



## **10 Day Tour of Mali Festival on the Niger**

### **04/2/2020: Arrival in Bamako**

Meet your guide and transfer to the hotel (overnight at the Hotel Tamana)

### **05/2/2020: Djenne**

After breakfast we will drive to Djenne, the twin sister of Timbuktu and a UNESCO World Heritage site. A stop in San to visit the old mud mosque, mud fishing lake and have lunch before continuing to Djenne. Arrival is expected in the afternoon. (Overnight in Djenne, Hotel Wellingare)

### **06/02/2020: Mopti**

The morning is used to visit the grand mosque, the world's largest mud brick structure, the ancient manuscripts library, koranic schools and the old house dating from 12 century. Late morning drive to Mopti, the melting pot of Mali. In the afternoon we will visit the Komoguel mosque, the fishing port to see pirogues being made by hand, and the bustling market where many of Mali's ethnic groups come to trade. We will then take a boat trip to discover the life along the Bani and the Niger River. (Overnight in Mopti, Hotel la Venice du Mali)

### **07/02/2020: Segou-festival**

We will travel to Segou, the second largest city of Mali which was the colonial centre. Arriving in the afternoon, we will relax at the hotel and after dinner we will go to enjoy some music of international musicians at the festival. (Overnight in Segou, Hotel Hambe)

### **08/02/2020: Segou-Festival**

After breakfast we will visit a mud-cloth bogolan workshop, the colonial buildings, Somone area and the surrounding villages. After having lunch at the festival we will enjoy the festival activities

(mask dance, music and artisan market), return to the hotel for dinner and then head back to the festival for the concerts. (Overnight in Segou, Hotel Hambe)

### **09/02/2020: Segou-Festival**

After breakfast, we will visit the old part of Segou and the villages' surroundings, after return to the festival to enjoy the final day of the festival. In the afternoon we will be assisting the boats race competition. Back to the hotel for dinner then head back to the festival for the concerts. (Overnight in Segou, Hotel Hambe)

### **10/02/2020: Segou-Niger river cruise (two nights three days)**

Early in the morning we will board our private wooden motorized boat to enjoy one of the great travel experiences of Mali. Today we will visit the Kalabougou village to see women making potteries or burning their production and making them ready to be transported by canoe to Segou maket. We will discover varying villages and friendly locals. (Overnight camping on an island on the river)

### **11/02/2020: Niger River cruise**

Breakfast will be served on the boat and we will continue our river trip watching life on the banks of the river where we will meet Bozo and Somono fishermen while enjoying the changing landscape. We will stop at villages to observe village life and will see various birds in the region of Koulikoro during the afternoon. (Overnight camping on an island on the river)

### **12/02/2020: Niger River cruise-Koulikoro-Bamako**

Last day of our relaxing river trip: we will continue to observe life on the banks of the river until we reach Koulikoro late morning. We will visit the mosque in Koulikoro and the local market before driving to Bamako (overnight in Bamako, Hotel Tamana)

### **13/02/2020: Bamako**

After breakfast, we will visit the city of Bamako, which offers an interesting mix of colonial buildings, the national museum and the craft market. A special farewell lunch of Timbuktu will be served to conclude the tour. Possible day use of the hotel.

Transfer at the airport on your onward flight.

## **Segou Festival 10 Day Tour**

### Included

Transport: Round trip airport/hotel transfers, private air-conditioned bus for all the trip

Accommodation: Hotel accommodation in the listed properties, 4 double rooms with air-conditioning and all boat trips

Guide: Experienced English speaking guides and assistants

Meals included: All breakfasts, all lunch and dinner during the boat trip

Entrance Fees: For all sites mentioned in the itinerary

Group size: 8

### Excluded

International flights, travel insurance and cost of visa. However, we can assist with a letter of invitation.