



Remote River Expeditions ~ Madagascar



~ East Meets West ~

Contrasts of the Great Red Island! ~ Rainforest, River, Sea and the West

18-Day Custom Program / 13 & 15 Day Options available

Highlights Include:

- *Masoala National Park*
 - *Tsiribihina River*
 - *Tsingy de Bemaraha*
 - *Kirindy Forest Reserve*
 - *Avenue of the Baobabs*
 - *Cities and towns:*
 - *Morondava*
 - *Expert Naturalist Guides*
 - *Varied and excellent cuisine*
 - *And of course, lemurs, lemurs, lemurs...*
- ~ Eastern rainforest & coastal reserve ~ Sea Kayaking (included option)
 - ~ Calm water canoeing
 - ~ A World Heritage Site
 - ~ Western deciduous forest
 - ~ Baobabs in Love
 - ~ Antananarivo, Maroantsetra, Antsirabe, Morondava
 - ~ Mozambique Channel & the Chez Maggie Hotel
 - ~ English-speaking and multi-lingual staff

Outside Magazine Trip of the Year 2007 - Designed by Remote River Expeditions



Detailed Itinerary

Day Location	Activity
Day 1	En route to Madagascar
DAY 2	Arrive Antananarivo . Remote River Expeditions representative will meet you at Ivato Airport for the transfer to our hotel. Orientation and welcome dinner. Overnight IC Hotel (or similar). (D)
Day 3	Early transfer to Ivato Airport for our flight from Antananarivo to Maroantsetra , the gateway to the Masoala National Park. Transfer by boat to Masoala Forest Lodge (or Petite Relias) our home base for exploring Masoala National Park. (B,L,D)
Day 4 - 5	Paddling and trekking in Masoala National Park . We explore by boat and sea kayak (optional) the Masoala Peninsula. We'll visit various spots around the peninsula, including deserted islands, up the Fampotobe River and into the heart of the Masoala Peninsula. Here we pass stunning coastlines of sandy coves separated by rocky, forested headlands. We will also take time to snorkel the amazing waters and discover the littoral rain-forest on nature walks.



Day 4 – 5 One stop, Antalavia, (about 50 km from Maroantsetra), in a protected bay at the end of 10 km long beach. A cool fresh water stream flows through the beach into the sea and great cascades leads steeply into the heart of the highland rain forest. This area offers a great rain forest experience with many lemur species and endemic birds along with geckos, chameleons and other forest inhabitants. If time allows we may make a journey to Nosy Behento. A small remote tropical island located at the southern-most tip of the Masoala Peninsula at the end of the long barrier reef. (B,L,D)

[Masoala National Park](#)

[Nosy Mangabe Excursion:](#) At extra charge.

Day 6 After breakfast we return by boat to **Maroansetra**. Return flights from **Maronantsetra to Antananarivo**. Overnight IC Hotel (or similar). (B,D)

Day 7 Early morning overland south from **Antananarivo** through the highlands to **Antsirabe**. This is a volcanic region of rocky hills and grassland of zebu herds, and kasana and rice plantations. Leaving the highlands we travel west and descend into the Menabe (western) Region to the town of **Miandrivazo** Overnight Baobab Hotel. (B,D)

Day 8 After Breakfast a short visit in the village and final shopping we board our pirogues (local canoes) and begin our trip on the [Tsiribihina River](#). No previous experience is needed as there are no rapids and the river remains calm throughout the journey. Local Malagasy paddlers propel pirogues as we travel downstream and we enjoy sandy camps along the river at night. (B,L,D)

Day 9 **Tsiribihina River**. Camping on the river. (B,L,D)

Day 10 Our final day on the river, we complete our journey at **Antsiraraka**. we travel by 4X4 west and then north crossing the Tsiribihina River by ferryboat and passing through the town of **Belo sur Tsiribihina**. Overnight Karibo Hotel. (B,D)

Day 12 Following an early breakfast we travel by 4X4 west We continue north to the town of **Bekopaka** at the entrance of the **Tsingy de Bemaraha**. Afternoon visit to the 'Petite' **Tsingy**. Overnight Hotel Olympe de Bemaraha (or similar). (B,D)

Day 13 Exploring the **Grande Tsingy de Bemaraha**. Overnight Hotel Olympe de Bemaraha (or similar).

Day 14 Early morning paddle on the **Manambolo River** to visit the Gorges of the Manambolo. And return overland south through the deciduous forestland to the **Kirindy Forest**.

A rich reserve for endemic Malagasy flora and fauna. We explore the forest in the late afternoon and after dinner enjoy take an evening walk for nocturnal species. Along with a stunning variety of unique flora the Kirindy Forest is home to 8 lemur species; a variety of tenrecs species; the narrow-striped mongoose; the giant jumping rat and the fossa. Overnight in the rustic bungalows in the forest. (B,D)



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Day 15 Early morning walking in the Kirindy Forest (especially good for birding). After we head south to **Morondava**. Along the way we make stops at the **Sacred Baobab**, **Baobabs in Love** and the world famous **Ave of the Baobabs**. [Optional excursion at sunset to the Ave of the Baobabs \(included\)](#). Overnight Chez Maggie Hotel. (B,D) www.chezmaggie.com

Day 16 Largely an undiscovered gem we enjoy a relaxing day in the tranquil coastal town of [Morondava](#). Our home base is the Chez Maggie Hotel, a romantic hide-away in a comfortable garden setting. The hotel features: air-conditioned 2-story chalets and bungalows; superb cuisine; swimming pool and a full service bar.

The choice is yours: stroll along the beach, swim in the warm water of the Mozambique Channel, lounge by the pool, or take a walk through town for local flavor and shopping. After enjoying the setting sun over the channel we sample the excellent cuisine of Le Masoandro Restaurant at the Chez Maggie. Overnight Chez Maggie Hotel. (B,D)

Day 17 Following breakfast we transfer to the airport for return flight to **Antananarivo**. Sightseeing and shopping as time allows. Overnight IC Hotel (or similar). (B,D)

Day 18 Morning free and transfer to Ivato Airport for outbound flights. (B,D)

End of services.



* Exact program may vary according to international flight arrival and departure times and domestic flight schedule.



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Inclusions

- ◆ **English speaking naturalist guide**
- ◆ **Ground Transportation:**
 - As outlined above
 - Included: vehicles; driver; fuel; driver accommodations & food; and vehicle insurance.
- ◆ **Masoala Forest Lodge or Petite Relais:** On Full Board with activities included.
- ◆ **Masoala & Tsingy de Bemaraha National Parks:** entry and local guide fees
- ◆ **Tsiribihina River Journey:** Full board (including drinking water on the river); camp and cook staff; quality camping gear and all commissary equipment.
- ◆ **Kirindy Forest Reserve:** entry and local guide fees
- ◆ **Accommodations:** As above.
- ◆ **Meals:** Half Board (continental breakfast & dinner) / Full Board at Masoala
 - B = Continental Breakfast / L = Lunch / D = Dinner
- ◆ **General Inclusions:** airport transfers; room occupancy taxes...

Exclusions

- ◆ International or domestic flights
- ◆ Visas
- ◆ Drinks (except on the river)
- ◆ Cost of immunizations
- ◆ Airport taxes
- ◆ Insurance of any kind
- ◆ Drinks (as noted in inclusions)
- ◆ Tips (customary)
- ◆ Excess baggage
- ◆ Items of a personal nature (laundry, drinks, etc...)
- ◆ Any services not specifically listed as included.

Note on the Itinerary

The itinerary is subject to change with schedule and availability of domestic flights. Accommodations are subject to change due to availability. 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 situations for which Remote River Expeditions or its agents cannot make provisions, the cost of delays is not included. We strongly recommend travel insurance.

Air Madagascar Flights

IMPORTANT: We do not take responsibility for any airline schedule changes that may occur after quoting or booking. We will do everything we can to alleviate any disruption of your itinerary or holiday but cannot be held responsible for any loss of funds, bookings, missed connections or other pre-booked/paid services.