



# MASOALA FOREST LODGE

*Northeastern Madagascar, Madagascar*

## CAMP INFO SHEET







## AT A GLANCE

Country:	Madagascar
Region:	Northeastern Madagascar
Season:	9 months (mid-April – mid-January)
Coordinates:	15°43'21.00"S 49°57'34.36"E
Type of camp:	Tented
No. of rooms:	7 en suite tented treehouses
En-suite:	Indoor shower, outdoor shower & flush toilet
Power:	100% solar supplemented by generator
Plugs:	Type C & Type E
Water:	Filtered drinking water and bottled sparkling water provided
Max guests:	14 adults, 2 children



Tented Treehouse, standard –7



Standing fan



Limited laundry



Wifi available



No gym



No mobile reception



No credit card facilities



Direct beach access



Snorkelling



Kayaking



Boat trips



Forest walks



Community Visits

## OVERVIEW

Masoala Forest Lodge features seven Meru-style tents, discreetly tucked beneath traditional palm thatching and raised on stilted timber decks among the coastal rainforest canopy. Four of the tents are located right on the beach, just steps from the ocean, while the other three are slightly set back in the forest—each with private, direct beach access.

Meals are an experience in themselves: breakfast and afternoon tea are served on the *Sea Deck*, while lunches and dinners take place at the *Beach House*.

This is a true paradise for nature lovers. Red-ruffed lemurs, helmet vangas, and humpback whales (July–September) are just a few of the species that call this area home.

## PURPOSE

Recent studies suggest that Madagascar has lost nearly 50% of its original forest cover. Deforestation and habitat fragmentation remain the greatest threats to the island's extraordinary, endemic biodiversity—including over 100 species of lemurs.

At the heart of Masoala Forest Lodge's mission is a clear and lasting goal: to model sustainable ecotourism that demonstrates the real value of intact ecosystems to both local communities and national authorities.

The lodge contributes through park fees, business taxes, and meaningful local employment. Additionally, we've established an 84-hectare forest reserve as a buffer zone to the national park, and we support community services such as a village preschool and weekly waste removal from the peninsula to the provincial capital.





ACCESS

Flight:  
Scheduled private charter between Antananarivo and Maroantsetra (Sundays and Wednesdays only), flight duration 1.5 to 2.5 hours (aircraft dependent)

Road transfer:  
10-minute road transfer from Maroantsetra airport to the harbour

Boat transfer:  
60 to 120 minute boat transfer (depending on sea conditions)

CLIMATE

Tropical rainforest environment with average daily temperatures in the low to mid 20s Celsius. Warm during the day and cools down at night. The period from September to November boasts warm temperatures and calm seas. Masoala closes between January and mid-April to avoid the wetter months. Humpback whales can be spotted between July and September and lemurs have their young around October/November.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Temp – high (°C)	30	30	30	29	27	25	24	24	25	26	28	29
Temp – low (°C)	21	21	21	20	18	16	15	15	16	17	18	20
Rainfall (mm)	320	290	292	210	150	165	150	160	90	85	80	90
Rainfall (inches)	13	13	15,4	15	10	9	9	7,6	4,4	3,6	4,8	10

Masoala: avarage monthly rainfall (mm and inches)





## CHARISMATIC SPECIES

### Mammals

- Red ruffed lemur
- White-fronted brown lemur
- Aye-aye
- Masoala woolly lemur
- Masoala sportive lemur
- Mouse lemur
- Lowland streaked tenrec

### Birds

- Helmet vanga
- Bernier's vanga
- Short-legged ground roller
- Blue coua
- Brown mesite



## CURRENCY

The currency in Madagascar is the Malagasy Ariary (MGA), symbol: Ar.

We recommend travelling with sufficient cash to cover extras and gratuities. Please note, the lodge does not accept credit cards.

Accepted currencies: MGA, EUR, USD

## GRATUITIES / TIPPING

- Tour guides – €10 to €20 per day
- Hotel staff – €10 to €20 per day

We recommend tipping at the end of your stay for all hotel staff as a group, not individually.

The hotel staff tip includes drivers, housekeeping, service and porters

## OUR FOOTPRINT

### PARK FEES:

We are proud to be the largest tourism contributor to the operational costs of Masoala National Park as a result of the payment of park fees for every guest for every day of their stay.

### CONSERVATION FOCUS:

Over the past twenty years, any surplus revenue generated by the lodge has been dedicated to either buying or leasing land in the area around the lodge. This has now created a reforested buffer zone of some 83ha of coastal rainforest that was under threat from deforestation. No fewer than 10 lemur species have been recorded here. Within this reserve is a small research camp used by our partners at Zoo Zurich.

### CREATING CONNECTION

We believe in fostering meaningful connections between our guests and the Betsimisaraka people—connections grounded in mutual respect, shared curiosity, and cultural understanding.

Together with the community, we've developed programs that encourage genuine engagement while protecting local dignity and ensuring community-led participation. These initiatives help ensure that tourism in the Masoala region remains supportive, not extractive.

### COMMUNITY FOCUS:

We started, and continue to fund, the operation of the only pre-school accessible locally, and together with the local women's group, we oversee regular village maintenance and services related to litter and waste which we transport off the peninsula each week to the provincial capital.

### CULTURE FOCUS

In honour of Betsimisaraka culture and traditions, we offer opportunities for cultural exchange that allow guests to engage meaningfully with local life. These experiences are not performances, but shared moments that foster understanding and appreciation.

Guests are invited to take part in hands-on activities such as basket weaving workshops, fishing with a local, visits to the preschool or village, traditional vakodrazana music and dance, or spending a day helping in the rice fields.

These programs are designed not only to enrich the travel experience but also to support cultural preservation, strengthen community pride, and promote sustainable tourism that benefits everyone involved.