

# MADAGASCAR

*Explore the Unique Heritage of this Enchanting Land!*

**October 7-22, 2017**

We invite you to join us as we explore the natural heritage and unique wildlife of Madagascar! This 16-day expedition offers travel enthusiasts an exceptional opportunity to become acquainted with the fauna and flora of Madagascar.

Madagascar is the fourth largest island in the world, isolated from the African continent for 30 million years. It is home to at least 12,000 plants—a high percentage that are unique to the country. Ninety-five percent of the lemurs and reptiles, 80 percent of the flowering plants, 98 percent of the palms, and more than 100 birds are found nowhere else.

Leading this tour will be **Herilala Jonah**, a superb Madagascar naturalist, who has led many Madagascar expeditions for us.

The itinerary includes:

- **Antananarivo & the Lemur Park.** Visit the capital city of Madagascar and this private reserve established in 2001 for lemur education and conservation.

- **Perinet Reserve**, in the eastern rain forests. Look for the largest of the lemurs, the indri, noted for its ear-shattering cries and agility in traveling through the rain forest canopy. Explore the moist forest with trees covered in epiphytes, ferns, and large lianas with bamboo below.

- **Berenty Reserve**, an internationally acclaimed wildlife reserve in the semi-arid south. Enjoy the unique spiny desert plus a profusion of ring-tailed lemurs, sifakas, lepi-lemurs, and flying foxes.

- **Isalo National Park**, an extraordinary landscape in the southwest with arid sandstone ridges sculpted by wind and water, with lemurs and endemic plants.

- **Tulear**, in the Southwest with an excellent botanic garden.

We hope you will join us for this adventure, and discover the magnificence of Madagascar!



## Itinerary

### Days 1/3 USA to Paris & Madagascar

Fly to Paris overnight on October 7. Depart October 8 on Air Madagascar for Antananarivo; arrive the next morning. A short drive will bring us into "Tana," a captivating city of hills with the architectural ambiance of the French countryside and beauty of the Malagasy people. Enjoy a city tour today and visit to the private Lemur Park just west of Tana, which was established in 2001 as a conservation project. Welcome dinner. *Royal Palissandre Hotel*. B,L,D

### Day 4 Perinet

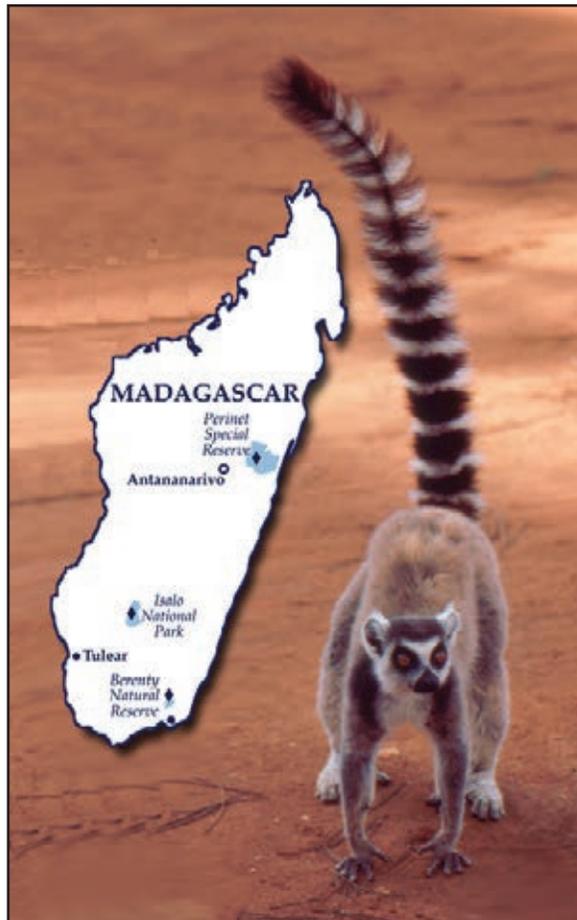
This morning, we will descend from an elevation of 4,500 feet on the central plateau down the steep eastern escarpment to the moist montane rain forest and farms near Perinet. *Vakona Lodge (3 nights)*, between Perinet Reserve and Mantadia National Park. B,L,D

### Day 5 Perinet & Mantadia National Park

This morning, we will go to Mantadia National Park, home to the most colorful lemur in Madagascar, the diademed sifaka, as well as the most aggressive lemur, the black and white ruffed lemur. This park is also rich in plants found nowhere else in the world. It is the right place to find out more about the lianas and epiphytes such as orchids. We will try to see *Tambourissa*, a special tree most people use for house construction. We will also look for the world's smallest primate, the mouse lemur, plus small tree frogs and tiny chameleons. B,L,D

### Day 6 Perinet

Morning expedition in the Analamazaotra National Park.



This forest has a high rate of plant endemism. It is the only place to see a rare orchid that grows on palms. Also see *Pandanus*, with large green leaves where some small frogs hide, and *Cyathea*, tree ferns with large fronds. As we walk the wooded ridges, shady creek bottoms, and fern-edged lakes of Perinet, we will also look for some of the unique birds of Madagascar, including vangas, cuckoo-rollers, and sunbirds, and the world's largest lemur, the indri, well-known for its loud, haunting call. B,L,D

### Day 7 Perinet & Tana

As we leave the lush beauty of Perinet, the rain forest immediately gives way to heavily logged hills, camps for charcoal production, and rugged red gullies swirling with muddy torrents. We will also see forests planted to generate wood for future charcoal production. *Royal Palissandre Hotel*. B,L,D

### Day 8 Tana to Fort Dauphin

Today, we will fly to picturesque Fort Dauphin in SE Madagascar. We will have the afternoon at leisure in Fort Dauphin to explore things of interest. *Croix du Sud Hotel*. (B,L,D)

### Days 9/10 Berenty Reserve

Today we will drive to Berenty past a reserve which protects the world's

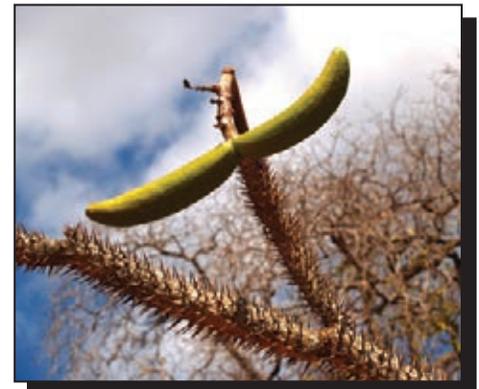
only three-cornered palm. The bizarre woody and thorny plants of the spiny desert are reminiscent of the Sonoran Desert of the American Southwest, but composed primarily of species unique to Madagascar.

Berenty is a superb wildlife reserve which has attracted considerable international attention. Here, the de Heaulme family established a reserve on the bank of the Mandrare River to protect the woods and their captivating inhabitants, the lemurs.

We will wake at dawn to begin to enjoy the lemurs antics and early chorus of birdlife. Just ahead may be a half dozen ring-tailed lemurs. Nearby sifakas may cavort in a tree while soft gray lepilemurs may peer down at us from their daytime roosts. Hundreds of flying foxes may cling just under the forest canopy. The spiny forest

supports crested couas, hoopoes, bushlarks, cisticolas, doves, and other bird species.

In the afternoon, we will explore the spiny forest to discover plants endemic to the south of Madagascar and lemurs which are found in the spiny forest. Simple accommodations at *Berenty Lodge (2 nights)*.



**Day 11 Fort Dauphin to Tulear**

This morning we will drive to Fort Dauphin and then fly to Tulear in the southwest. Accommodations at the *Victory Hotel*. B, L, D

**Days 12/13 Isalo National Park**

Today, we will drive 200 km inland to Parc National de L'Isalo, situated on a sandstone massif, and heavily eroded by wind and water into fascinating formations. Isalo National Park is famous for its canyons and sclerophyllous woodland. Along the stream from the canyon, we will look for lemurs. On the way to the natural pool, we will see elephant's foot *Pachypodium rosulatum* with a beautiful yellow flower, and many rare endemic plants. *Jardin du Roy Hotel* (2 nights). B, L, D.

**Day 14 Isalo to Tulear**

Enjoy another morning at Isalo National Park, then return to Tulear. Overnight at the *Victory Hotel*.

**Days 15/16 Tulear to Tana & Home**

Visit the botanic garden in Tulear before our return flight to Tana on October 21. Take the late evening Air Madagascar flight to Paris, arriving on the morning of October 22.



**Responsibility:** Betchart Expeditions Inc., the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, and the American Chemical Society (ACS) act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and hotels, and exercise every care possible. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, delay, loss, accident or irregularity in connection with the services of any airplane, ship, motorcoach, or any other conveyance used in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, terrorism, acts of God, or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to substitute another leader of similar expertise or reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded with no further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. The price of the program is based on current tariffs and rates, and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, or fuel increases will be passed on to participants. Baggage is carried at the owner's risk entirely. It is understood that the air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance.

©2016 Betchart Expeditions Inc. All rights reserved.  
 Photographs courtesy of Barbara Bessey, Harry Emlet, and others.  
 Map by April Milne. CST# 2036304-40

**To All Madagascar Travelers:**

Please note that Air Madagascar frequently changes the in-tour air schedules. They have a limited number of aircraft. To meet the in-country demand, they may adjust schedules even while this tour is in progress.

This could shorten the amount of time at parks or reserves and change our departure times or activity schedules.

We ask you to please understand and accept that Air Madagascar is doing the best for us that they can.

**Reservations** #1467

**Yes!** I/We want to join the **Madagascar Expedition, October 7-22, 2017** offered by the **AAAS Travels, Sigma Xi & ACS Expeditions**. Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ space(s). As a deposit, I/we have enclosed a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$500 per person) payable to Betchart Expeditions Inc. Trust Account.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Work (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership:  AAAS  Sigma Xi  ACS  The Planetary Society

Accommodations Preference:

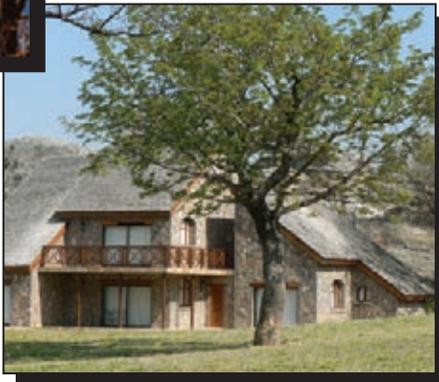
Twin  Single  Twin Share with a friend *or*  assign a roommate

Nonsmoker  Smoker

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Mail To:**  
**Madagascar 2017, Betchart Expeditions Inc.,**  
**17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014-5435**



# AAAS Travels ACS & Sigma Xi Expeditions

BETCHART EXPEDITIONS Inc.  
17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014-5435



FIRST CLASS

Join us!... As we explore  
**MADAGASCAR!**  
October 7-22, 2017

## Costs & Conditions

**Expedition Fee:** \$3,995 pp twin share for 16 days (land only); \$1,495 round trip air fare Paris to Madagascar plus \$1,495 air fare for in-country flights. Single supplement is \$1,295.

**What to Expect:** An exceptional exploration of superb nature reserves of Madagascar and its cultural heritage, led by an excellent naturalist. Travel by coach and vans, with daily outings of one to two miles on foot at a leisurely pace suitable for observation and discovery. Typically, temperatures are in the 70's to 80's in Madagascar with moderate humidity. Most of our time is near sea level in Madagascar, though Antananarivo is at 4,500 feet and it can be in the 50's. If you have any questions, please consult your physician. This expedition will be an extraordinary experience for adventurous travelers in good health who can enjoy some modest accommodations and bumpy dirt roads for the chance to explore outstanding environments in remote areas of the country. (No smoking in vehicles, during lectures, or meals.)

**Expedition Fee Includes:** Land transportation as described; group airport transfers; accommodations twin share; meals in Madagascar; tips

to local guides; entrance fees; baggage handling; leadership, coordination, administration.

**Expedition Fee Does Not Include:** International or in-tour air fare (quoted separately) gratuity to expedition leader; personal items such as laundry, phone calls, alcoholic beverages, snacks, bottled water, passport, excess baggage charges, personal insurance; or foreign airport departure tax.

**Accommodations:** Are in a first class hotel in Antananarivo with private facilities. At Berenty, Isalo, and Perinet, we will stay in country-style lodges with private facilities. A couple are simple but "best available" and certainly part of the adventure of travel in Madagascar. All singles may have to be paired with a roommate in remote areas. If you do not have a roommate, you must pay the single supplement of \$1,295.



**Air Fare & Airline Ticketing:** Air fare quoted is based on a group fare from Paris to Madagascar, round trip, plus in-tour flights. All air bookings, ticketing, and invoicing will be handled by Betchart Expeditions Inc.

**Flight schedule & itinerary changes may occur over which there is no control.** AIR FARES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND FUEL SURCHARGE.

**Reservations, Deposits, and Payments:** To reserve a place on this expedition, please mail the completed reservation form with a deposit of \$500 per person to:

**Madagascar 2017  
Betchart Expeditions Inc.  
17050 Montebello Road  
Cupertino, CA 95014-5435**

The balance is due 60 days before departure (August 7, 2017).

**Questions:**  
Please call Marisa Eide at  
**Betchart Expeditions Inc.**

*Phone:* (800) 252-4910 (USA)  
*or:* (408) 252-4910 (Int'l.)  
*Fax:* (408) 252-1444

*E-mail:*  
Marisa@betchartexpeditions.com

**Cancellations & Refunds:**  
The initial deposit for the expedition is refundable up to 60 days before departure less a handling fee of \$100 per person. There will be no refund for any cancellation after the 60-day period unless your place can be resold, then only the \$100 handling fee will be withheld. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other expedition features.