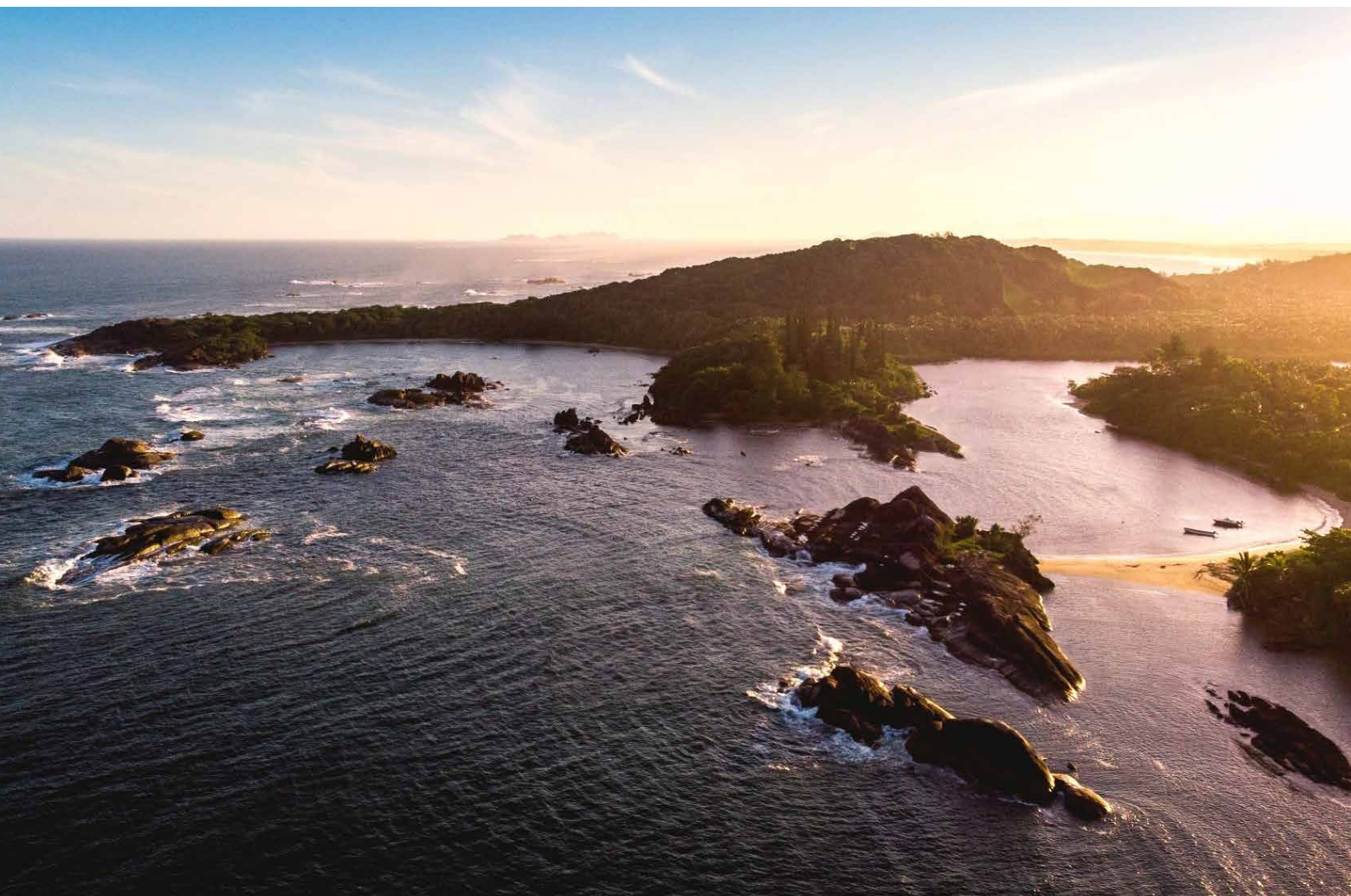




MANAFIAFY
FOREST LODGE

ACTIVITIES LIST



1

TERRESTRIAL ACTIVITIES

DAY WALK IN THE COASTAL FORESTS

2 - 4 hrs

There are several protected forests around the lodge, the largest of which is the Forest of S9 (3km from the lodge). Choose whether to walk to the forest and return by vehicle or walk both ways so as to see the local villages.

The forests are a rich littoral habitat with a number of important micro-endemics found only in Sainte Luce, such as the Manafafy Palm and Green Day Gecko.

Walk in the coastal rainforest, viewing groups of red-collared lemur foraging for food as they leap through the rainforest canopy. These red-collared lemurs are endemic to south-eastern Madagascar, live in groups of up to 20 individuals, and are active largely at dawn and dusk. This is also a great time for birding, with the emphasis being on the Crested Coua, Giant Coua, Hook-billed Vanga, Lesser and Greater Vassa Parrots.



NIGHT WALK IN THE COASTAL FOREST

1 - 2 hrs

Accompanied by highly trained guides, explore the last protected expanse of coastal rainforest in Southern Madagascar. With the aid of a torchlight, you may come across the Europlatus (Leaf-tailed Gecko), or a sleepy Fat-Tailed dwarf lemur. You will certainly see local favourites such as Mouse and Woolly Lemur. Finding reptiles and amphibians is often easier by torchlight and your guides know where to look, so luck should be with you!

BEACH WALK AND PICNIC

1 - 4 hrs

We recommend taking a stroll along 10-mile beach, a stunning stretch of wild beach opposite the lodge and accessed by boat from the lodge or by adding this activity onto the mangrove boat trip.

The beach is uninhabited save the occasional overnight camp for local fishermen. On one side it is protected by coastal forest, while the other a view which runs unbroken all the way to Antarctica.

We are happy to meet you on the beach with a picnic lunch and snorkelling gear to swim in 'The Aquarium', a good local snorkelling spot.



MADAGASCAR FLYING FOXES

2 - 3 hrs

About a 25mins drive from the lodge, in the forest of S17, we have a roost of Malagasy Flying Foxes. These magnificent creatures (nearly 2m wingspan) are of the fruit bat family and a Malagasy endemic. We can head up to the roost in the late afternoon with a 15min stroll through the forest to where we can see them take-off for a night of feasting on fruits in the forests. It is an incredible experience and weather permitting you will experience a wonderful sundowner as the sun sets behind the Anosian Mountains.

2

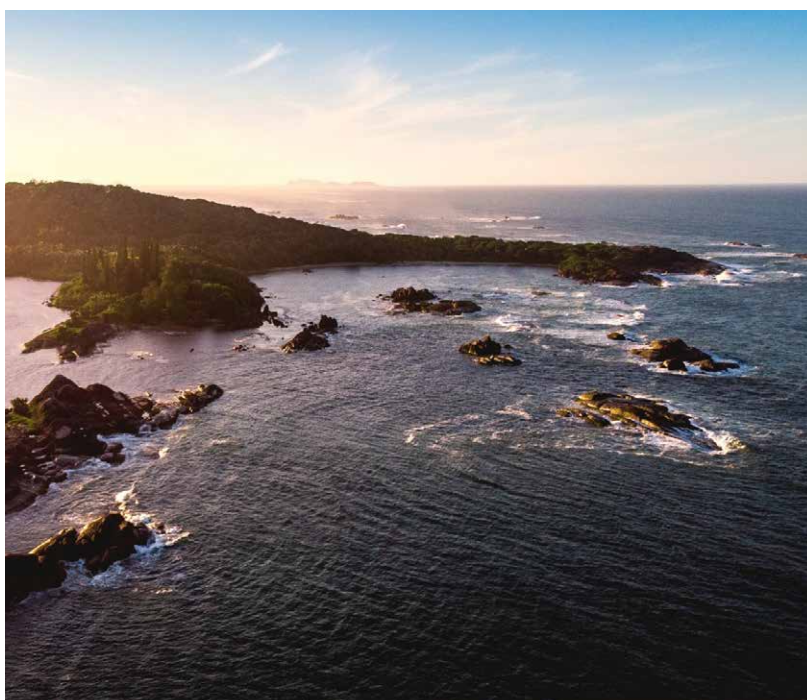
WATER-BASED AND SEA ACTIVITIES

MANGROVES BY BOAT

2 - 3 hrs

A morning trip by motorboat into the nearby mangrove for some birdwatching and photography is a must. Ideal for botanists, landscape photographers and adventure seekers, this 40 km mangrove stretches from Manafiafy to Fort Dauphin with the magnificent Anosy mountain range in the backdrop.

Travel from the lodges' pontoon through the mangroves either before breakfast (for serious birders) or slightly later for a leisurely morning. Endemic birds include the Madagascar Malachite Kingfisher, Green Pigeon, Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher, Madagascar Harrier Hawk, Madagascar Crested Ibis and Blue Coua.



MANGROVE OR SEA KAYAKING

1 - 8 hrs

We have several kayaks available at the lodge and your guide will be happy to take you out through the mangroves and inland waterways to experience nature in silence and tranquility!

When seas are calm and if you are sufficiently fit, go out into the bay and possibly to one of the islands. For those who are keen, we can organise picnic lunches for full day trips. Life jackets, dry bags and drinking water are provided.

WHALE WATCHING

SEASONAL & PAYABLE EXTRA
1 - 3 hrs

Every year between Mid-June and Mid-October, Humpback Whales migrate North from their feeding grounds in the cold Southern Ocean to the warmer waters off Madagascar to mate and give birth to their young. Manafiafy is the first place in Madagascar where their arrival is seen and last place to wave them goodbye as they head back south.

Leave before breakfast to look for the whales. We typically stay near them until guests have had a good sighting. We also regularly see dolphins with occasional sightings of Southern Right whales.

Due to possible large winter swells, we may not be able to venture out every day. Manafiafy Forest Lodge is also equipped with an onshore whale watching tower, so for those without sea-legs, you can enjoy the early morning and late afternoon breaching.



FISHING BY MOTORBOAT

PAYABLE EXTRA
3 - 5 hrs

For those who wish to experience fishing in the southern Indian Ocean, we have great fish such as Maha-Mahi, King Mackerell, Dorado, Wahoo, Dogtooth Tuna, Giant Trevally and Yellowfin Tuna. This activity is dependent on sea conditions, wind and swell.



3

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

STITCH TOUR

1 - 2 hrs

Visit the stitch project and local woodworking shop to interact with the local Antanosy community. Stitch was created by the NGO **SEED Madagascar** to provide local women with sustainable livelihoods by training them in embroidery, English, and business skills. Embroidery is a traditional Malagasy skill which the women have used to make beautiful purses, belts and much more.



VILLAGE WALK

1 - 2 hrs

Our neighbouring village of Manafiafy is an interesting fishing community. Enjoy a walk to the village to learn about the local Antanosy and Anteshaka people, their traditions and culture and how they live. We can visit the local school in term-time and then admire the arrival of the fish-laden fishing boats as loud and hurried negotiation for fish takes place. Choose a fish for your upcoming meal – nothing fresher than that!



SPECIAL ACTIVITIES AND SURPRISE MEALS

As an all-inclusive property, we are able to cater for special requests and are more than happy to assist with a birthday meal or romantic picnic lunch with bubbles and oysters or grilled lobster. These activities are fully included in the cost of your stay and we will try whenever possible to offer a surprise meal or sunset drinks, even if there are no special events you need to celebrate!



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