

A Birding Trip to

Madagascar



September, 2025

FOREST TYPES
Dry (deciduous)
Moist (rainforest)
Dry Spiny



ITINERARY
Tuesday, 16 th
V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve)
Monday, 15 th
Mantadia
Analamazaotra Forest Station
Sunday, 14 th
Andasibe Night Walk
Saturday, 13 th
D'Ankazomivada Community Reserve
Eco Lodge Les Chambres Du Voyageur
Friday, 12 th
Ranomafana Telatekely
Ranomafana Sahamalaotra
Thursday, 11 th
Ranomafana Sahamalaotra
Ranomafana Telatekely
Wednesday, 10 th
Anja Community Reserve
Ranomafana Night Walk
Tuesday, 9 th
Isalo Canyon
Isalo Ranch
Monday, 8 th
Reniala (Fenced)
Zombitse
Sunday, 7 th
Lalandaka Hotel
St Augustin, Toliara
Honko Community Reserve
Reniala Spiny Forest
Saturday, 6 th
Bamboo Club, Ifaty
Lac Tsimanampetsotsa
Friday, 5 th
Le Chat'o Hotel, Tana
Tsarasaotra, Tana
Reniala Spiny Forest

Madagascar

5th to 16th September, 2025



Despite birding being our primary motivation for a trip to Madagascar, in particular the offer of not only a high proportion of endemic species but even large groups of endemic families as well, we also enjoy mammals and reptiles (particularly snakes in the latter), so wanted to do a trip which would cover a good variation of all of these in the time that we had available. It would seem that visiting from the central and east down to the southwest would fit the bill just nicely and would offer the three main forest types of dry spiny, dry deciduous, and rainforest (including both mid and high elevation). Our choice of September was also in the dry season, which in Madagascar can be an important choice since the rainy season of November to April can lead to unprecedented flooding and impossible roads.

Our choice of Madagascar Mozaic (www.madagascar-mozaic-tour.com) proved to be absolutely perfect. We compared them to other companies offering bird and wildlife trips to the island and they were not only significantly cheaper but also proved to have excellent organisation throughout. They also have an off the peg birding offering on their website which covers all of the aforementioned forest areas. The only change we made to this was that as opposed to the planned Antananarivo (aka Tana) arrival then travelling south to finish at Toliara, followed by an internal flight back to Tana at the end, was flipped so that we landed at Tana, then took a flight the next day to the southwest and made our way northwards. This meant that we weren't at the mercy of the unpredictable Madagascar Airlines at the end of our trip, which would then need synchronisation of internal and international flights.

The company offered a package which included drivers throughout (Hoby was our main driver – *pictured right*); organisation of the internal flight; and coordination with all parks visited including payment of entrance fees. For an extra cost a dedicated bird guide could also be added who I assume would have accompanied us on the whole trip, but almost all sites visited were either national parks or local parks and all require any visitor to have one of the park guides with them.

This would then necessitate paying either a general guide fee or a full day birding guide fee, the latter of which cost €50 for the group. Our choice of not paying the extra for personal guide was vindicated at the end of the trip, since all bird guides for the parks were excellent as can be seen by the high proportion of possible species we saw in relation to the potential overall.



Despite the island being very large, the distances covered in relation to this were not particularly great. However, the times taken in the 4x4 Land Cruiser were still lengthy including two days of nine hours each, due to the very poor state of many of the roads and the amount of traffic both vehicular and people on these. The island is also one of the poorest in the world and this can be seen particularly when away from the towns, but also within as well. There is a subsequent profusion of begging both direct with people approaching the car and asking either for money or by trying to sell trinkets or even throwing a bit of soil into potholes in the road and asking for money for that particular "service" from the passing drivers.

Tips for the trip



Park guide fees. Guides for the parks can be either for general visits or birding specific visits. The latter are preferable but also the most expensive (€50 per day). These are paid either directly to the park entrance staff or the guides themselves. An extra gratuity is usually expected if the guide has been good



Currency. While it is said that the Euro is widely accepted, in practice it is best to change your own currency into the local Ariary (done easily at airport arrivals), since once away from the towns most transactions are in that Madagascan currency. Even hotels which have credit card machines often have poor reception for Wi-Fi and thus also ask for the local currency



Electricity. Plugs used are the European 2 pin type. The number of sockets within hotels in the rooms varies from often just one per room to many. We also had the odd power cut but nothing of major concern



Mobile phones. While eSims seem possibly to work on the island, the variation of their effectiveness means it is probably better to buy a physical sim card at the airport on arrival. We were recommended the YAS network and throughout the trip the connection was surprisingly good even in seemingly very remote areas

Malagasy	Bantu	English
alika/amboa	mbwa	dog
akoho	kuku	chicken
omby	ng'ombe	ox/cow/zebu

Language. Malagasy is the first language of the island, but the French presence since the end of the 19th century meant that French is also very widely spoken. We were also provided with English speaking drivers, and all guides for the parks which the drivers organised also spoke English



Tips. Unfortunately, since this is a very poor island, the expectation of tipping has escalated since my first visit in 2013. Almost any service used expected a small gratuity even if only a few 100 or 1000 Ariary



Clothing. The climate when we went was very dry, particularly in the southwest and south-central areas with the only rain occurring one night in the medium level rainforest of Andasibe. Temperatures ranged from a low of 9°C one early morning to highs of 33°C in the arid southwest



Insects/leeches. Biting insects can occur but it was noticeable that we had very few mosquito bites. However, it is advisable to have anti-malarial prophylaxis. Leeches can also occur in the forests but there was no sign during our visit due to it being the dry season

Friday 5th

(Tana suburbs / flight to Toliara / Reniala Spiny Forest)

Tsaraotra, Antananarivo

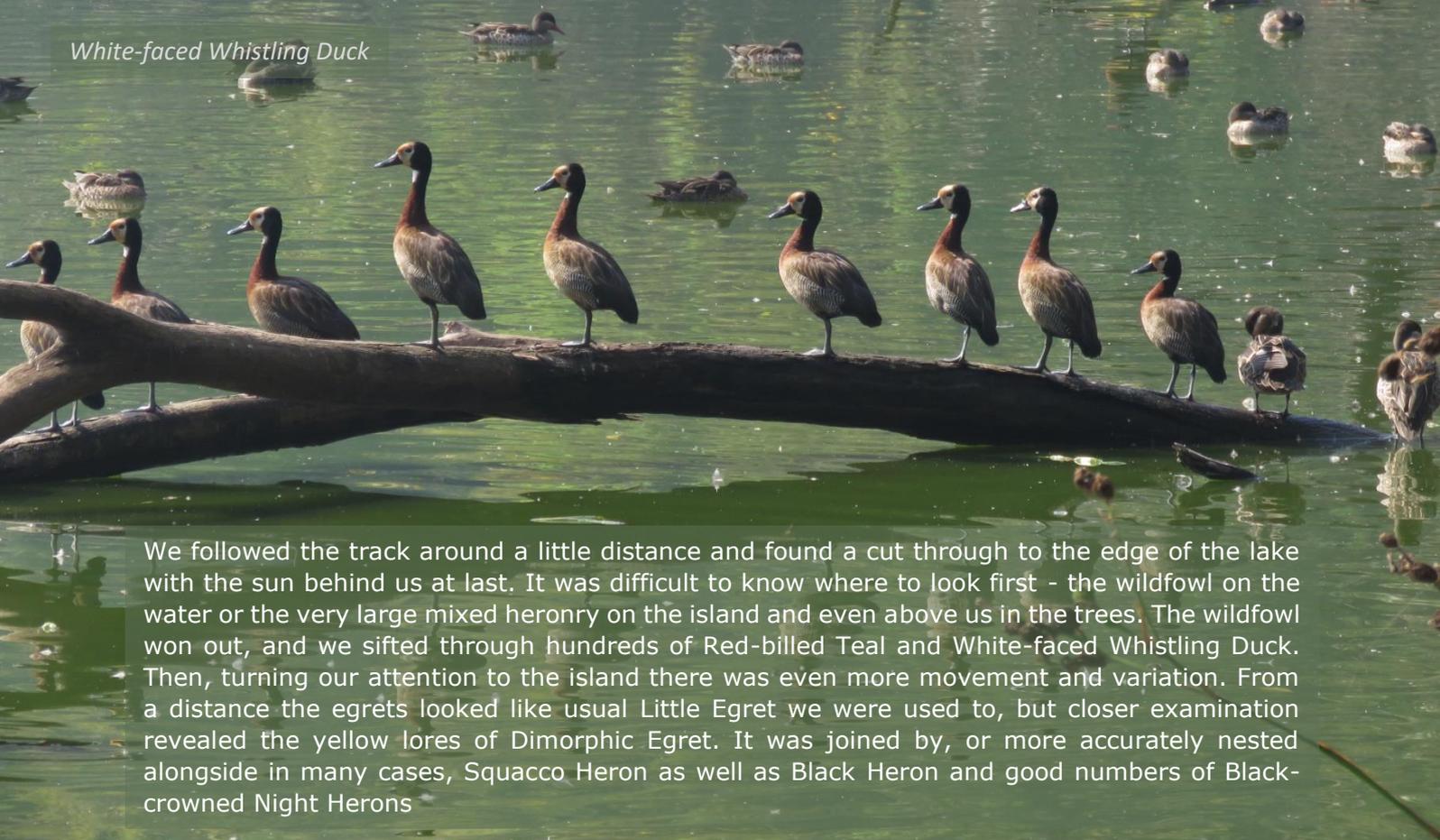


Our original early morning flight internally would have arrived just after 3am at Toliara, leading to a full day's birding. However, the predictably rescheduled flight of 12:30 midday meant that we had a couple of hours on the morning to spare, which meant a short trip to this almost urban pond was well worth investing the time in. From our overnight hotel, which was conveniently located close to the airport, the short drive to this site took only about 20 minutes in fairly light morning traffic. It proved to be a haven for impressive numbers of ducks and herons. We pulled up among the early morning human life of suburban Tana and entered through a metal gate where our entry had already been paid for. In front of us was a main lake with large island at the centre, although the sun was casting a strong glare in our eyes. Yet we were initially stunned by the hundreds of duck and egrets straight in front of us.

Dimorphic & Western Cattle Egrets

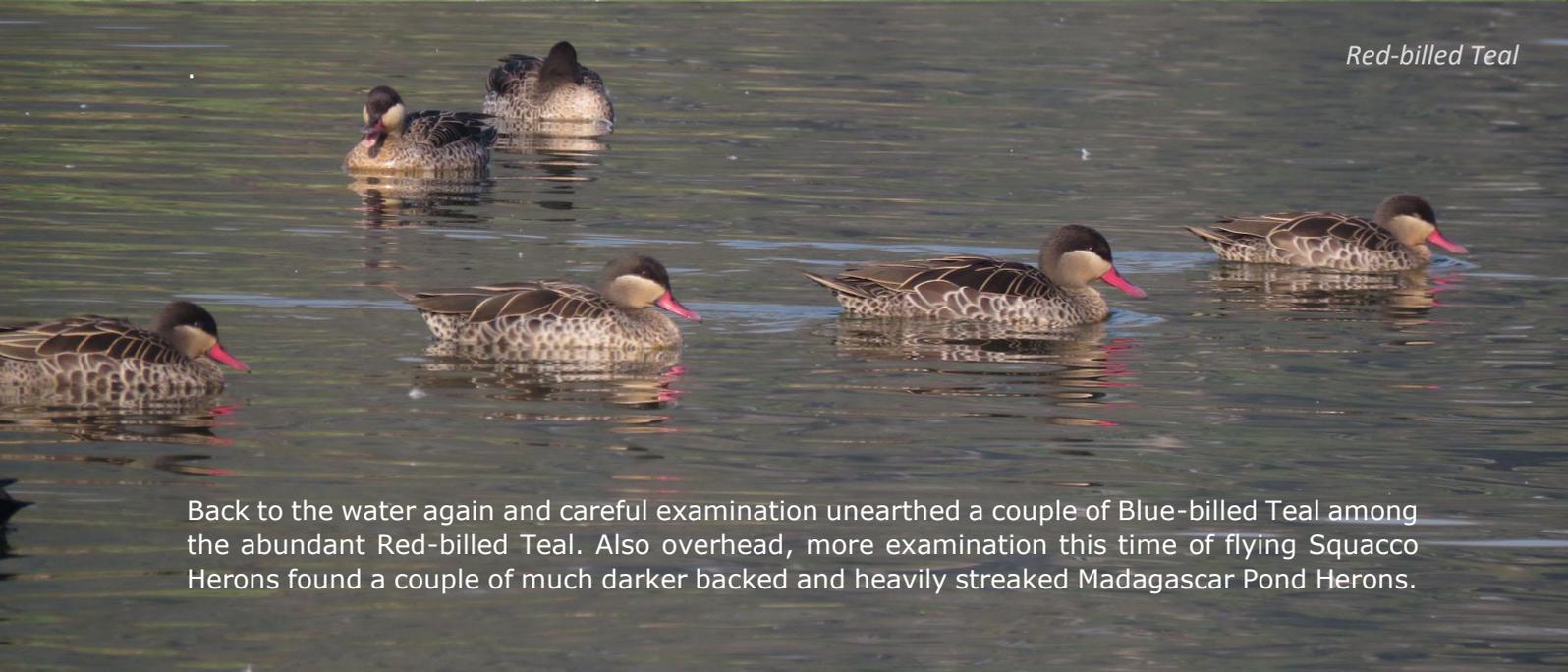


White-faced Whistling Duck



We followed the track around a little distance and found a cut through to the edge of the lake with the sun behind us at last. It was difficult to know where to look first - the wildfowl on the water or the very large mixed heronry on the island and even above us in the trees. The wildfowl won out, and we sifted through hundreds of Red-billed Teal and White-faced Whistling Duck. Then, turning our attention to the island there was even more movement and variation. From a distance the egrets looked like usual Little Egret we were used to, but closer examination revealed the yellow lores of Dimorphic Egret. It was joined by, or more accurately nested alongside in many cases, Squacco Heron as well as Black Heron and good numbers of Black-crowned Night Herons

Red-billed Teal



Back to the water again and careful examination unearthed a couple of Blue-billed Teal among the abundant Red-billed Teal. Also overhead, more examination this time of flying Squacco Herons found a couple of much darker backed and heavily streaked Madagascar Pond Herons.

Black Heron



We then cut back to the rough track to find the slightly smaller of the two lakes which was more heavily vegetated with lilies etc. It was also being farmed by a chap who was swimming through the vegetation tending his fishnets. Not much extra here apart from Common Moorhen, but on walking around the actual water itself through the woodland we came across decent parties of Madagascar White-eyes (*below*), and while watching these a pair of Madagascar Bee-eaters flew overhead.

A close-up photograph of a Madagascar White-eye bird perched on a light-colored, textured branch. The bird has a bright yellow-green head and back, a white breast, and a distinctive white ring around its dark eye. Its beak is dark and pointed. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a woodland setting. The lighting is bright, highlighting the bird's colors and the texture of the branch.

We did have a couple of hours here which is more than ample time to have a good birding session so decided to go back to the entrance and further on to the opposite bank of the large lake to see if anything else could be found on the opposite side of the island. Again, good decision. There were predictably many more views of the Red-billed Teal and White-faced Whistling Duck, but we did pick out a second couple of Blue-billed Teal and amongst the birds on the open water a couple of Meller's Duck. While watching these a Yellow-billed Kite flew over and again walking along the path through the woodland we added more Madagascar White-eyes and single Madagascar Bulbul.

Reniala Spiny Forest



Despite the excellent two hours at the town reserve, we still had a nagging feeling that the change in flights would leave very little for the afternoon and we would be feeding on titbits when we got there. In addition to this, the internal flight also seemed to have issues, since as we sat waiting for boarding to be announced it appeared that the flight 10 minutes later had precedence over us. In the end we were only half an hour late, but even then we didn't seem to be aiming for anything less than a 4:30pm start at Reniala. In our favour was the fact that our new driver (Hoby), who was to be our driver for the next 1½ weeks, suggested we were going straight to the reserve without calling at the hotel. In addition, this was to blend into the planned night walk and he would check us in at the hotel and also order food for a time later than usual.

*Madagascar
Buttonquail*



We needn't have worried. Despite what seemed a late start, the sight of a pair of Madagascar Kestrels on the way to the reserve, after having picked up our birding guide (Relatse) lifted spirits and the session was nothing short of superb. (Bird) guides are necessary to visit Madagascar parks, and the guide fee needs to be paid directly to them. In most reserves this is the equivalent of €50, but at non-national parks such as Reniala this fee is a little lower. We parked the car on the sand within the start of the baobab infested spiny forest, leaving our new driver Hoby and being led by our bird guide for the session. The two-hour walk was through the fairly dense spine coated trees and baobabs (luckily there were cleared tracks throughout). The scene was set with the quick find of a Madagascar Buttonquail.

Running Coua



Green-capped Coua

Looking at the numbers on the list of birds seen during the walk the pickings looked possibly a little meagre, yet there were quality birds seen fairly regularly throughout. Our first Couas of the trip came in the form of an early-ish Green-capped Coua, followed just before dusk by an ironically static Running Coua. No star birds should realistically be picked out here, yet a stunning Long-tailed Ground Roller would certainly push for the slot if available. As we walked the list was added to by Lesser Vasa Parrot, Crested Drongo, Malagasy Bulbuls, very close Souimanga Sunbird, and a pair of Madagascar Harrier-Hawks at the nest. Birding didn't quite stop after the light had fallen, since we did find a resting Subdesert Brush Warbler as we searched with torches.

Long-tailed Ground Roller





At this point, the presence of non-birding titbits has to be mentioned. All kicked off with a Warty Chameleon even before any birds were seen after leaving the car. Later on, as the light had gone, not just one but two White-footed Sportive Lemurs (*above*) were found, the latter with the help of a couple of spotters who obviously work with Relatse, our bird guide. Both lemurs were hidden in spiny trunks, but a later Grey Mouse Lemur (*below*) was a little more obliging in an open tree. The two helpers did further good work by finding a Lesser Hedgehog Tenrec, seemingly asleep despite its nocturnal nature next to one of the tracks. The success of the session was underlined as we pulled up at the hotel, finding a Madagascar Cat-eyed Snake crawling across the hotel drive near our parking spot just in front of us.



Saturday, 6th

(Boat transfer from Toliara to Anakao / Tsimanampetsotse)

Tsimanampetsotse National Park



With a more than civilised breakfast at 6:00am and then a little wander around the grounds of the Ifaty hotel, a short $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour drive followed to the harbour in Toliara, when the day seemed to at times flux into more than just birding. It was one of those days that progressed into an experience rather than just a birding day. It started with waiting for the departure of our boat to Anakao. We were shown the boat that we would be using, and it was evident that the tide was well out with a rather large expanse of mud between our almost makeshift departure point and the boat itself. All became clear when we saw Zebu, a type of cattle, pulling small carts crammed with guests and suitcases over the mud and water to the destination craft. It wasn't the most comfortable of rides since we sat on the edges of the cart which was almost like having the backside sawn in two. Arriving at the boat two locals had joined the muddy mush guiding the cattle, and of course all demanded the requisite tip for putting a suitcase from one spot to the other.

Once we had completed the hour or so journey, no such mud flats or cattle were to be seen at our arrival point. When the anchor was set, we noticed a group of youths approaching us along a sandbank and then wading through the water. They of course haul out the suitcases and carry them to the shore, leaving us to take off shoes and socks and follow through the lapping water. Again, yet another job for the locals. Arriving at the hotel, which eventually turned out to be our room for the night, there was a little bit of confusion since nobody spoke English, only French, and we weren't sure if they driver beckoning us for a ride was our actual driver or some chancer offering a lift. Luckily the former was the case, so we boarded the Toyota Land Cruiser 4x4 and headed on our way.



Littoral Rock Thrush



The journey was billed as on a very bumpy road for 2½ hours but didn't seem nearly as bad as we had expected. It was certainly a makeshift road, based on sand with some rocks in places, but the time taken was more to do with the distance. We had only been travelling 5 minutes when we were stopped by two armed policemen, who then proceeded to take a couple of seats in our vehicle, this raising questions/concerns about the reason for them being there. Most likely thought had been for security in the area, but an even easier explanation was that they were in fact merely hitching a lift for 20 minutes down the road.



We eventually stopped at the park headquarters to pick up our guide for the afternoon, and also what seemed a menagerie of other lads. Apart from one who was a trainee guide the other three turned out to be park staff doing research in the park. We continued on our way for around 10 minutes to reach the entrance to the park itself, which was shortly after we had sight of the large saline lake and additional views of their top treats – the flamingos. We summarily exited the vehicle and trudged the few metres to the shoreline to admire the mix of Greater and Lesser Flamingos. They were in good numbers on what proved to be a very open and large saline lake, inviting direct comparison with the two species.



We were a little worried that the whole reason for a one-hour boat trip and two-and-a-half-hour bumpy ride was to marvel at the flamingos and possible views of baobab trees later in the day. This was alleviated to a large extent when we set off on the shoreline to look for plovers, the star of which is the Madagascar Plover. This proved very fruitful since we found not only a pair but also a further two Kittlitz's Plovers and a single White-fronted Plover. This was rather a treat, since both Kittlitz's & Madagascar (*above*) Plovers are well worth seeing, yet we still felt that was an awful long way to come for a small plate of goodies!



That fear was again dispelled as we travelled further along the rough track, leaving the lake behind to at first enter octopus tree spiny forest and then further mixed forest which offered a very good selection of speciality birds of the dry southwest. At various stops we came across species such as Madagascar Bee-eater, Madagascar Cisticola, Madagascar Lark and Madagascar Cuckoo-Hawk. We also chanced upon two or three Coua's spooked from their position on the road in front of us including 2 Green-capped & 1 Running. In search of further goodies, our guide ventured into the bush with us to lure successfully Archbold's Newtonia. On this short track we also flushed a Madagascar Sandgrouse, another of the local specialties to see. We put further work in with these birds on some open ground and were rewarded with six which we managed to approach fairly closely later in the afternoon. After trying unsuccessfully to pin down Verraux's Coua, the short walk back to the main road chanced upon a selection of Sakalava Weavers, Chabert's Vanga and a flying trio of Grey-headed Lovebirds. So, a birding session that initially promised an average day's birding emerged as an excellent afternoon.



Sunday, 7th

(St Augustin / Honko / Reniala Spiny Forest pm & evening)

St Augustin



The journey back from Anakao to Toliara was much the same in reverse in many ways, apart from the sand bank on departure had disappeared with the higher tide, but still with Zebu and carts awaiting us in the fight for tips etc. We met again with our driver and also Relatse the guide for the local parks and drove just over an hour south, strangely in the direction from where we had just come, to find the Saint Augustin reserve. As soon as we alighted from the vehicle we were warned to have plenty of water and sunscreen as well as a hat for protection. This was no empty threat since while we were walking the temperatures rose to around 33°C. The morning consisted of a trek through the lowish scrub in this yet again dry area with our guide playing calls for the hoped for target species.



Verraux's Coua

He was mainly looking for Red-shouldered Vanga, Lefresnaye's Vanga and Verraux's Coua. The going was indeed fairly difficult due to the heat although the drinking water did help, and it was a little disappointing that within minutes the Lefresnaye's Vanga had been heard but could not be found. Instead, Common Newtonia in a nearby Bush tried to mitigate this. While we were walking we came across a few Sourimanga Sunbirds with Swifts overhead, mainly Malagasy Black Swift but also a single Alpine Swift. After some time walking and looking for the Red-shouldered Vanga (*below*), a somewhat quiet period all of a sudden found calling Vangas in the bushland next to our rough track. First irony of the afternoon was that we spent some time shredding our legs – okay, an overstatement – chasing down aforementioned vanga but it was eventually seen along with a female right next to the rough track we had left. Having seen this bird, we then tried for the Verraux's Coua without success, so found ourselves back at the car in some need of more water.



Second irony of the morning was that we then wandered no more than 100 metres along the road from where the car was parked and found not only a Verraux's Coua perched in the distance, but also a subsequent Lefresnaye's Vanga flew over the road shortly after. So satisfying views of the very limited ranged Red-shouldered Vanga, which would have been more than sufficient in itself, was topped at the very last few minutes by a couple of surprise additions before we left again towards Ifaty.

Honko Community Reserve

We only spent a short amount of time at this community reserve, which is mainly established through the growth of Papyrus, where there is a track/boardwalk for visitors to see this particular delight. However, our guide diverted us straight away towards some open lagoons to see what shore birds etc we could find there. We didn't spend too much time here as the lagoons were fairly low with only a few waders. Prime of place was a small group of beautifully marked Kittlitz's Plovers, as well as nearby a small group of Grey-headed Lovebirds feeding on the seeds of the reeds. From the reeds themselves we disturbed 4 separate Little Herons, and on the way back from our short visit a few Madagascar Bee-eaters overhead.



Grey-headed Lovebird

Kittlitz's Plover

Reniala Spiny Forest

Subdesert Mesite (male)



After having had such a good session in this reserve the previous evening, we initially felt that it may be a bit more of the same. The fact that we would be walking the red sand tracks around the spiny forest again was indeed true, but the alternate mix of species today was noticeable. New additions Relatse the guide was intent on trying to find were one or two species that were special to the area such as Subdesert Mesite and Sickle-billed Vanga. The former was found after a little bit of time walking and searching, although whilst waiting for the guides to report back we did pick up both Madagascar Cuckooshrike and Crested Coua nearby. After having good views of the static Mesite in the thorny bush, we paid a visit to the previous evenings White-footed Sportive Lemur, which was in the same somewhat relaxed pose but in proper daylight this time.

We continued our search for the Sickle-billed Vanga, ultimately without success, but continued to find good birds. Amongst these was Madagascar Magpie-Robin, looking very much like its Indian congener, as well as both Greater & Lesser Vasa Parrots, and rather more obliging Archibold's Newtonia than that seen the previous day.



Madagascar Cuckooshrike

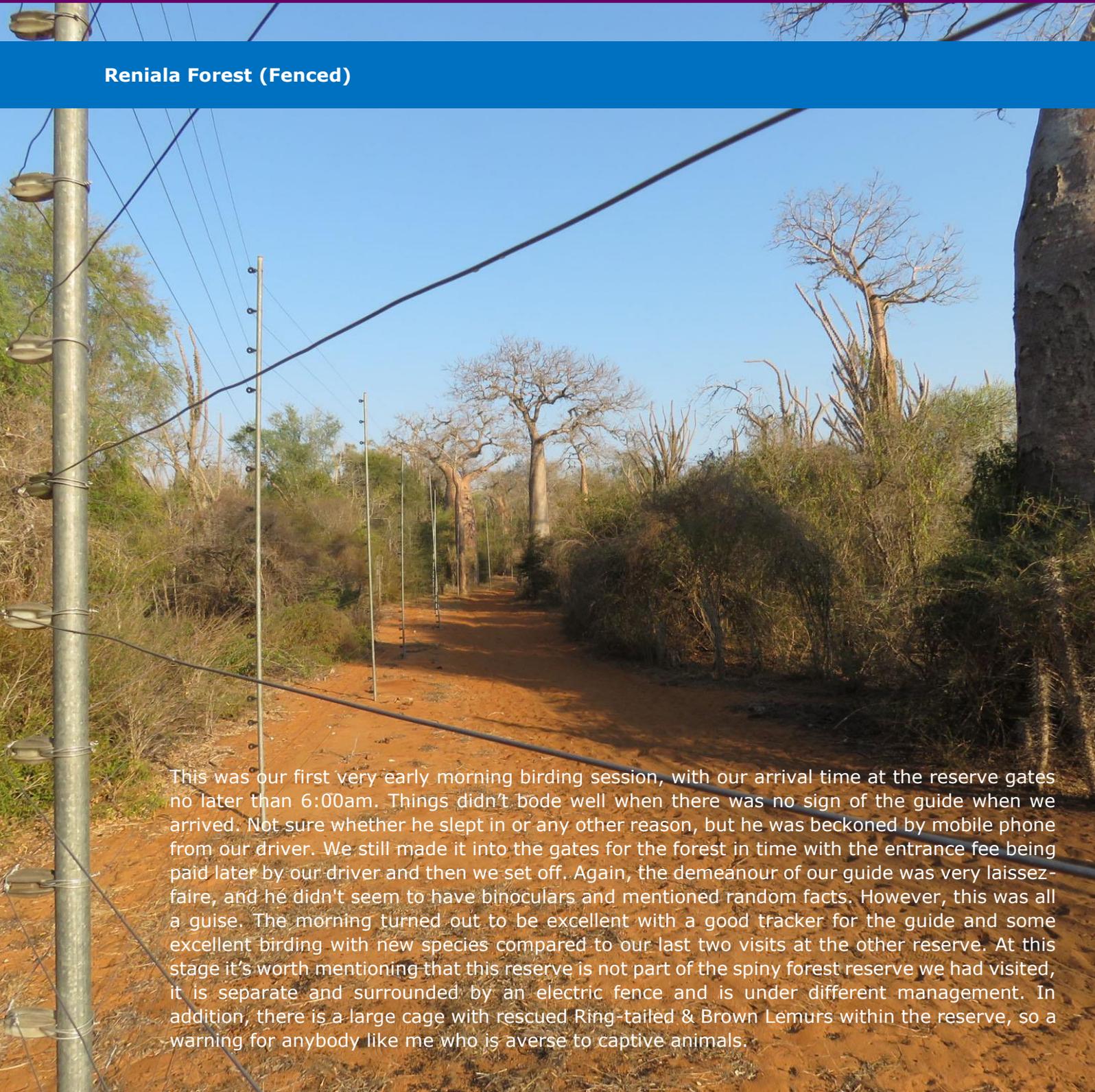
Crested Coua

As the evening drew in our guide was surprised when he played the song of Madagascar Nightjar and a bird flew in almost immediately and alighted on the tree in front of us and started to churr. This was joined by a second bird both of which flew around the area for some time rather impressively. The darkness meant continuation in searching for night-time birds particularly owls, again without success this time. However we did find a second Grey Mouse Lemur to the one the previous day which was in an even more impressive pose along one of the tree branches. For our particular interest another snake was found, this one much smaller than yesterdays in the form of Mahafali Sand Snake.

Monday, 8th

(Reniala Forest / Zombitse / Journey to Isalo)

Reniala Forest (Fenced)

A photograph showing a dirt path leading into a fenced forest area. In the foreground, there is a metal utility pole with several wires attached. The path is bordered by a wire fence supported by wooden posts. The forest contains several large baobab trees and dense, dry-looking vegetation. The sky is clear and blue.

This was our first very early morning birding session, with our arrival time at the reserve gates no later than 6:00am. Things didn't bode well when there was no sign of the guide when we arrived. Not sure whether he slept in or any other reason, but he was beckoned by mobile phone from our driver. We still made it into the gates for the forest in time with the entrance fee being paid later by our driver and then we set off. Again, the demeanour of our guide was very laissez-faire, and he didn't seem to have binoculars and mentioned random facts. However, this was all a guise. The morning turned out to be excellent with a good tracker for the guide and some excellent birding with new species compared to our last two visits at the other reserve. At this stage it's worth mentioning that this reserve is not part of the spiny forest reserve we had visited, it is separate and surrounded by an electric fence and is under different management. In addition, there is a large cage with rescued Ring-tailed & Brown Lemurs within the reserve, so a warning for anybody like me who is averse to captive animals.

The walk itself starting out at just about dawn and again along the familiar sandy tracks with pine forest either side was excellent. We passed quite a few of the common birds we'd seen already and within a short time the guide had pinpointed a female Subdesert Mesite perched on a branch in a much more exposed and satisfying position than that of the previous evening. We were then led alongside the electric fence and disturbed the male Mesite which flew into the local village.





After excellent views, and a subsequent find of a pair of Madagascar Nightjars roosting on the forest floor, we then went to another part of the reserve where again the guide's tracker had found a pair of Sickle-billed Vangas which we not only followed but also crossed through the electric fence to have better views. This was an excellent move since we did actually get the hoped for improved sighting. Whilst watching, a pair of White-headed Vangas were also seen briefly in nearby trees and then crossing back through the electric fence a party of much smaller Red-tailed Vangas was found.

Adding to this list of excellent birds in the superb vanga family, we also had views of Crested Coua, although this was a flyby, and a few Senegal Coucals. Before we departed for our breakfast and then 9:00am departure from the hotel for our northward journey we were also pointed out a couple of Warty Chameleons.



Sickle-billed Vanga

Zombitse



After leaving the hotel at 9:00am, it took a drive of more than 5 hours to reach this small park. In contrast to the inauspicious starts to some of the other sites, this one began with a bang when a Giant Coua was seen sauntering around in the reception area. When we entered the forest itself, our guide left us with his trainee to seek out lemurs. As we walked through the slim tracks, a Coquerel's Coua was picked out slowly meandering its way through the undergrowth. The guide returned a short while later with the tasty news that he had located a resting Zombitse Sportive Lemur. This chap was poking itself out of its roosting hole. Further lemur delight was shortly after when we were drinking in the visage of a family of 3 Verraux's Sifakas resting high in the trees.

Subsequent to this, we were remarking how quiet the forest seemed, when the call of Long-billed Bernieria was followed by another Coquerel's Coua near to the path. There then followed a short walk to pin down a calling Red-tailed Vanga, in much better light than the trio at Reniala earlier in the day. The walk back to the car unearthed a white phase Madagascar Paradise Flycatcher, but we passed by the car before leaving to take in a pair of White-browed Owls in the woodland on the opposite side of the road to the park proper.

Giant Coua



Zombitse Sportive Lemur

Verraux's Sifaka



White-browed Owl

Tuesday 9th

(Isalo Massif & Lodge)

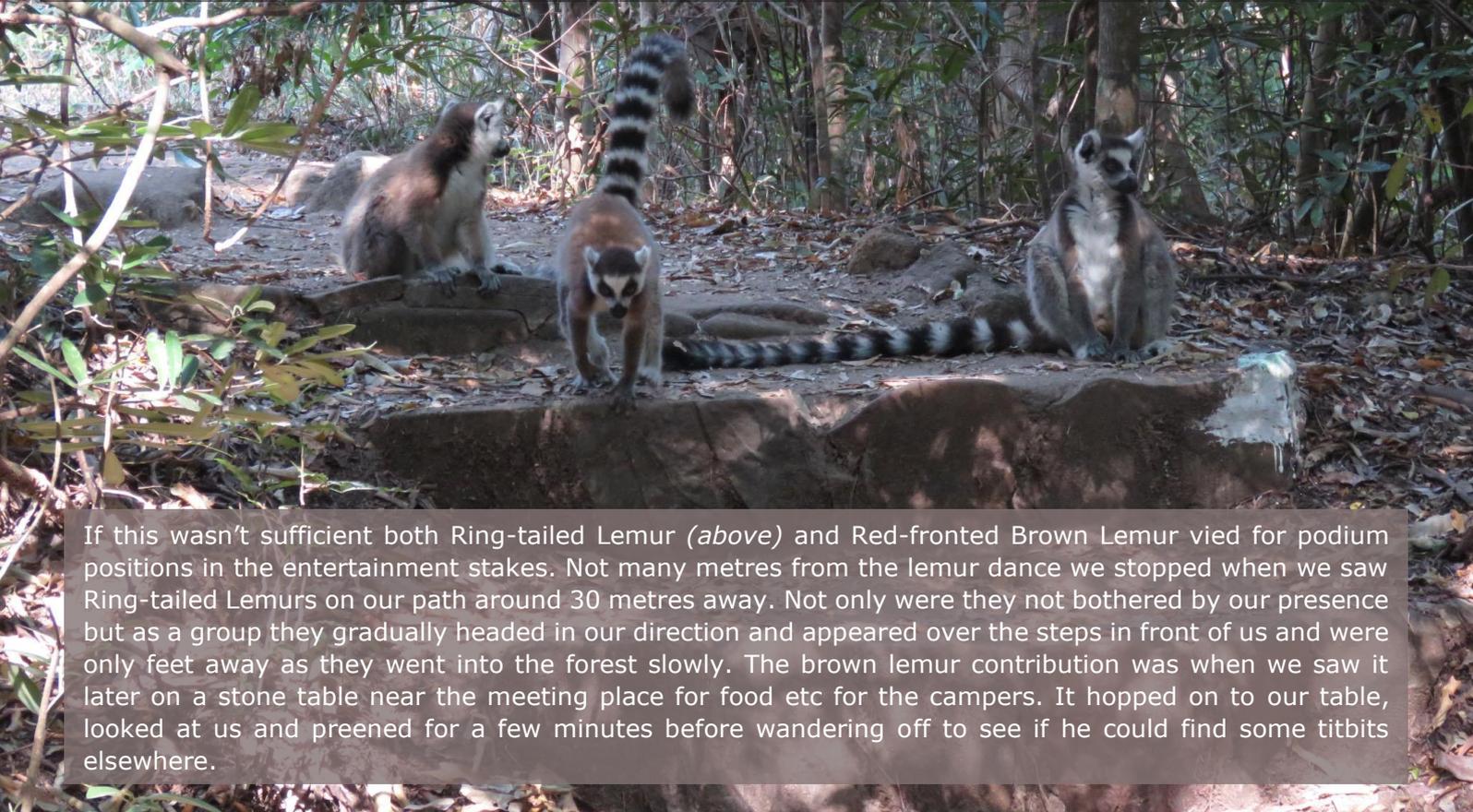
Isalo Massif - Namaza Canyon



When Hoby our driver discussed today's programme with us on the previous evening, it sounded like this stay was mainly for a halfway stop to Ranomafana with the added small benefit of the Isalo Massif, which does offer two or three specialist birds and the possibility of lemurs. He was also excited to let us know that at the end of this we could do a 2-kilometre hike to see a waterfall and possibly swim in it. Imagine our excitement. As it turned out for birders who also really enjoy general wildlife particular mammals the morning was stolen in a brilliant way by the lemurs.

When we turned off the main road to pay our general park guide fees we picked up a bird guide/general guide who our driver had not used before. He even asked us if we could tell him how good he was for future use. Five hours later we were glad to tell him we would recommend his use anytime. For the park itself we drove approximately 3 to 4 kilometres to a small sandy car park, then proceeded over a small bridge to straight away see the canyons of the massif. These progressed shortly into forest.

There were plenty of the more common birds to be seen as we walked early on including Madagascar Cuckoo-Hawk and Yellow-billed Kite both harassing a Hamerkop, but we hadn't been in the fairly open forest long when we saw a lone Verraux's Sifaka sitting in a tree right next to the trail. The guide asked us to be patient because he suspected it would come down to the trail. This was something that both of us had wanted to see for not just years but a couple of decades. Patience was rewarded with not only this particular individual dropping to the track and doing it's wonderful Sifaka dance right past our feet but another half a dozen or so came out of the forest to do exactly the same thing just a little way down. Absolutely top wildlife watching.



If this wasn't sufficient both Ring-tailed Lemur (*above*) and Red-fronted Brown Lemur vied for podium positions in the entertainment stakes. Not many metres from the lemur dance we stopped when we saw Ring-tailed Lemurs on our path around 30 metres away. Not only were they not bothered by our presence but as a group they gradually headed in our direction and appeared over the steps in front of us and were only feet away as they went into the forest slowly. The brown lemur contribution was when we saw it later on a stone table near the meeting place for food etc for the campers. It hopped on to our table, looked at us and preened for a few minutes before wandering off to see if he could find some titbits elsewhere.

This all put the birding side to an also-ran position. Two of the three specialities – White-throated Rail and Cuckoo-Roller apparently are quite difficult to find. The former usually has to have a quiet time on the stream flowing through the forest, which is difficult in an area with a lot of people traipsing through, and the latter quite often is a flyby. However, the well-known speciality Forest Rock Thrush (*below*) is a little walk up to the aforementioned waterfall where we found the female initially and then the male, which went from side to side all the time in front of the waterfall itself.



Our timing for the morning where both of the lemurs on the paths was seen by only ourselves initially and then seeing the waterfall with rock thrush again on our tod was highlighted as we were about to leave and then the throng started to flow in. They continued trudging towards the waterfall no doubt to fill every available space and marvel in awe at the trickling water in their gibbering cliques, so we smartly departed the scene.

Wednesday 10th

(Isalo to Ranomafana)

The objective today was all about getting from Isalo to Ranomafana, which was one of the longer days travelling ending up on the road around 8 hours. Luckily, the roads weren't nearly as bad as our previous journey from Toliara and we broke this up halfway along with a quick visit to the Lemur infested forest of Anja. If we hadn't had such good views of Ring-tailed Lemurs the previous day this would have been a highlight, since this very small community reserve has more or less nailed on individuals. It has been taken over by the community of three local villages with all funds received going towards these villages and preserving the park itself. It is set below some impressive mountains and from the driver's car park it can be seen to be a fairly small site, yet holding impressive numbers of lemurs, probably numbering in the region of 400. Since we'd had our experience the previous day we tried some birding in the hour that we were there, but the bird diversity here is rather low and this only resulted in turning up some of the commoner birds already seen.

On farmland between Anja and Ranomafana a highlight was a trio of dark phase Dimorphic Egrets (*below*), the first and only non-white phase of the trip.





The journey changed from the initial average low plains of the south through some more mountainous terrain and then eventually into the high elevation rainforest. By this time the temperature had decreased to around 17°C and there was also the threat of rain for the first time on our trip. We arrived at the night-walk site within the National Park just before dusk to find wandering nomadic groups of lemur watchers desperately searching for views of Rufous Mouse Lemur. So, against our better instincts we joined the various groups to be frustrated by their presence and the restrictions on looking at and photographing these wonderful but furtive animals. We found a spot where lemurs were present and nobody was watching to be presented with 1-2 Rufous Mouse Lemurs (*below*) coming down to an area prepared with bananas on spikes or rubbed against the tree bark. The rest of the walk which covered only a couple of hundred metres was more concentrated on the chameleons - we found at least four different species some containing much smaller juveniles, as well as a couple of holes in a rock face containing a few roosting Mascarene Martins (*above*). How the guides see the smaller chameleons I do not know. We didn't pick any out and in particular the very small juveniles seemed almost impossible to see.



Thursday 11th

(Ranomafana NP – 2 different trails am & pm)

Morning - Sahamalaotra Track, Ranomafana NP

This park is set in higher elevation rainforest which makes the walks around it very undulating and a degree of fitness is definitely a benefit here. We were asked to leave the hotel at 6:30am which is over half an hour after first light but the reason for this became evident when we arrived at the reception for the park. It doesn't open until 7:00am, and even then the processing at the reception is predictably slow. We arrived at the start of the track at around 7:30am and were immediately shown a Giraffe-necked Weevil (*below right*) on the opposite side to the entrance of the track which was a great start



Blue Coua



Pollen's Vanga



For the birds we were off to a flyer when a female then male Blue Coua were seen almost immediately within the forest. The steep climbs and drops which characterise this park very quickly became evident. The guide was intent on looking for Rufous-headed Ground Roller as a priority, but the first excitement was a trio of Milne Edwards' Sifakas which were showing at very close quarters. A shame for the photography that they all had collars, but this was for the greater good within a study of their behaviour within the park. After stopping at a couple of likely spots for the Ground Roller without success, we heard and subsequently picked up at least 4 Pollen's Vangas which were displaying to each other, as well as additional White-headed Vanga on the way to them



Madagascar Sparrowhawk

We climbed quite a way further to come across a photographer being led by two guides who had just successfully photographed a male Common Sunbird-Asity. We joined to try to mimic this but after 15 minutes were unsuccessful with that particular bird. However, we did have in Madagascar Cuckoo and Madagascar Sparrowhawk both land directly above us for some time. We continued on our way, and this is where the typical rainforest birding of being patient and making way slowly really paid off. A Crested Drongo was the vanguard for Red-tailed Vanga and the even more spectacular appearance of Blue Vangas. A short way down from here and the call of Hook-billed Vanga was picked up, and we subsequently found one to two birds with nesting material obviously looking to stay in that area.

Now was the time to make our way back to the car in what was overall a five-mile trek up and down through the undulating rainforest, but we did pause at the earlier site where Common Sunbird-Asity had been seen by the photographer. This time, a short wait and then two calling birds either side of us resulted in a singing male being very carefully picked out amongst the low crisscrossing branches. A good way to finish the morning and then back to the car.



Hook-billed Vanga

*Common
Sunbird-Asity*

Afternoon - Telatekely Track, Ranomafana NP



After a 45 minute or so mooch around the car park cum reception area for our break, we descended some steep steps at the rear for our next walk within the park. Before we crossed the bridge over the river a pair of Satanic Leaf-tailed Geckos were pointed out to us. Just as well - there's no way we would have spotted them ourselves, and even with help we still struggled. Once across the bridge we started to climb again and within minutes spotted a Red-fronted Coua (*below*) slowly making its way along the edge of the ascending steps in a timely manner. It wasn't until a little while later that we next came across a small mixed party of birds including already well-known species, but this party also included our first Ward's Vanga.



While we were looking for more birds our guide had a call from the spotter who had found a Scaly Ground Roller (*below*), which his "brother" had located earlier in the morning. When we arrived at the location a group were already looking at the bird which was only feet in front of them on the track. They thankfully departed the scene quickly so we had the bird all to ourselves, coming so close at times it could almost be touched. If the sight of this ground roller wasn't enough the spotter also picked out a Pitta-like Ground Roller, this time annoyingly keeping to the depths of the undergrowth and more or less out of sight from us. We then spent some time listening to calls of the bird, perhaps picking out up to four different individuals, and were eventually rewarded with views through gaps in the bushes of an individual about 30 yards away





Only metres from this location I also picked out a small brown bird which looked like female Forest Rock Thrush. In this area there were also male and female Madagascar Magpie Robin and rufous phase Madagascar Paradise Flycatcher. The rock thrush is very seldom seen here, but our guide said he had seen a pair a short while ago but still questioned its identity. It did look like the female I had seen at Isalo, but perhaps more prolonged views would have been useful for more definitive identification. We were then taken down a smaller side track to search for other species when the guides disappeared for a short while and came back with the news they had located a pair of Collared Nightjars which was a bit of a clamber off piste from the main track



Collared Nightjar

We really weren't sure how on earth they found them given their location away from the track and the camouflaged plumage but feasted on the views when we found them. We then spent some time playing the calls of Madagascar Forest Rail again only metres from the nightjars. It took a little while but perhaps at least 4 individuals were lured in and calling themselves, although they were shy of the open track and kept dashing across to disappear into the undergrowth. Last excitement of the afternoon was not far from the bridge and return to leave the park when another ground living bird – the much smaller Crossley's Vanga – was eventually picked up again in the undergrowth just off from the truck

Friday 12th

(Ranomafana NP – 2 different trails am & pm)

Morning - Telatekely Track, Ranomafana NP



On our visit here the previous afternoon the guides had sensibly organised with the park staff at reception for us to enter much earlier than usual and pay the park fees on return at lunchtime. We even managed to organise breakfast at 5:00 with the hotel, leading to a descent into the park at 6:00am. The temperature was also the lowest we had experienced so far at 13°C, still mild for us but rather cold for the guides. We were again rewarded with a fillip early on with Madagascar Buzzard (*left*) perched below the bridge before the entrance to the park proper, and then shortly after a trio of Golden Bamboo Lemurs and Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher (*below*).

Birding technique was as usual making our way slowly and painstakingly through the forest with at times no birds seemingly present. On our quest we did manage to see good views today of Madagascar Forest Rail and even found our own Scaly Ground Roller next to the track. We tried the technique of scraping the path with a stick to encourage it to come closer and follow our lead, and it well and truly obliged. After getting partial views of Rufous Vanga, we put our patient caps on when trying (successfully) to pin down an extremely skulking Madagascar Flufftail and a pair of Brown Mesites. Before the trek back to the reception area for a lunchtime break, we were shown a Spectacled Tetraka nest with young.



Afternoon - Sahamalaotra Track, Ranomafana NP

We spent our lunch break on our backs in the reception area with heads against backpacks watching over the forests with binoculars. This proved a good idea since in addition to a Cuckoo-Hawk circling with a Madagascar Buzzard we picked up our first pair of Cuckoo-Rollers on the horizon chasing each other along the valley. This relaxation was ended when we left for the forest track again, the one we had covered during our first morning the previous day. As is the way with forest birding it can vary enormously from session to session, and this one was one of the very much more quiet sessions. It began well with another look at the Giraffe-necked Weevil bush opposite the car park, with five individuals at least being on the leaves.

It seemed like the guides and spotter were trying to mop up some of the main species that we had missed, with two of the ground rollers that had eluded us seemingly top of the list judging by the number of times we stopped and played the calls of both. Not only did they seem to be quiet today, but along one of our first tracks were researchers from the park who has set up rather large and long mist nets on the main track which we were using for one of our stakeouts, and it's possible that this may have been the reason for no bird activity at this point. So, they decided to take us on previously trodden paths which we had done yesterday morning and try our luck there.

After passing a very skulking Red-fronted Coua from the main track we diverted down one which was very much more difficult to progress on across a stream and muddy area to set up again for another ground roller stakeout. Same result for aforementioned absent ground roller but we did have much more luck with a pair of reasonably close Cuckoo-rollers (*female right*) above us and a possible Tetraka fleetingly as it went by. The quietness of the afternoon overall continued as we searched for other birds which may have been likely and again didn't call until we came across another pair of Cuckoo-Rollers, this time much more obliging only slightly spoiled by sunshine directly at us while we were watching them. However, they are a very unique bird which we had been desperate to get close views of and succeeded



The afternoon was closing in, and we heard our first call from Rufous-headed Ground Roller not too far in the distance so increased our pace a little and went down another fairly vegetated small track which was next to a stream. We set up camp here for around 40 minutes hearing the bird calling every now and again and not too far away but just not wanting to show for us. After altering our position to 20 to 30 metres further down again within very thick cover, we eventually got very good yet brief views of one of the birds which was trying to take a peek at where the calls were coming from. Ample reward for the patience of the guides and trying to track it down and a very good way to finish off birding in this park

Cuckoo-roller



Saturday, 13th

(Journey from Ranomafana to Antsirabe)

The main goal for today was to traverse the 8-hour journey to get to the halfway point for Andasibe, our next and last arrival location due the following day. Much of the drive was through open landscape which was still plastered with many people, habitation and rice paddies, but it did turn up 4 new species for the trip in one way or another, in addition to the more predictable Pied Crows and Yellow-billed Kites.

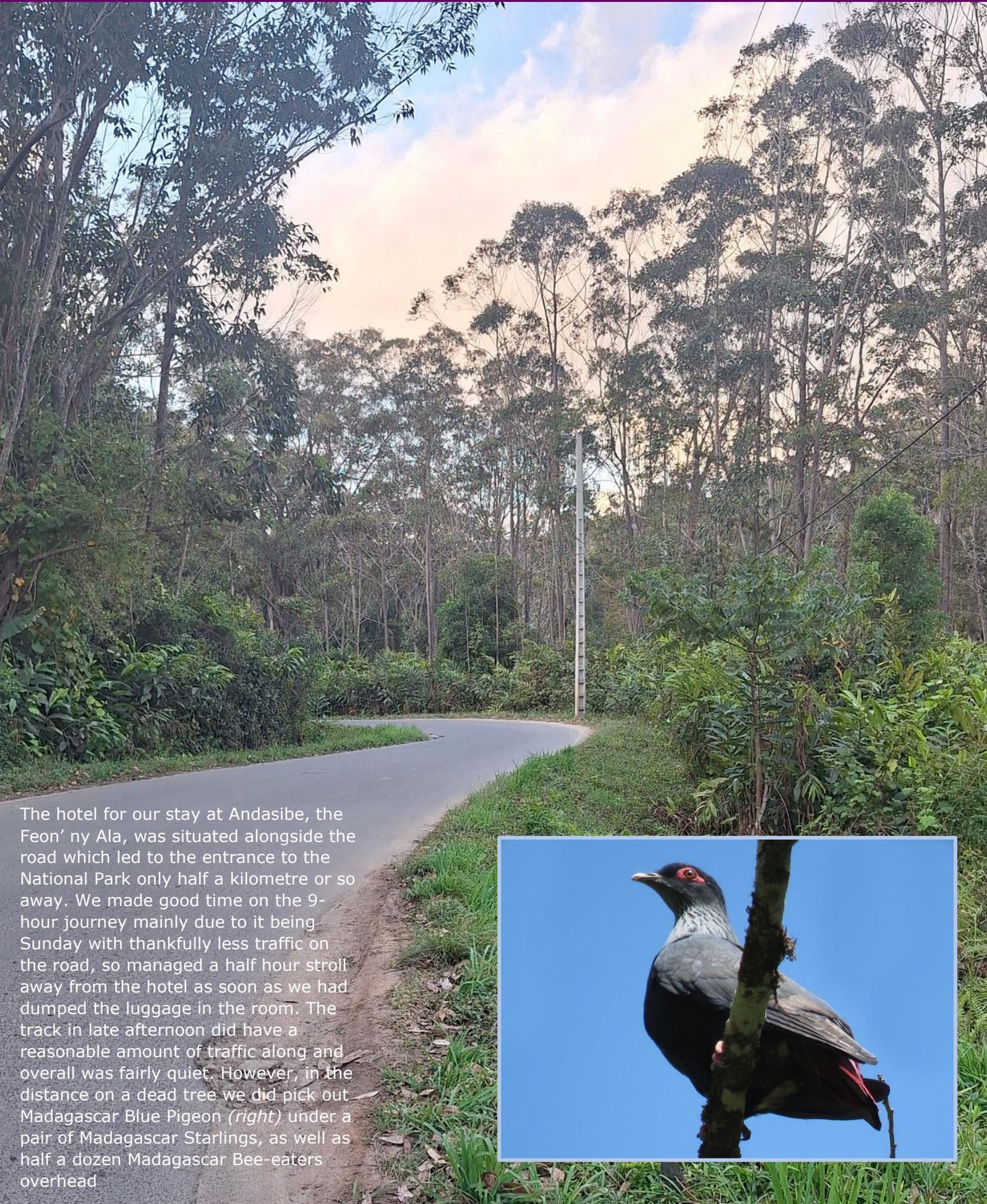
The first and main little surprise was a community reserve called d'Ankazomivada, on the main highway a little way before Ambositra. There is a small woodland here for Red-bellied Brown Lemur and a few birds, but we concentrated on the man-made terraced ponds opposite, giving a small donation to the locals for the pleasure. We were quickly rewarded with a brief Madagascar Snipe appearing from the reeds but had to walk up the road a little for a female Madagascar Harrier overhead, joining the Kites and a Hamerkop.

After a brief stop at Ambositra, and eventually negotiating the bottlenecks, a hairpin bend further along the journey flushed a couple of African Stonechats from roadside bushes. Roadside paddies also increased in number as we progressed, with one sporting a perched Malagasy Kingfisher (*below*).



Sunday 14th

(Reserva Analamazaotra)



The hotel for our stay at Andasibe, the Feon' ny Ala, was situated alongside the road which led to the entrance to the National Park only half a kilometre or so away. We made good time on the 9-hour journey mainly due to it being Sunday with thankfully less traffic on the road, so managed a half hour stroll away from the hotel as soon as we had dumped the luggage in the room. The track in late afternoon did have a reasonable amount of traffic along and overall was fairly quiet. However, in the distance on a dead tree we did pick out Madagascar Blue Pigeon (*right*) under a pair of Madagascar Starlings, as well as half a dozen Madagascar Bee-eaters overhead





At 6:30pm we were picked up from reception by our driver and new guide (Liva) for the next couple of days. We were then taken a short way again on the same road as earlier and past the entrance to the park for just over an hour's night walk. The site of at least a dozen other lamps already there was a bit disheartening but perhaps having more people and more eyes to spot might have been a benefit. This was probably the case since we straight away picked up a couple of Furry-eared Dwarf Lemurs (*above*) right next to the road with a third a little later. Shortly after the most amazing little lemur - Rufus Mouse Lemur (*below*), looking almost like a dormouse from the UK - was static on a horizontal stalk just within the forest in front of us. We could have added a third lemur with Goodman's Mouse Lemur but this was a backside view, so we hoped for something better the following evening. Accompanying sightings were of a couple of chameleons including juvenile Parsons Chameleon and Mossy Leaf-tailed Gecko.



Monday 15th

(Andasibe National Parks)

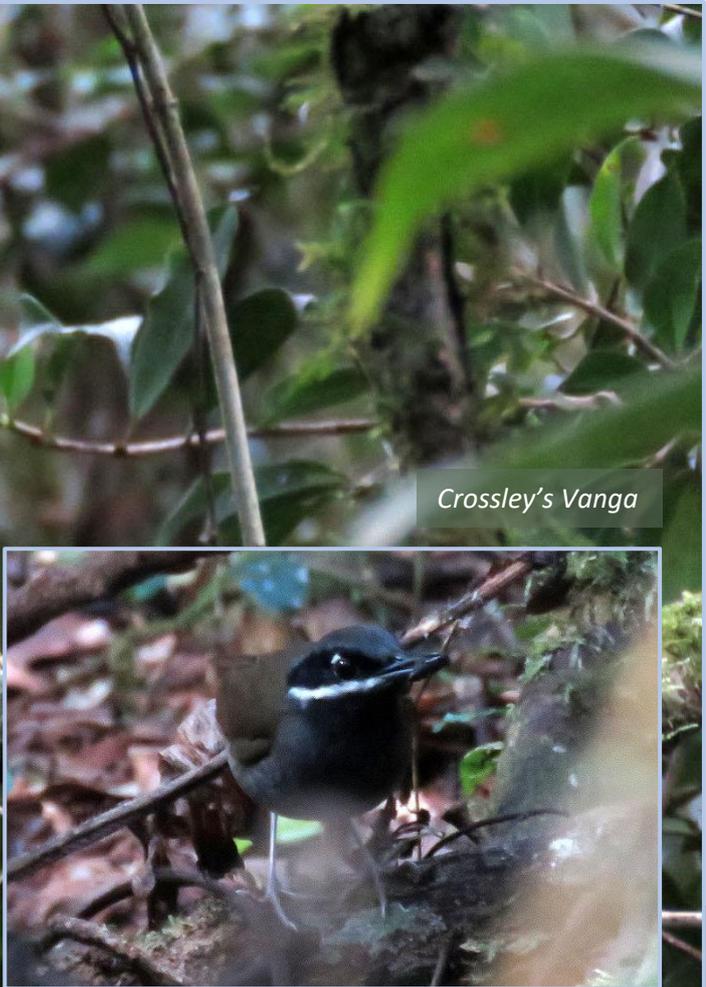
Mantadi - Tsakoka Circuit

A dirt road winds through a dense forest with tall trees and a group of people on horseback in the distance. The road is reddish-brown and appears to be a track. The forest is lush with green foliage and tall, thin trees. In the distance, a group of people on horseback is visible, moving along the road. The scene is captured from a low angle, looking down the road.

Mantadia National Park was not too far from our hotel near Andasibe headquarters, so we were surprised when our driver informed us the previous evening that the journey to our walk would take around 1½ hours. What we hadn't realised was just how bad the tracks are for even Land Cruiser 4x4 to get to. We left at 5:30am with a mist around the forest and the temperature at 12°C, and it took around 40 minutes just to get to the gate at the park entrance. The track declined even more severely here with huge ruts and mud in places, but we eventually stopped the car another 40 minutes later a little short of our destination circuit. The driver had listened when asked which species we would particularly like and while we aren't particular listers the 5th Ground Roller which we hadn't seen, Short-legged, was something he was looking to find. After only 5 minutes or so Forest, he disappeared and called us excitedly from within, at this time for a roosting Collared Nightjar. However, while we were taking in the cryptic camouflage of this bird he called again, this time finding the aforementioned Short-legged Ground Roller. A very obliging bird, it only moved two to three times to separate high-level branches in the 30 minutes or so total time we spent on it.



Short-legged Ground Roller



Crossley's Vanga



Madagascar Paradise Flycatcher

After tearing ourselves away and hearing the first Indri of the morning we reached the circuit and started our proper walk. This was much less undulating than at Ranomafana so a lot easier to traverse. Yet it was still forest birding so had some length of time without anything to see, until we hit upon a small bird party initially instigated by a pair of Nuthatch Vangas. In amongst the bird party were Nelacourvi Weavers, Blue Vangas and a little way on a Tylas Vanga. A skulking Crossley's Vanga was eventually pinned down in the undergrowth. It was around here that we saw our only lemurs of the morning which were a quartet of Diademed Sifakas and a single Black-and-white Ruffed Lemur. Although resting in the canopy under the shade it was still an excellent site.

We continued on our way and again after a little pause in birding species we came across at first a male Madagascar Paradise Flycatcher and a short while later a female. In a clearing a Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher was heard calling and very quickly pinned down perched on low branches. This was almost the early morning walk over but as we approached the car there was sufficient time for a Rand's Warbler to be seen at the top of one of the spindly branches near park workers.

Analamazaotra Forest Station

At the end of the morning session, Liva our birding guide had suggested we go to another park in the afternoon, namely Analamazaotra which is only about 5 minutes' drive from the accommodation. This was partly due to our success with the birds in Mantadia, and also to give a variation in the species with some lemurs thrown into the mix. The entrance to this more formal part of the forest is grander than the ramshackle hut and manual barrier at Mantadia, with the initial couple of hundred metres along cobbled paths. Early success was actually seeing a skulking Madagascar Forest Rail alongside this path, although still keeping to the shadows. Just before joining the 'Indri Circuit' 3 Grey Bamboo Lemurs (*below*) were easily seen feeding on the pathside bamboo. Continuing along this route unearthed our only Purple Heron of the trip, flying up from the fishponds. Also, along this stretch and in addition to a rather dapper pair of Madagascar Paradise Flycatchers was a small bird party, consisting of at least Tylas Vanga, Long-billed Berniaria, and Nelicourvi Weaver (*below right*).





It was at this point that Liva broke off into the forest and eventually took us to a group of Diademed Sifakas which were ridiculously closely approachable, so we stayed in close quarters to them for some time. He had left us in this wonderful experience for some time before we returned to the main track again to await another Forest Rail, this time eventually crossing in the open in front of us. There was then a bit of a climb within the forest, during which we were eventually shown a brace of Indri resting next to a main trunk directly above us. Then time for an exit to the park, passing a decent group of perched Forest Fodies on the way.

Evening walk V.O.I.M.M.A Community reserve



The second of our 2 evening walks in Andasibe was in a different area to the previous night. It was still only around 10 minutes' drive from the hotel but was based in this community reserve which apparently was also to be the venue for the ultimate morning's birding. It was disheartening to see so many cars and vans parked in the car park and this did actually come to fruition with many torches, headlamps and snakes of people within the enclosed forests which we penetrated. That being said the experience was quite different from the previous evening where rather than being on the road we followed small forest tracks and found a different mix of particularly lemurs and chameleons.

The three picks of the evening were two lemurs and a chameleon. After seeing Indri late in the day today as the representative of the largest lemur, we were also fortunate enough to see a Goodman's Mouse Lemur (*above*) cowering to an inferno of torches blasting from below it. A family of three Eastern Woolly Lemurs (*below*) were a little luckier since they were much higher in the tree and had only us and one other small group as worshipping onlookers. The chameleon was in the form of the largest which is the Parson's, again perched in a bush with torches firing at it from all sides. We did also hear at least two calling Forest Scops Owls and tried in vain to track them down.



Tuesday, 16th

(Morning walk then departure for return flight)

V.O.I.M.M.A Community Reserve



We were due to leave the Andasibe Area no later than 9:00 to 9:30am due to an early evening flight back home, so the couple of hours we managed before then would be just a bonus in normal circumstances. Yet Madagascar had one last welcoming surprise in the birding we did in the last 2½ hours on the island. We again arranged an early breakfast at 6:00am, the earliest the hotel does in normal times, to leave at 6:30am and make the short drive back to the reserve which we had covered the previous evening for the night walk. We stopped short of here on the main road and then entered the forest on one side straight away. Then for the next couple of hours we covered this small area, crossed the main road and then slowly tract through the roadside rainforest.

The initial signs were good when we picked up a pair of Madagascar buzzards almost immediately. A short look around this small part of the forest found us back on the main road again and after Ward's Vanga had been picked out of the canopy over the road, the surprise of a Forest Wood Rail took us aback as it scampered across the tarmac. Liva then did a quick check in the bushes on the opposite side of the road, and we followed quickly after to view a roosting Forest Scops Owl (*below*), which made up for the tantalising sounds we've heard the previous evening. The slow progress, intentionally, through the fairly thick forest was now and again interrupted by such as Spectacled Tetraka, this time seen much more clearly showing the yellow eye-ring and lores which we had missed earlier in Ranomafana. We then heard the call of Red-breasted Coua, one of the only two species which we had not seen. With a little bit of patience and a lot of scanning of the undergrowth in the thick forest we eventually had excellent views for a short time.





There was then a small break in the birding for excellent views of a trio of Indri and baby (*below*). We had been promised good views the previous day and the guide had completed this by having a spotter look for them before we arrived. This was near the end of our trip for the morning, yet this satisfying view of the largest lemur also welcomed two final curtain calls from both the bird world and reptilian world. We had just passed a posing Madagascar Magpie Robin when as one the guide and ourselves picked out in non-breeding plumage a Velvet Asity (*above*), which even he couldn't stop himself shouting "special bird, special bird". We had tried unsuccessfully to find these at Ranomafana but the crippling views of this individual more than made up for the earlier miss. And lastly we almost went past this - a Tree Boa was found on the floor right next to the track obviously leading to extremely good views of what is generally a common snake on the island.



LIST OF SPECIES

BIRDS

White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (~300)		
Knob-billed Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>	
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (1)		
Blue-billed Teal	<i>Spatula hottentota</i>	
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (2+2)		
Meller's Duck	<i>Anas melleri</i>	ENDEMIC
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (2 singles)		
Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>	
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (~500)		
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (group of ~15 on track in front of the moving vehicle)		
Collared Nightjar	<i>Gactornis enarratus</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (2 roosting on forest floor)		
15 Sept Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1 roosting on forest floor)		
Madagascar Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus madagascariensis</i>	Malagasy
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1 churring at a distance)		
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1 churring from top of bare tree within the forest at dusk, then joined by a second in flight around forest clearing)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest - Fenced (2 roosting on the forest floor)		
Malagasy Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus gracilis</i>	Malagasy
9 Sept Isalo Ranch Hotel (2)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (2)		
12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (4)		
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	
7 Sept St Augustin (1)		
Malagasy Black Swift	<i>Apus balstoni</i>	Malagasy
7 Sept St Augustin (7)		
Malagasy Coucal	<i>Centropus toulou</i>	Malagasy
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (2)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1)		
Crested Coua	<i>Coua cristata</i>	ENDEMIC
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (1)		
Verreaux's Coua	<i>Coua verreauxi</i>	ENDEMIC
7 Sept St Augustin (1)		
Blue Coua	<i>Coua caerulea</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana N - Sahamalaotra Track (3)		

Olive-capped Coua	<i>Coua olivaceiceps</i>	ENDEMIC
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)		
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (1)		
Red-fronted Coua	<i>Coua reynaudii</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (1)		
12 Sept Ranomafana N - Sahamalaotra Track (1)		
15 Sept Analamazaotra Forest Station (1)		
Coquerel's Coua	<i>Coua coquereli</i>	ENDEMIC
8 Sept Zombitse-Vohibasia NP (2 separate birds)		
Running Coua	<i>Coua cursor</i>	ENDEMIC
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)		
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (2 separate birds on the track)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (1)		
Giant Coua	<i>Coua gigas</i>	ENDEMIC
8 Sept Zombitse-Vohibasia NP (1 wandering around next to the entrance)		
Red-breasted Coua	<i>Coua serriana</i>	ENDEMIC
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (1 very secretive bird on forest floor)		
Madagascar Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus rochii</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana N - Sahamalaotra Track (1 landed on bare branch above forest near to us)		
Brown Mesite	<i>Mesitornis unicolor</i>	ENDEMIC
12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (2 very secretive birds in the undergrowth)		
Subdesert Mesite	<i>Monias benschi</i>	ENDEMIC
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (The strange habit of this species for freezing when disturbed was shown well by the male here and the female the following morning)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (Female static on an open trunk, followed by a male which flew following being flushed towards the local village in the forest)		
Madagascar Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles personatus</i>	ENDEMIC
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (A singleton was flushed in the open spiny forest, followed by fly by of 3, then group of 6 approached on the open grassland)		
Malagasy Turtle Dove	<i>Nesoenas picturatus</i>	Malagasy
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (3)		
7 Sept Lalandaka Hotel, Anakao (1)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (6)		
15 Sept Analamazaotra Forest Station (1)		
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>	
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (3)		
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (4)		
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (1)		
Madagascar Blue Pigeon	<i>Alectroenas madagascariensis</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana N - Sahamalaotra Track (1)		
12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (3)		
14 Sept Hotel Feon'ny Ala (1)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (4)		
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (1)		

Madagascar Forest Rail	<i>Mentocrex kioloides</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (At least 4 were coaxed in, but only 1 ended up being seen in the open a little way down the track)		
12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (2 seen briefly)		
15 Sept Analamazaotra Forest Station (2 separate birds crossed the track briefly)		
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (1 crossed the open road very quickly)		
Madagascar Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura insularis</i>	ENDEMIC
12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely A pair seen fleetingly in the undergrowth)		
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (22 on the smaller of the two ponds)		
Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1)		
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (~200)		
Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>	
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (~400)		
Madagascar Buttonquail	<i>Turnix nigricollis</i>	ENDEMIC
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1 of the first birds seen, foraging close to)		
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (4 separate birds flying along the track in front of the vehicle)		
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (2 on a roadside pool near the park)		
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (2)		
Madagascar Plover	<i>Anarhynchus thoracicus</i>	ENDEMIC
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (An approachable pair on the edge of the lake)		
Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Anarhynchus pecuarius</i>	
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1 pair, though a little distant)		
7 Sept Honko Community Reserve, Ifaty (4 together on one of the exposed pools)		
White-fronted Plover	<i>Anarhynchus marginatus</i>	
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1)		
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	
7 Sept Honko Community Reserve, Ifaty (1)		
Madagascar Snipe	<i>Gallinago macrodactyla</i>	ENDEMIC
13 Sept D'Ankazomivada Community Reserve (1)		
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1)		
7 Sept Honko Community Reserve, Ifaty (4)		
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (~40, including immatures in nests)		
13 Sept Eco Lodge Les Chambres Du Voyageur, Antsirabe (1 flew over going to roost)		
Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>	
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (~25)		
Dimorphic Egret	<i>Egretta dimorpha</i>	Malagasy
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (~100, all white phase, including immatures in nests)		
9 Sept Isalo Ranch Hotel (2)		
10 Sept Haute Matsiatra (3 dark morphs on journey)		

Little Heron	<i>Butorides atricapilla</i>	
7 Sept Honko Community Reserve, Ifaty (2)		
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (~20)		
Malagasy Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola idea</i>	Malagasy
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (2 flying over pond)		
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	
5 Sept Le Chat'o Hotel, Tana (6); Parc de Tsarasaotra (12)		
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (2)		
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>	
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (~20)		
9 Sept Isalo Ranch Hotel (~50 going to roost)		
13 Sept Eco Lodge Les Chambres Du Voyageur, Antsirabe (67 flying over to roost site)		
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	
15 Sept Analamazaotra Forest Station (1 flew from fish ponds)		
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (1); Isalo Ranch Hotel (1)		
13 Sept D'Ankazomivada Community Reserve (1)		
Madagascar Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides radiatus</i>	ENDEMIC
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (Pair at nest)		
Madagascar Cuckoo-Hawk	<i>Aviceda madagascariensis</i>	ENDEMIC
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1 flew from tree)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (1 harassing Hamerkop)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Telatekely Trail (1)		
12 Sept Ranomafana NP - Telatekely Trail (1)		
Madagascar Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter madagascariensis</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (1 landed on overhead branch in forest)		
Malagasy Harrier	<i>Circus macroscelus</i>	ENDEMIC
13 Sept D'Ankazomivada Community Reserve (1 circling overhead)		
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>	
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (1)		
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (7): Isalo Ranch Hotel (1)		
10 Sept Isalo Ranch Hotel (1); Anja Community Reserve (2)		
13 Sept D'Ankazomivada Community Reserve (7)		
Madagascar Buzzard	<i>Buteo brachypterus</i>	ENDEMIC
12 Sept Ranomafana NP - Telatekely Trail (3)		
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (2)		
White-browed Owl	<i>Athene superciliaris</i>	ENDEMIC
8 Sept Zombitse-Vohibasia NP (Pair)		
Rainforest Scops Owl	<i>Otus rutilus</i>	ENDEMIC
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (1)		
Cuckoo-roller	<i>Leptosomus discolor</i>	ENDEMIC
12 Sept Ranomafana NP (2 flying over treetops from parking/reception area); Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (2 pairs within the forest)		

Madagascar Hoopoe	<i>Upupa marginata</i>	ENDEMIC
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)		
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (5)		
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (3)		
9 Sept Isalo Ranch Hotel (1)		
Short-legged Ground Roller	<i>Brachypteracias leptosomus</i>	ENDEMIC
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1)		
Scaly Ground Roller	<i>Geobiastes squamiger</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (1)		
12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (1 – different bird to previous day’s sighting)		
Pitta-like Ground Roller	<i>Atelornis pittoides</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (3 at same location)		
Rufous-headed Ground Roller	<i>Atelornis crossleyi</i>	ENDEMIC
12 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (The one seen in the undergrowth for a short time at the end of the day proved to be the most difficult Ground Roller to see)		
Long-tailed Ground Roller	<i>Uratelornis chimaera</i>	ENDEMIC
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)		
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (Pair – same location as previous sighting)		
Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis madagascariensis</i>	ENDEMIC
12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (1)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1)		
Malagasy Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis vintsioides</i>	Malagasy
13 Sept Manandoana (Ambositra to Antsirabe) (1 perched on rice paddies)		
Olive Bee-eater	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>	
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (2)		
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (5)		
7 Sept Honko Community Reserve, Ifaty (3)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (1)		
14 Sept Hotel Feon'ny Ala (6)		
Malagasy Kestrel	<i>Falco newtoni</i>	Malagasy
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (Pair)		
6 Sept Bamboo Club, Ifaty (Pair); Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1)		
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (2)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (Pair)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (4)		
Greater Vasa Parrot	<i>Coracopsis vasa</i>	Malagasy
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (2)		
Lesser Vasa Parrot	<i>Coracopsis nigra</i>	ENDEMIC
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (2)		
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (2)		
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (1)		
Grey-headed Lovebird	<i>Agapornis canus</i>	ENDEMIC
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (3)		
7 Sept Honko Community Reserve, Ifaty (6)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (3)		

Velvet Asity	<i>Philepitta castanea</i>	ENDEMIC
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (1 non-breeding plumaged male)		
Common Sunbird-Asity	<i>Neodrepanis coruscans</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP—Sahamalaotra Track (pair)		
Red-tailed Vanga	<i>Calicalicus madagascariensis</i>	ENDEMIC
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (3); Zombitse-Vohibasia NP (2)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (1); Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (1)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1)		
Red-shouldered Vanga	<i>Calicalicus rufocarpalis</i>	ENDEMIC
7 Sept St Augustin (Pair)		
Hook-billed Vanga	<i>Vanga curvirostris</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (1)		
Lafresnaye's Vanga	<i>Xenopirostris xenopirostris</i>	ENDEMIC
7 Sept St Augustin (1 flew across main track)		
Pollen's Vanga	<i>Xenopirostris polleni</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (4 calling/displaying in a group)		
Sickle-billed Vanga	<i>Falcula palliata</i>	ENDEMIC
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (Pair)		
White-headed Vanga	<i>Artamella viridis</i>	ENDEMIC
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (2)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (3)		
Chabert Vanga	<i>Leptopterus Chabert</i>	ENDEMIC
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (1); Ranomafana NP – Car park/reception (2)		
Madagascar Blue Vanga	<i>Cyanolanius madagascarinus</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (3)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1)		
Rufous Vanga	<i>Schetba rufa</i>	ENDEMIC
12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (2)		
Tylas Vanga	<i>Tylas eduardi</i>	ENDEMIC
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1); Analamazaotra Forest Station (1)		
Nuthatch Vanga	<i>Hypositta corallirostris</i>	ENDEMIC
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (Pair)		
Common Newtonia	<i>Newtonia brunneicauda</i>	ENDEMIC
7 Sept St Augustin (1); Reniala Spiny Forest (2)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (1); Zombitse-Vohibasia NP (2)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (4)		
Archbold's Newtonia	<i>Newtonia archboldi</i>	ENDEMIC
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (Pair calling, not showing rufous markings well)		
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (singleton – well marked)		
Ward's Flycatcher	<i>Pseudobias wardi</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (2 in mixed flock)		
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (3)		

Crossley's Vanga	<i>Mystacornis crossleyi</i>	ENDEMIC
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (1 – very secretive in ground litter under cover)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (2 separate birds, also very secretive)		
Madagascar Cuckooshrike	<i>Ceblepyris cinereus</i>	ENDEMIC
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (2)		
12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (1)		
13 Sept D'Ankazomivada Community Reserve (1)		
Crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus forficatus</i>	Malagasy
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (2)		
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (6)		
7 Sept St Augustin (2); Reniala Spiny Forest (2)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (7)		
9 Sept Isalo Ranch Hotel (1)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (2)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1)		
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (2)		
Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone mutata</i>	Malagasy
8 Sept Zombitse-Vohibasia NP (1 white morph male)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely (1 male)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (Pair); Analamazaotra Forest Station (Pair)		
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (1 male)		
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (6)		
6 Sept Bamboo Club, Ifaty (6)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (3); Isalo Ranch Hotel (4)		
10 Sept Anja Community Reserve (4)		
Madagascar Lark	<i>Eremopterix hova</i>	ENDEMIC
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1)		
7 Sept Honko Community Reserve, Ifaty (2)		
Malagasy Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>	Malagasy
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (1); Reniala Spiny Forest (3)		
7 Sept Lalandaka Hotel, Anakao (1); Reniala Spiny Forest (6)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (1)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (4)		
10 Sept Isalo Ranch Hotel (2); Anja Community Reserve (2)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (4)		
12 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (2)		
13 Sept D'Ankazomivada Community Reserve (1)		
14 Sept Hotel Feon'ny Ala (4)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (10)		
Mascarene Martin	<i>Phedina borbonica</i>	Malagasy
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1 positive ID amongst <i>hirundines</i>)		
10 Sept Renomafana Night Walk (4 roosting in 2 holes in rock face)		
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (6)		
Malagasy Brush Warbler	<i>Nesillas typica</i>	Malagasy
7 Sept Lalandaka Hotel, Anakao (4)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (2)		
12 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (2)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (2); Analamazaotra Forest Station (3)		
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (1)		

Subdesert Brush Warbler	<i>Nesillas lantzii</i>	ENDEMIC
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1 roosting on night walk)		
Long-billed Bernieria	<i>Bernieria madagascariensis</i>	ENDEMIC
8 Sept Zombitse-Vohibasia NP (1)		
15 Sept Analamazaotra Forest Station (1)		
Spectacled Tetraka	<i>Xanthomixis Zosterops</i>	ENDEMIC
12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (1 attending nest)		
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (2)		
Rand's Warbler	<i>Randia pseudozosterops</i>	ENDEMIC
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1 at top of tree)		
Common Jery	<i>Neomixis tenella</i>	ENDEMIC
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)		
6 Sept Bamboo Club, Ifaty (2); Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (2)		
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (3)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (2)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (1)		
10 Sept Anja Community Reserve (2)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely (4)		
12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely (2)		
Green Jery	<i>Neomixis viridis</i>	ENDEMIC
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (2)		
Madagascar Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cherina</i>	ENDEMIC
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (1)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (2)		
Malagasy White-eye	<i>Zosterops maderaspatanus</i>	Malagasy
5 Sept Parc de Tsarasaotra (8)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (1)		
13 Sept Eco Lodge Les Chambres Du Voyageur, Antsirabe (2)		
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (1)		
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	
5 Sept Le Chat'o Hotel, Tana (9); Parc de Tsarasaotra (18)		
6 Sept Bamboo Club, Ifaty (4)		
7 Sept Lalandaka Hotel, Anakao (8)		
9 Sept Isalo Ranch Hotel (2)		
13 Sept Eco Lodge Les Chambres Du Voyageur, Antsirabe (1)		
Madagascar Starling	<i>Hartlaubius auratus</i>	ENDEMIC
14 Sept Hotel Feon'ny Ala (2)		
Madagascar Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus albospecularis</i>	ENDEMIC
7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (2)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (2)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (1)		
10 Sept Anja Community Reserve (1)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (3)		
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (2)		
Forest Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola sharpie</i>	ENDEMIC
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (Pair at waterfall)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (very brief female on track)		
Littoral Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola imerina</i>	ENDEMIC
7 Sept Lalandaka Hotel, Anakao (pair early morning in grounds of accommodation)		

African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	
13 Sept Amoron'i Mania (from Ambositra to Antsirabe) (2 males)		
14 Sept Hotel Feon'ny Ala (1)		
Souimanga Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris sovimanga</i>	<i>Malagasy</i>
5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)		
6 Sept Bamboo Club, Ifaty (5)		
7 Sept St Augustin (4)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (7)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (2)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (1)		
12 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (1)		
13 Sept Eco Lodge Les Chambres Du Voyageur, Antsirabe (1)		
Malagasy Green Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris notatus</i>	<i>Malagasy</i>
7 Sept St Augustin (1)		
9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (1)		
11 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (1)		
13 Sept Eco Lodge Les Chambres Du Voyageur, Antsirabe (2)		
Nelicourvi Weaver	<i>Ploceus nelicourvi</i>	<i>ENDEMIC</i>
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (pair)		
16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (pair)		
Sakalava Weaver	<i>Ploceus sakalava</i>	<i>ENDEMIC</i>
6 Sept Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (~20)		
7 Sept St Augustin (5)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (~50)		
Red Fody	<i>Foudia madagascariensis</i>	<i>Malagasy</i>
5 Sept Le Chat'o Hotel, Tananarive, Analamanga (10); Parc de Tsarasaotra (~20); Reniala Spiny Forest (2)		
6 Sept Bamboo Club, Ifaty (10); Lac Tsimanampetsotsa (~50)		
7 Sept Lalandaka Hotel, Anakao (~20)		
8 Sept Reniala Forest – Fenced (3)		
13 Sept Eco Lodge Les Chambres Du Voyageur, Antsirabe (5)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (4)		
Forest Fody	<i>Foudia omissa</i>	<i>ENDEMIC</i>
15 Sept Analamazaotra Forest Station (~20)		
Madagascar Mannikin	<i>Lepidopygia nana</i>	<i>ENDEMIC</i>
5 Sept Le Chat'o Hotel, Tananarive, Analamanga (2)		
7 Sept Honko Community Reserve, Ifaty (1)		
10 Sept Isalo Ranch Hotel (2)		
13 Sept Eco Lodge Les Chambres Du Voyageur, Antsirabe (6)		
Madagascar Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flaviventris</i>	<i>ENDEMIC</i>
5 Sept Le Chat'o Hotel, Tananarive, Analamanga (2)		
13 Sept D'Ankazomivada Community Reserve (2)		
15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1)		

MAMMALS

Lesser Hedgehog Tenrec

Echinops telfairi

5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)

Furry-eared Dwarf Lemur

Cheirogaleus crossleyi

14 Sept Hotel Feon'ny Ala (3)

Goodman's Mouse Lemur

Microcebus lehilahytsara

15 Sept VOIMMA Night Walk (1)

Grey Mouse Lemur

Microcebus murinus

5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)

7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)

Brown Mouse Lemur

Microcebus rufus

10 Sept Ranomafana Night Walk (1)

14 Sept Hotel Feon'ny Ala (1)

Eastern Woolly Lemur

Avahi laniger

15 Sept VOIMMA Night Walk (3 including baby)

Indri

Indri indri

15 Sept Analamazaotra Forest Station (2)

16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (3 plus baby)

Diademed Sifaka

Propithecus diadema

15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (4); Analamazaotra Forest Station (10)

Milne-Edwards's Sifaka

Propithecus edwardsi

11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (3)

Verreaux's Sifaka

Propithecus verreauxi

8 Sept Zombitse-Vohibasia NP (4, 3)

9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (7)

Brown Lemur

Eulemur fulvus

15 Sept Analamazaotra Forest Station (1)

Red-bellied Lemur

Eulemur rubriventer

11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (3)

12 Sept Ranomafana NP - Sahamalaotra Track (1)

Red-fronted Brown Lemur

Eulemur rufifrons

9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (1)

11 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (1)

12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (1)

Golden Bamboo Lemur

Haplemur aureus

12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (3)

Grey Bamboo Lemur

Haplemur griseus

15 Sept Analamazaotra Forest Station (3)

Ring-tailed Lemur

Lemur catta

9 Sept Isalo NP - Namaza Canyon (20, 25)

10 Sept Anja Community Reserve (5, 9)

Black-and-white Ruffed Lemur

Varecia variegata

15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1)

Zombitse Sportive Lemur

Lepilemur hubbardi

8 Sept Zombitse-Vohibasia NP (1)

White-footed Sportive Lemur

Lepilemur leucopus

5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (2 separate males and female)

SNAKES

Madagascar Tree Boa

Sanzinia madagascariensis

16 Sept V.O.I. M.M.A (Community Reserve) (1)

Mahafaly Sand Snake

Psammophis subtaeniatus

7 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)

Madagascar Cat-eyed Snake

Madagascarophis meridionalis

6 Sept Bamboo Club, Ifaty (1 on parking space near reception after dusk)

OTHER REPTILES

Warty Chameleon

Furcifer verrucosus

5 Sept Reniala Spiny Forest (1)



Oustalet's chameleon

Furcifer oustaleti

8 Sept Zombitse (1)

10 Sept Anja Community Reserve (1)



O'Shaughnessy's chameleon

Calumma oshaughnessyi

10 Sept Ranomafana NP (1)



Big-nosed Chameleon

Calumma nasutum

10 Sept Ranomafana NP (1 adult, 1 juvenile)

14 Sept Hotel Feon'ny Ala (2)

15 Sept PN Mantadia - Circuit Tsakoka (1)



Short-nosed Chameleon

Calumma gastrotaenia

10 Sept Ranomafana NP (1 adult, 1 juvenile)



Blue-legged Chameleon

Calumma crypticum

10 Sept Ranomafana NP (1)



Parson's chameleon

Calumma parsonii

14 Sept Hotel Feon'ny Ala (juvenile)

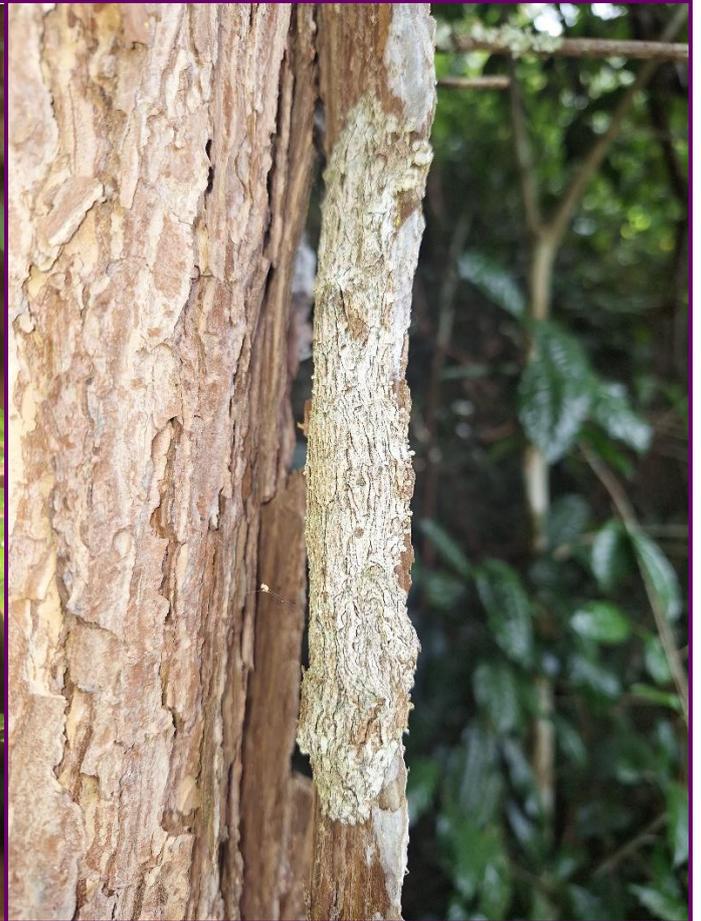
15 Sept VOIMMA Night Walk (1)



Satanic Leaf-tailed Gecko

Uroplatus phantasticus

12 Sept Ranomafana NP – Telatekely Trail (Pair)



Mossy Leaf-Tailed Gecko

Uroplatus sikorae

15 Sept Analamazaotra Forest Station (1)