

Madagascar's Lemurs

Naturetrek Tour Report

13 - 29 November 2007



Comet Moth - *Argema mittrei*



Ring-tailed Lemurs



Greater Bamboo Lemur



Indri

Report & photos compiled by Paul Harnes



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton Alresford Hampshire SO24 0NG England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour Leaders: Paul Harmes (Naturetrek leader)
Rivomahefa Rarivosoa (Local Guide)
Andre (Driver)

Participants: Sylvia and Graham Butson
Hilary and John Luck
Rosie Lundgren
Shona Mackintosh
Rebecca Mayor
Rob Jackson-Jones
Vivienne Palmer

Day 1

Tuesday 13th November

Weather: London, clear and bright. Paris, cloudy with some rain.

Seven group members met with Paul, the Naturetrek leader, at the departure gate at London Heathrow Airport, Terminal 2, for the Air France flight AF1871 to Paris Charles de Gaulle, departing at 16-00hrs. Upon our arrival in Paris, we soon found our way to the new rapid transit system, and made short journey to the Ibis Hotel, where we were to spend the night. Whilst Paul was waiting to check us in, we made contact with Sylvia and Graham, who had arrived earlier from Southampton.

Day 2

Wednesday 14th November

Weather: Dull, overcast, windy and damp. Antananarivo (Tana), Hot.

After an early breakfast, the whole group met in the Hotel lobby at 07-00hrs, before making our way, via the rapid transit system to, Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport, Terminal 2C, and our Air France flight AF0908 to Tana, departing at 10-15hrs, arriving at 21-55hrs after an eleven hour flight. Having completed immigration formalities and the collection of our luggage, we met with Rivo, our local guide, and a driver, who assisted with the changing of currency and the moving of our baggage to our waiting bus. From the airport, we transferred to the Hotel Plaza for the night.

Day 3

Thursday 15th November

Weather: Tana: Bright and warm. Fort Dauphin: Dry, hot and sunny.

This morning we enjoyed coffee at 05-30hrs as it was too early for breakfast. This was because we needed to leave the hotel by 06-00hrs. Our Air Madagascar flight to Fort Dauphin departed at 07-00hrs. While Rivo ensured the safe checking of our luggage, we did a little early bird watching, having good views of Sooty Falcon, Red Fody, Madagascar Bee Eater, Madagascar Wagtail and Mascarene Martin.

As our flight was overbooked, Rivo put Bec, Rob and Paul on the first flight, telling us that the following flight would arrive shortly after the first!! What he did not know, was that the second flight would be going via Morondova, and unfortunately did not arrive in Fort Dauphin until two hours after the first flight, but no harm done.

From the airport, it was a short drive to the Fort Dauphin Hotel, where we booked into our rooms and deposited our luggage and gathered the restaurant for lunch, before boarding our transport to the local reserve of Nahampoana. This is an old French colonial bungalow, set in an area of parkland.

Ring-tailed Lemur and Verreaux's Sifakas were in close attendance, and performed well for the cameras. The afternoon was spent in what can only be described as a semi-natural botanic garden. This site has had a long history of European occupancy, and many of the trees and plants are obviously long established introductions. Our walk took us around the grounds through a bamboo forest and along the margins of small waterways. We had splendid views of a Spiny-backed Chameleon (*Furcifer verrucosus*), and distant views of Green and Blue Pigeons. We also spotted several beautifully marked Dragonflies.

Our afternoon was concluded with a short boat ride along the narrow river, through stands of *Typhonodorum lindleyanum*. As we progressed, a pair of Collared Brown Lemurs were spotted clambering in the trees overhanging the river, and a very large specimen of *Zonosaurus maximus* (South-eastern Girdled Lizard) was seen on the bank. From Nahampoana, we made the short journey back to the Hotel, for dinner.

Day 4

Friday 16th November

Weather: Bright and hot with a breeze.

A leisurely breakfast, we left the Fort Dauphin Hotel at 08-00hrs, boarding the bus to take us west to Berenty. Shortly after leaving the town, we stopped to pick up William, our local Berenty guide. Our first stop was made at Manambaro to take a look at a bustling weekly market. This was a colourful and interesting experience for all of us. Rejoining our bus, we were to make two further stops on our journey, the most significant of which was in an area of Transitional Forest, where the eastern wet forests meets the western dry spiny forest. Here we found *Alluandia procera* and the rare *Dypsis decaryi* (Three-cornered or Triangle Palm). Overhead, we saw a Madagascar Buzzard. Our second stop was to get first hand experience of Western spiny forest habitat. Here we spotted Madagascar Lesser Cuckoo, Magpie Robin and Yellow-billed Kite.

We arrived in Berenty in time for us to settle our luggage into our lodges, before meeting at the restaurant for lunch. As the middle of the day was particularly hot, and lemurs and birds are inactive, we opted for a siesta.

At 15-30hrs, we met in the reception area and set off for an afternoon walk with William and Rivo, in Tamarind Gallery Forest. The first encounter of the afternoon was a tree full of nesting Cattle Egrets. In some of the lower branched we got some very close views of Red-fronted Brown Lemurs. Several of the females had young, and were beginning to feed. A troop of Ring-tailed Lemurs was encountered a little further on, and were obliging enough to pose for pictures. Some of the birds we encountered included Giant Coua, White-browed Owl, Madagascar Hoopoe, Madagascar Manikin and Hook-Billed Vanga. William's sharp eyes also located an early rising Grey Mouse Lemur, which some of us managed to get a fleeting view of.

We also spent a short while watching a pair of Madagascar Paradise Flycatchers collecting spiders' webs to build their nest. We now made our way back to our lodges to prepare for dinner.

Day 5

Saturday 17th November

Weather: Fine, hot and sunny.

We had a very early start for some of the group today, as William was taking us Lemur and bird-watching. At day-break the forest is alive with activity as all the animals and birds feed before it gets too hot. The route, William chose, took us through Tamarind gallery forest. Madagascar Turtle-dove, Pied Crow and Crested Drongo were all early sightings, together with Ring-tailed Lemur and Red-fronted brown Lemur.

We made a stop by the River Fleuve de Mandrare, where we saw Common Greenshank, Grey-headed Lovebird, Kitzitz's Plover, Knob-billed Duck and Purple Heron. Further on, Giant Coua were also seen working their way through the leaf litter, quietly searching for insects. Another group of Red-fronted Brown Lemurs, we watched feeding in some low trees. Some of their youngsters were entertaining us with their desire to show their independence, until something frightened them, when they would make a quick dash for mum!

We now began to make our way back toward the lodges, passing fairly close to a tree where Flying Foxes were roosting. As we returned towards the breakfast area, a small group of feeding Verreaux's Sifaka were seen 'dancing' across the path. This small resident group were seen regularly around Berenty.

After breakfast, we boarded the bus and made the short journey to an area of spiny forest, close to the entrance of the park. As we approached to stopping spot, a tiny Madagascar Cisticola was spotted on some Aloes. Our short walk this morning was in total contrast to the Tamarind gallery forest. Here it was much drier, hotter and with very little or no shade. A crested Drongo was seen sitting on her nest, and William pointed out the curious white nymphs of Flated Leaf Bugs. Cicadas were chirping at regular and orchestrated intervals, and we found *Chalerodon madagascariensis* (Three-eyed Lizard) and *Zonosaurus laticaudata* (Lined Plated Lizard). William's sharp eyes spotted two individual White-footed Sportive Lemurs, sleeping in separate *Alluandia procera* (Octopus Trees). It was now mid-morning and the temperature was rising rapidly, so we made our way back to base for a rest before lunch.

After lunch we took some free time. Some of the group rested and some went off in search of their own wildlife or Lemur experiences. In the late afternoon, Paul, Rivo and William took some of the group to try and find the elusive Madagascar Sandgrouse. This proved very rewarding with good views of fourteen birds in flight and two on the ground. As it got dark, the whole group reconvened for a night walk in the spiny forest we had visited this morning. This proved quite productive with very good sightings for the whole group of Three reddish-grey Mouse Lemurs, one very obliging White-footed Sportive Lemur, a Tuft-tailed Rat and a splendid *Acrantophis madagascariensis* (Ground Boa). From here we returned to the restaurant for dinner.

Day 6

Sunday 18th November

Weather: Drizzle and cloud with rain later.

We took another early morning walk in the Tamarind Gallery forest, with William, Rivo and Paul, today, in order to get some final views of the local Lemur species and one or two birds that had eluded us so far. The Lemurs did not disappoint, with good views of Red-fronted Brown Lemurs.

On the bird front, we added Crested Coua, Broad-billed Roller, Cattle Egrets and a pair of the wonderful Sickie-billed Vanga. Once again on our return to the breakfast area we were greeted by the Verreaux's Sifaka group and the Ring-tailed Lemur Group.

Following breakfast, we took the opportunity to complete some last minute photography or some shopping and completed our packing, before we had an early lunch. With the luggage loaded into our bus, we now began our journey back to Fort Dauphin. We made one short stop to admire and photograph a splendid *Adansonia za* (Baobab Tree) and to purchase some small carved figures. Here we saw a Running Coua cross the road in front of the bus. Crested Coua and White-faced Duck were also spotted. A second and final stop was made en route to photograph a *Delonix regia* (Flamboyant Tree), which was in full and magnificent, red flower. On arrival at the Fort Dauphin Hotel, we bid a sad farewell to William, our guide and checked into our rooms. There was just enough time to socialise before dinner.

Day 7

Monday 19th November

Weather: Rain at first, fine, hot and sunny later.

Today we had a leisurely breakfast, leaving our hotel in time for the 11-00hrs flight from Fort Dauphin to Tulear. After a short delay, we arrived in the south west at 13-00hrs, only to be prevented from disembarking immediately, as the President of Madagascar was departing Tulear at the same time. Because we still had some way to go by road, Rivo and Paul introduced us to our driver, Andre who would now be with us for the rest of the trip. Andre and Paul took us for a short drive to the Arboretum d'Antsokay at Petignat, where we were to have lunch. The Arboretum was busy with bird activity with Sakalava Weaver, Namaqua Dove, Madagascar Button Quail and Madagascar Kestrel.

After completing our lunch, Rivo and Andre returned with the luggage and a full fuel tank, and we set off north eastward toward Isalo. Leaving Tulear we travelled northeast, passing small villages and encampments and several Mahafaly tribal tombs. Just before we reached the village of Andranovory, we passed a magnificent *Adansonia Za* (Baobab), thought to be at least 2000 years old. As we drove on, Yellow-billed Kite and Madagascar Kestrel were seen regularly.

Very soon the remnant spiny forest was left behind and we moved into the savannah grasslands. Passing through Mahabobka and Sakaraha before making a stop on the roadside as we passed through the Zombitse National Park, an area of dry deciduous forest. Here we were treated to some good views of perching Madagascar Cuckoo Roller, and a little further on, a single Madagascar Harrier Hawk, two superb sightings. Moving on, we passed through the Sapphire boom town of Ilakaka. Before arriving at the Hotel Le Jardin de Roy, our base for the night. After dark, the outside lighting attracted a good number of insect species. This included the Harlequin Hawk Moth, Rhinoceros Beetle and Praying Mantis.

Day 8

Tuesday 20th November

Weather: Bright and dry with high cloud, getting hotter later.

Today we arose at 06-00hrs for an early morning bird walk in the grounds of the Hotel. As it is set among rocks and forest, this was quite fruitful. We saw Crested Drongo, Madagascar Magpie Robin and Lesser Vassa Parrot

and Benson's Rock-thrush. We also heard, but could not see, White-throated Rail. Rivo also found a rather nice Lynx Spider (*Peucetia madagascariensis*). At the rear of the hotel, we saw the very rare *Ravenea rivularis* (A Palm).

After breakfast, we left the Hotel at 08-30hrs, driving on north eastward, stopping in the town of Ihosy for fuel and a comfort stop. The, by now, standard Madagascar Kestrel and Yellow-billed Kite were much in evidence as we travelled. As we had a long way to travel today, we continued on up to Ambalavao, where we took lunch at the Restaurant Bougenvilias. After a good lunch, Rivo took us into a small local paper factory, where a dozen or so workers produce items, many incorporating plants grown locally, as decoration, for sale to the large number of visitors that pass through the town.

From here we continued our journey north. Our next scheduled stop was in Fianarantsoa, Madagascar's second largest town. Here we stopped for fuel and refreshments. Moving on we drove the last 50km up to our destination at Ramanafana, arriving at the Setam Lodges in time for dinner. As we approached our destination, a small number of Red-fronted Brown Lemurs were seen.

Day 9

Wednesday 21st November

Weather: Misty early on, clearing to become Fine, warm and sunny. Cloudy later.

This mornings' early, 05-00hrs, morning stroll, was made all the more interesting by the thick mist. Tantalizing bird calls were very difficult to follow up. However, we did find Forest Fody, magpie Robin Green Jery and Souimanga Sunbird. On the roadside we also spotted the curious Giraffe-necked Weevil and a fine stand of *Cynorkis purpurescens* (Dancing Ladies).

After an early breakfast, 06-30hrs, we introduced to our local guide, Fidi before we boarded the bus and making our way down to the main National Park entrance. Ramanafana is a substantial area of Rain Forest and home to some very interesting wildlife. In the car park, Fidi showed us a magnificent Giant Centipede, and the *Phelsuma quadricillata* (Day Gecko) was seen basking on the bud of a Banana flower. Rand's Warbler was pointed out singing from the top of an adjacent tree. As we set off into the forest Fidi spotted an O'Shaughnessy's Chameleon (*Calumma oshaughnessyi*) in a bush. As we crossed the river bridge and into the rainforest, Mascarene Martins were seen in some numbers circling high.

Our first Lemur encounter was with a small group of Golden Bamboo Lemur, feeding and grooming some ten feet or so above the ground, giving splendid photo opportunities. The next species we encountered was Red-bellied Lemur. This was a fairly large group and they were making their methodical way through the trees stopping occasionally to browse or groom. After watching these endearing creatures for about twenty minutes, Fidi was alerted by another guide to a group of the scarce Broad-nosed or Greater Bamboo Lemurs. This particular species is the subject of an ongoing intensive study, and there were several zoologists monitoring the feeding habits when we arrived to observe. Once again first class views we had by all.

We continued along some distance of undulating paths and up to a viewpoint. Close to the platform Rivo and Fidi found a pair of Chameleon (*Furcifer balteatus*) and we also saw Golden Orb-web Spider (*Nephilia madagascariensis*) and heard Spectacled Greenbul. It was now time to make our way back to Setam Lodge for lunch and a relaxing afternoon.

At 16-30hrs we returned to the National park. Some of the group chose to take a stroll down the road with Rivo, back towards Setam Lodge. The rest joined Fidi and Paul back in the rain forest. All of the group, however, were shown a roosting Comet Moth (*Argema mittrei*). This magnificent insect has a wingspan approaching eight inches with equal long lower wing tails and is a stunning yellow in colour. The first group set off down the road recording Chabert's Vanga, Blue Vanga and a fine *Sanzinia madagascariensis* (Tree Boa).

The second group added Brown Mouse Lemur and the secretive *Fossa fossana* (Civet), together with fleeting views of Pitta-like Ground Roller, before returning to the lodge for dinner.

Day 10

Thursday 22nd November

Weather: Misty and cloudy at first, becoming dry, hot and sunny.

Today we had a very early breakfast at 05-30hrs. Making our way down to the National Park entrance Rivo and another local guide, Jean-chry were going back into the rainforest in search of more Lemurs. Fidi and Paul took the rest of the group to look for birds in another area of the National Park called Vohiparara.

The first group had to work quite hard in their search for Lemurs, and were unsuccessful by the end of the morning. However, they did get splendid views of Madagascar Pigmy Kingfisher perched and a pair of Pitta-like Ground Rollers, searching for insects in the leaf litter. The birders did a little better adding Tyla's Vanga, Pollen's Vanga, Dark Newtonia, a female Velvet Asity and a fleeting glimpse of Sunbird Asity. They also had a sighting of a pair of dozing Red-bellied Lemurs.

Following lunch and a siesta, we offered the same late afternoon options as yesterday, only this time Paul led the group walking back to the lodge and Rivo, the rainforest group. The forest group, once again, saw the Civet and the Brown Dwarf Lemur, but had the added bonus of a pair of Milne-Edwards Sifakas which remained in full view for some time. The strollers, meantime, added some further good views of Chabert's Vanga and some extended views of some of the commoner, but elusive species. These included White-eye and Common Newtonia. We all reconvened at the lodge for dinner.

Day 11

Friday 23rd November

Weather: Fine, warm and sunny, becoming cloudy later.

After a leisurely breakfast, we boarded our bus and set off towards our stop-over destination of Ansirabe. We made a short stop by the splendid waterfall, just past the park entrance, where we found a number of Spider species and a fine display of *Drosera* species (Sundew), on a wet cliff face. Most of the group were keen to take pictures. Continuing on, we made a mid-morning stop in Ambofumahaso to admire a splendid Heronry with Cattle Egrets, both colour forms of Diamorphic Heron and several Black-crowned Night herons. We also took a little time to visit part of the local market. As we progressed we began to pass a number of paddy fields. Hammerkop was spotted sitting on the bank of a paddy and Madagascar Kingfisher was seen flying over as well.

Today we took our lunch, on the outskirts of Ambositra, in one of the local Hotelys, called 'Mendrinka', where they permitted us to eat our packed lunch in return for purchasing drinks.

However, Rivo and Andre took full advantage and tucked into stewed Cassava leaves, meat and rice. The adjacent paddy fields were teeming with dragonflies. Shortly after resuming our journey, Rivo and Paul spotted a large raptor circling over the road. A careful check showed the bird to be a Madagascar Cuckoo Hawk. Another stop by the river, south of Soavina produced a pair of Common Sandpiper and a very obliging pair of Madagascar Little Grebe, which everyone had good views of. We arrived at the Arotel hotel in Ansirabe, in time for people to visit the swimming pool or the local town, before dinner.

Day 12

Saturday 24th November

Weather: Fine, warm and sunny.

We left Ansirabe at 07-30hrs, after breakfast, and drove north towards Antananarivo (Tana), via Antanifotsy and Ambatolampy, passing vast area of paddy fields and small plantations of Sugarcane, Papaya and other cultivation. Past roadside stalls selling everything from splendid produce, wooden cars and lorries, and religious figures. We also spotted Great Egret, Cattle Egret, Diamorphic Heron and Hammerkop. We made our way into Tana and to the Hotel de France, where we took our lunch.

We left Tana at 14-00hrs travelling eastwards towards Manjakandrina and Moramanga, where we stopped for petrol, and on to our destination of Andasibe. Once again the paddy fields produced Hammerkop and Striated or Green-backed Heron. We arrived at Perinet and Andasibe at 17-00hrs, and drove on up to Vakona Lodge, our base for the next four nights

Day 13

Sunday 25th November

Weather: Fine, Hot and sunny.

We had an early breakfast at 06-00hrs, this morning before boarding the bus and driving down to the rainforest centre at Perinet, where we met with Maurice, our local guide and Lalina, his student guide.

After a brief look at the interactive displays in the Perinet centre, and a short introduction to the various sections of the Andasibe area, we set off into the Special Reserve. In the distance we could hear the plaintive call of the Indri. As we set off, Maurice found *Calumma brevicornis* (Short-horned Chameleon). It took us some 30 minutes to get into the forest, passing a number of introduced plant and tree species. By now the Indri were in full voice, and it was not long before we found a family group, where we spent a further 40 minutes with them. Some Common Brown Lemurs were seen high in the canopy, but we still had good views of them. We also saw Eastern Bamboo Lemur mother with a baby, that seemed extremely active and independent and happy to feed alone. We also saw Blue Coua and Blue Vanga as well as the nest of a Velvet Asity.

As we returned to the bus, following a very fruitful and rewarding morning, we saw a pair of sleeping Woolly Lemurs, and Maurice caught a *Liopholidophis lateralis* (Lined or Grass Snake). We returned to Vakona Lodge for lunch and a quiet afternoon. Later on we returned to the Special Reserve at Perinet, and the forest. During this excursion we saw a pair of Madagascar Wood Rail and Red-fronted Coua along with *Calumma parsonii* (Parson's Chameleon) and Common Tenrec. On the Lemur front we found Eastern Grey Bamboo Lemurs and Common Brown Lemurs.

As it began to get dark, we made our way back to the car park and down to Fy an yala, where Greater Dwarf Lemur could be seen licking banana off the side of a *Ravenala madagascariensis* (Traveller Palm). We concluded our day with a torchlight walk along the road. Tiny Fireflies produced pinpoints of light as we walked. Our first find was *Calumma gastrotaenia* (Short-nosed Chameleon) climbing in a bush. Shortly after, we had a fleeting glimpse of Goodman's Mouse Lemur, and a second Greater Dwarf Lemur, which remained on view for some time. It was now time to return to Vakona Lodge for Dinner.

Day 14

Monday 26th November

Weather: Fine, Hot and sunny.

Today we were going to Mantadia Special Reserve to explore a section of primary rainforest. We again met with Maurice and Lalina at Perinet. As we arrived, Madagascar Lesser Cuckoo was calling constantly and Mascarine Martin was recorded. As we entered the forest we encountered the diminutive Palm, *Dypsis hildebrandtii*. There were also the early morning mournful calls of the Indri, but we did not see them. It took quite a lot of time to track down the Lemurs, but eventually, Maurice succeeded getting us some great views of Diadem Sifaka. A small family group, including a mother with baby, was lounging around in the canopy, and one or two individuals were active lower down. We spent a good 35 minutes watching their antics. These particular Lemurs can be very secretive and difficult to observe, so we were very fortunate.

In the leaf litter around our feet, Maurice found *Brookesia superciliaris* (Stump-tailed Chameleon) and a beautiful *Mantella madagascariensis* (Frog). As we continued on through the forest, Rivo spotted the peculiar *Uroplatus ebenani* (Spearpoint Leaf-tailed Gecko) hanging motionless in a small bush. After about two and a half hours, we emerged onto the track. In the forest canopy opposite, Maurice found us a family of Black and White Ruffed Lemurs high in the trees. Broad-billed Rollers were also calling continuously. Having observed the Lemurs for some time, we carried on up the path to a small lake, where Madagascar Little Grebe and Madagascar Kingfisher were seen well. Once again, the lakes emergent vegetation was patrolled by a number of splendid Dragonflies and Damselflies.

We now rejoined to the bus in order to return to Vakona Lodge for lunch. However, Maurice had a surprise up his sleeve, a Scaly Ground Roller feeding its young at the nest-hole in the ground. Following a leisurely afternoon, we took the bus to 'Lemur Island'. As the name suggests, this small island is home to Common Brown Lemurs, Black and White Ruffed Lemurs, Diadem Sifaka and Eastern Grey Bamboo Lemurs, all of which are free to roam, but are very humanised. Nevertheless, they did provide some splendid photo opportunities.

We completed our day with a visit to what I can only describe as a small zoo. This comprised a small lake, with a good number of Crocodiles, several cages with captive *Cryptoprocta ferox* (Fossa), another with birds and a third with *Sanzinia madagascariensis* (Tree boa).

Day 15

Tuesday 27th November

Weather: Fine, Hot and sunny.

A rare and unhurried breakfast today, we caught the bus at 07-00hrs to return to the Perinet Special reserve, in order to have a final Indri experience.

After leaving the car park and following the track, we saw a Blue Pigeon sitting high up in a tree, and Rand's Warbler at fairly close quarters. A Cuckoo Roller was soaring overhead calling regularly. Making our way further into the forest, Lalina found a tiny Mantydactylus Frog, before we encountered a small group of Diadem Sifaka enjoying breakfast. The Indri were now calling in the distance, so we made our way in their direction, finding several animals in the trees by the river. Some were browsing leaves and some were resting. However, it was not long before they began to move off.

Meanwhile John and Rivo, who were doing some birding, had added White-throated Oxylabes to the list. The curious shiny green Pill Millipedes were everywhere along the track. Our final Lemur moment came when we found a small group of Common Brown Lemur, again in the trees by the river. As returned to the car park, we found another Giraffe-necked Weevil and, as we reached the car park, we saw *Calumma nasuta* (Nose-horn Chameleon) well camouflaged on the bark of a tree. A small amount of souvenir shopping was undertaken, before returning to Vakona Lodge for lunch.

As tomorrow was going to be a particularly long day, we did nothing further until 18-30hrs when Rivo and Paul led an evening torchlight foray around the lodge. Several species of Stick Insect and Crickets were seen, as well as a Smooth-toothed Sportive Lemur and *Calumma nasuta*.

Day 16

Wednesday 28th November

Weather: Fine warm and sunny.

A late breakfast was had before we left Andasibe for the journey back to Tana. We took our lunch in the Hotel Plaza in the city, before spending the afternoon exploring the Tsimbazaza Zoological and Botanic gardens in Tana, and visiting the town and shops. Returning to the Plaza Hotel, we completed our packing and met for dinner, before leaving for the Airport for the Air France flight AF0905 to Paris Charles de Gaulle.

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Species Lists

	Common name	Scientific name	November													
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Lemurs																
1	Indri	<i>Indri indri</i>												•	H	•
2	Diademed Sifaka	<i>Propithecus diadema diadema</i>													•	•
3	Milne-Edwards Diademed Sifaka	<i>Propithecus diadema edwardsi</i>									2					
4	Verreaux's Sifaka	<i>Propithecus verreauxi verreauxi</i>	•	•	•	•										
5	Woolly Lemur (Avahi)	<i>Avahi laniger</i>												•	•	
6	Ring-tailed Lemur	<i>Lemur catta</i>	•	•	•	•										
7	Black and White Ruffed Lemur	<i>Varecia variegata variegata</i>													•	
8	Red-bellied Lemur	<i>Eulemur rubiventer</i>								•	•					
9	Common Brown Lemur	<i>Eulemur fulvus fulvus</i>												•		•
10	Red-fronted Brown Lemur	<i>Eulemur fulvus rufus</i>		•	•	•			•							
11	Collared Brown Lemur	<i>Eulemur fulvus collaris</i>	•													
12	Greater Bamboo Lemur	<i>Haplemur simus</i>								•						
13	Eastern Grey Bamboo Lemur	<i>Haplemur griseus griseus</i>										•		•	•	
14	Golden Bamboo Lemur	<i>Prolemur simus</i>								•						
15	Grey Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus murinus</i>		1												
16	Brown Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus rufus</i>								•	•					
17	Reddish-grey Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus griseorufus</i>			•											
18	Goodman's Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus lehilahytsara</i>												1		
19	Greater Dwarf Lemur	<i>Cheirogalus major</i>												•		
20	White-footed Sportive Lemur	<i>Lepilemur leucopus</i>		•	•											
21	Small-tooth Sportive Lemur	<i>Lepilemur microdon</i>														1

Other Mammals

1	Fanaloka (Striped Civet)	<i>Fossa fossana</i>								•	•					
2	Eastern Ring-tailed Mongoose	<i>Galidia elegans</i>	•						•							
3	Common or Tail-less Tenrec	<i>Tenrec ecaudatus</i>												•		
4	Lowland Streaked Tenrec	<i>Hemicentetes semispinosus</i>			•					•						•
5	Western Tuft-tailed rat	<i>Eliurus myoxinus</i>														
6	Madagascar Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus rufus</i>			•											

			November													
Common name	Scientific name		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Birds

1	Madagascar Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus pelzelni</i>									•			•		
2	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					•				•					•
3	Green-backed or Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>										•				•
4	Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>										•				•
5	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•				•
6	Black Egret	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>										•				•
7	Dimorphic Egret	<i>Egretta dimorpha</i>						•			•	•				•
8	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			•		•								•	
9	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>						•								
10	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>						•			•	•				•
11	White-faced Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>				•	•									
12	Comb or Knob-billed Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>			•											
13	Madagascar Buzzard	<i>Buteo brachypterus</i>		•						•						
14	Madagascar Cuckoo Hawk	<i>Aviceda madagascariensis</i>									•					
15	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•				•
16	Madagascar Harrier-hawk	<i>Polyboroides radiatus</i>					•									
17	Henst's Goshawk	<i>Accipiter henstii</i>								H						
18	Frances's Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter francesiae</i>		LO	•				•							
19	Madagascar Kestrel	<i>Falco newtoni</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•				•
20	Sooty Falcon	<i>Falco concolor</i>	•													
21	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>		•	•		•									
22	Madagascar Wood-rail	<i>Canirallus kioloides</i>											•			
23	Madagascar Buttonquail	<i>Turnix nigricollis</i>					•									
24	White-throated Rail	<i>Dryolimnas cuvieri</i>						H								
25	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>											•			
26	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>			•											
27	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			•											
28	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			•						•	•				
29	Madagascar Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles personatus</i>			•											
30	Rock Dove or Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	•	•			•	•		•	•	•				•

	Common name	Scientific name	November														
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
31	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>		•	•	•	•						•				
32	Madagascar Blue-pigeon	<i>Alectroenas madagascariensis</i>	•	•						LO	LO				•	•	
33	Madagascar Green-pigeon	<i>Treron australis</i>	•														
34	Madagascar Turtle-dove	<i>Streptopelia picturata</i>		•	•	•				H	H	•		•	H	H	•
35	Grey-headed Lovebird	<i>Agapornis canus</i>			•	•											
36	Greater Vasa Parrot	<i>Coracopsis vasa</i>								•							
37	Black or Lesser Vasa Parrot	<i>Coracopsis nigra</i>	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	
38	Madagascar Coucal	<i>Centropus toulou</i>	•	•	•	•	•	H	H	•	H	•	•	•	H	•	
39	Madagascar Lesser Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus rochii</i>		•	H	H	H		H	H	•		H	H	H	H	
40	Running Coua	<i>Coua cursor</i>		•		•											
41	Giant Coua	<i>Coua gigas</i>		•	•	•											
42	Red-fronted Coua	<i>Coua reynaudii</i>									H			•			
43	Blue Coua	<i>Coua caerulea</i>								•	H			•	•		
44	Crested Coua	<i>Coua cristata</i>		•	•	•											
45	White-browed Owl	<i>Ninox supercilialis</i>		•	H												
46	Rainforest Scops-owl	<i>Otus rutilus</i>									H			H	•		
47	Torotoroka Scops-owl	<i>Otus madagascariensis</i>			•												
48	Madagascar Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus madagascariensis</i>		•		H											
49	Collared Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus enarratus</i>								•							
50	Madagascar Black Swift	<i>Apus balstoni</i>					•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	
51	Malagasy Spine-tailed Swift	<i>Zoonavena grandidieri</i>								•							
52	African Palm-swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>					•	•									
53	Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>						LO									
54	Mascarene Martin	<i>Phedina borbonica</i>	•							•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
55	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>									•	•					
56	Malagasy Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo vintsioides</i>			•							•	•		•		
57	Madagascar Pygmy-kingfisher	<i>Ispidina madagascariensis</i>									•						
58	Madagascar Bee-eater	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>	•				•	•									
59	Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>			•	•		•			H				•		
60	Madagascar Cuckoo-roller	<i>Leptosomus discolor</i>					•		H	•			H		•		
61	Scaly Ground-roller	<i>Brachypteracias squamigera</i>													•		
62	Pitta-like Ground-roller	<i>Atelornis pittoides</i>								•	•						

	Common name	Scientific name	November													
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
63	Velvet Asity	<i>Philepitta castanea</i>									•					
64	Yellow-bellied Sunbird-Asity	<i>Neodrepanis hypoxanthus</i>									LO					
65	Madagascar Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
66	Grey-crowned Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus cinereiceps</i>									•					
67	Long-billed Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus madagascariensis</i>									•		•		•	
68	Spectacled Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus zosterops</i>								H	•		•		•	
69	White-throated Oxylabes	<i>Oxylabes madagascariensis</i>														•
70	Madagascar Magpie-robin	<i>Copsychus albospecularis</i>		•	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•
71	Madagascar Hoopoe	<i>Upupa marginata</i>		•	•											
72	Benson's Rock-thrush	<i>Pseudocossyphus bensoni</i>							•							
73	African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>							•		•	•	•			•
74	Madagascar Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flaviventris</i>	•						•	•	•	•		•	•	•
75	Madagascar Paradise-flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone mutata</i>		•	•	•			•			•		•	•	•
76	Ward's Vanga (Flycatcher)	<i>Pseudobias wardi</i>									•					
77	Common Newtonia	<i>Newtonia brunneicauda</i>		•	H				•		•					•
78	Dark Newtonia	<i>Newtonia amphichroa</i>									•					
79	Madagascar Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cherinus</i>	H		•		•	•								
80	Madagascar Bush Lark	<i>Mirafra hova</i>				•	•	•								
81	Madagascar Swamp-warbler	<i>Acrocephalus newtoni</i>									•					
82	Madagascar Brush-warbler	<i>Nesillas typica</i>								•	•					•
83	Common Jery	<i>Neomixis tenella</i>		•	•	•					•	•				•
84	Stripe-throated Jery	<i>Neomixis striatigula</i>		•							•					
85	Green Jery	<i>Neomixis viridis</i>								•	•				•	•
86	Rand's Warbler	<i>Randia pseudozosterops</i>								•				•		•
87	Cryptic Warbler	<i>Cryptosylvicola randrianasoloi</i>									•					
88	Madagascar White-eye	<i>Zosterops maderaspatanus</i>			•					•	•	•		•	•	•
89	Madagascar Green Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris notatus</i>							•		•					
90	Souimanga Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris souimanga</i>		•					•	•	•	H		H	•	•
91	White-headed Vanga	<i>Artamella viridis</i>			•											
92	Chabert's Vanga	<i>Leptopterus chabert</i>								•	•					
93	Madagascar Blue Vanga	<i>Cyanolanius madagascarinus</i>								•	•			•		
94	Sickle-billed Vanga	<i>Falcula palliata</i>			•											

	Common name	Scientific name	November														
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
95	Red-tailed Vanga	<i>Calicalicus madagascariensis</i>												•		•	
96	Hook-billed Vanga	<i>Vanga curvirostris</i>		•	H	•								•			
97	Pollen's Vanga	<i>Xenopirostris polleni</i>									•						
98	Tylas Vanga	<i>Tylas eduardi</i>									•						
99	Madagascar Cuckoo Shrike	<i>Coracina cinerea</i>								•	•			•			
100	Madagascar Starling	<i>Saroglossa aurata</i>								•	•						•
101	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•			•	•
102	Crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus forficatus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
103	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•			•
104	Madagascar or Red Fody	<i>Foudia madagascariensis</i>	•				•		•		•						•
105	Forest Fody	<i>Foudia omissa</i>							•				•			•	
106	Sakalava Weaver	<i>Ploceus sakalava</i>	•		•	•	•										
107	Nelicourvi Weaver	<i>Ploceus nelicourvi</i>							•	•					•	•	
108	Madagascar Munia or Mannikin	<i>Lonchura nana</i>		•													•

Reptiles & Amphibians

1	Stump-tailed Chameleon	<i>Brookesia superciliaris</i>														•	
2	Short-nosed Chameleon	<i>Calumma gastrotaenia</i>															•
3	Short-horned Chameleon	<i>Calumma brevicornis</i>								•				•	•	•	
4	Parson's Chameleon	<i>Calumma parsonii</i>									•			•			
5	Nose-horned Chameleon	<i>Calumma nasuta</i>								•				•			
6	O'Shaughnessy's Chameleon	<i>Calumma oshaughnessyi</i>								•							
7	Chameleon	<i>Furcifer balteatus</i>								•							
8	Spiny-backed Chameleon	<i>Furcifer verrucosus</i>	•	•	•		•										
9	Three-eyed Lizard	<i>Chalerodon madagascariensis</i>		•	•												
10	Skink	<i>Mabuya elegans</i>	•													•	
11	Lined Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma lineata bifasciata</i>	•									•	•		•	•	•
12	Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma laticaudata</i>	•														
13	Gecko	<i>Phelsuma leogusta</i>					•										
14	Gecko	<i>Phelsuma mutabilis</i>			•												
15	Gecko	<i>Phelsuma quadriocellata</i>								•	•						
16	Spearpoint Leaf-tailed Gecko	<i>Uroplatus ebenai</i>													•		
17	Lined Plated Lizard	<i>Zonosaurus laticaudata</i>			•												

	Common name	Scientific name	November													
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
18	South-eastern Girdled Lizard	<i>Zonosaurus maximus</i>	•													
19	Four-lined Plated Lizard	<i>Zonosaurus quadrilineatus</i>									•					
20	Madagascar Girdled Lizard	<i>Zonosaurus madagascariensis</i>												•	•	
21	Madagascar Tree Boa	<i>Sanzinia madagascariensis</i>								•	•					
22	Madagascar Ground Boa	<i>Acrantophis madagascariensis</i>			•	•										
23	Lined Snake	<i>Liopholidophis lateralis</i>								•			•			
24	Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus nilicolis</i>	C		C											
25	Madagascar Jumping Frog	<i>Aglyptodactylus madagascariensis</i>									•				•	
26	Tree Frog	<i>Mantidactylus pulcher</i>									•					
27	Painted or Golden Frog	<i>Mantella madagascariensis</i>												•		
28	Mascarene Rocket Frog	<i>Ptychadena mascareniensis</i>									•					

Other taxa

1	Madagascar Leech									•	•					
2	Forest Land Crab	<i>c.f. Cardisoma sp</i>								•						
3	Golden Orb-web Spider	<i>Nephila madagascariensis</i>								•	•		•			•
4	Orb Spider	<i>Nephilia sp</i>								•						
5	Thorn Spider (Orange)	<i>Gasteracanthinae sp</i>											•		•	
6	Thorn Spider (Yellow / Black)	<i>Gasteracanthinae sp</i>								•	•					
7	Lynx Spider	<i>Peucetia madagascariensis</i>						•								
8	Huntsman Spider	<i>Holconia sp</i>								•						
9	Giraffe-necked Weevil	<i>Trachelophorus giraffa</i>								•	•				•	
10	Click Beetle	<i>Alus carpulentus</i>		•												
11	Click Beetle (Black)	-								•						
12	Long-horned Beetle	-		•	•	•										
13	Rhinoceros Beetle	<i>Oryctes sp.</i>					•									
14	Cicada	<i>Tibicinidae sp</i>														•
15	Cockroach (Black)	-					•									
16	Pill Millipede (Green)	<i>Sphaerotherium sp</i>		•							•		•	•	•	
17	Giant Millipede	-								•	•			•		
18	Flatid Leaf-bug (Nymphs)	<i>Phromnia rosea</i>			•	•										
19	Firefly	<i>Lampyridae sp</i>											•			
20	Desert Locust	<i>Schistocerca gregaria</i>		•	•	•										

	Common name	Scientific name	November													
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
21	Praying Mantis	<i>Mantis sp</i>		•												
22	Leaf Mantid	<i>C. madegassa</i>														•
23	Nose' Grasshopper	<i>Acrida sp.</i>							•							
24	Camel' Cricket	<i>c.f. Tachycines sp</i>						•								
25	African Monarch	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>	•					•				•				•
26	Kite Swallowtail	<i>Graphium eyambar</i>					•									
27	Citrus Swallowtail	<i>Papilio demodocus</i>	•													
28	Blue Pansy	<i>Junonia orythia</i>					•									•
29	Ant Lion	<i>c.f. Namoptera</i>				•										
30	Harlequin Hawk Moth	<i>Batocnema coquereli</i>						•					•	•		
31	Comet Moth	<i>Argema mittrei</i>										•	•			
32	Sunset Moth	<i>Urania ripheus</i>						•		•	•	•				
33	Moth	<i>Panogena jasmini</i>		•	•						•					
34	Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>											•		•	
35	Dragonfly (Red)	<i>Trithemis selika</i>	•													
36	Dragonfly	<i>Orthetrum julia</i>											•			
37	Dragonfly	<i>Palpopleura lucia</i>											•			
38	Dragonfly (Blue - dark wing marks)	<i>Thermosthemis madagascariensis</i>	•												•	•

Key: LO = Leader Only; C = Captive; H = Heard

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