MADAGASCAR

Wildlife and Botany of the Mysterious Red Island

June 1 - 15, 2018

Accompanied by Dr. Steve Ruzin
Madagascar is called the “Red Island” for its ochre-colored soil, but it could easily be “blue” for its sapphire mines, “green” for its lush forests, and any color of the rainbow for the unique flora and fauna that exist only here. You’ll discover all this as well as the traditions of the Malagasy, the world’s only Afro-Asian culture. Our adventure with Cal Discoveries Travel takes us to national parks, arboretums and research stations where lemurs, chameleons, and flying foxes inhabit one of the world’s most fascinating biodiversity hotspots! Join Dr. Steve Ruzin, Director of the College of Natural Resources Biological Imaging Facility, as we discover the “8th continent” together.

THE CAL DISCOVERIES TRAVEL DIFFERENCE

Our goal is to provide the University of California, Berkeley community with an exciting combination of discovery, learning, and adventure in educationally oriented travel. Cal Discoveries Travel offers travelers value with thoughtfully crafted excursions to experience new places, interesting people, and fascinating insights. When you travel with Cal Discoveries Travel, you can be assured that we understand your desire for a strong educational component, a carefully selected destination, and a Cal connection on every trip.

BENEFITS OF TRAVELING WITH CAL DISCOVERIES TRAVEL

- Experience “lifelong learning” with world-renowned Cal faculty and/or local experts
- Receive outstanding customer service from Cal Discoveries Travel staff with more than 40 years expertise
- Meet new friends and old, and find interesting, inquisitive travel companions who have Cal in common
WHY MADAGASCAR? 70% of its 200,000 species are found nowhere else on the planet. Unique to the island are more than 50 types of lemurs, 99% of its frog species, and 36 genera of birds.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit Lemur’s Park, a botanical park where nine species of lemur can be observed roaming freely.
- Discover the sacred royal village of Ambohimanga, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Explore the sandstone canyons and waterfalls of Isalo National Park.
- Learn about sustainability and biodiversity in Ranomafana National Park at a facility run by Dr. Patricia Wright.
- Experience a taste of Malagasy life while exploring Ambatolampy and visiting a local pot factory.
- Investigate Madagascar’s over 12,000 plant species (80% endemic), one of the most diverse floras in the world.
- Engage with the Malagasy people, thought to have inhabited the island for 2000 years.

CAL DISCOVERIES LECTURER

Dr. Steve Ruzin, Enrichment Lecturer

Steve Ruzin received his Ph.D. in Botany from UC Berkeley in 1984. He currently directs the Biological Imaging Facility at UC Berkeley, is curator of the Golub Collection of antique microscopes at UCB, and teaches two UCB courses. Steve has a classical education in Botany and is knowledgeable about the natural history and biogeography of plants, especially those of tropical and sub-tropical regions around the world. Steve has lectured for Cal Discoveries about the plant biogeography of Borneo, Patagonia, Australia, New Zealand, Vietnam, the Amazon, and Africa.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

ACTIVE: involves long distances and/or extensive movement, walking, hiking, and/or stair-climbing.
JUNE 1 – DEPART

JUNE 2 – ANTANANARIVO
Meet our guide and transfer to the hotel for needed rest after the long flight. Overnight at Relais Des Plateaux.

JUNE 3 – ANTANANARIVO
After our welcome briefing, we explore the capital city - the political, economic, and cultural heart of Madagascar. A local historian enlightens a visit to Ambohimanga, a hill and fortified royal settlement, followed by a family-style lunch with entertainment by traditional dancers and singers. This evening enjoy a welcome dinner and a talk on Madagascar’s unique biodiversity. Overnight at Relais Des Plateaux. (BLD)

JUNE 4 – ANTSIRABE
This morning en route to Antsirabe we visit the small town of Ambatolampy and its aluminum pot factory for a glimpse into Malagasy industry. One craftsman can make as many as 20 of these robust pots per day! Have lunch at the Rendez-vous des Pêcheurs restaurant and then continue to Antsirabe. Check in at the lodge, a short distance from the town center, then enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight at Couleur Café. (BLD)

JUNE 5 – RANOMAFANA
After breakfast, transfer to the mountainous Ranomafana National Park, situated on the edge of Madagascar’s High Plateau with elevations ranging from 1,640 to 4,921 feet. Ranomafana contains a variety of forest and is part of the World Heritage Site, Rainforests of the Atsinanana. Ranomafana has served as a model for subsequent parks and reserves in Madagascar and abroad. This evening we have a special traditional Tanala dinner prepared and served in a special pot, family-style. Tanala literally means “people of the forest.” Only 4% of the population of Madagascar are Tanala, so tonight’s meal is a rare treat. Overnight at Setam Lodge. (BLD)

JUNE 6 – RANOMAFANA
This morning, after breakfast, hike in the 102,000-acre Ranomafana National Park. Please note that hikes are moderately difficult uphill hikes on the way in. The rainforest is home to the critically endangered greater bamboo lemur, golden bamboo lemur, and 11 other lemur species, plus species of precious wood, palm trees, orchids, and carnivorous plants. This afternoon, have lunch at Centre ValBio (CVB), a world-famous research station established in 2003 and managed by Stony Brook University. Run by Dr. Patricia Wright, the accomplished American primatologist and conservationist, the CVB focuses on biodiversity, community health, environmental arts, and reforestation. After lunch is an informational presentation on the flora, fauna, and research efforts. This evening dine at a local restaurant and take a walk in search of nocturnal species on the
outskirts of the national park. Overnight at Setam Lodge. (BLD)

JUNE 7 - ISALO

After breakfast, head to the Great South and Madagascar’s most visited park, Isalo National Park. The drive is along some of the best roads in the country and the scenery is breathtaking. Expect to spend most of the day driving. En route stop at Anja Community Reserve, managed by the local community and a vital example of sustainable tourism in Madagascar. The reserve boasts a diverse variety of endemic species, including several families of orchids and saxicolous plants. Explore the reserve then have lunch in a nearby restaurant. After a long day of driving, we check in to our hotel, have dinner, and relax in anticipation of Isalo National Park – over 200,000 acres of beautiful landscapes of sandstones, canyons, fauna and flora, natural swimming pools, and waterfalls. Overnight at Le Relais de la Reine. (BLD)

JUNE 8 - ISALO

Spend the day exploring Isalo National Park, a continental sandstone plateau dating to the Jurassic times. This trek is full of varied landscapes with different forms of sandstones, and dotted with the famous dwarf baobab. After an hour walk with short climbs, stop to rest in a spectacular valley resembling the famous Death Valley. The overlook shows miles of azure sky, rocky desert, and winding greenery. Continue to the natural pool with its white sandy bottom and tropical vibe for a swim before making the trek back to the starting point. Transfer back to the hotel for dinner. Overnight at Le Relais de la Reine. (BLD)

JUNE 9 - IFATY

Today we venture to Zombitse National Park and witness the results of a widespread environmental problem in Madagascar: deforestation. After a long history of “slash-and-burn agriculture” in the region, only a small area of protected forest remains. As a result, it is a particularly abundant with flora biodiversity; baobabs and several orchids are especially common. Time permitting, visit Antsokay Arboretum, created in 1980 by amateur Swiss biologist Hermann Petignat. The 100-acre site is dedicated to conservation of the country’s endemic fauna. Continue to the seaside town of Toliara, situated near the Tropic of Capricorn. Overnight at Le Paradisiar. (BLD)

JUNE 10 - IFATY

We rise early today for a special sunrise walk in Reniala Private Reserve, managed by a local environmental association working to develop ecotourism in the area. Hike some of the trails to explore the spiny forest, a unique ecosystem which only occurs in the southwest Madagascar. The reserve contains more than 2000 plant species, as well as impressively old baobabs – including one that is 41 feet in diameter. The reserve also has 65 species of birds; rare endemics such as the Red-capped Coua and the Blue Vanga can easily be seen. Return to the hotel for a late breakfast, and explore the beach or hotel amenities. This afternoon, return to Reniala to continue exploring the flora and the tortoise park. Enjoy a special dinner this evening under the baobab trees in the reserve. Overnight at Le Paradisiar. (BLD)

JUNE 11 - ANDASIBE

This morning, transfer to the airport for the flight to Antananarivo, then transfer to Andasibe. En route admire the large roadside Raphia farinifera palms. Arrive at the hotel late in the afternoon and take an evening walk in the Mitsinjo Analamazaotra Forest Station. Mitsinjo is an important site, and a great place to see the extremely endangered Ravenea louvelii palm in its natural habitat. Explore the flora of the trail system and then as darkness descends, continue walking in search of nocturnal wildlife. With luck, have a chance to observe the locally endemic Goodman’s Mouse Lemur. Common encounters also include the Greater Dwarf Lemur, leaf-tailed geckos, and an impressive sample of Andasibe’s amphibian diversity such as the tree frogs Boophis viridis and Boophis pyrrhus. Return to the hotel for dinner. Overnight at Vakona Forest Lodge. (BLD)

JUNE 12 - ANDASIBE

We rise early for breakfast and then enjoy a full day exploration of the Analamazaotra Special Reserve in Andasibe. The primary forests of Andasibe Mantadia contains a dense humid forest covered with lianas, moss, fern trees, and more than 100
JUNE 13 - ANDASIBE
This morning, have breakfast while listening to the peculiar call of the endangered Indri, the largest living lemur, reaching up to three feet tall! Andasibe is an ideal place to observe the Indri, as there are some Indri families there who have been habituated to humans. Considered a sacred animal in Madagascar, the Indri is the focus of several origin myths. In addition to the Indri, 13 lemur species can also be seen: woody lemur, grey bamboo lemur, diadem ed sifaka, brown lemur, red mouse lemur, red-bellied lemur, black-and-white ruffed lemur, and aye-aye. These forests are also home to 15 other mammal species, more than 100 types of birds, 100 species of reptiles, and 80 amphibian species. **Overnight at Vakona Forest Lodge. (BLD)**

JUNE 14 - ANTANANARIVO
This morning, drive back to Antananarivo. En route, visit Lemur's Park, created in 2000 to increase public awareness of the importance of protecting the lemur species of Madagascar. Nine different species can be observed roaming freely here. Have lunch onsite then continue to Antananarivo for our final farewell dinner and a day room to freshen up before our late evening transfer to the airport for departure flights. **Overnight at Relais Des Plateaux. (BLD)**

JUNE 15 - IN FLIGHT
Arrive back in the U.S. or begin your optional extension to South Africa.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION
SOUTH AFRICA: CAPETOWN
June 15-18, 2018
4 days/3 nights for $690 land only
Single supplement: $350

Experience the magnificence of the South Africa where modern South Africa was born. Capetown is nestled in the mountainous Cape Peninsula along the blue waters of Table Bay. In this glorious location there is much to see, from Table Mountain to Cape Point Nature Reserve, plus Stellenbosch and Franschoek wine country.

**Your tour price includes:**
- 3 nights’ accommodations at Cape Cadogan Hotel, a Capetown hidden gem
- 3 meals: 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 0 dinners
- Full-day tour of the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, Cape Point, and Boulder’s Beach, with its penguin colonies
- Services of local concierge
- Transfers to/from airport

**Note:** Flights to Capetown will be quoted in the international air cost.

PRICING

**$5,595 per person**

Price is based on double occupancy. Single occupancy offered at additional cost of $900. Optional Pre- or Post-night at Relais Des Plateaux of $150.

**Your price includes:**
- All flights within itinerary
- 13 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels
- 36 meals (12 breakfasts, 12 lunches, 12 dinners)
- Sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees
- Holbrook Travel tour guide
- Private motorcoach or minibus transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling, one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers

**Price does not include:** international airfare, travel/trip cancellation insurance, gratuities for maids and drinks purchased on own, or items of a personal nature.

Holbrook Travel can assist with making your flight arrangements upon request. Travel/trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended and will be sent to you by Cal Discoveries Travel with your reservation confirmation. To research further please visit travelinsure.com/calalumni
Dear Alumni and Friends of Cal,

Join us on a lifetime experience to the fascinating island of Madagascar. From the moment you arrive, you will sense the difference in this magical land of unique species, fascinating history, and enduring culture. Madagascar is a dream destination for botanists and nature enthusiasts alike.

Led by our very own Dr. Steve Ruzin, Director of the College of Natural Resources Biological Imaging Facility, we are in for an exciting adventure. Nowhere else on earth will you find as much biodiversity in such a small area, with 70% of its 200,000 species endemic to the island. Our travel experts at Holbrook Travel have meticulously planned our program to the “8th continent” as shown in the detailed itinerary enclosed.

Please join us on this expedition to the “Red Island.” As our group is strictly limited – only 12 participants – please make your reservation as soon as possible to guarantee your spot!

Go Bears (and lemurs)!
Cal Discoveries Travel

Like us at facebook.com/caldiscoveriestravel

CAL DISCOVERIES TRAVEL RESERVATION FORM
Wildlife and Botany of the Mysterious Red Island

Enclosed is my/our deposit for $______ ($500 per person) for ____ person/people on the tour listed below. I/we understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. Please make check payable to Holbrook Travel, Inc. and mail deposit check to: Cal Discoveries Travel, Cal Alumni Association, 1 Alumni House, Berkeley, CA 94720-7520. For questions please call 510.900.8222 (toll free 888.225.2586) or email caldiscoveries@alumni.berkeley.edu.

Full Passport Name________________________________ DOB ____________ Gender ______
E-mail ______________________________________________ Cal Class Year ____________

Full Passport Name________________________________ DOB ____________ Gender ______
E-mail ______________________________________________ Cal Class Year ____________

Badge Name(s) ________________________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________________
City _____________________________________ State ____________ ZIP ______________
Home Ph. (_______)_____________________   Cell Ph. (_______)______________________

Please book my/our air from __________________. I/we request an air upgrade to _____________.
☐ I will share a room with __________________________.
☐ I request a single room (limited availability).

Pre- or Post-Tour Extension (as described on tour page): ☐ Y ☐ N

Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for the above-referenced tour, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) __________________________________________ Date________________

Method of Payment ☐ Check ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA
Account # ____________________________ Security Code ________ Exp. Date ____________

Name of Cardholder ____________________________________________________________
Signature ________________________________________________________________

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Holbrook Travel, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Holbrook Travel. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure (check or credit card).

MEMBERSHIP STATEMENT
One traveler per room, whether an alumni or friend, must be a current Cal Alumni Association member at the time of departure to participate in Cal Discoveries Travel offerings. Payment of $60 for seniors 65 years and over and $75 for others establishes a regular or affiliate membership with all other Association benefits. Memberships are for individuals only, and are non-refundable and non-transferable. A traveling pair and their children under 21 years of age may travel on one membership. Please make dues payable to CAA by separate check, or, if you prefer, provide a Visa, MasterCard, or American Express number with expiration date for payment. You can also enroll online at alumni.berkeley.edu/join

DONOR STATEMENT
The Cal Alumni Association (CAA) is a self-funded nonprofit organization that relies on donations to provide programs and services that support students, alumni, and the University. To make a gift, please visit alumni.berkeley.edu/give. Thank you for choosing CAA as the recipient of your generosity.
Please read this information carefully, as payment of a deposit represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

**Not Included in Your Tour Price**
- International airfare from your departure city
- Costs of passports and visas
- Personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified
- Communications charges
- Baggage fees levied directly by the airline

You are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline prior to departure.

**PRESORTED STANDARD**

**International Air Transportation**
- Estimated airfare: $2,750 from San Francisco to Madagascar

**Group Transfers**
- Group transfers between the airport and hotel are included in your program cost.
- A note about online airfare: Occasionally, you may be able to find airfares online that are listed at a lower cost. In general, individual fares lack the flexibility of group airfare and often require immediate purchase. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Holbrook Travel is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of your tour operator, operator; other restrictions applying, including but not limited to, frequently frequent Merrill, seasonal stressful, accommodations, upgrades, and airline taxes and departures fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour "Land Only" is available. We recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Cal Alumni Association and Holbrook Travel, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

**Cancellations, Changes and Refunds**
- If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification.
- All cancellations need to be submitted in writing to Cal Discoveries Travel. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:
  - Cancel 95 days or more before departure: $200 charge;
  - Cancel 95-0 days before departure: no refund.
- Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package. We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 90 days before departure.
- From 90 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a $100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties.
- Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, including but not limited to, illness or injury of a traveler or a companion, you will be responsible for any additional charges. If any changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure. Trip cancellation insurance is available from Cal Discoveries Travel and information will be sent after you reserve. You may research travel insurance online at travelinsure.com/calalumni. If due to unforeseen circumstances Holbrook Travel cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

**Health and Medical Issues**
- We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate on a Holbrook Travel tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day). You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs.
- We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, Cal Alumni Association and Holbrook Travel assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. For the convenience of the majority of our travelers, Holbrook Travel has a No Smoking policy on all tour buses. We will arrange sufficient rest stops so those who wish to smoke may do so.

**Health and Medical Issues**
- Upon reservation, you must provide your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender (for details, please visit tsa.gov). In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket revocation. A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on this tour.

**Responsibility**
- The liability of CA Alumni Association (CAA) as sponsor, and Holbrook Travel Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. CAA and Holbrook Travel, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore we will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. CAA and Holbrook Travel, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events outside of our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality and may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions. The services of any USA and AFI carrier may be used in connection with these tours. The participant understands that if he/she books special low cost airfares with penalties, and cancels the reservation, he/she is responsible for any penalties incurred from the airline.