

Gerewol Festival - Woddaabe, M'bororo & Fula of Chad
12 days – 11 nights
N'Djamena, Dourbali, Chari River
Heritage, Ecology, Culture, History

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

This extraordinary journey takes you to meet the Wodaabe peoples. Every year, they meet for the Gerewol festival on the theme of beauty, seduction, and love to celebrate the end of the rainy season. Men develop an art of beauty, adornment and make-up in order to seduce women. In this mixture of language, custom and use of space is added a crucial and determining element: The elephants. On the congested and wet tracks, in boats on the river, from village to village we will hunt down the elephant trail, without being certain of meeting them (wild animals, hunted and poached sometimes) raising in our passage a multitude of questions, but above all provoking inevitably meeting and sharing. We offer you an immersive journey into the Chadian culture and the Wodaabe people in a magnificent and green setting, where man and nature mix!

Day 1: N'Djamena

After passing immigration and customs you'll be welcomed by our Chadian team and transferred to the hotel. Rest of the day to relax and rest from your trip. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. [D]

Day 2: N'Djamena, Dourbali

Breakfast and free morning. Meet your guide for lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon leave for the village of Dourbali to meet with the village chief and set up our camp for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

Days 3 to 6: Dourbali (Gerewol Festival)

The Gerewol festival is celebrated at the end of the rainy season (normally ends in September), when the pastures are full of water. This extraordinary festival celebrates seduction, beauty and love. This is an opportunity for the different peoples, nomads and herders to meet. Men develop an art of beauty, dance, in order to try and seduce women. We will go from village to village, some Fula camps will be moving others are already established for a long time, to attend the festivals. Meeting with the chefs, the women. These days are informal, because there is time for photos, meetings, sharing meals, milking cows and meetings with Arabs, camel herders who will also be in the area. Without forgetting the possibility of going to see the hippos towards the river. Lunches at local village eateries, breakfasts, dinners and overnights at the camp. [B/L/D]

Day 7: Dourbali, Chari River

Today we descend towards the Chari and cross it in a canoe to reach Stephanie's camp in time for lunch. In the afternoon we'll set off on the elephant trail. Return to the camp for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

Days 8 to 10: Chari River

Along the river, in a cart or in a boat, but also on foot and in a 4x4, through the villages we set off on the elephant trail. At each meeting, we will be told where the herd was last seen and it will be an opportunity to meet the traditional chiefs, stop at schools, watch the fishing and try your hand at launching the hawk (lead weighted net). We will take advantage of the weekly markets which offer a wide variety of products. Lunches en route, breakfast, dinners and overnights at the camp. [B/L/D]

Day 11: Chari River, N'Djamena (4:40 hours)

A last breakfast at the camp before starting our 5-hour trip to N'Djamena by 4x4 stopping en-route to have lunch. Free time after getting settle at the hotel. Farewell dinner at a city restaurant. Overnight at the hotel. [B/L/D]

Day 12: N'Djamena, USA

Free time for relaxing or last shopping depending on your flight's schedule. At the appointed time you'll be picked-up by your guide and driven to the airport to board your connecting flight home. [B]

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

Your Tours includes:

- Airfare between USA and N'Djamena
- Arrival and departure transfers
- 11 nights' accommodations:
 - N'Djamena 2 nights
 - Dourmali 5 nights
 - Chari River 4 nights
- Meals:
 - Breakfast daily
 - 10 lunches
 - 11 dinners
- Meet Dourmali's Village Chief
- Attend the Guerewal Festival
- Mix with local peoples:
 - Fula
 - Woddaabe
 - M'boro
- See hippos in their habitat

- Track elephants in Chari Valley
- Visit villages along the Chari River
- Explore local markets
- English-speaking driver/guide
- Transportation in A/C 4x4 vehicle
- Daily bottled water in the car
- All local taxes and fees

Tour does not include:

- Taxes or surcharges related to airline tickets
- Travel insurance
- Visa
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks
- Other meals not mentioned in itinerary
- Extras and gratuities
- Early check-in, late check-out
- Expenses of personal nature

Hotels in your Tour:

Location	Accommodation Name	Tripadvisor
Deluxe		
N'Djemena	Radisson Blue	4
Dourmali	Camp*	n/a
Chari River	Stephanie Camp*	n/a

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking | * Best available in location

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: TD02DJN21XX

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.

VISA INFORMATION:

A visa is required for most travelers to Chad. Visa applications, costs and relevant documentation are the responsibility of the traveler (please refer to <https://chad.travisa.com/> for more information). An invitation letter will be provided by our representatives once your booking is confirmed and we have received the passport information of each traveler.

HEALTH INFORMATION:

A yellow fever certificate is required to enter Chad and you will be asked to present it on arrival. It is difficult to bring aerosol insect repellents into Chad, so we suggest guests bring an insect repellent in cream form. Make sure you cover up with long sleeve shirts, trousers and closed shoes in the evenings. Tsetse flies can be a problem along certain parts of the Chari River Valley. While they have a nasty bite, they are generally harmless.