

NIGERIA

INTRODUCTION TO THE YORUBA UNIVERSE IN THE SOUTH-WEST OF NIGERIA

(12 DAYS)

The Yoruba territory is full of surprises for those travellers searching for authentic African experiences. The area receives little tourism and few know that south-western Nigeria is one of the most interesting regions in West Africa. The Yoruba cosmology is amazing and thanks to the local guides you will be able to appreciate its complexity. The best way to understand a culture is by exploring its villages, talking to the people, observing rituals and tasting the local food. This tour has been designed to experience all this and more.

Most of Nigeria is safe for visitors but the Delta Region (South-east) and some of the neighbourhoods of Lagos should be avoided.

Fitness level required: basic

Note: For a complete visit of Nigeria, our "Hausa Kingdoms of northern Nigeria" itinerary can be attached to this one, converting the same in 19-day tour.



DAY 1:

Arrival to Lagos

DAY 2:

Lagos - Abeokuta (introduction to the Yoruba culture, visit fetish house and sacred forest, stop at the bleeding Rock, visit a textile workshop where traditional Yoruba Batik loins are woven)

DAY 3:

Abeokuta – Ibadan - Oyo (explore Dugbe market, Oyo was the capital of an ancient Yoruba Kingdom, visit the Oba's Palace and talk with the King)

DAY 4:

Oyo – Iwerre Ile (visit a calabash and leather workshop and one of Aso Oke textile, trek to small rural Yoruba communities; you can observe the older people still with traditional facial scarifications, home-stay in Iwerre Ile)

DAY 5:

Iwerre Ile – Oyo (2 hour hike to the top of Mountain Rock of Iwerre Ile, views over Benin if a clear sky, 1,5 hour hike back)

DAY 6:

Oyo – Ilorin (Shango Sanctuary - almighty thunder God - Alafin's royal Palace)

DAY 7:

Ilorin (Essie and its peculiar museum of carved stones, explore Ilorin, one of the most emblematic Mosques of the country can be found in this Yoruba / Fulani town)

DAY 8:

Ilorin – Oshogbo (courtesy meeting with the Oba of Oshogbo, on the way stop at the Sanctuary of Oshun - fertility deity - and Shango's wife. In the afternoon explore the Oshogbo shrine - UNESCO heritage site- a magical place with loads of Yoruba religious symbols)

DAY 9:

Oshogbo – Ife (sacred city of Ife, cradle of Yoruba Civilisation, the Palace of Ooni Oba of Ife, the National Museum with interesting bronze and terracotta objects)

DAY 10:

Ife - Ibadan -Lagos (stop at Ibadan, commercial Yoruba city with interesting Afro-Brazilian constructions, free afternoon on the beach of Lagos)

DAY 11:

Lagos - Badagri – Lagos (explore Badagri town and its slave trade Museum. Shopping in Lagos at the Sururele art and craft center). In the evening: Final departure.

DAY 12:

Arrival to European airport (if travelling with Royal Air Maroc one can visit Casablanca City Centre).

Recommended Period: All year round

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