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# Tour Notes

Ivory Coast Revealed

Tour Duration – 13 Days



## Tour Rating

Fitness ●●●○○ | Off the Beaten Track ●●●●● | Culture ●●●●● | History ●●●○○ | Wildlife ●○○○○

## Tour Pace

Busy

## Tour Highlights

- ✓ Lively markets and colonial architecture of Abidjan
- ✓ Visit the Basilica of our Lady of Peace in Yamoussoukro, a copy of St Peters in Rome
- ✓ Fascinating cultural interaction with different ethnic groups such as the Guere, Dozo & Senufo
- ✓ Colourful ritualistic mask dances of the Dan and the Senufo







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## Tour Map



## Tour Essentials

- Accommodation:** Comfortable accommodation and some basic accommodation - all private bathrooms  
**Included Meals:** Daily breakfast (B), plus lunches (L) and dinners (D) as shown in the itinerary  
**Group Size:** Maximum group size 12  
**Start Point:** Abidjan – you can arrive anytime on day 1  
**End Point:** Abidjan – you can depart any time after 18:00 hours  
**Transport:** Microbus or minibus or 4WD  
**Country Visited:** Ivory Coast



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## Ivory Coast Revealed

Travel with us to a country with a recent troubled past but is now once again accessible to intrepid travellers who are looking to delve into the amazing diversity of West African culture. On this small group tour we will explore the economic powerhouse of Abidjan before heading out to the west and north of Cote D'Ivoire to spend time with the different ethnic groups of this fascinating country such as the Dan and the Senufo people amongst others. During village visits we will witness colourful tribal festivals, rituals, initiations and mask dances. This is a journey full of surprises to a land that can rightly be considered truly off the beaten track.

## Tour itinerary notes

While our intention is to adhere to the day-by-day itinerary as printed below, a degree of flexibility is built in. Overnight stops may vary from those suggested and on occasions alternative accommodation, of a similar standard to that named below, will be used. Although we try to be as accurate as possible, distances and timings indicated in the itinerary are meant as guidelines only and can substantially vary from one departure to another one depending on local safety initiatives, road conditions, road traffic and other unforeseen events.

## Tour Guide

Our guides are a key strength, chosen for their knowledge of and passion for the areas in which they work. On this tour, your guide may be local or European but they will be based in the region. We may also use specialist guides local to their specific region. Unlike some companies it should be noted we do not send a guide or tour leader from Undiscovered Destinations in the UK as we have every confidence in our locally appointed representative who is responsible for operating the tour on our behalf. Where possible you will have the same guide throughout your trip but on occasions it may be necessary to change the guide at one or more points during the tour.

# Itinerary

## Day 1: Arrival in Abidjan

Arrive in Abidjan where you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The evening is at leisure. Overnight Hotel Détente or similar. No guiding or meals are included today.

## Day 2: Abidjan – Abenguru (260km; Driving time today is approx. 4 hours)

Our journey begins after breakfast, departing towards Ghana, where we meet with the Anyi monarchy, from the Akan large ethnical lineage group and learn about the history of the region and the role of traditional Kings in a modern republic. If available, the king will receive us. We also visit the Museum. Before dinner, experience the ancestral 'Ghost Dance'. Overnight at Hotel Royaume or similar. (BLD)

## Akan people

The origin of the Anyi monarchy goes back to the tradition of Akan large ethnical group that lives in large south West Ghana and South East Ivory Coast. They share with the famous Ashanti Kingdom of Ghana a similar lifestyle linked to the wealth of the forest and the cult of kings. The Akan people of the Ivory Coast use the word "Komian" to refer to trance, that is to say a spiritual possession. This term can also be applied to people and in this case it refers to those persons, mainly women, who have been initiated to communicate with the world of spirits through different divinatory ways, such as the throwing of shells, the vision on water or the dance. Dance is indeed the most spectacular divinatory form and is called to solve the most complex problems. Facing the interlocutor, some family members and the curious crowd, accompanied by the rhythm of tam-tams, the Komian does a ritual dance until she reaches the status of trance: the spirit will then manifest itself at the "opening of her mouth" and will indicate the nature of the problem and the way forward.





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### **Day 3: Abenguru – Yamoussoukro (250km; Driving time today is approx. 4 hours)**

This morning we continue to Yamoussoukro. On arrival into Yamoussoukro we visit the Biax Foundation (Boigny Felix Houphouet Foundation for Peace), which hosts government meetings and conferences, and houses artifacts and information on the founding president and his family. We then visit the Basilica of the Virgin of Peace which is a copy of that of St Peter's in Rome. The marble and the stained glass that are characteristic of this church make it an excellent monument to the history of the country and pass by the Presidential Palace, where you may see crocodiles in the surrounding lake. Overnight Royal Suite Hotel or similar (BLD)

#### **Yamoussoukro**

The city of Yamoussoukro (or Yamkro as it is also known) is Cote d'Ivoire's somewhat odd administrative capital. The city was little more than a village only half a century ago but it has seen a dramatic transformation in a short space of time. The former president Felix Houphouet-Boigny began a programme of ambitious projects in the place of his birth in the 1960's culminating in a number of grandiose administrative buildings which seem somewhat out of keeping with the rest of the country. The focal point of the city is the Basilica of our Lady of Peace which is reputedly the largest place of Christian worship on the planet and is bigger than St Peters in Rome.

### **Day 4: Yamoussoukro – Bouake (260km; Driving time today is approx. 5 hours)**

We enter today the territory of the Baulé people, known for their intricate handicrafts. In the Daloa region we attend the dancing masks of the Guro People, known as Zaouli. The Zaouli was created in the 1950s, reportedly inspired by a girl names 'Djela Lou Zaouli'. Later, we continue with the dance of the Goli masks, where a round-shaped 'lunar' Goli mask is sub-mounted by two horns. Overnight at Hotel Mon Afrik, or similar. (BLD)

#### **Baulé people**

The Baulé people are of Akan lineage originating from Ghana. The Baulé have retained in common with their cousins the Ashanti comprising of a complex social hierarchy and have expanded their own cultural traditions based on those of the surrounding native villages. Their rich production of handicrafts summarises these differences: fine statues that represent the world of the spirits, weaving-loom pulleys, and masks.

### **Day 5: Bouake – Korhogo (225km; Driving time today is approx. 4 hours)**

After a short tour around the city and its colourful market, we drive north on a dirt track taking us to Korhogo. You will notice a change in the landscape as we enter sub-Saharan Sahel, a dry savannah with baobab trees. Korhogo dates back to the 13<sup>th</sup> Century and is now the capital of the Senufo people. On arrival in the late afternoon, we visit the traditional clay bead makers where we can participate in a workshop to make our own bead and also purchase a beautiful selection at reasonable prices. Close to here we also find the traditional weavers and dress makers part of a local cooperative and great place to see the skilled process and buy a wide selection of designs at good prices. Overnight at Hotel Mon Korhogo, or similar – basic accommodation. (BLD)

#### **Korhogo**

The history of this town dates back to the 13<sup>th</sup> Century, and today is the capital of the Senufo, the tribe that has produced some of the greatest artworks in Africa in almost every field – sculpture, weaving, painting and blacksmith.

#### **Senufo People**





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The Senufo are renowned for their complex initiation rites. Poro, the initiation of young men, is a long process which takes 21 years to be completed. It is the passage from youth to adulthood and it consists in learning the social and religious secrets that turn a young boy into a genuine Senufo man.

#### **Day 6: Korhogo (60km; Driving time today is approx. 2 hours)**

After breakfast, we drive to a remote village to witness the old technique of iron melting carried out by blacksmiths, a very rare example of traditional iron metallurgy in Africa. This 'tribal technology' will bring us back to the first iron age in Africa. The iron ore comes from local mines and is milled manually. The traditional 'adobe bellows furnace' is loaded with layers of charcoal and ore then the fire is set. Fusion takes place overnight so we leave the furnace and travel back to Korhogo. We then visit a workshop to see shea butter processing and local pottery making, as well as the local wood carvers and continue to the Museum of Gbon. Later in the day we will and we attend a Boloy, or panther dance, performed by initiated young men. Overnight at Hotel Korhogo, or similar – basic accommodation. (BLD)

#### **Day 7: Korhogo – Boundiali (150km; Driving time today is approx. 5 hours)**

This morning we return to the remote village to see the result of the fusion. The sealed base of the clay furnace will be broken to extract the iron bloom and the blacksmith will pound part of it. Afterwards, with the help of a bellows, they will heat the metal powder obtained until it melts in a crucible and pour it into a mould. The metal is later heated once again and hammered on the forge to the required shape, and then finally polished from imperfections and bumps. We have now seen the whole process of this 'tribal technology', once believed that this technique had disappeared for more than 80 years, up until the discovery of this remote village. We then leave the main road to visit the villages of the Senoufo people that still maintain today the secrets of their own handicraft production. In these villages we will admire the large clay granaries and the sacred houses with decorated bas-reliefs. In the afternoon we attend the Ngoro dance, or the dance of the virgin girls, which is part of the Poro initiation performed by the Senoufo. Overnight at Hotel Le Paysan, or similar – the most basic hotel of the tour, with no better alternatives available in the area. (BLD)

#### **Day 8: Boundiali – Odiene (150km; Driving time today is approx. 5 hours)**

We start our day by exploring regions traversed constantly by herds of zebu guided by the unmistakable Fulani nomads searching for pastures. We will visit some local Fulani villages where we hope to be invited into some of the houses to experience their warm local hospitality. Later, we travel to meet the Malinké ethnic group, and more specifically the initiated hunters, Dozo. Dressed in their traditional costume and with their shotguns covered with amulets, the hunters will accompany us on an excursion on foot into the savannah to give us a brief introduction to the power of plants. They will also accompany us to visit a Malinké village where to the rhythm of the tam-tam they will dance and demonstrate resistance to fire and knives. Overnight at Hotel Les Frontieres, or similar. (BLD)

#### **The Malinké**

In the vicinity of Odiene live the Malinké, descendants of the old empire of Mali. Among the great names of the history of these families is Samory Touré, a warrior that in this region alone found great support against the advance of the colonists. Among the warriors, those of the hunter-gatherer communities of the Dozo stand out for their courage on the battlefield and their mystic power that is still transmitted today during a long initiation process. Although nowadays there are no battles to fight, the respect given to this lineage has continued unabated. The Dozo (hunters) are considered to be a kind of local police. They are the guardian angels that watch over the villages to keep evil people away and act as mediators in disputes; they are also considered great healers thanks to their wide knowledge of plants and animals.

#### **Day 9: Odiene – Man (270km; Driving time today is approx. 5 hours driving)**

Today is devoted to meeting the Yacuba, the people better known as the Dan. We will spend time visiting some of their villages built on hillsides, characterised by big round huts with thatched roofs. Later we will





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experience a traditional masks dance of the Dan. We then continue south. As Mount Tonkpi comes into view we will approach Man. Overnight Hotel Les Cascades, or similar. (BLD)

### **The Dan People**

The Dan is an ethnolinguistic people of west-central Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia. They are also known as Gio or Yakuba. Some of the houses of the Dan are decorated with frescos made by women during ceremonial periods, while the men gather in a big hut to recycle iron scraps in the form of a hoe, using old scraps as a hammer and anvil. Masks are the most important art form of the Dan and are used in many rituals. The masks of the Dan appear on long stilts with dances involving memorable acrobatics and normally the participation of the most of the village under the watchful gaze of the elders in charge of the cult.

### **Man**

The capital of the We and Guéré ethnic groups, scenic Man extends from the feet of 18 green mountains, some of which are in the middle of the city and separate different quarters. Man is one of the primary agricultural regions of the country with Cocoa, rice, coffee, and plantain plantations

### **Day 10: Man – Excursion to Danane region (200km; Driving time today is approx. 5 hours on dirt track)**

This morning we journey out from Man to see the Liana Bridges. We then return to Man where you will have some leisure time where you can relax or explore some of the local craft shops. Later we will be able to enjoy dancing in a nearby village by the Guéré people. Overnight Hotel Les Cascades, or similar. (BLD)

### **Liana Bridges**

The rainforest that stretches between Ivory Coast and Liberia is famous for its big liana bridges. For the local population, the origin of these bridges is shrouded in mystery. They are built secretly in only one night by young men being initiated. Crossing them is not difficult provided that the taboos imposed by tradition are respected and that heavy loads are not carried on the head or babies tied to one's back, as the local young women used to do.

### **Day 11: Man – Flight to Abidjan**

This morning we travel to discover a remote forest region where the arrival of foreigners is a rare event. We cross wooden bridges before reaching isolated settlements of the Guéré ethnic group, where we experience a Jongleurs performance, an ancient tradition that is now vanishing. Drumming will announce the start where initiated girls with their faces painted in white Kaolin perform a unique acrobatic dance. This afternoon we take a flight back to Abidjan. Overnight Hotel Détente or similar. (BLD)

### **Day 12: Abidjan – Grand Bassam (50km; Driving time today is approx. 1 hour)**

We take today a full city tour of Abidjan, the modern economic capital of Ivory Coast. We visit the Plateau district with its large modern buildings and skyscrapers and also cross the lagoon by boat for a view of the Plateau from a water's perspective. We visit the lively market at Treichville as well as the residential area of Cocody containing interesting colonial architecture. We will also visit the national museum which contains a fine collection reflecting the rich heritage of 62 ethnic groups. We then drive south towards the Ebrié Lagoon and the Atlantic Ocean to reach Grand Bassam. Overnight at Hotel Etoile du Sud, or similar. (BLD)

### **Grand Bassam**

Once the former rich capital of the French colony, Grand Bassam is a town built on a line of sand between the lagoon and the ocean. It has many preserved colonial buildings and during the colonial times it became the maritime leisure resort for the Abidjanese.

### **Day 13: Grand Bassam – Abidjan – Departure (50km; Driving time today is approx. 1 hour)**

We spend the morning exploring Grand Bassam with its crumbling colonial architecture. The old post office is a jewel of French colonial architecture and we visit the Costume Museum, in the former governor's palace,



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with its large outer staircase is a true architectural gem and its unique collection of tribal costumes, masks, ornaments and ethnographic photographs gives an interesting perception of the country history and culture. There is some time at leisure to enjoy the nice beach and later in the afternoon we transfer back to Abidjan. A room will be available for you to freshen up before your transfer to the airport and your onward flight. Please do not book a flight departing before 18:00 today. Day use at Hotel Onomo or similar. (BL)

## Tour Inclusions/Exclusions

### Inclusions:

Arrival and departure airport transfers  
All accommodation as per mentioned in the itinerary, or similar  
Services of English-speaking guide / tour leader  
Domestic flight from Man to Abidjan  
Meals as listed (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner)  
Entrance fees for sites listed as part of the itinerary  
Drinking bottled water in the vehicle – please bring your own flask/bottle to refill  
Visa support documentation if required

### Excluded:

International flights  
Any airport taxes  
Travel Insurance  
Visa (e-visa available if arriving in Abidjan airport)  
Drinks  
Water at hotels and restaurants  
Items of a personal nature  
Tips (discretionary)

## Important Information

### Foreign Travel Advice Warnings

We constantly monitor the advice posted by the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). In particular we will always advise clients of any travel warnings. At present there are no travel advisories in place for any places we visit in the Ivory Coast.

It should be noted that this information applies to British citizens. Other nationals are asked to check the current position of their respective government.

### Accommodation and Meals

#### Hotel Check-in Times

As a general rule most hotels will allow guests to check-in from 2pm. Please note that the price of your tour does not include guaranteed early check-in. Therefore please advise us if you would like to ensure that your room is available for an earlier arrival. This is particularly relevant on the first day of the tour and for early morning arrivals. One option is to pre-book and pay for an extra night at the beginning of your tour which will





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guarantee your accommodation is available irrespective of what time you arrive. Please contact us for information and costs.

It should also be noted that on many of our tours we have set-aside Day 1 of the itinerary as an 'arrival day'. For this reason and because tour participants are likely to be arriving at different times, and often from different countries, guided sightseeing or other activities are not included. If you are arriving early or before the start date of the tour and would like to organise some extra arrangements on a private basis please contact us.

### **Solo Travellers and Twin-Bedded Rooms**

Please note that in the Ivory Coast we are unable to offer solo travellers the option of sharing with another traveller. Hotels in the Ivory Coast do not offer twin bedded rooms and some accommodation on the tour do not accept travellers of the same sex to share the same room. Therefore, couples sharing a room should expect double bedded accommodation, and we must ask all solo travellers to pay the applicable single room supplement. Should you have a specific request, then please contact us.

### **Accommodation Rating**

On this tour you will be staying mostly in small hotels varying from comfortable hotels where available and elsewhere a little more basic, especially in the North. All accommodation has private bathroom facilities and air conditioning or a fan. Some hotels will have restaurant and/or bar. Swimming pools are available at some properties as well. Most of the accommodation only accept payments in cash – please make sure to have as much small-denomination banknotes as possible, especially in the North as often you will find out that hotels do not have enough change available.

We welcome solo travellers and single rooms will be allocated subject to the applicable tour supplement. Please note that on occasions you may not always be allocated a double room, as some hotels have designated single rooms. These may be smaller in size. However, the supplement payable takes this into consideration.

### **Service Standards**

Please note that standards of service in much of Africa are not comparable to those of more developed countries, especially in the more off the beaten track locations. Service in Ivory Coast is often slow and lacks the same attention to detail, and your patience and understanding will be appreciated.

### **Food & Drink**

The daily meal basis is shown in the tour itinerary; breakfast (B), lunch (L) and dinner (D). Please note that lunch may be a picnic. Drinks are not included and will be payable locally in cash. Some days, you will have a picnic lunch.

### **Dietary Requirements**

If you have any special dietary requirements you must notify us at the time of booking. While we will make every effort to cater for you, we cannot guarantee that this will be possible.

### **Foreign Exchange**

**ATM Availability:** Available in large towns and cities but we do not recommend relying on them

**Credit and Debit Card Acceptance:** Cards are not widely accepted, and definitely not of use in the North

**Local Currency:** Franc CFA

**Current exchange rate (Jan. 2020):** 1 Euro = 655 CFA - 1000 CFA = 1.50 EUR // 1 USD = 580 CFA

**Recommended Currency for Exchange:** Euro (preferred) or US Dollar

**Where to Exchange:** The best is to exchange at the airport on arrival, or in Abidjan on Day 2. Your guide will advise you and assist. Other locations on the tour where it is possible to change are Bouaké, Korhogo, Man





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and Daloa Please try to obtain as small denomination banknotes as possible as it is difficult to obtain change sometimes.

### **Budgeting for your Tour**

You will need some extra money to cover meals and drinks not included in the tour price, any optional sightseeing, souvenirs and items of a personal nature such as laundry.

### **Food**

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more. On this tour, only meals in Abidjan are at your own expenses. Consider bringing snacks with you as there are a couple of days where you will arrive quite late for lunch.

In Abidjan - Lunch: £10 / Dinner: £13

### **Drink**

The prices for drinks can vary greatly depending upon location and the prices detailed below are an average guide. In general you would expect that drinks purchased in a supermarket or local bar to be less expensive, whilst drinks in an upmarket bar or restaurant may be more expensive.

Bottle of water: CFA 1000 – 1500 / Bottle of local beer: CFA 800 – 2000 / Soda: CFA 1000 - 1500

### **Tipping – Guide and Drivers**

Tipping is commonly recognised as a way of rewarding guides and drivers for good service. If you are happy with your guide and driver, please consider leaving a tip for them. You should allow per person around EUR 3-5 per day for your driver and EUR 5-8 per day for your guide.

### **Joining your Tour**

#### **Flight Information**

Our advertised prices do not include the cost of international flights. Please contact us if you would like a quotation to book a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

#### **Joining Tour Abroad**

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will receive a free airport transfer, both on the advertised start and end dates of the tour. In addition arrival and/or departure transfers will be provided in conjunction with any pre and/or post tour accommodation that has been booked through Undiscovered Destinations. In all other cases charges may apply for airport transfers. Please advise the date, time and flight number for your arrival/departure. If we have not been advised of this information at least 2 weeks before travel, then you will be required to make your own way to the hotel on Day 1 of your tour.

#### **Travel Insurance**

It is a condition of booking with Undiscovered Destinations that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country and be valid for the entire duration of your holiday.





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### Visa Information

Visitors from most countries, including US visitors require a visa for entering Ivory Coast. This needs to be obtained in advance and an e-visa is available to most nationalities, to be requested from this official website: <https://snedai.com/e-visa/> . We are able to provide the necessary documentation for you to be able to apply. On arrival at the airport in Abidjan, you will have to collect your visa in the e-visa office before or after that you go through the custom controls.

**Please note that the e-visa is available only to travellers entering the country from the airport in Abidjan.** If you are arriving other than by plane or in a different airport than in Abidjan, you will need to obtain a visa in advance via your nearest embassy. Please contact us if you are in doubts.

Visa regulations can frequently change and therefore we recommend that you check with your nearest embassy for the most up to date details.

### Passports

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, valid for at least six months after the date of return to your country. We strongly advise that your passport contains a minimum of two blank pages, as this may be a requirement of the local immigration authorities. In addition certain countries will stipulate that the two blank pages are opposite each other. If you are unable to meet these requirements you may be refused boarding by your airline or denied entry by the immigration authorities.

For specific information about the requirements for your destination please check with the country's embassy or consulate.

### Bags Inspection on arrival and departure

The custom officer may need to check your bags and in this case you will be sent to a large room where you need to open the bag and let them make sure you are not carrying anything. Once cleared you can go.

It is strictly forbidden to take out of the country ivory and related objects. An accurate screening of your luggage will be done at the airport before departure. Fines may apply in case they find something suspicious. If you buy wooden mask/s, we strongly advise you to **store it in your checked-in luggage** and not to carry it with you in your hand luggage.

### Vaccinations & Protection

As with travel to most parts of Africa, we strongly recommend that you contact your doctor's surgery or a specialist travel clinic for up-to-date information, advice and the necessary vaccinations. For a visit of less than one month, almost certainly you will be advised to have immunisations against the following: Diphtheria and Tetanus, Hepatitis A, Typhoid, Meningitis. **A yellow Fever vaccination certificate is compulsory to enter the country and is checked on arrival.**

The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or purchased in your home country can be different in other countries. If you're travelling with prescription or over-the-counter medicine, read this guidance from NaTHNaC on [best practice when travelling with medicines](#). For further information on the legal status of a specific medicine, you'll need to contact the embassy, high commission or consulate of the country or territory you're travelling to.





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# Preparing for your tour

## Climate

The region experiences two distinct seasons and travel is possible all year. The dry season runs from October until April, and the wet season from May until September – these can change by a few weeks either side depending on climate variations. The rains, although heavy, usually take the form of short sharp bursts. In higher elevated forests it can be cool at night and in the early morning so you should be prepared accordingly.

## Clothing

Ivory Coast is very warm in general and so light cotton clothes are generally a good idea. You should also bring a hat – the sun is very strong here, even in the winter. In general, shorts are acceptable, although there may be occasions when it is appropriate to wear long trousers. Long trousers also provide better protection against insects and are recommended for nature walks. Consider bringing your swimsuit if you wish to use the swimming pools at the hotels.

## Equipment

You should bring a first aid kit with you. Whilst there is no undue cause for alarm, travellers are best advised to travel well-prepared: adequately immunized, with sufficient supplies of prescription drugs, along with a medical kit. Sun cream/sunblock is a must. Insect repellent, including a bite spray will also be useful to have. Please also take a torch or flashlight for poorly lit areas or for any unexpected electricity outages.

## Footwear

Comfortable walking shoes are recommended, as well as a pair of sandals for general travelling days.

## Luggage on tour

Your luggage should not exceed 20kgs (44lbs). One large suitcase/rucksack, and one small hand luggage rucksack is acceptable.

For the domestic flight with Air Cote d'Ivoire, one checked-in bag up to 23kg plus one small hand luggage up to 7kgs are allowed per person.

## Access to the Internet

Kindly note that access to the Internet via Wi-Fi is available in every location on this tour. Wi-Fi is usually always available at the restaurant or main lobby of the accommodation but in some places, it may be very slow. In every instance, we cannot guarantee that Wi-Fi connection will be working when you stay at the properties.

## Driving times

The driving times stated in the itinerary are given in the best of faith. Driving times may on occasion be longer due to unforeseen circumstances such as poor weather, road construction activity, mechanical problems etc. Most of the roads in the Ivory Coast are poorly maintained and asphalt is rare, especially in the Northern part of the country.

## Environmental Responsibility

We are committed to reducing our impact on the environment and protect its resources and the people of Ivory Coast. It is quite difficult to do so in Africa, however on this tour, we are trying our best to minimize the production of non-disposable rubbish, we try to be as "green" as possible and to preserve the friendliness of the Ivorian people. **On this tour single-use plastic bottles of water will not be handed out.** Water will be





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provided from a large container. **We kindly ask you to bring your own water bottles/flask with you** on this trip. If you have any concerns please contact us.

### **Electric Supply & Plugs**

In Ivory Coast the power sockets are of type C and E with two circular pins. The standard voltage is 230 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz.

### **Language**

The official language is French and many local dialects are then used from one region to the next one. Very few people speak English.

### **Tour Itinerary Versions**

Please ensure that you have an up-to-date copy of these tour notes immediately before you travel, as from time to time our itineraries may be amended, either for operational reasons or in response to feedback from customers. You will be informed of any major changes to your tour but small changes may just be added to these tour notes. These tour notes were prepared 18 January 2024.

