

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

## MADAGASCAR

### PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends, and should have a minimum of three (3) blank visa pages for entry and exit stamps.

**A tourist visa is required for U.S. and Canadian passport holders for entry into Madagascar.** There are currently two options available as outlined below. A&K recommends a visa on arrival.

**Visa on Arrival:** The current fee for a single-entry visa is 80,000 Malagasy Ariary (approximately USD \$30.). There is an additional Tourist Tax of approximately USD \$10, for a total per person entry fee of approximately USD \$40. Fees must be paid in cash in either U.S. dollars or local currency. If payment is made in U.S. dollars, change will be given back in local currency. All fees are subject to change without notice.

**Visa Stamp:** A visa stamp in your passport can be obtained either by applying directly to a Madagascar consulate or through a visa processing service. While there are additional costs involved in using a visa service, this option is available for guests who prefer assistance in the visa process. If you obtain a visa stamp you will still be required to pay the USD \$10 tourist tax on arrival.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](http://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

### COVID-19 COUNTRY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & TRAVEL ADVISORIES

Madagascar currently has no COVID-19 vaccination or testing requirements for entry for U.S. and Canadian residents. Visit the U.S. Department of State at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) or the Government of Canada at [travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories](http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories) for up-to-date information and travel advisories. All requirements are subject to change.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

#### Travellers to Madagascar arriving from mainland Africa

Due to an increase of cholera cases in mainland Africa, Madagascan authorities have introduced measures to ensure the cholera outbreak does not reach the island. Travellers whose journey includes two or more nights on mainland Africa prior to arriving in Madagascar will need to undergo a health screening and will be asked to take a dose of the antibiotic Doxycycline (300 mg) on arrival at Ivato International Airport. Travellers will be given two additional doses to take for the following days and may be asked to provide local contact details for follow up by health authorities. Guests currently taking Doxycycline for malaria prevention, or whose medical history or condition prevents them from taking the medication, will need to provide documented proof such as a physician's note or prescription.

Guests travelling directly from other continents (such as Europe or Asia) or connecting via Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Nairobi, Kenya or Johannesburg, South Africa, will not be required by immigration and customs to take Doxycycline on arrival.

## YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION & MALARIA PREVENTION

A yellow fever vaccination is only required to enter Madagascar if you are arriving from, or have transited through, a yellow fever-endemic area in South America or Africa. The CDC and WHO each provide a current list of all affected countries. If vaccination for yellow fever is necessary, you must carry an International Certificate of Vaccination provided by your physician; you may be denied entry without it. If your physician advises against receiving the vaccination because of your personal medical history, he or she can provide you with the necessary documentation for the country/countries you are visiting.

You will be travelling to an area of malaria transmission. We strongly advise that you speak with your doctor or travel clinic regarding your itinerary, individual risk assessment and options for mosquito bite prevention and antimalarial drugs. We recommend filling any prescriptions before you depart.

## LOCAL HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

In accordance with local regulations, face masks are required in all indoor and outdoor public spaces and on public transportation including air travel, and all persons asked to practice physical distancing of at least 6 feet (2 meters). We encourage you to bring your own masks; a supply will be on hand where needed. Note all protocols are subject to change in accordance with relevant guidelines, local regulations and conditions.

## CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Cash transactions can be made in either U.S. dollars or local currency. Major credit cards are accepted for goods and services at hotels and larger shops. Access to ATM machines is widespread in cities and towns but may be limited in rural areas.

## PACKING LIST

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to collect and manage your luggage for you.

### Clothing

Choose comfortable and casual clothing in natural, "breathable" fabrics and versatile styles that can be layered as temperatures may vary considerably in the course of the day. In most areas, long, loose Bermuda-style shorts are becoming increasingly acceptable for both sexes, but women may feel more comfortable in a skirt or long trousers. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

- Casual slacks
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long skirt for women
- Comfortable walking shoes with traction
- A pair of rubber beach sandals to use as slippers.
- Brimmed hat for sun protection
- Personal garments
- Sleepwear
- Walking shorts
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- If you are travelling during Africa's winter months of mid-May through early September, bring a few items of warm clothing to protect against chilly early morning and evening temperatures
- Swimwear/cover-up
- Sports bra for women for bumpy roads
- Socks

#### Other Recommended Items

- Face masks and hand sanitizer
- Sunglasses / Sun block
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Charging cables for electronics
- Insect repellent with high % of DEET to protect against mosquitos and tsetse flies
- Simple first-aid kit
- Smartphone
- Global travel adapter

#### Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Lightweight binoculars
- Inflatable pillow or stadium cushion can make bumpy roads more comfortable
- Foldable walking stick
- Small daypack or fanny pack
- Low-suds detergent for washing small items of personal laundry

Laundry Service is available at most properties. Because some laundries in Africa do not accept any underclothing, be prepared to wash your own smalls. Laundry techniques may not be suitable for delicate and/or synthetic fabrics. Check costs and return times before using these services.

#### TIPPING GUIDELINES

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars).

	<b>Tailor Made Journeys</b>
Local Guides	\$20 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	\$2 per bag
Housekeepers	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added