

CARAVAN's Senegal "ORIGINS" Tour

**June 3 - 13, 2026
(10 days and nights)**

Join us on a caravan to explore the wonder of Senegal, through the lens of its artistic culture and spirituality.

10 days and nights in Senegal
All expenses covered except international travel and personal expenses.



**Double occupancy (one or two beds): \$4,975 double
Single occupancy: \$5,375 single**

www.oncaravan.org/tours/senegal

"Senegal is one of those places that leads you to believe maybe there is hope in the world. . . a jewel of Africa – and the world. . . an absolutely enchanting place to visit. It is a country that defies stereotypes and expectations at every turn. . . a multicultural, multilingual, extraordinarily tolerant society. Senegal is one of the best arguments for travel I can think of. It's someplace that everyone, given the chance, should go."

-Anthony Bourdain, the late celebrated chef and travel documentarian

An Introduction

Our curated tour to Senegal, often referred to as the “Gateway to Africa,” will introduce you to this creative and mystical land. While Africa is considered the origin of humanity, so much of Africa’s culture, art and spirituality finds its roots in Senegal.

Embedded in Senegalese culture is the Wolof word “teranga,” meaning hospitality. We will experience the welcome and warmth of the Senegalese people as we journey through this colorful country where tradition, history and modernity live in dynamic harmony. Globally known as one of the most politically stable and religiously tolerant societies, Senegal attracts visitors to its shores from all over the world.

Our tour will explore the poignant origins of the transatlantic slave trade, the “Negritude” (Black culture) movement, African contemporary art, the impact of French colonialism, and experience the wonder of African Sufism, its beautiful sacred spaces, as well as the indigenous artistic and musical expressions of a renowned Senegalese Benedictine monastery.

Our caravan will take us through the vibrant capital city of Dakar, and to the UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Island of Gorée, a reminder of the dark history of the slave trade and the resilient spirits of those who were affected by it. We will travel to see the largest mosque in Sub-Saharan Africa in the sacred city of Touba, home of the Sufi Mouride brotherhood, and to the African village home of Senegal’s first president and poet laureate, Léopold Sédar Senghor, who inspired an artistic and cultural awakening within Africa.

To enhance our journey, art will be woven throughout. We will meet Senegalese artists, learn about African oral traditions, listen to West African Mbalax music and the soothing sounds of the kora instrument, savor delicious Senegalese cuisine, bask in the sun-soaked beaches of the Atlantic Ocean, walk through artistic markets, visit a magical island by pirogue, marvel at giant baobab trees and a pink lake, and safari through a wildlife animal reserve.

Touring this country of rich cultural heritage will be a transformational and unforgettable experience.

Join us on a caravan to explore the creative wonder of another world!

DAILY ITINERARY

June 2, Tuesday – begin international travel to Senegal (depending on departure country) to arrive on the morning of June 3

<p>June 3 Wednesday</p>	<p>“Meet and Greet” at Senegal’s Blaise Diagne International Airport, transfer to Dakar boutique hotel – <i>Hotel Le Djoloff</i> (where we will be until June 10)</p> <p>Welcome drinks on the hotel rooftop for drinks before check-in</p> <p>Light lunch – Be Bey (Lebanese cuisine)</p> <p>Visit <i>Museum Leopold Sedar Senghor</i> – Former home of poet laureate and first president of Senegal, with a short overview of his life and influences on Christian-Muslim relations, black civilization culture and art, his “negritude” philosophy, poetry and literature.</p> <p>Visit <i>Place du Souvenir Africain</i> (African Memorial Square)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Henriette Bathily Women's Museum</i> <p>Dinner – Restaurant <i>Phare des Mamelles</i>, next to a historic lighthouse built on an extinct volcano</p> <div data-bbox="472 1262 605 1329" data-label="Caption"><p><i>Hotel Le Djoloff</i></p></div> 
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- Colonial architecture
- Art galleries and art lining the pathways of the island
- WWII canons

Lunch – Restaurant du port on Goree Island

Back to hotel for a short rest

Dinner: Restaurant on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean on Cap-Vert



**June 5
Friday**

Visit the Loman Art House on the way to see *Lac Rose* (Pink Lake), officially referred to as Lake Retba. It is named the “Pink Lake” for its pink color which is caused by *Dunaliella salina* algae and its very high salt content (40%)

Lunch: Bonaba Café on Lac Rose (Pink Lake)

Visit the famous *Village Artisanal* in Soumbédioune (a fishing area in Dakar) to see artisans and for shopping – a remarkable selection of Senegalese crafts and souvenirs

Dinner – Restaurant Le Ngor Pieds dans l'eau, on the furthestmost Western point of the continent of Africa



Village Artisanal



Lac Rose (Pink Lake)

**June 6
Saturday**

We will begin the day with a fascinating *architectural walking tour of the historic Plateau area of Dakar* led by a well-known Senegalese architect and cultural advocate. It will include visiting iconic buildings such as Marche Kermel, Cathédrale du Souvenir africain, Grand Mosque du Dakar, etc



Marche Kermel

Lunch – We will feast on the delicious Senegalese national dish of Thieboudienne at the famous Senegalese restaurant Chez Loutcha



Thieboudienne, the best of Senegalese cuisine

In the afternoon, we will visit the most well-known art spaces in the country for *African contemporary art* – such as the Théodore Monod African Art Museum (IFAN), Selebe Yoon, Black Rock, OH Gallery, etc.



Dinner – At the atmospheric Bideew restaurant at the Institut Français du Sénégal



**June 7
Sunday**

We will begin the day by visiting the colossal *African Renaissance Monument*, the largest sculpture in Africa, providing a magnificent view of Dakar from its heights



Lunch – Sharky's restaurant on the Atlantic coast.

During the afternoon we will be guided on an artistic walking tour of the the historic Medina neighborhood of Dakar, seen as the “muse area” of Senegalese visual and musical art due to its artistic vibrancy – visit artist studios, see street murals, experience West African music, etc. It will also include an introduction to the Lebou people, known as Senegal's historic fishing community

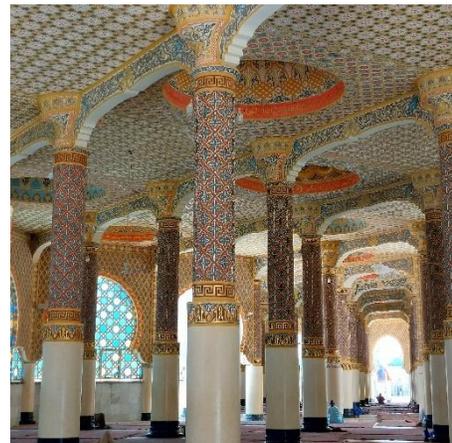


Dinner – Le BazooF, known for its African cuisine, in the Bourguiba district of Dakar

**June 8
Monday**

A visit outside of Dakar to the sacred Sufi city of Touba in the interior of Senegal and to the renowned Abbey of Keur Moussa

We will first travel to the city of *Touba* - the holy city of Mouridism, an indigenous Sufi Muslim brotherhood, and the burial place of its remarkable founder, Cheikh Ahmadou Bamba Mbàcke. We will tour the Great Mosque of Touba, one of the largest mosques in Africa. Traveling with us will be CARAVAN artist Djibril Coulibaly who is known for his paintings of Sufi leaders of the Mouride Brotherhood



Lunch - Café du Rail in the inland city of Thies

Along our return to Dakar, we will visit the celebrated *Abbey of Keur Moussa*, a renowned Benedictine monastery known for its African contextualization of art and music

Dinner – a special evening dinner at our Hotel Le Djoloff



**June 9
Tuesday**

Visit the extraordinary *Museum of Black Civilizations* (Musée des Civilisations noires), which includes a special exhibition of work by the late renowned Senegalese sculptor Ousmane Sow.





Museum of Black Civilizations

We will then visit the *Island of N’Gor* via pirogue (a Senegalese canoe-like boat), and be led on a short walking tour of this vibrant artistic island, an “open air gallery.”



While on the island, we will visit artists’ work spaces.

Lunch – at Chez Seck restaurant on the island of N’Gor – with freshly caught fish on the menu

Later in the afternoon, we will observe the incoming fishermen on pirogues in the coastal area of Ouakam, and experience the fresh fish market near the famous Mosque of Divinity



Dinner – at The American Club on the coast

**June 10
Wednesday**

Dakar to Saly

Before we depart Dakar and head to the coastal town of Saly on the beautiful *Petite Côte* of Senegal, we will visit the marvelous *Cocktail du Senegal* downtown for gift shopping

We will then leave Dakar and travel to the *Bandia Animal Reserve*, a game park where we will see African wildlife in their natural setting, amongst giant baobab trees. The visit will include an introduction to the Serer people and the unique importance of griots (oral history storytellers) who keep their oral traditions, myths, and history alive.



Lunch: At the restaurant of the Bandia Animal Reserve overlooking a waterhole where buffaloes wallow and crocodiles rest in the sun.

Check in and Dinner – *Royam Hotel in Saly*



**June 11
Thursday**

An artistic and cultural tour of the *Petite Côte*, visiting:

- Villa Gottfried
- Galerie Memoires Africaines and Maison d'Afrique (Saly)
- La Maison des Arts de Babacar Keemtaane
- Centre d'art Portes et Passages du Retour (Mbodiene Joal)

Lunch at "Taverne des Pecheurs" in Joal along the mangroves

The tour ends in Joal at *Musee Mbind Diogoye Senghor*, the childhood home of the first president of Senegal, the poet laureate Léopold Sédar Senghor. We will also visit the small island of Fadiouth, linked by a bridge, that is made of clam shells, which are also used in local crafts and architecture. The small island village has no motorized transport and is known for its Christian and Muslim populations living peacefully side by side.

Dinner - Royam Hotel in Saly



Fadiouth – “Shell Island”

**June 12
Friday**

A day of rest and relaxation at the Royam Hotel

Swim in the Atlantic Ocean or pool, lie in the sun, enjoy watersports, walk the beach, etc

-Optional (extra costs)

- A shopping outing in Saly (10 euros per person)
- A pirogue tour of La Somone lagoon, to explore local fauna, flora, and maybe enjoy some oysters (50 euros per person)



The beach at the Royam Hotel

**June 13
Saturday**

DEPARTURE - morning departure
Direct international flights to the US depart in the morning hours.

COSTS

10 days and nights in Senegal.

All expenses covered except international travel and personal expenses.

Double occupancy (one or two beds): \$4,975

Single occupancy: \$5,375 single

If you are traveling alone but wish to share a room, please let us know when you register and we will attempt to find a suitable traveling companion.

INCLUDED IN TOUR COSTS:

- “Meet and Greet” at airport, transfer from/to airport
- All ground transportation
- Lodging at elegant boutique and 4-star hotels
- All meals of breakfast, lunch and dinner (*bottled water at meals and on bus*)
- Private tour bus throughout the trip
- All entrance fees to sites
- Our own dedicated tour guides throughout the trip
- Tour hosted by President of CARAVAN Arts, who grew up in Senegal

NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR COSTS:

- International travel to and from Senegal
- Suggested travel health insurance and suggested comprehensive travel insurance (*protection for cancellations, trip interruptions, lost baggage*)
- Personal expenses
- Beverages: (*coffee/tea/juice included at breakfast & bottled water at meals and on bus*)

PAYMENTS:

After reviewing your inquiry form, we will email you further instructions on the registration process, including needed forms and payment options to submit a deposit of \$500 per person, along with a schedule of payments due. You will be able to pay via credit card, Zelle, personal US check or bank wire transfer.

1. \$500 deposit per person due with tour registration forms
2. 50% of costs due 6 months ahead of the tour
3. 100% of costs due 3 months ahead of the tour

CONFIRMATION AND CANCELLATION POLICY:

The \$500 deposit is nonrefundable unless the tour is cancelled or rescheduled.

Payments are 50% refundable up to 6 months before the tour begins; after that, any refund will depend on someone else taking your place on the tour, or you can request to join us on a future tour within twelve months, where your installments minus the deposit and any non-refundable deposits made by our on the ground tour partner, will be credited to that tour.

We strongly recommend that all participants purchase trip cancellation and interruption insurance in the event you need to cancel your travel plans.

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