AIRLINE

FLIGHT NUMBER

Air France AF 934



Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Ivato, Antananarivo, ANALAMANGA REGION, MADAGASCAR, 106



### Meet & greet and assistance to international arrival.

Airport meet by representative Once you have passed customs formalities, it is his job to smooth through the rest of the arrivals process - changing money, getting a SIM card for your phone, getting some data set up on your SIM, and anything else you need. Money and SIM are best and easiest done before you leave the airport.



#### Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Ivato, Antananarivo, ANALAMANGA REGION, MADAGASCAR, 106



#### 11:00 PM - East Africa Time

#### Transfer to Relais des Plateaux



#### Relais des Plateaux

Antananarivo, Antananarivo, Madagascar 032 05 678 93



#### **B&B Relais des Plateaux**



Relais des Plateaux

Antananarivo, Antananarivo, Madagascar 032 05 678 93

## May 31 - Sunday



4:40 AM - East Africa Time

## **Transfer to Ivato Airport**



Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Ivato, Antananarivo, ANALAMANGA REGION, MADAGASCAR, 106



5:20 AM - East Africa Time

### Check-in at Ivato Airport for flight to Tulear



Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Ivato, Antananarivo, ANALAMANGA REGION, MADAGASCAR, 106



7:20 AM - East Africa Time

# Depart from Antananarivo Ivato International Airport (TNR)

**AIRLINE** 

FLIGHT NUMBER

Tsaradia TZ 712



Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Ivato, Antananarivo, ANALAMANGA REGION, MADAGASCAR, 106



9:00 AM - East Africa Time

# Arrive at Toliara Airport (TLE)

AIRLINE

FLIGHT NUMBER

Tsaradia TZ 712



**Toliara Airport** 

7, Toliara, TOLIARA, MADAGASCAR 020 94 438 05



10:00 AM - East Africa Time - 1 hr

## Transfer to Ifaty

You driver will pick you up at Tulear airport, we then drive to Ifaty. Ckeck in at your hotel.



**Toliara Airport** 7, Toliara, TOLIARA, MADAGASCAR 020 94 438 05



Ifaty Ifaty, TOLIARA, MADAGASCAR



#### 2:30 PM - East Africa Time

### Reniala reserve afternoon guided visit

The name means as much as "mother of the forest", which is the nickname of the baobabs endemic to this area. In Reniala reserve, you can admire many endemic plants of the spiny forests, among them countless Didieraceae, the famous baobabs (*Adansonia rubrostipa*), Pachypodium, Euphorbia and other outstanding growths. The biggest baobab of Ifaty stands here – local people fondly call it "tea pot" due to its appearance. It is told to be 1500 years old and up to date has an impressive perimeter of more than 10 metres.

As ornithological park, the reserve offers plenty opportunities to discover and watch animals especially for bird lovers. With a little patience you can for example see the Madagascar harrier-hawk (*Polyboroides radiatus*) or find the sickle-billed vanga (*Falculea palliata*), the white-headed vanga (*Artamella viridisa*) and Madagascar buttonquail (*Turnix nigricollis*) in their natural habitat. Furthermore, Reniala is home to many reptilesonly occurring in Madagascar's south. A big population of the rare radiated tortoise and the smaller spider tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata* and *Pyxis arachnoides*) lives on the sandy ground and shares its territory with many Madagascar iguanas (*Chalarodon madagascariensis*). In spring, you can find colorful chameleons (*Furcifer antimena* and *verrucosus*, less often *Furcifer major*) in bushes and shrubs and one or another snake (*Acantrophis dumerili*, *Leioheterodon geayi*) will perhaps cross the visitors' path.











**Reserve Reniala**Toliara Province, Madagascar



446 2 01 20

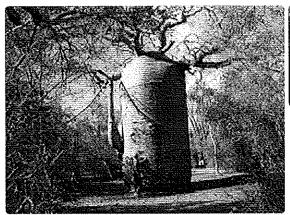


La Mira de Madio Rano



# Car with English Speaking driver at your disposal









**Reserve Reniala**Toliara Province, Madagascar



### **B&B Hotel La Mira de Madio Rano**



La Mira de Madio Rano

Wifi
Restaurant
amons baobobs
Private Beach
Gardons



# Car with English Speaking driver at your disposal



## June 1 - Monday



#### 8:00 AM - East Africa Time

### A day in the spiny forest - guided visit

There are three small pockets of privately protected spiny bush in the lfaty area. Mosa Forest, the Village des Tortues (that runs a breeding and conservation programme with increasingly endangered tortoises), and the largest pocket of spiny bush, Reniala (45ha).

Reniala contains - in addition to wildlife - some very large baobab trees including the largest example in the south-west, which is over 12m in circumference and reputedly over 1200 years old. By visiting these sites, you will not only enjoy some of the remaining spiny forest in Madagascar, but also actively contribute to its conservation.

The name Reniala means as much as "mother of the forest", which is the nickname of the baobabs endemic to this area. In Reniala reserve, you can admire many endemic plants of the spiny forests, among them countless Didieraceae, the famous baobabs (*Adansonia rubrostipa*), Pachypodium, Euphorbia and other outstanding growths. The biggest baobab of Ifaty stands here – local people fondly call it "tea pot" due to its appearance. It is told to be 1500 years old and up to date has an impressive perimeter of more than 10 metres.

As ornithological park, the reserve offers plenty opportunities to discover and watch animals especially for bird lovers. With a little patience you can for example see the Madagascar harrier-hawk (*Polyboroides radiatus*) or find the sickle-billed vanga (*Falculea palliata*), the white-headed vanga (*Artamella viridisa*) and Madagascar buttonquail (*Turnix nigricollis*) in their natural habitat. Furthermore, Reniala is home to many reptiles only occurring in Madagascar's south. A big population of the rare radiated tortoise and the smaller spider tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata* and *Pyxis arachnoides*) lives on the sandy ground and shares its territory with many Madagascar iguanas (*Chalarodon madagascariensis*). In spring, you can find colorful chameleons (*Furcifer antimena* and *verrucosus*, less often *Furcifer major*) in bushes and shrubs and one or another snake (*Acantrophis dumerili*, *Leioheterodon geayi*) will perhaps cross the visitors' path.

You have all day today to discover this area... you can make your plans with your driver with regards to the order of the visits and how long you stay in each one. The attractions are all very close to each other.

A (tough) decision will need to be made about where to have lunch. It is only one km back to Mangily for lunch, so, we recommend that you choose one park for the morning, head back to Mangily, have your lunch and little rest, and then spend the afternoon wandering back in the spiny forest again.



7:00 AM - East Africa Time - 7 hr

### Transfer Ifaty to Ranohira with visit stop at Zombitse NP.

After breakfast, we drive to Isalo National park, driving on RN7, On the way, you can see the traditional tombs of the Mahafaly and Antandroy ethnic groups. Each grave is decorated to tell the story of the person's life with drawings and often zebu skulls, which denote the deceased's wealth. We travel across a landscape typical of southern Madagascar with dry vegetation, baobabs and thorny forests. We also pass through llakaka "the mushrooms city", named after the small straw hats worn by the Sapphire searchers panning for jewels in the river. On route, we stop at Zombitse National Park.



**Ifaty**Ifaty, TOLIARA, MADAGASCAR



Ranohira Ranohira, Fianarantsoa Province, Madagascar



8:00 AM - East Africa Time

### Arboretum d'Antsokay visit

We will visit the Arboretum d'Antsokay where species of plants most threatened are looked after in order to preserve them from constant deforestation, bush fires and looters. During numerous bush surveys, Hermann Petignat and his team were able to discover and describe new species of plants, including Euphorbia kamponi, Ceropegia petignatii, Ceropegia hermanni, Cynanchum petignatii.



Arboretum d'Antsokay

Toliara, Toliara Province, Madagascar, 601 034 07 600 15



### Guided visit at Zombitse National Park.

Zombitse-Vohibasia acts as a transition zone between the dry and the humid forests of Madagascar. Therefore the flora is especially rich within the protected area. Baobabs and several orchids are particularly common.

The number of animal species living here is also remarkable. 15 small mammals, 2 carnivorous and 8 lemur species, such as the Verraux's sifaka, red-fronted brown lemur, ring-tailed lemur, pale fork-marked lemur and the Hubbard's sportive lemur can be observed here. Birds are also a park highlight. There are 85 species, most of them endemic like the rare Appert's greenbul, which only lives in this forest. 33 reptile and 8 amphibian species have been reported in Zombitse, such as the Standing's day gecko, which is also local endemic to the Park. Four different short and pretty easy circuits (from one to five hours walk) are offered by the park authorities in order to allow visitors to discover the richness and diversity of this last natural refuge.



### **Zombitse-Vohibasia National Park**

Toliara Province, Madagascar

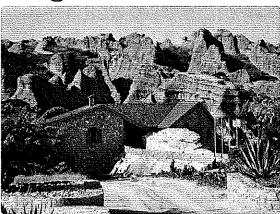


#### Picnic - Not Included

We recommend that you ask you hotel for sandwiches for the road today, it may be difficult to plan a restaurant today.



# B&B @ Relais de la Reine









Le Relais de la Reine

Ranohira, Fianarantsoa Province, Madagascar, 313 034 41 782 73



# Car with English Speaking driver at your disposal



## June 3 - Wednesday



8:00 AM - East Africa Time

#### Guided visit at Isalo National Park

Established in 1962, the Isalo National Park is located approximately 700 km southwest of Antananarivo and protects 815 km² of sandstone massif wildly eroded by wind and rain into bizarre ridges (known as "runiformes") featuring wild forms, impressive gorges and canyons and tiny stalagmite pinnacles. The far Wild West reminiscent of the landscape, dominated by rugged massive that rises up from the flat surrounding grassy plain, attracts hikers from the whole world that gather here to admire the sweeping colours of this Jurassic scenery. The climate is dry tropical with warm temperatures all year around. Though wildlife is here not as prominent as in other parks of the country, there are still a couple of species worth to look out: Ring-tailed lemurs, brown lemurs, sifakas The park homes also approximately 80 species of birds (including the rare Benson's rock-thrush, the knob-billed duck or the crested ibis), 35 of reptiles and several endemic frogs.

The flora is indeed more interesting than the fauna. There are several local endemic plants among the 500 species which are found within Isalo, such as the elephant's foot and some rare palms and aloe species.

Here you find a description of the most popular trails (Most common is the combination of Piscine Naturelle and Namaza Circuit, this trek takes about 7 hours including relax in the pools otherwise piscine Naturelle is an easy trek for 3 hours)

- The Canyon des Singes: The Canyon des Singes ('Canyon of Monkeys') is a popular hike through the dense foliage of the forest to discover ring-tailed lemurs leaping through the trees, with their faces tilted to the sunrays and the lovely Sifakas, with their legs sideways along the ground in a bizarre and singularly cool dance step. A popular but thirsty excursion leads from here to the piscine naturelle along a breathtaking way of brilliantly coloured ranges.
- Natural swimming pool circuit is the most popular circuit in the park offering panoramic views.
  The trek leads you to a palm-fringed pool, constantly fed by a warm waterfall. You walk through
  diverse ecosystems passing eroded cliffs with strange shapes, the plain of Tapia trees, the big
  savannas and several tombs of the Bara and akalava people. Beside various plants, one can
  observe the Ring-tailed lemur in the Mangily forest.
- Namaza circuit: This tour takes you through the canyon to the Black and Blue Swimming Pools. You will climb along waterfalls inhabited by many rare birds, butterflies and lizards. From the top, one has a panoramic view over the green canyon. Throughout this trek you will have the possibility to spot lemurs. The highlight is a bath in the dark waters of the Cascade of the Nymphs.









Namaza Circuit, Isalo

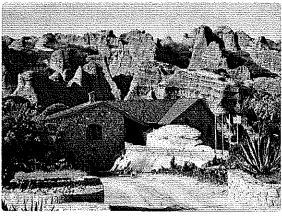


**Natural Swimming Pool Isalo** 

### Picnic lunch inside the Park - Not Included

Today we recommend you to order some picnic lunch at your hotel or plan with your local guide, they prepare lunch inside the park.











**Le Relais de la Reine** Ranohira, Fianarantsoa Province, Madagascar, 313 034 41 782 73

# Car with English Speaking driver at your disposal





7:30 AM - East Africa Time - 8 hr

### Transfer Isalo to Ranomafana with visit stop to Anja Park.

After breakfast we leave Isalo and head north with a visit stop at Anja Park in the spectacular Andringitra mountains. Here we stop for a 2-hour guided walk. This rocky park is the best place to see the troops of ring tail lemurs in their natural environment. These animals, although wild, are easy to spot and so friendly. Close-up high quality photographry is promised.

This drive takes about 8 hours including the visit at Anja Park.



Ranomafana, FIANARANTSOA, MADAGASCAR



Ranohira Ranohira, Fianarantsoa Province, Madagascar



**Anja Community Reserve**Fianarantsoa Province, Madagascar
020 75 933 37



### Guided visit at Anja community reserve.

The **Anja Community Reserve** is a woodland area and freshwater lake, situated at the base a large cliff. Much of the reserve is dominated by fallen rocks and boulders and there are two small caves providing habitat for bats and owls. This reserve has much sheltered habitat in the pocket of forest that has established between the vast boulders.

The reserve was created in 2001 with the support on the UNDP to help preserve the local environment and wildlife, and to provide additional employment and income to the local community.

The reserve is home to the highest concentration of maki, or ring-tailed lemurs, in all of Madagascar. The people, who have a belief in not eating the maki, used to sell the maki to outsiders. However, after finding that 95% of makis in Madagascar are now gone, the people initiated the formation of a nature reserve, effectively establishing the world's largest congregation site for makis.



**Anja Community Reserve**Fianarantsoa Province, Madagascar
020 75 933 37



**B&B Hotel Thermal** 

490 17 01 00



**Hotel Thermal Ranomafana**Ranomafana, Fianarantsoa Province, Madagascar, 312
034 75 512 26



# Car with English Speaking driver at your disposal



## June 5 - Friday



#### 7:30 AM - East Africa Time

### Ranomafana National Park guided visit.

After breakfast, we will drive to the park office to pay for entrance fees and organise a local park guide. We include any circuit that you would like to do, and you can choose depending on your energy on the day. Depending on your choice, the average circuit will take a minimum of two hours. Longer walks up to five hours are available. Ranomafana (which means "hot water" in Malagasy) is doubtless one the most spectacular National Parks of Madagascar.

There are 5 different circuits in order to explore this marvellous Park. Please be aware that the shortest treks are also the most popular ones and trails can get quite crowded especially during the high season. The longer treks are much quieter and more rewarding from a wildlife watching point of view:

**Varibolomena circuit**: easy trek of 4 hours, a good chance to spot bamboo lemurs in the secondary forest passing by a beautiful waterfall.

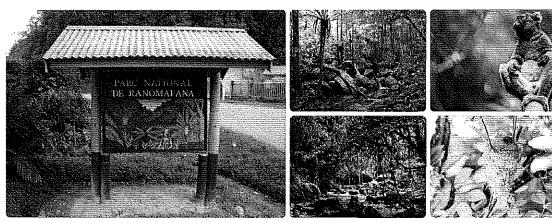
Sahamalaotra circuit: a 10 km trek through the forest looking for lemurs and birds.

**Vohiparara circuit**: 2 days trek across the National Park (20 km up and down) spotting lemurs, birds and other animals and visiting a sacred lake.

**Varijatsy circuit**: 1 or 2 days trek (15 km of rough path) across the primary forest looking for lemurs and birds and passing by a waterfall and a natural pool where you can take a bath.

**Soarano circuit**: 2 or 3 days hard trek (at least 20 km) through the primary forest discovering interesting plants and looking for lemurs and other animals. There is also a cultural visit to a pair of traditional tanala villages set in the middle of the forest

The park contains twelve lemur species. Aside from the golden bamboo lemur, visitors can spot eastern woolly lemur, red bellied lemur, eastern grey bamboo lemur, greater bamboo lemur, red-fronted brown lemur, black-and-white ruffed lemur and brown mouse lemur. Other mammals include 7 species of tenrecs, 8 bats and 6 carnivores. Several of Madagascar's rarest birds can be found here which are of interest to the bird watcher.





Ranomafana Ranomafana, FIANARANTSOA, MADAGASCAR



#### 6:00 PM - East Africa Time

#### Nocturnal Walk Ranomafana

Visit the forest in the evening to see the species that only come out at night. Depending on the allowability of nocturnal walks (most Malagasy National Parks now ban them in the park) we get around this by guiding you along the roadside where many species are easily observable.









Ranomafana Ranomafana, FIANARANTSOA, MADAGASCAR



### **B&B Hotel Thermal**



Hotel Thermal Ranomafana Ranomafana, Fianarantsoa Province, Madagascar, 312 034 75 512 26



## Car with English Speaking driver at your disposal



# June 6 - Saturday



8:00 AM - East Africa Time - 6 hr

#### **Transfer Ranomafana to Antsirabe**

Time for a drive up to Antsirabe, you will pass by the centre of Malagasy hand sculptured wooden craft work called Ambositra.

Ambositra's vicinity to the forest has turned it into the centre of Madagascar's wood carving industry. Its name means "the place of the eunuchs" supposedly because the Merina tribe castrated all defeated warriors of the local tribe, the Zafimaniry. The cultural influence of this tribe can be found in the traditional motifs of the local houses with their intricately carved balconies, panels and shutters.

Today, Ambositra is a captivating, rustic highlands town.

There are many shops here where you can browse for souvenirs and find very good artisan marquetry.

Then continue north to Antsirabe.

This drive takes about 6 hours.



**Ambositra** 

Ambositra, Fianarantsoa Province, Madagascar



**Antsirabe** 

Antsirabe, Antananarivo Province, Madagascar



Ranomafana

Ranomafana, FIANARANTSOA, MADAGASCAR



#### **B&B** Couleur Café Hotel





Excellent restaurant

Ax 32000

Shopeite





Couleur Café Hotel, Antsirabe



# Car with English Speaking driver at your disposal



# June 7 - Sunday



7:00 AM - East Africa Time - 8 hr

#### ANTSIRABE - MORONDAVA

After an early breakfast at the hotel, you will depart for Morondava. The drive will offer views of rice paddies and landscapes of Madagascar. Leaving behind Route 7 and onto Route 34, you will enter a morphing, evolving change in the landscape up to the city of Miandrivazo. Cornered between the chain of Bongolava in the east and the plateau of Bemaraha on the west, the city achieves the status of the hottest city of Madagascar, with an annual average of 28°C. After a lunch stop in Miandrivazo, you will continue to Morondava.



**Antsirabe**Antsirabe, Antananarivo Province, Madagascar



**Morondava** Morondava, Toliara, Madagascar



## **B&B Chez Maggie**







Ocean - Gorden Bungalows - Chalels Mc Wifi



**Chez Maggie** Morondava, MENABE, MADAGASCAR 020 95 523 47



## Car with English Speaking driver at your disposal



## June 8 - Monday



#### Sunrise at Baobab avenue

You need to get up earlier this morning to catch sunrise at Baobab avenue.



7:00 AM - East Africa Time

### Day trip to Kirindy

Today we will visit the Kirindy reserve, the visit depends on the circuit you will choose in the reserve. After kirindy you will drive back to Morondava and you pass again the Baobab avenue to admire the famous sunset. The drive from Morondava to Kirindy takes about 2 hours.



**Morondava** Morondava, Toliara, Madagascar



Kirindy Reserve



9:00 AM - East Africa Time

### Guided visit at Kirindy reserve

Kirindy is the best place in the whole island to observe fossas, specially during the mating time between October and December. It also home to two species of day active lemur. The most common are the common brown lemurs and the Verreaux's sifakas. These long-legged, seven-pound lemurs, white with dark patches, leap among tree trunks high in the canopy, propelled by their powerful hind legs but continually maintaining an upright posture. The remaining species are nocturnal: the rare Coquerel's giant mouse lemur and pygmy mouse-lemur, fork-crowned lemur, Gray mouse lemur, western fat-tailed dwarf lemur and red-tailed sportive lemur. Several bats, tenrecs, mongooses and rodents complete the mammal population.

40 bird, 50 reptile and 15 amphibian species are also found in this magnificent forest.

The flora is also quite unusual and contains several locally endemic plant species. The two species of baobabs of Kirindy reach here simply unbelievable sizes. Baobabs are believed to be sacred by the locals. A local tradition says that baobabs were the first trees that the gods planted. Due to the gods inexperience they planted them upside down, which justifies the bizarre look of these amazing trees.

1 ugc 2 1 01 50





Kirindy Reserve



### Baobab Avenue, sunset

The Avenue of the Baobabs is said to the most beautiful road in Madagascar and easily accessible. The legendary Allée de Baobab is located on the road (or let's better say the dusty slope) between Morondava and Belo-Sur-Tsiribihina. Everywhere along the road between those two cities, the impressive Baobabs, only a small part of 250 meters length is known as "Allée de Baobab" due to its photogenic silhouette. Those up to 30 meters high trees belong to the species of Adansonia grandidieri and are considered to be Madagascar's landmark. Some of these giant trees are allegedly on the island for more than 1000 years.

The Alley of the baobabs is a magical attraction for photographers from all over the world. Baobabs are usually solitary trees, standing tall and proud in the midst of empty spaces. Yet in Allée de Baobab, they cluster together forming an avenue of columns that border the dirty road.

With their massive trunks, crooked branches and furry fruit, baobabs have learned how to adapt to a dry and hostile environment. The secret of the baobab's success in surviving in harsh environments and the reason for its massive trunk is that it has little wood fibre but a large water storage capacity. Each tree can hold up to 300 liters of water, enabling it to live through long periods without rain. The life-cycle of these unique natural oddities is as impressive as their bulk - most live over 500 years! For the people of the Menabe region (Menabe means literally "very red" —as soon as you walk on the vermilion tinted soil of this part of Madagascar you will know why), the baobabs are their symbol and their pride. But baobabs are also endangered.

A ride through the Avenue is a memorable experience. Sunrise and sunset are the best times to visit these gentle giants when colors of the trunks acquire new shades and the shadows of the trees are the most pronounced, creating a more exotic atmosphere, and when their stark silhouettes form a spectacular contrast to the soft, calming colors of sunrise and sunset. The flowering period is between February and March.



11:30 AM - East Africa Time

### **Transfer to Morondava Airport**

This transfer will be ensured by your hotel.



Morondava Airport Morondava, TOLIARA, MADAGASCAR 032 40 766 82



11:55 AM - East Africa Time

### Check in at Morondava Airport for flight to Tana



**Morondava Airport** Morondava, TOLIARA, MADAGASCAR 032 40 766 82



1:55 PM - East Africa Time

### Depart from Morondava Airport (MOQ)

AIRLINE

FLIGHT NUMBER

Tsaradia TZ 703



**Morondava Airport** Morondava, TOLIARA, MADAGASCAR 032 40 766 82



2:55 PM - East Africa Time

## Arrive at Antananarivo Airport (TNR)

**AIRLINE** 

FLIGHT NUMBER

Tsaradia TZ 703



Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Ivato, Antananarivo, ANALAMANGA REGION, MADAGASCAR, 106



3:30 PM - East Africa Time

Transfer to Sakamanga Hotel

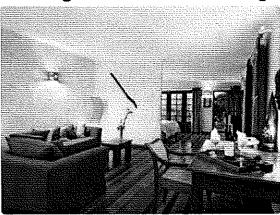




**Sakamanga Hôtel** Antananarivo, ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR, 101 020 22 358 09



# Overnight at Hotel Sakamanga









**Sakamanga Hôtel**Antananarivo, ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR, 101-020 22 358 09

## June 10 - Wednesday



## **Transfer to Ivato Airport**





Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Ivato, Antananarivo, ANALAMANGA REGION, MADAGASCAR, 106



## Check-in at Ivato Airport for international flight



Ivato International Airport (TNR)

Ivato, Antananarivo, ANALAMANGA REGION, MADAGASCAR, 106



### End of services.



### International departure

Please advise us of your international departure flight number and time, to allow us to access it on the airlines database and enter into your itinerary. Without this, we cannot confirm your airport transfer time.



TNR

Antananarivo, ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR, 106 020 22 440 41



## Included in your Trip

We do fully inclusive tours unless you have requested otherwise. So, apart from meals and personal purchases, everything is included from your airport meet and greet on day 1, to delivery back to the airport on your last day.

Included are all ground transport including fuel, English speaking driver, domestic flights mentioned in your itinerary, entry fees to all mentioned parks and attractions, obligatory local guides at parks, and all of your hotels and breakfasts, and accommodations and meals for your driver. Some meals may be included if the hotel insists, or if we have agreed, and those are clearly mentioned in the itinerary. The only things not included in your trip will be tips, meals, and personal purchases.

Please note that alterations or additions to your itinerary while you are travelling may incur extra costs.