Scopus Travel • Itinerary

7 Nights ~ 8 Days: Nosy Be & The Emerald Isles of Northern Madagascar

Nosy Be lies at the heart of Madagascar’s emerald island chain. Coral reefs, turtle lagoons, and pristine beaches define this tropical seascape.

PRICING	TOTAL TOUR DAYS	ARRIVAL PORT	DEPARTURE PORT
—	8	Antananarivo	Antananarivo

Countries Covered: **Madagascar**

Tour Overview

Islands of Nosy Be: A Northern Madagascar Escape

- Arrival in **Antananarivo**, Madagascar’s capital, with welcome and overnight stay.
- Flight to **Nosy Be**, the tropical gateway to Madagascar’s emerald islands.
- Excursion to **Nosy Komba** (Lemur Island) to observe lemurs and village life. Snorkeling at **Nosy Tanikely Marine Park**.
- Full-day visit to **Nosy Iranja**, famed for its white sandbank linking two islands at low tide and important sea turtle nesting beaches.
- Morning excursion to **Nosy Sakatia**, including the Giant Turtle Lagoon and clear coastal waters.
- Island discovery of **Nosy Be**: Hell-Ville market, sacred tree, sacred waterfall, and sunset from **Mount Passot**.
- Leisure time before return flight to **Antananarivo**.
- **Accommodation Plan:** 1 night Antananarivo · 5 nights Nosy Be · 1 night Antananarivo.

Trip Itinerary

Day Wise Program

Day 01 — Arrival in Antananarivo

Accommodation: Antananarivo | Meals Included: Dinner

Arrival in **Antananarivo** at **Ivato International Airport**. Meet and assist by the local representative, followed by a warm Malagasy greeting — *Tongasoa!* Transfer to the hotel through the lively streets of the capital. Spread across a series of hills, the city reveals a mosaic of terracotta-roofed houses, bustling neighborhoods, and reminders of Madagascar's rich cultural heritage.

Check-in at the hotel and time to relax after the journey. The remainder of the afternoon remains at leisure, allowing time to settle in and absorb the first impressions of Madagascar's highland capital.

Dinner at the hotel.

architecture, green, landscape, street, sunny, view hill tree tropical dirty historic tana summer sun traditional capita

City of Antananarivo at sunny day with fluffy clouds in the sky. Madagascar

View of the densely packed houses on one of the many hills of Antananarivo, the capital city of Madagascar

Day 02 — Antananarivo to Nosy Be

Accommodation: Nosy Be | Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner

Transfer to **Ivato International Airport** for the domestic flight to **Nosy Be**, Madagascar's famed tropical island in the warm waters of the Mozambique Channel. Known for its fragrant ylang-ylang plantations and turquoise seas, Nosy Be has long been regarded as the gateway to the emerald islands of northern Madagascar.

Arrival and transfer to the beachfront resort. The island atmosphere unfolds through palm-lined shores, fishing boats resting along the coast, and the gentle rhythm of life shaped by the sea.

Check-in and time to enjoy the tranquil surroundings of the resort.

Nosy Sakatia, Madagascar.

Panier de fleurs d'slang-ylang, Nosy Komba - Madagascar

Vue du littoral de Nosy Tanikely , Madgascar

Path through the rainforest of Lokobe nature strict reserve in Madagascar, Nosy Be, Africa

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Day 03 — Nosy Komba & Nosy Tanikely Marine Park

Accommodation: Nosy Be | Meals Included: Breakfast, Snacks & Dinner

The day begins with a short boat cruise across the turquoise waters to **Nosy Komba**, often called Lemur Island. Covered with lush forest and traditional villages, the island offers opportunities to encounter Madagascar's famous lemurs along shaded trails, while the small fishing settlement reveals the rhythm of daily Malagasy coastal life.

The journey continues by boat to **Nosy Tanikely Marine Park**, one of the most celebrated marine reserves in the region. Surrounded by clear waters and vibrant coral reefs, the island is a natural aquarium where colorful tropical fish thrive among the corals. Snorkeling reveals a remarkable underwater world, and with a

little luck, graceful sea turtles may glide through the reef gardens.

Return to **Nosy Be** in the early afternoon. The remainder of the day remains at leisure, allowing time to relax along the palm-fringed shores or enjoy the tranquil island atmosphere.

Séchage de poissons sur un toit de Nosy Komba - Madagascar

Aerial view of Nosy Tanikely island in Madagascar showcasing its stunning turquoise waters and lush greenery

Reef at Nosy Tanikely

Nosy Tanikely Madagascar

Day 04 — Excursion to Nosy Iranja

Accommodation: Nosy Be | Meals Included: Breakfast, Snacks & Dinner

An early departure by boat leads along the scenic Malagasy coastline toward **Nosy Iranja**, one of the most beautiful island formations in northern Madagascar. After a leisurely cruise across the turquoise waters, the twin islands emerge on the horizon, fringed by brilliant white beaches and swaying coconut palms.

At low tide, a long ribbon of white sand appears, connecting the two islands and creating a striking natural sandbank. This pristine stretch of beach is also known as an important nesting ground for sea turtles. A walk through the small fishing village offers glimpses of traditional island life, while the path to the lighthouse reveals sweeping views across the surrounding lagoon and coral-studded waters.

A freshly prepared lunch featuring local ingredients is served in a relaxed seaside setting, capturing the flavors of the region. Time remains to enjoy the tranquil beaches and crystal-clear waters before the return boat journey to **Nosy Be** in the late afternoon.

Pirogue at a beach in Nosy Iranja

Rising Tide at Nosy Iranja Madagascar

Lunch on the beach of Nosy Iranja

The beautiful islands of Madagascar Nosy Iranja - Near Nosy Be,

Aerial view of Fishermen on a sailing Pirogue departing Nosy Iranja in Madagascar

Magasin typique en Afrique - Nosy Be

Day 05 — Sakatia Island & Turtle Lagoon

Accommodation: Nosy Be | Meals Included: Breakfast, Snacks & Dinner

A short morning boat ride leads to **Nosy Sakatia**, a tranquil island known for its clear waters and rich marine life. The excursion begins at the famous Giant Turtle Lagoon, a natural sanctuary where sea turtles are often seen gliding gracefully through the shallow turquoise waters.

The surrounding lagoon reveals a vibrant underwater world shaped by coral formations and tropical fish, creating ideal conditions for snorkeling. Encircled by lush vegetation and quiet coves, the island retains an atmosphere of unspoiled natural beauty.

A local snack break is enjoyed before exploring more of the island’s serene coastal landscapes. Time remains for another refreshing swim in the clear waters before returning to **Nosy Be**.

The afternoon remains at leisure to enjoy the relaxed rhythm of island life.

Nosy Sakatia, Madagascar.

Female black lemur on Nosy Sakatia in Madagascar

Green turtles - Nosy Sakatia

Green Turtles at Nosy Sakatia

Tropical coral reef with a school of fish in shallow water with sun rays penetrating through the water in Nosy Sakatia, Madagascar

Beautiful islands of Madagascar – Nosy Sakatia - Near Nosy Be, Aerial view

Day 06 — Discovery of Nosy Be Island

Accommodation: Nosy Be | Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

A comprehensive island tour reveals the cultural and natural highlights of **Nosy Be**. The journey begins in **Hell-Ville**, the island's lively main town, where the colorful market displays tropical fruits, spices, and daily produce reflecting the rhythms of Malagasy life.

The exploration continues to some of the island's sacred landmarks, including the revered sacred tree and a hidden sacred waterfall, places long associated with local traditions and beliefs. These sites offer a glimpse into the spiritual heritage that remains an important part of Malagasy culture.

Lunch is served in a relaxed setting, featuring fresh local ingredients and regional flavors.

In the late afternoon, the route ascends to **Mount Passot**, the island's highest viewpoint. From this vantage point, a remarkable panorama unfolds across crater lakes, forested hills, and the surrounding islands scattered across the Mozambique Channel. As the sun slowly descends, the landscape is bathed in warm golden light, creating one of the most memorable scenes in northern Madagascar.

Schwarzer Lemur (Eulemur macaco) / Moor Lemur sits in the trees in Lokobe National Park on Nosy Be Madagascar

Madagascar endemic panther green chameleon at jungle Lokobe Reserve, Nosy Be in Madagascar

Poor village with wooden cottages at Lokobe nature strict reserve in Madagascar, Nosy Be, Africa

Madagaskar-Buntfrosch (Mantella betsileo) - Brown mantella / Lokobe National park / Nosy Be / Madagaskar

Martin-pêcheur pigmée dans le parc du Lokobe à Nosy Be, Madagascar.

Day 07 — Nosy Be to Antananarivo

Accommodation: Antananarivo | Meals Included: Breakfast & Dinner

The morning remains at leisure in **Nosy Be**, allowing time to enjoy the tranquil island atmosphere before departure. Later, transfer to the airport for the domestic flight back to **Antananarivo**.

Upon arrival, transfer into the city with time for shopping for Madagascar's distinctive local produce. Markets and specialty shops in **Antananarivo** display a remarkable range of artisanal and natural products reflecting the island's rich agricultural heritage.

Madagascar is renowned for producing some of the world's finest **vanilla**, prized for its deep aroma and complex flavor developed through careful hand-pollination and sun-curing. Locally crafted **chocolates**, made from Madagascar's high-quality cacao, are celebrated for their rich, fruity notes that reflect the island's unique terroir.

A variety of fragrant **spices** can also be found, including cloves, cinnamon, and the distinctive **pink pepper** — a delicate, mildly sweet spice harvested from wild pepper trees and often used in gourmet cuisine. Jars of **baobab honey**, gathered from bees that forage among the blossoms of Madagascar's ancient baobab trees, offer another rare specialty known for its light floral taste.

Schwarzer Lemur (Eulemur macaco) / Moor Lemur sits in the trees in Lokobe National Park on Nosy Be Madagascar

Madagascar endemic panther green chameleon at jungle Lokobe Reserve, Nosy Be in Madagascar

Poor village with wooden cottages at Lokobe nature strict reserve in Madagascar, Nosy Be, Africa

Madagaskar-Buntfrosch (Mantella betsileo) - Brown mantella / Lokobe National park / Nosy Be / Madagaskar

Martin-pêcheur pigmée dans le parc du Lokobe à Nosy Be, Madagascar.

Day 08 — Departure

After breakfast, transfer to **Ivato International Airport** for the onward flight.

As the journey concludes in **Antananarivo**, the memories of Madagascar's northern islands linger — from the coral gardens of **Nosy Tanikely Marine Park** to the pristine sandbanks of **Nosy Iranja**, and the tranquil shores of **Nosy Be**.

Beautiful colonial houses, Antananarivo, Madagascar

Ariel view Antananarivo, Madagascar

Ariel view, Antananarivo, Madagascar

Beautiful colonial houses, Antananarivo, Madagascar

Evening skyline, Antananarivo, Madagascar

Down town, Antananarivo, Madagascar

Tour FAQs

Know more about this tour

Who can travel?

- Adult passengers from all countries.
- Minors must be accompanied by an immediate relative/guardian.

What are the travel requirements?

- Passport valid for at least 6 months from the start date of the tour.
- Entry permit as required for various Nationalities.
- Madagascar visa policy.
- Health insurance valid for the duration of the journey, preferably "cash free" policies.

How safe is Madagascar?

- As safe as safe could be.
- With no large carnivores, nor poisonous reptiles, outdoors are very safe.
- The population is very friendly and easy going.
- Public Transportation is erratic and is not recommended for tourists on short holidays.

Are credit cards accepted in Madagascar?

- Not everywhere.
- Many vendors do not accept Master Card, and will insist on payment with VISA only or cash.
- Other popular cards like Amex, Diners, etc are also scarcely accepted.

Should cash be carried in local currency?

- It is advisable to keep at least 100~200 $/EUR in local currency - Malagasy Ariary.
- The exchange rate is approximately 4400MGA = 1US$ / 4700MGA =1EURO [April 2024]
- The best place to get it changed is on arrival at the airport.
- Please request assistance from our team on arrival.
- Arirary will be required to make local purchases, for restaurants, tips etc...

How much cash could be carried into and out of Madagascar?

- Visitors and residents can import up to MGA 400,000 and an unlimited amount of foreign currency. Sums of money greater than EUR 7500 will need to be declared at the customs department.
- Visitors and residents can also export up to MGA 400,000 in local currency and an unlimited amount of foreign cash providing a written declaration is made at the customs department.

What are the other important entry regulations in Madagsacar?

- **Free import**
  • 500 cigarettes or
  • 25 cigars or
  • 500 grammes of tobacco
  • 1 bottle of alcoholic beverages
- **Prohibited**
  • Illegal drugs
  • Weapons, explosives and ammunition
  • Knives and deadly weapons
  • Plant and plant products – unless permission has been obtained
  • Meat and meat products
  • Pets and animal products – unless permission has been obtained
  • Electronic equipment
  • Counterfeit money and goods
  • Pornographic materials
- **Restricted**
  • All passengers planning on re-exporting guns and ammunition will be required to apply for an export permit from their local “Chef de Province”.
  • All perfume is subject to duty regulations and cannot enter the country for free.
  • Fruit and vegetables will need to be declared and an entry permit obtained before being granted entry into the country.
  • Protected plant and plant materials are prohibited from entering the country.
  • All animals entering the country will be forced to undergo a sanitary inspection upon arrival. The creatures will require a veterinarian health certificate from the country of origin specifying the creature’s condition and lack of any contagious diseases. Dogs over three months and cats over six months old will need to be specifically vaccinated against rabies less than one month and over three months respectively prior to their entry into the country.

Are foregin insurance policies accepted in Madagascar?

- Yes they are and it is a mandatory requirement to travel with us.

How much does this package cost?

- The cost of a tour package is a function of various services; viz, class of accommodation, period of travel, meal plan etc.
- Please make a booking and we will send a price offer for your consideration.

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