



DORE GLOBAL VISA TRAVEL & TOURISM SERVICES LTD

Dore Education And Culture Exchange Ltd, Registered Office, 145-157 St John Street, London, EC1V 4PW, Company Registration No 08623623

Registered in The Republic of Guinea: Societe Dorabus-S A
No Formalite /RCCM/CC-KAL/048.931/2013

SLAVE ROOTS

The transatlantic slave trade remains one of the greatest tragedies of world history. This horrific trade in human lives is a sad tale of torture and abuse, and has left countless families all over the world wondering where their true family roots lies, even today. Many nations across Western Africa suffered during these dark days and sadly Guinea is no exception.

In 1446, the first of many Portuguese explorers reached the coast, landing near what is now called Bissau. Although they began exporting slaves to work on the sugar plantation in Southern Portugal as early as 1460, it was not until the 1600s that trading and colonisation really took mass effect as the settlers moved inland in search of gold, ivory, pepper, and ultimately, slaves. In 1630, a "captaincy-general" of Portuguese Guinea was established to administer the territory. With the cooperation of some local tribes – who controlled the flow of slaves to the coast – the Portuguese entered the slave trade and exported large numbers of Africans to the Western Hemisphere.

The Portuguese and the Europeans who followed them to Guinea built forts and castles along the ports to store their goods as well as the acquired slaves. This continued right up until the abolition of slave trade in the 1800s. Since then, many of these forts and castles were razed or simply fell into disrepair. Towns such as Cacheu became one of the major slave centres and a small fort still stands in the town. This little picturesque fort may show glimpses of its former beauty under its cracked white stone and algae covered walls and yet the most harrowing aspect of this building is the fact that it was even beautiful in the first place – ultimately serving as a ghostly reminder of its past.

Whether you simply wish to reflect upon the past or shed a tear for the sins of humanity, during an historical and cultural heritage tour of Guinea you will be able to visit the remains of the slave trade on the coast in Conakry (Penitentiary Foroboa), Forecarria Dureka, Boka and Boffa and pay your respects in a journey of self-discovery.

GUINEA

The Soulful Heartbeat of Africa

A visit to Guinea offers a unique opportunity to embrace African culture and history within one of the continents best landscapes. Prepare to be sonically overwhelmed as the vibrancy and rhythm of this wondrous nation infects you.

ENGLISH & FRENCH COLONISATION

During the days of the empires and colonies, African territories were traded as frequently and easily as the goods which they produce. The land that is now Guinea belonged to a series of African empires until France colonised it in the 1890s, and made it part of French West Africa.

In 1904, the British still possessed the Iles de Los territories just off the coast of Guinea before handing them over to France in exchange for their European counterpart relinquishing fishing rights in Newfoundland and Labrador. Nevertheless, it was during the British tenure in the nineteenth century that the islands gained international acclaim due to its role in inspiring one of the greatest literary works of its era, Treasure Island.

It is believed that the story was based on a British pirate by the name of Crawford who was captured by the British navy and hanged in Conakry. While Robert Louis Stephenson was writing the novel he spent some time in Rourie, known for its role in slave trade. Regardless of whether Crawford set the sparks within Stephenson's mind, the serene settings of Rourie's beaches are still magical enough to inspire visitors today.



LOCAL CULTURE

Built on the basis of events and folklores that are rich in musical tradition, Guinean culture is both unique and vibrant. In the countryside, leisure time is usually spent with the family, by visiting each other or attending village celebrations. During your stay in Guinea, you will be given the chance to become accustomed to the regional practices and absorb the local culture.

The rhythms of Guinea are at the very heart beat of Africa. Their most popular musical instruments are the kora, a type of harp made of half of a big calabash and metal or plant strings; the balafon, a wooden xylophone, and a wide spectrum of drums and percussion instruments. Throughout the country various opportunities will present themselves to not only listen to the phenomenal performances, but also get involved. In Hamana and Sankaran in Upper Guinea, informal percussion courses will allow you to learn a new skill and perhaps even allow you to teach your family and friends should you decide to purchase an instrument to take home as a gift.

Another way in which you can get involved is by learning the traditional African dance. People mostly dance at important events, in particular at weddings. For those events, according to the custom, the griots (traditional storytellers) sing songs about each of the guests, mentioning their name, physique and personality. The honoured guest usually thanks them by giving them a small amount of money. In other events the griot will tell tales and legends that could capture your imagination and keep you in awe for hours.

Guinea is proud of its culture and heritage and even today many traces of its long and historic passion for performance can be witnessed. The talented young generation of the Republic Of Guinea continue to revel in this age-old way of life, which is there to be experienced and learned by all!

THE DJEMBE

Guineans are a spiritual people and the djembe is held dear to their hearts. Its history can be traced back to Mali where the djembe have been used in sacred rituals for more than a millennium. When built according to traditional standards, the djembe is said to contain three spirits: the spirit of the tree in the wood of the body, the spirit of the animal in the skin of the drum head and the workmanship of the artist who made the drum. All three spirits join together in harmony to resonate an enchanting and powerful sound.

The creation of the djembe was difficult, and was undertaken only by members of the blacksmiths caste. In particular, attaching the hide to the wood is difficult, because that attachment is one of the crucial elements in the creation of sound. The artist must take care in the tanning of the hide, because of the reflection of the spirit as well as the resonance of the drum, and in choosing the wood, as the wood has to be able to burn all night in a fire. The time and effort used during the artistry of the djembe contributed the spirit of the artist to the djembe.

Traditional African drum and dance performances have long been used for the ritual rites of passage such as birth, adolescence, marriage and death as well as a number of other traditional ceremonies. During these events you are almost certain to hear djembelolas – or djembe players – lead the music as the djembe is one of the most versatile drums in Africa, producing a wide variety of sounds. Popular as ever, it can be seen all over the world today and is a fantastic symbol of African music. No other country embraces this instrument like Guinea. Nowhere else are dance and music more vibrant than in Guinea – a visit to this land is a chance to express yourself through dance and music and learn from the masters of African art.



WONDERFUL NATURE

Guinea is an aesthetic masterpiece with a landscape that is attention grabbing and spectacular. This is in part down to the fact that the nation has some of the world's few remaining tropical dry forests. The sumptuous surroundings make any visit here one to cherish as tourism is still yet to thoroughly develop here meaning much of the land is unspoilt and well maintained.

Mount Nimba is Guinea's highest peak at 1,752m and is part of a mountain range that also straddles Liberia and the Ivory Coast. The summit offers sublime views of surrounding peaks in all three countries which are sure charm and stun you in equal measure. The climb is a challenge which will take four hours and is a steep trek to the top - a guide is mandatory and a permit is required.

One of the added bonuses of trekking up the Nimba Mountains is the rich variety of plant and animal life which inhabit the mountains. Look out for some eye catching amphibians such as the goliath frogs, which can weigh up to as much as three kilograms, and the Nimba Toads, which bear live young. The lush green slopes that cover these mountain peaks are truly wondrous spectacles to behold; the dense forest is hypnotically enticing and offers another worldliness right in the heart of West Africa.

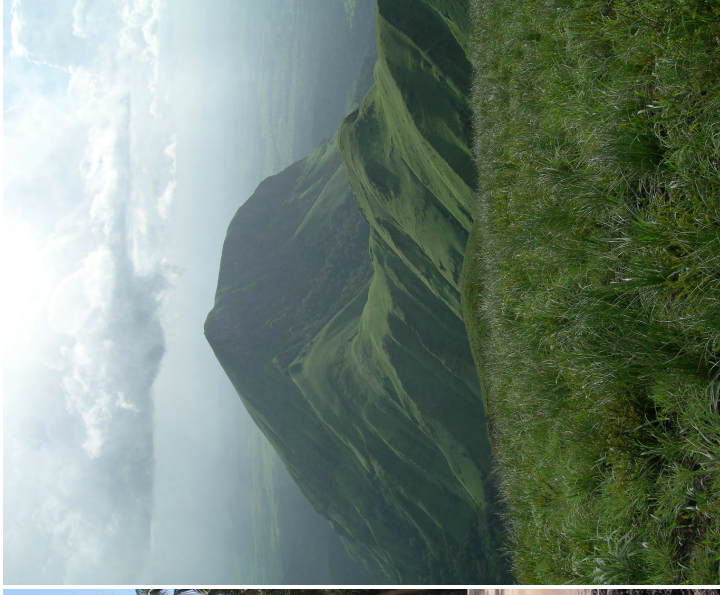
GUINEAN GEMS

Everywhere you look, Guinea is full of hidden gems; but not only that, the country is actually full of real gems. The resources of Guinea are rich and varied and their natural produce includes diamonds, gold, bauxite and uranium.

The natural resources are not exclusive to the mountains and mines, their forests also provide coffee, cocoa, rubber as well as timber. Meaning that beneath the beautiful landscapes and captivating vistas lies a whole other wealth of riches. Guinea is also known as the "Water Tower of West Africa" due to the heavy rainfall Guinea receives and the many rivers have Guinea as a source.

Diamonds are the second biggest export in Guinea after bauxite. In South Eastern Guinea, the Arebar Diamond Mine has produced some of the world's most valuable diamonds, totalling more than 1.3 million carats at a value of \$377 million. Meanwhile in the Banankoro region, near by the border with Sierra Leon and Liberia, diamonds are absolutely everywhere and there are even a street markets in the main town, specifically for the trade in diamonds.

Whether you are looking to re-decorate your chandeliers, purchase a gift for family and friends - or perhaps take your romance that to the next level, acquiring beautiful diamonds, direct from the source itself will be sure to brighten up your living room, delight your acquaintances or furthermore, match that twinkle in your devoted partner's eyes.



CONAKRY

From once being a small island town, Conakry has grown considerably over the years. The country-capital is now a pulsating city which hugs the western side of the country, comprising more than a quarter of the overall population.

During the day, join the 85% Muslim population in prayer at Conakry Grand Mosque. Saunter through the Guinea National Museum which displays the ethnography and prehistory of Guinea through its considerable collection of masks, fetishes and artwork. Follow this up by browsing the open air markets where regional cuisine and exceptional local arts and crafts such as textiles, wood and metal works can be found. Then in the evening revel in a vibrant and eclectic nightlife. The city's main draw comes from its strong African identity, its people are colourful, friendly, welcoming and spontaneous; and they love nothing more than celebrating an evening with some music.

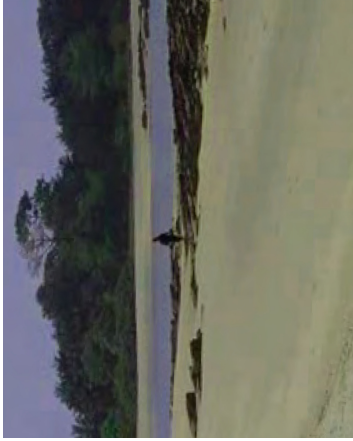
As a port city, Conakry offers visitors the opportunity to escape the hustle and bustle of city life by taking a sojourn over to the nearby islands of Iles de Los or Loose Islands. Consisting of three main islands; Tamara (Fortaba), Kassa and Rourie, they provide a tranquil respite for the more leasured traveller. Although best known for their pristine beaches and forested interiors, the Loose Islands are a perfect example of the natural diversity of Guinea and its full history.

BEAUTIFUL BEACHES

One of the truly tremendous qualities of Guinea is its beaches. High in exotic allure, pristine white sands cloaked by crystal blue waters, match any stereotypical image of paradise and what's more the beaches are never crowded meaning you get to enjoy a small slice of heaven in privacy.

The coastline has a variety of scenic landscapes: sandy beaches, mangroves, bird sanctuaries. Two main beaches can contribute greatly to its development – the beaches of Loos Islands off Conakry and the beaches in Bofa, with its sensational highlight being Cape Verge. Conveniently situated just a few hours from the capital of Conakry, Cape Verge's Bel'Air Beach is flanked by the grandiose President Conté's hotel while for something a bit more authentic Sobane beach has languid bungalows and a place to enjoy an al fresco sleep out.

The deserted area in-between Bel'Air and Sobane is ideal for exploration; the stretch is vacant apart from fishing families who live there particularly during the week. At weekends the plot comes alive with many visitors from the capital to enjoy some of Africa's very best beaches. It is essential you have your own vehicle when visiting Cape Verge, but this can easily be arranged in Conakry.





DORE GLOBAL VISA TRAVEL & TOURISM SERVICES LTD

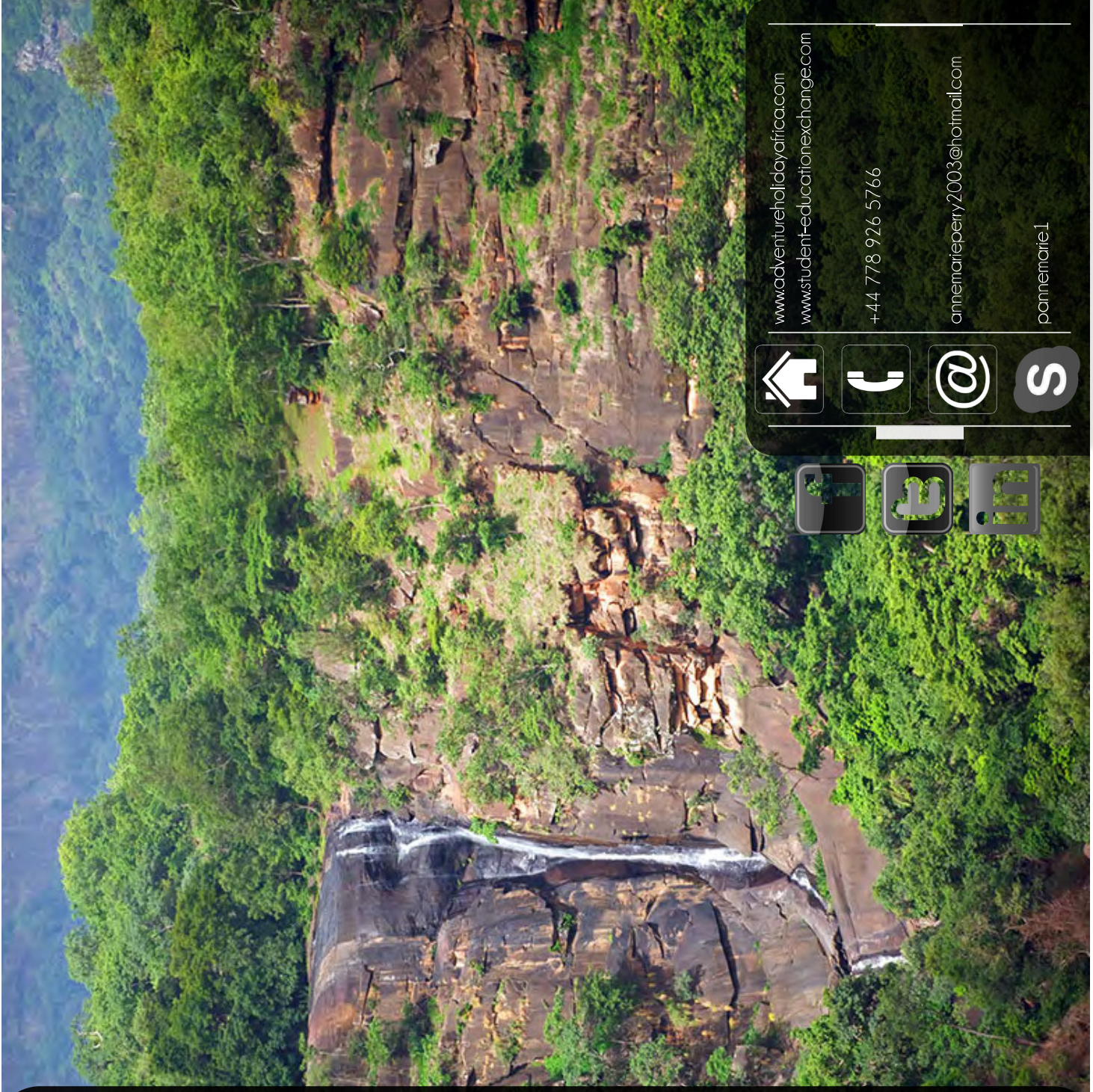
Dore Education And Culture Exchange Ltd, Registered Office, 145-157 St John Street, London, EC1V 4PW, Company Registration No 08623623

Registered in The Republic of Guinea: Societe Dorcobus-S A
No Formidite /RCCM/GG-KAL/048.931/2013

During the tourist season between January and July, **ADVENTURE HOLIDAY AFRICA** offer day trips and customised tours that highlight the best of Guinea. They offer slave tours that take in the history of the region and the old slave towns, you may see people who resemble people you know as each tribe has recognisable characteristics. Adventure Holiday Africa invite you to join one of their tours to explore the fascinating landscape, appreciate its dramatic cultural and social diversity.

Travel with Adventure Holiday Africa and explore a land of dramatic contrasts, romance and a people with a fine sense of humour and hospitality. They offer guided tours for singles, couples, families and small groups, each crafted and managed with the highest level of care and professionalism. Their cultural tours will bring you to the heart of Guinea and an experience that will stay with you for a lifetime. As a tour company, they are aware that your vacation is a special event and they will work hard to make your trip a unique experience. Tell Adventure Holiday Africa what kind of experience you want and they can tailor a tour for you.

Whether you want a beach holiday, mountain climbing, honeymoon, student reasearch tour, business services tour, with export and import assistance, football talent spotting, discover the rain forest, trekking in the interior or drum and dance adventure – Adventure Holiday can arrange it all including visa airport transfers accommodation and food.



www.adventureholidayafrica.com
www.student-educationexchange.com

+44 778 926 5766

annemarieperry2003@hotmail.com

pannemie1