



# A River Cruise On The Manambolo To The Tsingy Of Bemaraha


**Offer ID:** UAM-38

**Length of Time:** 11

**Price from:** 1890 €

As with all tours through Madagascar, it may happen that the weather demands a certain tribute and does not play along as we humans would like. In this case, small changes in the program may be necessary, which are part of the standard when traveling through Madagascar.

## Travel Days

Day Description	Images
<p><b>Day 1: Arrival in Antananarivo</b></p> <p>After completing the visa formalities, you will be picked up by one of our guides or directly by us at the airport. Depending on the arrival time, a hotel transfer and well-deserved rest may be on the agenda, but if time allows, various activities will also be offered.</p> <p>Overnight stay at the "Villa Sibylle"</p>	 A photograph of a modern, glass-enclosed outdoor lounge area. The space features wicker furniture with green cushions and a central coffee table. The floor is made of light blue and green tiles. Large windows offer a view of a lush tropical garden with various plants and trees. A large, dark, abstract sculpture is visible in the background.

## Day Description

**Day 2:** The journey begins with the trip to Tsiroamandidy

The second day of this trip is all about the **drive to the starting point of the tour** and unfortunately offers few exciting experiences in itself.

Early in the morning, you will set off by car **on the well-maintained RN 1 heading west**.

Lunch can be enjoyed either on the banks of the river, with enticing views, or at one of the local restaurants in **Tsiroamandidy**.

From there, you will travel **about 40 kilometers further west**, now navigating a rather bumpy track.

The journey ends a few kilometers away from the **village of Beloboka**, where the camp is already waiting for you.

In this part of the country, few people are around and the **unique atmosphere of this region** will surely captivate you immediately.

## Images



## Day Description

### Day 3: The Leap into the Unknown Begins with a Hike

On the third day of this tour, you will embark on an adventure that is likely far from anything you have experienced in your life so far.

In the early morning, your porters will arrive. To ensure they can handle the luggage well, there is a maximum **weight limit of 10 kilograms** that you must adhere to.

If this is not possible for you, be prepared for repacking, where part of your luggage may be sent ahead.

**The journey begins on foot** with a hike that leads further west.

The landscape in this part of Madagascar is hilly and characterized by sparse grass growth.

Original forests are usually only found in the lowlands and larger hill valleys. The rest of the landscape was devastated by human hands decades ago.

## Images





## Day Description

### Day 4: Exploring the Gorges of Manambolo

On the fourth day of the journey, or the second day of the hike, a completely different landscape unfolds before you: you will hike **to the edge of the highlands** and then descend about 500 meters **down to the lowlands of the coastal region**.

People with knee problems should exercise caution on this stage of the trail.

In this context, timely information is advisable. Here, you can admire **a breathtaking panorama**: in the distance, you can already see the **Tsingy of Bemaraha** shimmering, and closer by, **the gorges of Manambolo** present themselves.

This time, you will set up camp halfway down to the lowlands. From here, you will have an excellent view of the **sunset over the Tsingy**.

## Images



## Day Description

### Day 5: The Manambolo River Cruise Begins

After breakfast, your journey will take you down to the river in just under three hours.

Upon arrival, a hearty lunch awaits you while the team takes care of the logistical tasks to prepare for the **start of the boat tour**.

Due to the sometimes challenging conditions, traditional canoes are not part of this tour, and you will be **traveling exclusively in modern boats**.

The first leg of the Manambolo River immediately presents some challenges: although you won't have to paddle the entire time, there are still some minor obstacles to overcome.

Especially from August to November, the river tends to have low water levels. This may require you to occasionally get out of the boats and push them into deeper water.

A special highlight: before you embark on your journey, a **traditional Malagasy ceremony**

## Images





## Day Description

### Day 6: Continuing the Journey on the Manambolo River

The sixth day of your **Madagascar adventure** is dedicated to the Manambolo River. The river now carries more water, resulting in a smoother ride for you.

You will be navigating **between dense forest edges** of original dry forest, with small rocks and hills of red or orange rock appearing in the river, trying to block your path.

At this point, the river cuts through the mountain range, offering a **breathtaking view of the Vazimba cave tombs**.

The Vazimba were considered the first people to settle in Madagascar, using this area for centuries to bury their deceased.

During the tour, you have the option to **visit some of these tombs**, while maintaining respect for the customs and traditions.

Your guide will provide you with comprehensive information, not only sharing historical and

## Images



## Day Description

### Day 7: The Manambolo River Keeps You on Course

While the seventh day may not offer any extraordinary adventures, it is the perfect time to take a **deep breath** and **appreciate the beautiful scenery** passing by on the riverbanks.

The landscape has a lot to offer and already differs significantly from what you encountered yesterday.

Enjoy **the peace, tranquility, and connection with nature**, and relax in the evening at the camp, once again set up on the banks of the Manambolo.

## Images





## Day Description

### Day 8: The river leads back to civilization

After days of almost unbelievable tranquility and plenty of distance from civilization, the surroundings around the Manambolo river are transforming once again.

You are starting to **see more and more people**, and after a few relaxing hours of travel, **Bekopaka comes into view**. Here, you will leave your boats and enter a civilized environment bustling with people.

**Cold drinks and hearty meals** await you. The exact time of your arrival in Bekopaka is usually unpredictable, as it depends on the current water level.

Progress is usually smooth until mid-year, but in the second half of the year, boats often have to be pushed over shallow waters.

Upon arrival in Bekopaka, you will not only enjoy the **comfort of human civilization** and perhaps indulge in a cold beer and a proper bed –

## Images



## Day Description

### Day 9: The Tsingy of Bemaraha Await You

On the ninth day, you will witness something truly extraordinary at the "stone forest".

You will start with a relatively short but bumpy ride in a 4x4 vehicle from Bekopaka to the **National Park of Tsingy de Bemaraha**.

This national park is truly unique, being recognized as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** since 1990 and protected in a special way.

The karst landscape of this park amazes with its **striking limestone formations** called "Tsingy" by the locals. These limestone formations protrude from the ground like **sharp needles** and grow upwards from there.

Visually, it resembles a forest of stone, flourishing mightily, impressively, and incredibly diverse. Contrary to popular belief, the **National Park of Tsingy de Bemaraha** is not solely made up of stone trees.

On the contrary, **numerous mangroves, lakes,**

## Images



## Day Description

### Day 10: From Bekopaka to Morondava

On the tenth day of the trip, bid farewell to Bekopaka and continue by car **to Morondava**.

The road in this area is relatively busy, but you should arrive in **Belo-sur-Tsiribihina** around noon.

The Tsiribihina River is heavily trafficked, so make sure to secure your spot on the ferry in advance.

Lunch will be enjoyed at *Ibrahim's* restaurant, where delicious food is served and the ferry is conveniently close by.

After a short ferry ride, you will be greeted by the baobabs. The **giant baobab trees**, fascinating due to their unique growth forms, stand in rows like an alley.

Some trees are intertwined like lovers, while others resemble elderly people on a park bench.

In any case, these trees offer **numerous**

## Images





## Day Description

### Day 11: The Tour Ends in Morondava

**Morondava** is a place that holds many secrets: in a way, it seems to be at a **crossroads between civilization and complete seclusion**.

Here, the original blends with the modern, and we highly recommend soaking up this extraordinary atmosphere for at least one more day. Feel free to enjoy the **beaches of the area**, perfect for relaxing and unwinding. However, our guided and planned tour ends at this point unless you have booked a follow-up tour directly.

If you wish to fly back to Antananarivo from Morondava, we are happy to arrange the flight for you, though it is not included in the price.

Otherwise, **your Madagascar adventure** comes to an end here.

## Images



## Facts & Figures

### Facts and Figures about this Boat Tour

Our goal is to provide you with an **extraordinary and unparalleled holiday experience in Madagascar**. We go above and beyond and pull out all the stops to make this happen. Flexibility is key, which is why we always **draw additional inspiration from your wishes and ideas**.

The following list includes the **costs for the standard version of this tour**. We clearly outline **what services are included in the price** and what additional costs you may incur.

If you have special requests or prefer a variation of the tour, please contact us directly as we are more than willing to go the extra mile to ensure your **trip to Madagascar** is simply wonderful.

Manambolo and Tsingy – 11 Day Tour	Price per person
2 to 3 guests	€2400
4 to 5 guests	€2350
6 to 7 guests	€2100
8 to 9 guests	€1960
10 guests and more	€1890

## Services

### Services

For single rooms, we charge a supplement of 320.00 Euros.

### **Services included in the price:**

All meals, excluding lunch on Day 9 in Morondava

All road transfers from Antananarivo to Bekobaka and from Bekopaka to Morondava

Boat and camping equipment

Boatmen and guide, as well as logistics

Drinking water throughout the entire tour

All accommodations

### **Services not included in the price:**

Lunch on Day 9 in Morondava

Park entrance fees and tours in the Tsingy of Bemaraha



## Drinks before and after the tour