



MADAGASCAR

*Explore the Unique Heritage of this Enchanting Land
including the Annular Solar Eclipse September 1, 2016!*

August 20–September 4, 2016



We invite you to join us to see the Annular Solar Eclipse and explore the natural heritage and unique wildlife of Madagascar in 2016! This 16-day expedition offers travel enthusiasts an exceptional opportunity to become acquainted with Madagascar and to see the Eclipse!

Madagascar is the fourth largest island in the world, isolated from the African continent for 30 million years. It is home to thousands of unique species including lemurs and reptiles, flowering plants, palms, and many birds!

Adding to the delight of this natural wealth will be the September 1, 2016 Annular Eclipse as it passes across Madagascar and heads to the



Indian Ocean! We will be directly on the line of Totality and will have the best possible viewing location on the dry side of Madagascar!

Leading this tour will be **Herilala Jonah**, a superb Madagascar naturalist, plus a Betchart naturalist!

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.
- **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, lepilemurs, and flying foxes.
- **Majunga**, a beach paradise in the northwest, to see the Annular Solar Eclipse!

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

Best Regards,
Margaret M. Betchart
President, Betchart Expeditions Inc.

Itinerary

Days 1/3 USA to Paris & Madagascar

Fly to Paris overnight on August 20. Depart August 21 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, established in 2001 as a conservation project. Welcome dinner. *Le Louvre Hotel*. B,L,D

Day 4 Perinet

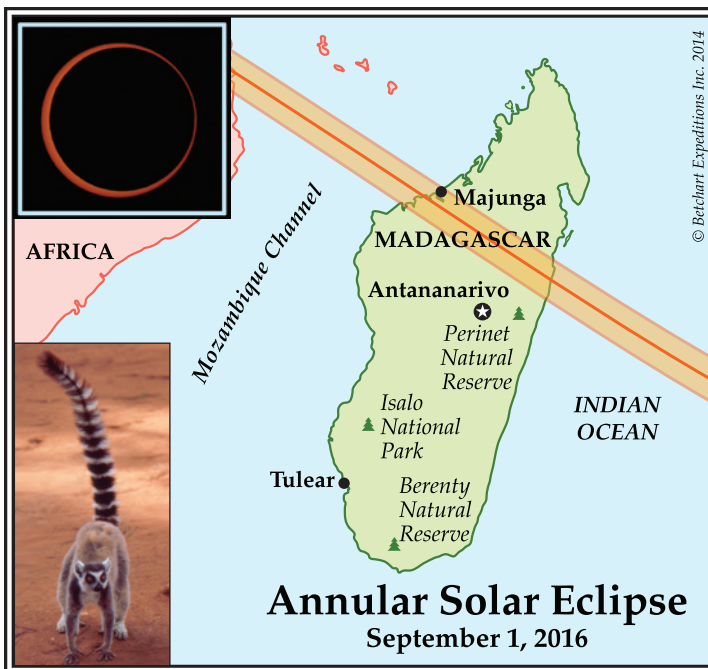
This morning, we will descend from an elevation of 4,500 feet on the central plateau down the steep eastern escarpment to the moist montane rain forest and farms near Perinet. *Vakona Lodge (3 nights)*, between Perinet Reserve and Mantadia National Park. B,L,D

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. 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. As we walk the wooded ridges, shady creek bottoms, and



fern-edged lakes, 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. *Le Louvre Hotel*. B,L,D

Day 8 Tana to Fort Dauphin

Today, we will fly to picturesque Fort Dauphin in the south east. We will have the afternoon at leisure in Fort Dauphin to explore. *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.

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. *Berenty Lodge (2 nights)*.

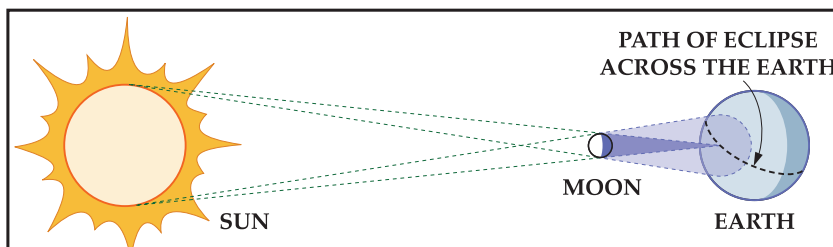
Day 11 Fort Dauphin to Tana

This morning we will drive to Fort Dauphin and then fly to Tana. *Le Louvre Hotel*. B,L,D

Day 12 Tana & Majunga

Today we will fly to Majunga in the northwest where we will stay at the splendid *Antsanitia Lodge (3 nights)*. It is on a beach, has a lovely pool, and offers a variety of optional excursions to villages, in dugout canoe, and to see the national park.

We will have an Eclipse lecture in preparation for the Annular Solar Eclipse tomorrow, including photography hints!



Day 13 Annular Solar Eclipse

Today, we will view the Annular Solar Eclipse on the sunny dry side of Madagascar. The Eclipse path extends from the Atlantic Ocean (south of West Africa) across Africa and the Mozambique Channel to Madagascar, and continues over the Indian Ocean. Our viewing location is the best on this route! We'll prepare for photographs and everyone will be given Eclipse viewing glasses!

During the hour before maximum Eclipse, the Moon will start to cover the face of the Sun which can give you wonderful time lapse photographs. With an Annular Eclipse, the Moon is further away from the Earth, so there will be a ring of sunlight or an Annulus around the Moon at the time of greatest eclipse at midday. The Eclipse will last 2+ minutes.

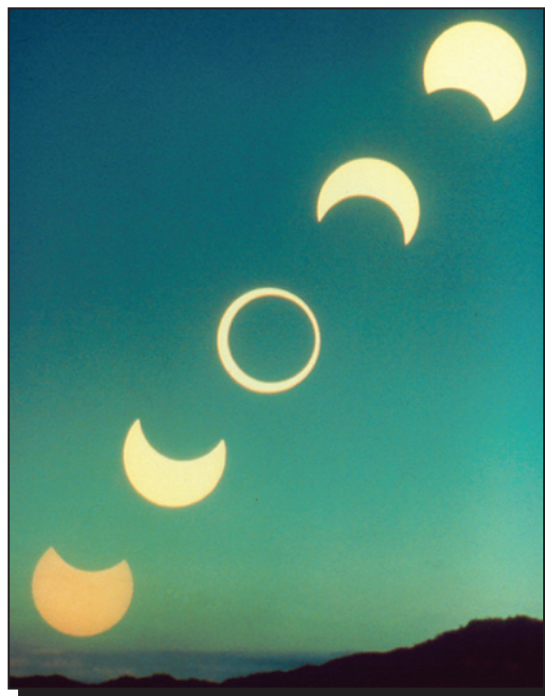
Days 14/15

Majunga to Tana & Paris

You will have time on Day 14 for the beach or optional activities. On Day 15 take a return flight to Tana and a connecting flight to Paris in the evening of Day 15.

Day 16 Paris to the USA

Arrive Paris and take connecting flights to the USA.



Responsibility: Betchart Expeditions Inc., the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, the American Chemical Society (ACS), and The Planetary Society act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and hotels, and exercise every care possible. 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, acts of God, terrorism, 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 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. ©2014 Betchart Expeditions Inc. All rights reserved. Photographs courtesy of Barbara Bessey, Harry Emlet, Mike Schock 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

#1425

Yes! I/We want to join the **Madagascar Eclipse Expedition, August 20-Sept 4, 2016** offered by the **AAAS Travels, Sigma Xi, ACS & The Planetary Society.**

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: _____

Accommodations Preference:

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

____ Nonsmoker ____ Smoker

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Please Mail To: Madagascar Annular Eclipse 2016
Betchart Expeditions Inc.
17050 Montebello Road
Cupertino, CA 95014-5435**

AAAS Travels ACS & Sigma Xi Expeditions The Planetary Society

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*See the Annular Solar Eclipse
& MADAGASCAR!*
August 20–September 4, 2016



FIRST CLASS

Costs & Conditions

Expedition Fee:

\$4,995 per person twin share plus \$1,495 round trip air fare Paris to Madagascar plus \$1,495 air fare for in-country flights.

What to Expect:

An exceptional exploration of superb nature reserves of Madagascar and its cultural heritage, led by an excellent naturalist, including a chance to see the Annular Solar Eclipse in an ideal location. 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.

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; group airport transfers; accommodations twin share; meals in Madagascar; tips to drivers; entrance fees; baggage handling; leadership, coordination, administration.

Expedition Fee Does Not Include:

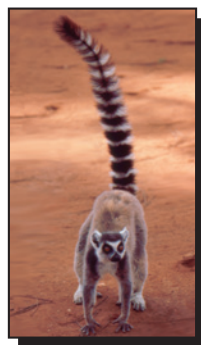
International or in-tour air fare (quoted separately); independent transfers; gratuity to expedition leader and guides; personal items such as laundry, phone calls, alcoholic beverages, snacks, sodas, bottled water, passport, excess baggage charges, personal insurance; or foreign airport departure tax.

Accommodations:

Are in a first class hotel in Antananarivo and good country-style lodges with private facilities in other locations. All singles may have to be paired with a roommate. If you do not have a roommate, you must pay the single supplement of \$995.

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 UNTIL TICKETED.

Reservations, Deposits, and

Payments: To reserve a place on this expedition, please mail the completed reservation form with a deposit of \$1,000 per person to:

**Madagascar Eclipse 2016
Betchart Expeditions Inc.
17050 Montebello Road
Cupertino, CA 95014-5435**

The balance is due 120 days before departure (April 10, 2016).

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 120 days before departure less a handling fee of \$250 per person. There will be no refund for any cancellation after the 120-day period unless your place can be resold, then only the \$250 handling fee will be withheld. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other expedition features.

