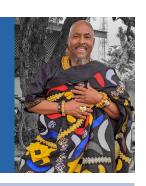
# Join Dr. Herman "Skip" Mason, Jr. on a West Africa Heritage Journey Ivory Coast — Ghana — Togo — Benin May 23 - June 4, 2026









# LAND ONLY PRICE - \$5,998 per person based on double occupancy



\$100 discount for deposits received by November 30, 2025 or \$50 discount for deposits received by December 30, 2025

### **Included** in the price:

- 10-night accommodation in four-star hotels
- 10 breakfasts and 10 dinners at hotels
- 2 lunches in Ivory Coast at local restaurants
- Farewell dinner in Benin at a local restaurant
- Transfers to / from international airports
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Services of professional tour guides
- Private deluxe air-conditioned motor coach transportation
- Admission and entrance fees
- Hotel taxes and service charges
- Porterage at hotels I bag per person (in/out)
- Naming ceremony

### **Not Included:**

- Flights (at your own arrangement)
- Meals not mentioned
- Travel insurance recommended
- Tipping
- Yellow fever shot & Visas (at your own arrangement)
- Single supplement \$1,250

### **Contact:**

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# DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

### May 23: Atlanta - En Route to Abidjan

Depart from Atlanta on your overnight international flight to Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Settle in and enjoy the in-flight service as dinner and breakfast are served, preparing you for the days of discovery ahead.

### May 24: Arrival in Abidjan

We arrive in Abidjan, the cosmopolitan economic capital of Ivory Coast. After airport formalities, we are greeted by our local representative and transferred to the hotel for some time to rest and refresh from the journey. Dinner and overnight in Abidjan. (D)

### May 25: Abidjan City Tour with Banco Forest

Today we enjoy a full-day city tour of Abidjan that includes the lush Banco National Park, a rare primary rainforest located right in the heart of the city. Stroll along shaded trails while learning about the park's unique biodiversity and rich tropical flora. After a delicious lunch at a local restaurant, we continue exploring Abidjan's modern districts and cultural landmarks before returning to the hotel. Dinner and overnight in Abidjan. (B/L/D)

### May 26: Full-Day Yamoussoukro Excursion

After breakfast we set off on a full-day excursion to Yamoussoukro, the political capital of Ivory Coast. Our tour highlights the magnificent Basilica of Our Lady of Peace, one of the world's largest churches, and the Presidential Palace, with its impressive crocodile-filled lagoon. A leisurely lunch is included during the day's visit. We return to Abidjan in the evening. Dinner and overnight in Abidjan. (B/L/D)

### May 27: Abidjan - Cape Coast (Ghana)

After breakfast, we depart Abidjan and travel east to the Elubo border, where we are welcomed by our Ghanaian representative. Continuing into Ghana's Central Region, we arrive in Cape Coast, a city deeply rooted in the country's colonial and slave trade history. In nearby Elmina, we visit Elmina Castle, also known as St. George's Castle, the first European fortress built in sub-Saharan Africa in 1482 by the Portuguese. Later seized by the Dutch in 1637, it remained under their control for almost three centuries. Today, this UNESCO World Heritage Site stands as a somber reminder of Africa's past. Dinner and overnight in Cape Coast. (B/D)

## May 28: Cape Coast - Slave History Trail

This morning we explore Cape Coast Castle, one of Ghana's most poignant sites. Built by the Swedes in 1653 and later taken over by the British, the castle was once the seat of colonial administration and a central point of the transatlantic slave trade. Its dungeons, governor's quarters, and the Door of No Return remain powerful symbols of history. In the afternoon, we travel inland to Assin Manso,

a town that served as a major slave market. Here, captured men and women were made to take their "last bath" before being marched to the coast. Today, Assin Manso is also a memorial site where the remains of enslaved Africans have been reinterred with dignity. Dinner and overnight in Cape Coast. (B/D)

### May 29: Cape Coast - Kakum National Park - Accra

After breakfast, we head into the lush rainforest of Kakum National Park. The highlight here is the canopy walkway, a suspended bridge system 45 meters above the forest floor, offering a bird's-eye view of the tropical ecosystem. Returning to the coast, we revisit the exhibitions and museum at Cape Coast Castle, where collections of artifacts, documents, and art provide a broader context to the transatlantic slave trade. In the afternoon, we continue our journey east to Accra, Ghana's bustling capital. Dinner and overnight in Accra. (B/D)

### **May 30: Accra City Exploration**

A full day is devoted to Ghana's capital city. Our visits include the W.E.B. Du Bois Centre, dedicated to the African American scholar and Pan-Africanist who spent his final years in Ghana, and the National Museum, home to remarkable prehistoric and ethnographic collections. We continue to Independence Square, also known as Black Star Square, and then to Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park and Mausoleum, honoring the country's first president. We drive through colonial-era James Town, with its lighthouse standing guard over the Gulf of Guinea, and finish at the Arts Centre, a lively marketplace of crafts and souvenirs. Dinner and overnight in Accra. (B/D)

### May 31: Accra – Lome (Togo)

Following breakfast, we journey across the border into Togo. Upon arrival in Lome, we begin with Independence Square and the International Museum of African Art. At the famous Fetish Market, we gain insight into traditional medicine and voodoo practices, with stalls selling herbs, charms, and ritual objects. The Assigame central market offers a lively encounter with the "Nana Benz," women renowned for their trade in Dutch wax fabrics, and the Art Street showcases local craftsmanship. Dinner and overnight in Lome. (B/D)

# June I: Lome - Agbodrafo - Glidji - Ouidah - Cotonou (Benin)

Today we trace the historical slave route. In Agbodrafo, also known as Porto Seguro, we visit the "Wood Home," once used as a slave dungeon. At Glidji, the spiritual heart of the Guen people, we are received by traditional leaders and introduced to rituals such as the libation ceremony and

# DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

the raising of the sacred stone. Crossing into Benin, we reach Ouidah, a city revered as the cradle of voodoo. Our exploration includes the Sacred Forest of King Kpassè, the Temple of Pythons, and the Catholic cathedral, a testament to Benin's religious coexistence. Along the Slave Route, we see the Auction Square and the Gate of No Return, stark reminders of the human toll of the slave trade. By evening, we follow the scenic coastal road to Cotonou. Dinner and overnight in Cotonou. (B/D)

### June 2: Porto-Novo & Ganvie

After breakfast, we travel to Porto-Novo, Benin's political capital. Here we encounter the spiritual guardians known as the "Zangbeto" and see the Afro-Brazilian architecture that reflects the return of freed slaves from the Americas. Later, we drive to Lake Nokoué and embark on a motorized boat to Ganvie, Africa's largest stilt village, home to more than 45,000 Tofinu people. Nicknamed the "Venice of Africa," Ganvie's floating markets, fishing culture, and traditional

lifestyle reveal a fascinating way of life adapted to the waters. Return to Cotonou. Dinner and overnight in Cotonou. (B/D)

### June 3: Cotonou - Departure

After morning at leisure, we enjoy a short sightseeing tour of Cotonou, Benin's economic capital. We admire the Amazone statue, honoring the legendary female warriors, and view the Graffiti Wall, where contemporary street art depicts Benin's daily life. At the vast Dantokpa Market, one of West Africa's largest, we experience its endless maze of stalls before making a final stop at the Arts Market for last-minute shopping. Then, we enjoy our farewell dinner at a local restaurant before transferring to the airport for the return flight home departing before midnight. (B/D)

### June 4: Arrival in Atlanta

We arrive back in the United States, our journey through West Africa's history, culture, and traditions still vivid in memory.

\* (B,L,D) = Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Please Complete this Form and Mail with Payment to the New York Address at the Bottom of the Form 
\*Passport must be valid for 6 months upon return\*

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Reservations, Deposits and Final Payments: Please complete the Participant Agreement, with full names as they appear on passports, and mail it to us with the required per person deposit plus applicable (optional) insurance. Receipt of your deposit shall act as your agreement to these terms and conditions. Balance is due 75 days before departure date. If final payment is received less than 75 days, a late fee will be accessed in the amount of \$50.00. If final payment is made by credit card (American Express, Visa, MasterCard), Journeys Unlimited requires a completed credit card authorization form. All payments made by check should be made payable to Journeys Unlimited.

Late Reservations: If a booking is made within 60 days of departure, full payment plus applicable taxes and optional insurance is due at the time of booking. There will be a \$50.00 late processing fee applicable plus cost of any express or overnight mail services. No personal checks will be accepted with reservations received 30 days or less before departure date. Money order, bank check, certified check or credit cards (American Express, Visa, and MasterCard) will be accepted.

Travel Documents: A valid passport (valid for six months after the return date of the trip) is required to travel. Visa is required for US passport holders traveling to some destinations; please contact our office for details. All non-US citizens must contact the appropriate consular office for entry visa requirements pertaining to their trip. In addition non US citizens are responsible for complying with requirements for re-entry into the USA. Journeys Unlimited assumes no responsibility for procurement of passport or visas. Obtaining and carrying these documents is the sole responsibility of passengers. Journeys Unlimited will not be responsible for any delays, damages and/or losses, including missed portions of your trip due to improper travel documentation.

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Air from Home City: All brochure departures are based on a New York area airport. Journeys Unlimited can help arrange air transportation from your home city airport. Journeys Unlimited is not responsible for any penalties incurred on domestic tickets not purchased from us, in case of changes in the schedule of the tour. If you are making your own domestic airline tickets, please make sure that your domestic flight time arrives at least 4 hours prior to your international departure time.

Air Changes, Cancellations & Refunds: Airline tickets issued by Journeys Unlimited are highly restrictive and in most instances cannot be reissued, revalidated or exchanged. If a change is possible, a \$75 per person administrative fee, plus any applicable airline change fees, will be assessed once air tickets have been issued. Airline penalties vary depending on carrier.

Airline Seat Assignments and Special Services: There is no advance seat selection. Early check-in is necessary to secure seats with travel companions. Seating is solely under control of the airlines. Some airfares used may be eligible for frequent flyer mileage.

Baggage: The company is not responsible for any additional charges collected by the carriers at the airport for luggage fees. We recommend that you take along one suitcase per person with a maximum weight of 50lbs., plus one carry on with maximum dimensions of 9"X14"X22". Airlines also have their own baggage restrictions; please check with the air carrier prior to your departure. All baggage is the passenger's responsibility throughout the tour. Journeys Unlimited is not responsible for loss, theft or damage to your baggage. If a bag is lost or damaged In-flight, the passenger is responsible for notifying the airline directly.

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Rooms: Prices shown in the brochure are per person, based on two persons sharing a hotel room or cabin. A limited number of single rooms are available at the supplement shown per tour. In some cases, when requested, we may be able to find an appropriate roommate for passengers who have booked as a single person.

If a roommate is not available, you must pay the single room supplement. While single rooms provide privacy they are often smaller than twin bedrooms. Triple rooms are available in many hotels for family or friends traveling together. There are no discounts for triple rooms.

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Days Prior to Departure	Charge
91 or more	\$250
90 – 61	\$350
60 – 46	50% of tour cos
45 – 31	75% of tour cos
30 days – day of departure	No refund

Once the tours commence, there will be no refunds on missed or unused portions of the tour programs. Purchase of Travel Insurance, at the time of deposit, is strongly recommended.

# Group A: All States except: NY, PA, TX, WA Group B: TX Group C: NY Group D: PA Group E: WA

Irip Cost per Person	Group A:	Group B:	Group C:	Group D:	Group E:
\$2,001 - 2,500	\$188.00	\$159.00	\$129.00	\$187.00	\$184.00
\$2,501 - 3,000	\$220.00	\$187.00	\$139.00	\$220.00	\$214.00
\$3,001 - 3,500	\$252.00	\$214.00	\$169.00	\$253.00	\$245.00
\$3,501 - 4,000	\$286.00	\$243.00	\$209.00	\$289.00	\$278.00
\$4,001 - 4,500	\$320.00	\$271.00	\$239.00	\$324.00	\$312.00
\$4,501 - 5,000	\$357.00	\$303.00	\$279.00	\$362.00	\$347.00
\$5,001 - 5,500	\$394.00	\$335.00	\$289.00	\$401.00	\$383.00
\$5,501 - 6,000	\$430.00	\$365.00	\$319.00	\$439.00	\$420.00
\$6,001 - 7,000	\$506.00	\$429.00	\$339.00	\$518.00	\$492.00
\$7,001 - 8,000	\$591.00	\$501.00	On Request	\$607.00	\$574.00
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