



RN7 - Ornithological Journey With Andasibe

Offer ID: UAM-09

Length of Time: 17

Price from: 2990€ €

The brilliant RN7 Highland route with an extension at the beginning to the Andasibe Rainforest. This variant is clearly focused on ornithology.

Travel Days

Day Description	Images
<p>Day 1: Arrival in Antananarivo</p> <p>On the first Day, your focus will be on arriving in Madagascar. Upon landing at Ivato Airport in the Madagascan capital of Antananarivo, we will pick you up and take you to your accommodation at Villa Sibylle. If you have any special requests for food and drinks upon arrival, please let us know in advance so we can make arrangements.</p>	 <p>© Pierre Koval</p>

Day Description	Images
<p>Day 2: Antananarivo to Andasibe</p> <p>Early in the morning, you will drive east on the winding and well-maintained RN 2. Along the way, you will have the opportunity to visit the famous private reserve "MadagascarExotique" owned by the renowned researcher Andre Pereyras, where you can see a variety of reptiles, amphibians, and lemurs posing fearlessly for the camera in a nearby forest. Moramanga is the next stop before heading to the nearby area of Analamazoatra. Upon arrival near Andasibe National Park, you will check in at your accommodation and have the chance to embark on your first excursions into the rainforest. Night walks are also possible from the lodge. Overnight stay at Hotel "Eulophiella Lodge or similar".</p>	 <p>© Pierre Koval</p>

Day Description	Images
<p>Day 3 - Andasibe / Mitsinjo</p> <p>After breakfast, we will head towards Andasibe National Park for bird watching. We will stop at the Mangoro River, where we will be on the lookout for the Madagascar Pratincole. Next, we will stop at the Mitsinjo Reserve to search for the following birds: Red-breasted Coua, Collared Nightjar, and Crested Coua. We will also be searching for the Indri, the largest lemurs in Madagascar, which can also be found in this forest. Before dinner, we will take a guided night walk to look for the Madagascar Scops Owl, Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher, Goodman's Mouse Lemur, Dwarf Lemur, and Eastern Woolly Lemur. Various species of chameleons and leaf frogs can also be spotted. Night walks in the rainforest can be arranged from the lodge.</p> <p>Overnight at the Eulophiella Lodge.</p>	

Day Description	Images
<p>Day 4 - From Andasibe to Antsirabe</p> <p>On the fourth day of your Madagascar travel, you will travel from Andasibe to Antsirabe via the capital Antananarivo. The journey will take you through the lively suburbs of the capital and then through Behenjy and Ambatolampy. You will stop for lunch in one of these two towns and enjoy a meal in one of the local restaurants. After that, you will continue on to Antsirabe, an important economic hub in Madagascar. The drive from Antananarivo to Antsirabe is approximately 170 kilometers and is surrounded by stunning landscapes. Antsirabe itself is known for its charming colonial villas and European flair. You will stay at the Hotel <i>Chambres du Voyageur</i>, where you may be able to spot numerous chameleons and even radiated tortoises in the garden.</p>	

Day Description	Images
<p>Day 5 - Drive from Antsirabe to Ranomafana</p> <p>On the fifth day of the journey, you will have the opportunity to visit an exciting reforestation project. Orange trees are cultivated in this project for reforestation purposes. We will then drive directly to the nearby Ambositra, a small town that has become known for its artistic wood carvings. After lunch, we head to the Ranomafana National Park. On the way there, you will once again witness breathtaking landscapes and vegetation becoming greener. In the evening, enjoy a relaxing dip in a thermal swimming pool and spend the night at the Hotel des Thermes.</p>	 <p>© Pierre Koval</p>

Day Description	Images
<p>Day 6 - Visit to Ranomafana National Park</p> <p>On the sixth day of your Madagascar journey, the Ranomafana National Park is the destination. Covering more than 40,000 hectares and located approximately 1,300 meters above sea level, this park is a true gem. We set off early in the morning towards the Sahamalaotra forest, with our main goal being to spot the Yellow-bellied Sunbird-Asity, Brown Mesite, Red-fronted Coua, Scaly Ground Roller, Forest Rock Thrush, Yellow-browed Oxylabes, Tetrakas, Brown Emutail, Common Sunbird-Asity, and Velvet Asity. In the afternoon, we will explore Ranomafana National Park, where we can observe the Ground Rollers, Pollen-Vanga, and Tetrakas. We might even add two lemur species to our list - Bamboo Lemur and Milne-Edwards' Sifaka. You will spend the night at the Hotel des Thermes, where you can relax and unwind from the day's extraordinary adventures.</p>	 <p>© Pierre Koval</p>

Day Description	Images
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Day 7 - Drive from Fianarantsoa to Ambalavao

After the exciting **tours through Ranomafana National Park**, the journey through Madagascar continues on the seventh day of the trip. You will pass through many small villages where you can get a glimpse of the **lifestyle of the Malagasy people** and through extraordinary landscapes that change rapidly. In Fianarantsoa, we will take a break where you can explore the city and, if you wish, observe an internationally renowned photographer at work. Then, we head **southward**. As you look out the window during this stretch, you will discover massive granite rocks, blood-red laterite soils, and increasingly sparse grass – clear signs that **the southern part of Madagascar** is getting closer. Upon arrival in Ambalavao, you will have various options to choose from. Visiting a nearby village where we have been implementing a project for a drinking water well for over ten years is one possible stop, as well as the local zebu market, which is always a true spectacle. Accommodation for the evening will be at the [Betsileo Country Lodge](#).



Day Description	Images
<p>Day 8 - From Ambalavao to Ranohira to Isalo National Park</p> <p>The eighth day kicks off with a hike in a private reserve called <i>Anja Park</i>. This reserve spans about three hectares and is home to numerous lemurs, eagerly awaiting your visit with their playful antics. In addition to lemurs, you can also spot various birds like the <i>Merops superciliosus</i>, <i>Agapornis canus</i>, and many others. After the hike, we continue our journey by car heading south. We are expected to arrive in Ranohira by afternoon. This stop takes us to the Isalo National Park, our destination for the next day. First, we enjoy a comfortable overnight stay at the <u>Isalo Rock Lodge</u> (4****).</p>	 <p>© Pierre Koval</p>

Day Description	Images
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Day 9 - Isalo National Park

On the ninth day, you will explore one of the **most famous national parks in Madagascar**, the **Isalo National Park**. This park features a massive mountain range where granite and sandstone formations alternate with waterfalls and tropical vegetation. Covering **more than 80,000 hectares of land**, the entire national park offers a maximum of landscape diversity. The difficulty level and length of the tour through the park will be tailored to **your personal preferences** and physical fitness. We will spend the morning birdwatching in the Isalo National Park, focusing on species like Monticola sharpei bensoni, Vanga curvirostris, Turnix nigricollis, and Circus macrosceles in the Namaza Canyon. The Namaza Canyon is also home to the Ring-tailed lemurs and Verreaux's Sifakas. After a picnic lunch, we will search for the Madagascar Partridge and other birds outside the park, on the grounds of the Isalo Rock Lodge. After an exciting day trip, you will enjoy another night at the hotel [*Isalo Rock Lodge*](#) (4****).



Day Description	Images
<p>Day 10- Drive from Ranohira to Ifaty via Zombitse</p> <p>On the tenth day of your journey through Madagascar, you will say goodbye to Ranohira and continue your journey further south by car. Along the way, there will be opportunities for ornithological excursions: The Zombitse Vohibasia National Park, where we will spend several hours birdwatching. The bird species that can be observed there are listed at the end of the description. After leaving Zombitse, we will continue birdwatching at the Arboretum of Antsokay, keeping an eye out for special species such as the Green-capped Coua, Chabert's Vanga, Madagascar Buttonquail, Madagascar Nightjar, and Running Coua. We will then drive to Ifaty, a beautiful village on the Mozambique Channel. Overnight stay at Hotel Belladonna.</p>	

Day Description	Images
<p>Days 11 to 14 - Stay in Ifaty and Surroundings</p> <p>Days eleven to fourteen of your Madagascar journey are all about various day trips and individual activities. During these three days, you will exclusively stay in Ifaty and the nearby surroundings, spending the nights at the wonderful Hotel Belladonna. Your daily program will be focused on bird watching: At dawn, we will head to the thorn forest near Mangily, home to large birds such as the Long-tailed Ground Roller, Subdesert Mesite, Running and Green-capped Coua, Hook-billed Vanga, White-headed Vanga, and Subdesert Brush-warbler. We will spend the hot part of the day relaxing at the hotel and return to the thorn forest in the afternoon to look for Harrier Hawks and other species that we may have missed in the morning. The forest also hosts two amazing species of baobab trees, Adansonia Robrustipa and Adansonia Za. It is also home to interesting reptile and insect species. Simply reach out to us and we will tailor a program package to meet your individual preferences.</p>	 <p>© Pierre Koval</p>

Day Description	Images
<p>Day 15-Flight from Tulear to Antananarivo</p> <p>The fifteenth day is filled with a sense of excitement: After relaxing days in Sarondrano, it's time to head back to Tulear and from there, take a flight directly to the capital city of Antananarivo. Depending on the time of day, you can explore the surrounding area, or head straight to the Villa Sybille hotel or an exceptional restaurant with excellent dining options.</p>	 <p>© Pierre Koval</p>

Day Description	Images
<p>Day 16- Stay in Antananarivo and Surroundings</p> <p>On the second to last day of your exciting journey through Madagascar, the capital city of the island nation is on the agenda: In Antananarivo, there are numerous opportunities for you to go on a discovery tour. To wrap up the bird watching, you will be able to see other bird species, endemic and endangered bird species, on the way to the Tsarasaotra Private Park in Antananarivo itself and during the visit to this Ramsar site, which serves as a refuge and breeding ground for freshwater birds in general. For this day, we have planned a Day Use at the <u>Villa Sybille</u> for you to store your luggage and freshen up if needed in the evening before we take you to the airport.</p>	

Day Description	Images
<p>Day 17 - The Return Flight to Europe</p> <p>On the final day of your 17-day vacation in Madagascar, you will be completely focused on the journey back. You will spend this day on a flight to Europe, likely dreaming about the various experiences and impressions from your trip through Madagascar.</p>	

Day Description	Images
<p>List of bird species in Andasibe:</p> <p><i>Accipiter francesii, Accipiter henstii, Accipiter madagascariensis, Acridorheres tristis, Acrocephalus newtoni, Alcedo vintsioides, Alectroenas madagascariensis, Anas melleri, Apus melba, Ardea humbloti, Ardea purpurea, Ardeola idea, Ardeola ralloides, Asio madagascariensis, Atelornis crossleyi, Atelornis pittoides, Aviceda madagascariensis, Brachypterycias leptosomus, Bubulcus ibis, Buteo brachypterus, Butorides striatus, Calicalius madagascariensis, Canirallus, Caprimulgus enarratus, Caprimulgus madagascariensis, Casmerodius albus, Centropus toulou, Cisticola cherina, Copsychus albospecularis, Coracina cinerea, Coracopsis nigra, Coracopsis vasa, Corvus albus, Coua caerulea, Coua cristata, Coua reynaudi, Cuculus rochii, Cyanolanius madagascariensis, Cypsiurus parvus, Dicrurus forficatus, Dromaeocercus brunneus, Dryolimnas cuvieri, Euryceros prevostii, Eurystomus glaucurus, Eutriorchis astur, Falco concolor, Falco eleonorae, Falco newton, Falco zoniventris,</i></p>	

Day Description	Images
<p>List of bird species in Ranomafana:</p> <p>Day: <i>Accipiter henstii</i>, <i>Acrocephalus newtoni</i>, <i>Alcedo vintsioides</i>, <i>Alectroenas madagascariensis</i>, <i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>, <i>Anas melleri</i>, <i>Ardea cinerea</i>, <i>Asio madagascariensis</i>, <i>Atelornis crossleyi</i>, <i>Atelornis pittoides</i>, <i>Aviceda madagascariensis</i>, <i>Brachypteryias leptosomus</i>, <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>, <i>Buteo brachypterus</i>, <i>Calicalicus madagascariensis</i>, <i>Canirallus kioloides</i>, <i>Caprimulgus enarratus</i>, <i>Caprimulgus madagascariensis</i>, <i>Centropus toulou</i>, <i>Cisticola cherina</i>, <i>Copsychus albospecularis</i>, <i>Coracina cinerea</i>, <i>Coracopsis nigra</i>, <i>Coracopsis vasa</i>, <i>Coua caerulea</i>, <i>Coua reynaudii</i>, <i>Coua ruficeps</i>, <i>Crossleyia xanthophrys</i>, <i>Cuculus rochii</i>, <i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>, <i>Dicrurus forficatus</i>, <i>Dromaeocercus brunneus</i>, <i>Dromaeocercus seebohmi</i>, <i>Dryolimans cuvieri</i>, <i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>, <i>Eutriorchis astur</i>, <i>Falco eleonorae</i>, <i>Falco newtoni</i>, <i>Falco peregrinus</i>, <i>Foudia madagascariensis</i>, <i>Foudia omissa</i>, <i>Hartertula flavoviridis</i>, <i>Hypositta corallirostris</i>, <i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>, <i>Ipsidina madagascariensis</i>,</p>	

Day Description	Images
<p>List of bird species in Zombitse Vohibasia:</p> <p>Ninety bird species are known from this site, of which 38 are endemic to Madagascar. One of the endemic species, <i>Phyllastrephus apperti</i>, is only known from the forests of Zombitse and Analavelona. Two species, <i>Thamnornis chloropetoides</i> and <i>Nesillas lantzii</i>, are characteristic of thorny forests. <i>Monticola bensonii</i> is seasonally recorded here. <i>Coua cristata</i>, <i>Coua coquereli</i>, <i>Coua gigas</i>, <i>Coracopsis vasa</i>, <i>Athene superciliaris</i>, <i>Otus madagascariensis</i>, <i>Pterocles personatus</i>, <i>Leptosomus discolor</i>, <i>Upupa marginata</i>, <i>Falco zoniventris</i>, <i>Caprimulgus madagascariensis</i>, <i>Accipiter francesi</i>, <i>Buteo brachypterus</i>, <i>Berneria madagascariensis</i>, <i>Thamnornis chloropetoides</i>, <i>Terpsiphone mutata</i>, <i>Newtonia bruneicauda</i>, <i>Schetba rufa</i>, <i>Cyanolanius madascarinus</i>, <i>Vanga curvirostris</i>, <i>Neomixis tenella</i>.</p>	 <p>© Pierre Koval</p>

Facts & Figures

Facts and Figures about the Tour

As mentioned above, during this **journey through Madagascar**, you have numerous opportunities for **individual leisure activities**. If you need help filling your days in Sarondrano with activities, we are happy to provide you with numerous recommendations and assistance. Different sections of the tours can be **customized additionally upon request**. All it takes is for you to reach out to us. Together, we can ensure that your **holiday in Madagascar** becomes a real dream.

Various extension tours can complement this journey harmoniously, as we tailor the options to your desires and expectations.

Below you will find the breakdown of costs as well as the included and self-supported services:

17-day Tour from Antananarivo to Tulear	Price per person
2 to 3 guests	€2990
4 to 5 guests	€2880
6 to 7 guests	€2790
8 to 9 guests	€2720
10 guests or more	€2590

Services

For single rooms, we have to charge a supplement of 680 €.

Included in the base price:

English-speaking tour guide

Support and logistics

Accommodation with breakfast included

Transfers and transportation as specified

4x4 vehicle with driver and fuel

Not included in the base price:

Lunch and dinner

Personal expenses

German-speaking tour guide available for an additional fee

Individual leisure activities

Entrance fees to national parks (approximately 20€ per person per park)

Sightseeing and excursions (approximately 20€ per person per park)

National and international flights

Visa (available at the airport for 25€)