101 TRAVET DESTINATONS

A TRAVELLER'S GUIDE

To Explore Nigeria

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INTRODUCTION

Frequently, people ask questions about what are the exciting things in Nigeria that are worth seeing or experiencing? The misconception that Nigeria has nothing to offer people for leisure, history, artifacts or adventures is the perceptive this guide is curated to change.

People often tend to opt for other countries where they think they can achieve their adventure quest which in the process they could accrue double the cost of what they could have achieved almost without spending a penny in their immediate neighborhood.
We have more than 500 destinations in Nigeria and this guide is to show you few of the amazing destinations Nigeria has to offer, from history, to culture to food, to Arts and Nature.

The 101Travel destinations are selected across 9 States in Nigeria Namely;



These destinations are carefully picked on these basis; Accessibility,Security,

OBJECTIVES



We all know it's easy to search for top places to visit in a particular state but what's lacking is vital information on how to get there, what to do there, costing and budgeting. Latest updates are not available and information is not updated frequently. Therefore, here is what this guide is about;



- To showcase beautiful destinations in Nigeria.
- 2 To provide you with first hand information on these attractions and how to go about your planning.
- **3** To inspire you to explore this beautiful country and get you to enjoy it.
- 4 To give you a handful of guidelines that will help you streamline your first destinations to explore.
- 5 To help you travel safe and change your perspective about how unsafe it is to explore Nigeria.
- **6** To guide you on how to travel on a budget and provide tips on how to go about it.
 - To make travel decisions easier, faster and fun



Omotoke Fatoki ALARINKÀ OF AFRIKA

OmoToke Fatoki is a travel Expert/blogger and a travel tour guide, she believes in "Africanism", and loves to learn about indigenous cultures and history. Toke is passionate about travel, people, history and culture.

Her voracious passion to change the narrative of Nigerian tourism and bring Nigerian destinations to the limelight and awareness of Nigerians and the world in general has motivated her to explore all 36 states of Nigeria. Within a year stint in the tourism industry, she has been nominated as Young tourism personality of the year and hosted the Jumia Awards in 2019 Toke is always planning her next adventure —she shares useful travel guides / tips gathered from her trips across the country to help others become better prepared.

One of her goals is to make travel seemingly easy, affordable and enjoyable for all.

Features







FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q:How safe is it to Explore Nigeria?

Nigeria is relatively safe to explore. Most capitals and cities are calm and tourist friendly. Check page 8 on safety tips on exploring Nigeria.

Q: How much does it cost to travel around Nigeria?

Nigeria attractions are generally budget friendly. Most attractions are either free or cheap. Other factors to consider while planning a budget trip are accommodation and transportation. Check page 10 on how to travel on a budget around Nigeria.

Q: Can I travel solo around Nigeria?

You can easily travel alone (solo) across Nigeria without limitations. I am a solo traveller and it's safe to travel solo across Nigeria.

Q: Is language a barrier in exploring Nigeria?

Language is not a major constraint in exploring Nigeria. Although there are some states that don't speak fluent English but there will always be one person (local) to help you out. Be patient and attentive.

Q: How can I start exploring Nigeria too?

Traveling is a mindset, a lifestyle, you have to want to travel in order to experience it. If you can imagine it, you can do it and traveling doesn't have to be to a new state or city, you can start from your immediate environment, explore your city, get comfortable to going out frequently and you'll dream to see more

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How do I finance my trips?

Money plays a vital role in travelling. To travel is to have money and vice-versa but money shouldn't be a reason not to. Click page to get a free guide on how to finance your trip.

Q: Is it important I explore the whole 36states to enjoy/experience Nigeria Finest nature?.

No, you don't have to explore the whole Nigeria to enjoy all Nigeria has to offer, all it takes is knowing what interests you, why you want to travel, what your hobbies are and things you'd like to see. Research for states that deliver your travel quest, and go for it.

Q:What are the demerits of traveling by road in Nigeria?.

It's not as bad it is made to look. I travelled to all 36states in Nigeria by road so believe me when I say travelling by road adds to the fun.

Q: Do you think I can travel the whole 36states too.

Yes of course you can, it's all about determination and why you want to. If you know your way and you are determined to, then you can achieve it. You can book a one on one session with me for clarity, guidelines and travel ideas.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Please note that this guide is not tailored for instant consumption so don't be pressured to read through in one sitting.

Please don't share any of page of this content with anyone, it's for your personal use. All rights to all 256 pages is reserved by Omotoke Fatoki. Enjoy!!!



Here are three ways to use this guide. Do's

1: Scan through to enjoy beautiful pictures from each destinations. This will be all the motivation that you need to pack your bags and hit the road to go see them.

2: Don't start from number one unless you've read number 101; there's a reason for this if not this guide might not really serve you.

3: The Geotags are clickable; Finally to go to any of these destinations, click on the Location tag highlighted in red and it will open the destination direction straight in your Google map. If you don't have one, Download it.



30 GOLDEN RULES TO EXPLORE NIGERIA

1: Leave early for any destination.

2: Travel to the Capital first before moving around the state.

3: Book a bike man or a local in a city you can't speak their language.

4: Never call yourself a tourist except the atmosphere is friendly enough.

5: Always go to the popular attractions first to get information about the less traveled ones.

6: Always have enough cash at hand.

7: Always have a means of identification.

8: Ask for permission before taking a close shot of people.

9: Wear respect and smile as your favorite garments.

10: Prepare yourself mentally for each and every state.

11: Don't go about with heavy gadget.

12: Dress casually and morally to not attract much attention to yourself.

13: When you get to an abandoned destination with no guide, endeavor to not waste time at such destinations.

14: Don't be too quick to panic at any ugly situation. Remain calm and don't argue.

15: Don't be too quick to tell any local you're popular on social media except you're now friends.

16: Most destinations are not easily accessible, go to the ones you can and leave the rest.

17: Never run out of phone battery , always have a back up plan.

18: Don't stay out late in a city that sleeps early.

19: Pack according to the destinations, if you're going hiking drop those heels at home.

20: Avoid excess luggage.

21: You have to trust your instinct more at every decision you make.

22: Don't take a night bus except it's a full day journey.

23: Be aware of your Environment and listen to the advice of the locals

24 For long hours trips is it advisable you break the trip

25: Traveling with backpack is more advisable if you'll be joggling multiple states.

26: Be nice and friendly to people or else, you'll have the worst experience ever.

27: Don't raise your hopes too much about a destination based on the pictures you see on the net.

28:Make all necessary research before leaving your home.

29: Pack as light as possible.

30: Always share your location history with trusted friends and Families

SAFETY TRAVELS

HOW TO TRAVEL SAFE AROUND NIGERIA



DON'T RELY ON THE MEDIA, DON'T BE SCARED..

This right here is the beginning of your fears. I'm not saying disregard the media warnings totally, I'm only saying that most of the news on the media are obsolete. I wouldn't have traveled around this country if I had digested every information being disseminated via the media.

Search for important information on the media about the destination but don't necessarily believe all red flags.



ASK PEOPLE

I already told you not to believe all the media has to say. So who do you believe?

The people that had been there before, or have experienced what you're about to go looking for.

Find people on social media, one of the best way is to search for #hashtags of the destination on Instagram, connect with people from there and ask relevant questions.

Also, Read blog posts, reach out to the bloggers, this way you get fresh information.

If you have friends or relatives in the city, ask for recent news and updates in the city. This way you know what to expect in terms of security.

SAFETY TRAVELS



ENDEAVOUR TO NOT GET INTO A NEW CITY AT DARK HOURS

Not every city operates round the clock like Lagos and Abuja. It is highly advisable not to have such presumption.

It's advisable to get to a new city as early as possible so you don't wander about in unfamiliar zones.

Even though, sometimes this might be out of your control due to some unforeseen circumstances. If it's really late and you don't have a host to come get you or a cab to your hotel. It's advisable you sleep at the park, it's safe there.

LISTEN TO THE LOCALS ON ANY WARNINGS, AND SAFETY ADVICE

Don't disregard the warnings of the Locals, they know better, they know where is dangerous and where is safe. They are your ultimate guide to navigating the city, respect their opinions and yield to their advice.

Always remember; Your feedback/experience will influence so many peoples' decision, don't let your own ignorance ruin their hopes.

SAFETY TRAVELS



STAY POSITIVE AND COURAGEOUS

If we are being honest with ourselves, nowhere is totally safe. There are attacks all over the world and nobody can predict what will happen next. If we live in fear in our environment, we will never get to see the world. So stay positive, stay courageous, trust your instincts and take a leap of faith. May we never be at the right place at the wrong time and vice versa.

Want to learn more on how to travel safe in Nigeria? Click the link below to read more travel safety tips from 10 Nigeria travel bloggers.

CLICK HERE TO READ

TO TRAVEL SAFE IS TO BE AWARE; PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY AND EMOTIONALLY. BE AWARE OF YOUR ENVIRONMENT, PEOPLES EMOTIONS AND BE MENTALLY PREPARED.

-OMOTOKE



BUDGET TRAVELLING

How to travel on a budget

Have a set budget

The first tip is to figure out your budget. Take some ample time of yours to estimate the cost and check if it's way out of your budget or at par. Do you have enough to go on this trip? what will it cost you? How do you want to go about the necessities?

The first rule is to do your research and draw a budget around it.

Find cheaper transportation:

Transportation consumes a chunk of our budget. If the destination can be easily accessed by road, to save a lot of mone, it's advisable to go by road rather than air. Whichever means of transportation you choose, check for cheaper offers, weigh your options and go for a cheaper one.

Tips for the road: Go to the park yourself, you will have various options to choose from.

Going by air: Search in Incognito mode, and compare different airline to help decide which one suit your budget.

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Find a host/Free accommodation

Exploring Nigeria, accommodation consumes up to 60% of any travel budget depending on your choice of accommodation.

Finding hosts/locals in your city of visitation will save you a lot of money.

HOW TO GET A HOST



#1.Ask family and friends

Don't underestimate the power of networking, you don't know who your friends/family know in this world. They might be of help for the provision of free accommodation.



#2. Ask your online friends/ announce on your platform



Mind you this is not as effective in Nigeria as it is in other countries. I only tried this once or twice in Enugu and Imo state. You might just be lucky to find a serious host.

Tips:

Don't share too much information except you're sure you'll be staying over at this person's place.

•Check reviews, profile thoroughly before engaging in a chat with anyone on the app. Social media is a great tool, use it well. Are you traveling to Kano and you need a host? Ask on your media platforms

E.g: Anyone in Kano/ or have anyone living there kindly notify and I will be in your Dm.

You never know who might be ready to help

Tip:

Don't share too much information except you're sure you'll be staying over at this person's place.

Travel to multiple states at a time

There are states that are easily explored on a trip.

Joggling two or more cities/States on a lengthy trip saves lots of money and time. Research for states that are in the same regional zones. Some of the states are selected in these guides,to help you plan and save cost.



Avoid traveling during Peak/Festive periods

Traveling during festive periods is bound to skyrocket your budget. Things are always expensive during the festive period and destinations get more crowded and rowdy.

Budgetting only has one rule: Do not go out of budget

LAGOS STATE

IN

Centre of Excellence

Travelling through Lagos

Travelling through Lagos. No! I meant living in Lagos. I was born and raised here in a small LGA in Lasgidi, a city that never sleeps, the home for the rich, the average and the poor. The land that gives you a million dreams of who you can become and provides you with the opportunity to which can be pleasant or otherwise. You have to be smart over here, always guiding, from the struggle with Agberos, to catcalling from random boys, to highly opinionated people about what you should and should not do. Yet Lagos is the city for enjoyment, entertainment, the land of honey. From nightlife, to beaches, to resorts, to arts, to music and love. Lagos is like a Disney world mixed with some ghetto lifestyle. Its the real "Concrete Jungle". You have to be smart, ready and brave. You'll love it here but let me tell you something you won't love but learn to live with, Lagos Traffic 🛞



EKO O GBA GBERE RARA

LAGOS DOESN'T ACCEPT ANY FORM OF SLUGGISHNESS.



EXPLORING LAGOS

GET TO KNOW LAGOS

Lagos state is in the southwestern part of Nigeria , it's the smallest amongst the 36 states but arguably the economic hub of the country.

Lagos is popularly known for its undefeatable traffic, nightlife and beaches, business and opportunities.

The state has so much to offer yet little explored. The State which is known for her beautiful beaches, landscapes, arts, history, nightlife, conservations, and nature.

GETTING AROUND LAGOS

- Transportation: There are commercial buses called Danfo, keke napep(Tricycle) to get you around.
- There is Uber, Taxify and Yellow cabs available in the city.
- Google Map: is your best guide around the city. Motorbikes were recently banned from the city.

IF YOU ARE JONNY JUST COME (JJC) I.E NEW TO LAGOS

- Always bargain the price no matter how expensive or cheap the price might sound. Trust me, you can still get that stuff for less.
- Obey traffic/road rules: LASMA are everywhere, they will use you for food especially if they find out you be JJC.
- Always have cash in small denominations popularly called "Change" when using public transport.
- If you don't know your bus-stop; Ask the person sitting next to you or tell the conductor. Remind them always

Be Sharp/Stay Woke: you gotta stay smart in Lagos, don't dull and don't loose guard

BADAGRY SLAVE TRADE MUSEUM

Badagry heritage museum: This is a museum that houses artifacts and historical records of Badagry people. It's dated back to the time of the pre-slave era,slave era and the post slave era.





Why you should visit this Attraction:

It's one of the most detailed museums that talked about the slave trade era.



LOCATION: Badagry about 65km from Lagos central Ikeja.

Fun things to do at the museum

Even though it's going to be heart wrenching exploring and listening to the pains of the slaves . There are couple of fun things to do at the attraction .

Take a boat cruise to Gberefun Island.

Have a horse ride at the beautiful beach.

Take really amazing pictures at the beautiful old state of the art first storey building in Nigeria.

Go to the fishing market in Badagry.

Things needed on this trip

Cash at hand: for there are no ATMS littered around the city.

Handkerchief; I won't promise you, that you won't shed a tear, so have your handkerchief with you.

Camera: The sky in Badagry is always blue, you need your camera to capture great moments

Cost to explore Badagry museum



Entrance fee: 200 naira per gallery. The museum has 8 galleries in total. Boat fee- to gberefun island - 2,000 Total sum of :3,600

Ideal budget for this trip: N5,000



2 KALAKUTA MUSEUM

Kalakuta Museum: want to learn more about the legendary Anikulapo kuti, then kalakuta Museum is a must visit.

This was home to the legendary Fela Anikulapo Kuti .

The museum is a fiveroom guest house, coffee and a souvenir shop.

LOCATION

7 GBEMISOLA ST, ALLEN 100281, IKEJA6.9 KM

ENTRANCE FEE:

N1,000

Tour-Guide in sight Accessibility: Easy to access.







Fun things to do at the museum

Experience and learn the history of the legendary Fela Anikulapo Kuti from the well trained and educated guides at the attractions. I am keeping the history short on the guide because it will be better to hear it from the horse's mouth.

Take amazing pictures in and around the museum: they are certain sections that photographs are prohibited.

Relax at the rooftop bar: The rooftop bar is an added advantage to the experience at the museum, dine and listen to some Fela classics.

Interact with the guides: you'll be amazed at what they have to gist you about, their work, more enlightened story of Fela and a fun time with them. Some will go as far as singing some of their favorite Fela singles or you request for yours.

Shop for souvenirs: shop for some handcrafted souvenirs and also mugs, tshirts, books and old Fela Musical albums.



Jakeal house , Railway Museum

The Ebute metta Museum is an historical site that preserves some of the old carriage wagons and some trains dated back to 1902.

The Jaekel house is about 100years old and was used by the first General Manager of the Nigerian Railway. It presently houses photos that simultaneously tell the story of the Nigerian Railway since inception and also the economic history of Nigeria. My experience at this destination is one to remember for a long time.

The old man who happens to be our guide was so accommodating and knowledgeable about the history of the destination that gave me so much chill to want to grow old to be a museum guide myself. It's a must visit for everyone.

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FUN THINGS TO DO AT THE MUSEUM

- Take a walk around the beautiful architectural building of the old house while you listen to the history of the railway station and see some old train remains.
 - A tour of the Train station burial ground; Noo, this is not where people are buried. It is where old ruins of the first set of trains in Nigeria are kept; it is an aesthetic location for some nice photographs.
- Photo session around the vicinity; Jakeal house has really nice cultivated gardens, flowers and nature. It's the perfect place for a destination wedding.
 I had pictures from different angles in this destination that can last me a year if I decide to post everyday.

Seat and chat on the designed train funnel in the garden.





Your phone: I can't over emphasize on this enough, make sure your phone or camera is fully charged, you don't want to risk a low battery. So it doesn't end in premium tears if you are visualizing in retrospect about the pictures you could have taken instead of really capturing the moment.

Cash: just enough to get you around.

LOCATION

<u>17 FEDERAL RD, EBUTE METTA,</u> LAGOS







AWOLOWO MUSEUM/ PRIVATE BEACH

This prison turned Museum was where the Notable Obafemi Awolowo was imprisoned for treason. This museum exhibit Awolowo's properties such as his books, clothes, shoes etc After exploring the museum you can have

After exploring the museum, you can have a small picnic at the beach. The beach is beautiful, clean and surreal.

LOCATION

ENTRANCE FEE

N2,000

Tour-Guide : Available

Accessibility: Use your google map and always ask locals for directions.

THE TOMB OF PORTUGUESE TRADER MR. LECOI

Things you need for this trip

FUN THINGS TO DO

Take a walk down memory lane of Awolowo's life imprisonment.

Take amazing pictures of yourself and also the location.

A relaxation at the private beach

01

GOOLE MAP

Trust me you'll be needing this as much as you'll be needing to ask people for directions. It's quite a distance to the destination and you need guide to help you access the destination

03

02

BEACH WEARS

After a tour of the museum, you would want to relax at the bank of the beach and have some fur time for yourself. The beach is neat, less crowded, beautiful and peaceful. Having a picnic here is not a bad idea. So you might want to add it to your itinerary.

CASH Have some cash at hand because there are no banks around.



CAMERA Pictures are allowed in and around the museum.

5

NATIONAL MUSEUM

The Nigerian National Museum is a national museum of Nigeria, located in the heart of Lagos. The museum was founded by the English archaeologist Kenneth Murray in 1957 and it is built in different galleries;

Galleries dedicated to the Nok Terracottas from Benin City,

The Nigerian government yesterday and today: You can find the bullet holes on the car from the assassination of Murtala Muhammed

Human history and Early Stage galleries; The evolution of human race.

The history and culture, statutories and carvings, archaeological and ethnographic displays.

LOCATION ONIKAN RD, IKOYI,

LAGOS

ENTRANCE FEE: N200

OPEN HOURS: 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM



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THINGS TO TAKE WITH YOU

A camera; pictures are not allowed in the gallery but you can take pictures within the premises.

Cash: To shop for really nice handcrafted souvenirs as well as a well detailed Nigeria Map(which cost about N3,000)

WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO VISIT THE MUSEUM?

The museum is open from 9:am to 3:30pm Monday till Saturday

HOW TO GET TO THE MUSEUM?

LOCATION :AWOLOWO RD (OPPOSITE MUSON CENTRE), ONIKAN, LAGOS ISLAND

You can take a cab direct to Modupe alakija crescent in Ikoyi or board a bus to TBS, and take a 50 Naira keke napep or take a stroll to the museum. The museum will be by your left.

FUN THINGS TO DO AT THE MUSEUM

Explore and experience the journey of Nigeria through the different collections of outstanding art and monuments on display

Meet and interact with knowledgeable artists, curators and art enthusiasts

6 NIKE ART GALLERY

This is one of the most popular and visited attractions in Lagos. Apart from the fact that it screams great, mind blowing Artworks and a really beautiful ambience. The reception is heavenly.

It's one of the attractions you'll be glad you visited.

The art gallery is owned by Mrs Nike Davies Okundaye, one of the iconic people in the country who is friendly and welcoming. The museum boasts 8,000 diverse artworks.

If you're a lover of art then it's a place to visit.





Location

<u>No. 2 Oba Yekini Elegushi Rd,</u> <u>Lekki Phase I, Lekki</u> OPENING HOURS: 10AM TO 6PM (Everyday) CONTACT INFORMATION: +234 1 270 596

- Get immensely in awe of the 7,000 beautiful art pieces beautifully arranged on the walls, desks, and every piece of art in the three storey building.
- Take pictures: Recently picture are now allowed in the gallery (it was prohibited for a long time) meanwhile no direct photographs of the artworks.
- Play dress up with Mama Nike in a fancy danshiki abaya.
- Shop for artworks and souvenirs:

From Textiles to Paintings to Fabrics to Metal works; price ranges fro thousands to millions of naira.

Have a coffee at the coffee shop

- Dance with Mama Nike if she is available at your time of visit.
- You can also interview her and hear more about her journey into the Art world.



Photo credit: @sassyfunke

Entrance Fee: Free Accessibility : Easy to access Availability of tour guide - Yes









LEKKI ART AND CRAFT MARKET

Just

a mile away from the prestigious Nike Art Gallery is the Lagos famous art and craft market for affordable handcrafted bags, fabrics ,home decors, artworks beads and everything artworks.

Items at this destination might be a bit pricey depending on your choice of items but it's advisable to go with enough cash.

LOCATION

OBA ELEGUSHI STREET LEKKI PENNINSULA II LEKKI



Attraction - Shopping

Entrance fee - None

Accessibility - Easy to access

THIN<mark>gs t</mark>o do



Take really amazing pictures in the market.

- Converse with genius artists and locals in the market.
- Eat: from fruits to meals to pepper soup joint.

WHAT YOU NEED

- A lot of cash to shop for really nice things.
- Your camera for really dope pictures.
- A friend to help you decide from thousand of beautiful pieces you might fall in love with at once.



IMAGE CREDIT: GOOGLE




TERRA-KULTURE

Terra kulture which was established in 2003 by Bolanle Austen- Peters started gaining lots of attention in 2015. The internationally acclaimed art house, Terra Kulture is the home to contemporary visual and theatre arts in Nigeria.

TK as it is fondly called stands as one of the only 2 art auction houses in Nigeria with a collection of over a thousand art pieces from across the country. The building houses an art gallery, a language school, a theatre and a restaurant.

Terra Kulture is popular and known for numerous theatrical plays that are held in the premises year in year out.

One of the famous festival is the Taruwa Festival of Performing arts (which is often held in January).

LOCATION





Image credit: google

<u>PLOT 1376, TIAMIYU SAVAGE ST, VICTORIA</u> ISLAND LAGOS.



Opening hours: 9AM: 12AM

Entrance Fee: None



THINGS TO DO AT TERRA-KULTURE







Shop for really nice souvenirs at the craft shop.



A time to study at the Library



9

RELE GALLERY

I like to call this place a house for the youth and young contemporary artists and a home for art for young minds. ReLe gallery is a dynamic contemporary art gallery with 2 locations in Lagos Nigoria. They represent and exhibit cutting edge and

in Lagos Nigeria. They represent and exhibit cutting-edge and game-changing visual artists.

ReLe Gallery is well known for their unconventional art salons and installations.

They hold regular exhibitions and have triggered the interest of young Nigerians in visual arts

LOCATION

<u>5 MILITARY STREET, ONIKAN, LAGOS,</u> <u>NIGERIA</u>



Entrance Fee: Free to access

Contact: 234(809)-321-5460

10



MYDRIM GALLERY

Established in 1992, Mydrim Gallery is one of the oldest existing galleries in Lagos, Nigeria. The gallery is a reality borne out of a xdream rooted in a passion for the beauty expressed through art. African artists have been able to express the richness of the African culture through several media.

The gallery through various exhibitions and the sales of artworks has crafted a market for young Vibrant artists in the country.

The gallery organizes various performances, readings, receptions, symposia, as well as art exhibitions and other special events that are of benefit to different artist and communities. .

LOCATION 74B, NORMAN WILLIAMS STREET,IKOYI, LAGOS.

Opening Hours: Monday -Friday | 9.00 am -5.00 pm

Saturday | 10.30 am - 5.00 pm

Entrance fee: Free

Contact: +234 805 183 2375

PARKS AND RECREATIONAL CENTERS

PARKS IN LAGOS

In 2018, Lagos state government paid optimum attention to the growth and development of the tourism sector which led to more establishment of parks and recreational centers, well equipped, easy to access, beautiful and almost free for everyone.

Few of the parks that are the rave of the moment and a must visit for everyone are;

LEKKI CONSERVATION CENTER

You'll be shocked at the number of people in Lagos that haven't been to this attraction before and they don't know what it offers. If you're a non-Lagosian u will find this place worth while.

Lekki conservation centre (LCC) is one of the popular nature conservation in Nigeria built-in 1990 by Chevron Corporation and currently being run and managed by the Nigerian Conservation Foundation to help protect the flora and fauna of the Nigerian ecosystem.

The centre covers an estimated 78 hectares of land. The reserve has a scintillating view of lush greenery, wetlands and boulevard of palm trees offering a picturesque sight.

The tranquil environment is really therapeutic, a good place to relax from the hustle and bustle of Lagos.

LOCATION ADDRESS: KM 19 LEKKI – EPE EXPRESSWAY, LEKKI PENINSULA II, LEKKI



You can access this destination by using public transport and taxis. Using public transport: Board a bus to either Obalende or CMS Park. From any of these locations, board a bus heading to Lekki/Ajah, stop at Chevron Bus stop and walk to the centre.



IMAGE CREDIT:GOOGLE





BEST TIME TO VISIT

It's advisable to visit during dry seasons especially if you're looking forward to participating in all activities the attractions has to offer.

WHAT YOU NEED FOR THIS ADVENTURE

Pack light : It's best to explore this destination with little or nothing in your bags at all. The only essential needs are;

Your cameras/Water, well gripped shoe/sandal, Power Bank and Cash.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST

Entrance Fee: it cost N1,000 to gain access,

And an additional N1,000 to go on the canopy walkway.

THINGS TO DO IN LCC

- Take a Walk on the Canopy Walkway: LCC houses the longest canopy walk in Africa, the 401-metre long canopy walk is suspended at a height of 22.5 feet above the ground. The Canopy walk offers a panoramic view of the whole nature reserve and an up close experience of Nature. It's quite an adventure climbing the canopy walkway and you'll be glad you did.
 - Play board games such as chess and Ludo on the giant painted board games in the floor:
 - See the oldest 98-year turtle as well as other Animals such as monkeys.
 - Relax/ have a picnic at the Gazebo: The shed made of raffia is a cool place to relax, rejuvenate, and recover your strength.
- Take a long walk at the garden while you rejuvenate and enjoy the greenery nature.
 - Climb to the top of the Wood House: the woodhouse is another adventure next to canopy walk. You climb your way to the top of the house to have a view of the centre and to relax. It's a beautiful view up there especially at sunset.

Take a walk to the Koi and tilapia fish .



This is the second nature reserve in Lagos. LUFASI is a short accronomy for Lekki Urban Forest and Animal Sanctuary initiative.

Lufasi is an urban forest park that sits on 20 hectares of land.

The Centre provide a meeting point for nature and leisure walk, outdoor sports, field research, school excursions, wildlife rescue & rehabilitation and also a natural wellness centre.

LOCATION

LUFASI NATURE PARK IS LOCATED AT MAJEK IST GATE, KM 41, LEKKI -EPE EXPRESSWAY, LAGOS, NIGERIA, LAGOS.

BEST TIME TO VISIT

During the dry season is the best time to visit. On my day of visit it was raining and I couldn't have the maximum fun. The ground was muddy and that was a bitter experience.

ENTRANCE FEE

It cost N1000 for Adult and 500 naira for children



Image credit: Lufasi



THINGS TO DO AT LUFASI

Take a tour of the vicinity, there are quite some things to see from Lake Nora, to Animals and Eki forest.

Have a picnic at the recreational spot.

Experience the Shinrin-Yoku which means nature bathing. You can have alone time under the designated tree to experience this nature therapy.

Go on a walk on the wood walkway: This is one of the reward of exploring Lufasi, the nature, the view, the weather is everything and more.

"THERE ARE NO FOREIGN LANDS. IT IS THE TRAVELLER ONLY WHO IS FOREIGN."



13

JOHNSON JAKANDE PARK

This park is everything and more, It's one of the most beautiful parks in the city of Lagos. It was commissioned by Governor Akinwunmi Ambode on Wednesday, December 13, 2017. It is owned by the Lagos Government (LASPARK) .They are committed to providing and maintaining functional parks, gardens and recreational centres.

The recreational center sees lots of people trooping in and out of its serene facilities year in year out. **LOCATION**

THE PARK IS LOCATED IN ALAUSA IKEJA, RIGHT NEXT TO LAGOS STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FEW KILOMETERS FROM IKEJA CITY MALL.

OPENING HOURS

It opens as early as 9:Am and closes by 6:30pm every day.

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THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE PARK

- It's a free entry: You wonder how such a beautiful place will be open for just anyone without a fee. Yes! It's free for everyone and you don't have to pay a dime to access the park.
 - Free WiFi: This is one of the advantages of exploring this park. Free access to the internet to update your experiences in your Media platforms.
- You need to get permission before you can use a professional camera: because there are camera men present on ground.
 - There's no parking space at the Park; cars are not allowed in the park. You'll have to park outside of the park. I don't know if there is a provision for parking space (because I didn't own one when I visited).

FUN THINGS TO DO

- It's a recreational center with numerous activities and games;
 It's a great relaxation center, You probably need a time out with fresh breeze, cool sound and relax after a long day/ week of work then JJT is the place for you.
- Picnic: where are you and your friends/ family hanging out this weekend? JJT is a perfect for a family or friends picnic.
 - Take pictures: the destination is picture worthy, you can take pictures on the lawn, in front of the water fountain designed with agos popular masquerade Eyo,
- Take pictures in front of the Tinubu monument.
- Dine and wine at the various food vendors.



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NDUBISI KANU PARK

Right opposite the Johnson Jakande park is Ndubuisi Kanu park. Ndubisi is also another fun filled, recreational center for family time, picnics, games and a walk in the park experience.

LOCATION

LOCATION: MOBOLAJI JOHNSON AVE, ALAUSA LAGOS,

Opening hours

9:am-6:30pm

Images credit: Google

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FACILITIES IN THE PARK

- Free WiFi
- **F**ood

Games



Parking space

FUN THINGS TO DO

- It's a cool relaxation centre.
- Picnic:It is a perfect for a family or friends picnic.
- Play games : Engage in some fun activities , like swinging.
- Take pictures: not as picturesque as JJT but it's worthy enough



MUSEUM

(RECORD'S OFFICE)

This was the first place someone enters after passing through the first place someone enters after passing through the records of all held the records of all the

DOM PARK



15 FREEDO PARK

Freedom Park is a memorial and leisure park area in the middle of downtown Lagos in Lagos Island, Nigeria which was formerly known as Her Majesty's Broad Street Prison. It was designed by the Architect Theo Lawson.

The Park was constructed to preserve the history and cultural heritage of Nigerians.

It's a picturesque destination for photoshoot and relaxation.

The park has a museum, a waterfront, beautiful gardens, relaxation centres: restaurants, bar. It's a fun place to visit.

LOCATION

<u>old prison ground,broad</u> STREET LAGOS ISLAND.

ENTRANCE FEE N200

Opening hours : Freedom Park Lagos is open: Sun - Sun 2:00 PM - 11:00 PM Mon - Sat 11:00 AM - 11:00 PM



plese note, the use of professional camera attracts a fee ofN10,000. Although, this might not be a fixed price if you are able to liaise with the management well.

FUN THINGS TO DO

- A tour of the museum which showcases the old ruins of the old Lagos prison.
- Take a walk around the open museum with inscribed description on the statues.
 - Relax at the bar/restaurant. Experience the Live band and musical experience.
 - Take as much pictures as possible at every nook and cranny of the park.



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APAPA AMUSEMENT PARK

Some people I know tend to have a childhood memory of this place but I don't . In all honesty my house is too far away from this destination so I don't see any reason why anyone would want to take me there.Even though I haven't been there yet, I have heard a lot of good reviews about the destination and it's rated by many as one of the best parks in Lagos.

The amusement park was built in 2008 and it spans an area of approximately 7.7 acres. The park reopened after a three-year closure and complete makeover in 2013

LOCATION <u>1 RANDLE RD, APAPA, LAGOS</u>



Picture credit @dasience



THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFOREHAND.

- It's free to access for a walk around the premises.
- To participate in any of the games you have to pay for your game card which costs about N4,000 and comes with a N3,000 credit .

You have to pay with your game card to access the game Arena and you also pay to actually go on the rides.

The park is best explored with friends/family if you want to have an optimum fun.

Professional cameras are not allowed Parking Space: You'll have to pay for a parking space if you are going with a car.

FUN THINGS TO DO AT THE PARK

You can participate in the outdoor or indoor games.
Fun games to play include;
Disco ride.
Jumping frog.
Sky race.
Bumper cars.
Air bicycle.
And a lot more of outdoor games.
For indoor games you can go for:

7D cinemas game and everything they have to offer.

Take as many pictures as you deem fit, you can also take

pictures on other rides, even if you don't go on them.





HI IMPACT PLANET

This is a world-class amusement park with thrilling outdoor rides and exciting indoor games positioned for children, teenagers and the whole family to have a fun-filled experience.



Location

Km 12 Lagos - Ibadan Expy, Ibafo.

Cost to explore Hi-Impact

- There are three types of park prices: Hip flex, Hip regular and Hip combo.
- Hip Flex costs 5,000naira for entrance fee only (i.e you pay for each games).
- Hip Regular cost: 15,000 which includes unlimited games but excludes the Go Kart, Aqua Zone and Arcade. Both the Aqua Zone and Arcade cost an extra N10,000 (Ten Thousand Naira Only). While the Go Kart cost N7,500 (Seven Thousand, Five Hundred Naira Only) for 5 laps.
 - Hip Combo: This costs N20,000 (Twenty Thousand Naira Only) and it includes both the Hip Regular package and the Go-Kart ride. That means the Go-Kart cost N5,000 (Five Thousand Naira Only) when combined with the unlimited games free.

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FUN THINGS TO DO

Enjoy the outdoor and indoor games from Go-kart, Aqua zone, Arcade, Ferris wheel, Hoopla, Dream machine, Spring ride and a lot more.

Take pictures in the front of the giant Gorilla statue.

Picnic: Relax with friends and family and meet new amazing people.

Shop

Shop for souvenirs.

Taste their tasty culinary at their fancy restaurants.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE GOING TO THE PARK

No food or snacks allowed in the premises

You must not leave the premises before you exhaust your game card, once you leave the park before their closing time, you can't gain access to enter again.

Adhere to the strict warning and guidelines of each rides

Make sure you wear your Park tag.



UPBEAT CENTER

Upbeat is a world-class and fun sports and fitness recreation centre in Lagos/ Africa for the benefit of all in the community. UPBEAT

is tagged the number one destination for fun and fitness based on their excellent quality service and a safe environment.

This destination came into Lagos like bengdenderen. It was the talk of the town and everyone wants to go there. Literally Everyone. So you should too

LOCATION

ADMIRALTY RD, LEKKI PHASE 1, LAGOS

OPENING HOURS

9:00 Am -9:00 Pm

CONTACT ENQUIRIES

+234 818 884 4991







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Things you should know beforehand

You'll be asked to sign a waiver to ascertain that you're up to 18years.

If you're going with children you'll have to fill their forms and complete all the signing in.

Tickets cost N3,000 each of you are visiting on a weekend and N2,500 on a weekday.

Your ticket only last for lhour and it comes with the trampoline jump and a pair of socks

If you'd like to stay more that an hour, you'll have to pay more.

Make sure you arrive few minutes before your time because the activities starts by the hour

FUN THINGS TO DO AT UPBEAT

Foam Pit. A massive pile of foamy softness for you to dive, flip, jump, and fly into.

Go Karts. Start your engines and show us how you handle those curves.

Tumble Track. This is the way we flip and roll.

Virtual Reality: one of the best things in UPBEAT is that you get the chance to go on a virtual tour of Nigeria tourist attractions.

Trampoline Basketball.

Dodge Ball. Basket ball.

Outdoor basketball court.

Football pitch

And exercising at their fitness facilities.



Credit: @ajalanene blog







Image credit: @travelwithapen

omu resort

19

This is more of a themed recreational park than a resort but it is located in a rainforest environment, which allows guests to experience the wonders of nature. The clear waters of OMU CREEK made it stand out.

LOCATION

<u>1 ASIWAJU BOLA TINUBU WAY,</u> <u>BOGIJE, IBEJU LEKKI - ABOUT 30</u> <u>MINUTES AFTER AJAH</u>



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Things you should know beforhand

The resort is at the far end of Lagos city. Far from the Lagos hustle and bustle in a serene and atmospheric environment.

> Tickets are sold in different prices: Gold (#4,000), Platinum (#7,000), Prime (#9,000) and Super Prime (#16,500)

Food is allowed in the resort but you'll be charged a corkage fee; Corkage fee means you'll be charged on foods and drinks brought into the resort. Fee charges range from #1,500 to #17,500

FUN THINGS TO DO AT OMU RESORT

Explore the Omu Zoo. Go on some of the park rides. Have fun at the play Arena; water park area for kids, archery, park rides, horse riding area, go-cart arena, quad bikes (which were unavailable at the time of our visit),

Take amazing pictures at the photo op. Take a nature walk around park.



Credit: @travelwithapen blog

RESORTS / BEACHES IN LAGOS

One of the best resources Lagos has and is using to her advantage is the presence of beaches.

Lagos city is surrounded by beautiful beaches and amazing resorts perfect for a weekend getaway, staycations, bae-cations, hangouts, and some self reflecting time.







CHAKA RESORTS

This is where I like to call home away from home.

Chaka resort is a beachfront resort in the city of Lagos.

It's one of the best, affordable, home friendly resorts for a weekend getaway, stay-cation, Bae-cation or a day visit to enjoy the facilities the hotel has to offer.

The resort offers various packages I.e.dinner date, surprise romantic proposal planning e.t.c

LOCATION

<u>1, CHAKA ROAD, OFF LEKKI</u> <u>FREE TRADE ZONE WAY,</u> <u>MOSAYO BEACH, ELEKO</u> <u>LAGOS, NIGERIA</u>.

CONTACTS FOR BOOKING:

+234 (0) 812 497 8260 +234 (0) 813 136 0358

HOW MUCH IT COST TO STAY IN CHAKA

The resort has different room from Standard room - 30,000 Deluxe room - 50,000 Penthouse - 100,000 A day visit to the beach area -1,000

FUN THINGS TO DO AT CHAKA-RESORT

Stay at their prestigious and well furnished hotels.

Have an evening chill at their Gazebo with a chilled bottle of wine from the bar.

Take a long stroll and enjoy the beautiful beach view.

Go swimming in their squeaky clean pools Taste one of their in-house delicacies .

Rent the cinema for you and your friends.

Take amazing pictures at the well cultivated gardens and every nook and cranny of the resort.

Have a chilled evening at the bar and enjoy some classical.

THINGS YOU NEED ON THIS TRIP

Definitely a change of clothes, you'll need for there's a lot of picturesque location for Instagram worthy pics.

Your mobile phone and your gadgets.

You can use your atm at the resort so you might not need to have cash at hand.

A beach wear/swimming trunk And your vibe (wink).







20% discount

Use the Code Alarinka774 to get 20% Discount off your bookings at Chaka Resort.



LA CAMPAGNE TROPICANA

2

IMAGE CREDIT:GOOGLE





This must be the next popular place after Fela shrine, correct me if I'm wrong. But when it comes to Resort in Lagos! La Campagne takes the forefront.

La Campagne, is arguably one of the best in Nigeria because of its richness in culture, the beautiful and well maintained facilities and

also their top notch services.

You can either go on a staycation or a weekend getaway. Either ways it's fun overload

LOCATION

<u>IKEGUN, IBEJU-LEKKI AREA, OFF</u> <u>LEKKI/EPE EXPRESSWAY, LAGOS,</u> <u>NIGERIA.</u>

Daycation at the Resort.

You can enjoy the beach, explore the mangrove, splash in the lagoon and enjoy all land amenities without having to spend the night at the resort.

Time of visit:. 8am to 6pm daily.

Daycation Entrance Fee: Adults. : 5,000 Teenager: 3000 Kids : 1,500

Things you can experience for a daycation at Lacampagne.

Kayak : 1000naira per person per ride. Boat cruise ; 1,000 naira per person per ride. Jet ski : 5000 naira per person per ride.

WEEKEND GETAWAY AT LA CAMPAGNE

Going on a vacation a night or more here are what you should know;

The lodge commonly called Chalet are in different cultural names and of different prices of course.

Obailerigi/3D, Obailerigi Simpl,Amosan 2, Ilerimi Obieze,Oso etc

The room prices ranges from N60,000 to N250,000 with the least being Laba and the highest bring Obailerigi 3D

Things to do in La Campagne

Kayaking: Go kayaking on the beautiful lagoon.



Table game (Scrabble, Chess, Monopoly) Snooker,Table Tennis, Basketball, Badminton Canoe ride.

Horseback ride.

Things you should Know before visiting La Campagne

Please note that a corkage of 1,000 naira per adult and 500naira per teenager applies on food and drinks brought into the resort. Water fun rates!

Professional cameras are not allowed in the resort. That means you can only use your mobile camera.

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22 INAGBE GRAND RESORTS

Inagbe grand resortsis one of the Islands that provides serenity, peace and nature at its best.

Located at Amuwo-Odofin LGA,Inagbe grand resorts offer both daycation and staycation to enjoy their facilities and have an amazing time at the resort.

LOCATION

<u>ADDRESS: 13, ABIMBOLA</u> <u>OKUNLAJA CLOSE, OFF</u> <u>OLADIMEJI ALAO, LEKKI</u> <u>PHASE 1, LAGOS.</u>

HOW TO GET THERE

Inagbe grand resort is a hidden paradise located on Inagbe Island, which is about a 15 minutes boat ride from Victoria Island. From the Regatta Jetty on Oyinkan Abayomi Drive in Ikoyi area of Lagos, take a charter boat and enjoy the scenery on your way there.



CHLCONDE TO INAGEE GRAND RESORTS AND LEISURE

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFOREHAND

The resort is on an Island I.e it can only be accessible by boat Boat charter ranges from N10,000 to M18,000

Foods are not allowed on the island.

THINGS TO DO AT INAGBE GRAND RESORTS

- Enjoy the sumptuous food and soothing drinks in the 'floating bar'.
- Take a ride on the jetty and kayaks, or drive around on the beach with the quad bikes.
 - The resort presents a very inviting environment for shooting music videos and movies.
 - Play at the children's park available on the resort.
- Take a tour of the jungle.

23 JARA BEACH RESORT

Jara beach has been the rave of the moment and every Lagosians' dream place to visit, including me. This private beach and resort screams class and La Vida loca, a destination for the high earner and if you're a budget traveller this destination is definitely on the high side for you but you can save towards a day that you feel like it .

LOCATION:

<u>MUSEYO BEACH, ELEKO,</u> LOTU STREET OFF LEKKI FREE TRADE LEKKI,LAGOS.

OPENING HOURS: 24 HOURS DAILY



THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE VISITING

FUN THINGS TO DO

It cost N125,000 for a standard room during the mid-week stay at Jara Beach and 150,000 during the weekend (Friday-Saturday).

A day trip visit to the resort cost N27,000 per adult, 12,600 for kids and 15,750 for nannies

Prices are all-inclusive of three squat meals, snacks and drink The resort is accessible by road and water.

The resort only has 6 en-suite apartments which means it can only accommodate 6 families at a time which simply means less crowd and more peace.

You and your friends/family or co-workers can also rent out the whole six en-suite apartments for N620,000 per night. I will say basically just relax and take it all in, be present in the serenity of the resort, have a wine at the beachfront, take an evening walk while enjoying sunset from a neat and airy beach.

Enjoy the meals, have a deep swim in the swimming pool, Play table tennis table, dart board and sand games, Read books to relax, board games.

Unwind, Rest and Relax. That should be Jara's motto, tell them I said so.

CREDIT: <u>@AMARACHIEKWE</u>

THE GOOD THINGS ABOUT JARA BEACH THAT MAKES IT STAND OUT.

- Three square meal, perfectly prepared and snacks are all inclusive in the price.
 - They have a fully stocked Snacks Station that is accessible to you throughout your stay.
 - Drinks and wines at your beck and call.
 - Door to door chauffeur service available.

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LAKOWE LAKES & GOLF RESORT

Lakowe Lakes Golf & Coun try Estate, often described as 'West Africa's best kept secret', is a beautiful, luxury community nestled in a peaceful neighbourhood about 35km from the hustle and bustle of Lagos.





LOCATION

<u>LEKKI EPE EXPRESSWAY,</u> <u>AFTER AJAH, LAKOWE</u>

OPEN HOURS: EVERY DAY



IMAGE CREDIT: GOOGLE

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THINGS YOU NEED FOR THIS TRIP

COST OF LODGING

Lakowe Lakes has a Lodge and Spa Resort that offers corporate lodge facilities with fully furnished sitting rooms, kitchens and rooms. 1 bedroom per night- \\$50,000 2 bedroom per night - \\$70,000 Studio cottage per night - \\$60,000 1 bedroom cottage per night - \\$65,000

- OVERNIGHT BAG,FITNESS KIT,
- INSECT REPELLANT.
- A CAMERA/PHONE.

FUN THINGS TO DO

At Lakowe Lakes, wellness, relaxation and recreation come as the total package. At the resort, you can:

- Go fishing on the 55-hectare man-made lake.
- Have a 45-minute Golf Lesson at the cost of **#15,000**.
- Watch a movie under the stars.
- Get a fitness class.
- Play other sports.
 - Relax at the spa.

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KAMP IKARE

Kamp ikare is a perfect holiday spot resort in Lagos . A place of solitude and serenity. Looking for a destination for a romantic get away, family:business retreat, then Kamp Ikare is a place to look into.

The resort is situated in a coastal village called Ikaare, which is accessible only by boat. The resort has a main communal beach house with 6 duplex cabins positioned around a swimming pool and few metres from the sea.



HOW TO GET TO KAMP IKARE

To get to Kamp Ikaare Beach Resort, you will r to board a speedboat.

The journey would take approximately 45 min from Lagos mainland and 25 minutes from Vic Island.

To make arrangement for your boat ride to the resort, you may wish to contact the Resort with the phone number given below:



Credit: hotels.ng

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FUN THINGS TO DO

Stay at their prestigious and well furnished chalets.

Go swimming in their squeaky clean pools.

Relax and Enjoy the serenity it has to offer.

Explore Badagry.

BEACHES IN LAGOS

26 LANDMARK BEACH

Landmark beach is one of the most popular beaches in Lagos State. It was established in 1997 and regarded as the first in-city premier beach in Lagos.

Since the new face of the beach has since been regarded as the Caribbean, the beach is neat, calm and has a great influx of tourists/visitors.



LOCATION

LANDMARK VILLAGE, 4 WATER CORPORATION DR, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS



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ENTRANCE FEE 0-5 YEARS FREE CHILD ENTRY (5-12 YEARS) #1000 ADULT #2000

OPENING TIMES

MONDAYS:11AM – 10PM

TUESDAYS – FRIDAYS: 10AM – 10PM

SATURDAYS – SUNDAYS: 9AM – 10PM



FUN THINGS TO DO

Play outdoor /Water Games

Astroturf pitch Beach paintball Coastline Board Jet skiing Beach volleyball Adventure course Windsurfing and kitesurfing Kids play Area Beach soccer Cabanas and Loungers Group events and parties

Enjoy the calmness and serenity of the beach

Eat, drink and relax









PHOTO CREDIT: GOOGLE

LAGUNA BEACH CLUB

Laguna beach is one of the hidden gems in lagos, the beautiful sandy beachfront with sparkling blue sea is the perfect getaway beach for a getaway, picnic, romantic dates, birthday celebration and hangout.

LOCATION Okun-Ajah Rd, Eti-Osa, Lekki

ENTRANCE FEE

N1,000 on Weekdays N2,000 on weekends

OPENING HOURS

Monday-Sunday-9Am-11:pm

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Why You Should Visit Laguna Beach

It is beautiful

This is not crowded a crowded beach It offers good foods and drinks both local and intercontinental the food ranges from 1,000 to about 4,000 naira

Laguna has a bar and restaurant It is very affordable, It is free on weekdays and 1,000 on weekends

This is probably one of the cleanest and most serene beaches in Lagos

Outside foods are not allowed Pets are not allowed

FUN THINGS TO DO AT LAGUNA BEACH

Relax at their Italian themed beach

Have a family picnic or get together

Take loverly instagram worthy pictures

Sunbath at the lovely sunbed

Dine and wine at the beach

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TARKWA BAY

Tarkwa Bay is a quiet and affordable private beach.

It is located on an island away from the turbulence of Lagos. A serene place for relaxation and peace. It offers different forms of water sports and activities. The Tarkwa-Bay Beach is an artificial Island which offers lots of recreational activities along the Lagos coast.

It is always less crowded unlike Elegushi, no blasting speakers and bars littered all around.

The water is clear.

HOW TO GET THERE

Tarkwa bay can only be accessed through a boat ride.

Board a boat of 500Naira at the waterway corporation terminal at Cms.

Entrance Fee to the beach : N200.







FUN THINGS TO DO

Enjoy the serenity.

Go on a horse ride.

Play outdoor games.

Dance and party.

Drink and eat.



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ELEGUSHI PRIVATE BEACH

This is one of the most popular beaches in Lagos. It is owned and managed by the Elegushi Royal Family.

Elegushi is one of the most interesting and fun beaches in Lagos that never sleeps, it offers a variety of nightclubs, bars, lounges and restaurants and it's always crowded every day by the minute.

The beach operates almost 24 hours a day, every day.



<u>ELEGUSHI PRIVATE</u> <u>BEACH RESORT,</u>

ENTRANCE FEE N1,000







TIPS

You'll be asked by the bar vendors to come sit at their table, this my friend can easily take you out from the fun and the beach serenity.

Go with a mat preferably.

You'll be charged for a seat and mat if you need one at the beach.

Take Caution: The wave of the water is heavy out there. Stay safe.

FUN THINGS TO DO

Enjoy the serenity. Go on a horse ride. Play outdoor games. Dance and party. Drink and eat. 30

WHISPERING PALM RESORT

Whispering palm is one of the oldest resorts in Nigeria and it offers the best getaway experience with a scenic view from the beautiful well arranged tall coconut trees to the costal Badagry lagoon,white beach sand, unpolluted Atlantic breeze and its neat and accommodating chalets.

Whispering Palms is one of the best destinations for a weekend getaway.

LOCATION

IWORO VILLAGE,OFF LAGOS BADAGRY EXPRESSWAY

ENTRANCE FEE

N200 per child

N500 per adult





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Beaches in lagos

There are lots of beaches giving you variety of options to pick from in Lagos city and I'm sure if we continue with them, we might list all 100 attractions in Lagos without moving to other states but here are few more options to choose from:

Atican beach resort: Location: Abraham Adesanya Road, Okun, Ajah,Lekki Phase II, Lagos.

La manga beach : Location:Along Ilashe Beach, Ilashe Island, Lagos.

Lekki leisure lake: Location:Lekki Eti-Osa, Lekki, Lagos State, Nigeria.

Oniru private beach Location: 1 Ligali Ayorinde Street, Ozumba Mbadiwe Avenue, Eti-Osa, Lagos Nigeria.

Festivals in Lagos

1: Eyo Festival

The Eyo Festival is one of the Lagos festivals that is well known. With origin from 1750, which is held every April. this festival has masquerades of performers in white robes and dancers. The attraction is held in the Tafawa Belewa Square and has thousands of attendees each year.

2: LAGOSPHOTO FESTIVAL 2020 OCT 24 - DEC 19 2020

3: Yoruba Arts Festival

This World Festival of Yoruba Arts and Culture happens each April in Lagos. Promotion of art and culture from the Yoruba people is the base of the festival. Performers entertain the crowds while artists display their items in exhibitions.

4: Lagos International Film Festival

The film festival takes place in the month of August. International Film Festival is conceived for the appreciation and promotion of motion picture arts and sciences in Lagos state and to promote tourism.

5:Lagos food festival:

This is an annual event held during the Independence Weekend holiday. It premieres the best of food, chefs, restaurants across Lagos. Guests are treated to a day of immersion in a variety of tastes in food, music and fun.

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NIGHT LIFE IN LAGOS

Club Quilox **Club Dna Lagos** Club 57 Club uno Lavenda Night Club **De Moon Lounge** & Night Club Sky Lounge And **Night Club** Fela shrine

OGUN STATE

THE GATEWAY STATE

TRAVELING THROUGH OGUN STATE

I'm omo Lisabi from Isale igebyin Abeokuta, a proud Egba babe, that's my ancestral root. The City that houses one of the most iconic, most visited attraction in Nigeria, Olumo Rock.

Furthermore, there is more my city has to offer; culture,festivals, food. Have you tried out our white amala or ordered garri ljebu from the real source or even Ikokore from the ljebus.

Travelling through Ogun state wasn't a strange at all, I mean I've lived here, my secondary school was in the state and I lived here shortly after university. I know my way around and I can tell you Ogun state is one of the peaceful, affordable, lively and entertaining cities you can live in. Everything soft like I like to call it, not really for the hustlers but if you want to flaunt on a budget, choose Abeokuta.







GET TO KNOW OGUN STATE

Ogun is a state in the southwestern part if Nigeria. It was carved out of the old Western State of Nigeria and named after the Ogun River which runs across it from North to South. It was created on the 3rd of Febuary 1976.

LANGUAGE

The majorly speaking language is Yoruba. Ogun state is one of the Yoruba dominated states in Nigeria.

THE PEOPLE OF OGUN

Ogun State people are predominantly the Egbas, Ijebus, Yewas, Remos and Aworis who belong to the main Yoruba ethnic group. It also has sub-groups, namely, Ketu, Ikale, Ilaje, Ohori, Anago and Egun. There are also significant numbers of Nigerians from other parts of the country as well as foreign nationals.

GETTING INTO OGUN STATE

Ogun state borders Lagos State to the south, Oyo and Osun states to the North, Ondo State to the east and the Republic of Benin to the west.

What you need to know;

You can only get into Ogun State by Road via the use of Public transport or private cars

There is no Airport in the city, hence you can't get into the state by air.

Its about 2hours drive from lagos, 1hr58 miinutes drive lagos , 2 hours from Oyo, and approximately 2hours from Osun state.

Transportation is relatively cheap and prices varies from 1,000 to 2000 from lagos depending on your location

GETTING AROUND OGUN STATE.

Ogun state is one of the states in Nigeria that can easily be explored in a day or two. Most attractions are within the same axis in the state capital "Abeokuta" and they are easily accessible and well structured.

If you're travelling to the state from Lagos, then it's advisable to make a day trip instead.

This way, you don't have to worry about accommodation which will save you some Naira.

TRANSPORTATION WITHIN THE CITY

You can easily move from one destination to another using;

Green taxi cabs with prices ranging from N50-200 depending on the distance.

Or motorcycles , which are relatively cheap too and are available at every nook and cranny of the city.

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS







OLUMO ROCK

This is one of the most beautiful tourist destinations in the southwestern part of Nigeria. Olumo Rock stands at a height of 137metres above sea level and it's easy to hike.

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The rock serves as an hideout for the Egba people during inter tribal wars.

At the top of the rock is a beauty to behold. It is the hightest point in Abeokuta and you can have a view of the beautiful city covered in red corrugated roofs.

LOCATION

OLUMO ROCK, MUHAMMADU JEGA RD, ABEOKUTA.

ACCESSIBILITY

Really easy to access. From anywhere in Abeokuta, you can get a bike to tak you to the attraction.

ENTRANCE FEE

N1,000 FOR ADULT N500, FOR CHILDREN

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THINGS TO DO AT OLUMO-ROCK

Listen to the history of the Egba people during the time of war and how Olumo came about.

Hike to the top of the rock to see the beautiful panoramic view of Abeokuta.

Enjoy the serenity and the cool breeze from the top of the rock.

Shop for souvenirs.

Take really amazing pictures of yourself and the attraction.

Sing the Egba anthem with the guide, trust me you'll enjoy the vibe.

Take pictures with the women and say a prayer with them.

Drink palmwine.

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OLUSEGUN OBASANJO PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY (OOPL)

This is an historical and academic tourist attraction and a national archive for the preservation of documents and materials used by the president during his tenure as the president.



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LOCATION

PRESIDENTIAL BOULEVA ROAD, OKE MOSAN 20113, ABEOKUTA

ENTRANCE FEE

Free to access the premises but every attraction attracts a fee.



THINGS TO DO AT THE OOPL

Take a tour of the museum:The Museum and Library is the centrepiece of this destination . The complex is made up of two striking buildings, the Arrival Pavilion and the Museum building.

This is a white magnificent edifice that houses exhibits that illustrate the life and times of Olusegun Obasanjo

In here you will experience

A virtual tour which starts with a welcoming greeting from the former President Olusegun Obasanjo himself, it's a delightful moment to hear him speak about his past and his mission for the Establishment of the new face of the library. (This might move you to tears a little bit but it's also inspiring) See some of the beautiful archives of the president pictures, his old uniforms when he was iin the military, his medals and rewards, his books and a lot more

Be a president for a day: have a sit on the presidential seat the president used during his regime as the president of the country.

Take a visit to the E-library, here you can study and also purchase some educational items within the premises.

THE ENTRANCE FEE

It cost N5000 per person to access the museum

The tour of this particular museum alone is a 2hours experience within the museum alone.

A TOUR OF THE WILDLIFE PARK :

The wildlife Park is a menagerie of fauna. Highlights of the Zoo's collection are lions, spotted and striped hyenas, a Marabou Stork, pythons and a striking aviary that houses several species of fowl.

IT COST N500 TO GAIN ENTRANCE TO THE PARK. IT'S QUITE A BIG PARK TO EXPLORE.

THE BAMBOO GROOVE AND THE GRILL BAR:

These are relaxations centers within the attraction to chill, wine and dine. The bamboo groove sells a really good palm wine that I think you should try it out

TAKE A WALK ON THE HOLY MOUNTAIN AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE :

On this rooftop you can see a panoramic view of the destination and also a beautiful view of Abeokuta and it environs

THE GAME ARENA

This is one of the beautiful centres in the destination. You can play both outdoor and indoor games, go on the wheel ride,karaoke,horse ride, go kart E.t.c.

ACCOMMODATION AT THE GREEN LEGACY RESORT

The Green Legacy Guest House Resort serves as a complementary facility to the library. It provides accommodation for researchers, tourists, guests and long-stay visitors to the Presidential Library. Families on holidays can also stay while enjoying the amusement park and other tourist attractions of the complex-wide tour and Presidential Library.

The Resort is made up of 153 rooms/suites. It has a swimming pool and a gymnasium. Guests can be treated to steam baths, sauna and body massage.

For the young and playful, the Lounge 45 bar and nightclub offers a vent for the release of nervous energy.

The resort has special packages for different classes of clientele and tourists and businesses have a place for their events.

ACCOMODATION COST

The resort offers different rooms that ranges from N45,000 per night to 70,000

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO EXPLORE OOPL

Obasanjo presidential library is a center of attraction and filled with fun activities in the city.

It can cost you N2,000- N10,000 for a day tour at the destination depending on which of the activities you'll like to go for. The most expensive site to explore in this destination is the presidential library and museum.



KEMTA ADIRE MARKET

The Kemta adire market is by far one of the best adire markets we have in the western part of Nigeria and also one of the most sought after attractions in Abeokuta, Ogun state.

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The recently renovated adire Market is more than a shopping complex but now a beautiful picturesque attraction.

Want to learn how to make an adire or shop for the best quality ones. Then you have to visit the Kemta adire market.

LOCATION ASERO, ABEOKUTA

HOW TO GET THERE

it's a famous attraction in the heart of Abeokuta, you can easily get a bike man to take you there or one of the green cabs to take you to the adire market from anywhere in Abeokuta town.

THINGS TO DO AT KEMTA

Learn the process of tie and dye from the best of the best women in the country .

Take beautiful. pictures with some of the market women.

Shop for really amazing adire. Bring your bargaining skills with you because some of the adire are on the high side.

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ALAKE OF EGBALAND PALACE

The Alake is the king of the Egba, whose title is one the oldest and most prestigious in Abeokuta and the Youruba kingdom in general. The Alake is the king of the Egba(s), who were the original settlers in Abeokuta.

Over the years, the palace has gone through some renovative phases but preserving a section of the cultural value which is now a monument and museum worth exploring.

The Alake of Egba land is a must visit anytime you find yourself in Ogun state. The place is opened to visitors in order to preserve the rich history, art and culture of the Egbas.

LOCATION <u>AKE ROAD, ABEOKUTA,</u> <u>OGUN.</u>

Things you need to know before exploring the palace

It is free to access the palace

It's open to tourists , you can approach the guards at the gate and state your reasons for visit.

You might get someone to take you around.

Be polite and respectful in your approach.

Dress moderately for this destination, it's a palace my friend.

Let the old experienced guide take you through the journey of the Egba people, their culture and heritage.

Take a walk around the open museums with artefacts that depict the Egba people culture

Take pictures: a lot as you please.

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The Centenary hall

Located opposite the Ake's Palace, the Centenary Hall in Ake's area was constructed in 1950 to commemorate one hundred years of peace in Abeokuta since the last inter-tribal war.

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The hall has pictures of past kings of Egba land

This is basically an aesthectic pleasing achitectural building. Take as much as pissible pictures as you deem fit.

Entrance fee:

N200 or any amount you can tip the guide.

Tour-guide:

There is always a sectarian at the entrance.

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Bilikisu Sungbo Eredo

The name 'Sungbo' is attributed to an Ijebu noblewoman named Oloye Bilikisu Sungbo who according to legend and myth has it that she was actually the Queen of Sheba according to biblical and Quranic accounts.

She was a wealthy and industrious widow who was greatly revered by her people, Oloye Bilikisu Sungbo built this monument as a personal memorial. It is located in close proximity to her grave.

It was said that Oloye Bilikisu Sungbo essentially ordered this to be built as a monument for her greatness because she was childless and, in traditional society, a child is seen to be the ultimate preservation of her legacy. Because she didn't have a child, she wanted something built as a reminder of her stature as an accomplished woman.

LOCATION

OKE-ERI IN IJEBU ODE, AN APPROXIMATELY 2HOURS DRIVE FROM LAGOS.

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE HEADING HERE

No woman is allowed to see her grave; history had it that Biliku Singh also known as the Queen of Sheba placed a curse that no woman should come an inch to her grave after her departure. The myth has it that they didn't help her when she was sick and plagued barren.

Only men are allowed to go closer to the grave because they were the only one that helped her during her sickness.

Any woman that attempts to gatecrash faces the consequences. It rumored that you won't be able to see your monthly circle, be barren or be lost without traces

Why should I go here as a woman?

Even though women are not allowed to see her grave, Approximately located from her grave is the "Sungbo" which is an impressive hand-built system of defence walls dating back to around the year 1,000 and located just an hour's drive from Lagos. It's said to be Africa's biggest monument 2nd to the wall of China. A walk into this deep forest is said to be unraveling.

The best time to visit Sungbo's Eredo is during the dry season. Avoid visiting during Easter-time, as this is when pilgrims flock to the area to pay tribute to Bilikisu Sungbo.

The best way to access this destination is to go through the Ministry of Tourism in government house, Abeokuta. because the attraction is almost impossible to discover without the guide of the locals, ministry or people who have been there.

THINGS YOU NEED FOR THIS TRIP

A loose, comfortable clothing and walking boots because the trail leads deep into the forest.

Your phone and camera

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OYAN RIVER 37 DAM

Ogun state is not blessed with beaches like Lagos even with the close proximity. But Oyan River dam will give you the surrealist pleasure that comes with spending a cool time at the beach. It's a beauty to behold.

The Oyan River dam was constructed in 1979-1983,the 11km height and 27km length was constructed to provide water for Ogun state and Lagos and also for Electricity supplies for the people of Ogun state.

LOCATION 20KM NORTH WEST

ENTRANCE FEE

FREE

THINGS TO DO HERE

This is the closest thing to a lake/ beach in Ogun state, enjoy the beautiful view. Take really amazing pictures

Have a canoe ride at the shallow part of the dam.

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ABEOKUTA GOLF COURSE

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This destination is one that's not often visited by tourist and travel enthusiasts. The Golf Course situated at Oke Mosan is an 18 hole Golf course situated in a serene landscape area of Oke Mosan, Abeokuta . The Golf course has a art facility, Restaurants , Recreation and hospitality.

This scenic beautiful attractions is a must visit for its greenery nature and relaxation. It's open to both tourist and members of the golf course.



LOCATION

<u>GOLF CLUB</u> <u>ROAD,,ABEOKUTA</u>

OPENING HOURS

Friday8am–6pm Saturday8am–6pm

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Heritage Museum

KUTI HERITAGE MUSEUM

This used to be the abandoned Ransome-Kuti family house. It's now renovated as an historic tourist attraction to keep the history and the heritage of the Kuti family alive.

The building houses a restaurant, a lush garden, and a library at the upper building where Mrs. Ransome-Kuti held adult education classes for the Egba women.

This newly added attraction with the beautiful entrance is a picturesque destination and also place to learn more about the Life of the Kuti's family which are; Funmilayo Ransom Kuti(the first woman to drive a car in Nigeria)

The legendary Fela Anikulapo Kuti: Musician and an activist

LOCATION <u>15 NEPA ROAD, ISABO,</u> <u>ABEOKUTA</u>

OPENING HOURS

Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm

KUT

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Photo credit: @Solasly

KOBITI CENTRAL MOSQUE

Few kilometer away from Olumo rock is the ancient Egba central mosque.

It is the first mosque in Abeokuta built in 1925 where all Egba Muslims gather to pray.

This renovated yet olden architectural building is a site to behold in Kobiti.

It's open for tourist to explore the building and take really amazing pictures of the building.

LOCATION KOBITI ROAD, IJEUN ABEOKUTA.

OPENING HOURS

EVERYDAY 9: AM-8:30PM

Accommodation

Hotels are quite expensive depending on the location you find yourself. Tip: If you're a budget traveller, don't lodge around Housing estates, which is a high end area.

> Hotels in Abeokuta Park-Inn view IBD hotels Celia's Suite

Budget to explore Ogun State

Ogun state is relatively cheap to explore from transportation to and within the city is ,feeding and tourist attractions are relatively cheap too.

Depending on accommodation and activities you plan on doing in Olusegun Obasanjo's library. You can easily explore the state with a budget of N10,000- N15,000

FESTIVALS IN OGUN STATE



AGEMO FESTIVAL

This festival is considered very important to the ljebu because it is believed that during this period, any barren woman that prays to the deity for the fruit of the womb always gets pregnant and eventually blessed with children. This is aside from the period being used to pray for peace and prosperity of ljebu Kingdom.

OJUDE OBA FESTIVAL

10-15TH NOV

This festival is celebrated by the ljebu's in ljebuland,it is an annual event which indigenes congregate at the palace of the Awujale (king) for a carnival-like celebration.

The glitz and colour associated with the festival place it among the most famous cultural festivals in the country. All of Ijebu's sons and daughters always look forward to this event.

It comes up on the third day of the Eid-el-kabir celebration

LISABI FESTIVAL

A Festival of Liberation for Egba Indigenes Lisabi Festival is an annual celebration of freedom from oppression and slavery as achieved by Lisabi Agbongbo akala, a warrior, who fought and rescued them from oppression in the 18th Century.

AFRICAN DRUMS FESTIVAL

The African Drums Festival is an annual festival that take place at june 12 Cultural Center in Kuto, Abeokuta.

The festival showcases various African Drums (including the tallest drum in Nigeria - 16 feet), drummers, dance troupes and singer

OSUN STATE LAND OF VIRTUE

TRAVELLING THROUGH OSUN STATE

State and capital Osun Osogbo, Pardon me, reciting that was to let you know how much I know this city. I'm sure you can recite it too but we recite it differently.. lol

Schooling in this state made me undervalue all of her potentials, my university days here was boring and frustrating that I'd take the next available bus back home to Lagos at every break I got.

There is an epitome of truth in the quote that says " to travel is to be intentional " and that's exactly what happened here.

Not until I took travelling seriously and intentionally did I begin to see the potential in the city; the attractions, the people , culture the city nightlife and fun side. I have visited this city 5 times ever since I graduated even though I vowed not to after graduation.

Osun state is peaceful, arguable one of the indigenous Southwestern state yet so modern.

I like it here now but for visitation mostly and you might just like it too after one or two visit.









GET TO KNOW OSUN STATE

Ogun State is a state in southwestern Nigeria. Created in 1976, which Abeokuta is the capital and largest city in the state. The state's appellation is "Gateway to Nigeria".

LANGUAGE

The majorly speaking language is Yoruba. Osun state is one of the Yoruba dominated states in Nigeria

THE PEOPLE OF OSUN

Osun state is inhabited mainly by the Yoruba people.

GETTING INTO OSUN STATE

It is bordered by Kwara on the Northeast, Ekiti and Ondo on the East, Ogun on the south, and Oyo on the west and Northwest.

What you need to know;

You can only get into Osun State by Road via the use of Public transport or private cars.

There is no Airport in the city, hence you can't get into the state by air.

Its about 5 hours drive from lagos, 2 hours from Oyo, and approximately 3 hours from Ogun state.

Transportation is relatively cheap and prices varies from N2,000 to N3,000 from Lagos depending on your location.

GETTING AROUND OSUN STATE.

Osun state is favourable and welcoming to tourist. You can easily move around, communicate and access all attractions within the state. The attractions are accessible and quite structured.

If you're travelling to the state from Lagos then it's advisable to make a two days trip instead.

TRANSPORTATION WITHIN THE CITY

You can easily move from one destination to another using the State's ;

Blue shuttle called 'KOROPE" cab with prices ranging from N50-200 depending on the distance.

Or motorcycles , which are relatively cheap too and are available in every nook and cranny of the city

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE EXPLORING OSUN STATE.

- The state is welcoming and easy to explore for tourists.
- You wouldn't find most of the State's attractions in the capital city save for a few.
- The people majorly speak Yoruba but they are also fluent in English language.
- Osun state is one of the budget friendly states to explore so feel free to have an amazing time in the state.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED FOR THIS TRIP

- Remember to pack your essentials; toiletries etc
 - **Pack really comfortable dresses** and also dress appropriately for each attraction.
 - **A Hiking boot** if you'd like to hike Erin-Ijesha waterfalls.
 - A swimming trunk or a swimming dress suitable to have an amazing time at the waterfall.
- Cash at at hand because some of the attractions are situated outside the capital, so it's advisable you have enough cash at hand Your smile: you'll need it a lot because Osun people demand respect a lot. Your camera/phone.

TRAVEL DESTINATIONS IN OSUN STATE

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OSUN OSOGBO GROOVE

This is a world UNESCO site dedicated to Osun, the Yoruba goddess of fertility. The area was established more than four centuries ago and it is the largest surviving sacred grove. The groove was preserved by Susan Wenger an Austrian that had an encounter with the river god and the rest is a history you need to hear about by visiting the groove.

The Osun Osogbo grove also includes an art village with tie and dye, paintings, wood carvings, drums and other arts and crafts.

The Osun River is known to be one of the important rivers in Nigeria history and culture. The fertility god also called Yeye Osun is celebrated every August where all the indigenes of Osun states and foreigners converge at the groove and Osun River to celebrate the river goddess.

It's one of the beautiful festivals to experience in the state for its colorful, historical, cultural performances and exhibitions.

LOCATION

OSOGBO,OSUN STATE

HOW TO GET THERE

From the popular park in Osogbo city or anywhere around the town, tell a bike man you're going to the Osun Osogbo groove. It's a popular attraction in the state and everyone is familiar with this site.

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THINGS TO DO AT OSUN OSOGBO GROOVE

- Listen to the history of the groove and its relation to Susan Wenger from the well mannered, trained and educated guide present at the groove.
 - Take a walk to the Osun River and enjoy its calmness: it's presumed that if you pray beside the water and take some portion of the water home with you, all your prayers would be answered and that it also possesses some healing powers. This might be of interest to you, so remember to go with a water bottle.

Take a walk on the shaking bridge: it's called the Bridge Gada. You'll experience the bridge like it's going to crumble and you're about to fall into the stream down below, don't be scared it's a thrilling excitement.

Tip: it's fun to do it with a large number of people because it makes it more fun and shaky.

Take pictures at the groove: There are a lot of sculptures all around the groove from beautiful to scary looking creatures, but they are all picturesque in a way. Take a lot of it to keep your memory there alive.

Shop for souvenirs: There is a mini art and craft store where you can buy some indegionous items that are significant to the Osun culture. Some really nice handcrafted beads, woven bags and mat, calabash and all whole lot more. Have a look inside and make your choice.

SAFETY RULES

Don't go beyond the demarcation of the river Don't go swimming in the river.

Listen to the strict warning and guidelines of the groove. I hope you have an amazing visit here.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE EXPLORING OSUN OSOGBO GROOVE

There are tour-guides available at the attractions and it attracts a fee.

Taking pictures with mobile phones attract a fee of N2OO. No usage of professional cameras, however you can still bargain your way with this. Tri nice and all smiley, You can also tell them you're making a research for a course and p are evidence that you did visit the site (don't tell them I told you).

On your way to the River Osun you may or may not be stopped by the guardian of the this woman might foresee a revelation that might forbid you from going close to the river.

This happens in 1/10 chances but if it does, please listen adhere to their warnings for yo safety.

There is a demarcation at the river , kindly don't go beyond that.

COST TO EXPLORE THE GROOVE

BIKE COST: COST VARIES FROM N100 TO N300 DEPENDING ON YOUR STARTING POINT IN OSOGBO TOWN.

ENTRANCE FEE: 500 NAIRA FOR ADULT

MOBILE PHONE :N200 CAMERA: N2000(THIS IS A NEGOTIABLE FEE)

TOUR GUIDE: PRESENT ACCESSIBILITY: EASY TO ACCESS FROM ANYWHERE IN OSOGBO TOWN.





Image credit : Google



SUZANNE WENGER'S HOUSE

One of the most historical and cultural heritage sites that depicts the history of Osun Osogbo groove is the Sussan Wenger's house.

This house was where Susanne Wenger lived from 1958 until he death in 2009, has a beautiful brazilian architectural building that was an important page in Nigeria's architectural history.

The house is still erected

till today and it's been managed and occupied by her adopted children, priest and the artist "Sangodare Ajala", Chief Priestess Adedoyin Talabi Faniyi, all reside in the house.

This residence contains over 400 works of art. Most pieces are from artists Susanne Wenger traditional artefacts and also the New Sacred Art Movement Susan's Wenger was known for her incredible work of arts, masks and ritual objects.

Part of the building was dedicated to immortalizing Susanne. This part of the building remained untouched and tampered. Furthermore, the room at the third floor was said to be Susanne's living quarters and studio during her time as a resident.

LOCATION

OSOGBO, OSUN STATE.

Getting Here: SUZANNE WENGER'S house is well known across osogbo, osun state. Locals can guide and give good direction.



NIKE ART GALLERY

When I first disclosed this attraction on my Instagram story in 2018, people were shocked by the presence of the attraction in Osun State.

Even though the most popular and the biggest one is located in Lagos, the architectural designs, the culturistic value, presence of artworks and designs in the gallery in Osogbo screams Culture and Art more than its contemporary in Lagos state.

LOCATION

DADA ESTATE ROAD, OSOGBO ENTRANCE FEE Free





WHY YOU SHOULD VISIT

Trust me when I say you'll love it here and you will thank me for bringing this gem in the heart of Osogbo town to your notice. The touch of indenegeous arts, the cultural value, the reception, the architecture and the history of how the building came about is one to look out for at the gallery.

THINGS TO DO HERE

- Take a walk and get lost in the one story building artistic walls of the gallery.
- Listen to the history from the guide as they explain some of the contemporary arts/piece of work in the mini art museums that depicts the history of the Osun people.
 - Have a swing at the swings outside the gallery and take really amazing pictures while you relax.
 - You can also visit the tye and dye school of designs a few miles from the gallery.
- Learn how to make tie and dry and some design works.

Shop for artworks, beaded necklace, tye and dye T-shirt's and adire.

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OLUMIRIN WATERFALL

This is no doubt one of the easily accessible waterfalls in Nigeria and the most touristic destination for both locals and foreigners. The waterfall is in 7stages and you can hike all the way to the 7th stage. The water flows gracefully at only level 1 and 2, so if you're not into the adventure of hiking to the 7th Stage, you can make your way to level 1 or 2 to enjoy the beautiful waterfall.

Hiking to the 7th stage will be so much fun, if you're on this adventure with a group of friends, on the 7th stage is a small town called Efon-Alaaye in Ekiti state, which houses another beautiful waterfall.

Olumirin fall is the best visit for everyone.

LOCATION

ORIADE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, OSUN STATE, ABOUT 2HOUTS DRIVE FROM OSOGBO.

ENTRANCE FEE: N500





THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE WATERFALL

- Olumirin waterfall is the most popular and easy to access waterfall in Nigeria. The water flows magically from the top of the rock which is rumored to be pouring from a small pot up in the seventh stage of the fall The fall is in the seventh stage and you can hike up to the seventh stage. Note that the waterfall only fall gracefully from stage one and stage two and the rest of the levels are hiking exercise Right at the seventh stage is a small town called Efon-Alaaye in Ekiti State, which means you've hiked your way up to another state It takes about 3hours to and fro to hike from the bottom of the falls to the Seventh stage. The hiking is best done in groups or with friends
 - If you're a solo traveller, you'll definitely meet a lot of people at the attractions, feel free to approach them to have this amazing experience together.
 - Proffessional cameras attract an additional fee of N2000
 - There are tour-guide available at the fall, but you can explore Stage 1& 2 withouth the need of a guide.

IF YOU'RE NOT ADVENTUROUS, JUST ENJOY THE WATERFALL AT LEVEL ONE AND TWO.

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THINGS TO DO AT THE WATERFALL

Have a hiking exercise to the seventh stage of the fall.

You'll be entertained by some local drummers at the steps leading up to the fall. Dance to the rhythm of the beats and be kind enough to be generous in return.

Enjoy the beautiful waterfall, swim at the bank of it and you can also hike right up to the falls in Level one and two.

Enjoy nature as you sing, taking in all the fresh air and peaceful scenery the attraction has to offer.

Take pictures: we all know that this can be overemphasized. Pictures of you and as well as pictures of thane attraction and every beautiful soul you connect with on this journey , you'll need it.

SAFETY TIPS

Be careful at the falls, for some of the rocks are slippery and you can sprain your angle or have a dangerous fall. (I sprained mine on my first visit and couldn't walk home)

Don't forget to have a bottle water or two with you, if you decide to hike up to the seventh stage.

Pack as light as possible, if possible go empty handed with just your camera and water.

Don't hike to the seventh stage alone, it's scary up there, you need companies

OONI OF IFE PALACE

45

The Ooni is the biggest ruler of the Yoruba Land because IIe-Ife is where it's said that the Yoruba's also called Oduduwa originated from

The Ooni palace is built with royalty, class, and state of the art designs that made it one of the best, most historical yet modern and civilized palaces in the western region of Nigeria. The architectural design of the wall plated with gold and painted all white is one to look out for during your visit to Ile-Ife in Osun State.

The Ooni of Ife Oba Adeyeye Enitan Ogunwusi, Ojaja II(Kabiyesi) is an educated man whose love and interest in tourism is so glaring that he made his palace open for visitors year in year out.





LOCATION

DIRECTION: ENUWA, ILE-IFE OSUN STATE

HOW TO GET THERE:

you can take a taxi from Oshogbo which costs N400 and about 45 minutes to get to Ife Town. From Ife town take a bike which can cost from N50 to N100 to the Ooni's palace

THINGS TO DO AT THE PALACE

- Take a tour of the palace
- Visit the shrine within the palace walls
- Learn about the Yoruba creation stories how oduduwa came about including the tale of Moremi the warriorprincess.
- Take pictures outside of the palaces walls

THINGS TO KNOW HEADING TO THE DESTINATION

- You'll be charged by the palace guide for a fee to take you round the palace and to other historical sites around the city There is no fixed price. So however you need to bring your bargaining skills with you
- Pictures are not allowed in the shrines within the palace except if allowed to by the security guards.
- You need to be respectful at this attraction, greet the elders, and obey all simple instructions .
- Incase you come across the Oni, make sure you bow down/prostrate and greet Kabiyesi o.
- It is also of great advantage if you have a local friend in the city this makes your visit seamless



Image Credit : Google

NATIONAL MUSEUM IFE

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Right beside the Ooni's Palace is the National museum, the museum depicts the early life of Ile-Ife people and their culture.

The Museum was established in 1948. The museum's collections are primarily ethnographic and archaeological and it has a permanent exhibition of Ife antiquities.

LOCATION

BESIDE OONI PALACE

ENTRANCE FEE

N500

OPENING HOURS:

8:AM -6PM

NOTE

PICTURES ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE MUSEUM



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MOREMI STATUE (MOTHER OF LIBERTY)

The story of Queen Moremi, is one that can never be forgotten in the Oduduwa history of Yorubaland.

Queen Moremi, statue is about 45 feet high and the third tallest statue in Africa. Moremi's statue of liberty was unveiled by the Ooni and according to Ife folklore,

Queen Moremi saved the ancient Yoruba town of Ile-Ife from raiders. It is said that Moremi gave up herself to be captured by the raiders so she could spy on their secrets. After Moremi learned about this secret in captivity, she escaped and returned to Ile-Ife, where she told her people that fire was the bane of the raiders, hence the peculiar torchholding in all her statues. Late last month, the Ooni of Ife decided to pay homage to one of his ancestors.

LOCATION

ENTRANCE FEE



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WHY YOU SHOULD VISIT

This bronze plated statue is very attractive and picturesque, it's a beautiful site to behold and also to put a picture figure to the name Queen Moremi.

THINGS TO DO HERE

This destination is a picture worthy destination in Ife town, really beautiful and well maintained .

Listen to history and appealing story

Queen Moremi



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OPA ORANMIYAN

The Opa Oranmiyan is located inside the Oranmiyan Shrine in Moopa in the Aribidi end of the IIe Ife city. It is one of the major tourist sites and monuments in IIe Ife .

There are a lot of interesting fables about this particular destination but if you're into traditional history then it's advisable you get the history from the horse's mouth.

The staff is still being worshipped till date with the families of the Eredumi and Akogun being some of its most devout adherents.

> LOCATION ONDO-IFE ROAD,IFE

> > **ENTRANCE FEE**

N500

TOUR GUIDE

available at the destination

Direction: Take a bike from the palace and ask them to take you to the attractions also you can have a guide from the palace take you there.





IFE GRAND RESORT AND LEISURE

This is one true gem in the city of Ife, it is located on 252 Acre of land This is not like your typical type of resort because it possesses some extra features. it epitomizes the Yoruba culture, the history of the Osun people and also the origin of mankind.

There are chalets named after yoruba icons,to the streets named after popular Yoruba towns and the ambience which is totally African, it's no doubt a great place to experience African culture and heritage.

The chalets rooms are large and spacious and appropriate for family getaways, trust me space is nothing to worry about.

LOCATION IBADAN-IFE ROAD, IFE

FACILITIES

Chalets and suits The resort has mini stadium, children theme park, Jungle Experience park (Igbo Olodumare), African village and tree houses golf course outdoor conference area Free WiFi Swimming pool Bars and restaurants

THINGS TO DO HERE

This is a place I absolutely recommend for a weekend getaway for premium relaxation, self care and self aware time alone or with like minded friends that are In tune with what your soul requires at the moment.

Enjoy a your stay at any of the themed i seniors and African designs of the chalet of your choice

An evening sit out at the wooden cool and breezy bar

Take a nature walk into the Jungle experience Called Igbo Eledumare.

Catch sunset from the top of the tree house.

Take a deep dive into a not too deep nor too shallow swimming pool to relieve yourself of any stress and just enjoy the moment.

Enjoy local African dishes at the restaurant.



Image credit : Google



Mandalla Freedom Park

This was once an abandoned piece of land at Osogbo Terminus of the Nigerian Railway State which was recently converted to a freedom Park and Train station that operates from Osogbo to Lagos.

The beautiful park centered at the roundabout in Osogbo is an open park for recreational activities.. it's an exceptional spot for gaming, relaxation and hang-out/picnic . **LOCATION**

OKE-FIA, OSOGBO

entrance fee N500



FESTIVALS IN OSUN STATE

OSUN OSOGBO FESTIVAL

This is annual festival to celebrate the godesa of fertility,Yeye Osun. It celebtrated at the premises of the Osun Osogbo Groove. It's a unique cultural practice that attracts tourist and indigenes of Osun StaTE.

EGUNGUN FESTIVAL

MAY



Egungun refers to the return of the ancestors in masquerade form and is celebrated by the Yoruba people. In Iragbiji, a town near Osogbo, the Egungun festival is celebrated as the period of interaction between the living and the dead. Many colourful masquerades parade the streets and offer prayers for the living.

IFA FESTIVAL

A Festival of Liberation for Egba Indigenes Lisabi Festival is an annual celebration of freedom from oppression and slavery as achieved by Lisabi Agbongbo akala, a warrior, who fought and rescued them from oppression in the 18th Century.

OLOJO FESTIVAL

The African Drums Festival is an annual festival that take place at june 12 Cultural Center in Kuto, Abeokuta.

The festival showcases various African Drums (including the tallest drum Nigeria - 16 feet), drummers, dance troupes and singer

Centre of Commerce

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1 p

60

FEAR NOT THE NORTH, THE NORTH IS NOT AS UNSAFE AS THEY MADE YOU BELIEVE.

-OMOTOKE

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TRAVELING THROUGH KANO STATE

Why does this feel so much like Lagos, like the High class version of Abuja. This isn't the Northern Nigeria I read about that influenced or shaped my pre-existing thoughts but with what I saw and experienced, I surely can live here. Those were my thoughts from the first glance of Kano City through my Bus window. A city so Modern yet historical, peaceful yet so busy.I didn't feel like a tourist here. In short it felt somewhat like home like I belong here. If I don't open my mouth to speak then they might not know I am a stranger wandering through the city like I was born here. I blended in perfectly well. My experience travelling through Kano is one that I will forever cherish from the nice security guards at the Emir's palace to the innocent girl that made my henna whom her mother wanted to extort me, to the kids on Dalahill that made my sunset experience beautiful, to my host that took me round the city in a Keke napep that was way better in terms of neatness than the ones in my city. Kano is a State for everyone to visit as often as u can.







GET TO KNOW KANO STATE

Kano is the capital of Kano State, It is located in the Northwestern region of Nigeria. It was created in 1967 and one of the largest Hausa Kingdoms in Africa that is currently 1000 years of age based on an ancient settlement around Dala Hill.

Kano is the commercial Centre of Northern Nigeria and the second largest state in Nigeria.

LANGUAGE

The Hausa language: is widely spoken in Kano

English is not generally spoken jn the city, but they are few locals that converse in English..

Тір

Once you find a bike man that can speak and understand, be wise enough to boom him for the day.

THE PEOPLE OF KANO

The principal inhabitants of the city are the Hausa people. However, there are few who speak Fulani language. As in most parts of northern Nigeria, the Hausa language is widely spoken in Kano.

GETTING INTO KANO STATE

Kano borders Katsina state to the northwest, Jigawa state to northeast,Bauchi to southeast and Kaduna to southwest.

You can get into kano by air or by road from lagos;

BY AIR FROM LAGOS

The popular airline that operate local flights from Lagos to Kano is Azman. Flight costs N24,000. Duration by air: 1hr 25 minutes.

BY ROAD FROM LAGOS

There are several transportation companies going from Lagos to Kano. Popular park: Ojota park; here you can pick any of your choice. Transportation cost: Varies from N8,000-N10,000 Duration of trip: 13 hours

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Exploring Kano

The mega City as I love to call it, is welcoming and conducive for strangers/tourists. Safe and accommodating. If you can picture Abuja then you already have an idea what kano look or feels like.

MOBILITY AROUND KANO

Kano can be easily explored by the use of Tricycle which is the public means of transportation in the city. Most tourist attractions are in the center of the city, well structured and can easily be located by any visitor in the states.

How to go about:

Get a tricycle rider and ask them to take you to the list of attractions listed below.

Google map: Google map operates efficiently in the city and can also use your google map to direct your rider. Ask the locals: Remember this is the best way to go in any city. Don't be too shy or intimidated to ask a local for directions.
TRAVEL DESTINATIONS IN KANO

1

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GIDAN MAKAMA MUSEUM

This is one of the most visited places in Kano. Gidan Makama museum houses most significant collections of arts & crafts, and historic items that explains the history of Kano and its people. The museum building served as a palace during the 15th Century before the current palace Gidan Rumfai was constructed.

REASON TO VISIT

To learn more about the history and culture of the Kano people. It's very educational and rich in culture.

ENTRANCE FEE

N500

LOCATION

EMIR PALACE ROAD, KOFAR DAN AGUDI KANO.

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE EXPLORING GIDAN MAKAMA

To travel is to live freely without fear of the unknown



The museum is in different segment and pictures are not allowed in the museum except it's environs

2

It's a must visit place in Kano for its significant history to the culture of the people





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The Emir's Palace

The architectural designs of the palace of the Emir of Kano is one fascinating building . The richness in culture and the accord nature of the people in the palace is one to crown a memorable visit. The palace is directly opposite the Gidan makama museum at the palace road Kano.



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THINGS TO DO HERE

Learn about the history of the palace and their culture from the guide assigned to you.

Take pictures: the Palace is beautiful and is a media worthy destination.

Interact with the locals as well as sharing a moment with the palace guards: this might be the coolest experience of your day, for they are quiet, chatty and accommodating.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ON HOW TO ACCESS THE PALACE

To access the Palace you need to talk to the palace security guards. There are always guards at the entrance of the palace. They are easy to approach. Approach them with a welcoming smile and state the reason for the visit.

You need to state your intentions for your visitation before you will be granted access to explore the vicinity. Just be honest as much as you can about yourself. e.g I'm a tourist from Lagos and I'm here to see the beautiful Emir Palace of Kano. Trust me it's easy to win their heart that way. Learn to greet in Hausa: Speaking a little Hausa like Sannu, is a plus to winning their hearts. They see it as an extra effort from your end.

If the Emir is not around, you will not be allowed to go into the Palace premises which means you can only explore the vicinity of the palace . Mainly the outside attractions.

DALA HILL

This is an historical site of the first settlers of the people of Kano. Before Kano was created it was formerly called Dalla. It was named after this hill.

It is 534 metres (1,753 ft) high, there are steps to climb to get to the top of the hill . It's a three hundred and and fifty step (350) hill. Don't be scared about the number, it's quite easy to climb.

The hill is a beautiful center point of Kano where you can see the beautiful landscape view of the city of Kano. The breeze at the top of the hill is one that will make you feel sleepy and love nature.







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BEST TIME TO VISIT

5: PM to catch a beautiful sunset.

ENTRANCE FEE

None

ACCESSIBILITY

it's easy to access; you can also ask for direction from the guide at Gidan Makama museum.

If you need a guide they will be willing to assign one to you for the day.

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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The hill has no guide or security: The hill is an open area in the community for everyone, it is not a well organized or maintained attraction in the state.

Be watchful: Because it's an open area that attracts just anybody, it may also attract some bad gangs in the area. Be vigilant and security

conscious.

The hill has close to 350 steps to climb to the top, don't be scared it's not as strenuous as it sounds. The Stairs are quite easy to climb

THINGS TO DO AT THE ATTRACTION

There is nothing much to do at this attraction than just to, Enjoy nature for relaxation You can like to go with a mat to sit on if you'll be spending an evening out on the hill

Interact with the kids: they will basically be your guide on the hill.

See the over 200 well that's on the hill used by the first settlers of Dala

WHAT YOU WILL NEED HERE

I will advise you to have nothing much on you exploring this destination for security reasons. Your light gadget is advisable except you are exploring with friends or a local in the state then you can go in with all your gadgets on you. Dress appropriately: Dress moderately to avoid unnecessary attention drawn to you as a foreigner/ tourist.

54 KANO CITY WALL

This is one attraction I am super proud about during my trip to Kano state. An attraction in its glory, with its historical and cultural values still kept intact even with the emergence and existence of civilization and how structured Kano state has become over the years.

I actually don't have issues with constant modern renovations /maintenance of historical sites but please don't tamper with its main essence. I love the way the ancient walls of Kano are being maintained.

The wall was initially built from 1095 through 1134 and completed in the middle of the 14th century

This is a UNESCO world heritage site. it served as a

landmark that provided protection

against marauders and external aggression in the ancient times and also served as defensive landmark which the people relied upon for safety from attackers.

The Ancient Kano City Walls were described as "the most impressive monument in west Africa and it is undoubtedly true.

In Fredrick Lugard's word, "I have never seen anything like it in Africa".. After capturing the ancient city of Kano personally, I couldn't agree less with Late Lord Lugard's impression!



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This is definitely one attraction you shouldn't miss out on your exploration up north, if you do then you haven't been to kano because this was where it all started.

WHAT TO DO HERE

It has an entrance gate into the city on the road of Kano, take a stroll around the city, take pictures and feel the ruins of the old dilapidated walls of kano before modernization.



KANO ZOO AND BOTANICAL GARDEN

Kano zoo and botanical garden is arguably one of the best zoos we have in Nigeria. The maintenance and the attention to human safety is top notch. The botanical garden is well cultivated. I explored this destination around 1:Pm and I can tell you the sun wasn't all friendly on my skin coupled with the fact that the vicinity is quite a stretch to explore.

This is the first zoo i saw that really nurtures

giraffes and I'm still in awe. You should visit too

LOCATION 138, ZOO ROAD, GADUN KANO,

OPENING HOURS

9Am -6Pm

ENTRANCE FEE N50-100







THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE VISITING

The zoo and botanical garden is quite big to explore, it's advisable to explore when the weather is calm so you can enjoy the walk.

There are no guides to take you around the zoo but the animals are well labeled and caged so you're safe.

WHY YOU SHOULD VISIT THIS ZOO

It's one of the most maintained and structured zoo in northern Nigeria if not arguably the best we have.

The animals are well fed and the botanical garden is well cultivated and neat.

The environment even as a zoo is so beautiful and peaceful .

There are cool spots to chill and relax and also an avenue to also meet and interact with locals and make new friends.

KOFAR MATAR DYING PIT 56

Want to learn how to make tye and dye or shop for some really beautiful ones. Your next stop should be the Kofar Matar Dying pit.

The Kofar Matar Dye Pits are a very historical place for the people of Kano. Established in 1498, the Kofar Matar pits , goes as way back as 500yrs plus. It has been constantly in use ever since. This is a destination most tourists from all over the world often visits. Interestingly, they still use the same methodology that was used in those days.



THINGS TO DO

Learn how to make tye-dye.

Learn the history of the dying pit and also the history of the attraction while interacting with the locals.

Shop for nice tye and dye materials , I got a Tshirt that cost as low as a N2000.

Take pictures : pictures are allowed with the locals too. Have fun taking amazing pictures here.







WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

There is no fixed price on how much it will cost you to gain entrance but you'll definitely have to tip them.

There is a learned guide available to talk to the dyers for you and also share with you the history of the place and also the learning process of tyedye.

The workers here are so friendly and they are willing to teach you the process on how to be professional before leaving the attraction.

LOCATION KOFAR MATA, KANO

ENTRANCE FEE

None;Meanwhile,you will be asked by the workers for a tip to explain the process to you.

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ADO BAYERO MALL

This is the city mall / shop rite. Need a relaxing moment,a movie night, the ambience of ado bayero mall is the bes place for you.

LOCATION <u>Kano Trade Fair Complex,</u> <u>Zoo Road, Kano</u>

THINGS TO DO HERE

Relaxation: The mall has relaxation centers around.

Game Centers: You can go playing outdoor games at their arcade center and there are lot of activities to catch up on.

Go to the cinemas. Go Shopping.

Pictures: Trust me when I say you'll se a lot of locals taking pictures at this destination. It's their small london



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KURMIMARKET 58

This is the oldest market in Kano State, and unarguably one of the oldest markets in the West African sub region. The Market was said to be established some 600 years ago purposely for the trade in slaves. During the period of the boom in human trade, many shops were set up in the market to keep slaves while awaiting buyers. Ironically, today, Kasuwar Kurmi appears to be the sanctuary for Kano cultural heritages. It is what could be described as the repository of the state's artifacts.

In search of some old fashioned items, really nice handmade materials, bags and some really iconic items, shopping at Kurmi Market is the place for you.

REASON FOR VISIT

Shopping and sightseeing.

WHAT YOU NEED

Money and your phone to capture beautiful moments.

LOCATION

ABA KUSA STREET, KANO CITY.

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MINJIBIR PORTO 59 GOLF

The all year round green,beautiful and serene resort is an hidden gem 25km away from kano town.

The resort started out as a relaxation / recreational center and gradually grown to a resort with beautiful trees with scenic view.

The resort has a golf field and a polo pitch with a mini zoo which has varieties of not too wild animals and also an ultramodern park with sophisticated games for children.

WHAT YOU NEED

Money and your phone to capture beautiful moments.

LOCATION MINJIR PARK



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THINGS TO PACK FOR YOUR KANO TRIP



A PHONE/CAMERA

LIGHTWEIGHT CLOTHES FOR THE WEATHER

A SUNSHADE: FOR THE SCORCHING SUN

CASH

BUDGET TO EXPLORE KANO

Kano is a mega city and is averagely priced. Transportation is relatively cheap regardless of the distance ; the price mostly ranges from 100-300 naira for tricycles. You can also decide to lease a Tricycle for the day if you don't want to go through the stress of jumping from one Napep to another.

-Tourist Attractions: Most attractions are almost free ranging from 100naira to 500naira.

Accommodation

Hotels in kano are quite on the high side because of its industrious nature. Abuja is in the same class. As for Abuja and Lagos you already get the gist.

Porto Golf Resort:

I bet you don't know there is a beautiful resort in Kano that offers lodging Services. The Resort is 6km away from the Emir's Palace and it cost about N15,000 per night

You can also get more accommodation around the state using other hotels reservations apps like Bookings.com



FESTIVALS IN KANO





Image credit: Google

DURBAR FESTIVAL

Kano State Durbar locally called Hawan Daushe is a royal parade of thousands of men on horses dressed in garments and regalia. It is a colourful display of culture full of pomp and pageantry. A spectacular traditional concert of and bazaar of African music. It is celebrated at the culmination of Muslim festivals Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. It begins with prayers, followed by a parade of the Emir and his entourage on horses, accompanied by music players, and ending at the Emir's palace.



PLATEAU STATE

LAND OF PEACE AND TOURISM

GET TO KNOW PLATEAU STATE

Jos is a city of about 900,000 people (2006). It is the state capital of Plateau State at the centre of Northern Nigeria. It has a cool climate due to its breathtaking system of plateaux and its colonial importance as the tin mining center of Nigeria made it a favourite tourist destination.

> Jos is probably on every Nigerian list as a must visit state.

LANGUAGE

The Hausa language is widely spoken in Jos as well as other local languages. Also English

GETTING INTO JOS

There are three ways to go about getting into Jos

BY AIR:which is about an hour twenty minute with Arik air which runs a day domestic flight from Lagos to Jos and back.

The Jos airport is located some 30 km from the town so it is best to have some money for a taxi fare to town (generally about #2,500).

By Road: Which is approximately 17 hours from Lagos.

TIPS FOR TRAVELLING BY ROAD

There are several buses that operate from Lagos to Jos e.g Cross country and also the Plateau line government owned bus.

 It's advisable to break your trip to Jos because some logistics companies might not be going to this destination directly fro Lagos.

It's preferable you take a bus to Abuja and take a 5hrs connecting bus from Abuja to Jos..

TRANSPORTATION COST

The bus prices vary from N8,000 to N10,000 depending on which transport company and what time of the year you are traveling . Tip: it's advisable not to travel during festive periods in the state or in the country.

GETTING AROUND JOS

It's quite easy getting around the city of Jos because the town has really good road network and you can get around boarding public transport: mostly shuttles and Motorcycles Taxis popularly called Achaba You can also get around using private cabs.

TRAVEL DESTINATIONS IN PLATEAU STATE







@DOLLYPIMPIM



60 SHERE HILLS

Shere hills: This is one of the most adventurous tourist sites in Jos. Mountain climbers and hikers that love adventure will enjoy a visit to this monumental site as it has the highest and most rugged peak of all the mountains in Jos. It serves as a camping spot for the tourists and also the locals.

LOCATION SHERE HILL

Tour Guide

Name: Mr Sabo Phone Number: 07032317189

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THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE EXPLORING SHERE HILLS

- It's advisable to wear something that can cover your body such as long joggers, sweatpants. This won't only protect you from the chilly water on top of the hill but also protect you from unwanted bruises.
- You need a boot/Sneakers with firm grips.There are sneakers specifically made for hiking because of their firm grips on mountain and sloppy surfaces. You should get one of those for this hike.
- It is important to have a guide and to listen to their instructions as you navigate the terrain.
- water is an essential when hiking Shere hills you'll need it every step of the way.
 If you can pack also Snacks, Energy booster drinks then you overly prepared for the hike.
 - Also Shere is best explored in groups/help of local guides, you might miss your path during this hike. Please make sure you have a local guide that knows this route for your own safety.

THINGS TO DO HERE

Hike to the the top of Shere hill. Enjoy lots of fruits like strawberries.

Enjoy nature from the top of the hill as you view the whole of Jos.

RIYOM ROCK

This is one of nature's gems as the structure of this rock formation is rarely seen anywhere else in the world. It is located along the Jos Akwanga road, which is approximately 25 km from Jos, in the heart of Riyom Town, hence its name.



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THINGS YOU NEED FOR THIS ATTRACTION

Climbing gear Camera Shorts

LOCATION RIYOM TOWN, JOS-AKWANGA ROAD, JOS

THINGS TO DO HERE

Hike to the top of beautiful Riyom rock Enjoy Nature





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62 ASSOP WATERFALL

Assop falls is one of the beautiful waterfalls in Nigeria. The natural water which gushes out with much speed, power and splendor has added much beauty to the surrounding environment and also to the country.

> **BEST TIME TO VISIT** Anytime of the year

ENTRANCE FEE N100-200

> LOCATION Assop Fall

HOW TO GET HERE

It costs about N300-N500 cab to get to the fall from Jos town. It's about 70km drive along Jos-Kagoro road. You can easily take a cab heading towards Abuja and drop along the way to the fall.



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SAFETY RULE

Don't go swimming in the falls, and also be watchful of your steps on the rock if you decide to go closer to fall. Maintain a far distance and enjoy the beautiful from a mile away.

Things to do here

Picnic: you can go on a picnic at the huge rock formation in the vicinity of the fall.

This however attractsa fee of N4,000 to have a picnic at the fall.

Take amazing pictures: This is a beautiful picturesque for amazing pictures. I bet you'll be amazed at the magic of the falls.

JOS WILDLIFE PARK AND ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

Jos Wildlife park is the center of attractions in Jos, and the most populous place to visit in the city. It is a manmade Zoological garden.

The garden reminds me of Ngwo pine forest in Enugu, with the tall trees and a really chilled breezy atmosphere.

It is a place suitable for family gatherings, picnic and relaxation.

It was the first place I saw a giant Elephant and that memory will forever linger.

LOCATION 41 TUNDUN WADA RD

Getting here: Jos wildlife park is located in the center of the town, it is very easy to locate as it is just by the road.

You can get a Tricycle to take you to the wildlife park

ENTRANCE FEE N200

TOUR GUIDE

Name: Mr Henry Mobile Number:0706 483 6900

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THINGS TO DO HERE

Take a tour of the zoo and park and learn a new thing or two about wildlife.

Feed the old elephants: This elephants has been in the zoo for years and definitely can use some love from some tourist.

- Picnic at the pine forest beautifully arranged long pine trees, is a cool place for a picnic
- Relaxation: Need a place far away from noise and want some time close to nature, the pine forest will give you just that.
- Take lots of pictures, you can't step in and not have yourself some really lovely photographs of yourself.

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64 KURANG VOLCANIC MOUNTAIN

This is one of the sites to behold in Jos. Even though it's less explored because there's nothing much to see here but the highlands of the mountain are washed by springs. It supplies the renowned SWAN bottling company with fresh spring water

LOCATION

It's advisable to ask the locals for direction to get to this particular destination.



OTHER ATTRACTIONS TO SEE;

65 THE MUSEUM OF TRADITIONAL NIGERIAN ARCHITECTURE.

This is an open museum that features life-size replicas of a variety of Nigerian buildings and architectural landmarks from the walls of Kano and the mosque at Zaria to a Tiv village. This museum portray how different tribes in Nigeria built their houses, etc in the pre colonial era.





66 AFIZERE SETTLEMENTS

within the same surroundings of the zoo logical garden is the '100 Steps to Afizere Settlement,' a stone carved staircase that leads to the top of a hill and is historically said to be the ancestral home of the Afizere tribe when they migrated to what is Plateau State today, from Chawai in southern Kaduna. Joggers are known to frequent the steps in the early hours of the morning or at evenings ,and tourists who wish to have a glimpse of the Jos city centre from the top of the hill also take advantage of the hundred steps.

67 THE TEN COMMANDMENT

This

attraction is located at Dwei LGA of plateau state. It's one of the less toured attractions in Nigeria and it's not even listed as one.

The structure is built on a large land with two gigantic stone with the 10 commandments engraved on them.

Anytime you find yourself in plateau state, The Ten Commandments is a must to see.




FESTIVALS IN PLATEAU STATE

NZEM BEROM FESTIVAL BEROM.

This festival normally takes place every march/april to usher in the raining season place between March/April. In the past, the Berom regarded Mandyeng as the most vital festival which ensured a good farming and hunting period and harvest, but not all Berom communities celebrate it.



THINGS TO PACK FOR YOUR PLATEAU TRIP

A hiking boot A fanny pack Hoodie/sweatshirt Power Bank. Toiletries

IMPORTANT

Jos is best explored with friends or with the help of a local guide to help you navigate the city.

Need a local guide? You can always reach out to Mr Henry as your guide to all destinations in the state

Name: Mr Henry Mobile Number:0706 483 6900

TRAVELDESTRINATIONS

Traveling through Taraba

I have never been to a place so heavenly, so far fetched yet closer to the sky. The greenery, waterfall, people, highlands, bouquet of nature, a dreamland so heartwarming and welcoming. A small city of people yet bigger than my city. A place that has everything to offer except good food of course(Based on my preferences though).Sorry I lost you there, I'm only reminiscing on my golden experience from Mambilla plateau.Here, it was more than just nature to me, it was everything from the people, their culture and their contentment as a people.I wonder if with everything this destination possesses, it could make them the richest, most toured, most beautiful place in West-Africa only if we can see beyond oil and gas and focus on tourism.But nevertheless, I want to visit the city that doesn't need a fridge to get iced water, a city that doesn't need an AC to get Cool, a city that's free from mosquitoes and its close proximity to nature. I want to visit Mambilla all over again.



DON'T TALK ABOUT GOING TO GEMBU. BOOK A TICKET, PACK A BAG, GET ON THE ROAD AND MAKE IT HAPPEN."

66

GET TO KNOW TARABA STATE

Taraba state is the dream of every explorer in this country. ask me why? Taraba State is the home to beautiful landscapes, mountainous, waterfalls on the scenic and prominent Mambilla Plateau.

-MY

ATIONS

N.

AM

INGRATULIAL DIDI/MAK

The Mambilla Plateau has an altitude of 1,800 meters (6000 ft) above sea level and has a temperate climate all year round and I call it is the most beautiful destination in Nigeria.

Taraba state which capital is Jalingo is in the Northeastern region of Nigeria, it was created in 1991 out of the Gongola State



WHERE DO PEOPLE GO TO EXPLORE IN TARABA ?

Ans: Mambilla Plateau The plateau is Nigeria's northern continuation of the Bamenda Highlands of Cameroon,it has an average elevation of about 1,600 metres (5,249 ft) above sea level, making it the highest plateau in Nigeria.

WHY SHOULD YOU VISIT MAMBILLA ?

If you're a lover of nature and you want to be surrounded by waterfalls, plantations , hills , amazing people.it has a lot of scenic views, mountain chains and the temperature is a breath of fresh air that is uncommon in many other parts of Nigeria



HOW TO GET TO MAMBILLA PLATEAU

This information you will never find on the media but trust me to provide you with first hand information that will help you have an amazing and stress free trip/experience.

There are two ways to get to Gembu The most advisable one for non-adventurers like myself is to follow the Jalingo route.

From Lagos,Abuja or other zones in Nigeria, it's advisable you get to Jalingo first. Let's plan this trip from Lagos, shall we?



LAGOS - JALINGO BY ROAD

Duration by road: 18hours 39mins

This simply means you can't proceed to Gembu on the same day. I.e you have to spend the night at Jalingo to continue the next day.

Jalingo-Gembu

Duration by road: **6hours 9mins** What this means is that it's a 2days journey from Lagos to Jalingo by road. Also you want to set out as early as possible.

TRANSPORT FARE:

Lagos to Jalingo- N10,000 Jalingo to Gembu- N2,800



18 hr 28 min (1,167 km) Fastest route now, avoids road closure

Accessing Jalingo by Air

There Is no direct Flight from Lagos to Jalingo by Air. There are two options you can choose from for a faster and more stressfree way to access this destination if you don't want to sit for long hours road trip to Taraba.

LAGOS TO JALINGO BY AIR

The only Option to get a flight from Lagos is to go via Yola

You can get a direct flight from Lagos to Yola which is about an hour 45minutes.

Flight Ticket varies from N23,000-N25,000 depending on the airline of your choice and season of trip.

From Yola: You can board a bus to Jalingo for another 3 hours 45minutes. Then proceed for another 6 hours to Gembu.

That is approximately 11 to 12 hours from Lagos to Gembu, Mambilla Plateau using this option.

ABUJA TO JALINGO BY AIR

There's an Airport in Jalingo and it's about 10 minutes drive from the center of Jalingo.

The only popular airline that operate this route is called Overland airways. This flight cost N36,000 from Abuja airport to Jalingo Airport.

To book or make an enquiry Mobile: 0703 822 5811

From Jalingo Airport to Gembu is approximately 6hours and some minutes

OTHER ROUTE TO EXPLORE

I personally explored Mambilla from Benue State, I had listed the top 5 states I need to explore and at the of my ressearch agoogle provided me with a faster route to get to Gembu from Benue state so I looked it up.

My 2cent

1: It is advisable you follow this route only if you find yourself in Benue. Not necessarily travel via this route for the sole purpose of getting to Gembu.

2: There is no direct bus to Gembu from Benue, this is more like a (jumping Danfo, Lagos Experience). Not all that stressful but if you can't follow the direction below, please proceed to Jalingo and from there continue to Gembu just as I've listed above.



7 hr 27 min (449 km)





8 hr 51 min (422 km)

I realized Makurdi to Gembu is a better option than heading to Jalingo first for about 8hours and then head to Gembu for another 6hours from Jalingo when I could easily access Gembu from Makurdi for just 9hours. So I took the road less traveled, asked various locals for directions until I got the perfect one for my trip.

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BENUE TO GEMBU BY ROAD



From makurdi park, take a bus to Kastina Ala for N1500. It's about 2hours 50 minutes from Makurdi peace park.

From Katsina-Ala- You take another 6 seaters Cab going to Takum for a sum of N1200. That's about another 1hour 55 minutes because of the bad road.

From Takum you get another cab to Bali for N700 for another 2 hours 55 minutes.

Then from Bali you take your last bus to Gembu for another approximately 4 hours 30 minutes. Cost 1500 Total Amount spent on this trip was N4,900

(Please note these prices are bound to change and you can't get direct bus to this destination unless you follow this route)

THINGS TO EXPECT ON THE ROAD TO GEMBU

-its a rocky ride: it's a snake like road from the bottom to the top of plateau -The road is still under construction, hence the bad road to Gembu -Its always cold during the ride: make sure you have your sweatshirt -You'll see a lot of friendly monkeys on your way to Gembu, it will be nice to have a banana at hand to add to your experience. -Linking from Benue; some of these cabs are not in good condition and it's usually four seated passengers at the back and sometimes three seated on the front seat. You can decide to pay for double seats at the back.

WHAT TO PACK ON THIS TRIP

- Your phone , and your gears to capture the beautiful Mambilla
- Extra power banks because they don't have stable light at Mambilla
- An extra extension box for your gadget because you might not be provided with one
- A sweatshirt: it's extremely cold all year round in Gembu. Make sure you go with a thick layered one.
- A boiling ring: for you'll need that hot bath trust me in a scenario where your hotel can't provide you with hot water when you need it but they will always provide some every morning.
 - Few provisions: Food is a scarce commodity in Gembu except for Fruits, Indomie and tea. Every other meal is an apology.
 - Cash: A lot of it , you'll be needing it. Gembu only has 2 Atms which are always overcrowded. you don't want to spend time you should be using in exploring at the ATM queue.
- Sneakers and socks : you'll be needing this for the rocky and dusty drive. Pack really comfy wears..





TRAVEL DESTINATIONS IN MAMBILLA

Gembu has a lot to offer in terms of tourism from waterfalls, to caves ,parks, plantations, forest reserves , mountains and beautiful people. I will be listing the attractions here based on the following reasons listed in the vital information below;



VITAL INFORMATION ABOUT EXPLORING GEMBU.



All tourist attractions at Sarudauna LG are accessible but to be able to access these destinations you need the help of a local bike man for easy accessibility, mobilization and also to be able to explore most of the attractions listed in this guide.

Mambilla plateau is not for the faint at heart, there are some attractions that can be easily accessed within Gembu but outside Gembu, you have to be ready for the rocky rides and abit of strenuous exercises getting to some attractions

Most of the attractions are quite a distance from one another because of the terrain and bad roads

RECOMMENDED BIKE MAN

Name: Ishaku Mobile Number:+234906 559 2854

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68 Gashaka Gumti National Park

This is said to be Nigeria's largest national park, Its 6700-sqkm area contains rolling hills, savannah, montane forest – animals such as lions, elephants, hippos and buffaloes.

The attraction is less traveled and I can boldly say it one of west Africa's most important primate habitats, Sadly I couldn't access this destination during my visit but I'm looking forward to revisit.

The Park is situated at Bali before heading to the top of Gembu. It's best to explore this either on your way to Gembu or your way back.



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69 MBAMNG<mark>A W</mark>ATERFALL

I have seen lots of waterfalls around this country and this added to one of the most beautiful waterfalls you must see.

This waterfall is gorgeous and you can have a closer feel of it. It's one of the most popular attraction on the plateau and the easiest to access.





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THE HIGHL<mark>AND TE</mark>A PLANTA<mark>TION</mark>

This destination is one of my highlight exploring Nigeria.

The attraction and the people made this attraction one to remember for life.

Highland Tea plantation in Kakara is the biggest tea plantation in West Africa, with about 615 hectares of tea plantation, and a processing factory with the capacity of producing 1.6 million kilogrammes of tea annually.

I had a taste of how they make the tea over there and all I can say is I want more. The plantation is easy to access and you can have yourself some of the tea during your visit





71 BARUP TIMGA FALL

This is another beautiful waterfall in plateau. Couldn't get closer to the fall on this day but it's a sight to behold nonetheless.





72 BARUP DAM

Accessing this dam wasn't an easy task. As much as I would love you to see this, I will also strongly advise you not to. The dam isn't for the faint at heart and all thanks to my bike man named Ishaku and these two samaritan Shuaib and Muhammed that made it a memorable one. But if you'd like to visit, brace yourself up for a tedious adventure. Please note: Pictures are not directly related to destination.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS ARE

73 :ROCK FORMATIONS AT KPAMBO-USSA L.G.A





75:MARMARA CROCODILE POND WUKARI, WUKARI L.G.A.

74:ROCK FORMATIONS AT FIKYU-USSA L.G.A.



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Please note: Pictures are not directly related to destination.

76:COLONIAL BURIAL GROUND- IBI, IBI L.G.A.



78:BARYTE QUARY – IBI, IBI L.G.A.



79:ROCK FORMATIONS AT ZING –ZING L.G.A.

77:ROCK FORMATIONS AT BITAKO-ZING L.G.A.

80 PRE-COLONIAL EXECUTIVE PIT- IBI, IBI L.G.A.





HOTEL RECOMMENDATION

UNITY GUEST INN

There are quite a few hotels to stay in, in Mambilla. Not really fancy or 5star hotel by quite manageable.

I got a friend on the plateau recommend this guest inn to me and I'm blessed with it. Neat, calm and peaceful. The receptionist was nice and also accommodating. You can stay here during your visit.

PRICE

N3,000-N5,000

I paid N2,000 during my visit because it wasn't peak period and the time and my friend helped got a good bargain.

BUDGET TO EXPLORE GEMBU

Honestly, exploring Gembu is quiet on the highside from transportation to Jalingo to exploring the destinations in Gembu itself.

Transportation

Depending on the mode of Transportation you chose in getting to Mambilla and where you started your trip from either from Lagos, Benue, Yola or Abuja and either you chose to go by air or by road this will determine where the chunk of your budget will be going into.

Transportation in Gembu

The best way and only way to explore Mambilla is on a motorcycle. it's advisable to book a standby bike man for the duration you'll be in Gembu. Cost varies from 10,000-15,000 (for 2days) depending on the attractions you'd like to visit and how many days you'll be spending.

Accommodation

Accommodation are quite cheap in Mambilla ranging from minimum of N2,000 to maximum of N5,000.

Feeding in Gembu

The easiest meals to get in Gembu are Noodles, Suya and highland tea except you want to feed on Banana alone which is surplus and cheap at that part of the country.

There is no much food option to choose from in Gembu. And oh! Noodles is expensive; 2noodles one Egg cost me N450



FESTIVALS IN TARABA STATE

MINHU Hunting Festival – held in Jen Karim- Lamido L.G.A. April Yearly.

Kachicheb Harvest Festival – Ussa/ Takum L.G.A.s normally held on 25th March each year.Puje Festival Normally held in Wukari Yearly and during the installation of a new Aku- Uka.

Purma/ Takachiyawa / Takum/ Donga Normally held between November and December yearly by the Chambas.

Belle Festival Zing Local Government Marking the beginning of a new planting season.

Yonko- Yam Festival. it is celebrated by the Mumuye Nation to mark the harvest / consumption of new yams.

Kati harvest Festival Sardauna November Yearly.

Kambu/Panso Cultural Festival – Sardauna L.G.A.

Ekpan- Fure Jukun Festival – Takum/ Wukari

Asamu Festival in Kona-Jalingo Local Government Area.

Resources From: Taraba state tourism official website.

AKWA-IBOM STATE LAND OF PROMISE

TRAVELING THROUGH AKWA-IBOM

The small London of Nigeria, as it's fondly called is one for the book. The greatest city with good roads, delicious Afang soup, almost uninterrupted power supply.

My friend @thewantor made this a memorable one for me. From our bike cruise at Ikot abasi, to the fun filled experience at Uta-Ewa beach, to the amazing Ibeano beach which is the longest beach in West Africa. In summation, Akwa-ibom was a vibe, just as I have imagined it. It lived up to the hype and I am must say "it's a must visit city for Every Nigerian".







GET TO KNOW AKWA-IBOM

LANGUAGE

Akwa-Ibom popularly called the small London of Nigeria is Located in the south-south geopolitical zone. Akw-Ibom State was created in 1987. The state known as the "Land of promise" is one of my favorite states to visit in the country. My experience in the state was seemingly stress free, good road network, affordable lifestyle, easy accessibility to tourist attractions and beautiful people made the state stand out for me.

Akwa-Ibom is a state I will visit over and over again without getting tired.".

English is widely spoken in the state alongside each tribe's local dialect.

THE PEOPLE OF AKWA-IBOM

The people of Akwa Ibom State are culturally homogenous with a common identity and are reputed to be the first settlers in the present day South Eastern Nigeria. The three major dialectal groups are Ibibio, Annang and Oron. Other sub groups include Eket, Ibeno, Itu Mbonuso and the Andonis.

GETTING INTO AKWA-IBOM

You can get into Akwa-Ibom by air or by road.

By air from Lagos; The popular airline that operate local flights from Lagos to Akwa-Ibom and vice versa is Ibom Airline.

Duration by air: 1hr 25 minutes.

Lagos to Akwa-Ibom by Road; There are several transportation companies going from Lagos to Akwa-Ibom and I will recommend Good is Good motors (GIGM) Transportation cost: Varies from N8,000-N10,000 Duration of trip: Approximately 14 Hours.

GETTING AROUND AKWA-IBOM

Getting around Akwa-Ibom is very easy and traffic free. There are several attractions in the state capital UYO and also around other local government areas.

TRANSPORTATION WITHIN THE CITY

You can easily navigate through the State using the state Keke Napep and other means of transportation present.

TRAVEL DESTINATIONS IN AKWA-IBOM







81 IBOM HOTEL AND GOLF RESORT

This is one of the best resorts Nigeria has to offer and one of the most toured destinations in Akwa-Ibom. I'm sure this is one of the reasons why you're reading this guide too.

This 5-Star hotel sits at the top of a rich palm forest vegetation with lush greens. The ambience in this resort is everything needed for a weekend getaway.

LOCATION

<u>NWANIBA ROAD, PMB</u> <u>1200, UYO, NIGERIA</u>

FACILITIES AT THE RESORT

- A golf course for golf lovers.
- A swimming pool.
- A world-class onsite restaurant that serves continental dishes and kids' menu.
- An onsite bar stocked with a wide array of wines, chilled beers, liquors.
- ▶ 5 star suites.



THINGS TO DO AT THE GOLF RESORT

A tour of the facilities: one of the thoughtful things about this reso that you can tour the facilities without having to lodge in the pren

You have access to the swimming pool, the golf course area, the restaurant, the lobby. There are tour-guides available on ground to take you round the fa for a token.

Depending on how much you can afford, You can lodge in this 5sta hotel: A night at this beautiful resort wouldn't be a bad idea. Plann getaway with friends or Baecation, think Ibom resort. It cost abou N50,000 at the barest minimum for a night in the resort.

Take amazing pictures: believe me the sky here is nothing to be compared with any other part of the state, it's so beautiful and pic here are rated abroad standard.

Learn to play Golf: They have a personal tutor for anyone interested learning golf. Acquiring a new skill while on a getaway isn't a bad i

Have a bicycle ride: The facility provides bicycles for both adults ar children. Taking a bike cruise around nature is another type of the
82 IBOM PLAZA, UYO

The monument which symbolizes the unity of the people of Akwa Ibom State stands in the centre of the roundabout. It is a delightful art-piece, skirted with dazzling selection of uniquely beautiful flowers.

The plaza has an open theatre, double-rowed water fountain within the plaza, and shopping centre.

LOCATION

IBOM PLAZA BY PASS RD

TROPICAN

ENTE TAINMEN

((((area))))))



83 IBIBIO MUSEUM AND STATE PARK`

The see through all glass museum located in the center of Uyo, houses a lot of artifacts and works on display that give you an in-depth look at the Ibibio culture and history/Calabar indigenes. The park offers scenic paved walkways/paths for a solitary leisure stroll, an evening jog and also provides a good ambiance for family picnic and leisure. The park features three water ponds, long paved paths, and an expansive lush green lawn.

LOCATION

UDO UDOMA AVENUE, UYO, AKWA IBOM. ENTRANCE FEE

Free

EXPLORING IKOT ABASI

Ikot Abasi is located in the south west corner of Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. The Imo River forms the natural boundary in the west separating it from Rivers State.

Ikot -Abasi is the historical seat of the state as I will like to call it, it is where most of the history happened and the local government houses most of the historical buildings.

Exploring Uyo shouldn't be your only itinerary, Add Ikot-Abasi to that list.

HOW TO GET HERE

From Uyo , take a bus to ekonema where you get a bus to Ikot Abasi.

84

AMALGAMATION HOUSE

In search of a historical destination in Akwa-Ibom then the Amalgamation house deserves a stop by.

This is the iconic building where Lord Lugard, the colonial governor, amalgamated the Northern and Southern Protectorates in 1914, making Nigeria one geographical entity. It was also where cease-fire was declared in 1970 to end the Nigeria Civil War.

Even though the building isn't in good shape, it still possess pictures, type-writer, cabinet, radios and desks used by Lord Lugard in the building.

It's a picturesque destination if you love architecture.







THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE VISITING

It's a dilapidated building , abandoned

with no maintenance at all.

No presence of tour-guide or anyone

available in the premises.

It's easy to access.

It's a ruined building but still has its

historical elements intact.

WOMEN WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM

This museum is built in honor of the Aba women who fought against gender inequality in 1929. This museum housed the picture frames and the history of the Ibibio people. It's beautiful and neatly maintained.

The Women's War, or Aba Women's Riots

The protests of The Aba Women's Riots of 1929 broke out when thousands of Igbo women from the Bende District, Umuahia and other places in eastern Nigeria traveled to the town of Oloko to protest against the Warrant Chiefs, whom they accused of restricting the role of women in the government.

The Aba Women's Riots of 1929, as it was named in British colonial records, is more aptly considered a strategically executed anti-colonial revolt organised by women to redress social, political and economic grievances. The protest encompassed women from six ethnic groups (Ibibio, Andoni, Orgoni, Bonny, Opobo, and Igbo).

It was organised and led by the rural women of Owerri and Calabar provinces.

LOCATION

This Museum is located in Ikot Abasi, it can be easily accessed via motorcycles.

Entrance fee: N500

Tour guide: Available at the museum









THINGS TO DO HERE

Take a tour of the museum and read about the history of the Aba women's war.

Take amazing pictures around the well maintained and painted building and with the sculpture of the women erected in the compound.

NOTE

Pictures are not allowed in the museum.

86 LORD LUGARD RESIDENCE

This is a one-storey cottage where Lord Lugard lived during the amalgamation period and it is located opposite the amalgamation house. This site was claimed to be the first administrative headquarters of the region before it was relocated to Calabar.

This is picturesque destination, the old architectural building is a beauty to behold





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87 UTA-EWA BEACH

This is one of my favorite destinations in Ikot-Abasi, it's a place filled with beautiful and happy people.

It's a Crayfish Market, where fishermen and their wives and kids come to fish/smoke and sell crayfish.

It's one of the top destinations in Akwa-Ibom. I will advise you not to miss it.

Direction: Just get a bike and ask them to take you to Uta-Ewa beach from anywhere in Ikot-Abasi





THINGS TO DO AT THE BEACH

- Go fishing with the locals.
- Learn how to smoke crayfish.
- Have an amazing interaction with the beautiful and accommodating locals; this is the best part of exploring this destination . The people are the greatest attraction therein.







88 THE BRIDGE OF NO RETURN

At the bank of the Imo River estuary, a walking distance from the Amalgamation house and colonial offices is a jetty and a bridge designed to enable free movement to and from the river, to enable embankment into boats and canoes. This was the famous Bridge of No Return, a name given to it by the locals. Slaves were walked down this bridge to the canoes for onward movement to the slave ships that lay anchored at the middle of the high sea waiting for their human cargoes for onward journey through the Atlantic Ocean to the vast plantations in Europe and Americas. No slave that walks down the bridge ever returns and thus the name "Bridge of No Return".

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89 THE GERMAN BRIDGE

This is one of my favourite attraction in Ikot -Abasi, the scenery, the greenery, the air from the lake down below, the beauty of the green painted bridge and the smiles of the locals as they see strangers like myself having fun at the bridge is one memory that will linger forever in my head. This bridge is a must see anytime you find yourself in Ikot Abasi, the picturesque destination gave me one of the best pictures in my history of exploring Nigeria.



90 IBENO BEACH

This is arguably the longest sand beach in West -Africa.

Ibeno beach is one of the most beautiful , white sand beaches we have in the country. Ibeno Beach stretches for about 30 kilometres from Ibeno to JamesTown along the Atlantic coastline.

LOCATION

KWA IBO, IBEANO LOC<u>AL</u> <u>GOVERNMENT AREA AND IS</u> <u>SOUTH OF EKET LGA.</u>

THINGS TO DO AT THE BEACH

Enjoy the serenity of the beach and it's environment:

it is extremely beautiful and peaceful.

Enjoy the entertainment from the vendors.

Taste one of theirs tasty and delicious Barbecue fish.

Take amazing pictures from every angle of the beach.

Have a swing at the palm vegetation area of the

beach.

Relax and have an amazing time at the beach as you

take in all in the fresh breeze from the sea

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91 ORON MUSEUM

The museum houses some of the finest carvings, relics, artifacts and other valuable antiquities such as masquerade costumes, traditional/instruments, pottery. The museum also contains an attractive, shaded water front garden where you can watch small boats drifting on the creeks.

How to Get to Oron Museum

It's about 45min drive to Oron museum from Ibom Airport.

There are commercial buses are available in Oron to convey tourists to the museum location.

THINGS TO DO HERE

- Take a tour of the remaining relics from the national civil war such as Ojokwu bunker.
- Learn more about the history and major cultural riches of Nigeria
- Catch a glimpse of the carved wooden figurines (Ekpu), the pottery (Ishibori) and the masquerade sections.
- Visit the craft village located at the premises of Oron Museum.





92 IBOM PLAZA

This was where I asked the question, "Am I still in Nigeria?".

The Ibom plaza is situated a mile away from Uyo. The park where you can relax, drink and eat, play outdoor games is free to access and is great to visit.

LOCATION





RECOMMENDED HOTELS

Ibom hotel & golf resort, Monty suites, De castle, Ali Ambruz, Eemjm hotel, Georgetown, Majesty Realm, Luton park, Davok, Signature by Royalty (this right here is so expensive but they have a different section for middle class)

(These hotels can be easily located using Google map in the City)

Places to Eat in Uyo

Enis stores, Eemjm restaurant Ibom hotel restaurant, Monty suites; they have three restaurants, Sir Monty (for pastries and Gelato), Emem for locally made meals and the other for English menu





TOUR GUIDE RECOMMENDATION

Planning a trip to Akwa-Ibom soon and you want to experience the best of the best of Akwa-Ibom, from Uyo to Ikot-Abasi to Ikot Ekpene and all attractions in the city. I recommend you reach out to @thewantor or @wantours for a premium experience.

she made my stay a memorable one and I can't pay her the worth of what she gave me.



THINGS YOU NEED ON THIS TRIP

Really fancy clothes: picnic dresses for some destinations Beach wears: you don't want to be caught dulling. Bikini in the pool at the Golf resort will have you drooling.

Your gadgets: phones, cameras, drone.

Extra power bank: trust me you don't want to miss out any moments.

An international passport: incase you want to take a boat cruise to Cameroon.

Lots of cash, for shopping at the raffia city market.



FESTIVALS IN AKWA-IBOM

EKPE-FESTIVAL

The Ekpe masquerade is said to be an ancestral spirit that inhabits the jungle. During the festival, the masquerade comes in the form of a leopard. The festival is a great experience to have, a crash course on Akwa Ibom and its rich culture.

OYO STATE PACE SETTER STATE

TRAVELING THROUGH OYO STATE

Oyo state is like my third home as I like to think of it as a place where I'd travel to for a me time to unwind from the busy Lagos Lifestyle.

My Nysc days was in the beautiful brown roof city of Ibadan and it was blissful. Even though the people of Ibadan has got a sharp mouth and can curse a dead man walking it is always a delight being in their midst.I love it here, peaceful and far from struggle.







GET TO KNOW OYO

Oyo state is an inland state in south-western Nigeria, with its capital at Ibadan. .

Oyo which popularly stand out from other western state for its beautiful ancient brown roofs and the famous delicious Amala is a must visit states.

It is bounded in the north by Kwara State, in the east by Osun State, in the south by Ogun State and in the west partly by Ogun State and partly by the Republic of Benin.

LANGUAGE

The majorly speaking language is Yoruba and English is widely understooo in the city.

THE PEOPLE OF OYO

Oyo State is mainly inhabited by the Yoruba ethnic group. The indigenes mainly comprise the Oyos, the Oke-Oguns, the Ibadans and the Ibarapas, all belonging to the Yoruba family and indigenous city in Africa. Ibadan had been the centre of administration of the old Western Region since the days of British colonial rule.

GETTING INTO OYO STATE

. It is borders by the states of Kwara on the northeast, Ekiti and Ondo on the east, Ogun on the south, and Oyo on the west and northwest.

What you need to know;

You can only get into Oyo State by Road via the use of Public transport or private cars

Its about 2 hours drive from Lagos

Transportation is relatively cheap and prices varies from N1500 to N3,000 from Lagos depending on your location

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GETTING AROUND OYO STATE.

Oyo is one of the most toured state in Western Nigeria hence its welcoming nature.

Oyo is Tourist friendly and it's easy to get around using the state means of transportation which are; Cabs and Motorcycles.

TRANSPORTATION WITHIN THE CITY

You can easily move from one destination to another using the state;

Transportation within the city is relatively cheap. prices ranging from N50-200 depending on the distance.

I prefer navigating through the city on bikes, it's faster and more convenient for me.

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE EXPLORING OYO STATE.

- The state is welcoming and easy to explore for tourist ,
- Most of the attractions are centered at the capital while
- others are on the outskirts.
- The people majorly speak Yoruba but they are also fluent in English language.
- Oyo state is one of the budget friendly states to explore so feel free to have an amazing time in the state.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED FOR THIS TRIP

- Remember to pack your essentials; toiletries etc.
 - **Pack really comfortable dresses** and also dress appropriately for each attraction.
- A Hiking boot if you'd like to hike Ado-Awaye.
- **Cash at at hand** because some of the attractions are situated outside the capital, so it's advisable you have enough cash at hand

TRAVEL DESTINATIONS IN OYO STATE







94 BOWER'S TOWER

This is one of the most iconic sites in Ibadan, Oyo state.The bower's tower is located at the center point of Ibadan, Standing atop the tower one could see at a glance the four corners of Ibadan metropolis. It gives a panoramic view of all the important places in the ancient. The tower is 60 feet high and 11 feet square with two entrances and a spiral staircase that leads to the top of the tower.

LOCATION

OKE ARE, IBADAN

Entrance Fre

N200

Tour-Guide

Mostly available but not guaranteed.

Accessibility:

Very easy to access



THINGS TO DO AT BOWERS TOWER

Climb to the top of the tower via the spiral stairs.

Enjoy the beautiful scenery seeing the panoramic view of Ibadan. Learn how to beat the local drum with the guides while they sing the Oyo praises Take a sneak peak into the old house of Captain Robert Lister Bower.





This is a picturesque destination and a perfect location for a picnic. It has a botanical garden, with a mini zoo , a big sized pool, a paint ball Arena and horses for a ride.

LOCATION

<u>SECRETARIAT ROAD, MOKOLA</u> <u>HILL, IBADAN.</u>

> Entrance fee N1,000

Various Fees are to be paid for activities such as swimming, paintballing e.t.c



THINGS TO DO AT AGODI GARDENS

Agodi gardens hosts a number of facilities such as the water park that consists of a water slide and 3 swimming pools in varying sizes.

A children play area

For lovers of photos, there are so many spots to take good photos.

A very large space to enjoy a picnic and host events.

You don't have to worry about food, Restaurants are available for different meal options, snacks and drinks.

You can go on a Horse ride which costs 500 Naira (negotiable).

There is also a zoo in there and a tour guide to help navigate the place.

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96 MAPO HALL

Popularly called Oke Mapo.This is a city hall perched on Mapo hill, it was built in 1929. It was a hideout for the first settlers which were warrior refugees fleeing the ravages of the Fulani wars in the guinea savanna. It was a wise strategic point for the warriors because it gives a view of the surrounding country for miles around. It's an historical colonial building now used for events. It's one of the most touristic attractions in Ibadan for its architectural design and picturesque.

н

LOCATION

MAPO HALL IS LOCATED ON MAPO HILL AT OJE AREA, IBADAN.

> ENTRANCE FEE Free

MAPO

97 ADO-AWAYE

This is one of the most beautiful gems in the country. Ado-Awaye is a town in Iseyin Local government that houses one of two suspended lakes in the world. Iyake lake is one the suspended lakes on the rock which In history has never dried up even during the dry season. Nobody knows the source of the water neither do they know the depth of it. There are only two of it's kind in the whole world. Nigeria and Colorado.





Things to do pack for this destination

- A hiking boot
- Gadgets; phone, camera, drone etc
 - Cash at hand:
- A sunshade
- Water
 - A supporting stick to hike the mountain:
 - The local guides will provide you with on

DIRECTION

Direction on how to get there From Lagos, it takes about 4 hours to drive to the mountain through Ibadan and about 3.5 hours through Abeokuta. Take a bus going to Iseyin, you can get vehicles going to Iseyin from Lagos, Ibadan and Abeokuta.From Iseyin, take a cab going to Ado-Awaye.

Transportation cost

Roughly N3,000 from Lagos to Ado-Awaye.

Entrance Fee

It cost N1,000 to access the attraction.

Tour-Guide: AvailableTour-guide contact: WASIU : +234 803 780 2807



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THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE HIKING

- It's quite a tedious hike maybe not as tedious as some mountains you've hiked before but trust me it requires strength and energy to hike this Rocky Mountain
- Don't go swimming in the lake: it's rumored that anyone that does will never return to planet earth and such people will be welcomed in the afterlife.
- The depth of the water is unknown so kindly restrict the urge to deep your legs.
- You will need something like a stick to support yourself while going up. Make sure you ask your guide to get you one. They always have them.
- Pack light: hiking this mountain is enough exercise, make sure you don't have heavy things on you. Go as light as possible.

THINGS TO DO HERE

- This is the best place to enjoy nature at its peak in the western part of Nigeria.
- The greenery and the scenery is a breath of fresh air.
- Take your time on the hill to relax, unwind and enjoy alone time for yourself.
- You'll appreciate nature more, experiencing Adoawaye.
IDERE HILLS

It is situated in Idere town, Ibarapa Central Local government. It was once a settlement with an advantage of protection from intruders especially during wars as there are only few entry points to the town on the rock. Two kings (obas) reigned there before relocating the township to the foothill and other places called Idere today. Part of Idere Hills is being used for farming - cocoa, tomatoes etc but the whole terrain is being planned to become world class tourist sites.

LOCATION

IDERE, IBARAPA LOCAL GOVERNMENT, OYO STATE.

It is approximately 2 hours drive from Ibadan and less than an hour drive from Abeokuta.

ENTRANCE FEE N500

TOUR GUIDE FEE

N1,000

it is bergainable depending on the amount of people





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THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE HIKING

- The hike to the Summit of the hills is about 4 hours give or take.
- It's an easy but long climb.
- If you're going from Lagos, going through Abeokuta is a shorter route than going through Ibadan, Oyo State.
- If you're going from Ibadan, you can get vehicles from Ogunpa and Eleyele. You won't get a straight vehicle to Idere, you'd have to get to Igbo-Ora first, then take a cab to Idere.
- Wear super comfortable shoes for grip and clothes preferably long sleeves because of the bushes around.
- The hike could take the whole day depending on your speed.
- Take water to stay hydrated because you'd definitely get thirsty.

Tour guide contact: Phone Number: 08035367918 Email: tojumhospitality2017@gmail.com

THINGS TO DO HERE

Enjoy the best of nature from the top peak of IDERE hills. it's a beauty to behold.

The greenery and the scenery is a breath of fresh air.

Have a swim at the natural pool on the top of the rock

- Listen to the history of the twins cave from the local guides.
- Relax, Unwind and chat with friends i you went with any.

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99 ELEYELE LAKE

Eleyele lake is the only part of Ibadan that provides a form of water transportation to the people of the area.

Few speed boats transport people from Eleyele Alakuta in Apete, Ologuneru and other places at a relatively cheap price. The lake is 125 m above sea level with an average depth of 6.0 m. It is an untapped eco-tourism site but offers personalized boats rides for tourists.



About 15 minutes away from Dugbe a central area in Ibadan.

Accesibility

The river is a stone throw from Eleyele Bustop in the city of Ibadan. It's a bit hidden but can be located by asking people around or using Google maps.



@itznikeh WWW.ALARINKA.COM

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THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE VISITING

- It is majorly used as a means of transportation right now.
- You can get a 30 minutes boat ride for 2k for two people, 4k for 4 people and so on and so forth.
- The minimum ride is for two people so go with someone unless you want to pay the 2k for a solo trip.



Credit: @itz.nikeh





100 ODU'A HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

It is located at the top of Cocoa House, Dugbe Ibadan, the first sky scraper in Nigeria. It is an initiative of the Odu'a Investment company limited and was commissioned for use by Professor Wole Soyinka on the 3rd of April, 2013.It contains Artifacts, instruments, carvings etc and various items of Yoruba history.

LOCATION

24TH FLOOR, COCOA HOUSE, DUGBE, IBADAN.

ENTRANCE FEE

N300

OPENING HOURS

9am-5pm, Mondays to Fridays.

THINGS TO DO HERE

- Learn more about the history and major cultural riches of Nigeria
- Engulf yourself in the Memories of the past section where you get to see items used in the past like gramophones, type writers etc.
- See names, pictures and history of pace setters and people who shaped Yoruba land in the 'Hall of Fame' section.
- Watch old clips of memorable moments in Western Nigeria as far back as 1950 in the Media Viewing Section.
- See the panoramic view of Ibadan from the Varanda of the Museum.

101 TRAVEL WITHIN

This guide won't be of any advantage to you if you haven't fully explored yourself. have you heard the popular saying that goes "Traveling starts within".

You have to be able to love yourself, appreciate yourself. Explore your inner being and all the magic you are created for.

Only then would you want to explore the outside world, to see more beauty that will compliment your being, appreciate other people and things.

Traveling start with you! All the goodness in you that the world needs to see.

"YOU MUST BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD." ~ GANDHI



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Best time to visit Oyo State

Anytime of the year is best to explore the great Oyo state, most attractions are accessible hence why it's one of the most toured states year in year out.

Budget to explore Oyo state

Budget is largely determined by your choice of Accommodation.Other determinant factors are: attractions and transportation around the city which are relatively cheap.With a budget of 10,000- 15,000 is enough to explore the city with transportation inclusive.

Suggestion on Next state to visit from Oyo

Osun State: Osun state is the next close state to Oyo state with about 95.9km which is approximately 2hours drive to the capital of the state Osogbo.



TOP 10 MUST HAVE APPS FOR EVERY TRAVELLER

1: Google Map: You sure needs this in Nigeria 2: Travelstart: Too book cheap flight and hotels 3: Uber/Taxify 4 Trip it : Toplan your travel itinerary

5: Bookings.com: To book cheap hotels.

6:Trip Advisor: To book flight, rental cars ,

7: Airbnb: To book apartments

8: couch surfing: To find locals to stay with

9: Google translate: Helps you translate languages.

10: Hotels.ng: To book for hotels/accommodations.





FINAL REMARK

Woah! | It has been an amazing ride taking you through 1001 tourist attractions in Nigeria and providing you with all the necessary information to help you kickstart your travel journey to all these destinations.

Remember to travel is to be intentional, Be intentional of places you want to go, things you want to see, the kind of experience you wish to have. Only this way will you be self aware of your travel goals and be motivated to go for it. Remember if any of this is too much of a task for you and you need someone to help you get through or plan a well detailed itinerary for you, I am just a message away.

THANK YOU

Hurray! You made it Here!!!!

As a little compensation from me to you for supporting the brand and the 774 Project. I have some gift for you.

> SWIPE TO THE NEXT PAGE TO REDEEM YOUR GIFTS

ONE MORE REQUEST

Before I drop my Ajala pen, I will really appreciate if you can share the last page of this guide on your social media pages and tag me @thattokelady.

I will love to reshare and thank you for supporting the brand personally.

You know I appreciate all your support.

I remain your humble girl, Omotoke a.k..Alarinka of Afrika. And if by any chance you need me, I'm just a text away. love, light and kindness 🎔



<u>@Thattokelady</u>







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I just purchased a copy of my own 101 Travel Destinations by @thattokelady and I stand for Volountourism: Making impact while traveling. A hope for mankind.

