

Madagascar Photo Tour & Workshop 2012

A unique photography tour and workshop with Roger Nelson
July 22 – Aug 4, 2012

Madagascar is like no other place on earth. Technically it is part of Africa but it is an island separated from the rest of Africa that has allowed its plants and animals to evolve differently. They have over 100 different kinds of lemurs alone, an animal rarely seen anywhere else and their chameleons are big enough and slow enough to easily photograph. But the people are no less interesting. Many came from Southeast



Asia instead of Africa and their culture is full of magic and superstition. The people are friendly and polite and easy to photograph. This combination creates a photo rich environment and a great place to take your photography to the next level. You will visit many national parks and animal reserves and nearby villages while learning how to improve the pictures you take. You will come home with jaw dropping photos of unique plants and wildlife, farmers, merchants, fishermen, and of course kids as you fly, walk and ride around this unique county.

Madagascar Photo Tour & Workshop is specifically designed for people that want to experience this unique travel destination while improving their travel photography skills. You will start your journey in Tana (short for Antananarivo), founded in 1625, the capital of the country. Here you will get your first glimpse at their unique culture. You won't spend long in the big city, though, because the best sites are in the countryside. To make the most of your time here you will fly to most destinations on a chartered plane.



From Tana you will fly to Finanarantsoa and head to Ranomafana to see some of the unique plants and wildlife that make this place famous – forests of Travelers Palms, troops of brown and bamboo lemurs and your first rural village. You can try your hand at night photography here to capture images of

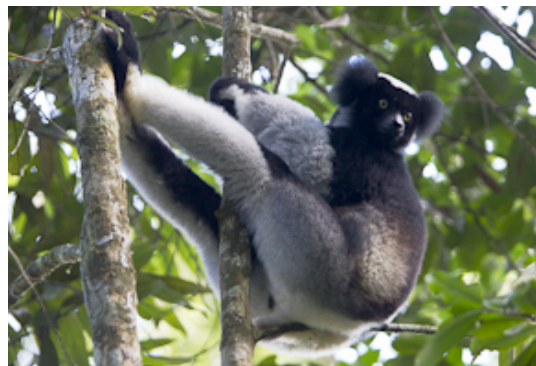
Chameleons and nocturnal wildlife too.

Next you fly to Isalo a rocky area in the interior of the country with several canyons to explore. You can photograph the Window of Isalo at sunset when the sun shine through a hole in a rock wall. You will hike through canyons to waterfalls with many types of unique plants and animals. The canyons are burial grounds too as the dead are buried in caves high up on the walls of the canyon. The local people here are called Bara and you will get a chance to photograph one of their village ceremonies.



The third stop is Morondava on the west coast of Madagascar. You will stay in bungalows on the beach where you can watch kids play with handmade boats and fishermen come and go in canoes and larger boats. One of the highlights of this area is the Avenue of the Baobabs, a nearby area where a dirt road cuts a path through dozens of these huge trees. Sunrise and sunset times are really special here. You will also visit Kirindy National Park where you have a chance to see Sifakas, one of the largest lemurs, and maybe even a Fosa, a panther like cat found nowhere else. You will visit the morning market and the streets of Morondava to photograph daily life in this town. Later you will visit a rural fishing village for a better look at the boats and the fishermen that use them.

The fourth destination is Andasibe where you can walk through the reserve to photograph Sifakas, Brown Lemurs, Bamboo Lemurs and Indry. You will also have a chance to photograph several types of lemurs up close in a private reserve at your hotel. A visit to the Village of Andasibe will give you another chance to photograph village life and a folklore performance while the trails around the hotel will provide more opportunities for night photography. On the way back to Tana, you will stop at the Reptile farm in Mandraka for close up photography of Chameleons in daylight. The trip will end in Tana after a farewell dinner as most international flights depart at night.



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Sun Jul 22 Your international flight arrives in Tana, Madagascar in the evening. You will be met at the airport and transported to your hotel. You will spend the night at a 4 star hotel in Tana.

Mon Jul 23 You can sleep in this morning to recover from jet lag. You will meet the tour leader and other participants for an orientation and your first photography workshop around 11:00 AM. After lunch you will visit several sites in Tana and walk around the old part of the city for an introduction to Malagasy culture. You will spend the night in Tana again.

Tue Jul 24 This morning you will be transferred to the airport where you will board a small, chartered plane for a flight to Finanarantsoa, south of Tana. There you will take a van for a two hour drive to Ranomafana. You will stop along the way to photograph the unique landscape with hundreds of huge Traveler Palms. Once you check in to the hotel you will have a night walk to find nocturnal creatures and chameleons to photograph. You will spend the night at a lodge near Ranomafana National Park.



Wed Jul 25 You are up early today to hike through Ranomafana National



Park when the animals are active. This dense forest area is home to several different types of lemurs that travel in groups through the trees. This will be your first, but certainly not your last, opportunity to

photograph the lemurs in their natural surroundings. In the afternoon you will have another photography workshop and then visit a nearby village to photograph the daily life there. You will spend the night at the same lodge.

Thu Jul 26 This morning you will travel back to Fianarantsoa for another charter flight. Your destination is Isalo in the south center of the country. Upon arrival you will check in to the hotel where you will have another photography workshop. In the late afternoon you will travel to Isalo National Park for sunset photography at the Window of Isalo. You will spend the night at a hotel near Isalo National Park.

Fri Jul 27 You have another early morning today to hike through the upper canyon area of Isalo National Park to a desert oasis with a waterfall. Along the way you will see burial sites for the local villagers as they prefer to bury their dead in caves high on the canyon walls. You will also see many unique types of plants and insects. In the afternoon you will hike through the lower canyon to a hidden rock waterfall. Several types of lemurs can be photographed along the way. You will leave the canyon in the late afternoon with the golden light playing on the canyon walls. You will stay at the same hotel near the park tonight.



Sat Jul 28 Today the schedule is a bit more relaxed. In the morning, you will visit nearby villages to photograph village life in this part of the country. After lunch you will have another photography workshop and then travel to a Bara Village to photograph one of their ceremonies. This will be your third night at the hotel near Isalo National Park.

Sun Jul 29 This morning begin with an optional sunrise photography session in the canyon behind the hotel. After breakfast you will board another chartered plane for a flight to Morondava on the west coast of the country. With luck you may have an opportunity for aerial photography of the coast. When you arrive, you will check into your bungalow



hotel on the beach with views of fishing boats and kids playing in the surf. Later in the afternoon you will travel to the Avenue of the Baobabs to photograph dozens of huge Baobab trees and the road that passes through the trees. Many villagers walk this road and travel in horse carts too adding even more options for photography. You will spend the night at your beachfront hotel in Morondava.

Mon Jul 30

You will leave the hotel early this morning to photograph sunrise at the Avenue of the Baobabs. Then you will travel



further down the same road to Kirindy National Park. This will be your first chance to photograph Sifakas, one of the larger lemurs, along with other types of wildlife. If you are lucky you might even spot a Fosa, a type of cat only found in Madagascar. You will return to Morondava after lunch where you will photograph zebu herds and zebu carts in late afternoon light. You will spend the night at your beachfront hotel in Morondava again.

Tue Jul 31

This morning you will visit the market and walk around the streets of Morondava. This is a great way to see how the

people shop and travel and affords many opportunities for candid shots of everyday life. After lunch you will travel to a rural fishing village to photograph the village, boats and people in late afternoon light as the



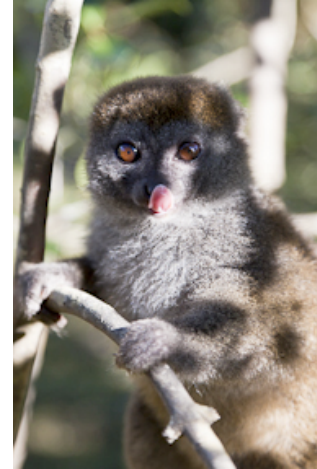
sun sets over the ocean. You will spend a third night at your beachfront hotel in Morondava.

Wed Aug 1

Today is a travel day. This morning you take a commercial flight back to Tana. After lunch you will travel by road to Andasibe. There are many opportunities to photograph farms and terraced valleys along the way. You will spend the night at a beautiful lodge outside of town.

Thu Aug 2

You are up early again today to hike through the Andasibe Reserve to photograph wildlife again. The reserve has Sifakas, Brown Lemurs, Bamboo Lemurs and Indry, the largest lemur in Madagascar. After lunch you will visit the village of Andasibe to photograph village life in this region. When it gets dark, you will have another night walk to photograph chameleons and bugs that our flashlights catch and, if you are lucky you might even spot a mouse lemur. You will spend the night at the same lodge.



Fri Aug 3

Your hotel has two islands where it keeps several species of lemurs that cannot be returned to the wild. You will visit one of the islands this morning and walk among these docile creatures and photograph them close up. In the afternoon you will visit a small village nearby for a folkloric presentation of their music and dance. Tonight will be your third night at the same lodge.



Sat Aug 4

After breakfast you travel back to Tana. Along the way you will stop at the reptile Farm in Mandraka. They have a chameleon enclosure that you can walk through to photograph the unique chameleons up close in daylight. After lunch in Tana you will visit a handicraft village for any last minute souvenirs and then head to a nearby hotel to shower and change for your flight home. After a farewell dinner, you will be transported to the airport for your late night international flight home or on to your next destination.



Fees for This Trip

- Tour Cost: \$ 9,500 per person
- Single Supplement Fee: \$ 875 per person

Rates are quoted per person, based on sharing double accommodations. If you prefer single accommodations, the Single Supplement Fee is added. If you're travelling alone and wish to share accommodations, we'll try our best to find you a roommate. If that's not possible, we will only charge you half of the single supplement.

What's Included

- Professional photography guide and trip leader
- Local English speaking guides
- Accommodations
- All meals while traveling as a group
- Ground transportation
- Airport transfers
- Chartered and commercial domestic flights as noted in the itinerary
- Sightseeing and activities as noted in the itinerary
- Tips to guides, trip leader, drivers, waiters (for group meals), porters and bellhops
- One photo book of the tour created by Roger Nelson

What's Not Included

- International airfare to and from Tana
- Accommodations or meals en route to and from Tana
- Trip Insurance
- Excess baggage charges
- Alcoholic beverages
- Hotel services such as internet, laundry or massage services
- Passport and visa fees
- Other personal expenses

Payment & Booking Policy

A deposit of \$1,000 is required to confirm a reservation for this trip. The deposit payment must be accompanied by a completed Trip Application Form that includes a Release of Liability and Assumption of All Risks Agreement. The balance of all trip fees is due 90 days prior to departure.

Cancellation Policy

| If written notice of cancellation is received | cancellation fee |
|---|---|
| At least 90 days prior to departure | \$200 |
| 89 to 60 days prior to departure | \$400 |
| 59 to 30 days prior to departure | 50% of all applicable fees for this trip |
| Less than 30 days prior to departure | 100% of all applicable fees for this trip |

If Global Travel Photography cancels the trip due to insufficient participation, all monies paid will be refunded to you or applied to another trip at your discretion.

Flight Reservations

International airfare is not included in the cost of our trips. For air reservations, we recommend you contact the airlines directly, either by phone or Internet. Many travelers elect to use their "frequent flyer" miles when traveling internationally. **Please do not book your international flights without verifying that we have enough participants to operate the trip.**

Insurance

You are strongly encouraged to purchase travel and liability insurance. If you are hurt in a remote area, it can be very expensive to air lift you to the nearest reliable medical facility. Global Travel Photography does not provide any insurance for trip participants. You will need to purchase a travel insurance policy that meets your needs for medical expenses, emergency medical evacuation, trip cancellation and interruption, and baggage protection. There are a number of companies that offer policies with varying levels of coverage. Check the web and purchase a policy that provides the coverage you need.

Health & Fitness

This trip involves a lot of walking on uneven surfaces and stairs. There are very few accommodations for handicapped individuals. **We recommend that you consult a physician before the trip to ensure that you are healthy enough for this type of trip.**

If you want to enjoy all the activities on this trip you should participate in an active exercise regime before the trip. Naturally, you will be able to opt out of any of the activities if you wish.

What to Expect

You will have an exciting and unforgettable experience! No other photo tour offers this combination of activities, workshops and photo opportunities.

This tour will be led by Roger Nelson, a professional photographer that specializes in travel photography. He has personally visited all the destinations in this tour and has designed the trip to give you the best experience possible. You will also have a local English speaking guide at each location on the trip to share local knowledge, translate and ensure that the trip runs smoothly and safely.

You will travel together in a small bus with ample room for all participants and their photography gear. Most bus travel will be short trips around a local area. The longest trip will be 4 hours. You will also take a number of chartered and commercial flights in order to minimize travel time. You will fly from Tana to Finanarantsoa, Finanarantsoa to Isalo, Isalo to Morondava and Morondava back to Tana.

You will be staying in comfortable accommodations in all destinations. The best available hotels and lodges have been selected with western comforts in mind. You dine together for all meals while traveling as a group in order to share experiences, convey information and stay on the same schedule. Your days often start early with a quick breakfast at the hotel in order to be ready for sunrise photography or to catch an early flight. Lunch will be a restaurant stop during your travels or back at your hotel. Dinner is typically eaten at your hotel so participants can return to their room as they wish while others stay and chat for a while.

If you have a spirit of adventure, a positive attitude and a desire to take inspiring photographs of your trip, Global Travel Photography tours are designed for you. While we will do our best to adhere to the itinerary schedule as listed, it is subject to change. Sometimes, a special event is taking place and you will want to be part of it. Other times travel delays simply make us rearrange schedules. In any event, you can be assured of a very memorable trip.

Signing Up

Download the 'Madagascar Photo Tour and Workshop' Trip Application Form from the GTP website (www.globaltravelphoto.com). Complete all 3 pages of the form, signing where required, and send the completed form along with a deposit check for \$1,000 to: Global Travel Photography, 1031 1st St S, #906, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250. If you prefer, you can pay by credit card using the PayPal link on the website.

You will be provided with extensive planning information to prepare for the trip including advice on camera gear, baggage and packing as well as what to expect in Madagascar. In the meantime, if you have any questions, just send us an email at info@globaltravelphoto.com and we'll do our best to get you a quick answer. If you would rather talk by phone, call us at 904-537-3136 or 904-372-4600.

The deadline to sign up for this tour is May 22, 2011