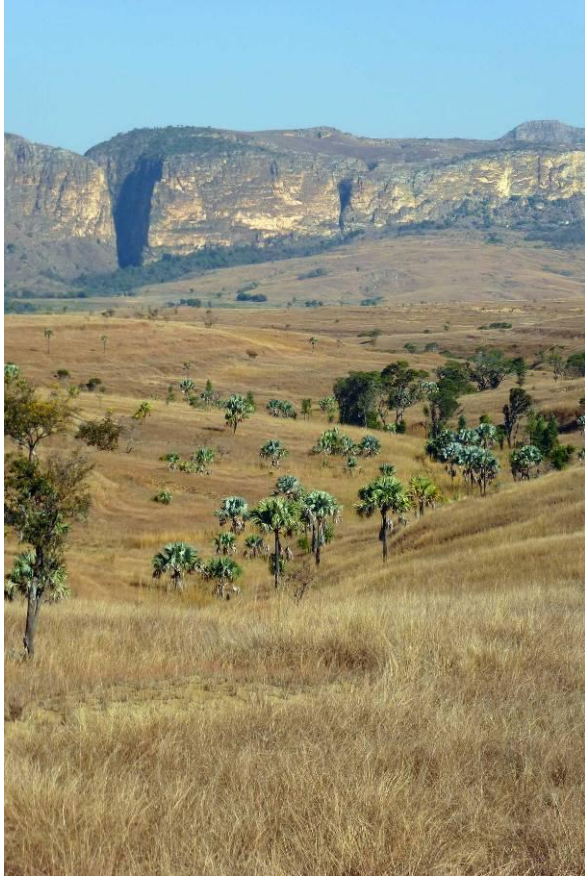


# Madagascar's Lemurs

Naturetrek Tour Report

13 - 28 September 2012

---



Isalo National Park



Verreux's Sifaka



Sub-desert Mesite

Report and images compiled by Toby Abrehart



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton Alresford Hampshire SO24 0NG England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour Leaders:                   Toby Abrehart                   Naturetrek Leader  
  Claude Rambeloson            Local Guide

Participants:                   Lesley Lee  
  Jennifer Harvey  
  Colin Perry  
  Caroline Perry  
  Paula Bridge  
  Robin Wright  
  Lesley Wright  
  Ginny Troussard  
  Jenny Craddock  
  Rowan Hillson  
  Liz Lewis  
  Jim Chapman

## Day 1

**Thursday 13th September**

Weather: Paris - Fair

Some members of the group met at Heathrow for our Air France flight to Paris. Once in Paris we made our way to our hotel for the night.

## Day 2

**Friday 14th September**

Weather: Paris - fair; Tana - warm

In the morning having met with nearly all the rest of the group we set off to Charles de Gaulle Airport on the hotel shuttle bus for our Air France flight to Tana. The group split up to find breakfast and then re-appeared at the gate for boarding. We took off a little later than expected but made it up on the way. We arrived at Tana at 10pm after the eleven hour flight. Once at Tana we had to complete the immigration and visa formalities, and once we were all through we picked up our bags and went through to meet Claude (our guide for the tour), who helped us with our currency exchange and moved our bags into the waiting bus with our driver ready to take us to the Orchid Hotel for our first night in Madagascar.

## Day 3

**Saturday 15th September**

Weather – hot and sunny

This morning we set off for our transfer to Antsirabe and the Coulear Café Hotel was via the Lemur Park to the west of Tana at Katsaoka. On the way we were intrigued by the brick making and clothes washing on the sides of the river - a sight that was to be repeated all over Madagascar. The paddy fields held numerous Dimorphic Heron and Great White Egrets, with numerous Mascarene Martins feeding over them.

On arrival at the Lemur Park we pre-ordered our lunch (a theme that would become familiar and increase our viewing time throughout the holiday) - while this formality was being done we had some nice views of Madagascar White-eyes and Madagascar Bulbuls. We started wandering around the park, and with ten species of Lemur here it wasn't long until we had some fabulous sightings of Coquerel's Sifaka sunbathing in the trees. Our first Oustalet's Chameleon was seen slowly moving along the ground, and the Golden Orb-web Spiders were impressive. Near to the river were more species, with Crowned Sifaka, Ring-tailed, Black and White Ruffed, Common Brown and Eastern Bamboo Lemurs all seen very well, we even had the Coquerel's Sifaka dancing past us! The river's edge held Madagascan Kingfisher some Mad. Bee-eaters and a Mad. Brush Warbler. After lunch we had our four hour drive to the Coulear Hotel. We arrived in the dark and quickly got settled and went in for a drink and a chat before supper.

## Day 4

Sunday 16th September

Weather: Bright and sunny

We had a leisurely breakfast for our 07.45 start for the long drive to Ranomafana. We drove through some native forest. At the comfort stop, a fabulous Mad Kingfisher showed well near the river. A bit further on we stopped for a break in Ambositra. We had a bit of time for a coffee and some artisan trinket shopping. After we re-grouped we set off again towards Ranomafana. Whilst heading through the highlands we stopped off at a marsh spot hoping to find Mad. Snipe, to no avail, yet a Madagascar Buzzard was being mobbed by Mad. Kestrels and a Mad. Wagtail was busy feeding on the lilac water lilies, a small herd of Zebu were feeding in amongst the water lilies.

A late lunch stop was had at a private lemur reserve on the edge of the escarpment, where we had a filling lunch, and as we were leaving Claude noticed some Red-bellied Lemurs which had come into the forest camp. The male and the four females treated us to some very close views as they came in for a bit of banana. After this we set off again for the Centrest Hotel in Ranomafana. Along the way we found the views wonderful although also disturbing, due to the fact that there was so little native vegetation anywhere, and how every inch of the land was being utilized by the locals. We arrived yet again in the dark, but within 40 minutes we were off out for an evening walk along the roadside. Here our park guides started finding animals straight away, with an *Uroplatus ebenau* Spear point leaf-tailed Gecko, *Boophis madagascariensis* tree frog and three species of Chameleon. As Claude wandered along the road he noticed some eye shine – some of the group were in a position to see a Grey Mouse Lemur, scurrying through the undergrowth not far from the group. It was unfortunately shy and only some of the group saw this tiny Lemur. Supper beckoned with some soup and shrimp curry, followed by more flambéed Pineapple. Check list then bed

## Day 5

Monday 17th September

Weather: overcast though clearing with some rain

An early breakfast was followed by a bit of bird watching whilst we waited for the group to assemble. With a couple of Chabert's Vangas, Mad. Magpie Robins and some obliging Mad. Green Sunbirds along with the more abundant Souimanga Sunbirds it was a nice start to the day.

The short journey to the park entrance gave us time to search for birds while the park fees were being organised by Fidy and his brother Jean-Chrys, two of Ranomafana's most experienced guides, species seen included Forest Fody, Mad. Starling, Mad. Green Sunbirds and many Palm Swifts. We set off into the forest, along a steep track to the Namorona River where a brief Mad. Pygmy Kingfisher was seen near an adjacent stream. Afterwards we got to the bridge which had numerous Golden Orb Spiders and their webs crossing the width of the river, over the bridge we started along the trail in search of our first Lemur of the day and what a way to start, with four Golden Bamboo Lemurs feeding in the trees by the river, this species is endemic to the national park and we were lucky to see them so well so early on. Birds along this trail were rather good too with Velvet Asity, Spectacled Greenbul seen well and a Crossley's Babbler heard nearby.

Once we had taken in these sights we set off in search of a troop of Milne Edwards Sifaka's which the spotters had located nearby, as we moved in closer a couple of Mad. Woodrails scurried through the undergrowth. The Sifaka's were high in the trees but we were all able to get some good views through the branches. A bit more scrambling around and we were in front of the only two Greater Bamboo Lemurs in the park this old male and his daughter were huddled in the branches when we arrived but slowly moved off allowing us some great views of the highly endangered species. After this we wandered up to the Belle Vue vantage point, it was starting to rain and many other groups had ascended to the shelter. From here it was slowly back to the hotel for lunch.

The afternoon was spent in the forest at Vohiparara, it was a fairly quiet time in the forest though we all enjoyed males and females of the endemic Giraffe-necked Weevils. In the tops of the trees we saw a Hook-billed Vanga and heard some Mad. Blue Pigeons. A small group of sleeping Eastern Woolly Lemurs were in the trees and in between some *Pandanus* leaves was a *Boopis depressiceps* tree frog.

After this lovely walk we later had our evening/night walk outside the park boundary where a few Short-nosed and Snub-nosed Chameleons were found. A Rufous Mouse Lemur was very active and very tame, feeding on the banana rubbed onto the tree trunk, allowing everyone an amazing view of this diminutive mammal. We took the short trip back to the hotel for a quick beer, supper and bed.

## Day 6

Tuesday 18th September

Weather: overcast though clearing with some rain

Another early morning was had, so we could be in the park before the rush - the morning pre-departure birding gave us a few Mad. Bee-eaters, Green-backed Heron, Mad. Coucal and lots of Mad. Wagtails. Once at the park again we set off in search of lemurs with the guides very busy ahead of us, and found several Red-bellied Lemurs feeding. On the way back to the coach we all nearly walked past a Comet Moth that was roosting behind a leaf of a banana tree next to the path, an amazing insect in a fairly good condition too. The Satanic leaf-tailed Gecko was still hanging off the same branches as yesterday but still fabulous to see the wonderful camouflage of this reptile.

Back at the Belle Vue this morning and we were the only ones there which was rather nice, we managed to see a few more animals accordingly, with an Eleanora's Falcon over the forest, a Ring-tailed Mongoose that came to within a few inches of us seemed fairly unconcerned, and the five Four-eyed Emerald Day Geckos were very obliging around the shelter.

The afternoon walk was back in the Vohiparara forest again, on the way we stopped off at the park entrance so those who missed the Comet Moth could go back in to see it. Luckily it was still there. At the forest entrance we saw a Mad. Kingfisher our first Long-billed Greenbul, Mad. Blue Vanga, Pollen's Vanga and a couple of Nelicourvi Weaver. Along a fairly difficult track and up a slope we looked up into a crook of a tree to see a sleepy looking Small-toothed Sportif Lemur, a rare species. There was no night walk as we had a long journey in the morning...

## Day 7

Wednesday 19th September

Weather: Bright and warm

Today was a transfer to Isalo. Along the way we stopped to see some Hamerkops and some distant Mad. Cuckoo Rollers. The local village was very interested in us and we were in them, astonishing how many arrived in minutes of us stopping. We headed off to the Soafia Hotel in Fianarantsoa for a coffee break and shopping, from here it was a two hour drive to Anje. This community-run nature reserve in the 'Inselberg' granite outcrops which has helped increase numbers of Ring-tailed Lemurs from a few hundred to nearly two thousand, a great success story in the country. Here there were also some Grey-headed Lovebirds, Stripe-throated Jerry's, in the lake were several fishermen catching the fish with their hands which was fascinating. The Ring-tailed Lemurs were scattered all through the woods with over 50 seen during the visit, with numerous young scrambling about bothering the adults in the heat.

Lunch was back in Ambalavao at the Bougainvillea Restaurant where we pre-ordered our lunch and some of us looked at the community paper making factory. We had a four hour drive after lunch across some stunning countryside, we paused at the foot of the impressive granite outcrop known as the Bishop's Hat, where a party of Helmeted Guineafowl flew off, after this we crossed the Horombe Plateau which was once forest and is now desolate species poor grassland. Little was seen during the journey except the usual, Pied Crows, Yellow-billed Kites, Bush Lark and Mad. Kestrels. We arrived at the fabulous Jardin de Roy Hotel got settled into our well-appointed rooms, having pre-ordered supper went for a freshen up, or a swim!

## Day 8

Thursday 20th September

Weather: Misty start, warming very quickly

A pre-breakfast bird watch produced some great birds with great views of Benson's Rock Thrush, Lesser Vasa Parrots, several Namaqua Doves and Mad. Hoopoe all around the hotel complexes. The early morning light and lifting mist was beautiful with the sandstone bluffs around us.

After breakfast it was off to the Canyons of Rats and Maki for those able to. The views on the approach road were very impressive with the *Borassus madagascariensis* Palms scattered across the landscape, once parked we were welcomed by the local children hawking clay models of Lemurs and Zebu. It was a long hot walk to the start of the search area across a stream and through the paddy fields but, once in the shade of the trees and canyon Charles (our guide) headed off in search of our target species. He quickly returned and led us through the undergrowth to a mixed party of Ring-tailed and Red-fronted Brown Lemurs, all busy moving through the forest in search of food. With several young around too it was a wonderful sight.

Birds here were rather good to with Mad. Paradise Flycatchers, Mad. Magpie Robins, a Red-tailed Vanga and numerous Mad. Fody's. Once the Lemurs had moved off we returned to the main path and waited while Charles went off again. He soon returned for us, he had located the Verreaux's Sifaka, an impressive animal, and with at least nine in view there was always something to watch, with one very active youngster leaping about and back to its mother every few seconds. We decided reluctantly to leave them to their day as we were getting a bit peckish so headed off to where our lunch had been taken - crossing two beautiful streams we wandered up into one of the canyons near a large pool in the shade and just enjoyed the location and food.

After lunch we walked back to the bus, (with a bit of clay animal purchasing) for the hour's drive back to the hotel. Before arriving we stopped at the nearby pond, hoping to find a few other bird species, and were not disappointed with a large flock of White-faced Duck and Red-billed Teal, with several Mad. Kingfishers and a Purple Heron, a good end to a great day! A swim beckoned for some, whilst many wanted a rest in the lovely grounds. Supper was very good again.

## Day 9

Friday 21st September

Weather: Hot

Transfer day again, this time we were heading to the coast. The national road 7 took us through the sandstone area of Isalo then through the sapphire boom town of Ikakala. Further to the west we entered the Zombitse National Park, a transitional forest between the dry spiny forests and the western dry forests. On arrival a Mad. Buttonquail flew off and soon a Crested Coua was seen well in the low scrub. Mad. Magpie Robins were common and several Long-billed Greenbuls were around. We set off into the forest and soon the guides had found not one but two different Hubbard's Sportif Lemurs in the day roosts, one even managed to come completely out of its hole briefly allowing a good view as opposed to the head and shoulders we first had. An Appert's Greenbul called but we were unable to locate it. A constant presence was the calling of the Mad. Cuckoo Rollers which were busy displaying overhead, very impressive displays of these birds. At the display board was a Standing's Emerald Day Gecko showing very well and most people got a good photo.

Off again with a brief stop for a Baobab tree photo opportunity, then through the desert towards Toliara. Lunch was had at the Arboretum and Botanical Gardens, a bit of pre-ordering and then we were off into the heat of the day, with Mad. Bee-eaters drinking from the pool and Souimanga Sunbirds all very active. We set off with our guide into the spiny forest where we quickly had a Reddish-grey Mouse Lemur dozing in a spiny euphorbia, very cute. We ended up seeing three during this walk along with a range of reptiles with Spotted Skink, Spiny-tailed Iguanid and Spiny-backed Chameleon too. Birds here were good with Crested Coua and very obliging Mad. Nightjars resting in the shade of the scrub, all around we heard and occasionally saw the Sub-desert Brush Warblers. A great selection of wildlife was seen in an hour or so here. So as it was getting very hot we needed to cool down and have lunch.

Through Toliara and along the coast past many waders with Kittilitz's Plover the most common in the salt pans, to the lovely Hotel Paradisser, with all the rooms looking out over the Mozambique Channel - it really was an amazing place to spend a couple of days. Some went for a swim in the sea or pool others just took time to relax after another busy day. Supper and bed...listening to the gentle surf on the beach....

## Day 10

## Saturday 22nd September

Weather: Hot

A very early start to the day with a bite for breakfast we set off into the Reniala Forest Reserve for a walk. The long dusty track from the road gave us the opportunity to watch the sun rise through the Baobabs with Mad. Black and Mad. Spine-tailed Swifts feeding around us. We met with our guides, and the scouts headed off in many directions for us. Along the way round the site we had a Running Coua, then were called over to look at five roosting Sub-desert Mesites in a shrub, very obliging birds, then with an explosive motion they all flew off in different directions. We continued our walk through this stunning habitat and saw the amazing Baobabs all around with occasional birds including a Mad. Harrier Hawk calling from a tree, and one Sickle-billed Vanga which was less obliging but seen by some of the group. We re-grouped and were led to another area of the site where we all managed to get a fairly good view of the Long-tailed Ground Roller. An impressive few hour's wildlife watching in the field.

We went back to the hotel where the group was left to their own devices, some slept, some swam, some snorkelled on the coral reef. Then there was a night walk into the forest, for those that wished to. Back along the track as the sun set was superb; we started off seeing a Crested Coua near the reserve entrance then headed off into the forest once more. Here we were shown Hissing Cockroaches, numerous reptiles including a Large-headed Gecko and a few Black Scorpions, we also managed to see some active Reddish-grey Mouse Lemurs running through the spiny forest with ease. Feeling a bit pooped we went back to the hotel for supper and to pack as we had a very early start in the morning.

## Day 11

## Sunday 23rd September

Weather: Hot

Transfer day, this was a long tiring day, we set off at 4.45 to the airport where a few Mad. Nightjars and a Shrew Tenrec crossed the road. We arrived at the airport said our farewells to our driver and got on the plane to Tana. Once boarded the flight was wonderfully uneventful with great views out over the country, showing some still largely intact stretches of spiny forest habitat near the coast. Once in Tana we took a comparatively short four hour ride to the Andasibe NP region on the eastern slopes of the island. A couple of stops on the way (puncture) and lunch by a river with a substantial baguette, then off to the lodge. We arrived in daylight which was great and some enjoyed a little walk before the evening meal and bed.

## Day 12

## Monday 24th September

Weather: Bright and warm

Some were up early this morning to see what was about in this new area of the island, with Brown Emu-tails in the bushes and Mad. Bee-eaters overhead, in a lovely setting. After breakfast we set off into the Andasibe NP where we met Maurice, our guide for the next three days. Once out of the bus we could distantly hear the Indri's which gave us hope for the day ahead. We set off along the forest trails and were led to our first group of Indri. Amazing, they were high in the trees but these impressive animals moved with the utmost ease.

A small group of Diadem Sifaka's were found and these beautiful and active mammals were stunning in the sunlight coming through the trees. Also seen were some Mad. Cuckoo Shrikes, Tylas Vanga, Rands Warblers, and good views of Red-tailed Vanga.

We had lunch at a restaurant by a river, where we could make out the calls of the Indri, so with great food, great setting, and great shopping, it was a rather good lunch really. After lunch we set off back into the park again, this time spending a bit more time looking for birds as the mammals tended to be quiet in the afternoon.

We set off to the night walk at Mitjitso which was a quiet affair though we did see a Goodman's Mouse Lemur and a Mad. Pygmy Kingfisher sleeping on a branch. Once back at the hotel, we had supper then bed.

## Day 13

## Tuesday 25th September

A 06.30 we set off into the Manatdia NP. Some of the main highlights here were the Mad. Blue Pigeons, Pitta like Ground Roller, two excellent Blue Vanga's, and of course the Indri.

Back for lunch at the Andasibe lodge we had great view over the garden, where a Common Brown Lemur was seen in the grounds. The group opted for a restful afternoon exploring the grounds at the very comfortable hotel, just enjoying Madagascar without having to go too far. Some went to the Lemur Island for some very close encounters with some rescued lemurs, which all seem much contented. Many nice birds were seen around the site with Brown Emu-tails, Wards Flycatcher's, but best sighting was of a Lowland-streaked Tenrec very close to our accommodation - a real treat and an amazing animal to see. Great spotting from Jim! An early supper was had, and then to bed.

## Day 14

## Wednesday 26th September

Weather: Bright some cloud and warm

We enjoyed a relaxing morning at Vakona Forest lodge, with a late breakfast and leisurely wander around the grounds; where another obliging Lowland streaked Tenrec was found, the Wards Flycatcher behaved and showed well, and the Brown Emu-tails and Lesser Vasa Parrots were flitting and flying about. Once we had packed the bus we set off for lunch at the same restaurant as yesterday, pre-ordered food gave some the opportunity to go and do more shopping, and by the river there was a Green-backed Heron and Rand's Warbler. After lunch we were led into some undergrowth where a Mad. Flufftail was called out into the open, a stunning bird and seen only a few feet away in good light.

We drove the short distance to our new hotel, and once settled into our new accommodation for the night we set off back into the forest for a short two hour walk, it was warm and still and fairly quiet in the woods, that said we managed to find a few nice birds with plenty of Mad. Magpie robins, White-throated Rail feeding in the muddy margins, and near the river, two Collared Nightjars were difficult to get to see but well worth it, whilst more difficult was the view of the Red-breasted Coua along a narrow muddy track up one of the forest slopes, where some had amazing views but most were unable to see this impressive bird. At the end we came across a couple of Eastern Grey Bamboo Lemurs feeding quietly in the marginal bamboo.



Back to the hotel for an hour we then set off to the night walk at Mitjitso with Pierre and Lucy (our guides), who quickly got us onto a couple of Eastern Woolly Lemurs, but most impressive and very cute was the Hair-eared Dwarf Lemur, foraging in the light of our torch beams, very nice to see, it may have only come out of hibernation for a couple of days. Also seen were Snub-nosed Chameleon, and a large Mad. Tree Boa in its hibernation hole. We got back to the hotel for a nice supper and a little local musical interlude, all good fun.

## Day 15

Thursday 27th September

Weather: Bright sunny and warm

We had a morning's walk into the Andasibe NP with the hope to catch up with a few birds and hopefully another chance of seeing Indri. We started off seeing a couple of Eastern Lesser Bamboo Lemurs near to the river, and then walked into the forest where we found some Eastern Woolly Lemurs grouped in a tree. A little further on we took a rather steep slippery detour into the forest where we had an encounter with three very close Indri. These amazing animals called and jumped within metres of us - a truly amazing spectacle for the end of a great trip! Birds were good as was to be expected with our first and only Nuthatch Vanga, White-headed Vanga and numerous Mad. Magpie Robins and we had a Troup of Common Brown Lemurs with us even on the last part of the walk from the reserve. Lunch was had, and then we set off to the Orchid Hotel at Tana for a bit of time to repack our bags, freshen up and get ready for the long flight home. Once the bus was repacked for the last time we headed to a nearby restaurant where we had a lovely last supper, a great way to end a fabulous trip.

## Day 16

Friday 28th September

Overnight flight to Paris then UK

## Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans. Setting up a personal profile at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!



Snub-nosed Chameleon

## Species List

### Mammals

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

### Lemurs

1	Reddish-grey Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus griseorufus</i>								3	4					
2	Rufous Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus rufus</i>		1	1											
3	Goodman's Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus lehilahytsara</i>										3			2	
4	Furry-eared Dwarf Lemur	<i>Cheirogalus crossleyi</i>													1	
5	Small-tooth Sportive Lemur	<i>Lepilemur microdon</i>				1										
6	Hubbard's Sportive Lemur	<i>Lepilemur hubbardorum</i>								2						
7	Eastern Lesser Bamboo Lemur	<i>Hapalemur griseus</i>	1											2	2	2
8	Golden Bamboo Lemur	<i>Hapalemur aureus</i>			4	4										
9	Greater Bamboo Lemur	<i>Hapalemur simus</i>			2											
10	Ring-tailed Lemur	<i>Lemur catta</i>	5				50	20								
11	Common Brown Lemur	<i>Eulemur fulvus</i>	2									3	1			10
12	Red-fronted Brown Lemur	<i>Eulemur rufus</i>						6								
13	Red-bellied Lemur	<i>Eulemur rubriventer</i>	5		1	9										
14	Black and White Ruffed Lemur	<i>Varecia variegata variegata</i>	5													
15	Eastern Woolly Lemur	<i>Avahi laniger</i>			4							1			1	7
16	Verreaux's Sifaka	<i>Propithecus verreauxi</i>						9	5							
17	Coquerel's Sifaka	<i>Propithecus coquereli</i>	8													
18	Diademed Sifaka	<i>Propithecus diadema</i>										4+juv				
19	Milne-Edwards' Sifaka	<i>Propithecus edwardsi</i>			4	1										
20	Crowned Sifaka	<i>Propithecus coronatus</i>	1													
21	Indri	<i>Indri indri</i>										6	4			3
22	Black Lemur	<i>Eulemur macaco</i>	1													

	Common name	Scientific name	September												
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Other Mammals															
1	Eastern Ring-tailed Mongoose	<i>Galidia elegans</i>			1	1									
2	Lowland Streaked Tenrec	<i>Hemicentetes semispinosus</i>										1	1	2	
3	Western Tuft-tailed Rat	<i>Eliurus myoxinus</i>										1			
4	Eastern Red Forest Rat	<i>Nesomys rufus</i>			1	1									
5	Black Rat	<i>Rattus rattus</i>	1										1		

## Birds

1	Long-tailed Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>								1					
2	Common Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	10					1	3		6				y
3	Green-backed Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>				1							1	1	1
4	Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>	lots	lots					1		y				y
5	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	20	lots			y	40	2						y
6	Black Egret	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>													4
7	Dimorphic Heron	<i>Egretta dimorpha</i>	6	20			lots				y				1
8	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>						1							
9	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	1	4			4								
10	Madagascar Crested Ibis	<i>Lophotibis cristata</i>													
11	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		3											
12	Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>							15						
13	Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>						50	6						
14	White-faced Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>						100	80						
15	Madagascar Harrier- Hawk	<i>Polyboroides radiatus</i>							1	1					
16	Madagascar Buzzard	<i>Buteo brachypterus</i>		1		1	1	1	3					1	
17	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptus</i>	1	4			few	lots	lots	y	y				1
18	Frances's Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter francesiae</i>					1								
19	Madagascar Kestrel	<i>Falco newtoni</i>	2	lots				10	y	2					1
20	Eleonora's Falcon	<i>Falco eleonorae</i>				1									
21	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>		20				15							

	Common name	Scientific name	September													
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
22	Madagascar Wood Rail	<i>Canirallus kiolooides</i>			2											
23	Sub-desert Mesite	<i>Monias benschi</i>									5					
24	Madagascar Button-quail	<i>Turnix nigricollis</i>							1	3						
25	White-throated Rail	<i>Dryolimnas cuvieri</i>							H						1	1
26	Madagascar Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura insularis</i>													1	
27	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>								2						
28	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>									1					
29	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>								1	4					
30	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>									2					
31	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>									14	2				
32	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>								1	2					
33	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>									1					
34	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>								3	4					
35	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>								4	1					
36	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>								3	2					
37	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>								1						
38	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	2		2						1					
39	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>									1					
40	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>								2	3					
41	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	y	y						y						
42	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>							4							
43	Madagascar Blue Pigeon	<i>Alectroenas madagascariensis</i>				H								3		
44	Madagascar Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia picturata</i>							4	8	y			2		
45	Grey-headed Lovebird	<i>Agapornis canus</i>						4								
46	Lesser Vasa Parrot	<i>Coracopsis nigra</i>							3	2			2	5	2	2
47	Madagascar Coucal	<i>Centropus toulou</i>				1	1	5	2	1		2	3	3	2	
48	Madagascar Lesser Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus rochii</i>				H	1									1
49	Running Coua	<i>Coua cursor</i>									2					
50	Red-breasted Coua	<i>Coua serriana</i>											1			
51	Red-fronted Coua	<i>Coua reynaudii</i>				1									h	h

	Common name	Scientific name	September													
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
52	Blue Coua	<i>Coua caerulea</i>				3	1							2		
53	Crested Coua	<i>Coua cristata</i>								2	1					
54	Coquerel's Coua	<i>Coua coquereli</i>								1						
55	Rainforest Scops Owl	<i>Otus rutilus</i>											h			
56	Collared Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus enarratus</i>												2	2	
57	Madagascar Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus madagascariensis</i>							2	3	2	6				
58	Madagascar Black Swift	<i>Apus balstoni</i>								y			2			
59	Madagascar Spine-tailed Swift	<i>Zoonavena grandidieri</i>									3				2	
60	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>			Y	y	y	lots	y	y				y	y	
61	Mascarene Martin	<i>Phedina borbonica</i>	lots	lots	lots	lots	lots	lots	y	y	y	lots	y	y	y	y
62	Madagascar Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo vintsioides</i>	1	1	1	1	1	2				1	2	2	2	
63	Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx madagascariensis</i>			1										1	
64	Madagascar Bee-eater	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>	2	2	2	12	8	8	lots	lots		lots	lots	y	y	
65	Madagascar Cuckoo-Roller	<i>Leptosomus discolor</i>								10			H	2	h	2
66	Long-tailed Ground Roller	<i>Uratelornis chimaera</i>									1					
67	Pitta-like Ground-Roller	<i>Atelornis pittoides</i>												2		
68	Velvet Asity	<i>Philepitta castanea</i>			3									1		
69	Madagascar Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>	y	y	y		y						y	y	y	y
70	Appert's Greenbul	<i>Xanthomixis apperti</i>								H						
71	Long-billed Greenbul	<i>Bernieria madagascariensis</i>				5				4						1
72	Spectacled Greenbul	<i>Bernieria zosterops</i>			1											
73	White-throated Oxylabes	<i>Oxylabes madagascariensis</i>			H											
74	Crossley's Babbler	<i>Mystacornis crossleyi</i>			H											
75	Madagascar Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus albospecularis</i>			1	5	3		8	5		2	y	y	y	
76	Madagascar Hoopoe	<i>Upupa marginata</i>						2	2							
77	Benson's Rock-Thrush	<i>Monticola sharpei bensoni</i>						8	7							
78	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	1	7		1	2	1	y			1	y	y	2	
79	Madagascar Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flaviventris</i>	2	7	2	lots	lots		y			2	y	y	y	
80	Madagascar Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone mutata</i>			2	1		6	1			5	5	y	2	
81	Ward's Flycatcher	<i>Pseudobias wardi</i>											1	1		

	Common name	Scientific name	September													
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
82	Common Newtonia	<i>Newtonia brunneicauda</i>			1	3				4	2		3	h	y	y
83	Archbold's Newtonia	<i>Newtonia archboldi</i>									1					
84	Madagascar Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cherina</i>		3			3	5	y	y				y		y
85	Madagascar Bush Lark	<i>Mirafra hova</i>	10	2			10	lots	lots	y						
86	Madagascar Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus newtoni</i>	1													
87	Madagascar Brush Warbler	<i>Nesillas typica</i>	1	1	H	1									1	1
88	Sub-desert Brush Warbler	<i>Nesillas lantzii</i>							10	7						
89	Brown Emu-tail	<i>Dromaeocercus brunneus</i>										1	y	y	y	y
90	Common Jery	<i>Neomixis tenella</i>							lots	4		y			1	
91	Stripe-throated Jery	<i>Neomixis striatigula</i>					3							1		
92	Wedge-tailed Jery	<i>Neomixis flavoviridis</i>			1									1		
93	Rand's Warbler	<i>Randia pseudozosterops</i>										1			2	2
94	Madagascar White-eye	<i>Zosterops maderaspatanus</i>	y	y	y	y		y	y	y		y	y	y	y	y
95	Madagascar Green Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia notata</i>			2		1		1						1	
96	Souimanga Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia sovimanga</i>	2	2	y	10	6	6	lots	y		y	y	y	y	y
97	Nuthatch Vanga	<i>Hypositta corallirostris</i>														1
98	White-headed Vanga	<i>Artamella viridis</i>														1
99	Chabert's Vanga	<i>Leptopterus chabert</i>			2	3			2	2		2	3	2		
100	Madagascar Blue Vanga	<i>Cyanolanius madagascarinus</i>				2			2				2	1		
101	Sickle-billed Vanga	<i>Falculea palliata</i>								1						
102	Rufous Vanga	<i>Schetba rufa</i>							2							
103	Red-tailed Vanga	<i>Calicalicus madagascariensis</i>						1				2	2	2	5	
104	Hook-billed Vanga	<i>Vanga curvirostris</i>			1	1							1			
105	Pollen's Vanga	<i>Xenopirostris polleni</i>				4						1				
106	Tylas Vanga	<i>Tylas eduardi</i>										H				
107	Madagascar Cuckoo Shrike	<i>Coracina cinerea</i>										3	1			1
108	Madagascar Starling	<i>Saroglossa aurata</i>			2											
109	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	lots	lots	lots	lots	lots	lots	lots	y	y	Y	y	y	y	y
110	Crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus forficatus</i>			1	2		6	2	y	y	Y	y	y	y	y
111	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	1	lots			lots	lots	lots	y	y					

	Common name	Scientific name	September												
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
112	Madagascar Fody	<i>Foudia madagascariensis</i>	5	12	2	y			7	1					
113	Forest Fody	<i>Foudia eminentissima</i>				3						1	1	2	4
114	Sakalava Weaver	<i>Ploceus sakalava</i>								100	100				
115	Nelicourvi Weaver	<i>Ploceus nelicourvi</i>			2	2						Y	y	y	y
116	Madagascar Mannikin	<i>Lonchura nana</i>			lots	y			12	20				y	1

## Reptiles &amp; amphibians

1	a Tree Frog	<i>Boophis idea</i>										1			
2	a Tree Frog	<i>Boophis madagascariensis</i>		4	12								1		
3	a Frog	<i>Mantydactylus pulcher</i>			1										
4		<i>Heterixalus alboguttatus</i>				1									
5		<i>Boophis depressiceps</i>			1										
6		<i>Heterixalus betsileo</i>					1					1			
7	Broad browed stumped-tailed Chameleon	<i>Brookesia superciliaris</i>		1											
8	O'Shaughnessy's Chameleon	<i>Calumma oshaughnessyi</i>			3										
9	Short-nosed Chameleon	<i>Calumma gastrotaenia</i>			3										
10	Parson's Chameleon	<i>Calumma parsonii</i>				1 fem						Male	1		
11	Nose-horned Chameleon	<i>Calumma nasutum</i>		1	10								1		
12	Spiny-backed Chameleon	<i>Furcifer verrucosus</i>								1					
13	Oustalet's Chameleon	<i>Furcifer oustaleti</i>	3				3	1							
14	Belted Chameleon	<i>Calumma balteatus</i>		1	1juv										
15		<i>Calumma glawi</i>			5										
16	Horned Chameleon	<i>Furcifer antimena</i>									1				
17	Three-eyed Lizard	<i>Chalerodon madagascariensis</i>								1					
18	Spiny-tailed Iguanid	<i>Oplurus cyclurus</i>								1					
19	Four-lined Iguanid	<i>Oplurus quadrimaculatus</i>						1							
20		<i>Paroedura picta</i>									3				
21	Satanic Leaf-tailed Gecko	<i>Uroplatus phantasticus</i>			1	1									
22	Spearpoint Leaf-tailed gecko	<i>Uroplatus ebenau</i>		1	1										
23	Bark Gecko	<i>Blaesodactylus homopholis</i>									2				

	Common name	Scientific name	September													
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
24	Lined Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma lineata bifasciata</i>				3							lots			
25	Four-eyed Emerald Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma quadriocellata</i>				5										
26	Marbled Emerald Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma standingi</i>								1	1					
27	Common House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus sp</i>				1				2	y					
28		<i>Blaesodactylus sakalava</i>									1					
29	Spotted Skink	<i>Tracheloptychus aureopunctata</i>								1						
30	Broad-tailed Girdled Lizard	<i>Zonosaurus laticaudatus</i>	1						1							
31	Big-eyed Grass Snake	<i>Mimophis mahafalensis</i>						2								
32	Madagascar Tree Boa	<i>Sanzinia madagascariensis</i>												1		
33	Bell's Hinged Tortoise	<i>Kinixys belliana</i>	1													
34	Radiated Tortoise	<i>Geochelone radiata</i>	10							2						
35	Spider Tortoise	<i>Pyxis arachnoids</i>	1													

## Butterflies

1	Blue Pansy	<i>Junonia orythia</i>				1											
2	Mad Swallowtail							1	lots	y							

## Moths

1	Harlequin' Hawk Moth	<i>Batocnema coquereli</i>						7									
2	Comet Moth	<i>Argema mittrei</i>				1											

## Other Taxa

1	Dragonfly (Red)	<i>Trithemis selika</i>						y									
2	Dragonfly	<i>Orthetrum julia</i>						1									
3	Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>						1									
4	Desert Locust	<i>Schistocerca gregaria</i>						y									
5	Hissing Cockroach	<i>Gromphadorhina portentosa</i>						dead	1	2							
6	Cicada	<i>Tibicinidae sp.</i>						heard									
7	A Stick Insect	-		2													
8	Giraffe-necked Weevil	<i>Trachelophorus giraffa</i>			2	3									1		



	Common name	Scientific name	September												
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9	Flatid Leaf-bug	<i>Phromnia rosea</i>					lots				y				
10	Giant Black Millipede	-				1									
11	Red Millipede	<i>Aphistogoniulus sp.</i>											1		
12	Golden Orb-web Spider	<i>Nephila madagascariensis</i>	Y	y	y	y									
13	Thorn Spider (Orange)	<i>Gasteracanthinae sp</i>				1									
14	Scorpion	<i>Opisthacanthus madagascariensis</i>									4				
15	Shield Bugs							y							
16	Forest Land Crab	<i>c.f. Cardisoma sp.</i>									2				

## Plants

<i>Cynorchis purpurescens</i>	Dancing Ladys
<i>Oeonia rosea</i>	-
<i>Cynorchis ridleyi</i>	
<i>Pandanus sp 2</i>	Vakoana
<i>Drosera madgasacriensis</i>	

## Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk) to sign up.