

DEC 27 - JAN 5 "AFROFUTURE FEST & NEW YEAR CELEBRATION"

AfroFuture fka Afrochella brings some of the hottest Afrobeats artists. It is televised live so don't be surprised to see the crane cam from above as they film the crowd and artists on stage. It is fun - fun- fun!! This is a main event in addition to our many excursions and travels to various regions in the country.

Deposit: See link for REACH

COST ~ \$3,200 11 DAYS/10 NIGHTS *Single Accommodations ** Double Accommodations add'l \$2,000

PAYMENT OPTIONS-- See link for REACH

**** Airfare not included** - we will assist in finding affordable flights

ITINERARY - GHANA: FIRST GENERATION TOURS

*Tentative Schedule--

DAY 1 - Arrive in Accra, Ghana - Kotoka International Airport -- Free shuttle service to hotel - Get checked in and explore your surroundings. Once we have all of our guests we will have a *Meet n Greet* at the bar or at a local establishment to discuss itinerary, Learn a few Ghanaian customs and phrases.

Accommodations: Labadi Beach Hotel & Resort. There is a currency exchange at the resort's reception desk

DAY 2 - Accra City Tour Lunch & Dinner: TBD

- City tour of Accra, i.e. Black Star Square, Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum & Museum, Makola Market
- Lunch
- Get measured by a seamstress and/or tailor for those who will have apparel made back at the hotel.
- Prepare for AfroFuture. (This AfroBeats Fest will be an outdoor festival - dress for comfort. VIP Tickets w/ seating: \$150 (optional) For those not attending please relax and enjoy your surroundings. Catch an Uber to have fun and dine at Zen Garden or visit bars and local eating establishments in the East Legon Mall area.

DAY 3 -- Early check out of hotel ~ Ground Travel time: 6+ hours~ Kumasi. Check in at the hotel. Lunch or Dinner Ike's Cafe. ** During the journey, bathroom breaks as needed which can be interesting. We often have stops along the way in various communities. Please be mindful of taking pictures of locals, some like it and some do not.

Accommodations: Lancaster Hotel

DAY 4 - Kejetia Market (largest market in West Africa)

- Adinkra Symbol Making ~ if time permits visit local store with authentic Ghana Gold
- Asante Village Naming Ceremony | Prior to arriving in Ghana we will need the day of the week you were born. (Please wear all white) You will be given Asante aka Ashanti names. For example, females born on Sunday will be given the name "Akosua". Also, you will be given a spirit name or name based on your characteristics. The locals will dress you in chosen authentic Kente attire which you must return or purchase
- Cocoa Farm and Authentic Kente Looming Tour while in the village.

DAY 5 - Early check out of hotel Okomfo Anokye Sword Museum (this is where the story of King Arthur and the Sword was stolen -- see the actual sword that has not been able to be removed for over 325 years)

- Manhyia Palace Museum
- Assin Manso Slave River (last place our ancestors were allowed to bathe before the 3 weeks trek to the slave forts.
- Cape Coast Slave Castle/Fort.
- Lunch
- Check in resort -- Dinner and relaxation (Many may still be experiencing emotions from the slave river and castle tours so please be mindful)
- Prepare for New Year's Eve Celebration

Accommodations: Lemon Beach Resort

DAY 7 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

- REACH Workshop
- Kakum National Park, Fun/Reflection/Relaxation at your leisure at the beach resort.

DAY 8 - Early check out of hotel for return to Accra. Lunch TBD

- Day of Relaxation, etc. Free day!
- Try on clothing made by Ghanaian seamstress and/or tailor. Do yo' thang in the area!! They have Ubers, Taxis, Tro-Tro, etc. Very affordable.
- Accommodations: The African Regent
- Dinner: Gold Coast Restaurant (Diaspora presentation by Mama Loo, who has lived in Ghana for nearly 40 yrs.

DAY 9 - Accra City Tour - WEB Dubois Museum, Art Center & Takoma Bead Factory

- Lunch & Dinner TBD.

DAY 10 - Aburi Garden & Medina Market

- Last Lunch
- Last Dinner (We know that some guests may have flights that will leave after midnight/ early a.m. prior to standard check out)

DAY 11 - Prepare for departures. Checkout is at 11 am.

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LATE CHECK OUT | EXTENDED STAY PAYMENTS are the sole responsibility of each individual. We can assist with late check out arrangements which must be requested in advance during check-in.

Most return flights to the US are late afternoon or at night.

**Shuttle will be available for airport transit according to your flight schedule -- Once you checkout you can wait in the lobby/bar area until it is time for your departure. Sometimes the hotels will have a space in the lobby or office for you to keep your luggage if requested.

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"Travel Changes Everything"

Group Tours To Ghana since 2018.

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PREP ADVISORY

FLIGHT: Inez International.LV can assist with finding affordable flights or travelers can search independently.

- The earlier you book your flight lessens the expense.

DO NOT book departure flights from Ghana earlier than our schedule. We are generally in another city prior to returning to Accra.

***Shuttle Service** is provided during arrival and departure for airport transit.

ITEMS REQUIRED: Valid Passport, Ghanaian Visa, Yellow Fever Vaccine

- Visa -- Use the Ghanaian Embassy in Washington, DC or New York
- Complete visa online at:
- <https://www.ghanaembassydc.org/>
- <https://www.ghanaconsulatear.org/visas/>

VACCINES: Find Yellow Fever vaccines in your area through <https://www.passporthealthusa.com/> **

- If you cannot take the YF vaccine please have a physician's waiver. Shots can be provided at the airport for approx \$20-\$30 but it is generally not recommended. Please understand the difference between required and recommended when it comes to vaccines. Don't waste money. You will see an array of recommendations.
- You need approx 3 malaria pills. You can purchase a malaria pill at the pharmacy in Ghana for \$1 - \$10 ~ 1 pill for each week. Some travelers like to take 1 prior to travel however. It is a personal choice. Prices vary per pharmacy.

INSURANCE: Research travel insurance for your own protection. This is one link but there are many you research independently or check with your personal insurance network.

- <https://www.generali.com/>

- There are well trained doctors, hospitals, pharmacies and healthcare in Ghana.

MISCELLANEOUS: We will begin organized video group chats via Zoom or FB for a Q&A each Sunday @ 3 pm based on the timeframe of your travel.

- Anxiety is anticipated prior to travel abroad.
- As travelers join the tour a live group chat invite will eventually be sent to each of you from "GroupMe" Download app "Group Me" which will be used for us to privately chat daily, upload photos, videos, info, etc. prior to departure.
- Many travelers are not on FaceBook or social media accounts. However, if all of our travelers are on FB we will create a FB live group chat.

DISCLAIMER: Ghana is an extremely energy efficient country. For your enjoyment please adapt to your new surroundings which will be unlike America.

- Be prepared for intermittent WiFi at times
- There could be a temporary power outage
- The beds are typically firm depending on the hotel
- You may want to bring a soft towel and washcloth - yes, they have towels and wash clothes but I found some of them to be a little coarse
- Sometimes the water can be tepid to extremely hot or light water pressure to standard water pressure. It depends on the location.

HOUSE NOTES:

COMMON COURTESY

- Please be respectful of the tour coordinator and host.
- As adults please be mindful that we are traveling with various personalities. Everyone would like to enjoy their trip.
- Unexpected circumstances and challenges can happen on any planned trip.
- Please allow the travel professionals to problem solve if circumstances should arrive prior to overwhelming suggestions.
- Please allow our local Ghanaian host to do all negotiations prior to any purchases. There is no set fee structure in Ghana. Everything is a bargain. We don't want you to "Get Got".

- As soon as local's hear an American accent prices can change.
- Once you get into the rhythm of bargaining you should be fine.
- I always suggest half of their asking price depending on the cost.

GRATUITIES

- We will collect from each traveler 1 - 10 cedis ahead of time per each site tour -- approximately 12 labeled envelopes. Ghana is becoming accustomed to the US tipping standards "unfortunately" and everyone is expecting a tip nowadays and before you know it your funds are gone.
- To avoid tipping pressure it is best to do this collectively. It helps to expedite leaving the venue without everyone digging into their wallets and bags w/o change for 20 - 100 cedis.
- The only tips outside of this will be for your meals and hotel staff if you care to do so.
- Be sure to add your dinner bill or purchases ahead of time. Some venues have been known to add a few extra cedis here and there.
- It is best to eat at establishments with visible menu prices.
- There will be an optional gratuity envelope for the driver at the end of the tour.

CLOTHING

- Please have a photo on your phone for the fashion style of your apparel. Easier for them to see than for you to explain.
- Any arrangements made between a tourist and a seamstress/tailor after the tour is not our responsibility for any continued communications, disputes, resolutions, collection of money, merchandise, etc.
- Best rule of thumb. Get everything made while in Ghana and take everything with you when you depart. Average prices 80 - 100 cedis per separate i.e. top and bottom. Fabrics run around \$2.00 a yard. Average amount needed -- between 4 to 6 yards. (Currency exchange fluctuates and seamstress rates vary)

FUNDRAISERS/DONATIONS:

The drinking water is not conducive for many in rural areas and villages. Many rural families that we may encounter are in areas without adequate wells or may use nearby streams and rivers for water. If you would like to purchase a straw purification filter you can bring it with you.

- They can be found generally in the camping section at Walmart, Costco or any outdoors/recreational store. Prices vary. One straw filter can run \$20 or less. Some are sold in packs.
- If you wish to contribute funds for school supplies, soccer balls, etc.
- If you wish to contribute to the above please send an additional \$40 to the REACH link and notate on payment.
- *Inez International* provides **ELEVATE TO EDUCATE ABROAD** - Educational Scholarships for local university students. \$600 USD will cover tuition for a Ghanaian student to attend 3-4 yrs to a local college/university. We have provided 3 scholarships thus far.
- If you would like to contribute \$50-\$100 towards the scholarship, please send in a separate notated payment to the provided REACH link

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!! TRAVEL CHANGES EVERYTHING!!

Inez International.LV is a certified travel agency and was chosen by the BBC for documentaries during the 2019 Ghana: Year Of Return. To view our two featured documentaries below please click links below or copy and paste to your browser:

- BBC's Cut Through the Noise. Year of Return: Why more slave descendants are visiting Africa
- <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=575406909933007>
- BBC News: (copy and paste in browser)
- <https://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-africa-50256582>
- <https://youtu.be/Nrm4MDBaKgM?si=sDFhLOULh0A3geKs>