

THE GREAT TSINGY OF BEMARAHA AND THE BAOBAB AVENUE

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival in ANTANANARIVO: Arrival at the international airport of Ivato; after formalities process, meet with your driver and transfer to a hotel in the city; accommodation at Hotel; dinner and overnight.

Day 2: ANTANANARIVO "Lemurs Park": Breakfast at hotel. In the morning, meet the driver at your hotel; departure to the Lemurs' Park, a small botanical and lemur reserve, covering 5ha and is located at 25km southwest of Antananarivo; this privileged place was created with the aim of bringing this surprising animal to the attention of as many people as possible, to all nature lovers, and in this way to enable reintroduce lemurs born in the park into their natural habitat; possibility of a lunch on the spot; in the afternoon, transfer to your hotel in the city; accommodation, dinner and overnight at hotel.

Day 3: ANTANANARIVO > MORONDAVA > KIRINDY (about 1h flight + 50km / about 1h30 drive): Picnic breakfast. Very early in the morning, transfer to national airport for the flight to Morondava. Upon arrival, meet your driver then, departure to the Forest of Kirindy through the city of Morondava then the baobab alley and the savannah of baobabs; see the villages and typical funerary structures of the Sakalava ethnic group on the road; arrival in Kirindy in the afternoon; evening walk in the forest; this forest is a real playground for naturalists and nature lovers; it is home to a very diverse diurnal and nocturnal fauna; you will mainly find species of lemurs including nocturnal ones, birds, reptiles and with some chance, you may find the "fosa" an endemic predator; after the visit, dinner and overnight at hotel.

Day 4: KIRINDY > BEKOPAKA (150km / about 6h drive): Breakfast at hotel; morning visit of the Forest of Kirindy; the forest is one of the best destinations for bird watching like the Red-tailed Vanga, Madagascar Sparrowhawk, Coua, Bird-of-paradise and Strip-bellied Hawk; bird watchers will greatly appreciate a visit to these unique places; after the visit of the reserve, offroad to Bekopaka on a red earth track that slope through the dense deciduous forest, until we meet the Tsiribihina river, where wading aboard motor rafts; lunch at your charge. Afternoon continuation along the track through the bush, where we can see, arrival at the Manambolo river and another crossing on raft; then we reach the village of Bekopaka; accommodation at hotel; in the evening, dinner and overnight.

Day 5: BEKOPAKA "Great Tsingy": Breakfast at the hotel; whole day dedicated to visiting the fantastic Great Tsingy, an impressive stone wall about 100 km long, almost impenetrable, which has preserved this primitive environment intact; approach to the park entrance by car through the savannah, at the base of the cliffs, an ancient coral reef sculpted into spiers by weathering over geological eras, which can reach a height of up to 60 meters above the ground; exploration of the park, a UNESCO World Heritage site; this is probably the most rewarding hike; the trails leads inside the park, into the depths of the forest and between limestone pinnacles, passing through a series of suspension bridges with the impressive karst formations underfoot; the trail is not technically difficult and even older children can do it, but we certainly should not suffer from vertigo! picnic lunch to plan during the excursion; return to the hotel at the end of the day; half board and overnight at the hotel.

Day 6: BEKOPAKA > MORONDAVA (200km / about 8 hours): Breakfast at the hotel; return to Morondava, always fascinated by the natural wonders along the way, stopping in the most interesting places; lunch at your charge in a restaurant along the way; continuation of the road in the afternoon; at sunset, along the track that leads to Morondava, the famous Baobab avenue, where these gigantic and wonderful trees take on surprising colors when the sun sets, stop in the savannah to watch the impressive spectacle; arrival in Morondava at the end of the day and accommodation at hotel; in the evening dinner and overnight.

Day 7: MORONDAVA > ANTANANARIVO (about 1h flight): Breakfast at hotel; morning visit of the Village of Betania: a Vezo fishing village near Morondava. It is known for its access by pirogue, its mangrove swamps, its dhow-building sites and its peaceful atmosphere. According to your flight schedule, transfer to the airport for the flight to Antananarivo. Upon arrival, meet with the driver, the, transfer to your hotel in the city. Accommodation at hotel; in the evening dinner and overnight.

Day 8: ANTANANARIVO "International flight": Breakfast at the hotel; in the morning, visit of Antananarivo or "the city of a thousand", from the lower city to the upper city perched on the hill of Analamanga, where the most typical buildings of the Merina civilization are found, the vestiges of the Queen Palace, former official residence of the sovereigns of Madagascar in the 19th century; after the visit, transfer to airport to take the international flight. End of services.

