

# GHANA BENIN ROOTS AND HERITAGE TOUR

Featuring - Abomey , Accra, Cape Coast, Cotonou , Ouidah , Porto- Novo

DURATION	GROUP SIZE	AIRPORT	PRICE STARTING FROM
10 Nights / 12 Days	22 People	Columbus (CMH)	Twin Occupancy Price Per person - \$0.00

## OVERVIEW

Embark on the **Two Doors, One Root** journey, an immersive heritage experience through Ghana and Benin that traces the shared history of West Africa and the global African diaspora. Begin in Accra, where you'll explore Independence (Black Star) Square, the W.E.B. Du Bois Center, the National Museum, and vibrant local markets. Continue to Cape Coast to visit the historic Cape Coast Castle, one of the most significant sites of the trans-Atlantic slave trade, before participating in a moving heritage experience at Assin Manso, including a traditional Ghanaian naming ceremony. Fly to Benin and discover Ouidah, one of West Africa's most important centers of remembrance, as you walk the historic Route des Esclaves to the Door of No Return. Continue inland to Abomey to explore the royal palaces and legacy of the Kingdom of Dahomey before experiencing the rich Afro-Brazilian architecture and cultural heritage of Porto-Novo. Conclude your journey with an authentic introduction to the sacred traditions of Vodun through visits to temples, shrines, and cultural centers led by knowledgeable local experts. Blending history, spirituality, culture, and personal reflection, this remarkable journey offers an unforgettable opportunity to reconnect with Africa's living heritage while gaining a deeper understanding of the enduring connections between Ghana, Benin, and the African diaspora.

## ACCOMMODATION

CITY	HOTEL NAME	CHECK-IN	CHECK-OUT	NO. OF NIGHTS
Accra	Movenpick Ambassador Hotel Accra	Day-2	Day-4	2 Nights
Cape Coast	Ano Mansa Beach Resort	Day-4	Day-6	2 Nights
Accra	Movenpick Ambassador Hotel Accra	Day-6	Day-7	1 Night
Cotonou	Novotel Cotonou Orisha	Day-7	Day-8	1 Night
Ouidah	Casa Del Papa Resort	Day-8	Day-9	1 Night
Abomey	Hotel Tennessee	Day-9	Day-10	1 Night
Porto- Novo	ART Residence	Day-10	Day-11	1 Night
Cotonou	Novotel Cotonou Orisha	Day-11	Day-12	1 Night

## DEPARTURE

Start Date	End Date	Departure Gateway	Price Per Person
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11 Mar, 2027

22 Mar, 2027

Columbus (CMH)

\$0



## INCLUSIONS

- ◆ **International return airfare ex-Columbus, Ohio (Please check with us for pricing from other cities)**
- ◆ Airport taxes, fuel surcharge, and baggage fees
- ◆ 10 Nights' accommodation in the listed hotels or similar on DBL/TWN sharing basis
- ◆ Daily breakfast
- ◆ 01 Lunch at a local Ghanaian restaurant
- ◆ Airport transfers in Ghana and Benin
- ◆ All ground transportation in deluxe air-conditioned vehicles
- ◆ English-speaking driver and local guides throughout the tour
- ◆ Guided sightseeing and cultural experiences as per the itinerary
- ◆ Entrance fees to all monuments, museums, castles, palaces, and attractions mentioned in the itinerary
- ◆ Traditional Ghanaian Naming Ceremony
- ◆ Authentic Vodun cultural experience in Benin
- ◆ Applicable local taxes

## EXCLUSIONS

- ◆ **Flight from Accra (Ghana) to Cotonou (Benin)**
- ◆ All other meals and sightseeing or services not mentioned in the itinerary
- ◆ Gratuities for guides, drivers, and restaurant staff
- ◆ Visa fees and travel insurance
- ◆ Personal expenses such as alcohol and other beverages, telephone calls, and laundry
- ◆ Local city taxes, if applicable, payable directly to the hotels upon check-out
- ◆ Any other services or items not specifically mentioned under Tour Inclusions

# ITINERARY

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## DAY 1

### DEPART FROM COLUMBUS (OHIO) FOR ACCRA (GHANA) [-/-/-]

Today, your journey to West Africa begins as you depart from Columbus, Ohio, for Accra, Ghana. Prepare for an unforgettable cultural and heritage experience as you embark on the Two Doors, One Root journey through Ghana and Benin.

Overnight onboard flight

## DAY 2

### ACCRA ARRIVAL & WELCOME EXPERIENCE [-/-/-]

Arrive in Accra and, after clearing immigration and customs, meet our local representative for a shared transfer to your hotel. (Standard check-in time is 3:00 PM.) After check-in, take time to relax and recover from your flight.

Depending on your arrival time, enjoy a gentle orientation or short neighborhood walk to become familiar with the local surroundings. In the evening, join your local hosts and fellow travelers for a welcome experience, where you'll be introduced to the journey ahead and receive an overview of the program highlights.

Overnight in Accra

## DAY 3

### ACCRA CITY TOUR [B/-/-]

After breakfast, embark on an enlightening sightseeing tour of Accra, the capital of Ghana. This orientation excursion offers a chance to explore the city's highlights, which has served as the nation's capital since 1877 and remains the bustling center of the Greater Accra Region and Ghana's most populous city.

Travel through Accra's diverse districts, including its administrative and commercial areas, and experience the vibrant energy that defines the city. Visit notable landmarks such as the Artiste Alliance Gallery, the W.E.B. Du Bois Center for Pan-African Culture, and Independence (Black Star) Square while learning about Ghana's struggle for independence and its rich Pan-African legacy.

Continue to the National Museum of Ghana, home to an extensive collection showcasing the country's cultural heritage, before concluding the day at the Arts Center, where you can browse traditional crafts, textiles, artwork, and souvenirs while practicing your bargaining skills.

Return to your hotel for the evening.

Overnight in Accra

## DAY 4

### ACCRA - CAPE COAST CASTLE EXPERIENCE - CAPE COAST [B/L/-]

After breakfast, depart for Cape Coast. Upon arrival, enjoy **lunch** at a local Ghanaian restaurant before visiting one of Ghana's most significant historical landmarks.

Explore Cape Coast Castle, originally built by the Swedes in 1653 and later occupied by the British. Learn about the history of the trans-Atlantic slave trade and its profound impact on Africa and the African diaspora. Walk through the haunting slave dungeons and visit the West African Historical Museum for deeper insight into this important chapter of history.

After the tour, transfer to your hotel and enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

Overnight in Cape Coast

## DAY 5

### ASSIN MANSO HERITAGE EXPERIENCE & TRADITIONAL NAMING CEREMONY [B/-/-]

After breakfast, depart for Assin Manso to visit "Donkor Nsuo," the historic Slave River and market that served as the final transit point for many enslaved Africans before reaching the coast.

Pay your respects at the memorial where the remains of two ancestors, repatriated from the United States and Jamaica, were reinterred. Continue with a courtesy visit to the local chief and elders, where traditional drumming and dancing create a warm cultural welcome.

Participate in a traditional Ghanaian naming ceremony, during which each guest receives a Ghanaian name

and commemorative gift, symbolizing a meaningful connection with the local community and heritage.

Return to Cape Coast later in the day.

Overnight in Cape Coast

#### DAY 6 CAPE COAST – ACCRA [B/-/-]

Following breakfast, depart Cape Coast and journey back to Accra. Along the way, reflect on the powerful experiences encountered along Ghana's historic coastline while enjoying conversations with your guide and fellow travelers.

Upon arrival in Accra, check into your hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure, allowing you to relax or explore the city independently. Optional activities include visiting local art galleries, artisan markets, or cafés showcasing Accra's contemporary creative culture.

Overnight in Accra

#### DAY 7 ACCRA – COTONOU (BENIN) [B/-/-]

This morning, transfer to the airport for your flight from Accra to Cotonou, Benin (**flight not included**).

Upon arrival, meet your local representative and transfer to your hotel. Depending on your arrival time, enjoy an introductory exploration of Cotonou, a vibrant coastal city known for its lively markets and fascinating blend of traditional and modern culture.

Overnight in Benin

#### DAY 8 OUIDAH & THE ROUTE DES ESCLAVES [B/-/-]

After breakfast, travel to the historic town of Ouidah, one of West Africa's most significant centers of remembrance and cultural heritage.

Follow the famous Route des Esclaves (Slave Route), tracing the final journey taken by countless enslaved Africans from the former slave auction square to the iconic Door of No Return overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Along the route, your guide will share stories of resilience, remembrance, and cultural continuity while opportunities may arise to interact with local artisans

and heritage preservation initiatives.

Later, check into your beachfront accommodation.

Overnight in Ouidah

#### DAY 9 ABOMEY – THE LEGACY OF THE DAHOMEY KINGDOM [B/-/-]

Today, journey inland to Abomey, the historic capital of the Kingdom of Dahomey.

Explore the Royal Palaces, ceremonial courtyards, and museum collections that reveal the political, artistic, and cultural achievements of one of West Africa's most influential kingdoms. Gain fascinating insight into royal traditions, governance, symbolism, and the kingdom's role within the broader history of the Atlantic world.

Overnight in Abomey

#### DAY 10 PORTO-NOVO CULTURAL DISCOVERY [B/-/-]

Continue to Porto-Novo, Benin's official capital, renowned for its unique fusion of African, Afro-Brazilian, and European heritage.

Discover the city's cultural landmarks, historic architecture, and vibrant neighborhoods while learning about themes of migration, religion, identity, and artistic expression. After checking into your hotel, enjoy a relaxing evening at leisure or join an optional group dinner with your fellow travelers.

Overnight in Porto-Novo

#### DAY 11 PORTO-NOVO VODUN CULTURAL EXPERIENCE [B/-/-]

Today offers a respectful exploration of Vodun, one of West Africa's most influential spiritual traditions.

Accompanied by knowledgeable local guides, visit sacred temples, shrines, and cultural centers to gain a deeper understanding of Vodun beliefs, rituals, symbolism, and artistic traditions that continue to shape communities across Benin and throughout the African diaspora. The experience has been thoughtfully designed to promote cultural understanding while supporting local custodians of these traditions.

Overnight in Cotonou

Enjoy a relaxed final morning before your transfer to the airport from Porto-Novo or Cotonou, depending on your flight arrangements.

If time permits, a final market visit, cultural stop, or guided reflection session may be included, providing one last opportunity to reflect on the remarkable experiences, powerful history, and meaningful cultural connections encountered throughout your Two Doors, One Root journey.

Bid farewell to Ghana and Benin as you begin your journey home with unforgettable memories and a deeper appreciation of the shared heritage connecting Africa and the global African diaspora.

***Note - The itinerary above may be modified without prior notice. The sequence of activities and scheduled day trips may vary due to operational factors, including weather and traffic conditions.***

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