

Tchon Bijagó Circuit. The African paradise recognized by UNESCO as a Natural World Heritage Site.

Only for responsible travelers



Duration: 8 days / 7 nights



Trip type: Nature, ecotourism, and culture



Accommodation: Orango Parque Hotel; Royal/Ceiba Hotel in Bissau



Meal plan: Full board



Transport: Boat and minibus/car



Local guide: "Portuñol"

Discover a newly recognized **UNESCO** sanctuary hidden in the heart of the African Atlantic: the **two national parks of Orango and Poilão** in the Bijagó Archipelago. A mosaic of untouched islands, endless beaches, and legendary mangroves where nature reveals itself in its purest form and ancestral culture pulses in every corner.

This **exclusive journey** has been designed for discerning and conscious travelers seeking unique experiences without compromising respect for the environment. Sailing through turquoise waters leads to **natural sanctuaries** where endangered green and leatherback turtles nest, and where it is possible to spot saltwater hippos—unique in the world—as well as dolphins, manatees, and spectacular migratory birds. The landscape is simply unforgettable: the only active deltaic archipelago on Africa's Atlantic coast and one of the most singular on the planet.

Beyond its scenic beauty, encounters with the **Bijagó people** add a deeply human dimension to the journey. Community living reveals a sustainable way of life, intimately connected to **land and sea**. Their matrilineal traditions, artistic richness, and spiritual rituals are shared with genuine hospitality, turning the stay into a **true cultural exchange**.

Here, you don't just observe: you connect, you learn, and you become part—if only for a few days—of one of the last authentic paradises of West Africa.

NOTE: The itinerary and visits are subject to change by the organization depending on weather conditions, tidal schedules, or the state of the routes, in order to ensure safety, quality, and comfort throughout the experience.

Departure dates:

Saturday to Saturday (Oct-Dec)



Itinerary

Day 1: Departure from the city of origin. Arrival in the capital, **Bissau**. Airport reception and transfer to the hotel in Bissau. Free afternoon to experience the authentic atmosphere of the capital – its colors, sounds, and encounters – where the journey truly begins. Overnight in a hotel in Bissau.

Day 2: Heading to the island paradise. Departure to the port of Quinhamel (45 min) and boarding towards **Orango National Park** (4 hours). The crossing itself is an experience, passing small wild islands and white sandbanks. Arrival and lunch at the hotel. In the afternoon, visit to the tabanka of Eticoga and the mausoleum of the last Bijagó queen, Okimka-Pampa. We will also learn about the cooperation projects promoted by Orango Parque Hotel and the CBD-Habitat Foundation, an example of how responsible tourism can generate real impact. Overnight at Orango Parque Hotel.

Day 3: Nature in its purest form. Exploration of the Anor region, one of the most extraordinary natural settings on **Orango Grande Island**. From the coast, we walk through vast savannahs dotted with scattered trees and seasonal lagoons where wildlife appears without filter. Here we may observe a wide variety of birds and emblematic species of the national park such as **saltwater hippos** (Oct-Dec), crocodiles, and monitor lizards. Overnight at Orango Parque Hotel.

Day 4: Poilão, a wildlife sanctuary. Navigation to the **João Vieira-Poilão Marine National Park** (4 hours), with a stop at a deserted island for a simple but memorable picnic. Arrival at **Poilão Island**, one of the most important places in the world for green turtle nesting. This sacred islet, covered with baobabs and ceibas, remains uninhabited, allowing hundreds of **green turtles** to come ashore at night to lay eggs on its pristine beaches. At high tide, up to 200 turtles may be nesting simultaneously in the white sand. At night, accompanied by local guides, we witness this powerful natural spectacle. Overnight in a camp on Poilão.

Day 5: Between mangroves and traditions. Return to Orango through the inner channels, following the tides, crossing the **Orango National Park** from south to north. The journey reveals dolphins, fishing birds at work, and traditional pirogues crossing the horizon like a frozen scene in time. In the afternoon, we experience Bijagó daily life: artisanal fishing, shellfish gathering, or visits to ancient salt pans, always guided by the rhythm of the sea. Overnight at Orango Parque Hotel.

Day 6: Canogo, the green island. The most forested island of the national park, preserving one of the best-preserved tropical forests in the archipelago. We navigate through silent channels to a small local port where time seems to slow down. Here the forest remains intact and culture lives authentically; we will have the opportunity for close contact with Bijagó traditions. Farewell dinner. Overnight at Orango Parque Hotel.

Day 7: Return to the mainland, Bissau. Boat crossing to Quinhamel and road transfer to Bissau. Free afternoon for shopping, walks, or simply to extend the sensations of the journey. Overnight in Bissau.

Day 8: Transfer to the airport and return flight to the country of origin.

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Price per person (group of 6 to 15 travelers)

Base price (9-15 pax): 1.745€

Supplement small **group** (6-8 pax, both included): 250€

Single room supplement: 290€

Premium bungalow supplement at Orango Parque Hotel: 175€

Included

Guide from the travel agency

Local escort/guide

Airport transfers in Bissau (arrival and departure)

Inland transport (land and sea)

Accommodation on full board at Orango Parque Hotel (drinks not included)

Accommodation with breakfast in a hotel in Bissau

Entry to national parks and visits included in the itinerary

Contribution to a local community solidarity project

Not included

International flights

Airport taxes

Visa fees

Meals in Bissau (days 1, 7 and 8 of the itinerary)

Drinks

Tips

Any other services not specified in the "Included" section

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