

Crucibles of West Africa

Cruise from Ghana to Senegal and you'll experience a combination of intriguing cultures, colourful history and remarkable wildlife. Discover the bustling cities of Sierra Leone with their histories as settlements for freed American slaves, before sailing to the Gambia via far-flung islands covered in captivating mangroves, home to pygmy cows. Your journey ends in the energetic city of Dakar, Senegal, finishing an incredible voyage to some of Africa's least-visited cultures, cities and landscapes.

- Uncover the dark history of UNESCO World Heritage Site Elmina Castle and its history in the slave trade.
- Experience a truly magical day at Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary, a lush safe haven for rescued chimpanzees.
- Discover beautiful beaches, crystal-clear waters and age-old traditions on the Bijagos archipelago. These sparsely populated islands' people and culture have remained unchanged for centuries.
- Wander the colonial-era building-lined streets of the charming town of Grand-Bassam, the former capital of French West Africa and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Tema (Accra) to Dakar

► SH Vega 🖺 13 nights

DAY VISITING

- 1 Tema (Accra)
- 2 Cape Coast (Fort William)
- 3 Elimna Point
- 3 Takoradi
- 4 Abidjan
- 5 At Sea
- 6 Monrovia
- 7 At Sea8 Freetown
- 9 At Sea
- 10-11 Bijagos Archipelago*
- 12 Banjul
- 13-14 Dakar

*Local conditions will determine when and where we can disembark and explore. But, whatever the program, you can be sure that you will experience the rich diversity of the archipelago up close.









erial view Bijagos Archipelago, Guinea Bissau

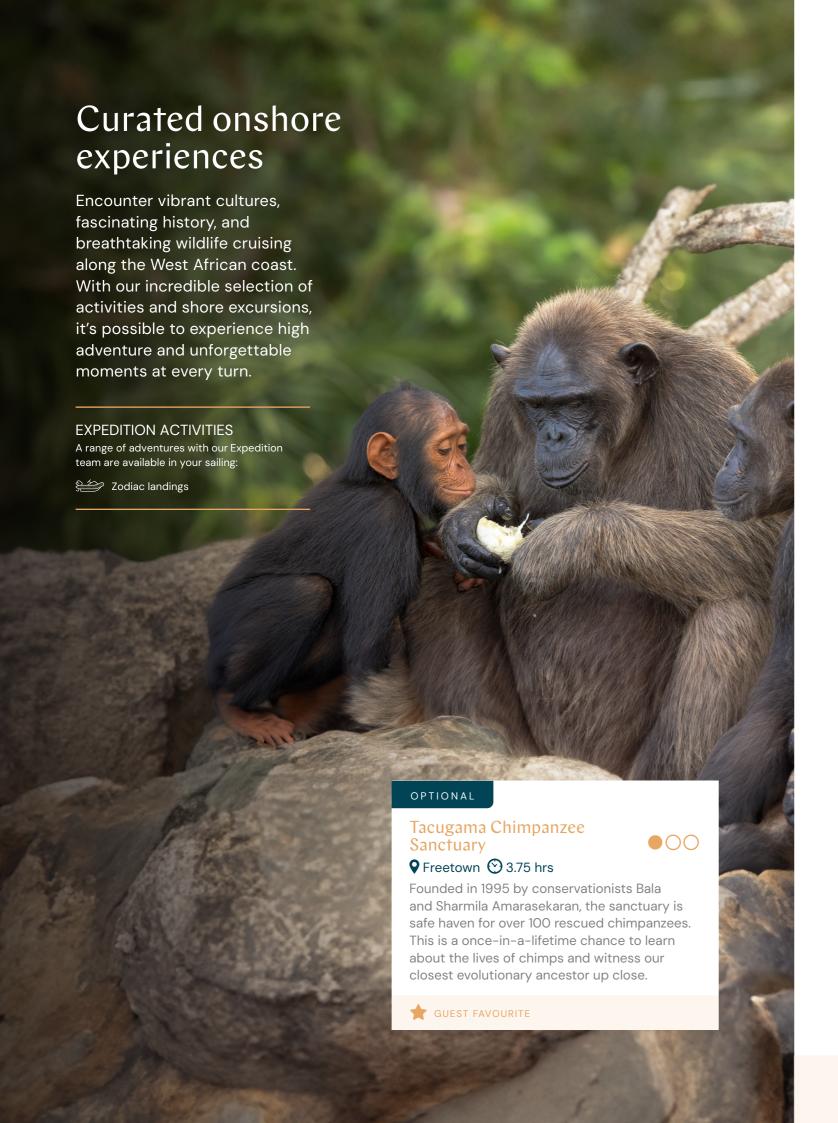








transfer airport/hotel one night pre-cruise transfer hotel/port transfer port/airport











Colonial Grand Bassam & Chocolate Factory

Abidjan 6.75 hrs

The first capital of Côte d'Ivoire, this late 19thcentury colonial town is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The National Costume Museum holds fascinating insights to the local culture and history. Visit a factory to see and smell organic cocoa turning into dark chocolate.

Kakum National Park's Canopy Walkway

• Cape Coast (Fort William) • 4 hrs

Travel inland to Kakum National Park and discover Africa's world-famous rainforest canopy walkway. Seven platforms and rope bridges 40 meters above the forest floor enable outstanding views across this habitat that has over 300 bird and 40 mammal species.

Goree Island

Open Dakar 4 hrs

Explore where slaves used to be shipped to the Americas. Learn about this dark period at Fort of Estree's historic museum and the house of the slaves. Stroll through the beautiful alleys of the island, lined with houses which date back to colonial times.

Elmina Castle & City Walk

PElmina Point 2.25 hrs

Gaze at colourful wooden boats sailing in and out of Elmina's lagoon area. Stroll through atmospheric alleyways and visit the local fish market. Discover Elmina Castle, the oldest European building in Africa used to trade gold, ivory and eventually slaves.

Onboard lectures with Emily Clarke and Dean Allen

This sailing welcomes 2 acclaimed guest lecturers. Dr Dean Allen is an international motivational speaker, author and historian, who has been published widely on the history and politics of society throughout the British Empire. Emily Clarke has over 15 years' wildlife experience. She specialises in gorillas, and has taken part in conservation and community development projects across Africa addressing human-wildlife conflicts.







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