



# MadagasCaT (Pty) Ltd

Making it happen since 2008

## Madagascar Travel Information: Plan Your Adventure with Confidence

### Do You Need a Visa to Visit Madagascar?

- Yes, all travellers require a tourist visa:
- 0-15 days 25€ & 16-30 days 35€
- Visa is issued on arrival and must be paid in cash or card (Visa or Mastercard), always best to have cash as well just incase.
- Passport must be valid for at least 6 months and have 2 blank pages available.

### Health & Medical Advice

- Madagascar is a malarial area — talk to your GP. (Nosy Be has very low risk; sensible precautions should suffice)
- No mandatory vaccinations, but pack a basic first aid kit.
- Always travel with comprehensive insurance. Ask us for a quote!

### Getting Around Madagascar

- Self-drive is difficult — poor roads and limited signage.
- Book a local driver or fly between destinations with domestic airlines.
- Lodges offer airport transfers and guided tours.
- MadagasCaT tours include private, air-conditioned vehicles with a driver.

### Shopping in Madagascar

- Raffia baskets and hats (Fun Fact – ‘raffia’ is the only Malagasy word in the English language).
- Zebu horn crafts (eco-friendly alternative to turtle shell).
- Vanilla, green peppercorns, and Sakai chilli.
- Hand-embroidered tablecloths.
- Always get a receipt for wood items.
- Bargain respectfully — many locals rely on crafts for income.

### What to Avoid

- Avoid Ambataloaka in Nosy Be if you're uncomfortable with sex tourism.
- Certain areas in Antananarivo are unsafe — tourists rarely visit them.

[www.madagascats.co.za](http://www.madagascats.co.za)

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## Money-Saving Travel Tips

- Withdraw Ariary (MGA) from ATMs for the best rates.
- ATMs mainly accept Visa cards.
- Credit cards may be accepted, but often with fees.
- Never change money on the street — know the exchange rate.
- Use a calculator or pen/paper if language is a barrier.
- Currency = Malagasy Ariary (MGA).
- Always carry cash, especially outside major cities.
- ATMs are mainly available in urban areas.

## What to Pack

- A sense of humour and adventure.
- Mosquito repellent & sunscreen.
- Roaming-enabled phone.

## Safety Tips

- Don't flash valuables.
- Avoid touching coral reefs (for your safety and their protection).
- Stick to bottled water and avoid ice.

## Don't Miss These Experiences

- Lemur encounters.
- Snorkelling with turtles.
- Shopping at local markets.

## When to Visit Madagascar

- Best Time: April – November (dry season).
- Wet Season: December – March (hot, humid, cyclones).
- Hottest Months: January – March.

## Emergency Contacts

- MadagasCaT: +27 (0) 84 524 9706
- Your hotel's number.
- SA Consulate in Antananarivo: +261 20 224 3350