



The Traveler's Notebook

December 2009

Ghana - Land of Gold

Akwaaba! Welcome! Ghanaians are known as a warm and extremely friendly people. Visitors are warmly greeted when arriving in Ghana. Anyone who has spent any amount of time will attest to this. Hospitality is the hallmark of Ghana.

Basic Facts: Ghana became the first sub-Saharan nation to gain independence from British rule on March 6, 1957. Ghana is situated on the Atlantic coast in West Africa. Its official language is English. Today it is an accepted fact that Ghana is a stable, multi-party, democratic nation.

President Clinton visited Ghana. Former President Carter since leaving the White House has returned numerous times. Various celebrities and royalty from around the world have also visited, and Oprah is coming in the near future. What draws people to Ghana, being a developing world, admittedly in many ways lacks some of the infrastructure of the West. However, unlimited opportunity to explore and culture, enjoy music and art, see traditional African history, witness traditional festivals, regalia, traditional dancing and drumming, observe people living ordinary everyday lives reflecting rich cultural traditions, kente cloth weavers, wildlife, world heritage sites and a friendly people all adds up to a winning formula. This is Ghana. You visit once and you're hooked.



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Above: Stunning vertical view of canopy walkway in Kakum National Park. **At left:** Elmina Castle. **At right:** Statue of Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana's first president.



African Travel Seminars
17014 Everest Path
Farmington, MN 55024
612-216-5457

georgina@africantravelseminars.com

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a Whole New Way!*

Did you know.....

...Ghana was first named The Gold Coast because the Europeans found so much gold in the country?

...Ghana has the world's largest manmade lake (Volta Lake) resulting from the building of the dam?

...Mr. Kofi Annan, retired Secretary-General of the UN was awarded Nobel Peace in 2001?

...Ghanaians are named according to the day of the week they are born?

...Annie Jjagge was the first female judge of the Court of Appeals anywhere in the Commonwealth (1969); then Ghana's first female Supreme Court judge?

Our Philosophy

We strive to provide quality travel opportunities that respect and sustain the indigenous cultures and local environment, as well as provide positive, cross-cultural interactions with members of the local populations in mutually beneficial ways.

Our program participants learn about the countries before they travel. While abroad, we then make it possible for participants to meet and learn firsthand from locals in cities and in villages. Our programs allow you to explore countries in Africa as well as select communities in Central and South America that have rich African history and heritage. You also have opportunities to participate in development projects.

Highlights of Ghana

Cape Coast and Elmina castles (United Nations World Heritage Sites), help you understand the history of Trans Atlantic slave trade, Kakum National Park's canopy walkway - the only one of its kind in Africa - and Mole National Park with wildlife viewing on foot feature spectacular views. Further south is Fiema Buabeng where the mona monkeys have a unique relationship with town residents. Not to be missed is Bonwire, the village where the colorful kente cloth is still woven on handmade looms, the Ashanti Kings palace, and craft villages where woodcarvers can be observed carving royal stools and fertility dolls. All ten regions in Ghana are unique and provide something for every taste. Above all, the lasting relations you will forge with Ghanaians will make your visit truly memorable.



Inside Cape Coast Castle's courtyard



Cape Coast Castle's door of no return

Request for Program Information

Name _____

Address _____

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telephone _____

____ Individual traveler ____ small group travel (Family/Church/Organization/School)

I'm interested in exploring programs to:

__ South Africa __ Ghana __ Morocco __ The Holy Land __ Kenya
__ Tanzania __ Egypt __ Costa Rica __ Other _____

I generally travel/vacation in (month) _____. My next anticipated trip will be in (year) _____.

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