

## SPECIAL CARNIVAL TRIP: **2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019**

### BISSAU CARNIVAL. TRADITION, CULTURE AND NATURE IN GUINEA BISSAU

---



#### HOLIDAY FEATURES

- ★ **Duration:** 11 days / 10 nights.
- ★ **Type of journey:** Anthropology, Culture, Ecotourism and Nature.
- ★ **Accommodation:** Orango Parque Hotel, Hotel Coimbra in Bissau.
- ★ **Accommodation plan:** Full board.
- ★ **Means of transportation:** Boat and minibus/car.
- ★ **Local tour Guide:** Spanish, English and Portuguese.

This year during Carnival we are going to discover Guinea Bissau and immerse ourselves in the Bijagó culture for one of their most spectacular events: Carnival.

It begins with the arrival, from the islands, of the comparsa of the Bijagos islands full of color, rhythm and tradition. We will witness a unique carnival: a spectacle that mesmerizes the audience with magic, the energy of its cultural performances, traditional dances and Bijagó music that will flood the entire scene. It is a trip overflowing with culture and tradition.

It is a trip that perfectly combines cultural traditions and ecotourism. The route will take us through Orango National Park to observe its wildlife and gorgeous landscapes including islands, savannahs and mangrove forests, all while visiting different tabankas, or villages. We will visit the Anor Region to get a close-up look at the saltwater **hippo**, and then we will move on to Canogo Island which is replete with a myriad of giant Ceiba trees reaching more than 3 meters high.

This is more than just a trip: it is a magical show full of cultural traditions amid natural surroundings of incomparable beauty.

#### DEPARTURES DATE:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019 (may be subject to changes)



## ITINERARY:

**Day 1:** Depart from city of origin. Arrive in Bissau. Airport pick-up and transfer to the hotel in Bissau

**Day 2:** In the morning transfer to the Biombo Region. Lunch at the hotel in Quinhamel. Afternoon "Circuito das Balobas" Tour to get to know the Papel ethnic group as well as their *balobas*, or sacred places, in the Biombo region. After lunch, visit the weaving and activities of the Guinean NGO Artissal with the local community. Overnight at hotel in Quinhamel.

**Day 3:** In the morning transfer to Bissau to enjoy the carnival. Bissau vibrates to the rhythm of orchestras, percussion groups, dancers and masks that parade through the streets. Overnight at hotel in Bissau.

**Day 4:** Farewell to the Carnival, great final parade and awards ceremony to the winners of all modalities. Overnight at hotel in Bissau.

**Day 5:** Boat transport to Orango National Park, passing by small islands and sandbanks (4 hours by boat). Lunch at Orango Parque Hotel. A visit to the *tabanka* (village) of Eticoga and the tomb of Queen Okimka-Pampa. Overnight at Orango Parque Hotel.

**Day 6:** A visit to one of the most spectacular places on Orango Grande Island: the Anor Region. Possibility of observing saltwater hippos in their natural habitat, crocodiles, birds, and other interesting fauna. A walk through mangrove forests and savannahs (3 - hour route). Overnight at Orango Parque Hotel.

**Day 7:** In the morning and due to the tide schedule, we will accompany the Bijagós women in the traditional activity of the seafood harvest. Lunch at the Orango Parque Hotel. In the afternoon, research and recognition of footprints and traces of the local fauna and visit to an art office of wood craftsmen. Overnight at the Orango Parque Hotel.

**Day 8:** A visit to the *tabanka* (village) of Ambuduco, the oldest in the National Park. We will walk along the river bed and will eventually wade across it. Mangroves and forests. The *tabanka* (village) is a key spot which is representative of the Bijagó culture (5-hour trail along a circular route). Overnight at Orango Parque Hotel.

**Day 9:** Kayak excursion through mangrove forests and bird-watching. Picnic on the beach. Overnight at Orango Parque Hotel.

**Day 10:** Full-day visit to Canogo Island to get a first-hand look at the Bijagó culture. Picnic lunch. Overnight at Orango Parque Hotel.

**Day 11:** Boat transfer to Quinhamel followed by ground transfer to Bissau. Transfer to airport. Flight departure back to city of origin.

PRICES PER PERSON	
MIN/MAX GROUP: 6/20 PASSENGERS	
Base Price	1.755€
Single Supplement	320€
Special Supplement	150€
Group Supplement 6-8 (both inclusive)	100€

## INCLUDED:

- Transfers to and from Bissau airport
- Interior land and sea transport
- Full board accommodation
- Entrance tickets to the National Park and tours included in the route
- International flights
- Airline fees
- Visas
- Beverages
- Tips
- Any other point not included in the "included" section

## NOT INCLUDED:

**NOTE:** The itinerary and visits are subject to be changed by the company depending on the weather, the tides, and route conditions.