

## MADAGASCAR INFORMATION: Part II

Take only bags that travel along easily in small planes. If you come from a central European country you do not need any special electricity plugs.

**Clothing:** Take a long sleeved T-Shirt for the evening as protection against the mosquitoes and the coldness in the highlands. A thin pareo is fine as a towel on the beach. Do not forget plastic shoes for when you go swimming and be careful not to step on sea urchins. Take also a light rain jacket for the rain in the Eastern coast, though thanks to the hot weather clothes dry quickly. Good walking shoes are essential for tracking tours.

### Medical Supplies:

- Injection needles
- Medication against diarrhea
- Medication against dehydration
- Anti mosquito stuff (mosquito net)
- Efficient sun cream (sun protection and mosquitoes repellents are much more expensive in Madagascar)
- A lotion against swollen legs/feet during long flights
- Malaria pills

**Photo Equipment:** Take extra batteries for camera's and all the film you think you need. Do not forget to bring binoculars also with you to see wildlife on the branch.

**BUDGET:** These prices below are for an idea but you could tie up your belt for your own expenses.

- Breakfast: from 4 euro up to 8 euro per person.
- Meals (lunch or dinner): from 12 euro up to 30 euro per person.
- Local guide fees in the parks: from 10 euro up to 35 euro for 2 people.
- Hotels: from 25 euro up to 500 euro per night.

**CAPITAL:** Antananarivo

**LANGUAGES:** Malagasy is the official language and most the people use, but French is for administrative only. A few people involved in the tourism industry might be able to speak some English.

**ELECTRICAL POWER:** Electrical current is 220 volts AC, 50Hz. plugs are generally two-pin. Power blackouts are usual so take a torch with you. In rural areas there is still no electricity, so that most hotels operate an own generator, which runs normally in the late afternoon and in the early morning.

### Public Holiday in Madagascar:

- 1 January, New Year's Day
- 8 March, International Women's Day, half-day holiday
- 29 March, 29 March 1947 Memorial Day
- Easter Monday
- 1 May, Labour Day
- 25 May, Organization of African Unity Day
- Whit Monday
- Ascension Day
- 26 June, National Holiday
- 15 August, Feast of the Assumption
- 1 November, All Saints Day
- 25 December, Christmas Day

### Office opening hours:

#### *Administration:*

- Morning: 8.30 am to 12.00 pm
- Afternoon: 13.30 pm to 4.30 pm

#### *Private Companies:*

- Morning: 8.00 am to 12.00 am
- Afternoon: 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm

**ANTI – MALARIA:** Precautions are recommended for all tours and clients are advised to bring insect repellent and a malaria prophylaxis.

**VISIT MADA TOURS** (local tour company in Madagascar)

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