



Benin - 8 day itinerary 'adventurous'

Ségou, 20 October 2017

expected dates: to be determined

group size: to be determined

rooms: to be determined

Welcome to Benin!

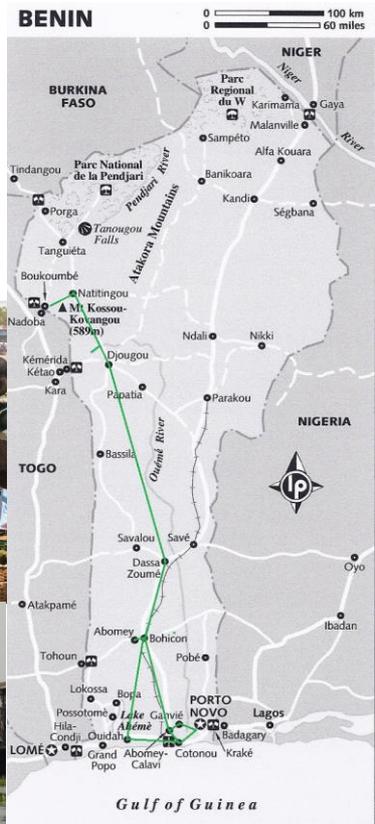
Nature, culture, traditional architecture and a diverse population, Benin offers something for every traveler.

In 8 days we take you on a trip along some of the country's highlights and we take you off the beaten tourist paths to experience the country in a unique way.

From the South to the North and back we take you on a journey to remember!

In short

1. arrival - Cotonou
2. Cotonou - Lake Nokoué
3. Lake Nokoué - Dassa
4. Dassa - Natitingou
5. Natitingou -Taneka country
6. Taneka country - Abomey
7. Abomey - Ouakpè
8. Ouakpè - Cotonou - departure



Itinerary

day 1: arrival Cotonou

The day is dedicated to the journey to Benin.

Arrival at Cotonou's international airport.

Transfer to the accommodation.

night in: Cotonou



day 2: Cotonou - Lake Nokoué (30k)

The morning is used to take care of practical issues such as money exchange and arranging a local sim card and / or an introduction to Cotonou.

After lunch the journey goes by road to Abomey-Calvi, where you go aboard of a boat for a trip on Nokoué Lake. The lake is known for the stilt villages of which Ganvié is by far the best known. The trip on the lake





takes you to Ganvié, where the night is spent in a local setting.
night in: Ganvié - Lake Nokoué

day 3: Lake Nokoué - Dassa (300k)

After breakfast the tour on the lake continues to Aguégué, one of the lesser known stilt villages. During the trip you are introduced to the different ways of fishing, practised by the locals and to the floating market. Set foot ashore again, your driver is waiting for you for the road trip to Dassa.
night in: Dassa



day 4: Dassa - Natitingou (360k)

The morning is used for a visit to Dassa's sacred hills and to the Maria cave of Notre Dame d'Arigbo. When talking about Dassa's sacred hills, the population uses the sacred voodoo number of 41. In reality there are more hills. In former times the hills were inhabited. People had sought shelter to protect their families against hostile tribes and slave hunters. To guarantee their well-being voodoo masters protected the area with sacred voodoo ceremonies. Up till today a voodoo palace is in use on one of the hills. Climb a hill with your guide and be introduced to the past and present of the sacred hills. After the visits the road trip continues to the North, destination Natitingou, where arrival is expected in the late afternoon.
night in: Natitingou

day 5: Natitingou -Taneka country (65k)



On taxi-motors a visit is made to Somba country. This area of Benin, situated on the border with Togo, is known for its traditional architecture. The mud-built two-story houses, locally called tata's, are well-worth a visit. A local guide explains about the culture, traditions and customs of the Somba people. Travel back to Natitingou, where the vehicle is waiting to take you to Taneka country. Before arrival in a Taneka village the cultural bank is visited. In this small museum every item serves as a guarantee for a microloan provided to the owner to start or expand his business. When the loan is paid for, the owner can collect his guarantee. Continue to Taneka-Béri where you are introduced to daily life and customs of the Taneka people. Courtesy visits are made to the King and to the Spiritual leader, both of which are highly respected and appreciated by the people. Enjoy the late afternoon in the village and spend the night in the local accommodation.
night in: Taneka country

day 6: Taneka country - Abomey (355k)

Wake up with the sounds of village life. After breakfast departure for Abomey, in previous times capital of the Dahomey Kingdom. The afternoon is used to visit the underground village near Bohicon and a voodoo village near Abomey. The underground village was only recently discovered when a road construction truck disappeared in a whole in the ground. Research showed it



was a well-hidden underground house and more of them were afterwards discovered in the surroundings. It is still unknown who created and inhabited the underground village.

night in: Abomey

day 7: Abomey - Ouakpè (120k)

Early morning departure for Ouidah on the ocean. The town is known for both the voodoo religion and the slave history. In the morning you visit the pythons' temple and the basilica. Walk the 4k long slave route taking you along landmarks as the well, where people had to wash themselves, and the Tree of Forgetfulness to the Port of No Return at the ocean, where people were boarded to faraway unknown destinations.

Lunch is eaten at the Zinsou Foundation.

In the afternoon the village of Ouakpè is visited, where you are introduced to process of salt making and where you set out on a boat trip.

night in: Ouakpè



day 8: Ouakpè - Cotonou - departure

The last day of the trip through Benin has arrived already. In the morning you travel back to Cotonou via de Route de Peche, the coastal road. Lunch is eaten in a traditional maquis on the oceanfront.

Visit a handicraft center in Cotonou in the afternoon.

Transfer to the airport, according to the departure time of your flight.

possibility to shower before departure



Information regarding itinerary

This trip can start on any day of the week.

Specific interests for your trip? Do not hesitate to ask us to adapt the trip to your liking.

Rainy season

When traveling during the rainy season itineraries may need to be adjusted to the weather circumstances. The above itinerary is the guideline. Your guide will suggest adjustments if necessary.

Suggested accommodations

Cotonou	La Maison de Canelya - room with fan and private bathroom
Ganvié	homestay - basic facilities
Dassa	Ferme Chez Armand - hut with fan and private bathroom
Natitingou	Le Béliér - room with fan and private bathroom
Pays Taneka	Auberge villageoise - room with shower, shared toilet
Abomey	Hôtel Le Vanqueure - room with fan and private bathroom
Ouakpè	homestay - basic hut with shared facilities
Cotonou	possibility to shower before departure

Accommodations mentioned above are suggestions. The final choice depends on availability.

If any of the above mentioned accommodations is not available, the best possible alternative is chosen.

Prices

Depending on the number of participants; [available upon request](#).

Included

- ✶ **private transport:** as described in the above itinerary, including all costs related to the transport, such as driver, fuel and toll - vehicle adapted to the number of participants
- ✶ **guide:** accompanying English or French spoken guide, traveling with the party and local guides and assistants
- ✶ **activities:** all costs related to the activities mentioned in the above itinerary, including entry fees, tourist taxes, tokens of respect to village chiefs and elders, as well as transport if applicable
- ✶ **accommodation:** as described above
- ✶ **meals included:** breakfast day 2-8, lunch day 3-6 and day 8, dinner day 2-8
- ✶ **fair payment:** for products and services to all we do business with

Exclusive

- ✶ air fares and / or transport to the start of the journey and from the end
- ✶ visa, vaccinations
- ✶ personal insurances, such as travel, cancellation and medical insurances
- ✶ additional side trips and/or excursions
- ✶ upgrade for rooms and/or accommodations
- ✶ additional days
- ✶ drinks and other meals
- ✶ tips, souvenirs and personal expenses

Required visa(s)

Benin single entry visa, to be applied for through a Beninese embassy
 the letter needed for the visa application is upon booking provided by us

General conditions

Papillon Reizen's [general conditions](#) apply to this offer.

Papillon funds

Papillon values taking on social responsibility. To create a balance between giving and receiving we have created the Papillon funds. By traveling with us you contribute to making a difference.

Payment conditions

Down payment upon booking: 25%.

Payment of the remaining sum six weeks prior to the start of the trip.

Full payment upon booking, when six or less weeks are left to the start of the trip.

Information

Extensive travel and country information is provided upon booking.