

TIME
LIDE



MADAGASCAR

Begin Your Journey to Nosy Komba



CONTENTS

- + ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
- + TRAVEL INSURANCE
- + HEALTH AND SAFETY
- + WHAT TO PACK
- + WEATHER AND SEASONS
- + NEED TO KNOW

CONTACT INFORMATION

TIME + TIDE OFFICES - CAPE TOWN	+27 87 700 6555
TIME + TIDE TSARA KOMBA - NOSY KOMBA	+261 32 074 4040
AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY	+27 87 700 6542



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

VISAS

Visas can be purchased on arrival.

- + It is necessary for most foreign nationals to have a visa for entry into Madagascar
- + Visas can be purchased online prior to arrival for some nations, but we recommend obtaining your visa on arrival.
- + You will be asked to present your passport and proof of a return flight (a printed flight itinerary is best).
- + Your passport must be valid for at least six months after your departure date from Madagascar.
- + Time + Tide cannot accept responsibility for any disruptions caused by visa issues.
- + Please check with your country's embassy for the latest visa information.

CURRENT VISA FEES

Visa fees are subject to change. Prior to travel, please confirm the cost of your visa.

Foreign passport holders into Madagascar:

- + Single entry: US \$10.00

Travellers obtaining a visa on arrival are recommended to check their passports after it has been stamped by the immigration officer to ensure that the correct number of days of stay have been authorised to cover your whole stay in Madagascar. We cannot accept responsibility for any disruptions caused by visa issues.



INSURANCE

Travel insurance is not required by Madagascan authorities. However, if guests are passing through Mauritius, it may be a requirement from the Mauritian authorities - even if guests are in transit - agents/guests are to please check this requirement prior to departure.

With any travel, we strongly advise that you take out comprehensive insurance before departing for Madagascar. The policy should cover the full dates of travel, including international flights. We recommend obtaining a policy that covers emergency evacuation, medical emergencies, repatriation expenses, and damage/theft/loss of personal luggage/money/goods. Depending on your personal circumstances, it may be advisable to obtain a policy that covers cancellation for any reason. Time + Tide is unable to accept liability for any issues that may arise of the aforementioned eventualities.

Time + Tide carries public and passenger liability insurance for all guests staying at Tsara Komba and travelling in our boats. However, Time + Tide cannot be held responsible for loss or damage to any personal possessions whilst guests are in our care.

We do our utmost to ensure your experience is entirely safe and enjoyable, however we do operate in a very remote location and must account for the element of unpredictability associated with that. Guests are urged to take note of all safety advice and read the safety information at Tsara Komba.

CANCELLATION AND CURTAILMENT

- + If for any reason, you cancel a trip close to your arrival date, our cancellation policy will apply.
- + Should you have to leave before your holiday is finished, we cannot refund you the cost of the portion of the package you do not complete. In the eventuality of this happening, insurance may cover you, depending on the reason for cancellation and curtailment. As previously mentioned, depending on your personal circumstances, it may be advisable to obtain a travel insurance policy that covers cancellation for any reason.



HEALTH

The [Disembarkation Card and Declaration of Health](#) form needs to be completed for entry into Madagascar.

At Time + Tide, whilst we are in no way qualified to give medical advice, what follows here are a few tips and guidelines for staying healthy travelling in Madagascar. Please note that a travel insurance policy covering medical emergencies and emergency evacuation is strongly recommended before travelling to Madagascar. Please consult a medical professional for advice.

Time + Tide Tsara Komba has basic first aid facilities and staff on hand who have first aid training, but it must be stressed that our staff are not trained or equipped to handle serious medical situations. You are strongly advised to consult your doctor prior to travel and get accurate, up-to-date advice on inoculation and anti-malarial requirements.

MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Prior to your arrival, please notify us of any medical conditions you have that may impact your safety or well-being. This includes any food, drug or environmental allergies, especially nuts, bees, or any other commonly encountered allergens.

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

If you have specific dietary requirements, please let us know before you arrive. With prior warning, we can accommodate most reasonable requests for alternate dietary options.

INOCULATIONS

No inoculation against any disease is required to enter Madagascar. Inoculations generally recommended for Madagascar include MMR, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, varicella (chicken pox), typhoid, and polio. Inoculations sometimes recommended include tuberculosis, hepatitis A and B, rabies, cholera, and meningococcal meningitis. It is advisable to begin any round of inoculations you may need several months prior to travel to ensure the inoculations have sufficient time to become effective before travelling. If you have travelled from a country where yellow fever occurs, then you may be asked to produce an International Certificate of Vaccination when entering Madagascar. Please be prepared accordingly.



COMMON MEDICAL CONCERNS

MALARIA

Malaria is caused by a mosquito borne parasite. It is endemic across parts of Madagascar, but Tsara Komba currently has no reported cases. We very strongly urge guests to consult with their doctor to determine which option is best for them. When visiting the national parks or nature reserves on the Madagascan mainland, we recommend that guests use a combination of physical and topical measures to maximise their protection. Guests are recommended to wear clothing that covers limbs and to also liberally apply insect repellent to reduce the occurrence of bites. The incubation period for the malarial parasite is 12 - 14 days. If contracted, it is important to get treatment quickly. If flu-like symptoms develop, we recommend guests seek medical attention immediately.

YELLOW FEVER

There is no risk for yellow fever in Madagascar. If you have recently travelled to an affected country, then you will be required to present an International Certificate of Vaccination on arrival into Madagascar. Please be prepared accordingly.

DEHYDRATION

It is advisable to drink at least two litres of fluids per day. In addition to water, it is important to have sufficient salt and sugar intake.

DIARRHOEA

This is a common problem that can arise when travelling abroad. Tsara Komba has very high levels of hygiene, but sometimes travellers can react to a change in diet or water. We advise you bring suitable medication, just in case. We provide fresh, bottled water to guests each day and strongly recommend that guests do not drink water from the taps.

SUNBURN

The African sun can be very strong and sunburn can occur through clouds and even a light shirt. We advise you use high strength sun cream and wear a hat.



SAFETY

Your safety is very important to us, so while staying at Tsara Komba, please adhere to any safety instructions provided by our team. We offer a wide range of activities, which carry varying levels of risk. All activities are undertaken at your own risk. When participating in activities, it is important to listen to your body and recognise if you are feeling unwell, particularly when scuba diving or hiking in warm weather.

WILDLIFE

The wildlife in Madagascar is generally non-threatening. There are non-venomous snakes and no large terrestrial predators. When participating in any wildlife viewing activities, it is important to respect the wildlife. Do not approach, touch or feed the wildlife and keep noise to a minimum.

SCUBA DIVING

The Nosy Be Archipelago is a spectacular destination for scuba diving. Whether you are a novice or an experienced diver, it is vital that you follow all safety measures, briefings and instructions provided by the dive masters. Please ensure to bring along your PADI or other certification in order to dive. If you have not dived in the past six months, you will be required to conduct a refresher dive with the diving team prior to doing additional dives. We do not have a compression chamber on Nosy Komba, with the closest compression chamber being located on Nosy Be.

While diving, it is possible to encounter marine life that is potentially dangerous. The waters around Tsara Komba are home to animals such as napolean wrasse, humpback whales, manta rays and moray eels. If encountered in the wrong context, they can pose a threat to divers.



WHAT TO PACK

CLOTHES

Tsara Komba has a warm climate and offers a laundry service, so you do not need to bring large amounts of clothes with you. We suggest a combination of beachy clothing, casual evening wear and a few outfits for hikes and other adventurous activities.

- + Shirts or T-shirts
- + Shorts or skirts
- + Swimming suits + beach cover up
- + Lightweight, long trousers
- + Lightweight, long-sleeved shirt (good for covering up in the sun)
- + Casual or dressy casual evening clothes
- + Lightweight sweater + lightweight jacket (in cooler months - May to Nov)
- + Sun hat
- + Sunglasses + case and cleaning cloth
- + Light scarf
- + Sandals or flip flops
- + Lightweight walking shoes
- + Undergarments + socks

PERSONAL CARE

- + General toiletries
- + High strength sunscreen
- + Moisturiser + lip salve (with SPF)
- + Insect repellent
- + Any personal medication, with original labels if prescription
- + Simple personal first aid kit, including antihistamine cream + tablets
- + Glasses or contact lenses if needed + always bring a spare pair in case of damage
- + Feminine hygiene products if needed



WHAT TO PACK

GENERAL

- + Small day bag for bringing out on activities
- + International plug adaptor
- + Binoculars (one pair per person recommended)
- + Mobile phone charger
- + Luggage ID tags
- + Luggage locks (ensure they adhere to airline regulations)
- + Good book to read
- + Journal + pen to jot down your favourite memories and sightings
- + Crossword puzzles or sudoku

DOCUMENTS

- + Passport
- + Health certificates if needed
- + Airline tickets
- + Spending money + bank cards (be sure to alert your bank of your travels)
- + Proof of travel insurance

SCUBA DIVERS

- + Diving certification cards
- + Any personal diving gear if desired
- + Underwater camera equipment if desired

CAMERA EQUIPMENT (FOR ENTHUSIASTS)

- + A telephoto lens (200-300 mm recommended)
- + Wide angle lens for landscape photography
- + Tripod for shooting in low lighting
- + Spare memory cards (you can't have too many!)
- + Camera cleaning equipment
- + Dust proof bag + resealable zip bags for smaller equipment
- + Spare batteries + charger
- + Underwater casings if desired



WEATHER & SEASONS

We have two distinct seasons, each offering unique activities. Our team will recommend experiences tailored to your interests and the time of year. For further information, please refer to our website.

MID NOVEMBER TO APRIL

During this period, the days are warm and tropical with occasional showers. This is the best time to see Hawksbill Turtles laying their eggs, swim with sea turtles at Nosy Sakatia, and join guided nature walks to observe lemurs and other wildlife.

MAY TO MID-NOVEMBER

From May to mid-November, the weather is cooler with comfortable temperatures, ideal for wildlife enthusiasts. You can witness migrating humpback whales in the Mozambican Channel, Green Turtles laying their eggs, and swim with whale sharks from September to December. This season is also excellent for scuba diving, offshore fishing, and guided nature walks for lemurs and other wildlife.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Min Daily Temperature</i>	<i>Max Daily Temperature</i>	<i>Average Monthly Rainfall</i>
JANUARY	23°C / 73°F	31°C / 88°F	465 mm
FEBRUARY	23°C / 73°F	31°C / 88°F	425 mm
MARCH	23°C / 73°F	32°C / 90°F	285 mm
APRIL	23°C / 73°F	32°C / 90°F	140 mm
MAY	20°C / 68°F	30°C / 86°F	60 mm
JUNE	20°C / 68°F	29°C / 84°F	50 mm
JULY	20°C / 68°F	29°C / 84°F	35 mm
AUGUST	20°C / 68°F	30°C / 86°F	40 mm
SEPTEMBER	20°C / 68°F	30°C / 86°F	40 mm
OCTOBER	21°C / 71°F	31°C / 88°F	95 mm
NOVEMBER	23°C / 73°F	32°C / 90°F	190 mm
DECEMBER	23°C / 73°F	33°C / 91°F	360 mm



NEED TO KNOW

GETTING TO TSARA KOMBA

Access to Tsara Komba is by boat from either Helle Ville Port on Nosy Be or from Ankify on the mainland. Guests arriving at Nosy Be airport will take a transfer by vehicle to the port and the Tsara Komba boat and guide will meet the guests on arrival at the port to transfer them by boat to Tsara Komba. The boat transfer is approximately 30 to 40 minutes. The transfer time from Ankify on the mainland is approximately 15 to 20 minutes.

Be sure to have your camera ready - it's a very scenic boat ride in the Nosy Be Archipelago.

in the event of inclement weather, guests may need to overnight on Nosy Be.

COMMUNICATION

At Tsara Komba, we have very limited wifi only available in the main area. Please note that the wifi is island speed. If you are using a local SIM card, the signal is fairly good but may be limited at times. We strongly believe that unplugging from the hectic pace of modern life and reconnecting with nature and each other is a central part of the Time + Tide experience. We encourage you to disconnect during your stay and enjoy the wonders of the lodge and northern Madagascar.

CHARGING

Madagascar runs on 220 volts. The lodge is equipped with Type C European plug points. We do have an international adaptor available, but it is advisable to bring one if required. We operate on generator power.

CURRENCY

Ariary is the local currency in Madagascar, and we accept payment for additional extras in either Ariary or Euro's. Payment of additional expenses such as boutique purchases, beverages, activities and spa treatments is only required at the end of one's stay, prior to your departure. Tsara Komba accepts Visa and Mastercard cards (Amex and Diners cards are not accepted). Malagasy tax applies on all additional purchases at Tsara Komba.



NEED TO KNOW

GRATUITIES

When staying at Tsara Komba, tipping is entirely at your discretion. If you wish to tip, we suggest an amount of \$15 - \$30 per person, per day. Our employees work as a team to make your stay at Tsara Komba a magical experience. As such, all tips are equally distributed throughout the entire team, both those you have and haven't seen.

Before your departure, you may place any tips into an envelope and leave it at the front desk for the manager to distribute.

DRONES

Tsara Komba has a No Drone Flying Policy which prohibits the use of Drones, Quadcopters and Terrestrial UAV's at the lodge, this extends to aerial UAV's, so-called drones and beetle cams which are terrestrial.

Operated irresponsibly and unethically, drones can:

- + Disturb wildlife and conflict with Tsara Komba's conservation initiatives.
- + Incur legal liability for breaking laws such as invasion of privacy and other laws enforced by authorities if needed.
- + Cause injury to guests and staff.
- + Cause damage to property.
- + Impact on the experience of other guests.

Any guest thus wishing to use a drone during their travels in Madagascar, outside of Tsara Komba, needs to ensure that they have researched the country's regulations on drones. It is imperative that they gain permission from the applicable Civil Aviation Authorities and all private properties for such activities before entering the country, as failing to do so may result in the confiscation of the drone or even prosecution.

TIME
LIDE



*Time and tide wait for no man,
start your journey today.*

resa@highspiritlodges.com
tsarakomba.com

v20240527