



ELEVATED GLOBAL INVESTMENTS

EGI Signature

Gambia & Senegal Experience

Experience the Smiling Coast of Africa

Itinerary & Travel Information

\$3,999 PER PERSON

Heritage • Culture • Wildlife • Community

Trip Overview

The EGI Signature Gambia & Senegal Experience combines history, culture, wildlife, and community engagement across two remarkable West African nations. Beginning in Dakar, Senegal, and continuing through The Gambia before returning to Senegal for departure, participants will experience a carefully curated journey designed to provide meaningful connections and authentic cultural experiences.

Highlights include visits to Gorée Island, Kunta Kinteh Island, Albreda, and Jufureh; participation in a traditional Jola naming ceremony and Futampaf cultural activities; wildlife encounters at Fatala Wildlife Reserve, Bijilo Monkey Park, and Kachikally Crocodile Pool; a hands-on tie-dye and tailoring experience; visits to local communities and an EGI-affiliated orchard; and opportunities to engage directly with local residents, traditions, and history.

Designed for travelers seeking more than a typical vacation, this experience offers a deeper understanding of West Africa through heritage, culture, relationships, and immersive experiences.

Daily Itinerary

The program spans 10 days, beginning with arrival in Dakar, Senegal, and concluding with departure from Dakar following a journey through Senegal and The Gambia. The itinerary below outlines the planned highlights and included meals for each day

Day	Experience
DAY 1	Arrival in Senegal and Gorée Island
DAY 2	Transfer to The Gambia
DAY 3	FULL-DAY CULTURAL TAILORING EXPERIENCE
DAY 4	Fatala Wildlife Reserve
DAY 5	Coastal and Cultural Exploration
DAY 6	Futampaf and Village Experience
DAY 7	Albreda and Kunta Kinteh Island
DAY 8	Banjul City Visit and Farewell Dinner
DAY 9	Return to Senegal & Overnight in Mbour
DAY 10	Departure

DAY 1 Arrival in Senegal and Gorée Island

Highlights

Your West African journey begins upon arrival in Dakar, Senegal. After meeting the EGI team and settling in, participants will travel by ferry to the historic Island of Gorée, one of the region’s most significant cultural and historical landmarks.

During the guided visit, guests will explore the House of Slaves, learn about the history of the transatlantic slave trade, and visit the Door of No Return. Beyond its historical importance, Gorée Island offers colorful colonial architecture, local art, vibrant streets, and beautiful coastal views that make it one of Senegal's most memorable destinations.

Following the excursion, participants will return to Dakar for an opportunity to relax, enjoy the local atmosphere, and prepare for the adventure ahead.

Key Experiences

- Arrival and welcome in Dakar, Senegal
- Ferry crossing to Gorée Island
- Guided visit to the House of Slaves
- Learn about the Door of No Return and the Atlantic slave trade
- Explore local art, culture, and colonial architecture
- Evening at leisure in Dakar

Meals
Participants will cover their meals.

DAY 2 Transfer to The Gambia

Highlights

Day 2 marks the beginning of the Gambian portion of the journey as participants travel from Senegal into The Gambia, often referred to as the “Smiling Coast of Africa.” The scenic overland journey provides an opportunity to observe local communities, markets, villages, and landscapes while gaining insight into daily life throughout the region. Along the route, participants will experience a border crossing between two neighboring West African nations and learn about the historical, cultural, and economic ties that connect them.

Upon arrival in The Gambia, members will receive a warm welcome and begin experiencing the hospitality for which the country is known. The evening concludes with a buffet dinner featuring local and international cuisine, accompanied by cultural entertainment showcasing traditional music, dance, and performances. This experience serves as an introduction to Gambian culture while providing an opportunity for participants to connect with fellow travelers and prepare for the experiences ahead.

Key Experiences

- Scenic overland journey from Senegal to The Gambia
- Observe local communities, markets, and landscapes along the route
- Experience a West African border crossing
- Learn about the cultural connections between Senegal and The Gambia

- Welcome reception in The Gambia
- Buffet dinner featuring local cuisine
- Traditional music and cultural performances
- Meet and connect with fellow participants

Meals

Breakfast and Lunch at participant expense.

Dinner provided.

DAY 3 FULL-DAY CULTURAL TAILORING EXPERIENCE

Highlights

Day 3 offers a hands-on cultural experience that allows participants to create a personalized piece of West African attire.

Members will take part in a traditional tie-dye workshop where they will learn about local fabric-making techniques and design their own unique patterns and color combinations. This interactive experience provides an opportunity to express creativity while gaining insight into an important aspect of West African culture and craftsmanship.

The custom fabrics created during the workshop will then be taken to a local tailor, where participants will work directly with skilled artisans to select styles, take measurements, and design their own personalized African attire. Throughout the process, members will learn about traditional clothing, local textile traditions, and the craftsmanship involved in creating custom garments. The finished attire will serve as a meaningful keepsake and a lasting reminder of the experience.

Key Experiences

- Participate in a hands-on tie-dye workshop
- Design your own fabric patterns and colors
- Learn traditional fabric-making techniques
- Visit a local tailor and artisan workshop
- Select the style of your custom garment
- Have measurements taken for personalized attire
- Learn about West African textile and clothing traditions
- Create a one-of-a-kind piece of African attire to take home

Meals

Breakfast is included at hotel.

Lunch provided.

DAY 4 Fatala Wildlife Reserve

Highlights

Day 4 focuses on a wildlife and nature experience at Fatala Wildlife Reserve, one of the region's most memorable safari destinations. Participants will travel to the reserve for a guided wildlife experience and have the opportunity to observe animals in a protected natural setting. Depending on conditions and animal movement, guests may see wildlife such as rhinos, giraffes, antelopes, zebras, and other species while learning about the reserve and its conservation efforts.

The visit provides opportunities for photography, nature viewing, and a unique safari-style experience during the journey through Senegal and The Gambia. After the wildlife experience, participants will return and have time to rest before continuing with the next day's activities.

Key Experiences

- Visit Fatala Wildlife Reserve
- Participate in a guided wildlife safari experience
- Observe animals in a protected natural setting
- Learn about conservation and wildlife protection
- Photography and nature viewing opportunities
- Return after the safari experience

Meals

Breakfast is included at hotel.

Lunch provided.

DAY 5 Coastal and Cultural Exploration

Highlights

Day 5 offers a unique combination of culture, wildlife, conservation, and coastal exploration. Participants will visit Kachikally Crocodile Pool, one of The Gambia's most important cultural and historical sites, where they will learn about the traditions and beliefs associated with the sacred crocodiles that have been protected there for generations. Members will have the rare opportunity to safely touch the crocodiles and take photographs alongside them.

The experience continues at Bijilo Monkey Park, where participants can walk through a protected coastal forest while observing monkeys and other native wildlife in their natural habitat. At the Sanyang Turtle Hatchery, members will learn about efforts to protect endangered sea turtles and preserve marine ecosystems along The Gambia's coastline.

Following lunch at the popular Doudou's Seaside Restaurant overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, the group will continue exploring the coast with visits to Pelican Island and a local reptile farm. Throughout the day, participants will enjoy opportunities to

interact with wildlife, learn about conservation initiatives, take memorable photographs, and experience some of the country’s most unique natural attractions.

Key Experiences

- Visit Kachikally Crocodile Pool
- Safely touch and photograph crocodiles
- Explore Bijilo Monkey Park
- Observe monkeys and native wildlife
- Visit the Sanyang Turtle Hatchery
- Learn about sea turtle conservation efforts
- Lunch at Doudou’s Seaside Restaurant
- Visit Pelican Island
- Explore a local reptile farm
- Wildlife viewing and photography opportunities

Meals

Breakfast is included at hotel.

Lunch provided.

DAY 6 Futampaf and Village Experience

Highlights

Day 6 provides an immersive cultural experience centered on community, tradition, and meaningful connections with local people. Participants will travel to Bwiam, the home village of members of the EGI family in The Gambia, where they will experience a side of the country rarely seen by traditional tourists. Through direct interaction with residents, guests will gain a deeper understanding of village life, family traditions, and the customs that continue to shape communities throughout the region.

A highlight of the experience is participation in Futampaf cultural activities, including traditional Jola music, dance, and cultural displays that have been passed down through generations. Participants will also take part in a traditional Jola naming ceremony, during which each member will receive a Jola name and learn its significance and meaning. This unique experience symbolizes friendship, cultural exchange, and a lasting connection to the local community.

The experience continues with visits throughout the village and surrounding area, providing opportunities to meet residents, engage with community members, and learn about daily life in rural The Gambia. Participants will also visit an EGI-affiliated orange and mandarin orchard, where they can explore the farm, observe agricultural operations, interact with farm animals, and

enjoy seasonal fruits when available. Throughout the day, members will have opportunities to ask questions, take photographs, and build genuine relationships with the people and communities that make this experience possible.

Key Experiences

- Visit Bwiam, home village of members of the EGI family
- Participate in Futampaf cultural activities
- Experience traditional Jola music and cultural displays
- Participate in a traditional Jola naming ceremony
- Receive a personal Jola name and learn its meaning
- Learn about local customs and traditions
- Visit local communities and interact with residents
- Explore an orange and mandarin orchard
- Observe farm operations and farm animals
- Seasonal fruit tasting (when available)
- Photography and cultural exchange opportunities

Meals

Breakfast is included at hotel.

Lunch provided.

DAY 7 Albreda and Kunta Kinteh Island

Highlights

Day 7 focuses on one of the most significant historical and cultural experiences in The Gambia. Participants will travel to Albreda and Jufureh, communities closely connected to the story of Kunta Kinte and made internationally known through the book and television series Roots. Through guided historical interpretation, members will gain a deeper understanding of the region’s role in the transatlantic slave trade, the resilience of local communities, and the enduring connection between West Africa and the African diaspora.

The experience includes a traditional boat journey across the River Gambia to Kunta Kinteh Island, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that played an important role during the transatlantic slave trade. Participants will have the opportunity to explore the island, visit historical sites, and learn about the events that shaped the history of the region. Throughout the visit, members will engage with local guides and community members who continue to preserve and share the history, traditions, and stories of Jufureh and the surrounding communities.

The day provides opportunities for learning, reflection, photography, and meaningful cultural engagement while exploring one of the most important heritage destinations in West Africa.

Key Experiences

- Visit Albreda and Jufureh
- Learn about the history of Kunta Kinte and the Roots story
- Guided historical interpretation of the region
- Traditional boat journey on the River Gambia
- Visit Kunta Kinteh Island UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Learn about the transatlantic slave trade and regional history
- Engage with local guides and community members
- Explore historical and cultural landmarks
- Photography and cultural learning opportunities

Meals

Breakfast is included at hotel.

Lunch provided.

DAY 8 Banjul City Visit and Farewell Dinner

Highlights

Day 8 provides an opportunity to experience the energy and culture of Banjul, the capital city of The Gambia and one of West Africa’s most historically significant port cities. Established by the British in 1816 as a military and trading post, Banjul played an important role in regional commerce and later became a center for efforts to suppress the transatlantic slave trade along the River Gambia. Today, the city serves as the political and administrative heart of the country while maintaining strong connections to its rich cultural and historical heritage.

Participants will visit Albert Market, one of the country’s largest and most vibrant marketplaces, where local vendors offer a wide variety of traditional crafts, artwork, clothing, spices, jewelry, and handmade souvenirs. Members will have time to explore the market, interact with local merchants, practice their bargaining skills, and purchase meaningful keepsakes to take home.

The experience also includes a visit to the Never Again Memorial Arch, a monument dedicated to preserving the memory of the victims of the transatlantic slave trade and honoring the resilience of those who endured it. The site offers an opportunity for reflection on many of the historical themes explored throughout the journey while providing excellent photography opportunities.

The evening concludes with a farewell dinner, where participants can share memories from the trip, celebrate new friendships, and reflect on the experiences, connections, and cultural insights gained throughout their time in Senegal and The Gambia.

Key Experiences

- Visit Banjul, the capital city of The Gambia
- Learn about Banjul's history and significance along the River Gambia
- Visit Albert Market
- Shop for local crafts, artwork, and souvenirs
- Interact with local vendors and artisans
- Visit the Never Again Memorial Arch
- Learn about the transatlantic slave trade and its legacy
- Photography opportunities
- Farewell dinner with fellow participants
- Reflection on the journey and cultural experiences

Meals

Breakfast is included at hotel.

Dinner provided.

DAY 9 Return to Senegal & Overnight in Mbour

Highlights

Day 9 marks the transition back to Senegal as participants begin their return journey toward Dakar. Following breakfast, the group will depart The Gambia and travel north through Senegal, providing one final opportunity to enjoy the landscapes, villages, and coastal scenery of the region.

The journey concludes in Mbour, a vibrant coastal city known for its fishing industry, local culture, and proximity to Dakar's international airport. Upon arrival, participants will check into their accommodations and have time to relax, reflect on the experiences of the past week, organize souvenirs and luggage, and prepare for their international departure the following morning.

This final evening provides an opportunity to unwind and enjoy one last night in West Africa before returning home.

Key Experiences

- Scenic overland journey from The Gambia to Senegal
- Travel through local communities and coastal landscapes
- Border crossing into Senegal
- Overnight stay in Mbour
- Time to relax and prepare for departure

- Reflection on the journey and experiences gained

Meals

Breakfast is included at hotel.

DAY 10 Departure

Highlights

Day 10 marks the conclusion of the EGI Signature Gambia & Senegal Experience. Participants will depart Mbour in the early morning and transfer to Blaise Diagne International Airport near Dakar for their return journey home.

As the experience comes to an end, members depart with new friendships, lasting memories, a deeper understanding of West African history and culture, and meaningful connections built throughout their time in Senegal and The Gambia. We hope the relationships, experiences, and insights gained during this journey continue long after the trip has ended.

Key Experiences

- Early morning departure from Mbour
- Transfer to Blaise Diagne International Airport (DSS)
- Airport check-in and departure procedures
- International departure flight

Meals

Meals at participant expense.

Package Price

Package price: \$3,999 per person

International airfare is not included in the package price. See the sections below for full details on what is and is not included.

Package Includes

- Ground transportation within Senegal and The Gambia
- Scheduled excursions and site visits
- Meals specifically identified in the itinerary
- EGI host coordination
- Local guides where applicable

Package Does Not Include

- International airfare
- Travel insurance
- Passport fees
- Visa fees if applicable
- Meals not identified in the itinerary
- Personal purchases
- Souvenirs
- Optional activities not listed in the itinerary

Important Information

Travelers are responsible for ensuring that their passport remains valid for the duration of travel and for meeting any visa, health, vaccination, or entry requirements applicable to their nationality for both Senegal and The Gambia.

Passport Requirements

All travelers should have a passport valid for at least six (6) months beyond their planned travel dates. Participants are responsible for ensuring their travel documents are valid before departure.

Visa Requirements

U.S. passport holders currently do not require a visa for tourist travel to Senegal for stays of up to 90 days.

For entry into The Gambia, travelers should budget approximately \$100 USD for visa and entry-related fees. Visa requirements and fees may vary based on nationality and government regulations in effect at the time of travel.

Travelers are responsible for confirming current visa requirements based on their citizenship before departure.

Health & Vaccinations

Travelers should consult their healthcare provider or local travel clinic before departure regarding recommended vaccinations and health precautions for West Africa.

Depending on nationality, travel route, and current regulations, proof of Yellow Fever vaccination may be required. Participants are responsible for ensuring they meet all applicable health and vaccination requirements.

Connectivity & Mobile Service

Most hotels and accommodations included in the EGI Signature Tour provide Wi-Fi access. Travelers who wish to have mobile data throughout the trip may purchase an international eSIM before departure or obtain a local SIM card upon arrival.

Some U.S. mobile carriers offer international roaming as part of certain premium plans. Certain Xfinity Mobile and T-Mobile plans may include international data, texting, and roaming benefits. Because carrier plans and international benefits change periodically, travelers should verify coverage, data allowances, calling rates, and any applicable charges directly with their provider before departure.

EGI recommends that travelers ensure they have a reliable method of communication before arrival through an international roaming plan, eSIM, or local SIM card.

Electrical Power & Charging

Senegal and The Gambia generally use 220–240V electrical systems with European-style electrical outlets. Travelers should bring:

- Universal travel adapter
- Phone and device chargers
- Portable power bank
- Any specialty charging cables required for personal devices

Accommodations

The EGI Signature Tour package includes private single-occupancy accommodations throughout the journey. Each participant receives their own hotel room unless alternative arrangements are specifically requested and approved in advance.

Before You Travel Checklist

Before departure, travelers should ensure they have:

- Passport valid for at least six months beyond travel dates
- Required visas or entry authorizations
- Yellow Fever vaccination documentation
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Universal power adapter
- Mobile phone and chargers
- Portable power bank

- Prescription medications in original containers
- Debit card, credit card, and personal spending funds (cash is best)
- Printed or digital copies of important travel documents

Communication & Family Contact

Participants are encouraged to share their itinerary with family members before departure. Wi-Fi access and mobile connectivity options will be available throughout most of the journey, allowing travelers to remain in contact with family and friends during their experience.

Itinerary Adjustments

The itinerary, activities, accommodations, and meal schedule are subject to reasonable adjustment based on local conditions, weather, transportation schedules, site availability, border procedures, and operational considerations. EGI hosts, guides, and local partners will provide updates as necessary throughout the journey.

Airfare Assistance

EGI representatives are available before and during the trip to assist with general questions regarding the itinerary, travel preparation, accommodations, and logistics.

For participants who prefer assistance with flight arrangements, EGI can provide airfare booking support upon request. Airfare is not included in the package price and will be quoted separately based on departure city, travel dates, airline availability, and fare conditions.