



WEST AFRICA

West Africa | READING AND TRAVEL GUIDE

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African Silences • Peter Matthiessen

TRAVEL NARRATIVE • 1992 • PAPER • 225 PAGES

In this narrative of Equatorial Africa, Matthiessen recounts several trips to The Gambia, Senegal, Zaire and the Congo Basin in search of rhinos, elephants and other endangered wildlife. (WAF36, \$14.95)



West African Folktales • Jack Berry • Richard Spears

ANTHOLOGY • 1991 • PAPER • 229 PAGES

A collection of 123 unembellished tales, well chosen and simply translated. It's a good introduction to the spirit of traditional cultures throughout West Africa. (WAF13, \$24.95)



Africa, a Biography of the Continent • John Reader

HISTORY • 1999 • PAPER • 816 PAGES

With the ease of a practiced journalist, Reader weaves a masterful tale of the continent in this lively history of Africa, from ancient cultures to modern times. Both authoritative and informal, this is a splendid introduction to all of Africa. (AFR49, \$20.00)



Lonely Planet West Africa • Lonely Planet

GUIDEBOOK • 2013 • PAPER • 518 PAGES

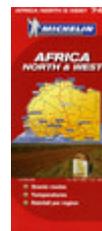
A comprehensive guide to all West Africa, this is the book to carry for travels from Mauritania to Niger, with both a good overview of culture and history and the usual Lonely Planet attention to practical travel information. The bulk of the book is devoted to individual countries. (WAF10, \$36.99)



Africa North and West Map • Michelin

2011 • MAP

A fine map of the north and parts of western Africa, covering Senegal, The Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania and their neighbors as well as all the Mediterranean-bordering countries (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Libya) at a scale of 1:4,000,000. One Side. 40x57 inches. (AFR34, \$12.95)



Also Recommended

Niger Map • IGN • A good, full-color shaded relief map of Niger at a scale of 1:2,000,000. (AFR38, \$16.95)

Atlas of the Transatlantic Slave Trade • David Richardson • David Eltis • REFERENCE • The first comprehensive atlas of the Transatlantic Slave Trade, one of the largest forced migrations in history. Over 200 maps, illustrations and literary selections (poems, letters and diary entries) describe the slave trade's 350-year history of kidnapping and coercion from inception to end. (WAF187, \$35.00)

Nine Hills to Nambonkaha • Sarah Erdman • CULTURAL PORTRAIT • Erdman's affectionate memoir of her time as a volunteer at a health clinic captures the rhythms, traditions and challenges of village life on the Ivory Coast in the days before civil war. (WAF72, \$23.00)

Stringer, A Reporter's Journey in the Congo • Anjan Sundaram • CULTURAL PORTRAIT • Journalist Anjan Sundaram's heartfelt portrait of life in the Congo interweaves personal experience with political and historical insights.

The country, he writes, "heads nearly every conceivable blacklist" and yet is so rich in natural resources that industrialists have pillaged it for centuries. (WAF177, \$15.95)

The Race for Timbuktu • [Frank T. Kryza](#) • HISTORY • An engrossing account of imperial adventures in early 19th-century West Africa and the quest for fabled Timbuktu. (WAF88, \$14.95)

The Slave Ship, A Human History • [Marcus Rediker](#) • HISTORY • Rediker charts the history of slave ships, their crews, and their enslaved passengers, documenting harrowing stories of cruelty, bravery and surprising humanity. (ATL34, \$18.00)

The Slave Trade • [James Walvin](#) • HISTORY • Photographs, paintings and contemporary maps give insight into the reality and global impact of the transatlantic slave trade in this lively entry in the History Files series. (ATL38, \$24.95)

Themes In West Africa's History • [Emmanuel Akyeampong](#) • HISTORY • Geared for university students, these review articles by leading scholars cover archaeology, ecology and culture, oral traditions, society, politics and religion in West Africa. (WAF114, \$29.95)

West Africa Before the Colonial Era, A History to 1850 • [Basil Davidson](#) • HISTORY • Davidson puts the stories of peoples and empires into context in this lively, scholarly history. With maps, illustrations and a timeline. (WAF07, \$71.95)

Travels in the Interior Districts of Africa • [Mungo Park](#) • EXPLORATION • Park chronicles the culture, society and nature of West Africa before the colonial period in this classic account of a 24-year-old Scotsman exploring, often alone, in uncharted Africa. First published in 1799. (WAF40, \$12.95)

A Long Way Gone, Memoirs of a Boy Soldier • [Ishmael Beah](#) • BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR • This absorbing account by a young man who, as a boy of 12, gets swept up in Sierra Leone's civil war, goes beyond even the best journalistic efforts in revealing the life and mind of a child abducted into the horrors of warfare. (WAF130, \$13.00)

A Zoo in My Luggage • [Gerald Durrell](#) • BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR • Charming stories of a six-month sojourn in British Cameroon in search of animals for his new zoo. (WAF78, \$14.00)

Journey Without Maps • [Graham Greene](#) • TRAVEL NARRATIVE • A classic account of a 1930s journey of discovery from Sierra Leone to the Liberian coast. No one captures local personalities and complicated morality better than Graham Greene, who had a particular interest in West Africa. (WAF15, \$16.00)

Of Water and the Spirit, Ritual, Magic and Initiation in the Life of an African Shaman • [Malidoma Patrice Some](#) • BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR • A window in the world view of West African religion, Malidoma Some's remarkable, enlightening account of his return to the Dagara people of Upper Volta shows his transformation from outsider to Shaman through a month-long initiation. (WAF110, \$17.00)

To the Moon and Timbuktu, A Trek Through the Heart of Africa • [Nina Sovich](#) • TRAVEL NARRATIVE • A lyrical travelogue by American expatriate and journalist Sovich who escapes her adventure-less life on an expedition through West Africa. She sketches the beauty, textures and flavors of Western Sahara, Mali, Mauritania and Niger. (WAF174, \$25.00)

Every Day Is for the Thief • [Teju Cole](#) • LITERATURE • In this fabulous novel, Teju Cole's narrator is an unnamed young writer who returns to Lagos, Nigeria after many years away. Through a series of striking experiences, he meditates on profound questions of personal and national history. (WAF178, \$16.00)

God's Bits of Wood • [Sembene Ousmane](#) • [Francis Price](#) • LITERATURE • A story of conflict between colonial powers and West African rail workers set in the late 1940s, written by Senegal's foremost novelist and filmmaker. (WAF22, \$16.00)

Middle Passage • [Charles Johnson](#) • LITERATURE • Winner of the National Book Award, this historical novel, set in 1830, is the richly imagined tale of a recently freed slave in New Orleans who signs aboard a square-rigger bound for Africa. (ATL02, \$15.00)

No Sweetness Here and Other Stories • [Ama Ata Aidoo](#) • ANTHOLOGY • A collection of eleven short stories about the lives of women and men in postcolonial Ghana and the tensions between traditional village and urban life; Aidoo's

stories emphasize Ghana's prominent oral culture. (WAF23, \$14.95)

Radiance of Tomorrow • [Ishmael Beah](#) • LITERATURE • Ishmael Beah set his lyrical debut novel in Imperi, Sierra Leone in the wake of a civil war. Two school teachers attempt to renew the community beset by famine, rapes and murder, water scarcity and a land-grabbing mining company that poses a threat to the town's livelihood. (WAF175, \$14.00)

Roots • [Alex Haley](#) • LITERATURE • Haley's epic story of Kunta Kinte and his descendents opens in Jufureh The Gambia, in 1750, going on to traces seven generations of one family and tell the story of Africans in America. Thirtieth anniversary edition. (WAF21, \$29.95)

Search Sweet Country • [Kojo Laing](#) • LITERATURE • One of the great novels of Africa presented here in a 25th anniversary edition, it follows the lives of an eclectic and inextricably interconnected group of Ghanaians living in and around the sprawling, chaotic city of Accra in the mid-1970s. (WAF157, \$24.00)

Segu • [Maryse Conde](#) • [Barbara Bray](#) • LITERATURE • An epic novel set in the West African kingdom of Bambara (old Mali) in 1797, exhaustive in its detail and thoroughly addictive. Conde transforms actual historical events into a full-blooded, lively tale. (WAF17, \$17.00)

The Orphan Girl and Other Stories, West African Folk Tales • [Buchi Offodile](#) • LITERATURE • The roots of the storytelling tradition in West Africa are preserved here in 41 tales collected for posterity. Drawn from the oral traditions of Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and down the Atlantic coast as far as Cameroon, the folk tales represent traditional beliefs and ways of life. (WAF195, \$15.00)

A Field Guide to the Birds of The Gambia and Senegal • [Clive Barlow](#) • [Tim Wacher](#) • [Tony Disley](#) • FIELD GUIDE • A guide to 660 species of birds of Senegal and the Gambia, featuring 48 color plates and short descriptions on the facing pages. (WAF03, \$58.00)

Birds of Western and Central Africa, Princeton Illustrated Checklist • [Ber Van Perlo](#) • FIELD GUIDE • An admirably compact, comprehensive guide to 1,500 species throughout Western and Central Africa featuring 109 color plates. (WAF02, \$35.00)

National Audubon Society Field Guide to African Wildlife • [Bunny McBride](#) • [Duane Schlitter](#) • [Richard Estes](#) • [Peter Alden](#) • FIELD GUIDE • This comprehensive photo guide covers 850 birds, mammals and reptiles of Africa. With range maps and a good country-by-country overview of habitats and parks. (AFR25, \$24.95)

Primates of West Africa • [John F. Oates](#) • FIELD GUIDE • Published by Conservation International, this comprehensive field guide covers the 80 species of primates of West Africa. (WAF163, \$55.00)

Primates of West Africa • [John F. Oates](#) • FIELD GUIDE • Illustrated by Stephen Nash, this pocket identification guide, with range maps, covers 80 species of primates of West Africa. (WAF164, \$7.95)

The Kingdon Field Guide to African Mammals • [Jonathan Kingdon](#) • FIELD GUIDE • This stunningly illustrated, comprehensive field guide by a leading authority includes over 500 of Kingdon's exquisite color paintings. Fully revised and updated with more than 1,100 species. (AFR32, \$49.50)

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