

## SPECIAL CARNIVAL TRIP: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2021

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

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#### CHARACTERISTICS:

- ★ **Duration:** 8 days/7 nights.
- ★ **Type of holiday:** Anthropology, Culture, Ecotourism and Nature.
- ★ **Accommodation:** Orango Parque Hotel, Hotel Imperio/Ceiba in Bissau.
- ★ **Meals:** Full board.
- ★ **Means of transportation:** Boat and minibus/car.
- ★ **Local guides:** Spanish, English and Portuguese.

During the 2021 Carnival we're going to discover Guinea Bissau and immerse ourselves in the Bijagó culture and experience one of their most spectacular events: Carnival.

It all begins with the arrival, from the islands, of processions from the Bijagós islands full of colour, rhythm and tradition. We'll witness a unique carnival: a mesmerising spectacle full of magic, energetic cultural performances, traditional dances and Bijagó music that will fill the atmosphere. This is a trip brimming with culture and tradition.

It's a holiday that perfectly combines cultural traditions and ecotourism. Our route will take us through Orango National Park to observe its wildlife and gorgeous landscapes including islands, savannahs, mangrove forests as well as the *tabankas* or villages. We'll also visit the Anor region where we will try to find the **saltwater hippo**, then moving on to Canogo Island which has a large number of giant ceiba trees reaching more than 3 metres high.

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

#### DEPARTURE DATES:

- 13 February 2021

## 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. In the afternoon, a "Balobas Tour" to get to know the Papel people, as well as their *balobas*, or sacred places, in the Biombo region. After lunch, a visit to the weaving looms and activities of the Guinean NGO Artissal, also involving the local community. Overnight at a hotel in Quinhamel.

**Day 3:** Visit to the city of Bissau in the morning: the traditional Bamdim market, the port and its streets. We'll have the chance to visit the places where artists handcraft the masks for the Carnival parade. Bissau vibrates with the sound of its bands and drum groups while dancers and masked people march in the streets. Throughout the different districts we'll come across other local parades of different associations, etc. Overnight in Quinhamel.

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

**Day 5:** A visit to one of the most spectacular places on the island of Orango Grande: the Anor region. From the beach of the Orango Parque Hotel we'll walk along the river, surrounded by mangroves. During the boat trip we'll be able to observe flamingos, African spoonbills, pelicans and thousands of European waders that winter in Africa. We'll cross the mangrove and enter the herbaceous savanna with tall grasses and scattered trees. On the way we'll visit the most significant *tabankas* and lagoons in the area, where we can observe birds and other representative animals of this National Park (4-hour tour). Overnight at the Orango Parque Hotel.

**Day 6:** Depending on the tide, we'll meet the Bijagó women during their daily shell fishing and will even take part in it. We'll also see the men fishing with their traditional nets. Lunch at the Orango Parque Hotel. Overnight at the Orango Parque Hotel.

**Day 7:** A visit to the *tabanka* (village) of Ambuduco, the oldest in the National Park. We'll walk along the river course and finally wade across it, seeing mangroves and forests. *Tabankas* are key places and representative of the Bijagó culture (5-hour circular walk). Farewell dinner. Overnight at the Orango Parque Hotel.

**Day 8:** Boat to Quinhamel (4 hours) followed by land transport to Bissau. Transfer to airport. Flight departure back to city of origin.

PRICE PER PERSON (in euros)	
MIN/MAX GROUP: 6/20 PASSENGERS	
Price Twin Room (9-20 people)	1,530
Single Room Supplement	260
Special Supplement	150
Group Supplement 6-8 people (both inclusive)	135

## INCLUDED:

- Transfers to and from Bissau airport
- Internal transfers by land and sea
- Full board accommodation (without beverages)
- National Park fees and tours included in the itinerary
- Airline taxes
- Visas
- Beverages
- Tips
- Any other point not contained in the "Included" section

## NOT INCLUDED:

- International flights

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