

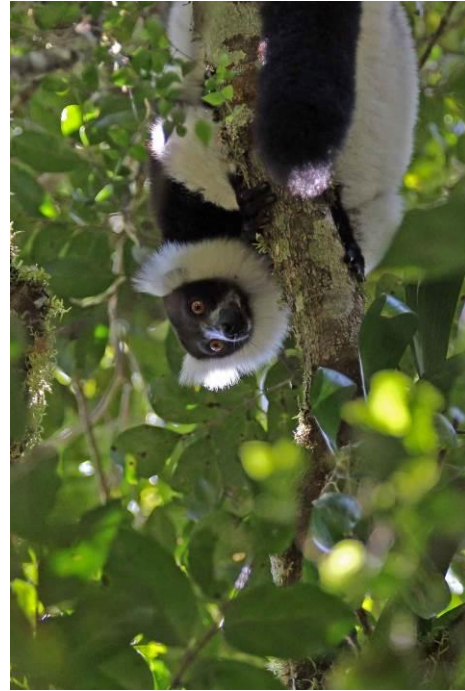
Madagascar's Lemurs

Naturetrek Tour Report

26 September - 10 October 2014



Blue-legged Chameleon



Black and White Ruffed Lemur



Ring-tailed Lemur



Indri

Report compiled by Cathy Harlow
Images courtesy of Pete Kite & Cath Hamblin



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Day 1

Friday 26th September

LONDON TO NAIROBI

With the threat of an Air France strike on the cards, the Naturetrek office made alternative travel arrangements and we flew overnight from Heathrow to Nairobi with Kenya Airways.

Day 2

Saturday 27th September

NAIROBI TO ANTANANARIVO

After a short stop-over in Nairobi, we were on our way to Madagascar, landing at Antananarivo at midday. Soon we were through the visa and immigration and picked up our bags. In the arrivals hall, local guide Desi was waiting for us. At the money exchange bureau, we swapped sterling, euros and dollars for thick wads of local *Ariary*. Feeling like millionaires we loaded onto our coach, with driver Danny at the wheel and after a short bus ride, we were checked in at the Orchid Hotel. Some opted for a kip, while others took a dip in the hotel's pool or checked out the birdlife in the distant paddies. Over dinner at the Savannah Café down the road, we discovered that many in the group were seasoned travellers. After sharing past wildlife experiences, our thoughts turned to the weeks ahead as we looked forward to what Madagascar would bring us.

Day 3

Sunday 28th September

ANTANANARIVO TO ANTSIRABE

Weather: warm and sunny with scattered cloud increasing through the afternoon

After a restful night and breakfast at the Orchid Hotel, we loaded the luggage on the roof of the bus and stopped at a supermarket to stock up on bottled water. Soon we were off heading west through the suburbs of Antananarivo, Madagascar's colourful and chaotic capital.

The city is sited on numerous hills, dotted like colourful islands on a sea of emerald rice paddies. Squacco Heron, Great Egret and Dimorphic Egret were searching for food as we shuffled our way along the traffic-clogged roads to the Lemur Park. This small private zoo on the outskirts of the city aims to introduce local children to the island's wildlife with numerous animals rescued from the pet trade. Some, like Black and White Ruffed Lemur, Grey Bamboo Lemur, Common Brown Lemur and Ring-tailed Lemur were species we would later encounter in the wild. Park guide Becel also introduced us to some species we would not be seeing: Crowned Sifaka and Coquerel's Sifaka. Along the banks of the river bounding the reserve on one side, we spotted Common Sandpiper, Swamp Warbler, Madagascar White Eye, Stonechat, Souimanga Sunbird, Madagascar Bulbul and numerous Mascarene Martins in flight. The warm sunshine had drawn out a Collared Iguanid, basking on a granite boulder and we spotted our first chameleon of the trip a male Oustalet's. An African Monarch butterfly flitted around but wouldn't pause for the camera. A vine, decked with yellow cup-shaped flowers, was identified by the park guide as *Solandra maxima*, introduced from Central America. On the opposite bank of the river, we saw *Cassia didymobotrya* a shrub with yellow candelabra flower heads, and our first Madagascar Kingfisher along the same stretch of river.

After lunch at the Lemur Park, we set off back towards the capital to join the RN7, the main road winding south through the backbone of the island's mountainous interior. We paused by a small lake to observe flocks of Red-billed Teal and White-faced Whistling duck. Soon, we were enjoying the sweeping vistas typical of Madagascar's Hauts Plateaux: smooth granite inselbergs formed a backdrop to the fertile rice paddies, where women were bent double planting out rice seedlings. We paused by the roadside to admire the handiwork of local villagers, who skilfully crochet hats and bags from raffia. The journey was never dull as we observed a succession of Cattle Egrets, Madagascar Wagtails and Common Mynas. We arrived just before dark at Antsirabe the 'Place of Big Salt', where we checked into the comfortable Royal Palace Hotel.

Day 4

Monday 29th September

ANTSIRABE TO RANOMAFANA

Weather: warm and sunny with light cloud and good visibility

An early start got us on the road by 7.30 to continue the drive south through the mountainous backbone of the island. The mountain scenery was punctuated by changing scenes from village life. Zebu cattle play a pivotal role, as symbols of wealth and in softening the hard-baked clay of the rice paddies, prior to planting out the seedlings. The Indonesian origin of Madagascar's highland people is evident in the way the rice paddies are stacked up the hillsides in terraces, which we photographed at our next stop by a small village. Tony and Desi pointed out a couple of Stonechats and a Madagascar Buzzard in flight. Nearby, we saw flocks of Brown-throated Sand Martins in flight over the paddies and a Madagascar Kingfisher, flashing its malachite blue in the morning sunshine. We paused by a forest of native *Tapia* trees *Uapaca bojeri*. Madagascar's native silk worm feeds on the leaves of this fire-resistant tree, which also produces an edible fruit. This was a good place to break the journey and taking a short walk we spotted Madagascar White Eye, a large brown Dragonfly drying its wings and a Damselfly. Continuing south, Pete spotted a wagtail, while Rosemary pointed out a Madagascar Green Sunbird, perched on a distant tree. Arriving at the historic town of Ambositra we stopped to watch skilled wood carvers at work and several of the group bought souvenirs. Still journeying south, we stopped by a fragment of rainforest by a small pond and marsh. We discovered that the place is now fenced off and there's a charge to visit but hopefully this will bring protection to a vulnerable tract of forest.

While Desi walked around the edge of the marsh, the group watched from a cluster of granite boulders, where Four-spotted Iguanids were defending their patch with head bobbing displays. We'd hoped to find Madagascar Snipe here but were out of luck this time, enjoying instead views of Stonechat, Madagascar Brush Warbler, Ringed Plover, Madagascar Buzzard, Yellow-billed Kite, Madagascar Kestrel and Madagascar Manikin. A Cuckoo Roller, with its distinctive 'flappy' flight, flew overhead as we continued to journey.

After lunch at the rustic Ialatsara Forest Lodge, we watched several spectacular butterflies flitting too and fro including a *Precis pelarga* and photographed a pair of Blue-legged Chameleons and an O'Shaughnessy's Chameleon in the lodge grounds. Continuing the journey, we stopped to tank up at Ambohimahaso (meaning: the place that brings good things). While the bus was filling up, we watched hundreds of Dimorphic Egret, Cattle Egret and Black-crowned Night Heron nesting on trees in the village. The last stage of the journey brought us down the escarpment to the village of Ranomafana (meaning: hot water) and the Centrest Hotel. After dinner, we combed the hotel gardens by torchlight and found a wonderful array of local nightlife including a large moth *Saturnidae* sp, a couple of stick insects, several spiders, a gecko and two frogs. Melissa's frog was an *Agyptodactylus madagascariensis*, while the smaller of the two was a *Heterixalus alboguttatus*.

Day 5

Tuesday 30th September

RANOMAFANA

Weather: cloudy in the morning but sunny and warm in the afternoon

Edrie was up early and found a fabulous Comet Moth on a plant on the hotel veranda, which we were all able to photograph. After breakfast, we hopped on the coach for the short drive to the park entrance, where we met up with park guides Jean-Chrys and Bertrand and lemur spotters Bako and Ju. This was our first full day of wildlife viewing and everyone was keen to get into the forest to look for lemurs. But the car park is also good for wildlife and within minutes we were checking out a large Rhinoceros Beetle and a Giant Millipede and observing both African Palm Swifts and Spinetail Swifts overhead. Ranomafana National Park is a rainforest reserve protecting important tracts of both primary and regrowth forest. It was created when Golden Bamboo Lemur, *Haplemur aureus*, was identified as a new species in 1985 and is today one of the more popular lemur hot spots on the island. Today, our efforts were focused on the Talataky section of the park.

A few of the group got a glimpse of Pitta-like Ground Roller on the way into the park and then as we crossed the Namorona River, Mascarene Martins were gathering nesting material, a Ward's Vanga flew by and a Crested Drongo sallied out to grab an insect on the wing. The cyclone season had swept away the original bridge but a brand new one now spans the Namorona, sensibly erected about 10ft higher than its predecessor. Jean-Chrys pointed out a Giraffe-necked Weevil on its host shrub *Dichaetanthera cordifolia*. Plunging into thicker forest on the river's opposite bank, the lemur spotters went ahead to look for lemurs – this can take some time so we continued climbing through the forest at a steady pace, enjoying more of the flora: a pale blue *Lobelia* sp, a pink *Tradescantia* sp, *Eugenia jambos* (Myrtaceae) with a white 'shaving brush' flower, a *Selaginella* Lesser Clubmoss, a lovely endemic cream and red orchid *Oenia rosea*, a striking red-flowering mistletoe *Bakarella* sp, a white-flowered shrub *Psychotria* sp (Rubiaceae) and a second orchid species the white-flowered *Aerangis citrata*. With news of lemurs, we switched our focus to mammals. Ranomafana is a lemur hot spot and eight or more mammal species are readily observed. First up was a pair of Golden Bamboo Lemur, Ranomafana's signature species, resting in the canopy.

Lemurs' routines include rest periods between bouts of feeding and soon this lot were munching their way through a stand of bamboo. When they moved off to browse elsewhere, we continued our forest walk, marvelling at our guides' ability to turn a dried-up dead leaf into a gecko, in what has to be the best ever strategy for camouflage - meet *Uruplatus fantasticus*, the unfairly named Satanic Leaf-tailed Gecko. Equally impressive was a tiny Stump-tailed Chameleon *Brookesia superciliaris* who perfectly blends with its leaf-litter habitat. We enjoyed good views of Red-tailed Vanga, a Madagascar Cuckoo Shrike spotted by Geraldine, Magpie Robin, Long-billed Greenbul and Souimanga Sunbird.

Soon the guides brought us to a pair of Greater Bamboo Lemur, now considered more endangered than the better-known Golden Bamboo Lemur. Ranomafana's most accessible family group is now down to just two closely related individuals, who will not breed unless an outsider joins them. Moving on, Tony spotted a native Red Forest Rat scuttling among the leaf litter. Next up were a family of Milne-Edwards Sifaka, who allowed us to observe their feeding, leaping and hanging upside down before they bounded out of sight in huge trunk-to-trunk leaps. It's such a privilege to sit on the forest floor and quietly observe them just doing their lemur things: a little grooming, a snuggle, a bit of scent marking and then moving off to forage. We also encountered a family of resting Red-bellied Lemurs, noted for their luxuriant fur and the males' white tear-drop eye patches. Finally, as we made our way out of the park after this eventful morning, we were treated to a brief encounter with Red-fronted Brown Lemurs, headed by the dominant female and moving on all fours along the branches, with agile leaps from bough to bough. At the Bellevue viewpoint we admired several Peacock Emerald Day Geckos. This was a long morning with hilly terrain so by one o'clock we were all ready for a break and lunch back at the hotel.

At 3.30 we were back on the bus, making our way to Vohiparara in the upper section of the park. We stopped at the Namorona Falls, where the river of the same name tumbles off the eastern escarpment in several dramatic leaps. The cliff-face on the opposite side of the road was festooned with Dancing Lady Orchids *Cynorchis purpurescens*, pink and white terrestrial *Cynorchis sp*, a sundew *Drosera sp* and a purple *Streptocarpus sp*. Soaked by water droplets, the cliff was an idea habitat for *Boophis madagascariensis* Tree Frogs. Their deep croaks were unmistakable but trying to see them against the rock involved some effort. Here our guides found several chameleons for us: several diminutive Nose-horned Chameleon *Calumma nasutus*, a Stump-tailed Chameleon *Brookesia nasus*, a young O'Shaughnessy's Chameleon *Calumma oshaughnessyi* and a Blue-legged Chameleon *Calumma crypticum*. We admired a purple-flowered shrub *Vernonia amygdalina*, which has anti-malarial properties and a *Kalanchoe sp* whose flowered had been ruined by a surprise frost a week earlier. Also affected by the frost were the white pompom flowers of *Dombeya lucida*. Pausing further up the road, our guides dived into the undergrowth and emerged with two stunning Baron's Painted Mantella, tiny but very colourful frogs. As the light faded, we made our way back down the hill where on the edge of the forest at dusk, Brown Mouse Lemurs come to lick the banana-smear roadside tree-trunks, set up by some of the local guides. Properly managed, this can be a rewarding experience...

Day 6

Wednesday 1st October

RANOMAFANA

Weather: sunny and hot all day

A glorious day dawned and the Comet Moth was back on the veranda posing for more photos and a Madagascar Coucal was perched in the open, its feathers fluffed up to warm up in the sunshine.

We watched African Palm Swifts nesting in a palm in the hotel gardens. After breakfast we headed for the Vohiparara entrance to the park, splitting into two groups for our visit. Whilst the morning's pace was a little more leisurely than yesterday, we enjoyed the peace and quiet of a less-frequented part of the National Park. Desi and Jean-Chrys went with Geraldine, Melissa, Edrie, Hilly and Hugh, while Bertrand and Cathy accompanied Cath, Pete, Tony, Anne, Rosemary and Jackie. With a bit of effort, both groups got views of Milne-Edwards Sifaka but in spite of the terrain being altogether easier than at Talatakely, the lemurs had chosen to forage in a difficult spot. The morning brought some good birding with lovely views of Madagascar Paradise Flycatchers building a nest and then taking on a raptor and chasing it off. Greater Vasa Parrot, Rand's Warbler, Madagascar Brush Warbler, Madagascar Cuckoo Shrike, Blue Coua and Blue Pigeon, Souimanga Sunbird, Magpie Robin and Crested Drongo all showed well for us. We also admired a tiny frog *Guibemantis pulcher* wedged in the leaf of a *Pandanus* sp, where it spends its entire life cycle. A dark brown frog found in the leaf litter was thought to be a *Mantidactylus* sp. Desi and Jean-Chrys's group found a snake *Liophidium torquatum*. By the exit to the park, we found a Madagascar Tree Boa.

After lunch, Edrie opted for a rest, while everyone else was game for another romp in the hilly terrain of Talatakely. The ambling group lingered by the bridge, watching three soaring buzzards and then enjoying good views and excellent photo opportunities of Pitta-like Ground Roller. Another Satanic Leaf-tailed Gecko was admired – how do the guides spot them? Bertrand could hear a group of Golden Bamboo Lemurs up ahead but sadly for us on a very steep and inaccessible slope. The rest of the group steamed ahead in search of Greater Bamboo Lemur and after considerable effort enjoyed rewarding views of them feeding on bamboo. Time runs away when you're focusing on wildlife and it was dusk as the last of our group emerged from the forest with smiles on their faces. Back at the hotel, the power went off but luckily returned in time for us to pack for the morning's departure.

Day 7

Thursday 2nd October

RANOMAFANA TO ISALO

Weather: hot and sunny

Another early rise – I think we're getting used to it now! There was still not a drop of rain around, just threads of mist hanging over the river valley. We were on the road by 7 and as the first rays of sunshine struck the hillsides, we remarked on the extent of *Tany* slash and burn in the area. We stopped briefly at the Namorona Falls and noted Madagascar Bulbul and Wagtail. We would not be back in the rainforest until the end of our trip as we were now heading for the hot, dry south. We stopped in the market town of Alakamisy and enjoyed a walk through the main street, flanked by families buying and selling fruit, vegetables and goodness knows what else! At Madagascar's second highland city Fianarantsoa, the drivers took on fuel, while we used the facilities at the Soafia Cafe. Back on the move, we passed the taxi brousse (bush taxi) station, where throngs of overlaid minibuses were preparing to depart, their roof racks piled high with anything from bicycles and sofas to hens and ducks. Leaving the city, many of the rice paddies had been turned to brickworks, and huge smoking brick ovens lined the road. We passed herds of zebu cattle on a long slow march north to the capital to be sold – in some parts of Madagascar a family's wealth is measured by the size of their herd and zebu take the place of money. We passed fields of *Artemisia*, a plant used to treat fever and malaria, but also grown as bio-fuel. In the rice paddies we noticed dark-phase Dimorphic Egrets and Cattle Egrets. Melissa pointed out a Glossy Ibis and Tony found a Purple Heron in flight.

Danny, our driver, stopped to point out four Hamerkops on a paddy wall and a fifth in flight. Bush Larks, a Kestrel and a small flock of Grey-headed Love Birds helped to pass the time on this leg of the journey. After a breather at a viewpoint, there was a sharp descent to Madagascar's main wine-producing area on the approach to the attractive town of Ambalavao. Desi showed us around the Antaimoro paper workshop, where beautiful flower-impregnated paper is made by hand from the pulp of the Avoha shrub, following a technique developed by Arab settlers on the coast.

We collected our picnic lunch and drove the short distance to the community reserve at Anja, where a surprisingly lush pocket of forest sits at the foot of a cluster of monumental granite domes. The forest supports a healthy population of Ring-tailed Lemurs and at this time of year they are easy to find as they feed on the flowers of *Melia*, whose heady scent was in the air. We soon had them in sight and enjoyed quietly observing them at rest. These are highly social lemurs and soon they began grooming one another and going about the all-important business of scent marking to define their territory and leave messages to one another. At least 15 adults and juveniles headed by the dominant female made up this group but being spring, there were also many new-born babies to be seen, some still clinging to their mother's belly, others riding pillion. What makes Anja a particularly rewarding place to see the ring-tails are the large granite boulders that make a natural adventure playground for these agile and acrobatic lemurs, who are as comfortable on the ground as they are in trees. At night they sleep in caves and under rocks. Needless to say, the photo opportunities were superb. One of the babies was quite adventurous and not afraid to leave its mother to come and take a look at us. Anyone who didn't manage to get a good photo at that point should seriously consider giving it up!

After viewing the lemurs we climbed to a viewpoint over the area. At this point some of the group elected to turn back with Desi, while the rest continued with Cathy on a now rather rocky trail that weaved in and out of the bouldery slope. At one point we dropped down into a cave, where Ring-tailed Lemurs were eating soil to neutralise toxins. It was getting noticeably hotter so the bird life was subdued. We did observe Yellow-billed Kite, Souimanga Sunbird, Madagascar Bee-eater, Namaqua Dove, Stonechat, Common Quail, Madagascar Turtle Dove and an Eleonora's Falcon in flight. The reserve guides showed us a rather grumpy looking Oustalet's Chameleon. It's the down-turned mouth that does it. Numerous iguanids were sunning themselves on the rocks.

Once we'd all reassembled, we enjoyed our picnic lunch under a shady straw canopy but all too soon it was time to move on with still several hours drive ahead of us. All around us, the coarse dry grass, which zebu find unpalatable, was being burned off to encourage new shoots – this introduced grass has largely replaced the original savannah. After a short stop at Ihosy, the centre for the Bara people, we tackled the long climb to the Horombe Plateau. It's a desolate place, punctuated with clusters of mud huts. We searched for Madagascar Harrier without success but there was no shortage of Bush Larks and Pied Crows. Soon Isalo's sandstone massif appeared ahead of us, glowing in the last of the afternoon sun. We arrived at the well-appointed Hotel Jardin du Roi, where we checked into spacious rooms and enjoyed an excellent choice on the dinner menu. Madagascar Nightjars were calling on the path to our rooms.

Day 8

Friday 3rd October

ISALO NATIONAL PARK

Weather: cloudy in the morning, hot and sunny in the afternoon

After the long hot drive yesterday, some of the group opted for a lie in but Desi, Cathy, Tony, Anne, Rosemary, Hilly, Hugh, Geraldine and Melissa were up at sunrise to check out the birds by the small lake behind the hotel. It is magical to be there at dawn, watching the sandstone change from purple to pink to orange as the sun emerges. A pair of Crested Drongos was noisily holding forth from a tree top perch, while a couple of Purple Herons flew over. Desi pointed out a Madagascar Pond Heron and we glimpsed a pair of Madagascar Little Grebes and a Common Moorhen among the reeds. A small flock of White-faced Whistling Duck flew up as we approached the lakeshore. We got good views of Madagascar Hoopoe, Grey-headed Lovebird, Cisticola, Madagascar Kestrel and Yellow-billed Kite and several Palm Swifts were about overhead. After a good deal of searching, we located a Benson's Rock Thrush perched on a rock. Finally, a flower we noted: a purple *Clitoria terneata*. All in all, a great start to the day.

After an early breakfast we had a short drive to the town of Ranohira, which means 'watering place for ring-tailed lemurs' – it sounded promising! We picked up our National Park guide Rolland and we set off for the short drive on a bumpy track to the foot of Isalo's sandstone massif. We noted the yellow-flowering *Acridocarpus excelsus*, used to make the yellow beauty-mask popular with local women, and the fire-resistant *Medemea nobilis* palm. Leaving the bus, we set off on foot at a slow pace towards the canyon. Rolland gave us a lot of information on the flora of the area pointing out numerous species and their uses: *Merula Sclerocardya birrea* (Anacardiaceae) whose fruits are used to flavour rum; *Urena sp* (Malvaceae) whose crushed leaves are an antiseptic; *Melastoma dionica*, a red-flowering *Clitoria sp* (Fabaceae); the parasitic lovevine (resembling dodders) *Cassytha filiformis* (Lauraceae); a *Lycopodium sp* Clubmoss (Lycopodiaceae); a purple flower (resembling a thistle) *Crassucephalum rubens* (Asteraceae); an orange-flowered endemic shrub *Chadsia grevei* (Fabaceae) attracting Souimanga Sunbirds to its nectar; an endemic Rosewood *Dalbergia purpurascens* (Fabaceae); a purple-flowering shrub *Pemphis madagascariensis* (Lythraceae); *Kalanchoe tomentosa* (Crassulaceae); a *Mimosa sp*; a pink-flowered *Dendroportulaca mirabilis* (Portulacaceae) used by shamans to mix with other plants and burn to keep away malevolent spirits; blue-flowered vine *Bonamia spectabilis* (Convolvulaceae). Rolland told us by the way that there are over 1200 plant species in Isalo of which 15% are endemic to the park and 40% are medicinal.

We were making record slow progress, covering about 250 metres of path in an hour, such was the variety of wildlife and flora along the way. We enjoyed many birds including Paradise Flycatcher, Kestrel, Bee-eater, Coucal, Crested Drongo, Souimanga Sunbird, Chabert's Vanga, White-eye, Madagascar Green Sunbird, Common Quail, Madagascar Cuckoo Shrike, Magpie Robin, Grey-headed Lovebird, and Madagascar Buzzard. We observed a large male Oustalet's Chameleon, a Spiny-tailed Iguanid, a Lined Snake *Bibilava lateralis*, a Stink Bug, Praying Mantis and a rather splendid Snout Bug *Zanna tenebrosa* (Fulgoridae).

Arriving in the shade of the forest surrounding the campsite, we encountered a group of Ring-tailed Lemurs, lethargically sprawled over the tree-boughs and boulders. We spent time watching and photographing them before continuing the walk, further into the gorge. We now descended to the clear-running stream, flanked by the palms *Dyopsis onilabiensis* and *Dyopsis descipiens*. Following the stream, we observed a beautiful blue dragonfly and a pink dragonfly. Climbing a rocky path with steps cut into the boulders, we arrived at Cascade des

Nymphes and its refreshing pool. Only two of us did the honours of being nymphs and having a swim: Hugh and Cathy. Rolland pointed out more plant species: a purple carnivorous bladderwort *Utricularia bisquamata*, a *Drosera* sp, and numerous *Cyathea* tree ferns. We had good views of Benson's Rock Thrush by the pool.

Returning to the hotel for lunch, we then had time for a rest or a swim and then set out late afternoon to explore the hotel grounds and canyon behind. We admired the bulbous water-storing trunks of Elephant's Foot *Pachypodium rosulatum* ssp *gracilis*, *Aloe isaloensis*, Rosy Periwinkle *Catharanthus roseus* (Apocynaceae) and Salotse *Ichnolepis graminifolia*, the plant that gives Isalo its name. We saw Crested Drongo, Madagascar Kestrel and Grey-headed Lovebirds and heard but did not see White-throated Rail, a notoriously 'difficult' bird. With an early rise scheduled for the morning, everyone turned in straight after dinner.

Day 9

Saturday 4th October

ISALO TO IFATY

Weather: a chilly start to the day, then hot and sunny, humid near the coast

We had breakfast in our rooms and at 5am we were loaded up and on the road, enjoying sunrise over the Isalo cliffs. Palm Swifts, Namaqua Doves, Pied Crows and Bush Larks kept us company along the straight road to Zombitse National Park, our next stop. We drove through the sapphire mining town of Ilakaka, which exploded from a hamlet to a city in the early years of the sapphire boom. It now looks just a touch more jaded than before as the mining shifts to other areas. We stopped en route by some rice paddies where we spotted White-throated Rail, Greenback heron and a pair of Madagascar Kestrels.

Zombitse National Park is a pocket of dry deciduous forest, sharing some characteristics of rainforest and known as a transitional forest. Not many people bother to stop as its isolation and lack of accommodation mean that most visitors arrive during the heat of the day. By having an early start, we were there by 7am. We started by visiting a couple of roosting White-browed Owls, which got a huge thumbs-up for cuteness. In the open parking area, we spotted a pair of Hoopoes, a Cuckoo Roller, Lesser Vasa Parrot launching in full song from a perch and a Green Pigeon winging by at high speed. Our guides pointed out a couple of interesting plants: a yellow-flowered *Uncarina decaryi* (Pedaliaceae) whose leaves make a natural shampoo and the seeds are used to trap mice, *Euphorbia enterophora* and *Kalanchoe varensis*.

We focused our walk on the north side of the park, exploring along a network of easy flat trails where our guides led us to a group of Verreaux's Sifaka, the species we were keenest to observe. Vertically clinging and leaping, these gorgeous creamy white lemurs with dark faces are the 'dancing sifakas'. Short forelimbs and long hind limbs make it impractical for them to walk on all fours so when they need to cross open ground they hop sideways in a quasi comical 'dancing' motion. Resting high in the canopy, these lethargic white balls of fluff looked anything but acrobatic. In the heat, you could hardly blame them but this morning we were all complaining about the cold! First one, then two pairs of sleepy yellow eyes opened to check who was intruding on the morning nap. Some got curious and bounded down to our eye level – what a privilege to see tiny fingers grasp a handful of leaves, to watch how males rub their throat to scent-mark a branch.

Next, our guides found us a Hubbard's Sportive Lemur. This is a nocturnal species that spends the day in a cavity or wedged in the fork of a tree, not looking very sportive, it has to be said, but arguably deserving nine out

of ten on the cute scale. The species is restricted to Zombitse. Most of us got a good view of a Coquerel's Coua, ambling on the forest floor among the leaf litter. On the national park office building we found the locally endemic Standing's Day Gecko.

Continuing the journey, we passed rolling hills, dotted with statuesque baobabs and the highly decorative roadside tombs of the Mahafaly people. On the approach to Toliara, we crossed an ancient coral rag plateau, whose scrub vegetation was dominated by *Alluandia comosa*, a species only found in this area.

We took lunch and a guided walk at the Antsokay Arboretum, set up by a Swiss botanical enthusiast. Covering 4 hectares, the reserve boasts 90% regional endemic species and 85% have medicinal properties. For the first time visitor, walking among these weird and wonderful trees is a lesson in the extremes to which plants will go to adapt to hostile conditions. Fara, the guide, started with a natural bonsai specimen of *Operculicarya pachypus* (Anacardiaceae), a *Delonix floribunda* (Caesalpinaceae) which photosynthesises on the trunk and is used to make musical instruments as the timber has good resonance; *Euphorbia laru*, with a sticky white sap, a characteristic of many of that family; *Commiphora aprevalii* (Burseraceae) whose peeling bark gives it the name 'Vazaha (foreigner)' tree; *Moringa drouhardii* the false baobab (Moringaceae); *Pachypodium lamerei* (Apocynaceae) whose trunk can attain a circumference of 2m; *Cyphostema montagnaci* (Vitaceae) with a flattened bulbous water-storing trunk; a palm *Hyphaea coriacea* (Arecaceae) whose leaves are used for thatching and basket-weaving; *Jatropha mahfalensis* (Euphorbiaceae) a tree whose seeds produce biodiesel; *Alluandia montagnaci* (Didieraceae) the deciduous 'Compass Tree' with heart-shaped leaves that looks more like a cactus; *Euphorbia onoclada* which photosynthesises through its sausage-shaped branches – it doesn't even bother to produce any leaves; *Cedrolopsis grevei*, with a common cure for backache and rheumatism in its leaves; *Pluchea grevei* (Asteraceae) – a cure for the common cold! Fara also pointed out a Grey Brown Mouse Lemur and we saw several reptiles: a Changeable Day Gecko *Phelsuma mutabilis*; A Gold Spotted Skink *Trachylepis aureopunctata*, a Three-eyed Lizard *Chalarodon madagascariensis* and a Warty Chameleon *Furcifer verrucosus*. We also enjoyed a view of a Madagascar Nightjar roosting at the base of a tree, perfectly camouflaged!

After lunch, we headed on a dirt road north through the bustling town of Toliara to Ifaty. We stopped at the mangroves en route and found Ruddy Turnstone, Common Sandpiper, Ringed Plover and Whimbrel. Along the way we passed the fishing villages of the Vezo people. Arriving at the seaside Hotel Paradisier, we checked in and had a rest and swim. At dusk Tony found a Grey Brown Mouse Lemur emerging from its daytime roost, wide-eyed and worried at all the attention it was getting. We watched as it leapt on to a bush and in a flash disappeared from view.

Day 10

Sunday 5th October

IFATY

Weather: hot and very windy from 11am onwards

We were up at first light for pre-breakfast bird watching at the Reniala private reserve, a 20 minute drive to the north. Here, adjacent to the village of Ifaty, an area of spiny forest is protected, and the guides are expert at finding Long-tailed Ground Roller and Sub-desert Mesite, two local rarities confined to this corner of the island and both under threat. With plenty of dry leaf litter, this is perfect habitat for these ground-dwelling birds. Also typical of this forest are the red-barked *Adansonia rubrostipa* baobabs and we noted that several of the larger

examples had hand-holds cut into their huge swollen trunks so that locals can climb to pick the fruits. Meeting local guide Dabe, we walked along a sandy track to the entrance to the reserve. While Dabe and his helpers were searching for the rarer species we enjoyed sightings of Crested Coua, Sub-desert Brush Warbler, Turtle Dove, Common Newtonia and African Palm Swift.

Because the forest isn't yet in leaf, birds are much easier to observe. We soon got excellent views of a Running Coua first perched in a tree and then on the ground, feathers all fluffed up and wings outstretched to warm up. This was followed by equally good views of a Green-capped Coua perched on a Didieraceae bough and lit up in the morning sun. We heard the tuneful song of the local endemic Archbold's Newtonia and the chirpy songster obliged us with good views as well. Soon we were diving through the spiny scrub (long sleeves useful!) to a clearing where a Long-tailed Ground Roller ambled into view, shortly after joined by a second bird. This ground-dwelling bird has splendid blue feathers and an incredibly long tail and is a most impressive one to view and photograph.

Another highlight of the morning was an excellent view of a Sub-desert Mesite – when alarmed, this ground-dwelling bird flies to a perch and freezes. In between bird sightings Dabe showed us some of the interesting tree species in the reserve: Octopus Tree *Didiera madagascariensis*, *Aloe divaricata*, a tree Elephant's Foot *Pachypodium geayi* and *Givotia madagascariensis*, whose lightweight timber is used to make canoes. We also had a good tree-hugging opportunity with the reserve's largest baobab, which has a 12m circumference!

As the temperature began to rise, it was time to head back to the hotel for a 9.00 breakfast. After breakfast it was chill-out time and well deserved too! The fierce and relentless wind made bird watching difficult and there were precious few waders on the shore. We discovered that Air Madagascar had changed our flight from a morning to an evening flight, thereby changing our plans for tomorrow.

Late afternoon Desi took us on a stroll to the brackish ponds behind the hotel, where we found four Three-banded Plovers, Common Sandpiper, Greenshank, Kittlitz Plover, two Madagascar Buttonquail and a pair of Chabert's Vanga. At dusk the mouse lemurs were active again and once they emerge from their daytime roost these tea-cup sized lemurs tear along the branches at supersonic speed, leaping from tree to tree. The hotel arranged for a local group of singers, dancers and musicians to perform for guests over dinner. We were impressed to see that all of their instruments were home-made.

Day 11

Monday 6th October

IFATY – ANTANANARIVO

Weather: very hot, with a stiff breeze in the afternoon; cooler in Tana

With the change in flight time, Plan B came into effect. The obvious choice was to go back to Reniala as the birding and photography are rewarding so once again we met at crack of dawn, bleary-eyed, in the car park. Having enjoyed many of the reserve's specialities yesterday, we opted to take things at a very leisurely pace. Sunrise was again a spectacular affair, with the baobab trunks glowing pink as we met Dabe and set off into the reserve. We paused to watch a group of restless Grey-headed Lovebirds chattering in a tree and a kestrel perched in the sunlight. Turtle doves hurtled through the gaps between trees and a *Thamnornis* warbler hopped among the spindly branches of the spiny undergrowth. Desi heard the plaintive mew of a Sickle-billed Vanga, which

obliged us by flying into a nearby tree. We could observe its amazing bill in action, probing for grubs on a branch. A Green-capped Coua was warming up in the sun and a Hook-billed Vanga flew in overhead and settled in a tree, allowing us excellent views. We finally got good views of a Crested Coua, again sunning itself and we watched the acrobatics of a small flock of Green Jery.

Rosemary found a Green-capped Coua foraging on the ground and we got views of a Running Coua, close by. A second Sickle-billed Vanga posed for the cameras on the top of a *Didieraceae* branch. What a great morning of bird watching at its best! Back at the hotel we had a late breakfast and then there was time to pack before check out and lunch. En route to Toliara, we made short stops to look for birds, finding Purple Heron, Grey Heron, Greenshank, Kittlitz Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Common Sandpiper, Three-banded Plover and a single Black-winged Stilt, limping badly from an injured leg. Large flocks of Whimbrel were battling against the stiff southerly breeze. The coast road is now finally being surfaced so future groups will have an easy drive to and from Ifaty.

We drove down to the mud flats at Toliara, but with a high tide and strong, there was nothing to see. We had dinner at the Victory Hotel, then made for the airport, where we said goodbye to Danny, our driver whose skill had served us well during the last week. Once we'd checked in and gone through to the departure lounge it was soon apparent that our flight would be further delayed. We finally arrived at the Orchid Hotel at 1.15. That's Air Mad for you.

Day 12

Tuesday 7th October

ANTANANARIVO TO ANDASIBE

Weather: fine and sunny

An 8.30 start and we were on the road, with thankfully not too much traffic to slow us down. Great Egrets and Cattle Egrets were feeding in the rice paddies as we made our way around the capital's perimeter. Once on the road east we stopped to buy bottled water. Desi pointed out a Hamerkop very close to the road so we paused to observe it stirring up the mud with its huge feet while Geraldine spotted a Madagascar Buzzard in flight.

Arriving at Andasibe at 1.30, we wolfed down our picnic lunch, while Desi sorted out the park permits. We saw Crested Drongo nesting in the picnic area and Nelicourvi Weaver gathering nesting material. On hearing the indri launch into song, everyone got fired up and ready to move –I think we're suffering from lemur withdrawal symptoms. With the permits sorted, we set off with guide Maurice on the main trail into the reserve, while Desi went off to look for lemurs. Andasibe is Desi's hometown, so he knows the area very well. We saw a beautiful blue dragonfly, a pair of Souimanga Sunbird feeding and a spectacular yellow and black Swallowtail butterfly, which settled on Edrie's hat. We heard Madagascar Wood Rail calling but it failed to show. A stunning Blue and Black Swallowtail *Papilio epiphorbas* flew by. Maurice pointed out a Giraffe-necked Weevil and under its feeding tree we found an egg-packet, carefully rolled up and secured, then snipped off to fall to the ground.

Going into the park in the afternoon is not the best time to look for Indri but you are guaranteed a quieter visit. Desi meanwhile had found two Grey Bamboo Lemurs. What a privilege to quietly watch the lemurs feeding, dextrously stripping the leaves to access their base shoots. As the park shuts at 4pm, our time was limited but on our way back to the entrance we got views of Blue Coua, Lesser Vasa Parrot and we heard a France's

Sparrowhawk call. We paused to photograph an orchid *Aerangis fastiosa*. In the picnic area, we found a magnificent Parson's Chameleon and a Short-horned Chameleon, both of which posed for the photographers.

After checking into our rooms at Grace Lodge, we grabbed torches for a night walk in the adjacent Mitsinjo reserve. I can honestly say this was one of the most exciting night walks I've ever had – it was as though the guides had thoughtfully positioned each species so that one sighting led to another – which of course they had not! First up was a Mossy Leaf-tailed Gecko, the master of camouflage, that flattens its body against a mossy tree trunk casting no shadow during the day; then Desi sprung a Satanic Leaf-tailed Gecko on us – we'd seen this one hiding during the day at Ranomafana but great to see it in action here. Next was the cutest fluffy ball of a sleeping Pygmy Kingfisher, its bill tucked under, barely a yard from the path. Then a Big-headed Gecko spotted by Geraldine, a *Boophis madagascariensis* Tree Frog from Jackie and a Furry-eared Dwarf Lemur, scuttling on all fours along a branch, its huge eyes peering down at us. Then to cap it all a Madagascar Crested Ibis calling and three groups of Eastern Woolly Lemur spotted from the road at the end of our walk. Oh, and I almost forgot – a young Madagascar Tree Boa, spotted by our driver Roger on the track leading to Grace Lodge. We stopped to pick it up and take it to safety. We later enjoyed a traditional Malagasy dinner served by our gracious hostess Henriette, who spoke perfect English, having travelled around the UK in the 1970s.

Day 13

Wednesday 8th October

MANTADIA NATIONAL PARK

Weather: fine and sunny

A few of the group were up early and spotted Madagascar White-eye, Crested Drongo, Madagascar Wagtail, Lesser Vasa Parrot and with a little bit of neck-craning, finally a view of Lesser Cuckoo, perched on a Eucalyptus.

We set off for Mantadia National Park, due to deteriorating road conditions now a two-hour drive from the hotel. We admired Roger's efforts at the wheel – what a skilled and careful driver. Along the way, we saw how slash and burn 'Tavy' is encroaching on the protected forest. We noted Madagascar Cisticola, Stonechat, Greater Vasa Parrot and Lesser Vasa Parrot and a female Short-horned Chameleon. Arriving at the car park, we were detained by numerous red and green *Graphium cyrnus* and blue and black *Papilio Epiphorbas* butterflies attracted to the damp mud and a dung pile. A *Salamis anteva* butterfly landed on Hugh's hat.

We planned to focus on looking for Black and White Ruffed Lemur and Diademed Sifaka but as the lemurs in Mantadia are not as habituated as those of Analamazaotra, patience is needed. We could not have been more fortunate with our guides as Maurice and Desi knew all the likely lemur spots and in particular the trees where Black and White Ruffed Lemurs are likely to feed. It's hard not to be wowed by the magnificent primary rainforest that Mantadia protects. The name actually means 'Hard Walking' and it fits! As well as some steep slopes there are great buttressed trunks with splendid creeping roots, razor-sharp saw-edged *Pandanus*, tangles of lianas and orchids, fallen trunks festooned with bracket fungi and meandering clear-running streams. We paused to admire an orchid *Aeranthes stilosa* on the trunk of a *Tambourissa* sp en route to our first lemurs of the day, three Common Brown Lemurs.

We then split into sub-groups and Maurice's group were lucky to find a Scaly Ground Roller and Red-tailed Vanga. Desi's group found several orchids: *Oenea rosea*, a *Bulbophyllum sp* and an *Angraecum sp*, and some impressive red millipedes. News of Black and White Ruffed Lemur soon brought us all together to enjoy a rewarding encounter with one of the more difficult species to observe.

Unlike many other lemurs, this species doesn't carry the young on its back, but parks them in a nest. Unusually, twins and even three young are common. They're mostly canopy feeders (and important rainforest pollinators) so a bit of neck craning is unavoidable. We observed this family and feeding and resting, then as they began to move, they came down low to give us unusually clear views.

We reassembled by the small lake, where we had a peaceful picnic lunch. Here we watched a family of Madagascar Little Grebe with chicks, a pair of the rare Meller's Duck, Swamp Warbler and some nesting Madagascar Starlings. Blue Dragonflies were flitting to and from their perches. Returning to the forest after lunch, Desi found a group of six Diademed Sifakas close to the car park area and they were in a playful mood. We watched as they hung upside down to feed, swinging like circus acrobats and then came down low to the delight of the photographers. All too soon it was time to head out of the National Park and back on the bumpy track to the village. We had a short break before the night walk, this time in a tract of rainforest managed by a local Villagers' Association. Maurice soon located the eye-shine of a Goodman's Mouse Lemur and everyone got great views of it scuttling along the branches. Then Rosemary and Tony spotted a Furry-eared Dwarf Lemur. We also found several big beetles, a Rhinoceros Beetle and some crickets.

Day 14

Thursday 9th October

ANDASIBE RESERVE

Weather: a little cloud in the morning then warm and sunny

Our last morning with the lemurs and everyone was keen to make the most of it so we were again up at crack of dawn and ready for a 7am departure with our bags on board. Though the terrain is a bit easier at Andasibe, lemurs can have a habit of choosing the more inaccessible spots to hang out.

Desi's group went ahead to find Indri, while Maurice's group did some bird watching, noting Blue Pigeon, Madagascar Green Sunbird, Cisticola, Spectacled Tetraka, Long-billed Tetraka, Blue Coua and Madagascar Buzzard, Paradise Flycatcher and Rainforest Scops Owl. We also got great views of a group of four Grey Bamboo Lemurs crossing our path. Maurice then took us to a group of Diademed Sifaka with four adults and two simply delightful babies. The Sifaka were on the ground collecting fruit, then moved off in great bounds through the trees allowing us to remark how extraordinarily well they judge the distances of these huge leaps between trees.

Desi's group meanwhile had been enjoying the Indri, watching them feeding, grooming and then bounding from trunk to trunk in huge vertical leaps. Unlike other lemurs, Indri have only a short stubby tail and with rounded ears, wide green eyes and gorgeous thick fur, they look like big cuddly teddies. They're also very vocal and this is what we were waiting to hear as one after another, the groups break into a chorus of hoots to mark their territory. Leaving the indri, Desi's group also spent time with the Diademed Sifakas and Common Brown Lemurs.

Maurice's group headed off to a second group of Indri, and were lucky to hear them call. There was also a very endearing baby in this group. It was hard to tear ourselves away but we still had the long journey back to Tana ahead of us. We ate a picnic lunch at the entrance to the reserve and then it was time to say goodbye to Maurice and load up on the bus.

Arriving back in Tana in good time, we stopped at the Craft Market for a little last minute shopping, then had time to rest and repack at the Orchid Hotel, before dinner at the Savanna Café. It was now time to say goodbye to Desi, our local guide. More than anything, the success of a wildlife tour is down to the expertise and dedication of the local guide and Desi, everyone agreed, had done an exceptional job, sharing his knowledge and always smiling and helpful. Misaotra betsaka Desi!

Check in was straightforward and soon we were boarding the plane for the overnight flight to Paris.

Day 15

Friday 10th October

ANTANANARIVO TO PARIS AND ONWARD FLIGHTS TO THE UK

The flight arrived into Paris on time and gradually we dispersed onto our respective flights back to the UK and it was time to say '*Veloma*'. Thank you everyone for your invaluable contributions to the success of the tour – you were wonderful and rose to the challenges of Madagascar travel in every way. And by the way...between us (with the help of our reserve guides), we found 18 species of lemur!

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Red-fronted Brown Lemur

Species List

Lemurs (✓ = recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October														
			27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
		Cheirogaleidae															
1	Grey-brown Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus griseorufus</i>								3	1						
2	Brown (Rufous) Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus rufus</i>				2											
3	Goodman's Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus lehilahytsara</i>														3	
4	Furry-eared Dwarf Lemur	<i>Cheirogalus crossleyi</i>												1	3		
		Lepilemuridae															
5	Hubbard's Sportive Lemur	<i>Lepilemur hubbardorum</i>									1						
		Lemuridae															
6	Eastern Grey (Lesser) Bamboo Lemur	<i>Hapalemur griseus</i>												6		4	
7	Golden Bamboo Lemur	<i>Hapalemur aureus</i>				2											
8	Greater Bamboo Lemur	<i>Hapalemur simus</i>				2	2										
9	Ring-tailed Lemur	<i>Lemur catta</i>							50	20							
10	Common Brown Lemur	<i>Eulemur fulvus</i>												2	3	5	
11	Red-fronted Brown Lemur	<i>Eulemur rufus</i>				8				3							
12	Red-bellied Lemur	<i>Eulemur rubriventer</i>				3											
13	Black and White Ruffed Lemur	<i>Varecia variegata variegata</i>														3	
		Indridae															
14	Eastern Woolly Lemur	<i>Avahi laniger</i>												7			
15	Verreaux's Sifaka	<i>Propithecus verreauxi</i>									10						
16	Diademed Sifaka	<i>Propithecus diadema</i>													6	4+2	
17	Milne-Edwards' Sifaka	<i>Propithecus edwardsi</i>				4+1	3										
18	Indri	<i>Indri indri</i>														H	7+1

Other Mammals

53	Eastern Red Forest Rat	<i>Nesomys rufus</i>				2	2										
57	Pipistrelle Bat	<i>Pipistrellus sp.</i>										1					

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October												
			27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Birds

1	Madagascar Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus pelzelinii</i>								2						2+3	
2	Madagascar Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola idae</i>								1							
3	Common Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>		2						1					1		
4	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>			15+												
5	Green-backed Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>			1						1						1
6	Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>		12					✓						✓		✓
7	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		3	100+				✓		✓				✓		✓
8	Dimorphic Heron	<i>Egretta dimorpha</i>		20+	100+				✓		✓				✓		✓
9	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>							1	2				1			
10	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>												1			
11	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>							5						2		2
12	Madagascar Crested Ibis	<i>Lophotibis cristata</i>													H		
13	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>							1								
14	Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>		20+													
15	Meller's Duck	<i>Anas melleri</i>														2	
16	White-faced Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>		10						20	8						
17	Henst's Goshawk	<i>Accipiter henstii</i>						H									
18	Madagascar Harrier- Hawk	<i>Polyboroides radiatus</i>				1								H			1
19	Madagascar Buzzard	<i>Buteo brachypterus</i>			3	1	4			1				1	1		
20	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptus</i>			4				2	✓	✓	1	2	1			1
21	Frances's Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter francesiae</i>													H		
22	Madagascar Kestrel	<i>Falco newtoni</i>		2	10	1	1	10	2	1	1						1
23	Eleonora's Falcon	<i>Falco eleonora</i>					1										
24	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>						2	1								
25	Madagascar Wood Rail	<i>Canirallus kiolooides</i>													2H		
26	Subdesert Mesite	<i>Monias benschi</i>										1					
27	Madagascar Button-quail	<i>Turnix nigricollis</i>										2					
28	White-throated Rail	<i>Dryolimnas cuvieri</i>								H	1					1	

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October													
			27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
29	Madagascar Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura insularis</i>														H
30	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>								1						
31	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>									1		1			
32	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>											1			
33	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			1						3					
34	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>									8	1	6			
35	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>										4	1			
36	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>									2	3	25+			
37	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>										3				
38	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>										1	2			
39	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		1							1		2			
40	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
41	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>		1					2		✓	✓	✓			
42	Madagascar Blue Pigeon	<i>Alectroenas madagascariensis</i>					4									1
43	Madagascar Green Pigeon	<i>Treron australis</i>									2					
44	Madagascar Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia picturata</i>						1		1	✓	✓				
45	Grey-headed Lovebird	<i>Agapornis canus</i>						4	10	4	2	8				
46	Greater Vasa Parrot	<i>Coracopsis vasa</i>					1				1	1			6	
47	Lesser Vasa Parrot	<i>Coracopsis nigra</i>				H	1			2				2	4	
48	Madagascar Coucal	<i>Centropus toulou</i>				1				2	2	1		H	H	H
49	Madagascar Lesser Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus rochii</i>				H	H			H					1	1
50	Green-capped Coua	<i>Coua olivaceiceps</i>									2	2				
51	Running Coua	<i>Coua cursor</i>										1				
52	Coquerel's Coua	<i>Coua coquereli</i>									1					
53	Blue Coua	<i>Coua caerulea</i>					1							1		2
54	Crested Coua	<i>Coua cristata</i>									1	1	3			
55	Madagascar Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio madagascariensis</i>												1+2		
56	White-browed Owl	<i>Ninox superciliaris</i>									2					
57	Rainforest Scops Owl	<i>Otus rutilus</i>														1
59	Madagascar Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus madagascariensis</i>	H						H		2	2	1		6	

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October													
			27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
60	Madagascar Black Swift	<i>Apus balstoni</i>		6												
61	Madagascar Spine-tailed Swift	<i>Zoonavena grandidieri</i>			3	4	4								✓	
62	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>			5	✓	4	1	✓	✓	2	2				
63	Brown-throated Sand Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>			20											
64	Mascarene Martin	<i>Phedina borbonica</i>		2	10	✓										2
65	Madagascar Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo vintsioides</i>		1	1	1			1						1	
66	Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx madagascariensis</i>												1		
67	Madagascar Bee-eater	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>	1					1	10	10	2	2	1	1		
68	Madagascar Cuckoo-Roller	<i>Leptosomus discolor</i>			1	H	H			1					2	
69	Scaly Ground-Roller	<i>Brachypteracias squamigera</i>													1	
70	Pitta-like Ground-Roller	<i>Atelornis pittoides</i>				2	2									
71	Long-tailed Ground-Roller	<i>Uratelornis chimaera</i>								2						
72	Madagascar Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>		1	2	1	2	2	✓	✓	✓	1			✓	2
73	Long-billed Berniera (Tetraka)	<i>Berniera madagascariensis</i>				1	1									1
74	Spectacled Tetraka	<i>Berniera zosterops</i>					1									1
75	Subdesert Tetraka (Thamnornis warbler)	<i>Thamnornis chloropetoides</i>										1				
76	Madagascar Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus albospectularis</i>		1		2	3		2	4	2	1	1	1	1	2
77	Madagascar Hoopoe	<i>Upupa marginata</i>							4	3	1					
78	Forest Rock-Thrush	<i>Monticola sharpei</i>				1										
79	Benson's Rock-Thrush	<i>Monticola sharpei bensoni</i>							6							
80	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>		2	6			2							2	2
81	Madagascar Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flaviventris</i>		1	6	4	8	4	2	2			1	2	2	
82	Madagascar Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone mutata</i>					6		4	1	2	3	2	1	1	
83	Ward's Flycatcher	<i>Pseudobias wardi</i>				1									1	
84	Common Newtonia	<i>Newtonia brunneicauda</i>			H						1				1	
85	Archbold's Newtonia	<i>Newtonia archboldi</i>									1					
86	Madagascar Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cherina</i>							2	1						1
87	Madagascar Bush Lark	<i>Mirafra hova</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
88	Subdesert Brush Warbler	<i>Nesilla lantzii</i>									2	1				
89	Madagascar Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus newtoni</i>		1											4	

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October												
			27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
90	Madagascar Brush Warbler	<i>Nesillas typica</i>		H	1	1	2		1					1	2
91	Common Jery	<i>Neomixis tenella</i>					1		2					1	
92	Green Jery	<i>Neomixis viridis</i>						H		1		3			
93	Wedge-tailed Jery	<i>Neomixis flavoviridis</i>				1									
94	Rand's Warbler	<i>Randia pseudozosterops</i>				H	2						H	H	
95	Madagascar White-eye	<i>Zosterops maderaspatanus</i>		10	H	2			4					1	2
96	Madagascar Green Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia notata</i>			2	1			4					1	1
97	Souimanga Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia sovimanga</i>		2		4	4	1	6	4	4	12	2	2	2
98	Nuthatch Vanga	<i>Hypositta corallirostris</i>												H	
99	Chabert's Vanga	<i>Leptopterus chabert</i>							2		2	1			
100	Madagascar Blue Vanga	<i>Cyanolanius madagascarinus</i>					1								
102	Sickle-billed Vanga	<i>Falcoelea palliata</i>									H	2			
103	Rufous Vanga	<i>Schetba rufa</i>					H								
104	Red-tailed Vanga	<i>Calicalicus madagascariensis</i>				1							H	2	
105	Hook-billed Vanga	<i>Vanga curvirostris</i>				H					1	4			
106	Pollen's Vanga	<i>Xenopirostris polleni</i>					H								
107	Tylas Vanga	<i>Tylas eduardi</i>					H							H	
108	Madagascar Cuckoo Shrike	<i>Coracina cinerea</i>				1	1		1						
109	Madagascar Starling	<i>Saroglossa aurata</i>												2	
110	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
111	Crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus forficatus</i>				2	2		✓	✓	✓	4	✓	✓	4
112	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>		2	10			✓	✓	✓	2	✓	✓	✓	2
113	Madagascar Fody	<i>Foudia madagascariensis</i>		1	4				4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2
114	Forest Fody	<i>Foudia eminentissima</i>													
115	Sakalava Weaver	<i>Ploceus sakalava</i>								4	✓	✓	1		
116	Nelicourvi Weaver	<i>Ploceus nelicourvi</i>											1		
117	Madagascar Mannikin	<i>Lonchura nana</i>			2										

Reptiles & Amphibians

1	Madagascar Jumping Frog	<i>Aglypodactylus madagascariensis</i>			1										
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	Common name	Scientific name	September/October													
			27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
2	Madagascar Tree Frog	<i>Boophis madagascariensis</i>				2		3						3		
3	Baron's Painted Mantella frog	<i>Mantella baroni</i>					2									
4	Glass frog	<i>Guibemantis pulcher</i>					1									
5	White-spotted frog	<i>Heterixalus alboguttatus</i>			1											
6	Yellow-striped frog	<i>Heterixalus luteostriatus</i>							1							
7	Broad-browed Chameleon	<i>Brookesia superciliaris</i>			1											
8	Elongate Leaf Chameleon	<i>Brookesia nasus</i>			1											
9	O'Shaughnessy's Chameleon	<i>Calumma oshaughnessyi</i>			1	2										
10	Blue-legged Chameleon	<i>Calumma crypticum</i>			2	2										
11	Short-horned Chameleon	<i>Calumma brevicornis</i>												2	1	1
12	White-bellied Chameleon	<i>Calumma gastrotaenia</i>												1		
13	Parson's Chameleon	<i>Calumma parsonii cristifer</i>												1		1
14	Nose-horned Chameleon	<i>Calumma nasuta</i>				8	1									
15	Spiny-backed Chameleon	<i>Furcifer verrucosus</i>								2						
16	Oustalet's Chameleon	<i>Furcifer oustaleti</i>		1				1	2	1						
17	Belted Chameleon	<i>Furcifer balteatus</i>				1										
18	Three-eyed Lizard	<i>Chalarodon madagascariensis</i>								1	✓	✓				
19	Spiny-tailed Iguanid	<i>Oplurus cyclurus</i>		1					✓	1						
20	Four-lined Iguanid	<i>Oplurus quadrimaculatus</i>			4			✓								
21	Large-headed Gecko	<i>Paroedura gracilis</i>												1		
22	Satanic Leaf-tailed Gecko	<i>Uroplatus phantasticus</i>				2	1							1		
23	Mossy Leaf-tailed Gecko	<i>Uroplatus sikorae</i>												1		
24	Lined Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma lineata bifasciata</i>				✓	✓							1	1	
25	Four-eyed Emerald Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma quadriocellata</i>			2	✓	✓									
26	Marbled Emerald Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma standingi</i>								1						
27	Changeable Emerald Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma mutabilis</i>								1						
28	House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus mercatorius</i>	2								1					
29	a Skink	<i>Trachylepis aureopunctata</i>								1						
30	a Skink	<i>Trachylepis madagascariensis</i>								1					1	
31	A Snake	<i>Bibilava lateralis</i>						1								

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October												
			27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
32	A Snake	<i>Liophodium torquatum</i>				1									
33	Madagascar Tree Boa	<i>Sanzinia madagascariensis</i>				1							1J		

Butterflies

1	Antenor Butterfly	<i>Atrophaneura antenor</i>							1	2	✓	✓			
2	Green & Red butterfly	<i>Graphium cyrnus</i>												✓	
3	Citrus Swallowtail	<i>Papilio demodocus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓							✓	
4	Blue Pansy	<i>Junonia orythia</i>						2	4						
5	African Monarch	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>	✓	✓						✓					
6		<i>Precis pelarga</i>			1										
7		<i>Salamis anteva</i>												1	
8	Blue and Black Swallowtail	<i>Papilio epiphorbas</i>												✓	
9		<i>Saribia tepahi</i>				4	8								

Moths

1	Large moth at Centrest gardens	<i>Saturnidae sp</i>			1										
2	Comet Moth	<i>Argema mittrei</i>				1	1								

Other invertebrates

1	Dragonfly (Red)	<i>Trithemis selika</i>							1						
2	Dragonfly (Blue)	<i>Orthetrum julia</i>							1					1	
3	Praying Mantis	<i>Mantis sp.</i>				1			2						
4	Stick Insect	<i>Phasmatodea</i>			2	1	1						5	1	
5	Giraffe-necked Weevil	<i>Trachelophorus giraffa</i>				3	1						1	1	1
6	Whirly gig beetle	<i>Gyrinidae</i>					✓							✓	
7	Rhinoceros Beetle	<i>Oryctes sp.</i>				1								1	
8	Flatid Leaf-bug	<i>Phromnia rosea</i>				✓				✓				✓	
9	Firefly	<i>Lampyridae sp.</i>			✓								✓	✓	
10	Giant Black Millipede	-				1									
11	Madagascar Fire Millipede	<i>Aphistogoniulus sp.</i>				1								2	

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October												
			27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12	Golden Orb-web Spider	<i>Nephila madagascariensis</i>				✓									
13	Lynx Spider	<i>Peucetia madagascariensis</i>							1						
14	Huntsman' Spider	<i>Holconia sp.</i>												1	
15	a Crayfish					1									
16	a Carpenter Bee												1		
17	a Burrowing wasp													1	
18	Snout bug	<i>Zanna tenebrosa</i>							2						
19	Lady bug	<i>Libyaspsis coccinnelloides</i>							✓						
20	a Glow worm				1										

Plants

Scientific name
LYCOODIOPSIDA

Common name
CLUBMOSES & QUILLWORTS

Scientific name
Hamamelidaceae
Dicoryphe stipulacea

Common name
Witch-hazel Family
-

Lycopodiaceae
Lycopodium sp
c.f. Huperzia sp

Clubmoss Family
-
-

Hernandiaceae
Gyrocarpus americanus

Hernandia Family
-

Selaginellaceae
Selaginella sp

Lesser Clubmoss Family
-

Icacinaceae
Leptaulus citroides

Icacina Family
-

PTERIDOPHYTES

FERNS & ALLIES

Lamiaceae
Karomia microphylla
Leonotis nepetaefolia
Tetradenia sp
Vitex sp

Deadettle Family
-
Lion's Tail
-
-

Adiantaceae
Adiantopsis linearis

Maidenhair Fern Family

Lauraceae
Ocotea cymosa
Ocotea laevis
Potameia sp
Ravensara accuminata

Laurel Family
-
-
-
-

Aspleniaceae
Asplenium nudis

Spleenwort Family

Scientific name	Common name	Scientific name	Common name
Blechnaceae	Hard Fern Family	<i>Ravensara accutifolia</i>	-
<i>Blechnum sp</i>	A Hard Fern	<i>Ravensara longifolia</i>	-
Cyatheaceae	Tree Fern Family	Loganiaceae	Strychnine Family
<i>Cyathea sp1</i>	A Tree Fern	<i>Anthocleista madagascariensis</i>	-
<i>Cyathea sp2</i>	A Tree Fern	<i>Strychnos decussata</i>	-
<i>Cyathea sp3</i>	A Tree Fern	<i>Strychnos madagascariensis</i>	-
Dennstaedtiaceae	Bracken Family	Loranthaceae	Mistletoe Family
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	<i>Bakerella sp</i>	-
		<i>Viscum sp</i>	-
Marsileaceae	Clover Fern Family	Lythraceae	Purple-loosestrife Family
<i>Marsilea quadrifolia</i>	Clover Fern	<i>Koehneria madagascariensis</i>	-
Polypodiaceae	Polypodium Family	Maesaceae	Maesa Family
<i>Phymatodes scolopendria</i>	-	<i>Maesa lanceolata</i>	-
Schizaeaceae	Climbing Fern Family	Malpighiaceae	Malpighia Family
<i>Lygodium sp</i>	-	<i>Acridocarpus exesus</i>	-
PINOPSIDA (Gymnosperms)	CONIFERS	Malvaceae	Mallow Family
Casuarinaceae	Sheoak Family	<i>Helmiopsiella sp</i>	-
<i>Allocasuarina angustifolia</i>	Sheoak	<i>Hibiscus ferrugineus</i>	-
Podocarpaceae	New Zealand Pine Family	<i>Hibiscus sp (Pale Yellow)</i>	-
<i>Podocarpus madagascariensis</i>	-	<i>Neohumbertiella sp</i>	-
MAGNOLIIDAE (Dicotyledons)	FLOWERING PLANTS	<i>Perrierophytum rubrum</i>	-
Acanthaceae	Bear's-breech Family	<i>Sida rhombifolius</i>	-
<i>Avicennia marina</i>	White or Grey Mangrove	Melastomataceae	Melastoma Family
<i>Barleria her</i>	-	<i>Clidemia hirta</i>	-
		<i>Dichaetanthera arborea</i>	-
		<i>Medinella sp</i>	-

Scientific name	Common name	Scientific name	Common name
<i>Barleria sp</i>	-	Meliaceae	Indian Bead Tree Family
<i>Barleria parvispina</i>	-	<i>Melia azederach</i>	Indian Bead Tree
<i>Hypoestes sp (Pink)</i>	-	<i>Turraea sericea</i>	-
<i>Psiadia altissima</i>	-	Menispermaceae	Curare Family
<i>Psiadia angustifolia</i>	-	<i>Burassaia madagascariensis</i>	-
<i>Ruellia latisepala</i>	-	Menyanthaceae	Bogbean Family
<i>Ruellia sp (White)</i>	-	<i>Cyclea sp</i>	-
<i>Ruellia sp (Mauve)</i>	-	Mimosaceae	Acacia Family
<i>Ruellia sp (Yellow)</i>	-	<i>Acacia anceps</i>	-
<i>Strobilanthes sp</i>	-	<i>Acacia latispinosa</i>	-
<i>Thunbergia elata</i>	-	<i>Acacia menabeensis</i>	-
Aizoaceae	Dew-plant Family	<i>Acacia millotica</i>	-
<i>Mollugo decandra</i>	-	<i>Mimosa delicatula</i>	-
Amaranthaceae	Pigweed Family	<i>Mimosa pudica</i>	Sensitive Mimosa
<i>Acaranthes sp</i>	-	Monimiaceae	Schrameckia Family
<i>Aerva jarvanica</i>	-	<i>Decarydendron sp</i>	-
Anacardiaceae	Sumac Family	<i>Tambourissa purpurea</i>	-
<i>Anacardium sp</i>	-	Moraceae	Fig Family
<i>Ligodium sp</i>	-	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	Banyan
<i>Operculicarya decaryi</i>	-	<i>Ficus lutea</i>	-
<i>Operculicarya pachypus</i>	Elephants Skin	<i>Ficus pyrifolia</i>	Strangler Fig
<i>Protorhus abrahainia</i>	"Coffin" Tree	<i>Ficus sp</i>	-
<i>Protorhus ditimera</i>	-	<i>Streblis dimepate</i>	-
<i>Protorhus verticillatum</i>	-	Moringaceae	Moringa Family
<i>Rhus tarantana</i>	-	<i>Moringia drouhardii</i>	
Annonaceae	Custard Apple Family	<i>Moringa hildebrandtii</i>	
<i>Monanthes sp</i>	-	Myrsinaceae	Oncostemon Family
<i>Xylopi humboldtiana</i>	-	<i>Oncostemon botryoides</i>	-
<i>Xylopi lemuriea</i>	-		

Scientific name**Aphloiaceae***Aphloia theiformis***Common name****Aphloia Family**

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Apiaceae*Centella asiatica***Carrot Family**

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Apocynaceae*Catharanthus coriaceus**Catharanthus roseus**Cerbera manghas**Huernia* sp*Pachypodium geayi**Pachypodium lamerei**Pachypodium rosulatum* agg*Pachypodium rosulatum* ssp. *gracilis**Pachypodium rosulatum* ssp. *rosulatum**Petchia erythrocarpa**Stapelianthus decaryi**Stapelianthus insignis**Stapelianthus madagascariensis**Satpelianthus pilosus**Tabernaemontana coffioides**Tabernaemontana madagascariensis**Tabernaemontana* sp*Voacanga thouarsii***Periwinkle Family**

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Madagascan Periwinkle

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an Elephant's Foot

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an Elephant's Foot

an Elephant's Foot

an Elephant's Foot

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Araliaceae*Polyscias repanda**Polyscias* sp*Schefflera vantsilana***Ivy Family**

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Asclepiadiaceae*Calatropis procera**Ceropegia albisepta**Ceropegia dichorphe***Milkweed Family**

Giant Milkweed

a Liana

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Scientific name*Oncostemon elephantipes**Oncostemon palmiforme**Oncostemon* sp**Common name**

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Myrtaceae*Eucalyptus citriodora**Eucalyptus globulus**Eucalyptus robusta**Eugenia jambos**Eugenia pluricimosa**Syzygium emirnense**Syzygium* sp**Myrtle Family**

Lemon-scented Gum

Tasmanian Blue Gum

Ironbark

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Nepenthaceae*Nepenthes madagascariensis***Pitcher Plant Family**

Pitcher plant

Nymphaeaceae*Nymphaea stellata***Water-lily Family**

African Water-lily

Ochnaceae*Compylospermum anceps**Ouratea anceps***African Oak Family**

-

-

Oleaceae*Jasminum* sp.*Noronhia emarginata**Noronhia lanceolata**Noronhia linoceroides**Noronhia* sp*Olax* sp*Ximenia perrieri***Olive Family**

Jasmine

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Onagraceae*Ludwigia repens***Willowherb Family**

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Scientific name	Common name	Scientific name	Common name
<i>Ceropegia</i> sp	a Liana	Papaveraceae	Poppy Family
<i>Cynachum aphyllum</i>	-	<i>Argemone mexicana</i>	Mexican Prickly Poppy
<i>Cynachum compressum</i>	-		
<i>Cynachum decaryi</i>	-	Passifloraceae	Passion Flower Family
<i>Cynachum perrieri</i>	-	<i>Adenia isaloensis</i>	-
<i>Folotsia grandiflora</i>	-	<i>Adenia olaboaiensis</i>	-
<i>Ichnolepis tuberosa</i>	-	<i>Passiflora</i> sp	-
<i>Leptadenia madagascariensis</i>	a Liana		
<i>Menabaya venenata</i>	-	Pedaliaceae	Uncarina Family
<i>Pentopetia gracilis</i>	-	<i>Uncarina decaryi</i>	-
<i>Secamone minutifolia</i>	-	<i>Uncarina grandidieri</i>	-
<i>Secamone</i> sp	-	<i>Uncarina stellulifera</i>	-
<i>Secamonopsis madagascariensis</i>	a Liana		
		Plumbaginaceae	Plumbago Family
Asteraceae	Daisy Family	<i>Plumbago aphylla</i> (White)	Plumbago
-	Aster sp. (pink)		
-	Aster sp. (purple)	Polygonaceae	Knotgrass Family
<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i>	-	<i>Polygonum senegalensis</i>	-
<i>Bidens</i> sp	-		
<i>Centauroopsis</i> sp.	-	Proteaceae	Protea Family
<i>Emilia</i> c.f. <i>citrina</i> (Orange)	-	<i>Dilobeia thouarsii</i>	-
<i>Helichrysum heterotrichum</i>	an Everlasting	<i>Grevilla</i> sp	-
<i>Psiadia altissima</i>	-		
<i>Senecio antandroii</i>	-	Rhamnaceae	Buckthorn Family
<i>Senecio cedrorum</i>	-	<i>Berchemia discolor</i>	-
<i>Senecio</i> sp	-	<i>Colubrina decipiens</i>	-
<i>Senecio</i> sp	-	<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i>	-
<i>Tridax procumbens</i>	-		
<i>Vernonia ramiflora</i>	-	Rhizophoraceae	Red Mangrove Family
		<i>Bruguiera gymnohiza</i>	-
Asteropeiaceae	Asteropeia Family	<i>Rhizophora mucronata</i>	-
<i>Asteropeia</i> c.f. <i>isaloensis</i>	-		
		Rosaceae	Rose Family
Balsaminaceae	Balsam Family	<i>Rubus moluccanus</i>	-
<i>Impatiens</i> sp	-		

Scientific name**Bignoniaceae**

Colea fusca
Fernandoa madagascariensis
Phyllarthron articulatus
Phyllarthron bernierianum
Rhodocotea sp
Rhigozum madagascariensis

Bombacaceae

Adansonia rubrostipa
Adansonia za

Boraginaceae

Cordia maerei
Cordia majungensis
Tournifortia sp (White)

Buddlejaceae

Buddleja madagascariensis

Burseraceae

Canarium boivinii
Canarium madagascariensis
Commiphora aprevalii
Commiphora brevicalyx
Commiphora lamii
Commiphora mafaidoha
Commiphora monstrosa
Commiphora simplicifolia

Cactaceae

Opuntia ficus-indica
Rhipsalis baccifera subsp. mauritiana
Rhipsalis baccifera subsp. horrida

Common name**Trumpet Creeper Family**

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Baobab Family

Red-stipuled Baobab
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Borage Family

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Butterfly-bush Family

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Myrrh Family

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Cactus Family

Barbary Fig
Mistletoe Cactus
-

Scientific name**Rubiaceae**

Alberta minor
Breonia sp
Craterispermum laurianum
Danais fragrans
Gaertnera microphylla
Hyperacanthus mandenensis
Maupouria ankafinensis
Pauridiantha lyalii
Rothmannia decaryi
Saldinia sp
Vangaria edulis

Rutaceae

Cedrelopsis grevei
Vepris fitocavina
Vepris microphylla
Zanthoxylum madagascariensis
Zanthoxylum decaryi
Zanthoxylum tsiamhamposa

Salicaceae

Homalium albiflorum

Salvadoraceae

Azima tetraacantha

Sapindaceae

Plagioscyphus louvelii
Tina stiata

Sapotaceae

Capurodendron perrierii
Chrysophyllum boivinianum

Common name**Bedstraw Family**

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Rue Family

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Willow Family

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Azima Family

-

Lychee Family

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-

Sapodilla Family

-
-

Scientific name	Common name	Scientific name	Common name
Campanulaceae	Bellflower Family	Sarcolaenaceae	Sarcolaena Family
<i>Lobelia sp</i>	-	<i>Leptolaena bojeriana</i>	-
Capparaceae	Caper Family	<i>Leptolaena luteola</i>	-
<i>Boscia longifolia</i>	-	<i>Sarcolaena grandiflora</i>	-
<i>Boscia madagascariensis</i>	-	<i>Schizolaena microphylla</i>	-
<i>Cadaba virgata</i>	-	Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family
<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	-	<i>Isaloe lepida</i>	-
<i>Cleome hassleriana</i>	Giant Spider Plant	<i>Radamea prostrata</i>	-
<i>Crateva obovata</i>	-	<i>Striga hirsuta</i>	-
<i>Maeura filiformis</i>	-	Simaroubaceae	Tree of Heaven Family
Celastraceae	Staff Vine Family	<i>Quassia indica</i>	-
<i>Brexia madagascariensis</i>	-	Solanaceae	Nightshade Family
<i>Brexiella sp</i>	-	<i>Datura stamonium</i>	Thorn Apple
<i>Evonymopsis longipes</i>	-	<i>Solanum croatii</i>	-
Clusiaceae	St.John's-wort Family	<i>Solanum incanum</i>	-
<i>Callophyllum inophyllum</i>	-	<i>Solanum mauritanicum</i>	Mauritius Nightshade
<i>Garcinia sp</i>	-	<i>Solanum sp</i>	-
<i>Harunga madagascariensis</i>	-	Sphaerosepalaceae	Rhopalocarpus Family
<i>Mammea sp</i>	-	<i>Rhopalocarpus similis</i>	-
<i>Psorospermum sp</i>	-	<i>Byttaeria voullily</i>	-
<i>Symphonia fasciculata</i>	-	<i>Dombeya laurifolium</i>	-
<i>Symphonia louvelii</i>	-	<i>Dombeya lucida</i>	-
<i>Trema orientalis</i>	-	<i>Nesogordonia abrahamii</i>	-
Combretaceae	Comberetum Family	Strelitziaceae	Strelitzia Family
<i>Combretum coccinianum</i>	-	<i>Ravenala madagascariensis</i>	Traveller Palm
<i>Combretum greveanum</i>	-	Thymelaeaceae	Daphne Family
<i>Combretum sp</i>	-	<i>Camethia thea</i>	-
<i>Terminalia disjuncta</i>	-	<i>Lasiosiphon decaryi</i>	-
<i>Terminalia fatrae</i>	-	<i>Peddiea involucrata</i>	-

Scientific name**Connaraceae***Angelaea pentagina**Cnestis polyphylla***Crassulaceae***Kalanchoe beharensis**Kalanchoe digremontiana**Kalanchoe grandidieri**Kalanchoe c.f. hilderbrandtii**Kalanchoe linearifolia**Kalanchoe millotii**Kalanchoe orgyalis**Kalanchoe pinnata**Kalanchoe porphyrocalyx**Kalanchoe rhombopilosa**Kalanchoe rotundifolia**Kalanchoe synsepala**Kalanchoe tubiflora***Cucurbitaceae***Xerosicyos danguyi**Xerosicyos perrieri**Xerosicyos pubescens***Cunoniaceae***Weinmannia bojeri**Weinmannia lucens***Didiereaceae***Alluaudia ascendens**Alluaudia comosa**Alluaudia dumosa**Alluaudia humbertii**Alluaudia montagnacii**Alluaudia procera***Common name****Zebra Wood Family**

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a poison vine

Stonecrop Family

Maltese Cross

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Gourd Family

a Liana

a Liana

a Liana

Weinmannia Family

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Octopus Tree Family

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Scientific name*Stephanudaphne sp***Tiliaceae***Grewia apetala**Grewia cyclea**Grewia grevei**Grewia sp**Grewia sp (Yellow)***Ulmaceae***Celtis philippensis***Velloziaceae***Xerophyta dasiryloides***Verbanaceae***Clerodendrum oscitans**Clerodendrum sp**Premna corymbosa**Vitex bojeri***Violaceae***Rinorea greveana***Vitaceae***Cissus quadrangularis**Cyphostema montagnacii***Zygophyllaceae***Zygophyllum madecassum***LILIIIDAE (Monocotyledons)****Araceae***Colocasia esculenta***Common name**

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Grewia Family

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Elm Family

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Vellozia Family

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Verbena Family

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Violet Family

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Grape-vine Family

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Zygophyllum Family

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Arum Family

Taro or Elephant Ear

Scientific name	Common name	Scientific name	Common name
<i>Alluaudiopsis fiherenensis</i>	-	<i>Pothos scandens</i>	-
<i>Didierea madagascariensis</i>	Octopus tree	<i>Typhonodorum lindleyanum</i>	Yam
<i>Didierea trollii</i>	-		
Droseraceae	Sundew Family	Arecaceae	Palm Family
<i>Drosera sp</i>	Sundew	<i>Baccariophoenix madagascariensis</i>	Marula Palm
		<i>Bismarkia nobilis</i>	-
Ebenaceae	Ebony Family	<i>Dypsis decaryi</i>	Three-cornered Palm
<i>Diospyros sp</i>	-	<i>Dypsis hildebrandtii</i>	-
		<i>Dypsis isaloensis (Chrysalidocarpus i)</i>	-
Ericaceae	Heather Family	<i>Dypsis louvelii</i>	-
<i>Philippia isaloensis</i>	-	<i>Dypsis mananjarensis</i>	-
<i>Philippia sp</i>	-	<i>Dypsis nodifera</i>	-
		<i>Dypsis saintelucei</i>	-
Erythroxylaceae	Coca Family	<i>Dypsis sp</i>	-
<i>Erythroxylum buxifolium</i>	-	<i>Dypsis scotiana</i>	-
<i>Erythroxylum pervillei</i>	-	<i>Phoenix reclinata</i>	Senegal Date Palm
		<i>Raphia farinifera (R.ruffia)</i>	Raffia Palm
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family	<i>Ravenea rivularis</i>	-
<i>Alchornea greveana</i>	-	<i>Ravenea robustior</i>	-
<i>Blotia mimosoides</i>	-	<i>Ravenea sambiranensis</i>	-
<i>Bridelia pervilleana</i>	-		
<i>Chamaesyce hirta</i>	-	Cyperaceae	Sedge Family
<i>Croton mongue</i>	-	<i>Cyperus papyrus</i>	Papyrus
<i>Drypetes madagascariensis</i>	-		
<i>Drypetes sp</i>	-	Dioscoreaceae	Yam Family
<i>Euphorbia antso</i>	-	<i>Dioscorea soso</i>	-
<i>Euphorbia arahaka</i>	-	<i>Dioscorea sp</i>	Wild Yam
<i>Euphorbia capsaintemariensis</i>	-	<i>Tacca leontopetaloides</i>	-
<i>Euphorbia encoclarda</i>	-		
<i>Euphorbia enterophora</i>	-	Flagellariaceae	Flagellaria Family
<i>Euphorbia famantamboay</i>	-	<i>Flagellaria sp.</i>	-
<i>Euphorbia tirucalli (E.laro)</i>	-		
<i>Euphorbia alluaudii (E.leucodendron)</i>	-	Iridiaceae	Iris Family
<i>Euphorbia lophogona</i>	-	<i>Sisyrinchium sp</i>	-

Scientific name	Common name
<i>Euphorbia milii</i> subsp. <i>tularensis</i>	-
<i>Euphorbia pervilleana</i>	-
<i>Euphorbia plagiantha</i> (<i>E.fiha</i>)	-
<i>Euphorbia stenoclada</i> (<i>E.famata</i>)	-
<i>Euphorbia tetraptera</i>	-
<i>Euphorbia tulearensis</i>	-
<i>Givotia madagascariensis</i>	-
<i>Jatropha mahafaliensis</i>	-
<i>Macasanga obovata</i>	-
<i>Macasanga</i> sp	-
<i>Mallotus spinulosus</i>	-
<i>Phyllanthus decipiens</i>	-
<i>Phyllanthus</i> sp	-
<i>Thecacolis perrieri</i>	-
<i>Uapaca bojeri</i>	Tapia
<i>Uapaca densiflora</i>	-
<i>Uapaca littoralis</i>	-

Fabaceae	Pea Family
<i>Albizia gummifera</i>	-
<i>Albizia polyphylla</i>	-
<i>Albizia tulearensis</i>	-
<i>Albizia viridis</i>	-
<i>Abrus precatorius</i>	-
<i>Baudouinia fluggeiformis</i>	-
<i>Bauhinia humberitii</i>	-
<i>Breniera insignis</i>	-
<i>Caesalpinia bonduc</i>	-
<i>Chadsia grevei</i>	-
<i>Clitoria laxiva</i>	-
<i>Colvillea racemosa</i>	-
<i>Crotalaria</i> sp (<i>Yellow</i>)	-
<i>Dalbergia baronii</i>	-
<i>Delonix decaryi</i>	-
<i>Delonix floribunda</i> (<i>D.adansonioides</i>)	-

Scientific name	Common name
Liliaceae	
<i>Aloe cortinqua</i>	-
<i>Aloe deltoideadonta</i>	-
<i>Aloe descoingsii</i>	-
<i>Aloe discoinsii</i>	-
<i>Aloe divaricata</i>	-
<i>Aloe helenae</i>	-
<i>Aloe isaloensis</i>	-
<i>Aloe suzannae</i>	-
<i>Aloe tessieri</i>	-
<i>Aloe vahombe</i>	-
<i>Aloe vaotsanda</i>	-
<i>Asparagus</i> sp	-
<i>Dracaena bakeri</i>	-
<i>Dracaena reflexa</i>	-
<i>Smilax craussiana</i>	-

Orchidaceae	Orchid Family
<i>Aerangis articulata</i>	-
<i>Aeranthes ramosa</i>	-
<i>Angraecum compactum</i>	-
<i>Angraecum germinyatum</i>	-
<i>Angraecum</i> sp (<i>White</i>)	-
<i>Angraecum superbum</i>	-
<i>Angraecum viguieri</i>	-
<i>Bulbophyllum baronii</i> (<i>Yellow</i>)	-
<i>Bulbophyllum occultum</i>	-
<i>Cynorchis natans</i> (<i>Pink & White</i>)	-
<i>Cynorchis purpurescens</i>	Dancing Ladys
<i>Cynorchis</i> sp (<i>Pink</i>)	-
<i>Eulophiella roempleriana</i> (<i>Pink</i>)	-
<i>Gastrorchis humblotii</i> var. <i>schlechteri</i>	-
<i>Gastrorchis tuberculosa</i>	-
<i>Gastrorchis</i> sp (<i>Green</i>)	-
<i>Jumellea sagittata</i>	-

Scientific name	Common name	Scientific name	Common name
<i>Delonix pumilla</i>	-	<i>Jumellea gracilipes</i>	-
<i>Dialium madagascariensis</i>	-	<i>Lissochilus decaryi</i>	-
<i>Dichrostachys sp (Orange)</i>	-	<i>Microcoelia exilis</i>	-
<i>Entauda pervillei</i>	-	<i>Oeceoclades sp</i>	-
<i>Gambina commersonii</i>	-	<i>Oeoniella polystachys (White)</i>	-
<i>Indigofera bracteolata</i>	-	<i>Oeonia rosea</i>	-
<i>Indigofera closelii</i>	-	<i>Vanilla madagascariensis</i>	a Vanilla Orchid
<i>Indigofera pedunculata</i>	-	<i>Vanilla planifolia</i>	a Vanilla Orchid
<i>Indigofera sp</i>	-		
<i>Intsia bijuga</i>	-	Pandanaceae	Pandanus Family
<i>Mundulea sp</i>	-	<i>Pandanus amborgensis</i>	Screwpine
<i>Phylloxylon xylophiloidea</i>	-	<i>Pandanus aff. bipyramidus</i>	Screwpine
<i>Rubilia sp</i>	-	<i>Pandanus delphinensis</i>	Screwpine
<i>Saloanala madagascariensis</i>	-	<i>Pandanus longistylis</i>	Screwpine
<i>Securigera decaryi</i>	-	<i>Pandanus pucher (Branched)</i>	Screwpine
<i>Securigera perrieri</i>	-	<i>Pandanus rollotii</i>	Screwpine
<i>Senna didymobotrya</i>	Popcorn Bush	<i>Pandanus sp 1</i>	Spiral Screwpine
<i>Sesbania sp</i>	-	<i>Pandanus sp 2</i>	Vakoana
<i>Tamarindus indicus</i>	a Tamarind	<i>Pandanus sp 3</i>	Screwpine
<i>Tamarindus sp</i>	a Tamarind	<i>Pandanus vandanii</i>	Screwpine
<i>Tephrosia sp</i>	-	<i>Pandanus xerophyta</i>	Screwpine
<i>Tetraptercarpon geayi</i>	-		
<i>Vaughania cerighelii</i>	-	Phormiaceae	New Zealand Flax Family
<i>Vaughania pseudocompressa</i>	-	<i>Dianella ensifolia</i>	-
Flacourtiaceae	West Indian Boxwood Family	Poaceae	Grass Family
<i>Casearia nigrescens</i>	-	<i>Hyparrhenia sp</i>	-
<i>Homalium parkerii</i>	-	<i>Pennisetum sp</i>	-
<i>Scolopia madagascariensis</i>	-	<i>Phragmites sp</i>	a Reed