

Mali Explorer
10 days – 9 nights
Bamako, Djenné, Mopti, Songo, Sangha, Badiagara, Ireli, Banani, Niger River, Lake Debo,
Térékongo
Ecotourism, Nature, Heritage, Adventure, Culture

This program may be operated for individual or for groups
This is a suggested itinerary – Please call us to customize

Huge in size - almost twice the size of Texas - Mali offers travelers endless wild landscapes, where the Niger River intersects with the desert and its dunes and traditional villages isolated in the bush. An adventure! Lively markets, unusual landscapes and a sense of welcome from Malians!

Day 1: Bamako

Assistance on arrival at the airport and transfer your hotel in Bamako. Rest of the at leisure. Dinner at the hotel. [D]

Day 2: Bamako, Djenné

Departure by 4x4 to Djenné, twin city with Timbuktu, with visits along the way and lunch in Bla. Arrive in Djenné late afternoon. Check-in and relax before dinner at your hotel. [B/L/D]

Day 3: Djenné, Mopti

Visit of Djenné, including the Great Mosque, the largest clay building in the world, built in the 13th century, and listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the artisans of bogolan, a very famous traditional cotton fabric dyed with fermented mud. Lunch and, in the afternoon, continuation to Mopti for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

Day 4: Mopti, Songo, Sangha, Badiagara

On the way to the fascinating Dogon universe! Visit of Songo village, famous for its circumcision cave with rock paintings; After lunch walk in Sangha and observe multiple examples of traditional Dogon architecture and contemporary fetishism. Continue to the neighboring villages of Ogols and Bongo to see the women's house, the Hogon altar, the fox divinatory game area, and the natural tunnel. Return to Badiagara for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

Day 5: Badiagara, Ireli, Banani, Mopti

This morning we take a 2-hour drive through the plateau to reach Ireli arriving in time for dune bashing before lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, attend a traditional Dogon mask dance and visit the village of Banani. Return to Mopti for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

Day 6: Mopti (Niger River)

Breakfast at the hotel and free morning. After lunch start cruising on the Niger river in a traditional pinnacle with outboard motor; picnic dinner and overnight camping on the river bank. [B/L/D]

Day 7: Niger River (Lake Debo)

Full day of navigation on the river with stops at Bozo fishing villages and Fulani hamlets for visits. Picnic lunch en route. Arrival at Lac Débo in the evening. Hot picnic dinner and overnight camping on the beach. [B/L/D]

Day 8: Lake Debo, Konna, Mopti

Return by pinnacle to the village of Konna for lunch. Take the car and continue on Mopti for a city tour of Mopti, the "Venice of Mali": see the fishing port, and at the lively market see the mixing of Malian peoples: Bambara, Bozo, Bobo, Dogon, Fula, Touareg, Songhaï and Hausa. Dinner and overnight in Mopti. [B/L/D]

Day 9: Mopti, Ségou

This morning we drive to Ségou stopping on the way to visit Térékongo, near San, the sacred well of the Bobo people. Stop for lunch in San. On arrival in Ségou visit of city and the village of Sékoro, the former capital of the Bambara kingdom to see the tomb of King Biton Coulibaly. Dinner and overnight in Ségou. [B/L/D]

Day 10: Ségou, Bamako, USA

We leave after breakfast arriving in Bamako in time for lunch. In the afternoon take a city tour to the National Museum, the pink market, the craftsmen's village and the traditional pharmacopoeia market. In the evening, transfer to the airport to board your connecting flight to the USA. [B/L]



Note: We recommend arrival on a Saturday to visit Djenné on the day of the weekly market on Day 3.

[B] = Breakfast | [D] = Dinner | [B/L] = Breakfast, Lunch | [B/L/D] = Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

The trip includes:

- Arrival and departure transfers
- 9 nights' accommodation:
 - Bamako 1 night
 - Djenné 1 night
 - Mopti 3 nights
 - Bandiagara 1 night
 - Niger River 2 nights
 - Segou 1 night
- Meals:
 - Breakfast daily
 - 8 lunches + 1 picnic lunch
 - 7 dinners
 - 2 picnic dinners
- Djenné Great Mosque
- Rock paintings of Songo
- Bongo women's house & Hogon altar
- Traditional Dogon mask dance
- Niger River cruise
- Sailing on Débo Lake
- City tour of Mopti, the "Venice of Mali"
- Mix with West African peoples

- Térékongo sacred well of the Bobo people
- Tomb of King Biton Coulibaly
- Tour of Bamako
- Private 4x4 vehicle
- Private pinnacle (crew and fuel included)
- Experienced English-speaking driver-guide
- 2-day cruise on the Niger river
- Entrance fees as required
- Bottled mineral water with meals
- All local taxes

Tour does not include:

- International airfares
- Any taxes related to airfares or airports
- Meals not mentioned under inclusions
- Travel Insurance
- **Sleeping bags**
- Visas
- Tips to guides or drivers
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Any item not mentioned as "Included"

Hotels in your Tour:

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
First Class*		
Bamako	Radisson Blue	3.5
Mopti	La Maison Rouge	4.5
Bandiagara	Hotel La Falaise	4
Niger River	Camping	n/a
Segou	Hotel L'Auberge	4

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

* Best in city

Tour Prices:

These programs can be customized for individuals and groups. Changes to this program may be requested by phone (1855-55-TOURS) or using the web FIT Quote Request

- **Airfare**

We also be glad to add the necessary airfare from your gateway so you take advantage of our special discounted leisure fares

- **Program**

You may add or remove;

- Trip days
- Cities and sites
- Meals

- **Other options**

- The program was designed with private services; however, we may substitute shared sightseeing where available
- If you prefer deluxe services we may operate this program including private driver, private guide and concierge service.

- **Quotation**

Once we have designed the program the way you want we'll give you a quote within 2 business days.

Tour Code: ML02BKO21SG

Options:

- Lunches and dinners can be arranged for individuals, families and groups at top restaurants or any restaurant requested by you.
- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.

Group Quotations

- If you wish to use these programs for your group or as the basis for a customized journey please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web Group Quote Request.
- In either case our specialists will work with to refine all the details and they will get you a quote with 2 business days. Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the land journey.
- Booking both air and land with us will represent savings for you because of our buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.

We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.