

EXOTIC VACATIONS

Madagascar Animals: Where to Find Them

THE LAND OF THE LEMUR

BY MATT DUTILE MATT DUTILE POSTED 5 HOURS AGO



As the fourth largest island in the world, and home to a majority of flora and fauna found nowhere else in the world, Madagascar's reputation as the 8th continent is well deserved. In fact, over 90% of Madagascar's animals and wildlife are found only on this island nation off the eastern coast of Africa.

We sent photographer Matt Dutile to the country for an upcoming feature in Jan/Feb 2017. There he journeyed through the west of the country with luxury travel company Cox & Kings in search of the endemic ecosystem and welcoming people that makes Madagascar a jewel in the Indian Ocean.

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Matt Dutile

Goats return from feeding to a small village around Madagascar's Avenue of the Baobabs - a grove of baobabs some over 800 years old.



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In the deciduous forest of Kirindy a Verreauxs sifaka, a member of the lemur family, feeds off small leaf buds.



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Roads in the west are fairly basic and often completely washed out in the rainy season. An experienced guide and driver with [Cox & Kings](#) know the best route to travel - as there are often no signs as well.



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Children in the small village of Andimaka, south of Bekopaka, gather around to smile and play in front of the camera.



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The UNESCO World Heritage site of Tsingy de Bemaraha is not for the faint of heart. Here a wire and wooden bridge cross a high chasm over razor sharp limestone rocks in the Grand Tsingy.



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Keep a watchful eye out and you're sure to find one or several chameleons in the trees around you. These old world reptiles blend with the trees in the hopes of luring in a tasty bug treat.



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The central highlands south of the capital of Antananarivo are covered in a stunning series of rice terraces. As the sun sets for the day it casts an ocher glow across the landscape.

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Dug out canoes are a popular mode of transportation between small fishing villages and neighboring cities. The fishing community of Betania is an easy boat across the canal from Morondava.

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Matt Dutile

Dusk breaks across the fabled Avenue of the Baobabs. Wait until after sunset and you'll find yourself the only tourist left soaking in the majestic display of nature and heavens in front of you.



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Antananarivo, the capital and largest city of Madagascar, cascades up and down the hills it's built upon, offering towering views across the plains from its height. The steeples of churches can be seen jutting from the surrounding buildings.