

Welcome to Madagascar

Madagascar, the pearl of the Indian Ocean, invites you to enjoy a unique experience filled with untouched nature, amazing culture, and living traditions. Located about 400 km off the east coast of Africa, it is the fourth largest island in the world. Known for its unique wildlife, Madagascar is home to animals found nowhere else, like lemurs and chameleons. The warm and friendly people will welcome you and share their rich heritage and traditional skills. Discover white sandy beaches, lush green forests, tall mountains, and so much more. Madagascar offers you a truly unforgettable journey.



AT A GLANCE

587 041 km²
of land

4800 km
of coastline

123
national parks
and protected areas

Dozens
of islands and islets

Home to the second
largest coral reef in the world

GMT +3
Time zone



A unique biodiversity

100%
of Madagascar's primates are found nowhere else

92%
of its reptiles are unique to the island

100%
of amphibians are endemic

90%
of plant species grow only here

6 SPECIES OF BAOBAB TREES
out of the 8 known are found in Madagascar

61%
of the island's birds are endemic

21 RAMSAR SITES
wetlands of international importance



Fauna & Flora

Madagascar's natural heritage is incredibly rich, with a biodiversity found nowhere else on Earth. The island has 123 national parks and protected areas that help preserve its amazing variety of plants and animals. Among its natural treasures are around 100 species of lemurs, 294 species of birds, and 6 types of baobab trees found only here—out of the 8 known worldwide. The tropical rainforests, like those in Atsinanana, are home to rare and unique species, making Madagascar a true natural sanctuary. Many other species also live here—some still waiting to be discovered.

Birdwatching

With its wide variety of ecosystems, Madagascar is a top destination for birdwatching. From tropical forests to wetlands, the island provides the perfect habitat for many species.



294
bird species have been recorded across Madagascar, including many rare and endemic ones.

Bird lovers can explore incredible spots and enjoy unforgettable moments following the songs and flights of these feathered treasures.

Did you know?
The Madagascar Fish Eagle is one of the rarest birds in the world. It's also one of the seven most endangered daytime raptors.

Diving

Diving in Madagascar is an unforgettable experience in crystal-clear waters full of marine life. The coral reefs, especially around Nosy Be and Sakalava Bay, are among the most beautiful in the world.

You can spot a wide variety of sea creatures—from colorful fish and sea turtles to sharks and rays. Madagascar's dive sites are well-preserved and easy to access, making them perfect for both beginners and experienced divers.



Trekking & Hiking

With its 588,000 km² of land, Madagascar is a huge playground for trekking, hiking, or even just easy nature walks. All routes offer stunning scenery—lush forests, steep mountain slopes, and beautiful coastlines.

SPORTING EVENTS

Central Highlands

- Tana Marathon – October
- Ultra Trail des Hauts-Plateaux – up to 120 km, in May
- Boby Trail (Andringitra) – Late August: 80 km, 4000 m elevation gain, up to 2,658 m high

Northwest

- Nosy Komba Trail (Nosy Be) – June: climbs the peaks of Nosy Be's sister island
- Diego Marathon – September
- Nosy Be Trail – December: 35 km through the "Perfumed Island"

Great South

- Isalo Raid – July: 45 km sports hike in under 15 hours
- Off the beaten track adventures

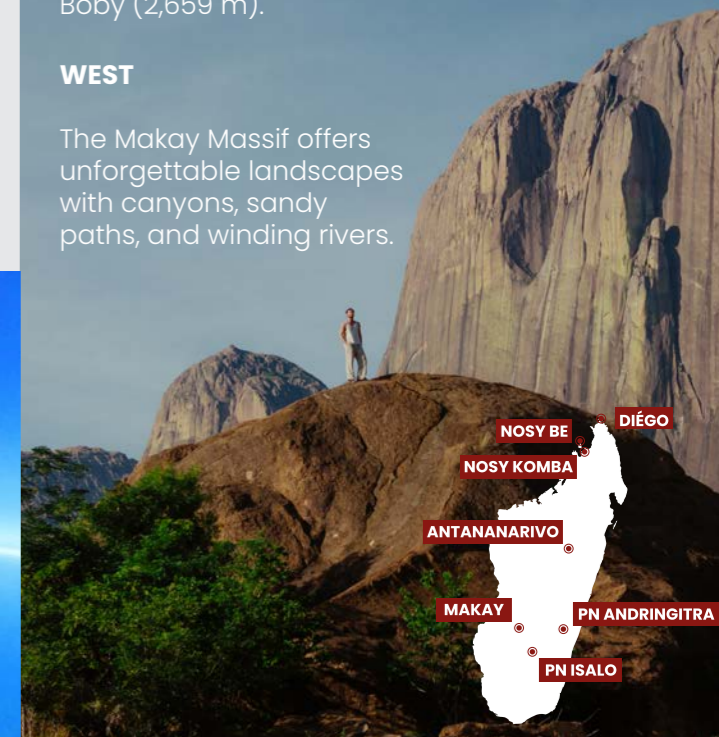
OFF THE BEATEN PATH

Central Highlands

The Andringitra National Park is ideal for mountain adventures, including the climb to Pic Boby (2,659 m).

WEST

The Makay Massif offers unforgettable landscapes with canyons, sandy paths, and winding rivers.



Kite, windsurfing, surfing & sailing

Madagascar is a paradise for water sports enthusiasts. The island offers ideal conditions for kitesurfing, windsurfing, surfing, and sailing, thanks to its fine sandy beaches, lagoons, and trade winds. The best spots are found in the southwest, where the waves provide an unforgettable

experience for surfers, and in the north of the island, like Babaomby, which is famous for kitesurfing. Fort Dauphin, in the southeast, is also an excellent surf destination, with perfect waves for all skill levels. The conditions are ideal between April and November, when the winds are strong and steady.



Whale watching



From June to November, Madagascar is one of the best places to see humpback whales as they migrate to the warm waters of the Mozambique Channel and the Indian Ocean. The east, northwest, and southwest coasts offer top spots for whale watching. In Sainte-Marie, Nosy Be, Mahajanga, Anakao, or Toliara, local tour operators

organize sea trips to see these majestic ocean giants—often just a few kilometers from the shore. These whales come to give birth in Madagascar's calm waters, offering a truly unforgettable experience during the southern winter.



Extreme adventures & thrilling experiences

See Madagascar in a different way with a motorbike, quad, or mountain bike ride across wild trails and breathtaking landscapes. For an even more intense adventure, try paragliding or a hot air balloon ride—both offering stunning

views over Madagascar's natural beauty. Thrill seekers can also go skydiving for an unforgettable jump above the island's spectacular scenery. Madagascar invites you to push your limits in truly extraordinary natural settings.



Regional tourism offices

Office Régional du Tourisme de Nosy Be
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I AM THE WORLD ISLAND,
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL
TREASURE

2025



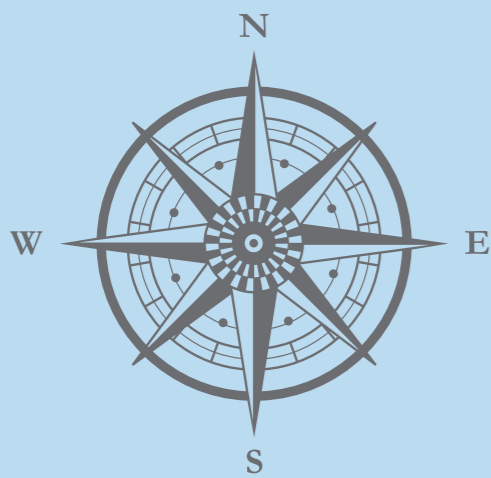
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The unique landscapes of Madagascar

A BREATHTAKING NATURAL BEAUTY

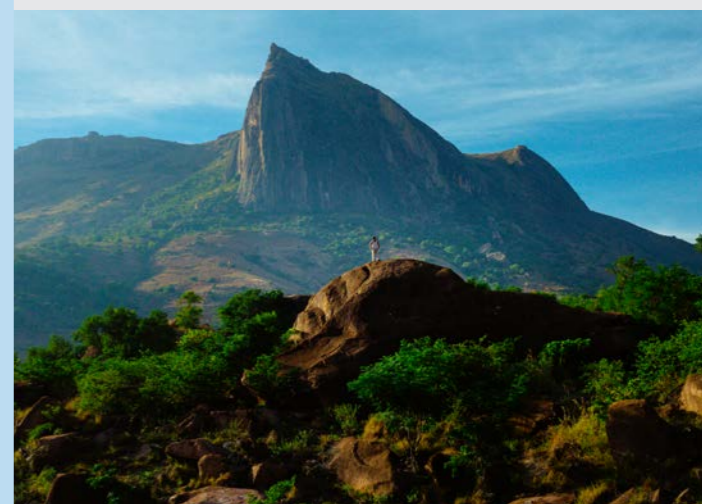
Madagascar enchants visitors with the richness of its landscapes: forests, beaches, mountains, dunes, red earth, and unique formations. This diversity, shaped by the contrasting climates of the humid East and dry West, promises an unforgettable journey through pristine, spectacular nature, accessible year-round depending on the season.



Adventures in Madagascar

THE ISLAND OF EXPLORERS

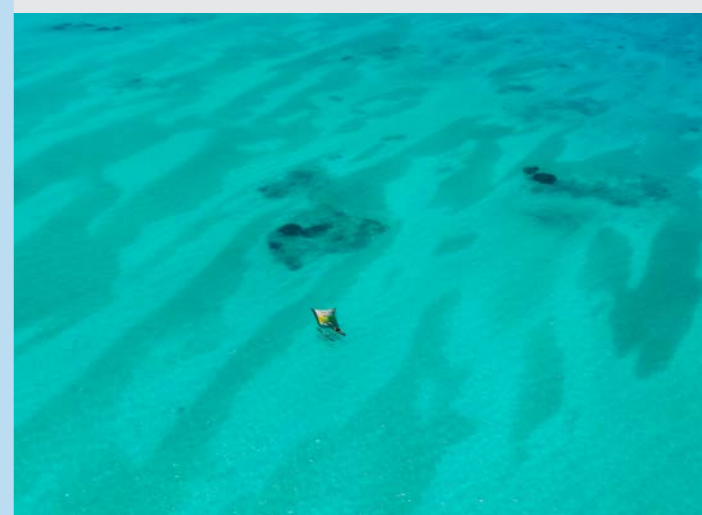
Madagascar offers a unique experience for adventurers: hiking, nature explorations, fascinating discoveries, and unforgettable encounters. The island invites you to experience authentic and intense moments of adventure.



Relaxing in Madagascar

A HAVEN OF PEACE

Madagascar provides the perfect setting to slow down, breathe, and enjoy the moment. Experience the sweetness of life, deep tranquility, and the art of taking your time.



Malagasy culture

A JOURNEY INTO TRADITIONS

Immerse yourself in the heart of Madagascar by discovering the richness of its 18 ethnic groups and 11 languages, through its customs, music, dances, and festivals. An authentic and enriching journey, where every moment reveals a unique aspect of its cultural heritage.



A RICH HISTORICAL HERITAGE

In Madagascar, the historical heritage reflects the diversity of the people and influences that have shaped the island. From the ancient royal palaces of the Highlands to the colonial remnants in coastal towns, and UNESCO World Heritage sites, each region unveils a chapter of Madagascar's history.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Capital: Antananarivo

Length (North to South): 1 600 km

Population: 32 million people

Languages: Malagasy, French, English

Visa: The visa is payable upon arrival at Antananarivo airport.

1 to 15 Days VISA: Free (Processing fee: 10 USD)

30 Days VISA: 35 Euros / 37 USD / 175.000 MGA.

60 Days VISA: 40 Euros / 45 USD / 200.000 MGA.



www.madagascar-tourisme.com
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