Mangoky River</b>. On the river we meander between several ranges of wooded hills on our way west toward the Mozambique Channel. This section of the Mangoky from Beroroaha to Bevoay is a very remote area of Madagascar and passes through perhaps the world's largest baobab forest. We travel approximately 160 kms on the river, paddling the calm water at times aided by a steady current.</p> <p>Paddling is not strenuous and the moderately paced exercise provides a real sense of accomplishment. Along with enhancing fitness paddling stimulates the appetite for tasty meals prepared on the open fire. We also take along a small outboard motor to use in the event of low water and to speed our progress downstream as needed.</p> <p>We enjoy incredibly vast sandy campsites, superb views of the surrounding mountains and a soothing hot spring toward the end of our float. On our frequent side hikes we spot a variety of wildlife along the way including exciting birds and lemurs. Camping. (B,L,D)</p>

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13	After our last full day on the river we arrive at <b>Paradise Camp</b> . We'll take a late afternoon walk to a nearby village, passing a small baobab forest and local rice fields. This will be our last night camping on the river. (B,L,D)
14	<b>Bevoay / Ifaty</b> . Early morning we spend a short time on the river before we meet the 4-WD vehicles at near the village of Bevoay. After packing up rafts and other equipment we begin our long drive south to the coastal town of Ifaty. Upon arrival to Ifaty we check into our hotel for a welcome shower followed by a fresh seafood dinner and the setting sun over the Mozambique Channel. Overnight Dunes Hotel (or similar). (B,L,D)
15	Full day in <b>Ifaty</b> , we have time to explore the nearby 'spiny forest' and enjoy a relaxing day on the beach. Optional activities include: sailing on the Mozambique Channel and visiting nearby coral reefs for snorkeling and SCUBA diving. Lunch is on your own. We overnight at the Dunes Hotel. (B,D)
16	<b>Ifaty / Morondava</b> . After an early breakfast we drive south to Tuleara for our afternoon flight to Morondava (MD 5703, 09:30 – 11:20). Transfer to the Chez Maggie Hotel for overnight. (B,D)
17	The tranquil coastal town of <b>Morondava</b> is largely an undiscovered gem and gateway to many of the wonders of the western Menabe Region of Madagascar. The <b>Chez Maggie Hotel</b> faces west and is located directly on the Mozambique Channel with a long, clean and inviting beach outside your door. The water is warm, just right for swimming and body surfing.  Along with exploring Morondava; sailing a local dhow pirogue or paddling in the nearby mangrove swamp are some of the options for spending the day. Or you may prefer to lounge by the pool, stroll to the market, and end your day enjoying a cool drink with the setting sun. Lunch is on your own. (B,D)
18	After breakfast we travel north from Morondava to the <b>Kirindy Forest</b> * making a stopover at the Avenue of the Baobabs and the Baobabs in Love along the way. Following lunch we'll take an afternoon walk in the forest. Nocturnal walks in the Kirindy Forest can be particularly rewarding and we'll enjoy an extended walk following dinner.  We overnight in rustic bungalows (or camping) in the forest. (B,L,D)  * The 25,000-acre Kirindy Forest has the greatest density and diversity of primates in the world. It is also the best western-reserve for seeing Madagascar's endemic dry forest species. The Kirindy boasts more than 60 species of birds. Along with a stunning variety of unique flora and birdlife and forest is home to the fossa and the giant jumping rat and no less than 8 lemur species.
19	Very early morning walk for birds and the lovely light and sounds as the forest awakes. Following breakfast and a welcome cup of coffee we'll travel south returning to Morondava. Lunch is on your own. We overnight at the Chez Maggie Hotel. (B,D)
20	Relaxing morning and after an early lunch we transfer to the airport for our flight from <b>Morondava to Antananarivo</b> , (MD 703, 1302 – 1410). Sunset dinner celebration with live music at the Grill du Rova overlooking the capital.  Evening transfer to Ivato Airport for outbound flights. (B,D)

**End of Services**



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### Tour Notes

**Includes:** Expert leadership and excellent naturalist guides; airport transfers and all ground transportation as per the itinerary; all hotels and meals outside Tana (except for some lunches as noted above); park entrance fees; local guides; river trip; camp and cook staff; camping and commissary equipment (except sleeping bag); and room occupancy taxes.

**Excludes:** International flights; domestic flights\* ; visas, airport taxes; some meals in Tana; insurance of any kind; tips; excess baggage; cost of immunizations; diving and beach activities in Ifaty and items of a personal nature (water, sodas, alcoholic drinks, laundry, etc).

\* **Domestic Air:** Antananarivo / Toilara / Morondava / Antananarivo approximately: \$ 340.00 USD

***ITINERARY:** Although we will do our very best to adhere to the itinerary schedule as listed, it is subject to change for numerous reasons beyond our control. If the trip is delayed because of bad weather, cancelled or delayed flights or delays on other modern transportation, sickness, or other situation for which Remote River Expeditions or its agents cannot make provisions, the cost of delays is not included. Please read the Limitations of Liability paragraph in our Booking Information.*

### Related Weblinks

**Madagascar General & Travel Info:**

[www.remoterivers.com](http://www.remoterivers.com)

**Andasibe (Perinet) Reserve:**

<http://taniko.free.fr/parks/andasibe.htm>

<http://homepage2.nifty.com/wwgkanda/MAD/birdperi.html>

<http://homepage2.nifty.com/wwgkanda/MAD/mamlperi.html>

**Kirindy Forest:**

<http://taniko.free.fr/parks/kirindy.htm>

**Chez Maggie Hotel:**

[www.chezmaggie.com](http://www.chezmaggie.com)

**Morondava:**

<http://www.madagascar-vision.com/salon800/page2d.asp?CAT=1&STAND=1075&PROC=3&PAGE=6822>

**Madagascar Map:**

[http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/africa/madagascar\\_pol\\_2003.jpg](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/africa/madagascar_pol_2003.jpg)