

9- Day West African Experience

Tour of Ghana, Togo, Benin Republic and Nigeria with Dede

Tour overview:

On this trip we shall cover 4 countries in West Africa: Ghana, Togo, Benin, and Nigeria. Basically, the heartland of the black people where slavery took place. We will explore important historical buildings, markets that specialize in interesting things, museums with authentic historical objects, good landscapes, and experience the real traditional West Africa.

Day 1: Arrival in Accra, Ghana

Picked up by Dede and driver. Our tour starts today.

Accra City Tour: Jamestown fishing suburb will be our first point of call. At Jamestown we will visit the orphanage school in this old British suburb and see the James Fort Prison. We shall proceed to the Independence Square and Arch, Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park & Museum, the Christianborg Castle (Osu Castle), and we will meander through the underground channel to the Point of No Return. Fantasy Casket makers, Arts & Craft Centre for local dance drumming, and later to the Artist Alliance Gallery.

Overnight: At preferred Hotel

Day 2: Accra - Kumasi

Leave for Kumasi very early in the morning — about a 5-hour drive. Visit the Manhyia Palace Museum, Prempeh II Museum, Kejetia Central Market where we will see Ashanti women selling their wares, Ntonso Adinkra stamping village, and Bonwire Kente weaving village.

Overnight: at preferred hotel

***Day 3: Kumasi - Cape Coast/Elmina**

Leave Kumasi very early towards Cape Coast/Elmina. On our way we shall stop at the “Last Bath” at Assin Manso Slave River. After the tour we continue to Cape Coast and visit Cape Coast Castle and the Castle Museum for a guided tour. Cape Coast Castle is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and was one of the departure points for Africans sent into slavery in the Americas. The castle is home to the infamous “Door of No Return”. Then we drive to Kakum National Park for the canopy walkway.

Overnight: at preferred hotel

***Day 4: Cape Coast- Lome**

Depart Cape Coast- early on a 6-hour drive to Lomé, Togo. After immigration formalities we’ll visit: the National Museum, Independence Square & Cathedral, the grand fetish market at Akodessewa Voodoo market, the Art Center, and the Nana Benz women market area. Time out at the beach in the evening.

Overnight: at preferred Hotel

Day 5: Lomé - Ouidah, Benin Republic

Early morning drive to Benin Republic. After crossing the border, head to Ouidah — the spiritual capital of Voodoo. Tour the Temple of Pythons, the Sacred Forest, and the Ouidah Museum of History in the old Portuguese Fort. Walk the 4km Slave Route ending at the “Door of No Return” monument on the beach.

Overnight: at preferred Hotel

Day 6: Ouidah - Cotonou - Porto-Novo - Lagos, Nigeria

Morning drive to Cotonou. Quick city tour: Dantokpa Market, one of West Africa’s largest open-air markets, and the Cotonou Cathedral. Continue to Porto-Novo, Benin’s capital, to see the Royal Palace Museum and the Ethnographic Museum. After lunch, cross into Nigeria and drive to Lagos. Evening at leisure.

Overnight: at preferred hotel

Day 7: Lagos, Nigeria

Full day exploring Lagos. Visit the National Museum Lagos for its Benin Bronzes and historical collections. Tour Freedom Park, formerly a colonial prison, now a memorial and arts space. Stop at the Lekki Conservation Centre for the canopy walk and nature reserve. End with a visit to Nike Art Gallery to see contemporary African art and craft. Evening optional: local cuisine at a mainland or island restaurant.

Overnight: at preferred hotel

***Day 8: Lagos - Badagry - Departure**

Early departure to Badagry, a key slave port town. Tour the Badagry Heritage Museum, the First Storey Building in Nigeria, and the Point of No Return at Gberefu Island. Reflect at the "Chains and Shackles" monument.

overnight at preferred hotel

Day 9: Accra - Departure

Free morning for last-minute shopping at the Arts & Craft Centre or souvenir markets. Transfer to Lagos International Airport for departure.

End of tour with Dede.