



CLASSIC PORTFOLIO

Wild Expeditions: Masoala Forest Lodge

MADAGASCAR

Updated: June 2024





GENERAL INFORMATION

CLASSIFICATION	CLASSIC: Masoala Forest Lodge. EXPEDITION: Blue Lagoon Open mid-April – early-Jan, annually. Blue Lagoon open from 1 Sept – early-Jan. Privately owned.
LAND RELATIONSHIP	Masoala National Park is the Madagascar’s largest protected area, covering 2,400 km ² of rainforest and marine park, and is home to a wide variety of endemic species that cannot be found anywhere else.
OVERVIEW	The Masoala Peninsula holds the largest remaining lowland rainforest in Madagascar, reachable only by boat. Masoala Forest Lodge, built over two decades by adventurers Pierre and Maria Bester, offers seven tented rooms on timber decks overlooking the beach. Immerse yourself in nature's rhythms, forgetting shoes.
IMPACT OF YOUR STAY	LOW MEDIUM HIGH VERY HIGH Masoala Forest Lodge is the largest tourism contributor to Masoala National Park’s operational costs, with park fees paid by guests supporting several conservation efforts. Surplus revenue from the lodge has helped create a buffer zone of coastal rainforest through reforestation efforts, preserving habitat for in excess of 10 lemur species. Additionally, in the local village of Ambodiforaha, the lodge focuses on education and women’s empowerment initiatives. Each guest pays a daily Community & Conservation fee.
ACCESS	Antananarivo (TNR) International Airport – Twice weekly scheduled charter to / from Maroantsetra Airport (Sun & Wed), followed by a 40 min road transfer and 2-hour boat ride to the lodge.
CAMP	Masoala Forest Lodge – 7 treehouses. Per person rate Expedition Blue Lagoon – 1 cabin. Per person rate
CHILDREN	All ages
HEALTH	Malaria area. Seek advice from a health professional.

WEATHER

Madagascar has a lovely sub-tropical climate with varying degrees of year-round rain keeping the forest lush and green all year. Rain is possible any day of the year, but generally they fall in short bursts for a few minutes, before the skies clear and the sun pops back out.

JANUARY – MARCH

21 – 30 °C | 70 – 86 °F

The wettest time of the year with potential for tropical storms. The Lodge is closed from early-Jan.

APRIL – JUNE

16 – 29 °C | 61 – 84 °F

The lodge reopens mid-April as the temps cool and the winds lessen, leaving you with beautiful comfortable days.

JULY – SEPTEMBER

15 – 26 °C | 59 – 79 °F

Perfect time of year for those who like sunny but not hot days, and cooler evenings. This is also whale watching season for Humpback Whales.

OCTOBER – DECEMBER

17 – 29 °C | 63 – 84 °F

The driest time of the year. The sea tends to be calm and clear, so this is a great time for snorkeling. Baby lemurs are born now too.

NEED TO KNOW

ELECTRICITY	100% solar with generator back-up
WIFI & MOBILE SIGNAL	Limited WiFi in the dining area. No mobile signal.
CREDIT CARDS	No.
SECURITY	Private Rainforest Reserve.
MAKE AN IMPACT	Visit the local village and school that Masoala started.
GYM / KEEP FIT	Through daily activities
SPA	Massages available in spa room on the beach
FOOD & WINE	Fully inclusive: all meals, & local drinks. No Halaal / Kosher.
OTHER FACILITIES	Sea Deck
ACTIVITIES	Forest walks and hikes, bird watching, village visit, boating, snorkelling, kayaking, night walks, traditional pirogues,& seasonal whale watching.

MASOALA FOREST LODGE

LODGE - CHILDREN ALL AGES

# ROOMS	7 stilted tents. Max 14 guests	POOL	X
EXTRA BEDS	✓ 2 per treehouse	FENCED	X
TWIN BEDS	✓ All	MINI BAR	X
BATHROOM	Downstairs	AIR CON	X
SHOWER	✓ Indoor shower plus outdoor rinse station	MOZZIE NET	X
BATH	X	FAN	✓ (standing)
HAIRDRYER	X	LAUNDRY	✓
ROOM SAFE	✓	DISABLED	X



EXPEDITION: BLUE LAGOON

CRUSOE'S CABIN

# ROOMS	1 room	BATH	X
EXTRA BEDS	✓ (max 1 bunk bed)	POOL	X
TWIN BEDS	✓	FENCED	X
BATHROOM	Downstairs	MOZZIE NET	X
SHOWER	✓	FAN	X



ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCE

HIKING	Half or full day out. Moderate to difficult skill level.
KAYAKING	Led by a guide. Coastal exploration with flexibility of duration of activity, or set routes for specific sightings.
TAMPOLO RIVER TRIP	Morning or afternoon. 2 hrs. Traditional canoe ride and easy hike.
SUNSET CRUISE	Cruise in dugout canoe to the point, then head back with the sunset.
MASOALA WALKS	Guided or self-lead. Night walk available.
WHALE WATCHING	By boat or kayak. Available June to September.
MARINE RESERVE EXPLORATION	Tailor your exploration with walking, kayaking, snorkelling, and boating.
RIVER SWIMS	Unguided hike / swim around the Lodge.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	Ambodiforaha village visit or basket weaving.
NOSY MANGABE DAY TRIP*	Full day out. Guided hike and boat. <i>Subject to availability.</i>
CAP MASOALA DAY TRIP*	Full day out. Guided. Snorkeling, hiking, and swimming. <i>Subject to availability.</i>
ANTALAVIANA DAY TRIP*	Full day out. Guided. Snorkeling, swimming, village visit, fording rivers, and walking. <i>Subject to availability.</i>

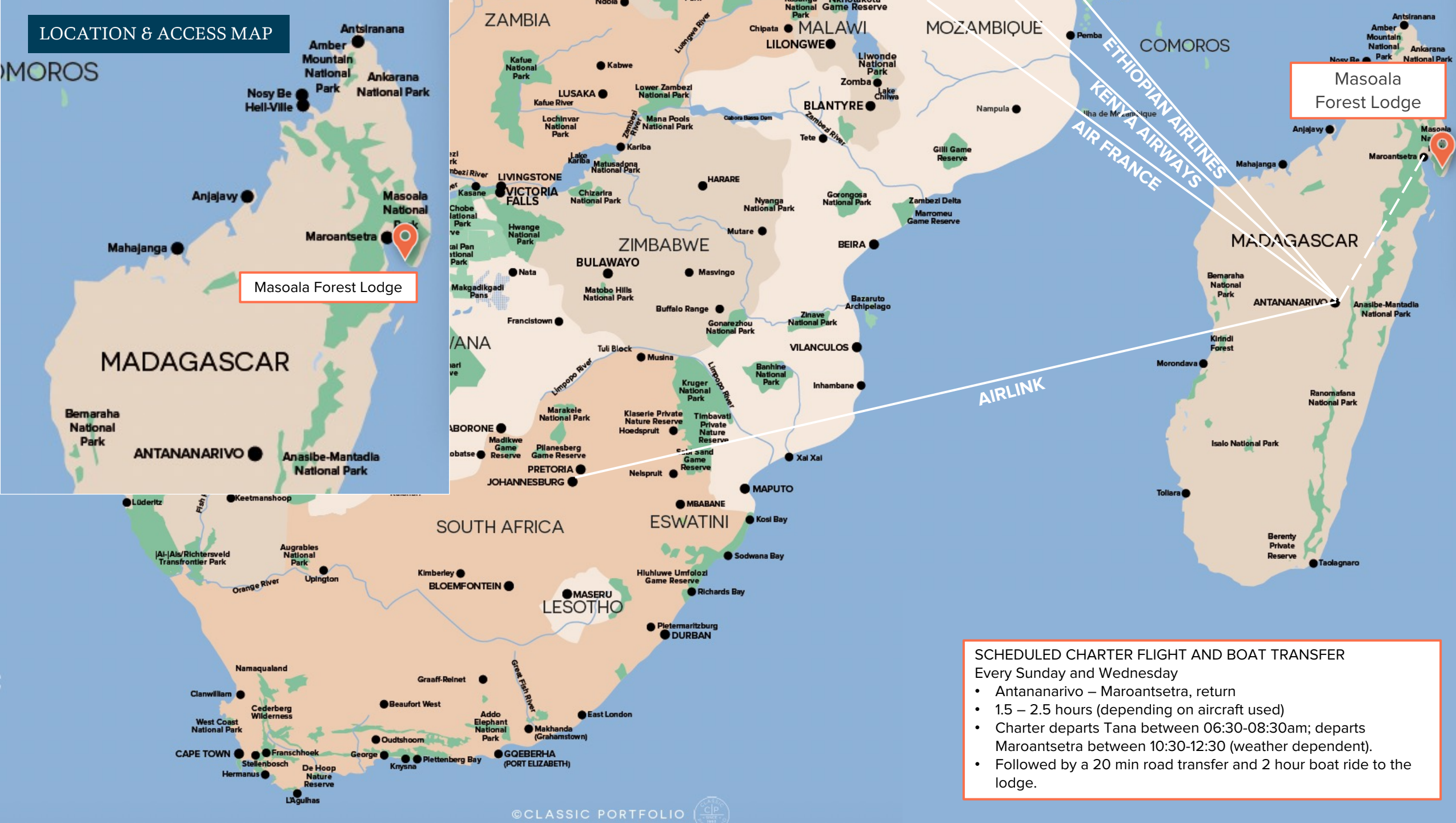


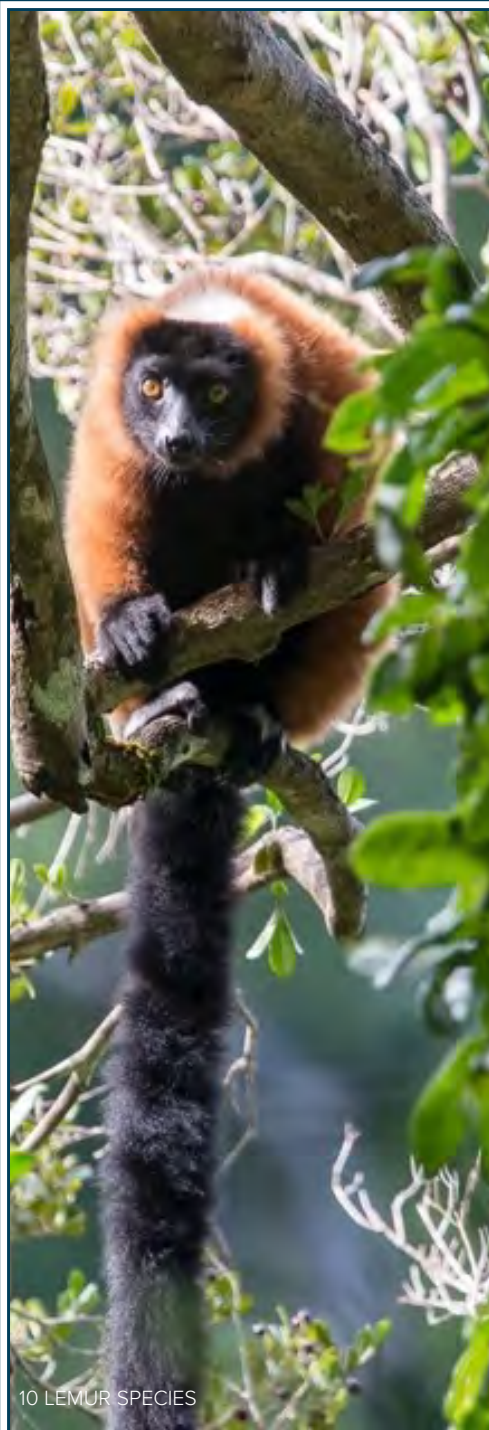
MARINE LIFE SIGHTINGS

	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	DOES NOT OCCUR HERE
HUMPBACK WHALES	✓			
DOLPHINS	✓			
SHARKS			✓	
WHALE SHARKS		✓		
MANTA RAYS		✓		
CHAMELEONS	✓			
LEMURS – RED RUFFED	✓			
LEMURS – WHITE FRONTED	✓			
LEMURS – MASOALA WOOLLY		✓		
LEMURS – MOUSE		✓		
LEMURS – AYE-AYE			✓	
LOWLAND STREAKED TENREC			✓	
HELMET VANGA	✓			
SHORT-LEGGED GROUND ROLLER	✓			
BLUE COUA	✓			
VARIETY OF BIRD LIFE	✓			
SPECIAL SIGHTING FOR THIS AREA	Humpback Whale migration (July – Sept)			
OTHER	<p>There are 107 lemur species found in Madagascar, 11 of which can be seen near Masoala.</p> <p>There are 6 families of endemic birds species in Madagascar, all of which can be seen near Masoala.</p>			

* Carry an additional charge

LOCATION & ACCESS MAP





KAYAKING



TREEHOUSE



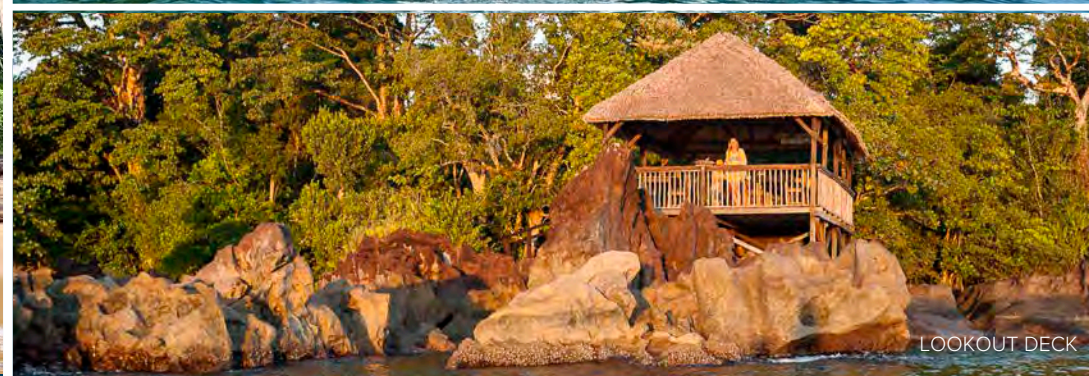
HIDDEN FOREST CREATURES



COMMUNITY VISITS



BOATING



LOOKOUT DECK

10 LEMUR SPECIES

WILD EXPEDITIONS	MASOALA FOREST LODGE
CLASSICS CLASSIFICATION	CLASSIC
IMPACT OF EACH GUEST STAY	VERY HIGH
CHILDREN (MINIMUM AGE)	ALL
FAMILY ROOMS	X
EXCLUSIVE CAMP / VILLAS	X
HONEYMOON OFFER	✓
LAND SAFARI	X
WATER SAFARI	✓
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	KAYAKING, RIVER TRIPS, WHALE WATCHING, AND NIGHT WALKS
GET INVOLVED - CONSERVATION	X
GET INVOLVED – COMMUNITIES	✓
EXPEDITION TRIPS	✓
WELLNESS & MASSAGE	✓

CLASSIC CLASSIFICATIONS:

P – Premier: These camps/lodges feature luxurious amenities and are priced at a higher tier.

C – Classic: These camps/lodges offer a more down-to-earth experience and are priced at a mid-level rate.

E – Expedition: These experiences are best suited for small groups or trips led by private guides.

IMPACT OF EACH GUEST STAY:

L – Low

M – Medium

H – High

VH – Very High

Based on the following 4 considerations we look at the positive impact that each guest is making by staying here:

- Transferability: What percentage of the daily rates is allocated to conservation and community initiatives?
- Removability: What impact would arise if the property were absent? Are there alternative lodges in the vicinity that continue to make positive contributions?
- Responsibility: To what extent does the property handle management privately, and how much is overseen as a concession under a collaborative arrangement?
- Fragility: How vulnerable is the surrounding environment and community?

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WWW.CLASSIC-PORTFOLIO.COM

The Classics website has more detailed information, images, live availability and rates, together with our comprehensive Crib Sheet.

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