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Nature & Cultural Journeys  
for the Discerning Traveler

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN

## THE W&L TRAVELLER

ON A WILDLIFE EXPEDITION TO

## MADAGASCAR

SEPTEMBER 21 TO OCTOBER 8, 2016



## MADAGASCAR ~ AN OVERVIEW

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Madagascar split off from the African continent 80 million years ago to form the world's fourth largest island. It's a living laboratory for evolution, where the adventurous traveler can explore its diverse landscape of spiny desert, tropical moist



and dry forests, and mountainous terrain in search of Madagascar's renowned odd creatures and botanical marvels. The vast majority of its flora and fauna are endemic, meaning they exist nowhere else in the world. These include more than 100 species of lemurs. The most endangered tortoise in the world, Angokoka – commonly known as ploughshare – and many unusual birds, frogs and chameleons all make their home in a country with a unique blend of Asian and African cultures. Marco Polo first reported the island's existence. Throughout the centuries, embattled African slaves, intrepid Indian and Portuguese traders, European pirates, and French colonists arrived at its shores, eventually establishing 18 official "tribes." During our travels, we'll discover the creative spirit of the Malagasy people expressed in their thoughtful and colorful monuments honoring their ancestors. As we traverse this beautiful island paradise of

contrasting arid and tropical landscapes, we'll discover the gift of Malagasy hospitality along with a vast store of incomparable memories.

## YOUR W&L HOST ~ GERRY ELLIS, NATURALIST/WRITER/PHOTOGRAPHER

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One of W&L's most popular tour leaders, Gerry was recently awarded the 2015 Global Conservation Prize by the Philadelphia Zoo. As a wildlife photographer, film-maker and natural history guide, Gerry has an enormous passion for teaching people young and old about the magic of life on Earth. For over 30 years Gerry has traveled to every continent, working in such exotic locales as Borneo, Madagascar, Papua New Guinea and the Congo. Gerry's writing and photography have focused on documenting the lives of endangered species, indigenous cultures, and threatened ecosystems. He is currently working on a multi-year global project exploring the extinction of great apes – gorillas, chimpanzees, bonobos and orangutans – in the wilds of equatorial Africa and Asia.

As an award-winning nature-environmental photojournalist, including the prestigious international Visa pour L'image, long-term documentary projects have become a hallmark of Gerry's career. His work has encompassed numerous projects for World Wildlife Fund, Chevron PNG, the Australian government, and the National Audubon Society. Gerry's work has appeared in countless magazine projects for publications including Paris Match, Ranger Rick, The New York Times, GEO and National Geographic, as well as award winning book projects, including WILD ORPHANS, The Outdoor Traveler's Guide to Australia, America's Rainforest and several titles in the highly acclaimed children's series "Nature Watch" by Carol Rhoda Books. In 2001 Gerry founded GLOBIO, a children's education nonprofit based in the United States, serving as its director for eight years. Gerry has led trips for the W&L Traveller to Antarctica, Tanzania, Southern India, Rwanda and Uganda.

## YOUR ITINERARY

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### DAY 1~WEDNESDAY~SEPTEMBER 21

#### WASHINGTON D.C/NAIROBI/EN ROUTE

Our adventure begins as we board our overnight flight to Nairobi via London. (Meals Aloft)

### DAY 2~THURSDAY~SEPTEMBER 22

#### LONDON/EN ROUTE

Following arrival in London's Heathrow Airport this morning, we'll be met and escorted to an airport hotel where private dayrooms are reserved for us. Our brief stopover is a welcome opportunity for rest and leisure. There is a time differential between continents, and the mind and body have to adjust. This evening, we return to the terminal for our overnight flight to Nairobi via Kenya Airways. (Meals Aloft)

### DAY 3~FRIDAY~SEPTEMBER 23

#### NAIROBI/ANTANANARIVO

This morning our jet will land at Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi where we will board our flight to Antananarivo.

Following arrival in Antananarivo (popularly known as Tana, approximately 03:55pm), capital of Madagascar, we'll be met by our naturalist and escorted to our luxury hotel. A short drive from the airport through lush green rice fields will bring us to the city with its brightly colored houses stacked up the hillsides and its deliciously foreign flavor.

Antananarivo is situated in the central part of the island on the slopes of a rocky ridge that rises to about 4,700 feet. The city of 1,000 warriors takes its name from an episode in Malagasy history. When King Andrianjaka, who had called his people the Merina (highlanders) occupied the 12 sacred hills upon which Analamanga (where the forest is blue) was built, he had his royal palace and stronghold erected. One thousand warriors were quartered there. He called this city Antananarivo. The community grew in importance as the Merina dynasty, notably Radama I, gained control of most of the island in the 19th century. The French captured the city in 1895, and subsequently it became the capital of the French dependency of Madagascar. Today, the city is the chief economic, cultural, and administrative center of the country. It is the trade center for a rice-growing region, and industries here manufacture processed food, tobacco products, textiles, and leather goods.

*Our home for this evening, the Hotel Colbert, is located in an upscale area in the upper town of Antananarivo and offers a unique blend of French tradition and enchanting Malagasy hospitality. All rooms are equipped with satellite television, radio, mini-bar, tea/coffee-making facilities, telephone, and en suite bathrooms. Boasting an excellent French restaurant, which has been open since 1928, it also has a more casual café with chairs and tables on the pavement outside. The cozy bar and international casino adds to the ambiance, and the pool and spa round out the facilities of this charming five-star hotel. Overnight at the HOTEL COLBERT rooms in the deluxe wing. (Meals Aloft, D) [www.hotel-luxe-madagascar.com/](http://www.hotel-luxe-madagascar.com/)*



#### DAY 4~SATURDAY~SEPTEMBER 24

##### ANTANANARIVO

Our morning drive takes us to discover the Royal Hill of Ambohimanga, one of the 12 sacred hills surrounding Antananarivo, and visit the ruins of the palace of King Andrianampoinimerina, a site of cultural and historical significance. Situated just 15 miles from the capital, Ambohimanga is the birthplace of the Malagasy state, the Mecca of the Merina Kingdom, and the starting point for the unification of Imerina. Known variously as "the blue city," "the holy city," and "the forbidden city," it is surrounded by forests. The citadel was an important Merina stronghold and retains several structures associated with their ceremonies.



In the 18th century, Ambohimanga was a town that needed to protect its royal family. Surrounded naturally by forests, the town also erected a massive wall and seven outer gates to protect its people. Its main gate, known as Ambatomitsangana, was an enormous stone disc weighing 12 tons and over 130 feet in circumference. Each night, the guards would roll the stone into position, blocking off the main entrance to the town.

On our return, we'll visit the Lemurs' Park, located 11 miles from Antananarivo. The main attraction, of course, is close-up viewing of lemurs, including sifakas, as well as the numerous turtles and chameleons also housed in the park. The lemur, symbol of the endemic fauna of Madagascar Island, can be seen easily in this park, as there are nine species of lemurs roaming about the grounds. The observation of this endangered animal is more and more difficult in the wild due to deforestation. Beside the lemurs, the botanical garden contains 6,000 Madagascar plants and many other reptile species.



Our welcome dinner will be at a local restaurant.

Overnight at the HOTEL COLBERT. (B,L,D)



**DAYS 5/6/7~SUNDAY/MONDAY/TUESDAY~SEPTEMBER 25/26/27**

**FORT DAUPHIN/BERENTY RESERVE**

Our flight takes us to picturesque Fort Dauphin in the most exotic and famous part of Madagascar. From Fort Dauphin, we board our minibus and drive west (56 miles/4 hours) to Berenty, home of the Antandroy people. This region of "spiny desert" has weird cactus-like trees. Here you can still find pieces of shell from the extinct elephant bird. The Mahafaly tribe erects their intriguing and often entertaining "aloalo" (*funerary pole sculpture*) above their graves. The landscape is dramatic, with rugged green hills for the first half of the journey giving way to a flat landscape and a skyline interspersed with baobab trees and spiny trees, including the "octopus tree" and other spiny plants.



Bordering the Mandrare River, the Berenty Reserve includes more than 600 acres of gallery and riverine forest. For three days we'll explore this superb private wildlife reserve, famous for its population of ring-tailed lemurs and sifakas. Here, the de Heaulme family established a reserve on the bank of the Mandrare River with shady tamarind trees to protect the woods and the lemurs. It is not unusual for the photogenic ring-tailed lemurs to take bananas from our hand: they are used to humans and are quite tame. The lemur babies, clinging to their mothers are also quite fascinating. Although they rarely come down from the trees, the sifaka is by far the most picturesque primate, with creamy white fur, a brown cap and black face. Their unique way of sunbathing is quite marvelous. At dawn we'll enjoy the lemurs' antics and early chorus of birdlife and may see hundreds of fruit bats clinging just under the forest canopy. Crested and giant couas, cuckoo-rollers, vasa parrots, hook-billed vangas, gray-headed love-birds, and harrier hawks are just some of the 56 species of birds we may see, as well as a great variety of butterflies and chameleons.

*Our home for the next three nights, Berenty Lodge, is located in the middle of a remarkable private reserve where animals are quite literally all around us. The accommodations at the lodge are fairly basic, so guests should not expect luxury. The lodge has 12 comfortable, environmentally orientated bungalows. Each of the bungalows has an en suite bathroom with a toilet and shower and is air conditioned. The main facilities at the lodge include a bar and restaurant, which serves traditional Malagasy style food incorporating seafood and the catch of the day. During our stay, we'll enjoy hikes in the beautiful tamarind forest along the wide, well swept paths where many surprise encounters with the reserve's teeming wildlife might occur. On one of our days here we'll visit the ethnographic museum and textile collections, followed by a tour of the adjacent sisal plantation, or relax among the playful lemurs at our lodge's tea garden.*



Overnights at the BERENTY LODGE. (B,L,D Daily)



Schedules, accommodations and prices are accurate at the time of writing. They are subject to change.

**DAYS 8/9~WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY~SEPTEMBER 28/29**

**FORT DAUPHIN~NAHAMPOANA PRIVATE RESERVE & ANDOHAHELA NATIONAL PARK**

Drive back to Fort Dauphin in time for lunch. In the afternoon, we'll visit Nahampoana Private Reserve, situated a mere 4.3 miles from Fort Dauphin. Inside the reserve we'll discover its rich and diverse fauna and flora, including four species of lemurs, reptiles, and birds as well as the vegetation of the east and south coasts of Madagascar. Natural swimming pools, waterfalls, and caves can also be seen during the walk. We can also explore the reserve by canoe on the small river that surrounds it. Other animals in the park include chameleons, tortoises, crocodiles, and a wide variety of birds.



On our second day, we'll visit Andohahela National Park, with its special forest ecosystem combining a semi-arid dry forest and a lush forest. The park covers 295 square miles of the Anosy Mountain range, the southernmost spur of the Malagasy Highlands.

The variety of habitats within Andohahela is mirrored in the richness of species found there. Fifteen species of lemurs have been recorded, including ring-tailed lemurs, mouse lemurs, and one of Madagascar's most emblematic species, Verreaux's sifaka. More than 130 species of birds, 67 species of reptiles, turtles, and snakes, and 50 species of amphibians live together in the area. The park has an extensive bird list, including long-tailed ground rollers, Lafresnaye's vanga, olive-capped couas, and more.



At Tsimelahy, the intermediate forest, we'll discover natural swimming pools, reptiles and birds, and visit a local village. And at Mangatsiaka, we'll explore the dry forest, home to lemurs and reptiles and several species of birds, as well as the beautiful forest of Didieraceae.

*Our hotel in Fort Dauphin is one of the newest, built in a semi-circle around a lovely garden and located in the center of Fort Dauphin. The 32 rooms are carefully decorated and are air conditioned, along with television (satellite channels), mini-fridge, telephone, and internet connection.*

Overnights at the LA CROIX DU SUD HOTEL. (B,L,D Daily)



**DAYS 10/11/12~FRIDAY/SATURDAY/SUNDAY~SEPTEMBER 30~OCTOBER 1/2**

**FORT DAUPHIN/TULEAR/RANOHIRA/ISALO NATIONAL PARK**

Our flight(s) now takes us to Tulear, where we board our vehicles and drive to Isalo National Park (5 hours). Here the scenery is dominated by granite domes and expansive golden rice fields. We'll also meet the Bara tribe, known as cattle herders, who carry spears for protection against enemies. Zebu (cattle) stealing is part of the process of becoming a man in this region and is necessary to obtain approval from a family to marry their daughter. The terrain is more desert-like, allowing the sky to fill with all the radiant colors of the setting sun. One of the most frequented national parks in Madagascar, Isalo National Park is a spectacular site, quiet and full of mysteries. Established in 1962, this massive park covers 315 square miles, its rocks dating from the Jurassic Period. These rocks (known as "ruiniformes") have been sculpted by wind and water into weird and wonderful shapes: eyes, beaks, and faces. It is quite surprising to find a place like Isalo in Madagascar, and most first-time visitors to the country come expecting tropical beaches, rain forests, and, of course, lemurs. And there are, in fact, many to be found in Isalo!



We'll awaken to a view of the sandstone canyon massif, markedly different from any place we've visited so far on the trip and impressive in its grandeur and unusual eroded shapes. Succulents and fire resistant trees, such as the tapia, on which the endemic silkworms feed, are native here. In the early morning the black kite will soar regally overhead as if it owns the desert sky. The endemic Benson's rock thrush is found only in this area and will be heard singing in the morning from the prominent rock perches. We'll also explore the park looking for ringtails, sifakas, and brown lemurs.

At the Isalo Interpretation Centre, we'll learn about the local indigenous tribes whose mysterious burial sites are found here.

*We'll spend the next three nights in this stunning area at Le Jardin du Roy. Our hotel is built into the rocks on the edge of the Park and fully integrated in Isalo. The lodge offers 15 spacious and luxurious rooms, each with a private terrace overlooking the sights of Isalo. Le Jardin du Roy also has a pool in the gardens as well as a dining room and bar. Spa and massage service is available. We'll relax on our own private verandah and watch the sunsets on the panoramic cliffs or take a ride on horseback or hike in the surrounding countryside. Overnights at the LE JARDIN DU ROY. (B,L,D Daily)*



**DAY 13~MONDAY~OCTOBER 3**

**RANOHIRA/TULEAR/TANA**

Our drive (151 miles/5 hours) returns to Tulear, known as “the white city” or “sun city,” an oasis of sandy beaches, friendly people, and the third largest coral reef system in the world. The city offers a thousand bright colors, a concert of rhythmic ambience made by the Tsapiky music that, surging through the streets, emphasizes the sensual quality of the culture and the gentleness of its inhabitants.

Time permitting, we’ll visit the Arboretum d’Antsokay, a private reserve established around 1980 at the initiative of a Swiss amateur botanist, Herman Petignat. It encompasses an area of 120 acres and is located 7.5 miles southeast of the town of Toliara. More than 900 species of plants are being preserved there, of which 90% are endemic to the region and 80% have medicinal values. Among them, many succulent species are listed as threatened.

Enjoy lunch before flying back to Antananarivo.  
Overnight at the HOTEL COLBERT. (B,L,D)



**DAYS 14/15/16~TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY~OCTOBER 4/5/6**  
**TANA/ANDASIBE NATIONAL PARK**

Our three-hour drive takes us to Andasibe (89 miles/3 hours), with a stop in Marozevo for a short visit of the private reserve, “Pereyras.” This park is owned by a prominent naturalist to help preserve many endemic species of animals. Chameleons, butterflies, insects, geckos, and frogs can be seen inside this park.

We continue with our drive to the National Park of Andasibe, also known as Parc National d’Andasibe-Mantadia, featuring 31,654 acres of lushness and encompassing two distinct areas: the small Réserve Spéciale Analamazaotra (often referred to as Périnet), and the much larger Parc National de Mantadia.

In Périnet we’ll have the opportunity to see the largest species of the lemur family, the indri (called Babakoto in Malagasy, which means man of the forest or little father.) Three feet tall, with black and white markings, the indri has an ear-shattering, eerie, wailing sound, somewhere between the song of a whale and a police siren, making this lemur quite unique. There are 9 different species of lemurs

in Périnet, where we may be able to see the brown lemur, the mouse lemur, and the dwarf lemur. The largest of the chameleons lives here, and the bird watching is superb: blue couas, vangas, blue pigeons, paradise flycatchers, falcons, black vasa parrots, cuckoo-rollers, nightjars, and sunbirds.

Mantadia National Park was created in the 1990s and lies roughly 13 miles north of Périnet. Due to its considerably larger size and untouched primary rain forest, Mantadia's wildlife is more diverse than Périnet’s. Indri, diademed sifakas, and black-and-white ruffed lemurs can be found here, although seeing these animals will require some effort as we must follow them on steep and narrow trails.

*Surrounded by jungle and forest, Vakona Lodge is perfectly*



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*situated for day trips to the surrounding areas. The lodge also has its own small reserve, which offers an excellent close-up experience with a troupe of superb black and white ruffed and brown lemurs. Accommodation is in 24 bungalows, all designed with a delightful "rustic" charm that is perfect in keeping with the location. The main building has been thoughtfully designed as an octagonal reception area, bar and lounge-dining room with a huge log-fire in the middle. The hotel also boasts a curio shop, swimming pool, squash courts and offers horseback riding and forest trekking.*

Overnights at the VAKONA LODGE. (B,L,D Daily)

**DAY 17~FRIDAY~OCTOBER 7**

**ANDASIBE NATIONAL PARK/ANTANANARIVO/NAIROBI/LONDON/EN ROUTE**

This morning, after a leisurely breakfast, we head off to Antananarivo to board our early afternoon flight back home via Nairobi and London. (B, Meals Aloft)

**DAY 18~SATURDAY~OCTOBER 8**

**WASHINGTON D.C**

This afternoon our jet lands in Washington D.C. with the memories of all the wonderful sights of Madagascar. (Meals Aloft)



## OPTIONAL POST-TOUR EXTENSION TO THE MAASAI MARA

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### DAY 17~FRIDAY~OCTOBER 7

#### ANDASIBE NATIONAL PARK/ANTANANARIVO/NAIROBI

This morning, after a leisurely breakfast, we head off to Antananarivo to board our early afternoon flight to Nairobi. Here we bid farewell to the rest of the group returning home and prepare for our next adventure!

*Amidst the bustle of one of Africa's most dynamic cities there is a sanctuary offering peaceful respite, the Nairobi Serena Hotel. Standing among verdant gardens, it is considered one of Nairobi's finest hotels. With consummate standards of modern hospitality, the Nairobi Serena is the flagship of Serena Hotels and a member of Leading Hotels of the World. We'll enjoy the swimming pool, the restaurant, the excellent gift shop, and the comfort of our delightful room.*

Overnight at the NAIROBI SERENA HOTEL. (Meals Aloft)  
[www.serenahotels.com](http://www.serenahotels.com)



### DAYS 18/19/20~SATURDAY/SUNDAY/MONDAY~OCTOBER 8/9/10

#### MAASAI MARA/NORTHERN SERENGETI

Our flight now takes us to the Maasai Mara, Kenya's most famous wildlife reserve, much the setting for the film *Out of Africa*. It is classic savannah – grasslands, where animals are plentiful and the vistas spectacular. In this dreamlike land, animals live in freedom, and the Maasai tend their cattle, all sharing the same land with minimal conflict. We will have three days of wildlife-viewing opportunities in the Maasai Mara Reserve, also known as the “Jewel of Africa,” a site with one of the largest and the most spectacular animal migrations in the world. The reserve is inhabited by many of Africa's most



popular wild animals, including lion, cheetah, elephant,

leopard, black rhino and hippo. There are also over 500 resident species of birds in the park including ostrich, larks and sunbirds as well as the lovely lilac-breasted roller.

The area is famous for rolling grassland and for the Mara River, which runs through the reserve from north to south. The reserve covers an area of 700 square miles and forms part of the Serengeti ecosystem, hosting the world famous spectacle of the annual migration of up to two million wildebeest, thousands of zebra and an escort of carnivores from the Serengeti plains that follow the rains and succulent new grass. A costly trek as many of the lame, laggard and sick will fall prey to the ravaging pack of predators and many more will die in the swirling flood waters of the Mara River as they try to cross it. While the migration depends on many factors such as the rains, we'll be here during the best time for this spectacle, one of the greatest on earth!

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Optional activities abound while we're in the Maasai Mara. Optional excursions include a balloon safari for an exhilarating experience over the savannah as the early sun rises and the animals are more active. Another, for a nominal fee, is visit a Maasai Village to experience this nomadic tribe's way of life and see their colorful culture.

*Kichwa Tembo Camp is an oasis of 40 Hemingway-style tents shaded by dense forest canopy. The camp's two thatched rondavels overlook the Sabaringo River, shaded by tall fig and ebony trees. In the background, the Oloololo Escarpment stretches into the distance. The main living area and all the tents overlook endless plains of the Mara. The main lodge has a curio shop and reception. The courtyard is candlelit in the evening and the bar and lounge area offers a chance to relax and talk about the day's safari adventures. The palm-fringed swimming pool is also inviting. Each classic safari tent is spacious and affords total privacy. All tents are luxurious and built of stone floors and canvas and offer a private outdoor deck with sweeping views. In addition, there is an en suite bathroom with shower, stone floors and soft lighting. Each tent stands at least 25 feet away from the next, ensuring absolute seclusion.*



Overnights at KICHWA TEMBO CAMP. (B,L,D Daily)

[http://www.andbeyondafrica.com/luxury\\_safari/kenya/masai\\_mara\\_national\\_reserve/and\\_beyond\\_kichwa\\_tembo\\_masai\\_mara](http://www.andbeyondafrica.com/luxury_safari/kenya/masai_mara_national_reserve/and_beyond_kichwa_tembo_masai_mara)

#### **DAY 21~TUESDAY~OCTOBER 11**

##### **MAASAI MARA/NAIROBI**

Enjoy a last chance to photograph that awesome sunrise before flying back to Nairobi. A day room will be supplied for us at the NAIROBI SERENA HOTEL. We'll have some time to relax before we are escorted to the airport for our flight to London. As our journey comes to a close, say a fond farewell to our driver/guides and naturalist and promise to come back in the not too distant future. (B, Meals Aloft)

#### **DAY 22~WEDNESDAY~OCTOBER 12**

##### **LONDON/WASHINGTON D.C.**

This morning our jet lands in London where we connect with our flights home with the memories of all the wonderful sights of East Africa. (Meals Aloft)



## OPTIONAL EXCURSION IN THE MAASAI MARA



### BALLOON SAFARI

Our exhilarating balloon safari is the most amazing way to experience the wildlife. Our early morning ride allows for an hour of uninterrupted wildlife views from the air – definitely the best way to see the migration when in season (July through October) and the incessant movement of animals in the Mara. Upon landing, enjoy a champagne brunch, set especially for us in the middle of the plains. Zebra and wildebeest may be our dining guests, and Africa's colorful birds may vie for a crumb of our bread.

At present, the costs are as follows:

- Maasai Mara with collection from our lodge – Mara Serena: \$511 per adult (including children 12 and over and \$320 per child ages 3-11 years who must be accompanied by an adult on the balloon.

Reservations are necessary before departure from the USA, if you wish to be guaranteed a seat. Full payment must be forwarded to Classic Escapes, 58-25 Queens Blvd., Woodside, NY 11375 to be received at least three weeks prior to departure. If our trip does not materialize due to weather or other reasons, our payment will be refunded upon returning to the U.S.A. However, if you should cancel for any reason, payment is non-refundable.



## INCLUSIONS

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- Lodging in deluxe wing at the Colbert Hotel in Antananarivo and best available hotels and accommodations throughout.
- Flights within Madagascar as indicated in the itinerary: Antananarivo/ Fort Dauphin, Fort Dauphin/Tulear and Tulear/ Antananarivo.
- Round-trip flight between Nairobi and the Maasai Mara on the post-tour extension.
- Meals as specified in the itinerary.
- Bottled water during excursions.
- Vehicles and drivers as needed.
- English-speaking guide will accompany the tour throughout.
- Gratuities to driver/guides and other conveyance attendants.
- Gerry Ellis will accompany the group with a minimum of 10 travelers on the main program and 6 on the extension program.
- All applicable hotel and lodge taxes and gratuities for baggage handling.
- All national park entry fees.
- Complimentary baggage tags and passport wallet.

## EXCLUSIONS

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- Round-trip air transportation from Washington D.C. to Antananarivo, including departure taxes (quoted separately). The extension returns from Nairobi.
- Passport and visa fees and service charges for obtaining visas.
- Excess baggage charges levied by airlines.
- Meals and all other beverages, other than specified.
- Laundry and other items of a personal nature.
- Personal and baggage insurance.
- Cost for anything not specifically mentioned in the listing above.

Please Note That The Itinerary Sequence Is Correct At The Time Of Writing,  
But Is Subject To Change.



## THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MADAGASCAR & KENYA

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- Participants must be able to climb unassisted in and out of minibuses, land cruisers, and small aircraft. They should also be able to tolerate riding on uneven, bumpy dirt roads for long periods of time (6-8 hours maximum), as well as some off-road experiences when opportunities allow.
- To enjoy Madagascar to the fullest, one needs to be able to trek some distances, particularly when visiting forests. To follow playful lemurs, you must be quick on our feet and trek over uneven terrain.
- Participants should also be able to stand and/or walk moderate distances at an easy pace for up to a few hours at a time when visiting villages and towns. Some, if not most, of this walking may be on uneven ground or uphill. This journey is classified as moderately strenuous.

### **In general, this trip requires:**

- Flexibility and good humor: unexpected changes and/or glitches will occur!
- A spirit of adventure and curiosity!
- Interest in and willingness to appreciate a destination with a modest infrastructure and a bending definition of comfort. That being said, some locations are nestled in absolute luxury where pampering is the norm.

### **Air Schedules**

Choosing the best possible air arrangements for our travelers is always a challenge. We work with many airlines that offer the best level of service, routings, and value for our programs. While there may indeed be more direct routings available with another airline, the cost of these flights may not be within the budget that allows us to give you the best value possible. If you prefer to purchase our own international air, please feel free to choose the "land only" rate for this program. **The start and end city for this program is Antananarivo, Madagascar. The post-tour extension returns from Nairobi.**

*Upon registration, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with reissuing the ticket.*



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## OUR JOURNEY AT A GLANCE

**INCLUDING:** ANTANANARIVO, FORT DAUPHIN, BERENTY, ANDOHAHELA NATIONAL PARK, TULEAR, RANOHIRA, ISALO NATIONAL PARK, PERINET RESERVE & MANTADIA NATIONAL PARK

**SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:** WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY

**ESCORTED BY:** GERRY ELLIS

**DATES:** SEPTEMBER 21 TO OCTOBER 8, 2016

<b>COSTS:</b> PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY	<b>MAIN PROGRAM BASED ON 10 TRAVELERS</b>	<b>POST-TOUR EXTENSION BASED ON 6 TRAVELERS</b>
LAND & ALL INTERNAL FLIGHTS WITHIN MADAGASCAR	\$8,995 PER PERSON	\$3,995 PER PERSON
INTERNATIONAL AIR FROM WASHINGTON D.C., ECONOMY, INCLUDING AIRLINE TAXES & FUEL SURCHARGES**	\$2,790 PER PERSON	N/A
SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT, ADDITIONAL*	\$1,995 PER PERSON	\$1,195 PER PERSON

*SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: RATE IS VALID FOR FIRST TWO SINGLE ROOMS BOOKED. IF MORE THAN TWO SINGLE ROOMS, ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT WILL APPLY. SINGLES ARE ASSIGNED ON A FIRST-COME/FIRST-SERVED BASIS.*

*\*\*ALL INTERNATIONAL AIRFARES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND BASED ON MINIMUM NUMBER OF TRAVELERS. TAXES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL TICKETED. NOTE THAT THE SPECIAL RATES NEGOTIATED BY CLASSIC ESCAPES ARE NOT UPGRADABLE.*

**DEPARTURE CITY:** WASHINGTON D.C.

(OTHER DEPARTURE CITIES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST AT ADDITIONAL COST)



## CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL:

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### REGISTRATION

**HOW TO BOOK:** Fill out and sign the enclosed reservation form and send it, along with the relevant deposit as shown below, to: Office of Special Programs, Washington and Lee University, Howard House, Lexington, VA 24450. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form and deposit, we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. You may consider your booking confirmed when you receive a confirmation notice and invoice from us.

### PAYMENTS

**DEPOSIT:** A deposit of \$1,000 per person for the main trip and \$250 for the post-tour extension must be submitted at the time of booking. Deposits may be paid by check or charged to American Express, MasterCard, Visa or Discover.

**FINAL PAYMENT:** Final payment is due 95 days before departure (June 18, 2016): you will receive a final invoice. Final payment is payable by check or money order ONLY.

**RATES:** Rates are based on the minimum number of guests outlined in this document, plus airfare costs, currency exchange rates, and other factors and are subject to change. Although it is rare for Classic Escapes to make a price adjustment after promotion of an itinerary, we do reserve the right to assess a surcharge if the minimum number of travelers is not met, or if increases are forced upon us by airlines or other partners or because of changes in currency exchange rates.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Cost of passport and visa fees, as well as service charges for obtaining visas; excess baggage charges levied by airlines; laundry and other items of a personal nature; optional travel insurance policy; cost for anything not specifically included in listing above.

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** The quoted rate is valid for the first two single rooms booked and on a first-come, first-served basis. If more than two single rooms are needed, an additional supplement will apply. Single accommodations are not guaranteed, but they will be provided at additional cost if available (see reservation form for cost.) The single-room supplement pays for privacy, not better accommodations. For passengers who are traveling alone and wish to share a room with another tour member, we will do our best to provide a roommate. However, if this is not possible, you will be required to pay the single-room supplement prior to your departure from the USA.

**GRATUITIES AND TAXES:** Gratuities for baggage handling, service charges and taxes imposed by hotels, and entrance fees to all points of interest as outlined in the itinerary are included. U.S. and foreign airport taxes are included in airfare costs. Tips to drivers and naturalist guide are NOT included.

### CANCELLATIONS, DEVIATIONS & CHANGES

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** We recommend travel insurance. Travel insurance can provide financial reimbursement should the unexpected occur.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Cancellations are only effective on receipt of written notification. The following per person fees are applicable on this tour:

- **Up to March 19, 2016**  
We will happily refund all.
- **Between March 20 and June 3, 2016**  
We will refund all but \$250 handling fee and \$250 non-refundable deposits paid to overseas suppliers.
- **Between June 4 and July 23, 2016**  
50% of tour cost is forfeited.
- **After July 24, 2016**  
We will NOT refund any payments made.

These cancellation fees are also in addition to any fees imposed by airlines.

**CHANGE FEES:** Once you reserve your tour, changes are possible subject to availability of air or land space at the time of request. Should there be any change fees imposed by airlines or ground operators, or additional costs incurred due to availability of any space, this cost will be invoiced to you.

**SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** We would be happy to make additional travel plans for you, including specially arranged pre- or post-tour extensions different than those that may be offered in conjunction with this tour. A service charge of \$150 per person (over and above the cost of the services required) will be assessed.

## DOCUMENTS

**PASSPORT & VISAS:** The responsibility is the guest's to ensure that passports and visas are valid for the countries visited and for the applicable time period, as outlined by the U.S. Department of State ([travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov)) or by the passport holder's country. Classic Escapes, their staff and their agents cannot be held liable for any visas, etc., not held by the guests, nor for the cost of obtaining visas.

**PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION:** Upon receipt of your registration and deposit, we will send a pre-departure packet to you. This packet contains all the information you need to prepare for your tour, including the complete itinerary, packing checklist, required documents, etc.

**FINAL DOCUMENTS:** Final documents and tickets will be sent to you approximately two weeks prior to departure, provided all monies have been paid in full.

## TRANSPORTATION

**OPTIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION:** Round-trip, economy-class flights via VIRGIN ATLANTIC & KENYA AIRWAYS and/or other IATAN carriers are between WASHINGTON D.C. and the destination city noted in the itinerary. Rates are based on special promotional fares; cancellation fees apply once tickets are issued. Departures from other cities in the USA are possible at additional cost; please inquire at the time of reservation. Please note that these promotional fares are subject to 10 passengers traveling together on the same airline routing and itinerary. If this minimum is not met, the special group rates are not applicable and it might become necessary to issue instant purchase tickets earlier than when final payment is due in order to take advantage of airfares that are similar to the group rates. Should this occur, you will be contacted with the details.

**AIRLINE SEATING:** For VIRGIN ATLANTIC & KENYA AIRWAYS, we request seats together for the group. All planes are nonsmoking. We can request a seating preference on your behalf, however, requested seats cannot be guaranteed. Requests should be made in writing no later than 60 days prior to departure. Bulkhead and/or emergency row seats can only be requested at airport check-in on the day of departure. Boarding passes will only be issued at the airport on the day of departure. You may inquire about seat changes during check-in, based on availability and is at the sole discretion of airport staff.

**FREQUENT FLYER MILEAGE:** As mentioned, we work primarily with VIRGIN ATLANTIC & KENYA AIRWAYS. For a list of the airline's partners, visit <http://www.virgin-atlantic.com/us/en/flying-club.html> and <http://www.skyteam.com/About-us/Our-members/Kenya-Airways/>. Obtain frequent flyer mileage on any of these carriers. Present your frequent flyer card for all flight check-ins and keep the boarding passes until you receive a statement with the mileage credit.

**TRANSFERS:** Round-trip airport transfers are included in the tour for guests arriving on group flights. If travelers make their own air arrangements, they will be subject to extra transfer fees.

## TRIP DETAILS

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** You will marvel at the wonderful accommodations provided throughout your tour. All rooms have private bathroom facilities and air conditioning and/or fans. All rates are based on double occupancy. Most rooms are twin-bedded, but king-size beds are occasionally available and should be requested in advance. Accommodations listed in this itinerary are correct at time of writing, but on rare occasions may be substituted for a different property of comparable quality.

**MEALS:** All meals as specified in the itinerary. Please notify us if you have special dietary needs or requests, and we will do our best to accommodate you.

**INOCULATIONS:** When it comes to vaccination and disease prevention, we suggest that travelers first review information provided by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel)) and then review those details with their personal physicians.

**WATER:** It is always advisable to drink bottled and/or filtered water when traveling overseas. Safe drinking water will be provided to travelers free of charge in the vehicles and during meals.

**BAGGAGE:** On average, international flights from the USA allow two pieces of checked luggage, each not exceeding 50 pounds; however, we always recommend that you check your airline's policy just before departure, as luggage limitations are always subject to change. Despite this weight allowance, we always suggest guests travel light. Also soft-sided duffel bags are ideal for this tour, as they stow best in vehicles and airplanes with limited space.

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

Schedules, accommodations and prices are accurate at the time of writing. They are subject to change.



**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Neither Classic Escapes (the Company) nor any person or agent acting for, through or on behalf of the Company, nor Washington & Lee University, shall be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever arising from any cause whatsoever and without restricting the generality of the foregoing shall particularly not be responsible for loss or damage arising from any errors or omissions contained in its brochure or other literature, loss or damage caused by delays, sickness, theft, injury or death. In addition the Company shall have the right at any time at its discretion to cancel any trip or the remainder thereof or make any alteration in route, accommodation, price or other details and, in the event of any trip being rendered impossible, illegal or inadvisable by weather, strike, war, government or interference or any other cause whatsoever, the extra expenses incurred as a result thereof shall be the responsibility of the passenger. The Company may at its discretion and without liability or cost to itself at any time cancel or terminate the guest's booking and in particular without limiting the generality of the foregoing it shall be entitled to do so in the event of the illness or the illegal or incompatible behavior of the guest, who shall in such circumstances not be entitled to any refund.

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** The Company reserves the right without further notice to make use of any photograph or film taken on the tour by our photographers without payment or permission. We guarantee that no photographs of a compromising nature will be used.

**CHANGES TO SCHEDULES:** Although every effort is made to adhere to schedules, it should be borne in mind that the Company reserves the right, and in fact is obliged, to occasionally change routes and hotels as dictated by changing conditions.

**REFUNDS:** While the Company uses its best endeavors to ensure that all anticipated accommodation is available as planned, there shall be no claim of any nature whatsoever against the Company for a refund, either in the whole or part, if any accommodation or excursion is unavailable and a reasonable alternative is not found. If the guest is unable to use any service provided in the itinerary, then there are no refunds due.

**AIRLINE CLAUSE:** The airlines concerned are not to be held liable for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are not on board their planes or conveyance. The passengers' tickets in use by the airline or by other carriers concerned when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or passengers.

**DELAYS:** We cannot be held liable for any delays or additional costs incurred as a result of airlines not running to schedule. If one of our guides is unable to take a trip due to illness, etc., we reserve the right to substitute with another guide. This agreement is made subject to and shall be governed by and construed according to the laws of the country in which the trip takes place. Classic Escapes acts merely as an agent for the operating companies. To the best of our knowledge the itinerary is correct at the time of printing. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies or changes that may occur after printing.

**CONSENT:** The payment of the deposit OR any other partial payment for a reservation on a trip constitutes consent by all guests covered by that payment to all provisions of the conditions and general information contained in this brochure, whether the guest has signed the booking form or not. The terms, under which you agree to take this trip, cannot be changed or amended except in writing and signed by an authorized director of the Company.

**INSURANCE:** It is a condition of booking that the sole responsibility lies with the guest to ensure that they carry the correct comprehensive travel and medical insurance to cover themselves, as well as any dependents/traveling companions for the duration of their trip. This insurance should include cover in respect of, but not limited to, the following eventualities: cancellation or curtailment of the program, emergency evacuation expenses, medical expenses, repatriation expenses, damage/theft/loss of personal baggage, money and goods. Classic Escapes, including their representatives, employees and agents will take no responsibility for any costs, losses incurred or suffered by the guest, or guest's dependents or traveling companions, with regards to, but not limited to, any of the above mentioned eventualities. Guests will be charged directly by the relevant service providers for any emergency services they may require, and may find themselves in a position unable to access such services should they not be carrying the relevant insurance cover.

**PLEASE NOTE INSURANCE PREMIUMS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE SHOULD TOUR BE CANCELED BY PARTICIPANT.**

# HELP US GO GREEN

for more graphics at www.psdgraphics.com

Dear Traveler,


In an effort to help protect our planet, Classic Escapes has begun the transition of becoming paperless. We need your help getting there!

**Did you know?**

*Recycling one ton of paper saves 20 trees, 7,000 gallons of water, three cubic yards of landfill space, 60 pounds of air pollutants, and saves enough energy to power the average home for six months....*

Please indicate in the chart below whether or not you prefer to receive paperless correspondence from us: all you need to do is put a check under the "green" symbol for yes or a check under the "NO" for no.

Simply fax or email your responses to [reservations@classicescapes.com](mailto:reservations@classicescapes.com)!

<b>You Will Receive The Following Items For Your Program:</b>		NO
Welcome Letter		
Preliminary Materials - pre-trip packet and invoice		
Reminder Invoice with balance due		
Paid-in-Full Invoice		
Final Documents: species list, journal, and final booklet		

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Trip Tour Code - **16AFL0921/WLU**

Together we can make the world a better place!

Thank you for your support,

# RESERVATION FORM:

THE W & L TRAVELLER ~ MADAGASCAR

16.AFL0921/WLU

Enclosed is my deposit for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$1,000 per person for the main trip and \$250 for the extension) to hold \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) on the Wildlife Expedition to Madagascar departing on September 21, 2016. Cost is \$8,995 per person, double occupancy, land only. Additional international air from Washington D.C. is \$2,790. (As of January 22, 2015, and subject to change).

**Final payment due date is: June 18, 2016.**

Please make check payable to CLASSIC ESCAPES OR Charge deposit to:  MasterCard  Visa  American Express  Discover

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVN# \_\_\_\_\_

Deposits can be made by credit card; however, **all final payments are required to be made by check or money order only.**

1) NAME (As appears on passport):  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Passport No. \_\_\_\_\_ Green Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality \_\_\_\_\_

2) NAME (As appears on passport):  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Passport No. \_\_\_\_\_ Green Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality \_\_\_\_\_

NAME FOR NAME BADGE IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE: 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONES: HOME: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I have not recently been treated for, nor am I aware of, any physical or other condition or liability that would create a hazard to myself or the other members of this tour.

**A copy of your passport must accompany this form to confirm reservation. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form, passport copy and deposit we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. Passport must be valid for at least 6 months after the return of your trip and have four consecutive blank pages in the visa section.**

- The two of us above are sharing a room and, where possible, would like a room with:  ONE  TWO Beds (make one selection only)
- I am sharing with \_\_\_\_\_ (form sent separately)
- I need assistance in securing a roommate. I understand if WASHINGTON & LEE or the tour operator cannot locate one for me by final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single-room supplement. I prefer to share with:  Smoker  Nonsmoker
- I desire single accommodations, if available, and will pay the single-room supplement additional cost of:  
 \$1,995 for the main trip  \$1,195 for the post-tour extension
- I/We wish to participate in the optional post-tour extension at an additional per person cost of:  
 \$3,995 for the Maasai Mara post-tour extension

- Please make my/our round-trip air reservations on the group flights from Washington D.C. via Virgin Atlantic & Kenya Airways
- Please make domestic round-trip air reservations for me from my home city: \_\_\_\_\_ to connect with the group flights and let me know the additional cost.

Please send me information on air upgrades for:  Business/First Class (only one class, business/first, exists)

Airline Seating Preference\*\*  Aisle  Window Frequent Flier # \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\*We can request a seating preference on your behalf, however, this is only a request and NOT GUARANTEED, as some seating assignments may be at airport check-in only. Requests should be made in writing no later than 60 days prior to departure. Bulkhead and/or emergency row seats can only be requested at airport check-in on the day of departure. Also note that even if we do obtain your preferred seat, it is not guaranteed that the seat will be provided during check-in as there might be equipment changes that nullify our selection. The special rates negotiated by Classic Escapes are not upgradable.*

All rates quoted are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of January 22, 2015, and are subject to change. Refunds are made less any cancellation charges levied in accordance with the policy outlined in the accompanying Conditions of Travel.

**WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN TRAVEL INSURANCE. RESERVATIONS ARE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO TOUR CONDITIONS AND WILL BE CONFIRMED ONLY IF ACCOMPANIED BY COMPLETED FORM SIGNED BY THE TOUR PARTICIPANT(S).**

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Office of Special Programs  
WASHINGTON & LEE UNIVERSITY  
204 W. Washington St.  
Lexington, VA 24450  
Phone: 540-458-8723 Fax: 540-458-8478

(We recommend that you keep a copy of your selections as noted above for your future reference.)



CREDIT CARD PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION

*Please Note: If you wish to charge your deposit to Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover, this authorization form MUST be completed and returned to us along with your reservation form before we can process your application.*

I authorize (Classic Escapes Inc.) to charge my VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER/AMEX listed below:

Name appearing on credit card \_\_\_\_\_

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Verification Number\* \_\_\_\_\_ Card Type \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address of credit card \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of transaction \_\_\_\_\_

Services rendered/Items purchased \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

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

**\*How To Locate Your Card Verification Number:**

(**Visa, MasterCard, Discover:** Locate the credit card number on the back of the card above the signature box. Enter the 3 digit number which follows the credit card number. **American Express:** Enter the 4 digit number found directly above and to the right of the credit card number.)

I understand that all rates quoted on this tour I'm making a payment on are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of January 22, 2015, and are subject to change Cancellations are only effective on receipt of written notification. The following per person fees are applicable on this tour:

- **Up to March 19, 2016**  
We will happily refund all.
- **Between March 20 and June 3, 2016**  
We will refund all but \$250 handling fee and \$250 non-refundable deposits paid to overseas suppliers.
- **Between June 4 and July 23, 2016**  
50% of tour cost is forfeited.
- **After July 24, 2016**  
We will **NOT** refund any payments made.

These cancellation fees are also in addition to any fees imposed by airlines.

PLEASE NOTE: At times, our bank requires photocopy of credit card (both sides) and driver's license or document showing signature of cardholder, in order to process the charge. While it is not required at this time that you include these materials with your deposit, if our bank requests it, we will contact you for these copies.