



**PHOTOGRAPHY ADVENTURE**

With Matthew Williams-Ellis

# PIONEER EXPEDITIONS



DO SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY...

## ITINERARY

Madagascar • Photography Adventure

14 DAYS • 13 NIGHTS

Antananarivo – Perinet Reserve – Andasibe National Park – Antsirabe – Ranomafana National Park – Isalo National Park – Ifaty  
(Optional Extensions: Beach extension and/or Morondava extension)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit and photograph the outstanding **Ranomafana National Park** – home to **12 lemur species**.
- Explore and photograph the famous **Andasibe & remarkable Isalo National Parks**.
- Close **unforgettable lemur encounters**. Seeing **Madagascar's largest lemur, the mighty 'Indri'**.
- Experience a perfect ending to your trip, relaxing and photographing the **stunning coastal town of Ifaty**.

## TOUR ESSENTIALS

Tour Style	Photography Tour
Tour Start	Antananarivo
Tour End	Antananarivo
Accommodation	Hotel, Eco-Lodge
Included Meals	13 Breakfasts, 9 Lunches, 12 Dinners
Difficulty Level	Medium
Group Size	Max. 8 people

### CAPTURING THE LAND OF THE LEMURS



Develop your photography skills while in the stunning national parks of Southern Madagascar. Experience and capture its outstanding landscapes, unique culture, diverse flora and fauna with the guidance of an award winning travel photographer Matthew Williams-Ellis.



Pioneer Expeditions  
Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e info@pioneerexpeditions.com

Mad20

# MADAGASCAR PHOTOGRAPHY ADVENTURE *an overview*

Madagascar is a one-off; there is no other place like it. Its landscapes, animals and plants are simply incredible! Near the equator with an astonishing array of habitats, ranging from rainforests to deserts and from mountain tops to mangrove swamps, it is one of the most important countries for biodiversity on the planet. The tropical climate is a perfect host to the process of nature and, like nowhere else, the variety and richness of life has flourished.

**This photographic holiday is all about learning, practicing and experimenting with newly acquired techniques, tips and tricks, while exploring various locations across Madagascar. With time spent flicking through slides, sat indoors is kept to a minimum!**

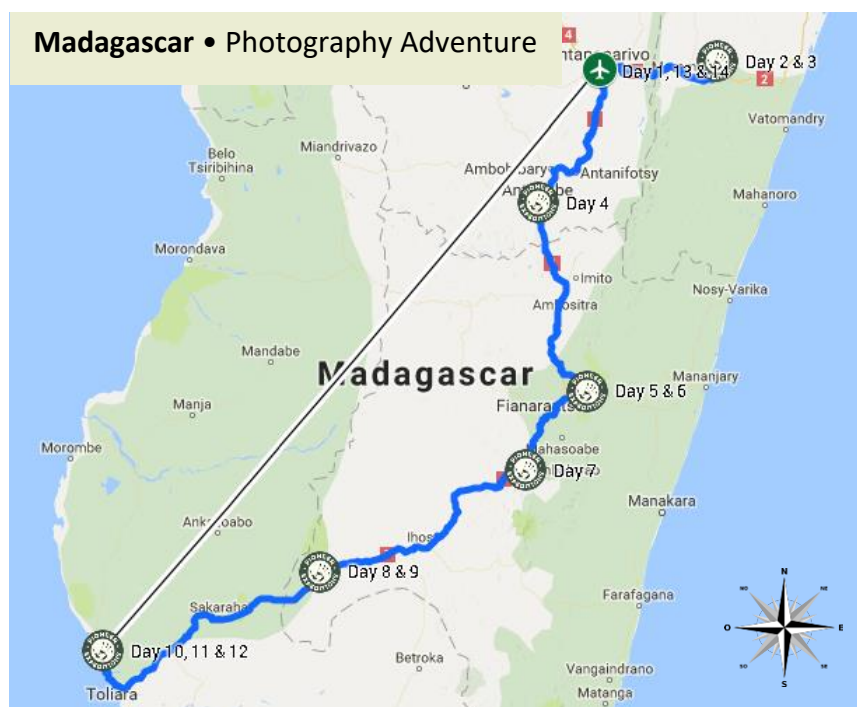
**By the end of the trip, you will feel confident about both technical and creative aspects of photography. You will learn to take control of your camera using shutter speed, aperture and ISO to create the look that you want from your photography. You will further your photographic eye, develop a proactive photography mindset and understand how to apply this to any given situation in order to allow you to capture eye-catching and emotive photographs when traveling in the future.**

**When we are not out and about, Matthew will provide feedback and guidance on photos taken during the day, as well as offering assistance with editing, organisation and output of images.**

## WHY PIONEER EXPEDITIONS?

We really are one of the few specialists that really “do” off the beaten track and unique adventures in MADAGASCAR. We are driven by a passion for adventure travel and wildlife and Madagascar is one of our main specialities. We know it inside-out, and continuously collaborate with our local partners and tour guides to ensure that you have the best experiences on your dream Madagascan adventure – this focus is reflected in our uniquely wonderful itineraries. Our experts are on hand whether you are looking for a small group trip or a bespoke holiday.

## ITINERARY



Mad20

Pioneer Expeditions

Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e info@pioneerexpeditions.com

## DAY 1: Tongasoa eto Antananarivo!

After arriving in Antananarivo (or Tana, as it is known by the locals), you will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel.

*Antananarivo is the capital and largest city in Madagascar. It is buzzing with activity and full of people flooding the streets, selling everything you could imagine! Tana (as the locals call it) resembles a Mediterranean hill town and exploring its rich cultural and architectural sites on foot is relatively easy (as long as you are willing to climb hundreds of ancient stone steps) It is a hectic city though and we would recommend a driver / guide if you want to explore this city.*



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**N/A**



Distance:  
**Airport Transfer**



Activity:  
**Personal Preference**

## DAY 2: Heading to Andasibe National Park to experience our first encounter with lemurs!



Photo by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis

This morning we will set off to the Andasibe-Mantadia National Park (previously known as Perinet) where you will spend 1 ½ days exploring this wonderful environment. En-route we will stop at a farm specialising in Madagascan reptiles and butterflies, before arriving at our hotel. This afternoon you will get a chance to stroll around the private reserve of Vakona Lodge with the opportunity to spot lemurs and crocodiles. This evening, take a twilight/nocturnal walk, looking out for the nocturnal species of lemur by catching their eyes in the torchlight.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

*Today you will have the opportunity to practice street photography and macro photography. You will be photographing chameleons and reptiles in a controlled environment, allowing you to experiment with different compositions and settings to ensure that your camera skills and creative eye is ready for the national parks visited later in the trip.*



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**150km (3hrs Driving)**



Activity:  
**Wildlife Encounters & Photography**



## DAY 3: Discovering the beauty and wildlife of the unforgettable **Andasibe National Park**

Today we will explore and photograph the marvellous nature of Andasibe National Park.

*Andasibe-Mantadia National Park (formerly known as Perinet) is a 155 square kilometer protected area, about 150 km east of Antananarivo (approx. a three hour drive) consisting principally of primary growth forest. These are home to the teddy bear-like Indri, the largest of Madagascar's lemur species, as well 11 lemur species in total and a wide array of bird life too. Listening to the piercing yet melancholy cry of the Indri in the morning is an evocative experience and for those who are prepared to follow them through the thick rainforest, the reward is often a close-up view of these beautiful creatures. This National Park was inscribed in the World Heritage Site in 2007 as part of the Rainforests of the Atsinanana.*



Photo by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis

### PHOTOGRAPHY

*With your new found control over the camera, you will have the opportunity to capture images of lemurs in the wild in Andasibe National Park. Lemur Island, later in the day offers another chance to hone in your compositional techniques in an environment which is more relaxed. This is the time when we will try out new skills, focus on seeking out the best light, and get creative with slow shutter speeds. The evening is the perfect time to review your images from the day and receive advice on editing and organising your photos.*



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**N/A**



Activity:  
**Wildlife and Photography**

## DAY 4: Heading south to the charming town of **Antsirabe**

We will set off early this morning for a full-day journey to Antsirabe (via Tana). The driving time is approximately 7 hours. We will stop for lunch along the way. Before arriving in Antsirabe, today will be a great chance to experience Malagasy life on the road.

*Antsirabe is a tidy, well maintained town which combines the tranquility of a small European provincial town with the exuberance of traditional Malagasy buildings. The third largest city in Madagascar, Antsirabe is known for its relatively cool climate (as the rest of the central region of the country), its industry and the high concentration of pulled rickshaws.*



Photo by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis



Pioneer Expeditions

Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e info@pioneerexpeditions.com

Mad20



Photos by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Today we will concentrate more on people and street photography than wildlife photography. You will learn to make the most of the natural light when doing street portraiture and while exploring markets, we will discuss how to simplify a scene, bringing different compositional elements together for an eye-catching but uncomplicated street shot.



Overnight:  
Hotel



Meals:  
B, L, D



Distance:  
310km (7hrs Driving)



Activity:  
Culture/Drive & Photography

## DAY 5: On the road towards Ranomafana and the Hot Springs



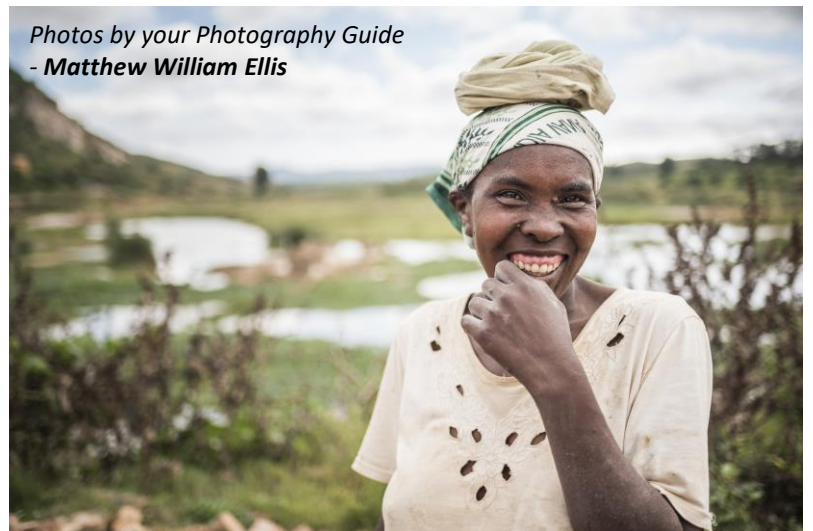
We will set out after an early breakfast towards Ranomafana National Park (approx. 4 hours driving on good roads). Our accommodation is located just outside of Ranomafana (just 10 minutes from the park entrance). This afternoon you have the option of visiting the thermal baths in Ranomafana or looking around the village which offers the most superb scenery.



### PHOTOGRAPHY

I hope you are ready for an early morning! Having already explored wildlife and street photography, today it is time to chase the light on a landscape shoot of some of Madagascar's stunning rice terraces. A tripod is recommended, but not a requirement. Photography is about being proactive and searching out the good photographic opportunities, rather than waiting for them to come to you. All the decisions should be made before the shutter button is pressed. After being encouraged to think about the type of photo you want to achieve, the rest of the day will also offer plenty of opportunities to practice portraiture and candid street photography.

Photos by your Photography Guide  
- Matthew William Ellis



Overnight:  
Hotel



Meals:  
B, L, D



Distance:  
225km (4hrs Driving)



Activity:  
Photography & Personal Preference



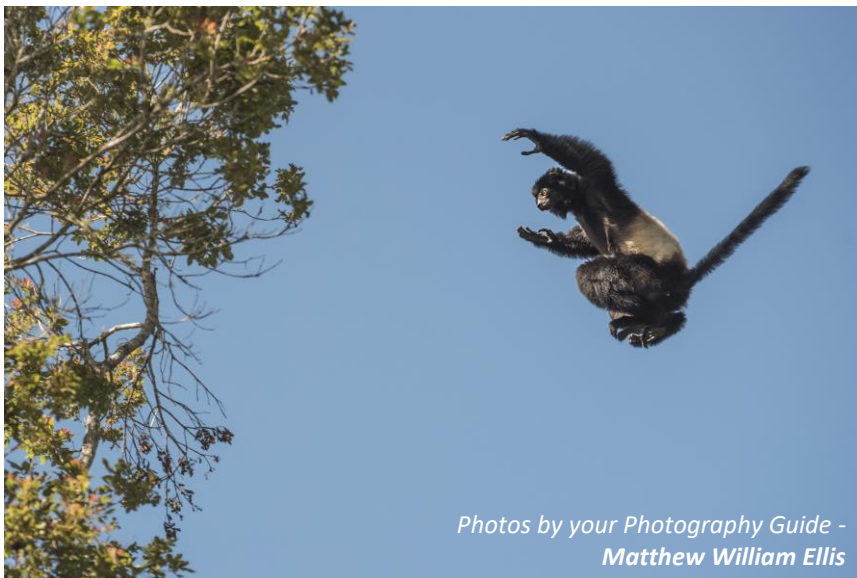
## DAY 6: Exploring the magnificent Ranomafana National Park

Today you have the opportunity to explore the enchanting Ranomafana National Park and search for lemurs on a full day trek through lush rainforest.

*Ranomafana is particularly rich and beautiful, a mountainous subtropical park which contains lowland moist forest, cloud forest and high plateau forest and is the home to a large number of lemur species (13 in total), as well as 118 birds and more than 70 amphibians and reptiles so is really a great place to see some of the unique species living in Madagascar. Lemurs include the brown lemur, golden bamboo lemur and the exceptionally rare greater bamboo lemur which is relatively easy to see in Ranomafana. Wildlife viewing is good all year round but is most productive from mid-Sept to May.*



Photo by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis



Photos by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Patience is a necessity, but it will be well worth it when you capture some really wild photos of some of the 13 Lemur species as they explore the canopy in Ranomafana National Park.



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**N/A**



Activity:  
**Trekking, Wildlife and Photography**

## DAY 7: Goodbye Ranomafana. Hello Ambalavao!

*Situated in tropical surroundings in the most southern part of the central highlands, near Fianarantsoa, Ambalavao is noted for its houses with wooden balconies with elaborate carvings and tiled roofs. It is also known for its lively cattle market on Monday and Thursdays on the outskirts of town where you will be able to see a large number of Zebu and herdsmen on the roads.*



Pioneer Expeditions  
Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e info@pioneerexpeditions.com

Mad20

## PHOTOGRAPHY

As well as practicing all the previously acquired skills, today we will also focus on the idea of telling stories with your photos. Travel photography is about taking a series of images that shed light on a subject, not just about taking individual stand alone photos. If you can capture different elements of a story with each shot, your images will immediately draw in the viewer, whether being presented in a photo book, as a blog post, as prints on your wall, or even just as a slideshow to friends and family on your computer.



Photos by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis



Overnight:  
Hotel



Meals:  
B, L, D



Distance:  
115km (2hrs Driving)



Activity:  
Culture & Photography

## DAY 8: Journeying towards Isalo and encountering wildlife at Anja Reserve

Created in 2001 and located near Ambalavao, the Anja Community Reserve is a woodland area and freshwater lake, at the base a large cliff. Most of the reserve is dominated by fallen rocks and boulders but interestingly there are two small caves providing habitat for bats and owls. The reserve was created to help preserve the local environment and wildlife and is one of the more touristy places you visit, however is perfect for lovers of walking and wildlife and offers an unique occasion to interact with 'wild' ring-tailed lemurs somewhere between tamed and familiar!



This morning we will get a chance to visit the Anja Reserve (just a few kms from Ambalavao) before transferring to the extraordinary Isalo National Park. Enroute we'll get the chance to stop off at traditional markets and pass through quaint villages. This extraordinarily unique area of natural beauty is unlike any other place in Madagascar.



Photos by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis

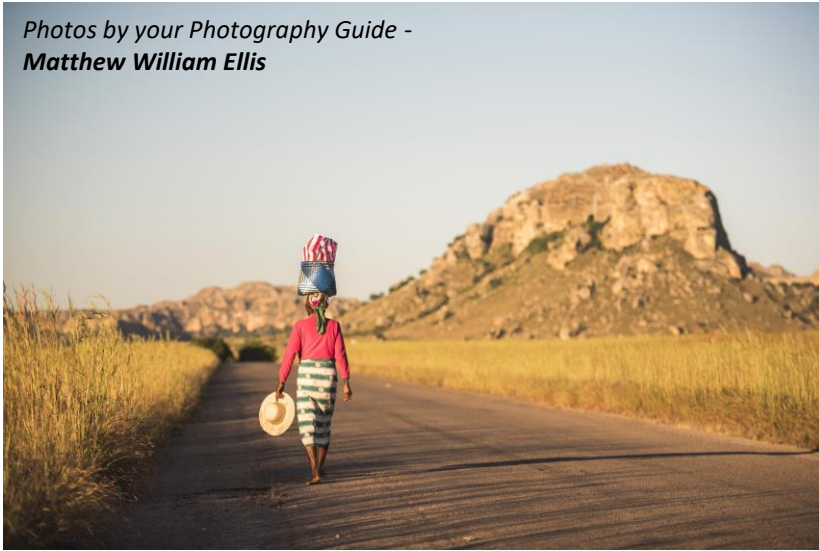


Pioneer Expeditions  
Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e info@pioneerexpeditions.com

Mad20



Photos by your Photography Guide -  
**Matthew William Ellis**



## PHOTOGRAPHY

As well as practicing all the previously acquired skills, today we will also focus on the idea of telling stories with your photos. Travel photography is about taking a series of images that shed light on a subject, not just about taking individual stand alone photos. If you can capture different elements of a story with each shot, your images will immediately draw in the viewer, whether being presented in a photo book, as a blog post, as prints on your wall, or even just as a slideshow to friends and family on your computer.



Overnight:  
**Eco-Lodge**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Distance:  
**250km (3-4hrs Driving)**



Activity:  
**Culture, Wildlife & Photography**

## DAY 9: Unearthing the wonders of the remarkable Isalo National Park

Today we will visit this breathtaking National Park. Included will be the opportunity to swim in a natural pool with lunch on trail.

*Isalo is the park of the Big South and the most visited parks of Madagascar. It is known for its exceptional landscape. The Isalo National Park protects over 81,000 hectares of widely eroded Jurassic sandstone massif. The grassy plains are surrounded by sandstone ridges. Most of the vegetated areas of the park are covered with dry grassland or sparse, low deciduous woodland, however near streams and in deeper canyons there are also ferns and feathery palm trees. Animal life isn't the parks most prominent feature, but there a few species to look for including six species of lemur (three nocturnal, three daytime) including the ring tail lemur and the White (dancing lemur) sifaka. It is also home to approx 55 species of bird including the rare Benson's rock-thrush.*



Photos by your Photography Guide -  
**Matthew William Ellis**



Pioneer Expeditions

Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e info@pioneerexpeditions.com

Mad20

Photos by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis



### PHOTOGRAPHY

While Isalo finally offers you the chance to photograph the infamous ring-tailed lemurs, it also offers so much more. The flora, fauna and landscape are breathtaking. You will be encouraged to document the different aspects of what a hike in Isalo park means as if on commission with Conde Nast Traveller Magazine. All the while, you will receive a combination of group and one to one tuition, helping your photographic eye develop.



Overnight:  
Eco-Lodge



Meals:  
B, L, D



Distance:  
N/A



Activity:  
Trekking and Wildlife

## DAY 10: Journeying to the stunning coastal town of Ifaty

Today we head to Ifaty and the Indian Ocean. This afternoon we can relax at a lovely hotel with bungalows along the beach.



Photos by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis



Pioneer Expeditions  
Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e info@pioneerexpeditions.com

Mad20

Photos by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis



### PHOTOGRAPHY

With all your new photographic know-how, Ifaty offers the option of either kicking back, relaxing and maybe looking through a few photos from the trip, or continuing to build on your already varied portfolio of images. With the beach quite literally on your doorstep, a sunrise or sunset walk offers great opportunities for golden hour portraits and landscapes. If the weather is good, we may even be lucky enough to have the opportunity to photograph a baobab under the stars.



Overnight:  
Hotel



Meals:  
B, L, D



Distance:  
260km (4hrs Driving)



Activity:  
Beach and Wildlife

## DAY 11 & 12: Discovering the African paradise of Ifaty and its surrounding fascinations

These two days can be spent at your leisure, experiencing what beautiful Ifaty and its surrounding areas have to offer.

*Facing the Mozambique Channel and the superb coral reef of Ifaty, less than 20 kms from Tuléar, you will discover the beauty of beaches not tainted by mass tourism. Ifaty is a small fishing village with palm fringed white beaches on the south western coast of Madagascar, and is an ideal place to relax after visiting the central highlands. The beach is relatively narrow, but the (off shore) snorkeling and diving is good. In July and August, you may see migrating whales pass nearby through the Mozambique Channel. Between May and October, the humpback whales can sometimes be seen with their whale calves.*



Photos by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis



Pioneer Expeditions

Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e info@pioneerexpeditions.com

Mad20



Photos by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Your official photography tuition is over, and you can take a couple of days to really enter holiday mode before the journey home. Matthew will still be around to offer one to one advice on editing images, to provide critiques and portfolio advice when selecting your best photos from the trip and to answer any final questions you might have.



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, D**



Distance:  
**N/A**



Activity:  
**Personal Preference/Beach**

## DAY 13: Back to Antananarivo

We will catch the Air Madagascar flight from Tulear to Tana. Depending on your time of arrival in Tana you can visit the handicraft market, before transferring to your hotel.

Photos by your Photography Guide -  
Matthew William Ellis



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B**



Distance:  
**Short Flight**



Activity:  
**Personal Preference**

## DAY 14: End of Trip

Transfer to airport in time for flight home. If you are on the Air France or Air Kenya trip which leaves early morning of day 15, you can opt to have a day use room &/or driver/guide for the day (not included).



Overnight:  
**N/A**



Meals:  
**B**



Distance:  
**N/A**



Activity:  
**Onward Journey/Flight Home**



Pioneer Expeditions  
Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e info@pioneerexpeditions.com

Mad20

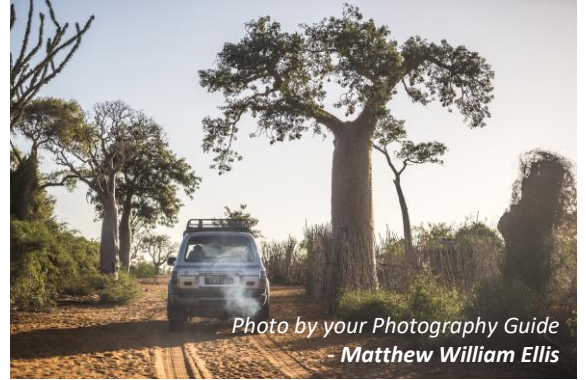
## PHOTOGRAPHY

Travel photography is an amalgamation of many different techniques. In order to paint a complete picture of a destination, you need to ensure you capture the details of its quirks, its colours, textures and patterns, its people and its landscapes. This trip will provide you with the camera skills and creative photographic eye that you need in order to do this in any destination. This will ensure you return home from both this trip and future adventures with photos you can print off, frame, hang up on the wall and be proud of.

Please note to take advantage of sunrise VERY early mornings may be necessary. These are usually optional.

## GETTING AROUND

- Transport will consist of 4x4, to give you the most authentic, off-the-beaten track experience. These vehicles are best at tackling the challenging roads that Madagascar primarily consists of.
- Madagascar is notorious for the unreliability of its domestic flights in terms of time. The flights schedules are always subject to change at anytime and can experience cancellations, which are not ideal when following a schedule! ; For this reason we tend to travel by road for the most part.
- Distances and times will of course be lengthy due to the vastness of the island and lack of good-quality road systems throughout the country. However, this all adds to the adventurousness of any Madagascar trip; but is definitely something to be aware of whilst travelling around Madagascar.



**NB:** We can also tailor itineraries to suit your exact requirements. When driving times are given, this is only an indication. It aims to reflect the actual driving time (and doesn't include stops, lunch, traffic). The road journeys, while often long, are one of the great ways to experience Madagascar. There is so much life on the road and many photographic opportunities along the way from a natural and people perspective.

If this trip isn't quite what you are looking for, we can **tailor itineraries** to suit your exact requirements.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Included

- All meals as described (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner)
- Water during tours
- Accommodation as described
- English speaking naturalist guide from day 2 – day 10
- Photographic Guide – Matthew Williams-Ellis
- All tutorials
- All transfers
- Internal flight ticket
- All entrance fees

### Not Included

- International flights (These can be arranged through us, if needed)
- Meals other than mentioned
- Alcoholic and soft drinks
- Tips
- Personal expenses
- Optional tours/activities at Beach



Pioneer Expeditions

Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e info@pioneerexpeditions.com

Mad20

## ACCOMMODATION *at a glance*

	Location	Accommodation	Example
Night 1	Antananarivo	Hotel	<i>Relais des Plateaux</i>
Night 2 & 3	Andasibe	Hotel	<i>Andasibe Hotel</i>
Night 4	Antsirabe	Hotel	<i>Chambres des Voyageurs</i>
Night 5 & 6	Ranomafana	Hotel	<i>Thermal Hotel</i>
Night 7	Ambalavao	Hotel	<i>Zongo Hotel</i>
Night 8 & 9	Isalo	Eco-Lodge	<i>Isalo Ranch</i>
Night 10, 11 & 12	Ifaty	Hotel	<i>Le Paradisier</i>
Night 13	Antananarivo	Hotel	<i>Palissandre Hotel</i>



## MEET YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDE



### MATTHEW WILLIAMS-ELLIS

Matthew is a documentary, destination and commercial travel photographer, who has been a finalist in Travel Photographer of the Year three years running.

In 2016 Matthew travelled to Madagascar with Pioneer Expeditions to embark on a recce to design this trip.



Pioneer Expeditions  
Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e info@pioneerexpeditions.com

Mad20

# Madagascar Photography Adventure

## EXTENSION EXAMPLES

Feel free to **contact us** for more information on all of our Madagascar Extensions. Alternatively, browse through our extension document, available from our website.

Here are some of our most recommend Madagascar Photography Adventure extensions:

### 1. A paradise ending to your trip with our **Beach Extensions**

#### Ifaty



Adding a beach extension to this trip is the best way to unwind on two of South West Madagascar's most beautiful coastal areas. Stay in Ifaty for a bit longer or to experience something different, head south to the glorious beaches of Anakao.

#### Anakao



### 2. Head North for even more adventure with our **Morondava** Extension

Why not add an extension to Morondava onto your Madagascar trip and further your adventure. This will allow you to experience the Tsingy des Bemaraha as well as the Avenue des Baobabs (approx. 7 days needed – email us for details).



(Email us at [info@pioneerexpeditions.com](mailto:info@pioneerexpeditions.com) for costings and more information on these extensions, as well as even more extension ideas)



Pioneer Expeditions  
Stable Cottage • Chydyok Road • Chaldon Herring • Dorchester • DT2 8DN  
t 01202 798922 • e [info@pioneerexpeditions.com](mailto:info@pioneerexpeditions.com)

Mad20

# WHEN TO GO...

The majority of our Madagascar trips take place March to December, this is when Madagascar is at its best. The weather and climate can change a lot throughout the year and when you go to experience this remarkable country, depends on your preferences.

## Madagascar Autumn: **March - May** (Dry and Warm)

- After the rains have passed. Everything is lush and green and fertile
- March is great in the South West, but some roads in the North and West can still be recovering from the monsoon season.
- April and May is the perfect time to visit. Great wildlife, great weather and not too many tourists.

## Madagascar Winter: **June - August** (Dry)

- This ideal season for trekking / activities as is the coolest time in Madagascar. Temperature vary in the different areas but typically around 20 degree C
- Evenings (especially in the highlands) can get very cool at night (10 degrees C)
- Good time for seeing lemurs, but due to the cooler weather smaller mammals and reptile will be less active
- July and August can be busier in the national parks due to school holidays.
- August and September are ideal for keen birdwatchers to visit Madagascar.

## Madagascar Spring: **Sept - November** (Dry and Hot)

- September to November is highly popular, as even North Eastern Madagascar is dry now.
- August and September are ideal for keen birdwatchers to visit Madagascar.
- It is hotter with very little rain, great for spotting chameleons and lizards, but quite hot for trekking / activities – in November temperatures start to rise rapidly.
- October is particularly perfect for witnessing baby lemurs.
- Main downside with this time of year is that it is the peak season so national parks are busier with more tourists

## Madagascar Summer: **December – March** (Hot and Rainy Season)

- The rains start to come. The North East is still relatively dry in December and we offer many Christmas trips.
- January/February should definitely be avoided as it becomes monsoon season - due to the heavy rainfall causing the already difficult roads to become muddy and impassable. The RN7 is still drivable so the 'classic' Madagascar route is still possible for those who can only travel in this season
- This is the best time of year for orchid lovers



*"My favourite time of year is **May** because the rains have finished so everything is lush and green. You don't see many other tourists as they tend to go in September and October, but everything is just beautiful – it's pretty perfect."*

- **Laurenne Mansbridge**  
Pioneer Director





# MEET THE GUIDES *of Madagascar*

Our guides are at the forefront of your trip, so it's important you know who will be looking after you and showing you the wonders of this extraordinary country. We pride ourselves on having talented, trustworthy, knowledgeable and caring local guides. We have both Naturalist guides and Adventurist guides who will make your trip even more special. Nobody knows Madagascar quite like them!

## *Some of OUR NATURALIST GUIDES*



### **MAMY**

- Mamy is highly experienced and has been working as a guide since 1996.
- His main interests as a guide are fauna and flora, nature and landscapes, forestry, villages and cultures.
- His specialities are Birdwatching and Wildlife!



### **HERY**

- Hery has worked as a guide since 2006, where he trained in the Ranomafana National Park.
- He has a passion for amphibians and reptiles as well as botany. Heri has a particular interest in Orchids!
- His specialities are in Plants and of course, Wildlife.



### **TOKY**

- Toky has been working a guide since 2014, having previously studied Tourism in Antsirabe.
- His main passions as a guide are: Flora and Fauna, Cultures, Geography and History.
- His specialities lie in Madagascan Culture and Geology as well as Wildlife.

## *Some of OUR ADVENTURIST GUIDES*



### **MAX**



### **JOE**

- Following a considerably tough childhood, Joe has been happily and successfully working as a guide since 2005.
- His main passions as an adventurist guide are: rafting, kayaking, sea-kayaking as well as trekking.
- Following many years of experience, Joe's speciality lies in river-based activities and adventures.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Activity Duration	2 – 5 hours per day
Season	This region is best explored between April and December
Best Time To Go	Apr – May, Sept – Nov
Group Size	Max group size 8
Responsibility	As part of our commitment to responsible travel and in conjunction with Woodstock.org we finance a tree nursery and orchard in Italavina – which is a long term reforestation project.
Group Departures	We have a few group departures between April and December – please see website or contact us for exact dates. Alternatively we are able to arrange tailor-made or private departures to suit.
Difficulty Level	Our grades have been designated based on our perception of the degree of physical activity you are likely to require to enjoy the adventure. These are only a guideline. This itinerary has a ‘Medium’ level (2 – 5 hours of activities per day). This means that you will need an average level of fitness.

## THE PIONEER BOOKING PROCESS

Where do you go from here? Well, you can feel free to email us at [info@pioneerexpeditions.com](mailto:info@pioneerexpeditions.com) if you’re interested in this trip, or any of our other expeditions from around the world. Visit our website [www.pioneerexpeditions.com](http://www.pioneerexpeditions.com) to unearth all of our other equally amazing trips and destinations.

### 1. Contact us -

We will be happy to answer any questions or enquiries you may have. From here we will begin to plan and put together your dream adventure holiday! Alternatively, on our website you will find our booking and enquiry forms; once filled in, we will be notified of your enquiry and will get back to you ASAP.

### 2. Leave everything to us -

Everything will be arranged and booked by us, but we will make sure to keep you updated every step of the way. In addition, we can arrange your international flights if needed, as we have access to competitive airfares. We can also arrange any additional tours or additional night’s accommodation.

### 3. Wait for your adventure to begin -

Sit back and count down the days until your trip of a lifetime with Pioneer Expeditions. We’ll handle all of the last minute preparations and provide you with everything you need. All practical information will be sent out to you, prior to your trip.

If you feel like adding to your trip either side of this set itinerary to suit your personal preferences, we can arrange all of that and more – just get in contact with us and let us know your requirements and wishes. From here, we can simply tailor-make your dream holiday.

