

Tour to Burkina-Faso: Tribal Art



Turkode
37067

Turen destinasjon
Ouagadougou

Destinasjoner
Burkina Faso

Reisen er levert av



Turen starter
Ouagadougou

9 dager
Fra : NOK

0

Oversikt

Enjoy a trip to the women and men of Burkina Faso who keep on perpetuating their ancestral traditions everyday: the Gurunsi women who paint beautiful frescoes on the walls; the Lobi who still build fortified houses; the tiny villages where the Bwa people dance covered with spectacular flat masks.

Reiserute

- Day 1: Join tour in Ouagadougou
- Day 2: Sahelian town, from Ouagadougou to Po
- Day 3: African frescoes, from Po to Leo
- Day 4: Fortified villages, from Leo to Gaoua
- Day 5: Traditional Chiefs, from Gaoua region
- Day 6: Rocky domes, from Gaoua to Banfora
- Day 7: Bobo Dioulasso, from Banfora to Bobo
- Day 8: Bwaba masks, from Bobo to Ouagadougou

Day 9: Village museum, from Ouagadougou to Manega and back to Ouagadougou



A fantastic cultural journey to meet the populations of Burkina Faso who still live following their ancestral traditions: the Gurunsi women who paint beautiful frescoes on the walls of their houses; the Lobi who still build fortified homes; the Bwa who dance dressed up in spectacular flat masks up to two meters high. The visit of Bobo-Dioulasso with its colonial past is also a must. For travelers who like cultural and tribal journeys in Africa.

Day 1: Ouagadougou

Arrival in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) and transfer to the hotel. Free time to relax.

Overnight: Hotel Le Grand Calao or similar (all rooms ensuite and with aircon)

Day 2: Sahelian town, from Ouagadougou to Po (B,L,D)

Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso, lies in the middle of West African savannah. Life happens in and around the streets, in a unique fusion of village and town ambiances: old taxis, bicycles, scooters, donkeys pulling chariots, porters carrying big loads on the heads, traders selling colorful goods, small open air restaurants with loud music, chickens and goats everywhere eating spilled food, a colorful hand-painted board advertising a local «coiffeur» in the shade of a mango tree etc. In street markets colors are brilliant and smells very strong. In the suburb there is a large area dedicated to the exhibition of the craftsmen's work, a great opportunity to appreciate artists' skills and the beauty of African craftworks. In the afternoon departure southwards.

Approx. distance: 150 km - 3 hr

Overnight: Hotel Envoy or similar (all rooms ensuite and with aircon)

Day 3: African frescoes, from Po to Leo (B,L,D)

In the southern Savannah we meet with the Gurunsi tribe living in adobe fortified buildings decorated with amazing black, red and white African frescoes. Their society is organized around gender: men are in charge of constructions while women take care of painting and decorating, using natural colours on an okra background. Men build houses by putting different layers of clay over support pillars and arches, walls and terraces are then made waterproof by spreading a mixture with zebu dung. It is at this point that women take over and paint amazingly beautiful and intricate frescoes.

An excellent example of African art where architecture and painting merge and give life to a "fluid" masterpiece, the kind of sculptural architecture that highly influenced the work of Le Corbusier. And the only way to really understand and appreciate the intense beauty of this art-work is to see it first hand. Continuation to Leo, visiting villages on the way.

Approx. distance: 190 km - 4hr

Overnight: Auberge de la Sissili or similar (all rooms ensuite and with aircon)

Day 4: Fortified villages, from Leo to Gaoua (B,L,D)

Day dedicated to the exploration of a region rarely visited by tourists. Here we meet with the Dagarti people who share the same environment with the Lobi and just like them they build fortified houses. Still today they keep strong ties to the invisible world of Spirits, represented by fetishes, altars and sacred sites.

In the afternoon visit of some Lobi villages. The Lobi of Burkina are the shiest members of this tribe who has spread throughout Burkina Faso, Ghana and the Ivory Coast. Here in Burkina they also appear to have the most characteristic villages - probably their shy behaviour has helped them keep their traditions more intact. Each family lives in a big fortified building made out of clay and they carve wooden statues for the cult of their ancestors. Men still move around armed with bows and arrows while old women may wear a small disc on the lower lip. During our visit we will be accompanied by a guide speaking the Lobi dialect and this will enable us to overcome their innate distrust and make us welcomed.

Approx. distance: 250 km - 5 hr

Overnight: Hotel Hala or similar (all rooms ensuite and with aircon)

Day 5: Traditional Chiefs, from Gaoua region (B,L,D)

We continue our visit of the Lobi fortified villages and also stop at Loropeni Ruins, a “mysterious” place. Loropéni figures on the UNESCO World Heritage List and covers an area of 10 sqkm. Its array of stone walls is one of the best preserved examples of fortified settlement in West Africa and it probably dates back to many centuries, when gold mining was at its peak. At Obire we will possibly meet with the traditional Chief of the Gan Dynasty and his court - a great opportunity to personally ask questions on the role of traditional chiefs in modern Africa. The Gan live in polygamous compound groups: a man and his wives live around a courtyard together, the man in a rectangular hut while each wife in her own circular house.

Approx. distance: 150 km - 4 hr

Overnight: Hotel Hala or similar (all rooms ensuite and with aircon)

Day 6: Rocky domes, from Gaoua to Banfora (B,L,D)

On the way to Banfora, along the road, we shall meet communities of gold miners, who, even nowadays, still dig deep tunnels in search for the precious mineral.

The region of Banfora is so rich of surprises. Across vast sugar cane plantations, we reach the “Les Domes de Fadébougou”, a location where millennia of water and wind erosion have given rocks the shape of a dome overlooking the plain. And from the top we will enjoy a beautiful panorama. We then continue to Kerfiéguela Waterfalls to have the opportunity to jump into the water and freshen up, always enjoyable when surrounded by arid savannah.

Approx. distance: 220 km - 5 hr

Overnight: Hotel Canne à Sucre or similar (all rooms ensuite and with aircon)

Day 7: Bobo Dioulasso, from Banfora to Bobo (B,L,D)

We drive to Bobo Dioulasso.

Bobo Dioulasso, the second largest city in Burkina after Ouagadougou, is a charming African city, certainly the greenest in the country. Many of its neighbourhoods have maintained a peculiar colonial atmosphere while the train station was built in Neo-Moorish style. In a radically different style is the mosque, built in purely Sudanese style in 1880 or 1893.

Despite being a big city, life here still moves at a slow pace and the rich diversity of its inhabitants creates a unique charme.

In 1891, French explorer Crozat used these words to describe the importance of trade in Bobo Dioulasso: “the caravans coming from the South bring cola nuts and fabric; the Northern ones come loaded with salt; iron tools and glass beads come from the East while Gold arrives from Lobi country”.

Free time to visit some antique shops which offer wonderful wooden masks in the most diverse shapes: butterflies, owls, alligators etc

Approx. distance: 150 km - 3 hr

Overnight: L'Auberge or similar (all rooms ensuite and with aircon)

Day 8: Bwaba masks, from Bobo to Ouagadougou (360 km – 6 hr)

Departure early in the morning for a long drive back to the capital city. In a small village we assist to an incredible performance of the Bobo-Bwa masks. These wooden masks represent different characters related to the myths of their families and clans.

They embody the spirits of the village, ancestors and Mother Nature. Some stand for animals while others represent bush spirits. The “plank masks”, with a styled face topped by a tall rectangular plank, are very impressive and tend to be painted on both sides with awesome geometrical patterns. Like all masks of the Volta region, also the Bwa ones are chromatic with white, red and black as predominant colors. Everybody puts on the best traditional outfit for the ceremony and, in the middle of the village, waits for the masks. It is “the” event. All of a sudden drums announce the dance and Spirits arrive in many shapes. Movements are fast, following the rhythm of drums and flutes. The audience participates in the ceremony with their songs, comments and laughs. It is a form of street theatre that puts together sacred ancestral traditions and cheerful entertainment.

The Bwa of Burkina Faso are the farmers of the savannah and most of them have remained faithful to their traditional religion where masks are regularly used to celebrate their myths. Their society is also divided into specific corporations: peasants, blacksmiths and “griots” (term indicating “story-tellers”, those who have the task to tell the events of the past, to recount history). In the afternoon arrival in Ouagadougou .

Approx. distance 360 km - 6 hr

Overnight: Hotel Le Grand Calao or similar (all rooms ensuite and with aircon)

Day 9: Village museum, from Ouagadougou to Manega and back to Ouagadougou (B,L,)

Manega museum : one of the best museums in West Africa. A cultural landmark created by the lawyer-poet Frédéric Pacéré Titinga with the goal to re-situate African art in the natural context of village life.

In the afternoon free time for last purchases in the “Village Artisanal” and in the evening transfer to the airport for the flight out.

Approx. distance: 130 km - 3 hr

Day-use: Rooms in day-use till 18.00 hrs (all rooms ensuite and with aircon)

Viktig Informasjon

Price includes:

- ▄ Assistance at Ouagadougou airport upon arrival and departure
- ▄ Transfers and tour in minibuses/microbuses and/or 4WD vehicles
- ▄ Local guide (languages spoken: English, French, German, Italian and Spanish)
- ▄ Tours and visits as per the programme
- ▄ Accommodation in standard rooms, as per itinerary
- ▄ All meals as described, from breakfast on day 2 to lunch on day 9: B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner
- ▄ Mineral water in the bus/car during the visits
- ▄ Entrance fees to parks, concessions, protected areas and cultural sites
- ▄ First Aid box
- ▄ All service charges and taxes

Not included:

- ▄ International flights to/from Ouagadougou
- ▄ Visa fees and any airport departure taxes
- ▄ Any meal or sightseeing tour other than those specified
- ▄ Mineral water and drinks at meals
- ▄ Porterage
- ▄ Fees for personal photos and videos
- ▄ Personal and holiday insurance (compulsory)
- ▄ Tips for drivers, guides and hotel staff
- ▄ Any item of personal nature such as phone calls, laundry, etc.
- ▄ Costs relating to delayed or lost luggage
- ▄ Whatever is not mentioned as included

Other useful travel information

Single Supplement: EUR215

Visa: Burkina Faso - single entry visa

Vaccinations: Yellow fever – compulsory; malaria prophylaxis - highly recommended.

Meals: lunch, picnic or at local restaurants (tourist menus); dinner at the hotel restaurant (tourist menu)

Luggage: max 20 kg and in duffle bags

Travel insurance: compulsory for medical assistance and evacuation in case of emergency

Means of transportation: microbus or minibus or 4x4 vehicles

Children on our tours? Trans Africa team is used to travelling with children. We can say that to really enjoy the trip they must be at least 8-10 years old.

Are all the festivals offered by Trans Africa truly traditional or they are only staged for tourists? The traditional festivals of the countries in which Trans Africa organizes the journeys are true and not “for tourists”. This is a specific “quality trademark” of Trans Africa: to offer the travellers the opportunity for genuine contact with the daily reality of the populations that they encounter

- ▄ All our trips are designed to be flexible so that we can adapt to weather conditions, focus on the group's interests and take advantage of opportunities that arise once there.

- ⌘ Considering the special nature of the journey, some parts may be modified due to unpredictable factors and are based on unarguable decisions of the local guide. Costs originating from such variations will be sole responsibility of the participants. Of course the guide will do his/her utmost to adhere to the original program.
- ⌘ There are 6 border-crossings in African countries, hence some delays are to be expected and patience is necessary.
- ⌘ The tour may be reversed without any amendment to program
- ⌘ Prices could change in case of major changes in services costs, beyond the organizer's will

Discovery Tour: the best of our ethnographic and nature tours planned for “adventurous” travelers who wish to explore these countries with the highest comfort available (all overnights are in hotels with aircon and ensuite facilities - best available hotels while in tour and 4* hotels when staying in the capitals). Upon request, on exclusive FIT basis and at an extra charge we can also upgrade these tours by guaranteeing window seat to each guest, managing 1-2 nights on a row in the same hotel, booking 5* hotels in the capital cities and “boutique hotels” whenever available

Priser / Datoer

Ved skriftlig aksept av vårt tilbud bekrefter du/dere at våre betingelser er både lest og forstått og at evt kansellerings gebyrer kan tilkomme ved en evt. avbestilling av reisen

Tilgjengelige datoer	Pris (1 voksen)	Pris (1 barn)	Status reise
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Vi vil komme tilbake til deg med et tilbud på den forespurte reisen/pakken i løpet av 48 timer. Alle tilbud er uforpliktende og er vanligvis gyldige i 7 dager. Vi gjør oppmerksom på at reserverte tjenester kan bli kansellert innenfor disse 7 dagene og at pris kan endres inntil en endelig bestilling er mottatt.



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