# EXPLORE!

## TRIP NOTES

PRICE GUARANTEE 100% NO SURCHARGES

## Senegal and Gambia River Cruise (SE 2017)

CULTURAL DISCOVERY

TRIPDURATI
13
DAYS

**Tour Style:** Classic
**Tour Pace:** Moderate

**Tour Type:** Small Groups
**Accommodation**
**Grade:** Standard

**Trip Code:** SE

### Trip Highlights - Senegal and Gambia River Cruise

- ✓ Djoudj - One of the most important bird sanctuaries in the world.
- ✓ Gambia River - A two day cruise on the mighty Gambia River through tropical forest, bamboo groves, rice paddies and mangroves.
- ✓ Saloum Delta - Explore the river delta by traditional pirogue through mangroves and aquatic birds.
- ✓ Isle de Goree - A tranquil island rich in history and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- ✓ Fadiout - A charming fishing village entirely constructed with shells.
- ✓ Saint Louis - Visit a 19th century French colonial town by caleche.
- ✓ Wassu Stone Circles - Ancient burial sites and megalithic circles.

### Trip Essentials

| | |
|---|---|
| **Accommodation:** | 5 nights Standard Hotel<br>1 night Simple Guesthouse<br>1 night Simple Rondavels<br>1 night Simple Boat<br>4 nights Standard Rondavels |
| **Included Meals:** | 12 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 6 dinners |
| **Start Point:** | Join trip: Dakar |
| **End Point:** | Trip ends: Dakar |
| **Transport:** | 4WD, Bus, Boat |
| **Countries:** | Senegal, The Gambia |

# Senegal and Gambia River Cruise

On this African adventure we discover two different nations: tropical Gambia and exotic Senegal. We walk through French colonial towns, see prolific birdlife and visit the megalithic stone circles at Wassu. We also explore some of the region's finest wildlife parks, cruise down the Gambia River and venture into the Saloum Delta by traditional pirogue canoe.

## Suitability

We've given each of our tours a comfort rating and a tour pace, walking or cycling grade to give you a general idea about the level of activity on each tour and the standard of accommodation you will be staying in at the end of your day's adventure.

Often you'll stay in different styles of accommodation during your tour; so we make an average rating across the entire tour. For more information on where you'll stay each night, please refer to the day by day tour itinerary.

### Accommodation Grade: Standard

Our mid-range accommodation offers a good level of service often with other amenities such as a restaurant, bar, garden or swimming pool. Generally rooms will be comfortable with en-suite facilities.

### Tour Style: Classic

Packed with adventure, these tours offer inspiring destinations and authentic travel experiences at a reasonable price. Using all kinds of transport and accommodation, we'll take you off the beaten track to discover the true heart of the people and places you visit.

### Tour Pace: Moderate

These moderately paced tours provide some busy days with plenty of experiences to enjoy, as well as time to relax along the way.

# Your trip itinerary

### Tour itinerary notes

While our intention is to adhere to the day-by-day itinerary as printed below, a degree of flexibility is built in. Overnight stops may vary from those suggested.

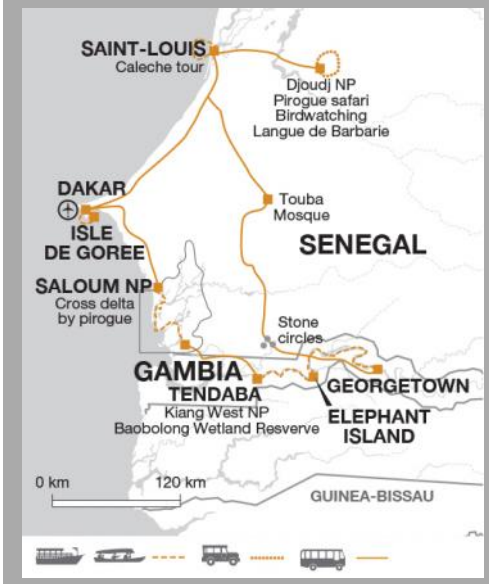
### Your Tour Leader

A Tour Leader is an integral part of any Explore tour and your tour will be led by one of our experienced Tour Leaders who have been handpicked and expertly trained. We believe that our Tour Leaders are the key to the success of our tours; they are passionate travellers who are bursting with first-hand local knowledge which they love to share. Your Tour Leader will also take care of all the planning and organisation throughout your journey. Their passionate approach will make this tour fun and inspiring, bringing the destination to life whether you're travelling alone or with others.

## DAY 1 Join Tour Dakar (Senegal)

Land only customers will join the tour this evening and have a chance to meet your fellow group members and relax while soaking up the local Senegalese ambience.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
**Single Room Available**



**Included Meals:** None

## DAY 2 Ferry to the Island of Goree; Visit this UNESCO World Heritage Site

We begin our tour by taking a ferry to Isle de Goree, a small and peaceful island without any traffic. We will take a walking tour of Isle de Goree, a busy trading centre during the 18th and 19th centuries, which is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The town's architecture may make you feel you have been transported in time to an old-world Mediterranean district, due to the island's charming colonial-style houses, wrought-iron balconies, narrow streets and brightly coloured bougainvillea. Le Castel is situated on a rocky plateau with its fortifications dating back to different periods, and offers good views across to Dakar. Also worth visiting is the Slave House originally built in 1786.

Overnight: **Simple Guesthouse**
**Single Room Available**

**Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 3 Visit the Pink Lake then transfer to St. Louis

This morning we return to the mainland by ferry and drive to Lac Rose - the Pink Lake. This large shallow lagoon is extremely salty and is also renowned for its pink tinge, caused by the high concentrations of minerals in th water. We continue north to St. Louis, a UNESCO World Heritage site for an evening at leisure in this quaint town.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
**Single Room Available**

**Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 4 Djoudj bird reserve and St Louis;- Visit a charming french colonial town

An early start to visit Djoudj National Park, regarded as one of the most important bird reserves in the world. This national park provides the first major water source for migratory birds after their long and gruelling flight over the Sahara desert. We travel by motorised boat along the complex network of channels which lead off the Senegal River. The bird count reaches millions, some species are prevalent such as pelicans - there are as many as 15,000 in the park. We may see them performing an amazing display of synchronised diving for fish and will see a breeding colony. Around three million birds pass through the park annually which includes 400 different species - including herons, white-breasted cormorants, spoonbills, jacanas, Egyptian geese, West African fish eagles and flamingos to name but a few. You may also see crocodile, wild hog, monitor lizard and water python. We return back to St. Louis early afternoon in time for a break. Then mid-afternoon we will explore this marvellous old town by calesh (horse-drawn carriage). Full of 19th century French colonial buildings, this was the first French settlement in Africa and the Headquarters of Senegambia (the term used to describe the whole region). By the late 18th century St Louis was a busy port and trading centre and was inscribed a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2000.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
**Single Room Available**

**Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 5 Explore the Langue de Barbarie by motorised pirogue

Today we plan to visit the Langue de Barbarie National Park, home to water birds such as flamingos, pelicans, cormorants, herons, egrets and ducks. From November to April they are joined by many more migratory birds from Europe. The afternoon is left free for you to follow your own interests.

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
**Single Room Available**

**Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 6 Drive to Georgetown (Gambia) via Touba Mosque

Early this morning we head to the Gambia. En route we stop to view the astounding mosque in Touba, the sacred focus of the Mouride Islamic brotherhood. Their founder Amadou Bamba, Senegal's most famous and influential 'marabout' (holy man), is buried here and pilgrims visit the town all year round. We try to pass through here on a Friday when the Mosque is busy with worshippers. Continuing through the town of Kaolack we enter the Gambia and head east following the route of the river to our night's accommodation near Georgetown which was an important administrative centre during the colonial period. It may be possible to experience local traditional dancing after dinner.

Overnight: **Simple Rondavels**
**Your own tent available**

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

## DAY 7 Cruise along the Gambia River; visit to Wassau Stone Circles

The Gambia River flows along the entire length of the country for 300 miles from east to west into the Atlantic Ocean. The banks of the river have been inhabited since 2000 BC and slave ships once travelled along its course exporting slaves. We spend the next two days on this mighty waterway, cruising downstream in a converted groundnut boat, passing tropical forest, bamboo groves, rice paddies and mangrove swamps. Amongst the varied fauna present in this area are monkeys, hippos, crocodiles and of course a great number of bird species. During this day we will visit the Wassu Stone Circles by bush taxi. There are several circles each consisting of about 10 to 24, reddish-brown stones between one and 2.5m high and weighing several tons. These were once burial sites dating back to 500 to 1000 AD, however very little is known about the people who were buried here and the stones still present a mystery to archaeologists. We will stay 1 night on board a motor cruiser. Facilities on board are simple with a western-style WC, a small kitchen and bar. At night we sleep on the upper deck on mattresses, whilst during the day you can relax on the upper deck in the sun or on the lower deck with seating under the shade.

Overnight: **Simple Boat**

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 8 Cruise to Tendaba

Today we continue our gentle cruise downstream enjoying the flora and wildlife of the river banks as we go. We will arrive in the small settlement of Tendaba on the Gambia's south bank at the end of our cruise. On arrival we leave our boat and check in to our accommodation for the next two nights on the shores of the Gambia River. Whilst staying at Tendaba you may have the opportunity to visit a local school in a nearby village.

Overnight: **Standard Rondavels**
**Single Room Available**

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 9 At Tendaba; visits to Kiang West and Bao Bolong Wetland Reserves

This morning we take a game drive in Kiang West National Park. One of the largest protected areas in Gambia it boasts the largest and most diverse animal population in the country among is mangrove, grass and woodland. During our time here we look out for baboons, colobus monkeys, warthog, marsh mongoose and bushbuck. Later this afternoon we make another excursion to nearby Boa Bolong Wetland Reserve by boat. A tributary of the Gambia River, the Bao Bolong is most famous for its birdlife with more than 250 species in the area, including the impressive martial eagle and the bateleur.

Overnight: **Standard Rondavels**
**Single Room Available**

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 10 Drive to Saloum Delta (Senegal)

Today we cross the river once more to Farafenni and return to Senegal. Continuing via Kerewan and Keur Saloum we arrive in Toubakouta to check into our accommodation. The afternoon is at your leisure to relax or explore the local area. This evening you may wish to join other guests to visit the park on an optional boat excursion.

Overnight: **Standard Rondavels**
**Single Room Available**

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 11 Saolum Delta National Park; pirogue trip north through the Delta to Ndagane

This morning we cross the Sine-Saloum Delta by traditional pirogues (motorised canoe) for approximately 4-5 hours. We weave our way through the maze of wide channels, past mangroves, open forests, sand islands and villages built on islands constructed with oyster shells. We may also chance upon pelicans and flamingos. The afternoon is free for relaxation at Ndangane, our destination for tonight.

Overnight: **Standard Rondavels**
**Single Room Available**

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 12 Drive via Fadiout to Dakar

Leaving Saloum Delta National Park this morning, we finally make our way back to Dakar. En-route we visit Fadiout, a fishing village. Built on a small island, many buildings are composed of oyster and clam shells, whilst the inhabitants are both Muslim and Christian and live together peacefully. The Christian and Muslim cemeteries are built on a huge ancient shell mound, and are worth a visit. On arrival in Dakar there should be time to explore this vibrant city

Overnight: **Standard Hotel**
**Single Room Available**

**Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 13 Tour ends in Dakar

The tour ends today in Dakar after breakfast.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast

# Accommodation and Meals

### Accommodation Notes

Be prepared for some basic accommodation in the Gambia with limited availability of electricity and hot water. Please note that some of the roads are in a poor state of repair making journey times unreliable (day 5).

### Food & Drink

Included meals: 12 breakfasts, 5 lunches,6 dinners included in the price of this trip. Please be prepared to pay for non-included meals. Please note that costs for drinks and meals can vary depending on location.

# Budgeting for your Trip

You will need some extra money to cover meals and drinks not included in the trip price, any optional sightseeing, souvenirs and items of a personal nature such as laundry.

### Food

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide.Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

#### Senegal

**Lunch £:** 11.00

**Dinner £:** 22.00

#### The Gambia

**Lunch £:** 3.00

**Dinner £:** 7.00

### Drink

The prices for drinks can vary greatly depending upon location and the prices detailed below are an average guide. In general you would expect that drinks purchased in a supermarket or local bar to be less expensive, whilst drinks in an upmarket bar or restaurant may be more expensive.

#### Senegal

**Bottle of Beer £:** 1.10

**Water £:** 1.60

#### The Gambia

**Bottle of Beer £:** 2.00

**Water £:** 0.80

## Other Sightseeing & Activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations.

Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

## Optional Excursions

Saloum Delta N.P. - Bird watching trip £12.
Ndangane - Calesh Ride £10.

## Tipping - Tour Leader

At your discretion you might also consider tipping your Tour Leader in appreciation of the efficiency and service you receive.

## Tipping - Local Crew

Although entirely voluntary, tipping is a recognized part of life in this region of the world. Some local staff will look to members of the group for personal recognition of particular services provided. In order to make things easier for you, the Tour Leaders may organise a group's tips kitty and if this is the case, they will account for it throughout the tour.
Accordingly, you should allow £25-30 for tipping.

## Foreign Exchange

### Senegal

**ATM Availability:** Only usually days 1, 3 and 4.

**Credit Card Acceptance:** Very limited and cannot be relied on.

**Travellers Cheques:** Although still the safest way to carry money, travellers cheques are difficult to exchange and therefore not recommended.

**Local Currency:** CFA Franc.

**Recommended Currency for Exchange:** Euros cash.

**Where to Exchange:** Your Tour leader will advise you

### The Gambia

**ATM Availability:** Only usually days 1, 3 and 4.

**Credit Card Acceptance:** Very limited and cannot be relied on.

**Travellers Cheques:** Although still the safest way to carry money, travellers cheques are difficult to exchange and therefore not recommended.

**Local Currency:** Dalasi

**Recommended Currency for Exchange:** Euros cash.

# Joining your Trip

## Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

## Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found on our website at www.explore.co.uk, in the tour specific dates and prices section.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer. For more information please refer to https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers.

## Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer please refer to https://www.explore.co.uk/transfers.

## Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

# Important Information

## Travel Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

EXPLORE!
The Adventure Travel Experts

CAMPBELL IRVINE
DIRECT TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel Insurance is essential. If you have not already arranged cover, please contact our recommended Travel Insurance providers www.campbellirvinedirect.com/Explore who offer Travel Insurance specifically designed to cover travel with Explore or call **Campbell Irvine Direct** on Tel: 020 7938 1734

Explore Worldwide is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Campbell Irvine Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

## Travel Aware

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Advice follow the link at www.explore.co.uk/travel-safety
We strongly advise that you register with the FCO to receive updates to the travel advice for your chosen destination. A hard copy of the current FCO Travel Advice for your chosen destination is available by contacting cr@explore.co.uk or 01252 379438.

## Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

## Visa Information

Senegal: Visas are not required for holders of UK passports from 1st May 2015. For all entries into Senegal, you need to have a minimum of 3 months validity on your passport from your entry date into Senegal. All other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

The Gambia: When crossing land borders from Senegal to Gambia an entry stamp is required for all nationalities (unless you already have a valid Gambian visa). The entry stamp fee for British Nationals is GMD3,000 (approximately £60-65). Our Tour Leader will take enough Gambian Dalasi to be able to make this payment for the group and each passenger can then reimburse him the GBP60.00 in sterling if easier. We advise for all passengers to travel with the entry stamp fee in case this charge becomes applicable to other nationalities at short notice.
Visas are required by US and Canadian citizens and should be obtained before departure.
All other nationalities should consult their local embassy or consular office.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

## Vaccinations & Protection

### Senegal

Although not compulsory, we recommend protection against malaria, hepatitis A, diphtheria, tetanus, typhoid, polio and yellow fever. You may also want to take immunisation against meningococcal meningitis. Yellow fever is only compulsory if arriving from an endemic area. Malaria is present in the region so consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria.

### The Gambia

Although not compulsory, we recommend protection against malaria, hepatitis A, diphtheria, tetanus, typhoid, polio and yellow fever. You may also want to take immunisation against meningococcal meningitis. Yellow fever is only compulsory if arriving from an endemic area. Malaria is present in the region so consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria.

# Preparing for your Trip

## Climate

### Senegal

Senegal has a tropical climate with a rainy season between June-October, with more rainfall in the south. Temperatures are in the mid 20s centigrade from November- April and can rise to 35. Humidity is higher and temperatures lower on the coast. Temperatures inland fall at night. Average sunshine hours per day between November- April ranges from 8-10 hrs. The Harmattan is a dry wind which blows from the north, usually from December-February

### The Gambia

Gambia has a tropical climate with a rainy season between June-October, with more rainfall in the south. Temperatures are in the mid 20s centigrade from November- April and can rise to 35. Humidity is higher and temperatures lower on the coast. Temperatures inland fall at night. Average sunshine hours per day between November- April ranges from 8-10 hrs. The Harmattan is a dry wind which blows from the north, usually from December-February

## Clothing

Pack essentially for hot conditions. Light cotton clothing is recommended plus protective headgear in case of strong winds. A light fleece is advisable for cool nights. Long sleeved shirt and trousers help give protection against mosquitoes try avoiding dark colours. A wide-brimmed sun hat is useful for protection during boat trips and sunglasses.
Please note: Senegambia is predominantly Muslim and women will need a headscarf plus a full length skirt or sarong for visiting the mosque in Touba.

## Equipment

Take a sleeping sheet for the Gambia accommodation as it is basic. Sheets and blankets are provided for the river cruise. Binoculars for bird watching and game viewing, a small torch, insect repellent, water bottle and swimwear. A mosquito net may come in useful – many hotels are close to water and although hotels have nets on the windows and over the beds, these are not always 100% effective.

## Footwear

Comfortable shoes and sandals.

## Luggage: On Tour

One main piece of baggage (a soft bag/holdall or rucksack) and a daysac , total allowance: 44lb/20kg. Remember you are expected to carry your own baggage in and out of hotels – so we recommend you pack light.

Luggage allowance on trip: 20kg

# General Information

## Country details

### Senegal

**Population:** 13,711,597

**Size of Country:** 196,723 sq km

**Major Language:** French

**Religion:** Islam, Christian

### The Gambia

**Population:** 1,705,000

**Size of Country:** 10, 380 sq km

**Major Language:** English

**Religion:** Islam

### Electric Supply & Plugs

#### Senegal

2 Pin Round

#### The Gambia

3 Pin Flat

## Why Choose Explore

We've been creating award-winning pioneering adventure holidays for over 30 years, earning the trust of thousands of delighted customers, who feel safe in our hands. Our tour leaders have expert local knowledge and our tours are designed to take you off the beaten track to see the most exotic, inspiring and dramatic places in the world.

- With over 30 years' experience, we are passionate about what we do.
- Pioneering small group adventures, self-guided, private journeys & tailormade holidays.
- Award winning tour leaders who you can trust.
- Responsible travel is and always has been one the driving principles of Explore.

Our adventure holidays are full of exciting things to see and do, exploring in small groups travelling by bus, boat, plane, rickshaw, camel, or any number of unusual forms of transport. Often you will stay in family run hotels and village houses and enjoy authentic local cuisine. In this way, it's easy to discover the true heart of the people and the place you travel to – and make some new friends along the way. Each tour is uniquely different, so please feel free to browse through our tours to see what may whet your appetite.

### Cool Earth

Explore are proud to support Cool Earth in their effort to reduce global carbon dioxide levels through the prevention of deforestation in the South America rainforest. Cool Earth focus on areas in immediate danger of deforestation, supporting local communities to be forest guardians. To date 350,000 acres of rainforest has been protected. Saving rainforest also protects rare animals and plants, allows local forest communities to maintain their way of life, and protects a major source of oxygen and fresh water. When you travel on an Explore holiday we make a donation to Cool Earth that exceeds the impact of our customers flights each year.

### Earth Matters

We are passionate about sustainable travel and work hard to create tours where your holiday delivers real benefits to the local communities. We minimise our impact by travelling in small groups, respecting local cultures, reducing waste and offsetting 100% of the CO2 from our flights.

When you travel with Explore, you are directly contributing to local economies and helping empower the people you meet. We currently support a range of charities and good causes, including: Toilet Twinning (helping to flush away poverty), Lone Buffalo Foundation (a community project based in Laos providing creative skills for young people) and have recently supported women's cooperatives in Borneo and Morocco. We are a member of Tourism Concern's Ethical Tour Operator Group (www.tourismconcern.org.uk) and support their campaign for fair and ethical tourism. We also care passionately about the world's wildlife and actively support and promote the Born Free Organisation and Mahouts Elephant Foundation.

## Booking Your Holiday

### Peace of mind - book with confidence

You can book your Explore holiday with confidence, as all monies paid to us for your trip are fully protected. Explore is a fully bonded tour operator licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and by ABTOT.

The air holiday packages (Tours including flights) that we advertise are ATOL protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's LicenceÂ  granted by the Civil Aviation Authority.Â Our ATOL number is ATOL 2595. In addition, As a member of the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT), Explore has provided a bond to meet the requirements of the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992. Please note that packages booked outside the UK are only protected when purchased directly with Explore.

### Reserving your place

To reserve your place on this tour you will need to check availability on the Explore website or through our dedicated call centre based in the UK where you can. Our tours can fill up quickly so you are advised to book as early as possible. If your chosen date is 'Available' or 'Guaranteed' we will be able to provisionally hold you a space for up to 48 hours.

For Self-Guided holidays and Private Journeys simply choose your date of travel and let us know so we can confirm all ground services.

The easiest way to confirm your booking is through our website. When you are ready to book, we normally require a 10% non-

refundable deposit, but for some holidays this may be more to cover such items as permit fees, internal flights or other non-refundable services. If your travel starts within 60 days of booking, full payment will be required at the time of booking

## 100% No Surcharge Guarantee

The price paid for our holidays is no longer subject to change. Once booked and confirmed we will guarantee the price you pay will not increase, whatever the circumstances. You will not be approached to pay fuel surcharges unlike the vast majority of other adventure tour operators. The price guarantee applies to all new bookings departing between 1st January 2016 and 31st December 2017.

## Trip Itinerary Versions

Itinerary details may vary depending on departure date and alternative itineraries for this tour may exist. Please refer to the dates and prices page on our website to check which itinerary operates on each departure date.

Please ensure that you have an up-to-date copy of these tour notes immediately before you travel, as from time to time our itineraries may be amended, either for operational reasons or in response to feedback from customers. You will be informed of any major changes to your tour but small changes may just be added to these tour notes.

Please note: 2017 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing in 2017. 2018/19 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing from 1st January to 31st December 2018.

These trip notes were printed on 28/06/2017 07:10:04