



# *Remote River Expeditions*

## *~ Madagascar ~*



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### *Escape to Western Madagascar with the Manambolo River®*

*The best way to reach the Tsingy de Bemaraha N.P. is a calm water float through the scenic section of the river from Ankavandra to Bekopaka, far from any vehicles or roads.*



### ***Manambolo River** ~ A unique river journey into the heart of the west!*

This trip is about remoteness, flora and fauna, and beautiful scenery. And the uniqueness of being on a river with barefoot sandy beaches, moonlight reflecting off the water...

From **Antananarivo**, we drive west through beautiful highland scenery to **Ampefy** where we visit *Lake Itasy*, the famous *Geysers* and the 20 m waterfall - '*Les Chutes de la Lily*'.

We overnight at *Hotel Kavitaha* with its lovely gardens.

The next day we begin the challenging two-day 4x4 drive from **Ampefy** to **Ankavandra** where we start our journey on the tranquil *Manambolo River*.

For the next 3 to 4 days, we enjoy a calm water float through a seldom visited region of Madagascar.

Our final days are spent in the dramatic gorge section of the lower Manambolo.

We end our river trip at **Andadoany** (near **Bekopaka**) where new adventures await:

[Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park](#)

[Kirindy Forest Reserve](#)

[Avenue of the Baobabs](#)



### **Custom Fly-In Option**

If your time is limited and your budget allows we can also use a charter flight reach Ankavandra (the starting point for the river).

The 1-hour scenic flight from Antananarivo gives us a great view the highlands and surrounding area as we approach the river.

Please [contact RRE](#) for options and details.

### **Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park ~ A UNESCO World Heritage Site**

This is Madagascar's largest reserve (152,000 hectares.) and classified as one of the world wonders by UNESCO. The fascinating raised limestone plateau is decorated with a fragile, chaotic razor-sharp collection of pinnacles, the "Tsingy".

The great variety of flora includes: aloes, orchids, numerous pachypodium and baobabs. The deciduous forest is home to over 50 species of birds; 11 species of lemurs (including the all-white Deckens sifaka) and the rare stump-tailed chameleon (Brookesia perarmata).







- Remote River Style !***
- Comfort, Cuisine & Canoes**
- We always do our best to make time on the river and camping as comfortable as possible.
  - We offer the option of using either western style canoes or 'pirogues' (local wooden canoes). All are outfitted with cushions, backrests and umbrellas (for sun protection).
  - Quality camping gear is provided including: tents, sleeping bags and Thermarest sleeping pads.
  - We take great pride in providing superb meals and know you will be duly impressed! We're happy to cater to all dietary needs and restrictions as well.
  - Water level: Depending on the water level we may need to push the canoes over the occasional sand bar.







## Kirindy Forest Reserve

The 12,500 ha Kirindy Forest Reserve 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 forest is a very rich reserve and home to the Fosa and Giant Jumping Rat.

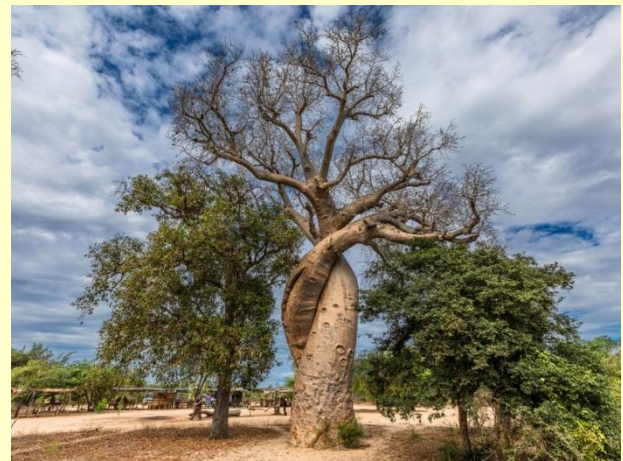
Dominated by majestic baobab trees, (*Adansonia rubrostipa* et *za*), *Adansonia Grandidieri* are found just next to village of kirindy the forest is home to the world's smallest known primate as well as dozens of amphibian and reptile species (and no poisonous snakes).

The Kirindy boasts more than 60 species of birds. Possible endemic sighting include: White-headed Vanga, Rufous Vanga, White-breasted Mesite, Coquerel's Coua, Crested Coua, Sickie-billed Vanga, Chabert's Vanga, Cuckoo Roller, Grey-headed Lovebird, Madagascar Nightjar, and Banded Kestrel.

Along with a stunning variety of unique flora, the Kirindy Forest is home to 8 lemur species as well as a variety of tenrecs species and the narrow-striped mongoose.

## Avenue of the Baobabs

The world famous **Avenue of the Baobabs** is an extraordinary stand of huge baobab trees *Adansonia grandidieri*. On our way south from the Kirindy Forest to **Morondava** we visit the ***Sacred Baobab, Baobabs in Love*** and ***"The Avenue"*** at sunset.



## *Customize*

Itinerary options range from 9 to 14 for our **Escape to West with the Manambolo River** ©

Please see sample itinerary here: [Manambolo River & The West](#)

We're more than happy to customize for all special interests. One excellent option is quality 'beach time' and snorkeling in picturesque seaside village of [Belo sur Mer](#).



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