



CHEESEMANS' ECOLOGY SAFARIS

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Tsingy Extension

August 15 to 24, 2020



Tsingy Landscape

EXTENSION OVERVIEW

Experience the unique species that reside within the beautiful Kirindy Forest, including endemics such as Madagascar's largest predator, the fossa, the world's smallest primate, Madame Berthe's mouse lemur, and an abundance of endemic birds. Wind your way to Bekopaka and visit the Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park, also known as the "forest of limestone." This UNESCO World Heritage Site will enchant you with its dark, jagged rock formations that are contrasted by Decken's white sifakas wandering about. Explore the nearby mangrove forests for a chance to see the abundant and unique wildlife it beholds. From there, travel west to the world-famous Avenue of the Baobabs and lose yourself in this spectacular scenery.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the abundant wildlife of the Kirindy Forest which boasts one of the greatest densities of primates in the world.
- Visit Little Tsingy and Great Tsingy, two world-renowned remarkable geological phenomena of exceptional beauty.
- Marvel at the unique landscape as you navigate through the Avenue of the Baobabs.

TRIP OPTION: This is a pre-trip extension to our Madagascar safari from August 24 to September 14, 2020 (www.cheesemans.com/trips/madagascar-aug2020) or post-trip extension to our Madagascar safari from July 27 to August 19, 2020 (www.cheesemans.com/trips/madagascar-jul2020). The information contained in this itinerary is supplemental to the main itinerary.

LEADERS: Doug Cheeseman, Gail Cheeseman, and Solohery Rasamison.

DAYS: 10, adds 8 days to the main safari to total 31 days including estimated travel time.

GROUP SIZE: 9.

COST: \$4,400 per person, double occupancy, not including airfare (except flights between Antananarivo International Airport and Morondava Airport), singles extra. See the Costs section on page 4.

Date	Description	Accommodation	Meals
Aug 15–16	Travel to Madagascar.		
Aug 17	Arrive to Antananarivo (Tana), Madagascar from our Madagascar safari or home, and join an optional afternoon visit to Lac Alarobia.	Relais des Plateaux, Antananarivo	D
Aug 18–19	Fly to Morondava and head to Kirindy for a full day of wildlife exploration.	Relais du Kirindy, Morondava	B, L, D
Aug 20	Drive north and take a ferry to Bekopaka.	L'Olympe du Bemaraha, Bekopaga	B, L, D
Aug 21–22	Visit the famous Little Tsingy and Great Tsingy. Explore the surrounding mangrove forests for this region's unique wildlife.		
Aug 23	Continue to Morondava and spend the day navigating the Avenue of the Baobabs.	Palissandre Côte Ouest, Morondava	B, L, D
Aug 24	Fly to Antananarivo to continue on our Madagascar safari or to fly home.		B, L

LEADERS

Doug Cheeseman

Doug leverages his expertise gained during 35 years of teaching ecology and zoology at De Anza College to offer travelers a unique learning experience in wildlife-rich regions of the world. Doug and Gail have led over 70 safaris to Africa, especially to Tanzania and Kenya, since 1978. They also led many tours to all corners of the globe including the Antarctic, South America, Australia, and Asia. A love of photographing wildlife behavior and giving college-level lectures to interested groups adds to his accomplishments.

Gail Cheeseman

Gail is a naturalist of the best kind—self-taught through a lifetime in the field fueled by a deep passion for wildlife. Her attention to details and individual desires ensures that each Cheesemans' traveler has the experience of their dreams. Gail has a true spirit for conservation that drives her actions on many issues, both local and worldwide. Together, Gail and Doug make a team of remarkable ecologists who seek to inspire others to enjoy and conserve the Earth's wild landscapes.



Solohery Rasamison

Solohery has been doing bird surveys and monitoring programs around Madagascar since 2003 and has published four scientific articles on birdcalls. After earning a Master's degree in Conservation Biology, Solohery began guiding natural history trips across the island. Being one of the most experienced and respected resident Malagasy guides, he knows the local biodiversity well and greatly enjoys guiding wildlife groups. He is enthusiastic, extremely well-versed on Malagasy history and culture, speaks fluent English and French, and has a great sense of humor.



DETAILED ITINERARY

Aug 15–16 ~ Travel to Madagascar

Depart from home and travel to Antananarivo, Madagascar.

Aug 17 ~ Arrive in Antananarivo (Tana) from our Madagascar safari or from home

Arrive in Antananarivo (also known as Tana) either in the afternoon or evening today from our Madagascar safari (www.cheesemans.com/trips/madagascar-jul2020) or home. For those on the Aug-Sep Madagascar tour, if you arrive early enough in the afternoon, join an optional visit to Lac Alarobia for birding.

Aug 18–19 ~ Kirindy National Park

Fly to Morondova Airport (MOQ) and then head north to explore the Kirindy Forest. You will be immersed in one of our planet's best biodiversity hotspots. Join both nighttime and daytime walks to explore the surroundings for unique wildlife including eight lemur species, 50 reptile species, 15 amphibian species, 90 butterfly species, and over 50 bird species surrounded by beautiful flora.

Aug 20 ~ Scenic drive to Bekopaka

You'll have a scenic drive north that allows time for plenty of photo op stops from Kirindy to the Mahajanga Province. You will then take a ferry ride to reach Bekopaka.

Aug 21–22 ~ Visit the Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park

Spend the next two days exploring the Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to its unique geography and well-preserved mangrove forest. As you soak in



Red-fronted brown lemur

the spectacular geological formations, keep an eye out for wandering Decken's sifaka that contrast beautifully with the dark razor-sharp limestone. Other wildlife you can find in the surrounding mangrove forests include red-fronted brown lemurs, golden bamboo lemurs, mouse lemurs, fossa, Antsiny leaf chameleon, Madagascar big-headed turtles, Madagascar fish eagle, giant coua, Madagascar owls, and Malagasy kestrel.

Aug 23 ~ Scenic drive to the Avenue of the Baobabs

You'll have a scenic drive south that allows time for plenty of photography stops from Bekopaka to Morondava. En route, you will stop by the awe-inducing Avenue of the Baobabs. You will wander amongst the endangered Grandidier's baobab trees that are an important resource for the local population. From May to August, the baobabs produce beautiful white flowers that emit a scent that is reminiscent of sour watermelon. With a little luck, you might spot a Souimanga sunbird feeding on the flowers or crested couas perched on its branches.

Aug 24 ~ Fly to Antananarivo and continue on Madagascar safari

Fly from Morondava Airport (MOQ) to Antananarivo Airport (TNR) and continue on the Madagascar safari (www.cheesemans.com/trips/madagascar-aug2020).

COSTS (ALL COSTS ARE IN US DOLLARS)

Cost

Type	Cost per Person
Extension Cost, double occupancy	\$5,500
Single Supplement	\$750

Costs are per person, double occupancy, not including airfare (except flights between Antananarivo International Airport and Morondava Airport), singles extra. See *Included* and *Not Included* sections for more details.

This cost will be added to your main safari balance. The payment schedule and cancellation policy are the same as the main safari. See main safari itinerary for complete terms and conditions at www.cheesemans.com/trips/madagascar-aug2020 or www.cheesemans.com/trips/madagascar-jul2020.

Included

- All leaders, transport, park entry fees, landing fees, and permits for all activities unless described as optional.
- Flights between Antananarivo International Airport (TNR) and Morondava Airport (MOQ) on August 18 and 24.
- Accommodations for the nights of August 17 through August 23.
- Meals from dinner on August 17 through lunch on August 24.
- Airport transfer in Antananarivo and Marondava on August 17, 18, and 24.
- Bottled drinking water, juice, or soft drink with lunches and dinners.
- Trip Materials – information about flights, packing, entry and departure requirements, airport transfers, gratuities, etc.

Not Included

- All airfare (except flights listed as included), airport and departure taxes, and excess baggage fees.
- We can arrange divergent airport transfers and extra hotel nights for an extra cost.
- Bottled beverages costs extra during meals except water.
- Gratuities – Tipping is, of course, discretionary, however we suggest budgeting about \$\$20 to \$22 per participant per day for August 18 to 23 with our leaders (about \$120 to \$132 total *per participant*).
- Emergency medical and evacuation insurance, but it is required for you to purchase. For more information see www.cheesemans.com/travel-insurance.
- Trip cancellation insurance. For more information see www.cheesemans.com/travel-insurance.
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, medical costs or hospitalization, room service, alcoholic and other beverages, items not on the regular menu, etc. If you have special dietary needs, please indicate them on your Reservation/Release Form.

SIGN UP

Please contact us first to check availability, reserve your space, and obtain a Reservation/Release Form. To confirm your reservation, we require a deposit and signed form from each participant.

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OTHER DETAILS

Flights

Unless listed as included, airfare, is not included in trip costs. Detailed logistical information and the contact information for our recommended flight-ticketing agent are included in the Trip Materials we will send you. Please let us know if you are arriving earlier or staying later as we are happy to assist you with any extra overnights that you might want to arrange.

Flights you (or a travel agent) book: Arrive at Antananarivo International Airport (TNR) by August 17. Depart from Antananarivo International Airport (TNR) on September 13 after the main safari.

Flights we book for you: The round-trip flights from Antananarivo International Airport (TNR) to Morondara Airport (MOQ). The cost of this round-trip booking is included in the tour cost.