

# Magical Madagascar



June 12-29, 2016



Dear Duke Alumni and Friends,

We are delighted to offer another exceptional opportunity to explore Madagascar with one of the world's leading experts on that country, Charlie Welch, conservation coordinator at the renowned Duke Lemur Center.

Travel with us on an adventure to experience the unique plants, animals, and culture on the exotic island of Madagascar. This island nation is one of the most extraordinary places on Earth, where you will find all of the world's lemurs (some 70+ species) and over half of the world's chameleons, in addition to more than 170 species of frogs. Every year, scientists discover new species of plants and animals in the deserts and forests of Madagascar.

Duke Lemur Center is the world's premier facility when it comes to lemur research, and is second only to Madagascar in terms of variety and total numbers of lemurs. The DLC also has extensive and long-term partnerships in Madagascar, and with Duke you have unique access to experts and facilities on the island.

## Traveling with you:



Charlie Welch worked and lived in Madagascar, with his wife Andrea Katz, from 1989 until 2004 on behalf of the Duke Lemur Center (DLC), and later the Madagascar Fauna Group (MFG). During that time Welch and Katz developed the conservation center at Parc Ivoloina and Betampona Nature Reserve into multifaceted community-based conservation projects which continue to operate today. Charlie is now conservation coordinator at the DLC. He continues to foster DLC's close involvement with the MFG projects, and in 2011 initiated the DLC-SAVA Conservation project in northeastern Madagascar. In 2004 Welch and Katz were awarded "Chevalier de l'Ordre National" by the government of Madagascar for their long-term conservation efforts in the Tamatave region of eastern Madagascar.

Madagascar is a nature lover's dream. It is also an exceptional photographic destination, where many of the animals are habituated, providing remarkable photographic opportunities. Our exciting itinerary is custom-designed by Charlie Welch and the experts at Terra Incognita Ecotours.

# In keeping with the principles of responsible ecotourism:

- We will employ local people.
- We will use locally owned and operated lodges and outfitters.
- We will use local goods and services.

This is a journey that will make a difference for you and the areas you visit. To reserve your space, please fill out and return the reservation page at the back of this brochure or call Duke Alumni Travel at:

Kay-Schroeder

1-800-FOR-DUKE

Sincerely,

Beth Ray-Schroeder Director, Alumni Travel Duke Alumni Association







## June 13 Arrival to Antananarivo, Madagascar

Today you should plan to arrive in Antananarivo, either on the South African Airways flight from Johannesburg, or Air France from Paris, or perhaps an alternate routing such as Air Seychelles through the Seychelles. Antananarivo, the capital city of Madagascar, is affectionately known as "Tana". Upon arrival, clear customs and meet our private transfer to the Hotel. Schedules permitting, enjoy a lovely welcome dinner with the group and guides. *Overnight at Hotel Colbert* 

## June 14 Antananarivo to Andasibe-Mantadia National Park

This morning we depart for the Andasibe-Mantadia National Park, an important area of protected rainforest, and home to the largest of the lemur species – the Indri. We will stop at the incredible La Mandraka Nature Farm en route. This private facility has an excellent collection of native reptiles and amphibians and offers wonderful opportunities for close-up photography. Our destination is the luxurious Vakona Forest Lodge located in an idyllic wooded setting. Charles Welch will present his first lecture tonight about his conservation work in Madagascar. *Overnight at Vakona Forest Lodge* 

## June 15 Mantadia National Park

This morning we will board 4-WD vehicles for an all-day outing to Mantadia National Park. This park has primary rain forest and is home to many species of lemur, including the beautiful golden colored diademed sifaka, black-and-white ruffed lemurs as well as the gray bamboo lemur and brown lemur. Some of the trails are steep and muddy, so you should be prepared for some hiking. We will take a box lunch and enjoy lunch at a picnic shelter in the forest. This afternoon we will spend time photographing semi-captive lemurs on "Lemur Island". We return to the lodge and this evening to take a night stroll to look for nocturnal lemurs – if we are lucky we may catch the eye shine of the diminutive brown mouse lemur, greater dwarf lemur, or even the avahi (or eastern woolly lemur). (2-4 miles hiking, 3-4 hours) *Overnight at Vakona Forest Lodge* 

## June 16 Perinet Reserve, Andasibe-Mantadia National Park

We spend the morning visiting one of Madagascar's most celebrated reserves, with an early start to see the Indri and hear their haunting calls. Each animal sings with its own unique voice, so the echoes and re-echoes tell each group where every Indri is located in the forest. We track Indri through the forest, and moderate walking provides a good opportunity to experience the abundant flora and fauna of the eastern rain forest. The world's largest chameleon can be found here, together with a wonderful array of tree frogs and geckos, plus numerous colorful tropical birds. We then travel by road from the wet mountain forest to the east coast and the city of Tamatave. (1-3 miles hiking, 2-3 hours) *Overnight at the Calypso Hotel* 

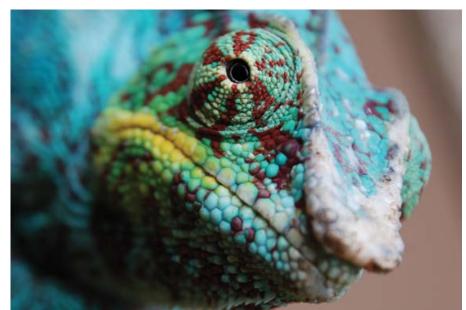
# Tuesday

Wednesday

**Thursday** 

Monday





### June 17 Tamatave

**Friday** 

**Saturday** 

Sunday

Monday

Today we visit scenic Parc Ivoloina where DLC conservation coordinator Charlie Welch and his wife Andrea Katz started a conservation project in 1987. The conservation work continues at Ivoloina under the Madagascar Fauna and Flora Group, of which DLC is a founding member. Activities at Ivoloina range from programs in environmental education, to sustainable agriculture, to reforestation and training. We will take a guided tour around the park. There should be time in the afternoon for some shopping and a look around the city of Tamatave. Dinner tonight is at the seaside 501. (moderate walking) *Overnight at the Calypso Hotel* 

## June 18 Tamatave to Antananarivo

Today we fly back to Antananarivo, where we have time to visit the handicraft market and maybe some boutique shops. We again spend the night at the Hotel Colbert. Tonight we enjoy a gourmet dinner at the most famous restaurant in the country, La Varangue Restaurant. *Overnight at Hotel Colbert* 

## June 19 Antananarivo to Ranomafana

This morning we board a private charter flight to the city of Fianarantsoa and then drive to the famed Ranomafana National Park, a rainforest reserve, home of the extremely endangered golden bamboo and the greater bamboo lemurs. Our destination is the comfortable Setam Lodge, adjacent to the forest. This afternoon we should have time to visit the ValBio Conservation and Research Center, developed by dedicated conservation biologist Dr. Patricia Wright. (1-4 miles hiking, 2-4 hours) *Overnight at Setam Lodge* 

## June 20 Ranomafana

Today we have the whole day to explore some of the trails in the park. We may visit some of the less traveled trails in the morning in search of Milne-Edward's sifaka, and then in the afternoon visit another set of trails renowned for groups of bamboo lemurs. This is a rainforest hike with wet trails and fabulous flora and fauna. Watch out for the chameleons! (1-4 miles hiking, 2-4 hours) *Overnight at Setam Lodge* 

# June 21 Ranomafana to Isalo Tuesday Today promises some

Today promises some spectacular scenery as we drive from the rain forest of Ranomafana to the savannahs and sandstone scenery of Isalo. Along the way we stop for lunch in a vibrant market town, and then visit Anja, a community reserve famed for ring-tailed lemurs playing against a dramatic mountain backdrop. We

will try late this afternoon to catch the sunset through "La Fenetre", a unique geological feature, a window onto the dramatic landscape. We will spend the next two nights in this stunning area in the luxurious Jardin du Roy. (moderate walking) *Overnight at Jardin du Roy* 

#### June 22 Wednesday

#### Isalo

Today we will explore the dramatic scenery of Islao National Park, with an early morning departure for Canyon Namaza to begin the picturesque hike up to Cascade des Nymphs, a spectacular hidden waterfall with emerald green pool, where we may see sifaka, red-fronted brown and ring-tailed lemurs along the trails. On the return we can go back to the lodge for lunch, or we can continue our hike to the Piscine Naturalle, a longer walk through this dramatic landscape, with a boxed lunch from the hotel. Keep your eyes out for stick insects. (1-7 miles hiking, 1-6 hours) *Overnight at Jardin du Roy* 

#### June 23 Thursday

#### **Zombitse and Tulear**

Today we head for the west coast and the coastal town of Tulear. Along the way we will visit Zombitse National Park, a refuge for a number of endemic birds and lemurs, and if we are lucky we may get to see sportive lemurs and Verreaux's sifaka, or the endemic Zombitse Greenbul! Our destination this afternoon is the very new and comfortable Moringa Hotel. Tonight we enjoy a delicious fresh seafood dinner at Le Jardin restaurant close to our hotel. (1-2 miles, 1-2 hours) Overnight at Moringa Hotel



#### June 24 Friday

#### Tulear to Antananarivo

This morning, if time allows, we will visit the Arboretum d'Antasky with an extensive array of spiny desert plants and perhaps a lemur or two before our afternoon flight to Antananarivo. The drive to the airport provides stunning views of city markets and the Mozambique Channel. *Overnight at Hotel Colbert* 

#### June 25 Saturday

#### Antananarivo to Anjajavy

This morning we take a private charter flight to Anjajavy, a resort only accessible by air! The luxury resort consists of 25 well-appointed bungalows set in a fairly large private reserve bordering two wide deserted beaches, some mangroves, small "tsingy" karstic limestone formations, and offering many aquatic activities as well as several hiking possibilities, most notably to the neighboring Sakalava villages of Anjajavy and Ambodro Ampasy where the owners of the resort have been very supportive in building a dispensary, a primary school, and starting several micro-lending schemes. The lodge's private nature reserve just behind the landscaped garden has a varied fauna and flora, with some remarkable endemic species such as the delightful Coquerel's sifaka, lovebirds, Cuvier's spiny iguana, abundant malachite kingfishers, pygmy kingfishers, and much more. Overnight at Anjajavy







# June 26 Anjajavy Sunday Today is a

Today is at leisure to explore the grounds of Anjajavy and marvel at the incredible array of wildlife so easily viewed here. There are Coquerel's sifaka seemingly everywhere, troops of brown lemurs sneaking peeks into the windows of your stunning bungalow, Madagascar fish eagles are regularly seen as well as a vast array of other bird-life - vangas, lovebirds, Vasa parrots, and so much more. The resort really is a haven for wildlife! Of course you can also just relax by the pool, swim in the ocean or even go snorkeling! *Overnight at Anjajavy* 

#### June 27 Anja Monday Our

#### Anjajavy

Our last full day to relax before the flights home, and a day to reflect on the true magic of Madagascar. We can still choose from the range of activities on offer here, be entertained by the leaping sifakas, or just relax at the pool and enjoy afternoon tea in the "Oasis." *Overnight at Anjajavy* 

#### June 28 Tuesday

#### Anjajavy to Antananarivo and flights home

Relaxed breakfast this morning and a chance to pack before our flight back to Antananarivo. Upon arrival we either transfer to the International Airport for flights home, or we have day rooms at a nearby hotel for those who have later onward flights. (PLEASE ENSURE YOUR FLIGHT HOME IS NO EARLIER THAN 3PM).

Note to all prospective travelers: Please read the itinerary carefully so that you understand all aspects of the tour, including the amount of travel by road within Madagascar. We feel that road travel gives one the best feel for the varied landscapes and people of Madagascar. The group will travel in comfortable and roomy coaster busses. Also, please note walking distances and know that trails can be muddy and slippery. Lastly, please understand that Madagascar is a developing country, where things do not always work perfectly – we encourage everyone to maintain a spirit of flexibility and adventure!





#### **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

**PROGRAM RATE:** \$8,399 per person, double occupancy. **SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** \$1,000 (limited availability)

**OPTIONAL EXTENSION:** please inquire with Terra Incognita Ecotours

#### **Rate Includes**

- lodging and meals as per itinerary
- domestic flights within Madagascar
- airport transfers and taxes within Madagascar
- services of English-speaking guide
- services of vehicle and driver as needed throughout
- excursions, entrance fees and local guides in parks and reserves
- gratuities to Madagascar ground staff
- bottled water and soft drinks
- pre-departure material, including reading list

#### Not Included in Rate

- international air fare to/from Madagascar
- alcoholic beverages
- personal items such as phone, fax, laundry
- trip cancellation insurance
- excess baggage and any other items not specifically mentioned as included

**AIRFARE:** Terra Incognita Ecotours (TIE) will be pleased to assist with air travel arrangements from your home city to Antananarivo, Madagascar for a processing fee of \$50 per person. Domestic airfare will be quoted on an individual basis and is payable by credit card only. Frequent flyer mileage cannot be accepted in conjunction with this program.

**INSURANCE:** Duke Alumni Association (DAA) will provide travel insurance information upon confirmation of your reservation.

#### **APPLICATION / CANCELLATION / REFUNDS:**

A \$1,000 deposit is required upon application, of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees. This deposit is required with the reservation application.

The balance of the trip cost is due 90 days before departure (March 14, 2016).

Notification of cancellations must be received in writing. Refunds will be made according to the following per person cancellation penalties:

- Up to 90 days before departure: \$500
- 90 days or less before departure: 100% of the total program price.

We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation/baggage/medical insurance.

**HEALTH:** This is an active program and all participants must be in good health. This program involves extensive walking over uneven surfaces, climbing stairs without handrails at locations that are not handicapped accessible. Any condition that may require assistance or special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation.

**CHANGES IN ITINERARY & COSTS:** The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of TIE and DAA. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfares and currency exchange rates in effect at time of brochure printing and are subject to change without notice. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are not permitted.

DISCLAIMER: Terra Incognita Ecotours and Duke University/DAA have no responsibility in whole or in part for any delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property or accident, mechanical, defect, failure or negligence of any nature howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation, or other services. Baggage is at the owner's risk entirely. The right is retained to decline to accept or retain any person as a trip member should such person's health, mental condition, physical infirmity, or attitude jeopardize the operation of the trip or the rights, welfare, or enjoyment of other participants. We reserve the right to revise the program itinerary as needed.

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#### MADAGASCAR WITH DUKE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

#### **RESERVATION APPLICATION**

June 12 - 29, 2016

To reserve a place, please complete and return this form with a \$1,000 deposit per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Terra Incognita Ecotours. Mail to: Duke Alumni Travel, Box 90572, Durham, NC 27708. Or fax: (919) 660-0148. Or call: (800) FOR-DUKE.

FIRST PARTICIPANT

NAME IN FULL AS ON PASSPORT			
HOME ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
TELEPHONE (HOME)	E-MAIL		
PASSPORT NUMBER	EXPIRATION DATE		
CITIZENSHIP	DATE OF BIRTH		☐ M ☐ F GENDER
SECOND PARTICIPANT			
NAME IN FULL AS ON PASSPORT			
HOME ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
TELEPHONE (HOME)	E-MAIL		
PASSPORT NUMBER	EXPIRATION DATE		
CITIZENSHIP	DATE OF BIRTH		☐ M ☐ F GENDER
Hotel Room Preference			
☐ Double ☐ Twin ☐ Single (at a supplement of	\$1,000) I wish to share a room with		
Form of Payment			
☐ Enclosed is my check for deposit of \$1,000 per pers	on, payable to Terra Incognita Ecotours.		
☐ Please charge to my credit card this amount:	Signature		
Credit card #	Expiration date	Security code	
Address as it appears on credit card statement			
Each participant must sign below.			
I/we confirm that I/we have fully read and agree to the I/we confirm to full payment by check or credit card w			
SIGNATURE REQUIRED	DATE		
SIGNATURE REQUIRED	DATE		