

Travel Log

« Immersion en pays Otammari » 4 days / 3 nights



This route takes us to the heart of Benin's nature and mountains to discover its scenery and to share life experiences with Otammari and Waama ethnic groups. Accompanied by a team of local guides, we will discover lifestyles which are different from our own. While living day to day with local people, we will contribute to their development and to the preservation of the environment.

The trip's essentials

- Accompaniment by local Beninese guides
- Active participation in environmental preservation and local development

- Visits of rural villages and tasting local specialties

Accommodations: Ecolodges and solidarity based camps. Clean and comfortable facilities.

Transport: Bus, Walking, and cars with a driver.

Seasons: Long dry season with temperatures ranging from 24C to 29 C from November to mid-April. Long rainy season with temperatures ranging from 24C to 29C from mid- April to mid- July. Short dry season from mid-July to mid- September followed by a short rainy season starting at the end of November both with temperatures ranging from 24C to 29 C.

Accompagnement and Meetings

- Local ecoguides trained as guides and cultural instructors
- We will meet several different ethnic groups who will share their culture and traditions with us along our route

Brief outline of the trip

Day 1: Dogbo –Natitingou- Koussoukoingou

Day 2: Koussoukoingou

Day 3: Koussoukoingou- Natitingou

Day 4: Natitingou – Dogbo

Details of the trip

Day 1: 28 July 2016 Dogbo- Natitingou – Koussoukoingou



- Meeting with the Eco- Benin guide
- Journey to Koussoukoingou, travelling through Otammari countryside with its boababs and traditional villages. Located at the heart of the Atacora range, this area offers fantastic views.
- Lunch en route.
- Arrival in Natitingou, where we will visit the regional museum which exhibits archeological remnants, and illustrates beliefs, habitat and socio-economic life of the Atacora peoples.
- Departure towards Koussoukoingou.
- Arrival and getting settled.
- Dinner and night at the Otammari lodge for some guests and in tatas for other guests.

Day 2: 29 July 2016 Koussoukoingou

Breakfast



Three hour walk during which we will discover the hidden beauties of the little valley near Koussoukoingou: river where the women used to fetch water, The Ancesters' wheat loft, Tatas scattered throughout the savanna.

For lunch we will discover local flavours (fonio pasta, crushed igname, Peuhl cheese, peanut butter....)through the local women's cooking. Lunch will be served at the Otammari lodge.

In the afternoon we will go to the heart of the village to experience the Betammaribe lifestyle and their exceptional know-how when it come to conceiving and building tatas: these small forts are a harmonious marriage between esthetics and practicality.

Dinner and night at the Otammari lodge for some guests and in tatas for other guests.



Day 3: 30 July 2016 Koussoukoingou- Natitingou

- Breakfast
- Departure towards Natitingou Visit the Kota Waterfalls
- Lunch
- Tour of the Arts and Craft market of Natitingou
- Return to the hotel for dinner.

Day 4: 31 July 2016 Natitingou – Dogbo

- Breakfast
- Trip back to southern Benin
- Lunch en route
- Arrival Dogbo
- End of the tour

Prices

Libellé	Price in Euro per person
Group of 30 people. Double room. Full Board	210 €
Group of 50 people. Double room. Full Board	200 €
Additional charge for a single	35 €

Sales Terms

Our prices include:

- The meals specified in the programme
- **Transportation along the route**
- Accomodations (double rooms)
- The visits outlined in the programme
- Mineral water served at mealtime
- The tour guide

Our prices do not include:

- Personal expenses
- Drinks (except for mineral water)
- Recommended trips and visits that are not specified in the programme
- Meals that are not included in the programme
- Insurance or international assistance.

Practical Information

Clothing

- Light clothing. Avoid shorts or tight clothing
- Hat, cap, sunglasses
- Rain gear
- Clothing that you can use to cover yourself in order to avoid mosquito bites in the evening
- Sweater (from December to January)
- Footwear: Flipflops and sandals are necessary. A pair of closed walking shoes or trainers.

Other

- Binoculars and camera
- Backpack (daypack)
- Mobile phone

* Suggestions are given as information only. ECOBENIN will not be held responsible for the content of this information.

Precautionary measures

- Drink bottled water or water treated with water purifying pills
- Avoid ice-cubes which may have been made with non-drinking water
- Do not eat raw meat
- Peel the fruit

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