



**AFRICAN CONNECTIONS**  
"Your Gateway to Africa"

# Return to the Motherland Ghana, Togo & Benin African Heritage Tour

**Sept. 24 – Oct. 5th 2025  
(11 Nights)**





Explore Africa  
with  
African Connections  
a leader in Africa travel for over 20 years

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**PREPARE TO BE AMAZED!!!!**



Only **\$4,199** per person  
Without airfare and double room occupancy.

**Space is limited.**

Pay **\$250** to reserve your spot  
and make installment payments.



# Tour Highlights:

## **Ghana:**

This tour includes tours in Accra, Ghana's vibrant and cosmopolitan capital, Kumasi, the famous capital of the Asante Empire and, Cape Coast and Elmina in the historic Central Region.

## **Akwasidae Festival:**

The Akwasidae Festival is a significant event in Africa, particularly within the Asante culture. It honors ancestors and allows Asante chiefs and their subjects to pay homage to the Asantehene, known as "the king of kings." The festival commemorates the magical bringing down of the Asante Golden Stool from heaven by the traditional priest Okomfo Anokye. It features parades, dancing, drumming, and colorful traditional displays, culminating in the appearance of the Asantehene, who is carried in a palanquin through a procession of Asante people paying their respects.

## **Traditional Naming Ceremony:**

The naming ceremony is an important part of Ghanaian culture. This is the event that officially welcomes a child into its birth family and community. Our tour gives you the opportunity to participate in a traditional Naming Ceremony where you will be given the name that you would have been given had you been born into the Asante tribe of Ghana.

## **Ceremony of Remembrance at Slave River:**

At Assin Manso, members will partake in a ceremony at "Slave River," where enslaved people were compelled to wash after enduring long marches, sometimes spanning up to six months from regions like present-day Nigeria to the Ghanaian coast.



Following this coerced cleansing, the enslaved were led to dungeons, where they awaited forcible removal to slave ships bound for destinations such as America, the Caribbean, and Brazil.

### **Togo:**

Our tour also gives you a chance to explore the voodoo culture of Togo. While in this tiny but intriguing country, we visit voodoo temples, the fetish market, the Grand Marche; we travel by dugout canoe on Togo Lake to reach the mysterious Togoville; and we visit Ganvie, a charming village built entirely on stilts.

### **Benin:**

Benin is considered by many to be the birthplace of voodoo. In fact, voodoo is the official religion of Benin. Our tour allows you to explore Benin's voodoo culture and traditions.

Benin was also one of the most prolific slave ports. Our tour shows you significant sites and connections to the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, including the infamous House of Slaves, and we will retrace the route that led enslaved Africans to the port from which they would embark to Haiti and other ports in the Americas through the "gate of no return.

See the Woman King Statute. Benin is the home of the female warriors made famous in the recent movie starring Viola Davis. See the statute dedicated to the only all-female army regiment in modern history and learn their true story.

**This trip will be unforgettable! Have your cameras ready! Prepare to be amazed!**



**DAYS 1-3:**

## **Arrival in Ghana and tour Accra, the capital city of Ghana**

### **Our tour includes:**

Visit to Independence Square (where Ghanaians celebrate the nation's Independence Day each year); and stand under Black Star Square which is a monument to the Black Star of Ghana, which Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana's first Prime Minister adopted in tribute to Marcus Garvey.



Visit to the Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum, which is the final resting place of the first President of Ghana, one of Africa's most renowned Statesmen and Pan-Africanists; and the W.E.B. DuBois Memorial Center for Pan-African Culture, which is a research library containing the personal papers and invaluable manuscripts of W.E.B. DuBois.





Drive through the commercial districts of Accra and see the amazing development and growth of Accra.

Stop at points of interest as we crisscross through Accra, one of the most vibrant and exciting cities in Africa.



While in Accra, enjoy an evening of entertainment and fun at one of Accra's Premier Dinner Clubs.





DAYS 4-6:

Travel to the Asante Region,  
Naming Ceremony; and tour  
Kumasi, and its surrounding towns

## Akwasidae Festival

Witness the amazing Akwasidae Festival, one of the most important and historically significant festivals in all of Africa.



While at Manhyia Palace, visit the Museum, which is filled with countless relics and artifacts that highlight the richness of the history and culture of the Asante people.





Stop for photos at the Okomfo Anokye Monument, dedicated to the traditional priest who “conjured” from the skies the famous Golden Stool that unified the Asante people.



You will have time to browse through the National Center for Culture, see Artisans at work and browse through the shops filled with brass items, batik cloth, wood pieces, artwork, and pottery.



Visit the woodcarving village of Ahwiaa where you will see craftsmen carving wood masterpieces; Ntonso, famous for its kente and adinkra cloth; and Adanwomase, one of the most popular kente weaving villages.





## Traditional Naming Ceremony

Tour members will have the opportunity to participate in a Traditional Naming Ceremony, where each tour member will be given a traditional Asante name based on his/her day of birth and welcomed into his/her “adopted” family with dance and celebration of his/her day of birth and welcomed into his/her “adopted” family with dance and celebration.



We will drive through Kumasi to see all the sites that makes this a “must visit” city in Ghana.

The group will have the opportunity to have lunch at Ike's Café, which is on the grounds of the National Center for Culture in Kumasi. This well-known restaurant is located on its own “lake” and is famous for its fresh fish, which tour members can select live from the Ike's “point and kill” tank.





DAYS 7-8:

## We tour the Central Region

Stop at Assin Manso to participate in a Ceremony of Remembrance at “Slave River”.



We will have guided tours through Elmina and Cape Coast Slave Dungeons, infamous as the places where the largest number of enslaved Africans were housed before shipment to the Americas.







Our tour concludes with a buffet dinner and an evening of entertainment, Cultural Dance and Drumming Performances and dancing on the beach.



DAY 9:

## We tour Lome, the Capital City of Togo

We will stop at points of interest; and upon arriving in Lome see:

Independence Square, the fishing harbor, the Lome Craftsmen village; the fetish Market—the traditional “drugstore” and other products including “sacred” items are on display.



Visit the Voodoo Village near Lome. A traditional healer who combines African herbal medicine and voodoo magical rites in his treatment will receive us. Believers often meet in this compound to dance to the hypnotic rhythm of the tam tam and enchantment songs with some dancers falling into a deep trance. This possession of the spirits is part of the African religious experience.



Visit the Slave House in Agbodrafo; and travel to Togoville, the village which was home to numerous enslaved Africans who were members of the Voodoo cult that were later taken to Haiti.



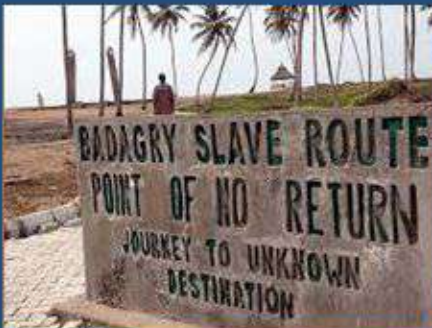
**DAYS 10-11:**  
**Cotonou, the largest City in Benin**  
**and Porto Novo, the Capital of**  
**Benin, and Surrounding Towns.**

Benin is considered the birthplace of Voodoo and Voodoo is the national religion of Benin. Our tour will give you the option to explore Benin's Voodoo roots and culture.





The town of Ouidah is infamous as one of the most prolific of the slave trading post used during the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. This unforgettable visit takes you to many of the points of interest including the Badagry Slave Museum.



We will continue to the place of “the common grave;” the “tree of forgetfulness;” and the infamous “Gate of No Return” that so many of our ancestors passed through on their journey of enslavement.

Visit to the Ganvie market zone including the international Dantokpa market with its exuberant traders and famous handicraft center; Lake Village-Ganvie, known as the “Venice of Africa” with its houses built on stilts; the “fishers’ streets” and “Francophone villa.”

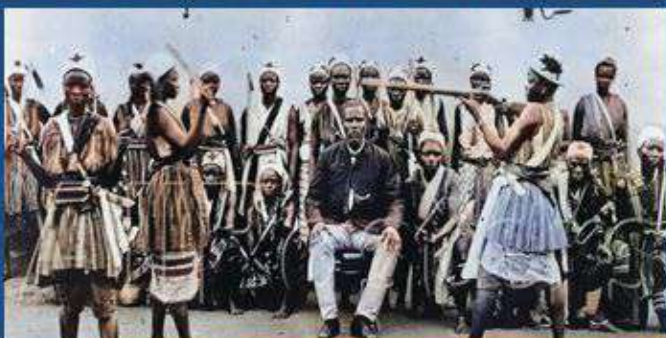




## Visit the statute of the “Woman King.”

Benin is the home of the female warriors made famous in the recent Hollywood Blockbuster film starring Viola Davis, “The Woman King.” This movie was based on the real-life story of these famous women warriors, known as the “Dahomey Amazons.”

This all-female military regiment of the Kingdom of Dahomey (in today’s Benin) existed from the 17th century to the late 19th century and was the only female army in modern history.





## DAY 12:

# Return to Accra, prepare for departure, and flight back to the USA.

We will depart from Cotonou after breakfast on Day 12 and drive back to Accra to get ready for our departure to the USA. We will arrive in Accra in plenty of time for last-minute souvenir shopping before heading for the airport, where we will assist you as you complete departure procedures.

## Examples of hotels we use:

- La-Palm Royal Beach Hotel in Accra, Ghana.



- Lancaster Kumasi City Hotel in Kumasi, Ghana.





- Coconut Grove Beach Resort, Elmina.



- Onomo Hotel in Lome, Togo.



- The Golden Tulip in Cotonou, Benin.





# Don't miss the Excitement For the time of your life, experience Africa!

## Our Tour Package Includes:

-  Accommodation in Deluxe Hotels (twin/double occupancy)
-  Breakfast Daily
-  Buffet Dinner with Cultural Performances
-  Ceremony of Remembrance at Slave River
-  Traditional Naming Ceremony
-  Participation in Akwasidae Festival
-  Transportation throughout in comfortable air-conditioned vehicle
-  Experienced, Licensed English-Speaking Driver
-  Knowledgeable English-Speaking Tour Guide
-  Tours and Entry Fees to all sites visited
-  Visa Assistance and other pre-departure support
-  Expert tour management and destination support services to help you prepare and to assist throughout your visit

**SINGLE  
ROOM  
UPGRADE**

**\$1,000**

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