

## Escapade to Bassari Country

10 days, 9 nights

**Dakar, Goree Island, Bandia Conservation Park, Lake Retba, Tambacounda, Niokolo Koba National Park, Kedougou, Bassari Country, Iwol, Dindefelo, Mako Safari, Heritage, Adventure, Nature, Discovery, Culture**

**This program may be operated for individual or for groups  
This is a suggested itinerary – Please call us to customize**

*For a full immersion, in the heart of an authentic Senegal, you will discover the largest national park, classified by UNESCO: the Niokolo Koba Park which is home to hundreds of species of wild animals and lush flora. . You will be close to the Bedik, Bassari and Peulh peoples who will warmly welcome you with their ancestral custom. An adventure and an atypical change of scenery: unforgettable!*

### Day 1: Dakar

Assistance on arrival at the Dakar airport and transfer your hotel in the city. Rest of the at leisure. Dinner at the hotel. [D]

### Day 2: Dakar (Goree Island)

The capital of Senegal, Dakar, has a long history and rich cultural heritage. On this tour, take in the highlights of the city. See landmarks such as the Presidential Palace and the Monument of African renaissance; browse the markets for traditional handicrafts. Lunch at a local restaurant. Then cruise out to explore the UNESCO-listed Goree Island to learn about Dakar's dark past on a tour of Goree Island, including the House of Slaves. Return to Dakar for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

### Day 3: Dakar (Bandia Park, Lake Retba)

Discover the wildlife of Senegal and visit the Bandia Conservation Park on this half-day tour. See a variety of native African animals such as giraffes, rhinos, buffalo, crocodiles, and more as you embark on a 1.5-hour game drive. After admiring the wildlife, sit down to a delicious lunch at a local restaurant and take a boat ride across the Somone Lagoon to observe the animals of the mangrove forest. Continue to Lake Retba and enjoy the dunes by camel ride or dune bashing on quad (ATV). Then, stroll around the salt-lake or take canoe on the lake (your choice). Lake Retba, or Lac Rose, is a large (almost 2 miles wide) lagoon, shallow, surrounded by dunes and located 22 miles from Dakar. It is called Lac Rose in French because the high salt content, microscopic algae and microorganisms in its water give it a pink color. Depending on the time of day and the light, it goes through all shades of pink, until mauve in the late afternoon. Return to Dakar for dinner and overnight at the hotel. [B/L/D]

### Day 4: Dakar, Tambacounda

Day trip in 4x4 vehicle stopping for a picnic lunch en route. Arrival in Tambacounda, check-in, dinner and overnight. [B/P/D]

### Day 5: Tambacounda, Niokolo Koba National Park

Departure for the Niokolo Koba National Park. Visit of the park spread over more than 2,3 million acres, in the extreme south-east of Senegal. The Niokolo Koba National Park constitutes one of the most important animal and plant reserves in West Africa. The vegetation is varied: savannah, dense forest, lakes ... The park, listed as World Heritage and Biosphere Reserves by UNESCO, hosts hundreds of animal species. Check-in at the hotel in Wassadou and safari run before lunch at the hotel. Time to rest and relax and afternoon safari run. if you're lucky you' see some lions, leopards and elephants. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. [B/L/D]

### Day 6: Niokolo Koba National Park

The fauna of Niokolo Koba National Park includes more than 80 species of mammals, 330 species of birds and hundreds of other species. The most impressive carnivores are obviously the lions, relatively easily observable in the park. But panthers, hyenas, jackals, mongooses and others have also made

their home there. Among the most common animal species we also find the buffalo, the Sable Antelope and several monkeys like the Green, Pata, Baboon and Chimpanzee. Morning and afternoon safari runs at the park. Meals and overnight at the hotel. [B/L/D]

**Day 7: Niokolo Koba National Park, Kedougou (Bassari Country)**

Early morning safari run and departure to Kedougou arriving in time for lunch. In the afternoon discover the Bédick mountains and the Bassari country. Walk to from Ibel to the Bédick Village of Iwol, the most authentic and accessible among the 7 Bedik villages remaining. Clinging to the top of the mountain, the landscape is breathtaking. A little effort and walking will be necessary for you to reach the village (without forgetting the water bottles). You will then discover the secrets of this Bedik ethnic group, extremely welcoming and warm. Return to Kedougou for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]



**Day 8: Kedougou (Dindéfelo)**

Today we visit the southern-most part of the country, near the Guinea border, to visit the Dindéfelo falls. Swimming is "mandatory" Picnic at the waterfalls and time to walk around. Return to Kedougou for dinner and overnight. [B/P/D]

**Note:** *If you can come in April or May, discover the prodigious traditional festivals and Bassari initiation rites, admire the colors and costumes worn for the occasion.*

**Day 9: Kédougou, Mako, Tambacounda**

On the way back stop at Mako to visit the artisanal gold mine, started in 2018 and expected to produce 4 tons of 18-karat gold per year. Continue to Tambacounda for lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, enjoy a city tour before check-in at the hotel for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

**Day 10: Tambacounda, Dakar, USA**

Breakfast and departure to Kaolack for lunch at the Relais Hotel. Then, continue to Dakar to board your flight back home. [B/L]

[B] = Breakfast | [D] = Dinner | [B/L] = Breakfast, Lunch | [B/L/D] = Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner | [B/P/D] = Breakfast, Picnic and Dinner

**Your Tour includes:**

- Arrival and departure transfers
- 9 nights' accommodation:
  - Dakar 3 nights
  - Tambacounda 2 nights
  - Niokolo Koba National Park 2 nights
  - Kedougou 2 nights
- Meals:
  - Breakfast daily
  - 5 lunches
  - 2 picnic lunches
  - 8 dinners
- Tour of Dakar
- Visit House of Slaves
- Excursion to Bandia Conservation Park
- Boat Ride on Somone Lagoon
- Safari in Niokolo Koba Nat'l Park
- Stay at Bassari Country
- Excursion to Ibel and Iwol
- Excursion to Dindafalo Waterfall
- Gold mine in Mako
- Entrance fees as required
- Transportation by 4x4 vehicle
- Private driver during the tour
- English-Speaking tour guide
- Bottle of water per person/day
- All local taxes

**Tour does not include:**

- International airfares
- Any taxes related to airfares or airports
- Meals not mentioned under inclusions
- Travel Insurance
- Visas
- Tips to guides or drivers
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Any item not mentioned as “Included”

**Hotels in your Tour:**

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
<b>First Class*</b>		
Dakar	Terrou-Bi	4
Niokolo Koba NP	Campement de Wassadou	4
Kédougou	Relais Le Bédik	4.5
Tambacounda	Chez Balingo Lodge	5

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

\* Best in town

**Tour Prices:**

These programs can be customized for individuals and groups. Changes to this program may be requested by phone (1855-55-TOURS) or using the web FIT Quote Request

- **Airfare**  
We also be glad to add the necessary airfare from your gateway so you take advantage of our special discounted leisure fares
- **Program**  
You may add or remove;
  - Trip days
  - Cities and sites
  - Meals
- **Other options**
  - The program was designed with private services; however, we may substitute shared sight-seeing where available
  - If you prefer deluxe services we may operate this program including private driver, private guide and concierge service.
- **Quotation**  
Once we have designed the program the way you want we'll give you a quote within 2 business days.

**Tour Code:** SN01DKR21FA

**Options:**

- Lunches and dinners can be arranged for individuals, families and groups at top restaurants or any restaurant requested by you.
- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.

**Group Quotations**

- If you wish to use these programs for your group or as the basis for a customized journey please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web Group Quote Request.

- In either case our specialists will work with to refine all the details and they will get you a quote with 2 business days. Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the land journey.
- Booking both air and land with us will represent savings for you because of our buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.

We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.