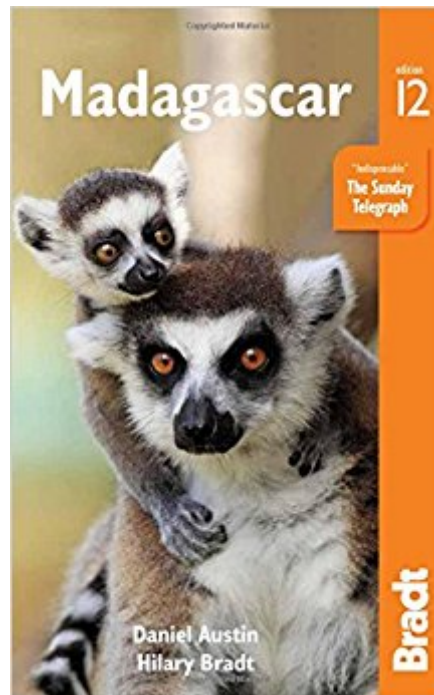




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# Madagascar (Bradt Travel Guide Madagascar)



## Synopsis

A new, thoroughly updated 12th edition of Bradt's Madagascar, the leading and most comprehensive guide to this unique island nation, written by Hilary Bradt, who first visited in 1976 and has returned roughly 35 times, and Daniel Austin, who has visited 12 times and continues to travel there annually. Bradt's Madagascar is by far the most thorough guide to the country in English and is written and updated by established experts whose unparalleled knowledge of Madagascar combines with contributions from over 50 experts in a book which has been the most authoritative guide to the country for three decades. It covers national parks and protected areas and includes itineraries to suit all interests and budgets, plus details of around 1,000 hotels and restaurants. Madagascar is like nowhere else on earth. It is fascinating not only zoologically and botanically, but culturally, linguistically, historically and geologically. This vast island is the fourth largest in the world and also the oldest. This is part of the reason why it has evolved into an incredible hotspot for biodiversity, with a truly unique flora and fauna that is more than 80% endemic to the island, and with new species being described virtually on a daily basis. Madagascar is also the only place where you can see wild lemurs. Almost a quarter of the world's 450-or-so primates exist only here. And Madagascar is the world's largest grower of vanilla orchids, the bulk of which is supplied to the USA for flavouring ice cream and Coca Cola. With Bradt's Madagascar you can visit tropical rainforest and seek out its incredible flora and fauna; explore the otherworldly eroded limestone spires, most famously at Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park; see Madagascar's most striking landscape; discover the beach-fringed islands around Nosy Be with their fabulous scuba diving, snorkelling, kayaking, whale-watching and fishing opportunities; and make the most of a host of adventuring and sporting possibilities, including surfing, windsurfing, kitesurfing, rock climbing, tree climbing, caving, river trips, mountain biking, distance running, quad biking, trekking and hiking. Also covered are the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ambohimanga; the renowned Avenue des Baobabs, one of the country's most photographed scenes, and information on the best birdwatching spots: Madagascar has almost 300 avian species, with a high proportion of endemics, including five whole endemic families.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Indispensable. (The Sunday Telegraph)An authoritative and scholarly guide. (The Observer)A great book. (Travel Africa)The tenth updated edition of MADAGASCAR is a 'must' take-along and travel planner for any destination-bound traveler, and offers itineraries for all budgets and a focus updating all information on how to get to and travel through Madagascar.....A 'must' for any planning a visit to Madagascar! (California Bookwatch)

Daniel Austin is co-author of a number of books on Madagascar, including, for Bradt, Madagascar, Madagascar Highlights and Madagascar Wildlife: A Visitor's Guide. As a full-time Madagascar specialist, Daniel visits the country at least once a year to lead group tours, lecture on cruises, and carry out research. Additionally, he is a photographer specialised in Madagascar, especially its unique wildlife. He is also Secretary of the Anglo-Malagasy Society, which promotes Madagascar's interests in the UK, as well as founder of the Madagascar Library, an archive of over 4,000 historical and contemporary books and documents about the country. Daniel's fascination for Madagascar stretches back to his childhood passion for nature. He later studied Linguistics at UCL in London and at the University of Cambridge, writing his master's thesis on Malagasy culture, before focusing his attentions on exploring the broader zoological, botanical, cultural, linguistic and historical wonders of this exotic Indian Ocean destination. He has lectured on the subject at venues including the Royal Geographical Society and Oxford University. Hilary Bradt's career as an occupational therapist ended when potential employers noticed that the time taken off for travel exceeded the periods of employment. With her former husband George, she self-published her first guidebook in 1974 during an extended journey through South America. As well as running Bradt Travel Guides, Hilary worked for 25 years as a tour leader in Madagascar. Her in-depth knowledge of the country has brought her lecture engagements at the Royal Geographical Society, the Smithsonian Institution and on board expedition cruise ships, as well as numerous

commissions for travel articles. She now lives in semi-retirement in Devon and is delighted to have handed over the hard graft of researching new editions to Daniel.

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