

West African Kingdoms: The Ultimate Tour

Togo, Benin, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Gambia, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Sierra Leone

Includes two festivals!

January 7- February 6, 2020

with Voodoo Festival & Ashanti Royal Festival (Akwasidae)



TOGO

Jan. 7 Day 1: Lomé / Mercury Sarakawa (B)

You will be met at the airport by our tour leader and transferred to the hotel.

Jan 8, Day 2: Lomé / Mercury Sarakawa (B,L)

Morning at leisure to recover from the long flight.

We will depart at 12 noon for lunch at a local restaurant.

Afterwards, we embark on an insightful city tour of Lomé, a city where tradition and modernism overlap. Discover this metropolis with its Musee National, Place de l' Independence, fishing harbor, and the Grand Marche - the realm of the famous "Nana Benz. "

Visit the Art Street with its craft vendors, the Artisans' Village and climax the morning tour at the Marche des Feticheurs (fetish market) - the heart of voodoo cult.

The evening at leisure; dinner on your own.

BENIN

Jan 9, Day 3: Lomé - Ouidah / Casa del Papa Beach Hotel and Spa (B, L)

This morning an excursion to Togoville, located on the north shore of Lake Togo. We drive 30 min to Aneho, where you embark on a local paddle boat to cross lake Togo into Togoville (a boatman paddles the boat). Visit the old German built cathedral, the colonial area and the traditional quarter of the town.

Lunch at a local restaurant and then we drive two hours to Ouidah, considered the capital of voodoo (UNESCO Cultural Site, 1996). Transfer to hotel.

The rest of the afternoon and evening are independent.

Jan. 10, Day 4: Ouidah - Annual Voodoo Festival / Casa del Papa Beach Hotel & Spa (B,L)

Depart at 9:00 a.m. to tour the Temple of the Python, which is believed to give vitality and protection. You may attend morning worship prayers with locals of the village. You will also visit The Sacred Forest of Ouidah, which houses many shrines dedicated to many deities.

Visit the historical Museum of Ouidah located in an old Portuguese fort built in 1721. This museum portrays Benin's role in the Atlantic Slave Trade.

Next, visit the Port of No Return, a monument built by the Benin government to commemorate the Africans who were taken from the Dahomey Empire during the slave trade.

Here we attend the Annual Voodoo Festival which takes place at the monument every year where people come from all over the world to dance, sacrifice animals to offer their blood to the spirits.

In 1996, the government of Benin decreed that Voodoo was an official religion, practiced by more than 60% of Benin's over 10 million residents. For millions of Beninese, voodoo is an integral part of everyday life. You cannot avoid the many voodoo dolls riddles with pins and nails. Quidah is the spiritual capital of voodoo and once a major slave-trading post. Every year on January 10 ceremonies take place on the beach near the Place of No Return. Thousands of voodoo believers gather to receive blessings from Quidah's voodoo chief.

This is one of Benin's most colorful and revered events. The celebrations begin when the supreme voodoo priest slaughters an animal, usually a goat, to honor the spirits. This is followed by singing, chanting, dancing, beating of drums and drinking of various spirits, generally gin. We will see followers of the various voodoo gods including the masked dances of the elaborately costumed Zangbetos and the trance dances of the Kokou (highly feared warrior undergods). Around the edges of the main performance area, groups from various voodoo temples perform their own rituals.

Lunch at the hotel (7 km from the festival).

Afterwards we have the option to return to the Voodoo Festival.

[Jan. 11, Day 5: Ganvie- Cotonou / Azalai Hotel de le Plage \(B,L\)](#)

Visit Ganvie, West Africa's largest stilt village.

This morning we drive 30 minutes to Abomey Calavi, where we will cross Lake Nokoué by motorized covered boat (20 minutes), to visit Ganvie (the second largest stilt village in West Africa), commonly referred to as the Venice of West Africa.

The residents here are members of the Tofinou ethnic group. They live in huts built on teak stilts and get around in dugout canoes. We will observe the people of Ganvie going about their daily routine as vendors in dugout canoes make transactions with one another and with tourists. Try shopping amongst the local vendors in the floating market while enjoying a relaxing canoe ride on the waterways of this exotic 300-year-old village.

After the visit, we return to Abomey Calavi again by boat and drive one hour to Cotonou. We shall stop at Cotonou's famous market, "Dan Togba" for a short visit.

BURKINA FASO

[Jan. 12, Day 6: Cotonou-Ouagadougou / Laico Ouaga 2000 \(B\)](#)

After breakfast, we check out of the hotel and visit the city of Cotonou, discovering its art galleries, markets and neighborhoods.

Afterwards, we transfer to the airport for flight Air Burkina 558, departing at 3:20 p.m. and arriving in Ouagadougou at 4:50 p.m. Upon arrival, transfer to our hotel. The evening is at leisure.

[Jan. 13, Day 7: Excursion to Tiebele Village \(6 hrs rnd trip\) / Hotel Laico Ouaga 2000 \(B, L, D\)](#)

Today we depart at 7:30 am and travel to the village of Tiebele to visit the traditional Royal Kassena Kingdom. We'll see magnificent mud-brick & colorfully hand painted with traditional motifs designed fortress-like houses built as a defense system to protect themselves from slave dealers during the days of slavery in the region. We will also see the Royal Palace.

We will order sandwiches the night prior and pick up in the morning to take on our excursion and picnic after the village visit.

There will be one security guard traveling with us today in the bus for safety precaution as we are traveling to the southeastern part of Burkina Faso where there were reported incidences of crime in September.

Return to Ouagadougou. Dinner tonight at Gondwana, one of the best restaurants in the region.

[Jan. 14, Day 8: Ouagadougou- Bobo Dioulasso / Hotel Residence Sissiman \(B, L\)](#)

This morning we'll visit the Grand Market and the crafts markets at the Artisans' Center, where you will find basketry, batik fabrics, wooden statues and masks, jewelry, leatherwork and bronze castings; and a short walk around the city.

We'll have lunch at a local restaurant and drive 5 hours to Bobo Dioulasso ("house of the Bobo merchants"). Bobo Dioulasso Burkina Faso's second largest city.

Transfer to hotel. The evening is at leisure. Dinner on your own.

Jan. 15, Day 9: Bobo Dioulasso- Excursion to Banfora / Hotel Residence Sissiman (B, L)

We will depart at 8 am and embark on an excursion to visit the Domes of Fabledougou (2 hr drive) and then drive 30 minutes through a sugar cane plantation to the Falls of Kafiguila. We can walk up the falls for a short visit. Those who don't wish to walk can relax at the bottom and enjoy the beauty.

Then drive 30 minutes to lunch at a French restaurant, Cane a Sucre. Return to Bobo Dioulasso. (1 hr 30 min drive). We will probably arrive back at about 4 or 4:30 pm.

This afternoon we'll visit the old mosque of Dioulassoba, traditional music instruments museum, the train station and the old Kibidouwe artisans' district.

Jan. 16, Day 10: Excursion to Lobbi Fetish Villages / Hotel Laico Ouaga 2000 (B, L, D)

We depart at 8 am to visit the villages of Borodougou and Kokorowe, two Bobo and Lobbi tribal villages known for their traditional fetish practices. Lobbi people are among the few left of the most isolated tribes today in the region. In these communities, locals practice animism as their religion. You will have the opportunity to see real African tradition and visit a fetish practitioner, called "Fetish men."

First stop will be Borodougou Village, 14 km/45 min from Bobodioulasso. After our visit here, we drive an hour to Kokorowe where we see local village life, a school, a village market and more fetish men.

After visiting Kokorowe, we continue the drive, 1.5 hrs to Boni Village to visit a Christian/animist church. Then another 1.5 hr drive for lunch in a local restaurant at Boromo, half way between Bobodioulasso and Ouagadougou.

Continue 3 hr drive to Ouagadougou, Transfer to Laico hotel. Dinner in a city center restaurant.

SENEGAL

Jan. 17, Day 11: Fly to Dakar / Radisson Blu Sea Plaza 5* (B, L)

We depart at 8:45 am for the flight Air Burkina 514, dep 11:30 am, arriving Dakar 2:30 pm.

Upon arrival, lunch at a local restaurant and a short tour of the Central Market, French Cathedral, Monument of African Renaissance and the Great Mosque.

Transfer to hotel. Rest of the afternoon/Evening at leisure. Dinner on your own.

Jan. 18, Day 12: Dakar / Radisson Blu Sea Plaza 5* (B, L)

We start our tour with visits of the various markets: Kermel, Sandaga, and the handicraft market of Soumbédioune and the Tilen market famous for its medicinal herbs and its traditional healers.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Next, visit the National Museum, the President's Palace and the Parliament House.

Drive through the picturesque district of Medina and the residential district of Fann.

Evening at leisure. Dinner on your own.

Jan. 19, Day 13: Goree Island / Radisson Blu Sea Plaza 5* (B, L)

We depart the hotel early this morning to embark on a cruise to the historic island of Goree.

Just twenty minutes from Dakar Port, the ferryboat that arrives at Goree Island carries the heavy burden of 300 years slave trading in West Africa. The island ranks today among the classified monuments of the World Patrimony. We will visit the House of Slaves (Maison des Esclaves) and its "Door of No Return," a former prison for slave trade and said to be the final exit point of the slaves from Africa, now a museum and memorial.

We will also see the canons built by Portuguese navigators. Lunch at a restaurant on the island.

Afterwards, return to

Return to Dakar for overnight. Evening at leisure; dinner on your own.

Jan. 20, Day 14: Drive to St. Louis / Hotel de la Residence (B, L)

Depart at 8:00 am, heading north through the Sahel to the old colonial city of St. Louis, which was formerly the capital of French West Africa.

After a one-hour drive we stop at Lake Retba, also known as the "Pink Lake" located 30 km northeast of Dakar, north of Cap Vert Peninsula. This lake is considered an anomaly as it boasts one of the most rare natural phenomena in the world. The lake's pinkish hue is a result of the excessive amount of *Dunaliella salina* algae in the water that produces a red pigment used to absorb light, which in turn provides the algae with life-energy. The pink color is particularly visible during the dry season. The lake is also known for its abundantly high salt content.

You will see the "salt harvesters" with their colorful tackle, and interact with the Fulani ethnic groups living in the surrounding villages.

Next we stop at the Norflaye Turtle Conservation Farm, en-route. (155 miles north of Dakar)

Saint-Louis was founded in 1659 and named after the French King Louis XIV in the 1700s, it is the oldest city to be created by Europeans on the western coast of Africa and served as the capital of Senegal from 1872 to 1957. It played an important cultural and economic role in the whole of West Africa, a stroll around the Ville (as the cab drivers know it) quickly reveals the French colonial influence. Many of the buildings hold their old character with many brightly colored buildings and beautiful balconies to be seen all around the Island. The Island was named a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2000.

On arrival, check in to the hotel and lunch at a local restaurant.

This afternoon, we visit the Langue de Barbarie Peninsula. It is a short walk to Guet Ndar, the fishing village that is located on the Langue de Barberie and watch the fisherman bring in their catch. Local

people carry the fish in baskets on their neck and on their heads. Women can be found smoking and drying fish next to the beach in vast cauldrons. Nearby very colorful pirogues are always under construction. It is possible to see nearly every stage from the first carvings to the final painting.

This evening, explore the colonial quarters of St. Louis.

Jan. 21, Day 15: Excursion to Djoudj National Park / Hotel de la Residence (B, L)

We depart at 7:00 a.m. for the 1.5-hour drive to Djoudj National Park (UNESCO World Heritage Site), the third largest pelican sanctuary in the world. It is known for its' large pelican migration and many other species of birds. We shall cruise in a spacious motorized open-air boat, for a 1.5-hour trip through the mangroves of the river to see where the pelicans hatch their eggs each year.

After the visit, we return to St. Louis for lunch at a local restaurant. After lunch, we have a one hour horse & buggy ride to visit the fishing community of Nguet Dar in St. Louis.

Transfer to hotel. Evening at leisure.

THE GAMBIA

Jan. 22 Day 16: Drive to Banjul / Kairaba Beach Resort (B,L)

We depart at 7 am and drive towards the Gambia border. Border formalities may take about an hour on each side. You will step out of the vehicle and walk about five minutes across. After 3 hours drive we stop in the town of Touba to visit the holy mosque of Mouride Islamic brotherhood. After the visit, we drive 1.5 hr to Kaolack for lunch in a local restaurant.

From Kaolack it is 1.5 hr drive to the Gambian border. Border formalities may take about an hour on each side.

After crossing the border, we take a ferry for 1 hour and then drive 30 minutes to our hotel in Banjul.

Jan. 23, Day 17: Makasutu Forest & Banjul / Kairba Resort (B,L)

Departing at 8 am, we drive one hour south to Brikama where we turn to the east coast and continue 7 km into the Makasutu Forest.

Makasutu Forest, on an island facing the south bank of the Gambia River, is a tropical 1000-acre reserve encompassing five different eco systems, including gallery forest, savannah, mangroves, palm forest and wetland. Wildlife is plentiful with many bird species, baboons, vervet and red colobus monkeys and even the occasional odd mongoose.

On arrival, we begin with a nice stroll to the Baobab Restaurant, where we are greeted and given a brief history of the area. On the way, we will see some tree stumps carved into by sculptors. These are the remnants from the time when locals were chopping down trees.

After the talk, we hop aboard a pirogue, a traditional wooden boat, to experience nature as we cruise on the Gambia River through the mangroves lined with oyster shells. The boat ride will last a little over 1 hour. When we return, we'll then enjoy lunch at the Baobab Restaurant followed by some traditional entertainment.

Afterwards, we drive 30 minutes to Banjul for a city tour.

Banjul is one of the best examples of urban Africa. The sand-blown streets play host to colorful markets and fading colonial buildings, and a sense of history permeates every district. The Gambian

capital may be one of Africa's smallest cities, but it has a big personality too soon forgotten by travelers.

Built in celebration of the 1992 military coup, a commemorative arch, Arch 22, is the country's tallest building. The Senegalese-designed gateway contains a small museum about the coup d'état and a cozy café. The real draw of the Arch is the view from the top-floor balconies.

The Royal Albert Market is the bustling heart of Banjul. Named after the husband of Queen Victoria, the market is an extensive emporium that comes alive with pungent aromas, lively scenes and the hum of shoppers and sellers haggling over prices on everything from vivid, shimmering fabrics and shining silver jewelry to fresh produce and the latest electronics. Packed to the brim, the market's labyrinth of alleys are a great place to immerse yourself in Gambian culture. Visitors should not hesitate to bargain; most goods can be purchased for just half the asking price!

Drive 30 minutes to Kairaba Beach Resort. Evening at leisure.

SENEGAL

Jan. 24, Day 18: Juffureh-James Island-Toubacouta / Hotel Keur Saloum (B,L)

Depart at 7:00 am and drive 30 min to board the ferry to Juffureh and James Island. It is a one hour ferry ride and one hour drive to the historic village of Juffureh where we have a short tour.

Juffureh became famous in the 1970s following the film release of the bestselling book, "Roots" written by the African-American author Alex Haley, a descendant of Kunta Kinte. The film told the story of Kunta Kinte's capture in Juffureh by slave traders and his subsequent enslavement in America around 200 years ago.

Afterwards, it is a 30 minute motorized boat ride from Juffureh to James Island (aka Kunte Kinteh Island), the colonial period ruins of a slavery station and the 'Portuguese chapel' of San Domingo, which later came to be known as Sandi Munko Joyo. The boat is an open top (no awning or cabin), with an outboard engine. Nearby there are also the old ruins of Maurel Freres and the CFAO trading post. Visit the island.

After the visit, we return to Juffureh for lunch and drive one hour to the Gambia/Senegal border. Border formalities may take about an hour on each side. You will step out of the vehicle and walk about five minutes across.

After crossing into Senegal, it is a 30 minute drive to Toubacouta. Upon arrival we embark on a motorized boat ride to explore Sine Saloum Delta (UNESCO World Heritage Site).

Evening is at leisure. Optional visit to the nearby Mbour Fishing Harbor, the largest in Senegal.

Jan. 25, Day 19: Toubacoutta-Jowal Fadiouth-Saly / Lamantin Beach Hotel (B, L, D)

Depart at 8 am for drive to Saly (3 hrs). We will stop after two hours and have a walking tour of Joal village, crossing its 900 mt long wooden bridge into the village.

Continue to Saly. Transfer to hotel. Rest of afternoon and evening at leisure.

GHANA

Jan. 26, Day 20: Saly-Dakar-Lome-Accra/ Kapinski Gold Coast Accre 5* (B)

Early breakfast at the hotel will be arranged. At 6 AM, we transfer to the airport (one hour drive) to board flight Asky 54, departing 8:35 am, arriving Lomé 12:00 pm, connect to flight to Accra.

The rest of the afternoon/evening is at leisure; dinner on your own.

Jan 27, Day 21: Accra/ Kapinski Gold Coast Accre 5* (B, L)

This morning we tour Accra, the capital city of Ghana, including National Museum, Osu Castle, Coffin builders at Teshi township.

Lunch at a local restaurant. Afternoon at leisure to enjoy hotel facilities.

Jan 28, Day 22: Kumasi / Golden Bean Hotel (B, L, D)

This morning we depart at 9 am driving three hours to Kumasi. On arrival, we check in and have lunch at a local restaurant.

This afternoon we visit the Royal Palace Museum of the Ashanti Kingdom. Then visit the Kejetia Market, one of the largest markets in Africa.

Jan 29, Day 23: Kumasi - AKWASIDAE Ashanti Royal Festival / Golden Bean Hotel (B, L, D)

This morning we attend the Ashanti Royal Festival (Akwasiidae), next in importance only to the National Day celebrations.

The festival begins at 10:30 or 11 am and lasts three or four hours; sometimes longer. At the later part of the festival, more dignitaries arrive. Timing is never exact in West Africa, so please keep this in mind when we mention the time things are supposed to start.

Akwasiidae is celebrated approximately every six weeks, on a Sunday (*Twii* in Kwasiidae), in accordance with the official Calendar of Ashanti. The Akan annual calendar is divided into nine parts, each lasting approximately six weeks but varying between 40–42 days in a period; the celebration of this period is called the Aday Festival. The Aday Festival has two celebration days: the Akwasiidae Festival is celebrated on the final Sunday of the period, while the Akwasiidae Festival is celebrated on a Wednesday within the period. The Friday preceding 10 days to the Akwasiidae is called the *Fofie* (meaning a ritual Friday).

During the last Akwasiidae of the year, which coincides with the Aday Kese Festival, special attention is given to make food offerings and donations for helping people. On this day, the Asantehene (King of Ashanti) meets his subjects and subordinate chiefs in the courtyard of the Manhyia Palace. The Golden Stool (throne) is displayed at the palace grounds in the presence of the king, and people visit in large numbers, singing and dancing.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

This afternoon, we visit Bonwireh, a nearby town where local weavers make Ashanti traditional “kente cloth” for Asanti dignitaries and funeral wear.

Return to Kumasi. Transfer to hotel for overnight.

Jan. 30, Day 24: Elmina / Coconut Grove Resort (B, L)

Drive 2.5 hrs to Elmina. Today we shall tour the infamous Forts, Castles and Slave Dungeons of Ghana and learn about the slave trade in West Africa.

We begin with a visit to Elmina Castle. Built by the Portuguese in 1482, it is also known as St. George's Castle. This castle was the first European structure built in Sub-Saharan Africa and is the oldest castle in Ghana on the West African slave trade route. The colorful harbor nestled below the

Elmina Castle, full of pirogues preparing to go to sea offers one of West Africa's greatest photo opportunities.

Next, visit the Cape Coast Castle. The largest of its kind, this castle was built by the Swedes in 1653 and was later taken over by the British. Walk the path of slaves as your guide takes you through each section. This castle also houses the West African Historical Museum established by the Smithsonian Institute in collaboration with the Ghanaian Government in 1994. It is filled with artifacts, stories, photos and more.

Then a visit to Assin Manso, the site of the "last bath" where slaves were taken for bathing before being shipped to the new world. It is also the burial place of two former slaves whose remains were returned to Ghana from the US and Jamaica.

Return to hotel for overnight.

[Jan. 31, Day 25: Excursion to Kakoum National Park / Coconut Grove Resort \(B, L\)](#)

We depart at 8:00 am driving 2 hours to visit Kokoum National Park which is famous for its amazing canopy walkway. Return to Elmina. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon and evening at leisure.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

[Feb 1, Day 26: Grand Bassam / Afrikland Hotel \(B, L\)](#)

This morning we depart at 8 am and drive four hours to the Ghana/Ivorian Coast border. We will have lunch in a restaurant nearby. Then cross the border (approx. 1 hour for border formalities) and drive another two hours reach Grand Bassam. Check-in to the hotel.

Grand Bassam is the first capital of Cote d'Ivoire and remains an important seaside resort. The first trading houses were built here.

We visit the old quarter built by the French during time of colonization and tour the Museum of Costumes, the Wickerwork Center, the Ceramics/Crafts Center.

[Feb 2, Day 27: Grand Bassam-Abidjan / Azalai Marcory Estate Hotel \(B, L\)](#)

Departing at 8:00 am, we drive one hour to the north-western part of town, Abobo, where Africa's largest outdoor launderette (laundry) is located. Here you will witness an unforgettable spectacle, hundreds of Fanicos (washer men, no women), jam together in the middle of a stream to wash clothes. They work all day every day, frantically rubbing garments on huge stones held in place by old car vehicle tires then spreading the clothes over rocks and grass in a large drying area. Despite the look of confusion, they never get their clients clothes mixed or missing.

We continue 45 minutes or so depending on traffic to visit metropolitan Abidjan including Treichville, one of the areas where the masses live. We pass by a few colorful markets; then over one of the major bridges to Le Plateau, the high-rise commercial area where we stop for a visit to the National Museum of Abidjan. The museum focuses on Ivorian art showcasing statues, masks, jewelry, tools, carved doors, tom-toms and musical instruments from every region of the country.

Lunch at a local restaurant around Le Plateau. We can stop in Cocody, the upscale residential section and browse the Cocody arts and crafts market after lunch. Transfer to the hotel, approx. 1 hr.

GUINEA

Feb. 3, Day 28: Fly to Conakry / hotel Palme Camayenne (B)

We depart at 8 am and transfer to the airport to board flight Air Cote d'Ivoire departing Abidjan at 11:55 am and arriving Conakry at 2:00 pm.

Upon arrival, transfer to hotel. The Guinea airport is very slow and Conakry is one of the more traffic congested cities. We anticipate reaching the hotel at about 3:30 pm.

After check-in and a chance to refresh, we embark on a city tour of Conakry visiting the Central Mosque, Sekou Toure's Mosoleum, fish market of Bolobineh, French Cathedral.

Enjoy an evening at leisure at our 5* hotel.

SIERRA LEONE

Feb. 4, Day 29: Drive to Freetown / Radisson Blu Hotel Mammy Yoko (B,L)

We depart at 7 am for the 5.5 hr drive to Freetown. We will take a packed lunch as there are no decent restaurants along the way. There will be stops for bathroom breaks and we will find a spot to eat our lunch in one of the villages.

Sandwiched between the Atlantic Ocean and the mountains, Freetown is the lively capital of Sierra Leone, steeped in history and culture. A British colony in the late 1700s, Freetown became the principal base for the suppression of the slave trade and 1200 freed slaves from Canada came here in 1792 to join the original settlers.

With its rich history, stunning scenery and vibrant city center, Sierra Leone's charismatic capital is perfect to explore on foot.

There are countless beautiful beaches within a short drive from the city centre, and a journey to the hilltops that surround the city provides truly breathtaking views.

On arrival check into the hotel.

Feb. 5, Day 30: Excursion: Taccugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary/Radisson Blu Hotel Mammy Yoko (B, L)

Depart at 7:30 am to visit one of the few chimpanzee villages in the region and drive around the Freetown peninsular beaches of John Obey, Black Johnson, York, Kent. The drive is 3 hours rnd trip.

Return to Freetown at about 12:30 pm and lunch in a local restaurant.

This afternoon we embark on a three-hour tour to visit Freetown city center. We will visit: Victoria Park Market, Law Court building, the cotton tree (emblem of the city; more than 550 years old), Parliament Building, State House building, King Jimmy Market and the Arts Market at Big Wharf.

Feb 6, Day 31: Depart Freetown (B)

Transfer to Lungi International Airport by a ferryboat to transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Sequence of activities and time schedule subject to change.

Drive times stated do not include time spent touring en-route or time at border crossings which are unpredictable. Flight schedules are subject to change.

Price: \$11075 per person based on min 10 people, Single Room Supplement: \$2330

Tour Includes:

Accommodations with daily breakfast:

Lomé: Lomé: Mercury Sarakawa 5* <http://www.sarakawa-hotel.com/fr/hotel-togo>

Ouidah: Casa Del Papa Resort & Spa 4* lagoon-facing rooms <http://casadel papa.com/>

Cotonou: Azalai Hotel de la Plage 4* <http://www.azalahotels.com/azalai-hotel-de-la-plage>

Ougadougou: Hotel Laico Ouaga 2000 5* <http://www.laicohotels.com/laico-ouaga-2000/>

Bobo Dioulasso: Hotel Residence Sissima 4* <http://www.villafortuna.ba/index.php/en/>

Dakar: Radisson Blu Sea Plaza 5* <https://www.radissonblu.com/en/hotel-dakar>

St. Louis: Hotel de la Residence 3* colonial style renovated by French owners.

<http://www.hoteldelaresidence.com/>

The Gambia, Banjul: Kairaba Hotel 5*(standard room garden view) <http://kairabahotel.com/>

Toubakouta: Hotel Keur Saloum 3* (superior river front bungalow room). <http://keursaloum.com/>

Saly: Lamantin Beach Resort & Spa 5* <http://www.leramantin.com/en/>

Accra: Kapinski Gold Coast Accre 5* <https://www.kempinski.com/en/accra/hotel-gold-coast-city/>

Kumasi: Golden Bean Hotel 4* <http://www.goldenbeanhotel.com/>

Elmina: Coconut Grove Resort 4* <http://coconutgrovehotelsghana.com/beachhotel/>

Grand Bassam: Afrikland Hotel 4* <http://www.afrikland-hotel.com/>

Abidjan: Azalai Hotel Marcory 4* <http://www.azalahotels.com/en/azalai-hotel-abidjan>

Conakry: hotel Palme Camayenne 5* <http://www.palmcamayenne.com/en/hotel-overview.html>

Freetown: Radisson Blu Hotel Mammy Yoko 5* <https://www.radissonblu.com/en/hotel-freetown>

Meals: 25 Lunches, 4 Dinners. Bottled water 3 litres per day per person during drives & sightseeing.

Our Tour Leader: Mr Mohammed Traore (Momo). Momo is from Bamako and has twenty years experience as a guide and tour logistics organizer. Besides being experienced and knowledgeable, he is a wonderful warm personality that our clients will enjoy getting to know.

Local guides: There will be local guides in certain cities as required by regulations. Momo will be giving enhanced talks before the group reaches a site and handles all arrangements to ensure a smooth trip.

Vehicle: Toyota HIACE ac mini bus, 14 seat for 5-7 people

Toyota or Nissan Coaster, 25 seats for 8-12 people

Two Toyota Land Cruisers Prado for excursions to Taccugama village/Freetown and Conakry.

Entrance fees: All entrance fees for sites listed; and all activities listed

Airfare: Ougadougou to Dakar, Dakar to Lomé, Abidjan to Conakry.

Does Not Include: Visas fees, tips to driver, guide, meals not listed, personal expenses such as laundry, phone calls, drinks even when meals are included.