



## GHANA TOUR ITINERARY

### Day 1 Wednesday Sept. 28 – US Departure

Depart the US FOR AN OVERNIGHT FLIGHT TO ACCRA GHANA on SAA (Flight Schedules for 2020 will be presented at a later date)

### Day 2 Thursday Sept. 29 - ARRIVE IN ACCRA

Upon arrival at Kotoka International Airport, proceed through immigration, claim luggage and clear Custom procedures, exit and meet our expert Cultural Tour guide. We will enjoy an introductory tour of Accra before transfer to our hotel. We will stop at the Accra mall briefly to change money/have lunch (on your own account), drive past the Flagstaff House, Ghana's White House on our way to where Ghana hosts most of her national ceremonies and you will also see the enclosed flame of African liberation, which was lit by Dr. Kwame Nkrumah in 1961. Transfer to your hotel; check in, unpack, refresh and prepare for a heartwarming welcome dinner. **Labadi Beach Hotel- Meal Included: Welcome Dinner**

### Day 3 Friday Sept. 30 - ACCRA AND VICINITY

After a refreshing night sleep and a sumptuous breakfast at the hotel; our first full day in Accra will be spent immersing ourselves in the history and day to day life of the people of Accra. **Labadi Beach Hotel**

#### Highlights today include:

- **Independence Square**, see the enclosed flame of African liberation, which was lit by Dr. Kwame Nkrumah in 1961.
- We will drive past the US Embassy to visit the **W.E.B DuBois Centre** honoring the life of the prominent Pan-Africanist who chose to live and work in Ghana
- **The Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park**, final resting place of Ghana's first president. Set in attractive gardens, there is an adjoining museum, which contains photos, artifacts and an insight into Dr. Nkrumah's life. Adjoining the park is the National Cultural Center, which is Ghana's largest outdoor arts and crafts market selling traditional crafts from all over West Africa.
- **James Town**—one of Accra's most historic neighborhoods, where history resides on every corner. Best known for its lighthouses (the first of which was constructed in 1875 by the British) as a navigational aid for trading vessels sailing through the Gulf of Guinea. The original structure was ruined but a larger and more improved lighthouse completed in 1921 is still functioning today.
- Visit **Christie Brown**, an exciting Fashion Boutique in OSU. This high design store is a sophisticated shopping avenue for people with an eye for the stylish things in life and you can browse premium clothing and accessories. Christie Brown specializes in incorporating African prints into wearable high-street trends

***We may decide to have a sumptuous dinner at a local restaurant outside the hotel. Breakfast & Dinner***

### Day 4 Saturday Oct. 01- ACCRA – KUMASI

After breakfast, drive through the forest zone to Kumasi, the seat of the Ashanti Empire to explore the legends of the famous Ashanti's, whose legacies are still evident today with a stop at the following craft villages:

- The Woodcarving village of Ahwiaa, known for the talented craftsmen who fashion Royal Stools, walking sticks and Fertility Dolls from wood; with the opportunity to purchase hand carved items of all kinds.
- The village of Ntonso where the Artisans hand-stamp patterns on Cotton cloth to make Adinkra textiles. Black-on-Black and Black-on-Red Adinkra cloth is worn for funerals and other solemn occasions; learn how the Black Dye is made in the village from the bark of trees and creates your own Adinkra sash to take home. You may purchase large pieces of the Adinkra Cloth handmade in the village.
- Our final village will be Adanwomase, where the Famous Kente Cloth is handmade on looms in a time-honored tradition passed down through generations. See the Kente Weavers in the process of creating Kente Cloth in various styles and have the opportunity of making purchases

Arrive Kumasi, which may surprise you, being the most dynamic marketplace in West Africa and the second largest city in Ghana with a population of almost three million. It is a vibrant commercial center, visited by traders from all over. Kumasi has quite a collection of British colonial buildings and it is the heart of the Ashanti culture. We enjoy a drive through the city with monuments dedicated to the memory of the great Ashanti people. **Golden Tulip Kumasi Meal(s) Included: Breakfast & Dinner**



### Day 5 Sunday Oct. 02 - KUMASI & ITS VICINITY (AKWASIDAE FESTIVAL)

In the company of your experienced tour guide, you will join the celebration of Akwasidae Festival; the pomp and pageantry of the Ashanti Kingdom. The King riding in a palanquin and adorned with all his gold ornaments comes out to receive the homage of his sub-chiefs and people, it is a spectacular sight to watch the colorful canopies and umbrellas, the skillful drummers, dancers, horn-blowers and praise-singers at these regular festivals, held in honor of their ancestral spirits. Later we spend time in and around Kumasi, first visiting the Manhyia Palace Museum to obtain firsthand information on the legacies of the Ashanti kingdom, a regal history that dates back to 1700 and is told with relics and artifacts.

Our day ends at the National Cultural Center which features the Prempeh II Jubilee Museum and various studios of brass makers, potters and batik makers. At the cultural center, we will see exquisite wood carvings, traditional arts and crafts.

**Golden Tulip Hotel - Breakfast & Dinner**



### Day 6 Monday Oct. 03 - KUMASI – CAPE COAST & ELMINA

Today we depart for the Cape Coast; enroute, you will stop at Assin Manso, the burial site of two former slaves from the U.S and Jamaica whose remains were re-interred here. Visit the “Slave River” where captured Africans were washed before being confined in the Slave Castles to await shipment to the Americas and Caribbean.



Upon arrival we embark on a tour of the infamous Forts, Castles and Slave Dungeons of Ghana. History will unfold the story of the slave trade which the impact is still felt beyond the shores of Africa today.

The castle is a thought-provoking monument to a harrowing period in the region’s history. You will take an emotional journey through the castle which held more enslaved Africans than any other in the region, viewing the dungeons and the infamous “Door of no return”. There is a significant historical museum inside, which explains the history of the castle and of Cape Coast itself. You can purchase literature on Ghana’s forts and castles, as well as the cultural history and traditions of Ghana.

Transfer to your hotel in Elmina; rest of the evening is free. **Coconut Grove Beach Resort Meal(s) Included: Breakfast & Dinner**

### Day 7 Tuesday Oct. 04 – ELMINA

After breakfast and at a leisure pace, we visit the Elmina Castle built by the Portuguese in 1482 and is also known as St. George's Castle. This castle was the first European structure built in Sub-Saharan Africa. The colorful harbor nestled below the Elmina Castle, full of pirogues preparing to go to sea offers one of West Africa's greatest photo opportunities. Transfer to your hotel; dinner and leisure time.

This evening there is a “Fihankra” ceremony which seeks to reconnect people of African descent, who have been lost due to the transatlantic slave trade, to the motherland. This ceremony reconnects returnees with the cultural and spiritual ties that had been denied them for centuries. The final part of Fihankra includes a naming ceremony. Dinner tonight is at your hotel.

**Coconut Grove Beach Resort- Meal(s) Included: Breakfast & Dinner**

### Day 8 Wednesday Oct. 05 - ELMINA-KAKUM-ELMINA

Early morning departure for a drive through the historic Denkyira Kingdom to Kakum National Park, one of West Africa's surviving tropical rain forests. Extending over 360sq km, Kakum is the home to over 40 large mammals and 400 bird species as well as many species of butterflies, flora and fauna. The most popular attraction the canopy walkway, which is made up of seven bridges extending 330m, hanging 30m above the forest floor. Choose between a 2 km nature walk through this forest to discover the wide variety of exotic floral species and the medicinal values they offer or take a walk on the canopy walkway.



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After lunch (on your own account), embark on a guided walking tour of Elmina, which was the first point of European contact in Sub-Saharan Africa. It was once the most cosmopolitan city in Tropical Africa. Climb the Jago Hill to Fort Saint Jago, which was used by the Dutch as a post to snatch the Elmina Castle from the Portuguese. You will be thrilled by the various Colonial Dutch Cemeteries as well as the colorful Safo (Fante Traditional Soldiers) posts with their philosophical symbols. At the harbor view the colorful fishing canoes getting ready to go to sea for another night's task of fishing. This is a picture-perfect opportunity for photographers. **Coconut Grove Beach Resort - Meal(s) Included: Breakfast & Dinner**

#### **Day 9 Thursday Oct. 06 - ELMINA -AKOSOMBO**

We depart early morning for scenic drive to a beautiful village located on the course of the splendid Volta River.

We will have the opportunity to pay a courtesy call on the paramount chief and elders amidst traditional drumming and dancing by the villagers. Here you will participate in a traditional celebration. Activities will include a demonstration of pottery making which is the main occupation of the women in the village and you can try your hand at the craft. **Royal Senchi Hotel**

**Meal(s) Included: Breakfast & Dinner**

#### **Day 10 Friday Oct. 07 - AKOSOMBO**



Today is a fun day at leisure. There are a variety of activities at the resort. Enjoy the calm of the lake and bask in the beauty of the mountain scenery and surrounding. There is a variety of leisure activities at this resort.

You may also drive a short distance to Krobo Odumase to observe the intriguing bead making process at the Cedi Bead Factory. Watch the centuries old process of bead making from start to finish. **Royal Senchi Hotel**

**Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner**

#### **Day 11 Saturday Oct. 08 - AKOSOMBO - ACCRA**

After a refreshing night and a sumptuous breakfast at the hotel, you will depart Akosombo to Accra. Upon arrival in Accra, visit the Arts and Crafts market, Ghana's largest outdoor arts and crafts market selling traditional crafts from all over West Africa. Here, you could test your bargaining and trading skills against the vendors or visit one of Ghana's best-known fabric stores where there is a wide selection of African fabrics. After returning to your hotel with the great bargains you have secured, refresh and relax before this evening's farewell dinner.



**Labadi Beach Hotel Meal(s) Included: Breakfast & Farewell Dinner**

#### **DAY 12 SUNDAY OCT. 09, 2022 ACCRA-DEPART**

Today is at leisure but with the assistance of your driver and guide; decide on your excursions and activities. Visit the sites in Accra and vicinity that you have not yet seen or just relax for the day if you wish. Late transfer to the airport in time to catch your departure flight home. **Meal(s) Included: Breakfast**

#### **DAY 13 MONDAY OCT. 10, 2022**

ARRIVE HOME EARLY MORNING WITH GREAT MEMORIES TO SHARE

#### **TAKE A PEEK AT OUR HOTELS ON-LINE**

LABADI BEACH HOTEL - [HTTPS://WWW.LEGACYHOTELS.CO.ZA/HOTELS/LABADI-BEACH-HOTEL](https://www.legacyhotels.co.za/hotels/labadi-beach-hotel)

COCONUT GROVE BEACH RESORT - [HTTPS://COCONUTGROVEHOTELSGHANA.COM/BEACHHOTEL/](https://coconutgrovehotelsghana.com/beachhotel/)

GOLDEN TULIP HOTEL - [HTTPS://KUMASI-CITY.GOLDENTULIP.COM/](https://kumasi-city.goldentulip.com/)

Royal Senchi Hotel - <https://www.theroyalsenchi.com/>



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