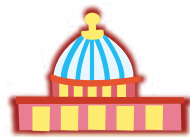
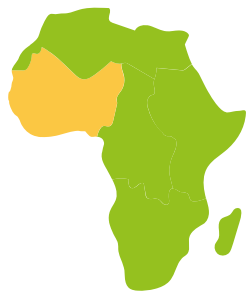




DISCOVER WEST AFRICA



THE BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF PEACE IN YAMO USSOUKRO

The Basilica is inspired by the Basilica of Saint Peter in Vatican City and was commissioned by the former President Félix Houphouët-Boigny. It is also located in his birthplace, Yamoussoukro. This replica is 20 meters taller than the original one in Vatican City.



SIERRA LEONE

Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, was founded in the 18th century to resettle freed slaves and Black Loyalists who supported the British during the American Revolution. The city became a symbol of promised freedom for many Blacks.



CESÁRIA ÉVORA

Évora was a world-famous singer. Her signature song "Sodade" was a huge success! Nicknamed the "Barefoot Diva" for her simplicity, she often performed without shoes.



THE TUAREG PEOPLE

The Tuareg people are a semi-nomadic people who live in the Sahara. They are mainly located in Niger, Algeria, Libya, and Mali. They are often called the "Blue people" because of the indigo they use to dye their clothes.



THOMAS SANKARA

Nicknamed the African "Che Guevara", Sankara was famous for his progressive and anti-imperialist ideas. He led Burkina Faso until his assassination in 1987. He also renamed the country (formerly called "Upper Volta") Burkina Faso, meaning "the land of upright men" in Dioula (a language of the Mande language family spoken in Burkina Faso).



BAOBAB TREES

The baobab tree is a national symbol associated with life and death. It plays an important role in Senegalese tradition and is used for biodiversity conservation. However, baobab trees are becoming endangered due to deforestation.



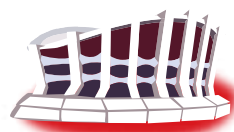
THE NANA BENZ

The Nana Benz were wax print female traders. Wax print is a highly sought-after colorful fabric in Africa. The Nana Benz dominated much of the textile market in the 1970s and 1980s. As a symbol of their wealth, they often liked to drive Mercedes-Benz cars.



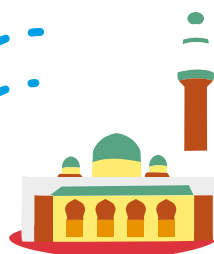
EYE OF THE SAHARA OR THE RICHAT STRUCTURE

A remarkable wonder lies in the heart of the desert! It is known as the Eye of the Sahara. Scientists believe that the Eye of the Sahara was shaped over millions of years through a series of geological processes, followed by gradual erosion. The eye of the Sahara resembles a bullseye when viewed from above.



NATIONAL ART THEATRE

The theatre is a national symbol in Nigeria. It is Nigeria's primary center for the performing arts. It is also renowned for training actors who have become famous in Nollywood (the film industry in Nigeria).



THE GRAND MOSQUE OF NIAMEY

This mosque was built in 1970 with the financial support of Libya. It is a very important cultural and religious symbol. It is also one of the largest mosques in the West African region.



THE CANOES OF THE LEBOU PEOPLE

These canoes are simply vessels that are built using the ancestral techniques of the Lebou people, an ethnic group in Senegal. They use them for fishing in the Atlantic coastal waters, west of Africa.



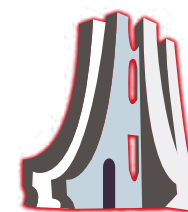
LIBERIA

Founded in 1822, Liberia was a colony created to resettle mostly freed slaves from the United States who wished to return to Africa. It declared its independence in 1847 and for almost a century remained one of Africa's few free states, alongside Ethiopia.



THE DAHOMEY AMAZONS

The Amazons were formidable warriors trained from childhood to defend the Kingdom of Dahomey (now Benin). They played a crucial role in the expansion of the Dahomey Kingdom until the late 19th century.



KWAME NKUMAH MAUSOLEUM

This memorial complex was built in 1992 in memory of Kwame Nkrumah, the first president of Ghana. He was a fervent advocate of African unity and Pan-Africanism. Nkrumah played a crucial role in Ghana's independence movement.



DJINGAREYBER MOSQUE

This immense mosque is made entirely of earth plus organic materials such as fiber, straw, and wood. It is a major place of worship and a symbol of Islamic architecture in West Africa. Its central minaret is very tall and is a landmark of the historic city of Timbuktu.



CHINGUETTI

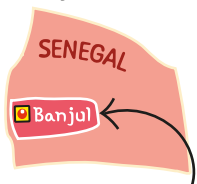
Founded in the 13th century, the city of Chinguetti was famous for its many private libraries containing ancient manuscripts and Islamic religious texts. However, the site is slowly becoming endangered due to the rapidly expanding Sahara Desert. The situation is also worsened by climate change.





FOUTA DJALLON

It is a mountainous region consisting of elevated plateaus and deep valleys. Additionally, it serves as the source of many rivers in Guinea.



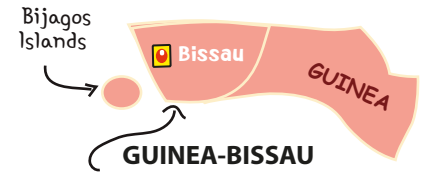
THE GAMBIA

The Gambia is the smallest country on the African continent, with a land area of approximately 11,300 km². It is almost an enclave of Senegal. The Gambia River runs through the entire country, offering a scenic view of the lush landscape, which is rich in ecological diversity.



CHINUA ACHEBE

Achebe was a writer and poet. He is known as one of the pioneers of modern African literature thanks to his first novel, "Things Fall Apart." His works are studied in schools across Africa.



GUINEA-BISSAU

In Guinea-Bissau, you will find the Bijagos Islands, inhabited by an indigenous people called the Bijagos. They are known for their resistance to Portuguese colonization in the 16th and 17th centuries and for their matriarchal culture.

DISCOVER NORTH AFRICA



HASSAN TOWER

The Hassan Tower is a famous national symbol of Morocco. The minaret was built in Rabat in the 12th century and was meant to be part of the world's largest mosque. However, construction works stopped in 1199 because Sultan Yacoub El-Mansour, who started it, passed away.



HASSAN II MOSQUE

Partially built over the ocean, the Hassan II Mosque stands as one of the world's largest mosques! It features three main aisles that remind one of a cathedral. It also has balconies reminiscent of a synagogue and faience inspired by the Arab-Islamic and Andalusian style.



THE PYRAMIDS

In ancient Egypt, pyramids were most likely built as tombs for Egyptian pharaohs. The first pyramid was erected 4,700 years ago. The most famous ones, such as Khufu, Khafre, and Menkaure, are located in Giza.



TIMGAD

Dubbed the "Pompeii of North Africa", Timgad is an ancient Roman city that was prosperous in its day. If you ever visit this city, you will be amazed by the well-preserved ruins, which are over 2000 years old.



THE WEAVERS

The Weavers of the town of Timimoun are renowned for their ancestral skills in the textile industry, particularly in the weaving of Berber carpets. These women, who come from humble backgrounds, create unique handmade pieces.



THE GREAT MOSQUE OF KAIROUAN

This is one of the oldest mosques in the Islamic world. Construction began in the 7th century, but over the centuries, extensive works and renovations have been carried out to give it its current look.



HOGGAR MOUNTAINS

The Hoggar Mountains are a highland region located in the Sahara Desert. Its highest peak stands at more than 3,000 meters above sea level. The mountains offer a spectacular view of vast plateaus and volcanic fields. Also, did you know that the highest mountain peak in Algeria, Mount Tahat, is located in the Hoggar Mountains?



MINT TEA

Moroccan mint tea is an important drink in Morocco. It is usually served in small glasses at any time of the day or night.



ZELLIGE

Zellige is a popular form of art in Morocco. It involves assembling small ceramic pieces to create mosaics. These mosaics are commonly used to adorn walls in palaces, mosques, and mausoleums.



LEPTIS MAGNA

Leptis Magna was a Roman city located on the Mediterranean coast of Libya. Today, it is a major archaeological site that contains monuments that bear witness to the Roman culture that once flourished in North Africa.



HIEROGLYPHS

This is a form of writing used by ancient Egyptians to represent their language. Hieroglyphs are over 5000 years old. The meaning of hieroglyphs remained a mystery until 1822 when French Egyptologist, Champollion, was able to decipher the Rosetta Stone. This stone is a stele of granodiorite that contains a decree written in three types of writings.



Many thanks to all our friends who helped us make this booklet.



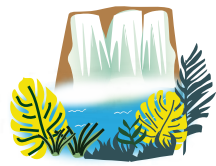


DISCOVER CENTRAL AFRICA



TIBESTI MOUNTAINS

The Tibesti Mountains are home to the Emi Koussi, the highest summit in Chad and in the Sahara. It reaches an altitude of 3,415 meters.



BOALI FALLS

Boali Falls are a major tourist attraction in the Central African Republic (CAR). These falls form on the M'Baré River. Several hydroelectric dams were built near the Boali Falls to provide electricity to surrounding cities and the capital city of Bangui.



SANGO LANGUAGE

Since 1963, the official language of the Central African Republic (CAR) has been Sango. This sets CAR apart from many African countries that mostly use colonial official languages.



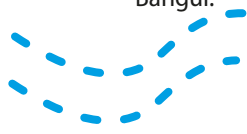
LAKE CHAD

This is one of the largest lakes in Africa. It is shallow, but it is recommended to travel by canoe due to its marshy nature. During periods of severe drought, certain areas can even be crossed on foot. However, due to the effects of climate change, Lake Chad has shrunk in size.



SÃO TOMÉ ET PRÍNCIPE

São Tomé and Príncipe is an archipelago situated in the Gulf of Guinea. The country is composed of two islands, São Tomé and Príncipe. It is renowned for its biodiversity, cocoa plantations, and tropical climate.



THE REUNIFICATION MONUMENT

This monument celebrates the 1961 reunification of Francophone and Anglophone Cameroon. The tower has two serpents that merge at the top, symbolizing the union of two separate regions into one country.



THE MBORORO

They are nomadic pastoralists. They move primarily around West Africa and Central Africa. They are known for their great beauty.



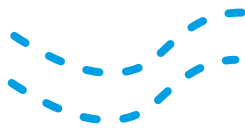
BONOBO

The Bonobo is a primate endemic to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). It is considered the closest cousin of humans and is known for its peaceful nature. However, it is becoming an endangered species.



ELEPHANT MASKS

Elephant Masks are worn by the royal class of the Bamileke during cultural ceremonies and rituals. The Bamileke people inhabit the Western region of Cameroon and are known for their attachment to their ancestral traditions and their entrepreneurial spirit.



EQUATORIAL GUINEA

This small country consists of a mainland and an insular region. Its capital, Malabo, is located on Bioko Island. It is one of the main oil producers of Sub-Saharan Africa and has three official languages: Spanish, French, and Portuguese.



THE TOUMAÏ SKULL

The Toumaï skull was discovered in 2001 in the Djurab Desert. It is the skull of a hominin from about 7 million years ago. This fossil is thought to be the oldest fossil of the human family.



THE GREY PARROT

Known for its grey-colored plumage, this parrot is often found in tropical rainforests. It plays a vital pollinating role in the forests, thus contributing to the balance of the ecosystem. Some people keep the Grey parrot as a pet because it is intelligent, curious, and very talkative.



NYIRAGONGO VOLCANO

Nyiragongo is an active volcano that houses the world's largest liquid lava pool! As soon as you leave the city of Goma, the volcano can easily be seen.



THE DIOSSO GORGE

Over time, the Diosso River formed a natural site filled with tall cliffs and many rock formations. The gorge offers a beautiful landscape made up of impressive rock walls and lush vegetation.



BRAZZAVILLE AND KINSHASA

Brazzaville and Kinshasa are the respective capitals of the Republic of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo. They are the two closest capital cities in the world, separated only by the Congo River.





DISCOVER EAST AFRICA



DJIBOUTI

This country has the same name as its capital city, Djibouti. It is known for its cultural diversity, which includes the presence of ethnic groups like the Afar or the Issa people.



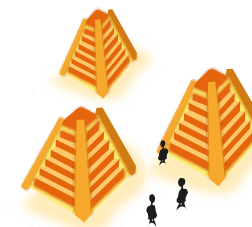
THE MAASAI PEOPLE

The Maasai are a semi-nomadic people in Kenya and Tanzania. They are known for their unique culture, colorful clothing, distinctive jewelry, and their pastoral way of life.



NURUDDIN FARAH

He is one of the most significant and influential writers of his time. In his novels, he explores themes such as identity, exile, politics, and Somali society. He has won multiple international awards for his contributions to literature.



NUBIAN PYRAMIDS

Did you know that Sudan has older and even more pyramids than Egypt? The Nubian pyramids are located in a royal necropolis called Nuri and are linked to the Nubian civilization. The Nubians were one of the earliest ethnic groups to inhabit the Nile River Valley.



COFFEE

Uganda is one of Africa's leading exporters of coffee, thanks to its favorable climate and rich soil. Cotton and sweet potatoes are also cultivated here.



THE COCO DE MER

This is a national symbol. It comes from a native palm tree found on Praslin Island. The Coco de mer is an incredibly rare and protected species. This is the heaviest seed in the world.



THE LAETOLI FOOTPRINTS

Hominin footprints were discovered in Laetoli. They were preserved in volcanic ash from an eruption that dates back nearly 4 million years.



THE MURSI PEOPLE

This ethnic group is known for its unique traditions. Mursi women wear clay lip plates on their lower lips. These plates are believed to ward off evil spirits and are also a sign of beauty and social status.



MOUNT KILIMANJARO

This mountain is the highest mountain in Africa, standing at 5,895 meters above sea level. It consists of three extinct volcanic cones, and its peaks are snow-capped. Unfortunately, the increased snowmelt is now affecting the local ecosystem.



ZANZIBAR

This island is located off the coast of Tanzania and is famous for its spice plantations and heavenly beaches. Its history is very rich with a blend of African, Arab, and Indian influences.



BURUNDI

Burundi is famous for the Ingoma, the country's traditional drum. The Ingoma is a sacred instrument played only by men and is used for songs and dances during traditional ceremonies and important events.



HENNA

Somalia is known for Henna designs, which are a form of temporary tattoos worn on the hands and sometimes feet. These tattoos are made from a paste of dried henna leaves. Henna is often used during important events such as weddings.



RWANDA

Rwanda is endowed with vast forests and mountains, earning it the nickname 'Land of a thousand hills'. Rwandans are known for their kindness and hospitality.



HIPPOPOTAMUSES

South Sudan is a new country that gained independence from Sudan in 2011 through a referendum. It is rich in biodiversity, with the presence of animals such as leopards, elephants, lions, and hippopotamuses.



ERITREA

This country sits on the shores of the Red Sea. Its capital is Asmara, a city known for its well-preserved Italian-style architecture of the colonial era. Eritrea gained independence from Ethiopia in 1993.



THE CASTLE OF EMPEROR FASILIDAS

This remarkable monument was built in the 17th century following the orders of the former Ethiopian emperor, Fasilidas. It is located in the fortified city of Fasil Ghebbi and features several castles influenced by Arab, Indian, and Portuguese building styles.





DISCOVER SOUTHERN AFRICA



NELSON MANDELA

Mandela is a world-famous statesman who led the anti-apartheid movement. He bravely fought to end racial injustice in South Africa and was imprisoned for 27 years. He became the first black president of his country in 1994.



WELWITSCHIA MIRABILIS

This plant grows exclusively in the deserts of Angola and Namibia. It has a short trunk and slow-growing leaves that can reach lengths of up to 4 meters over centuries.



GIANT SABLE ANTELOPE

This antelope is unique and is identified by its black fur and curved horns. It is also the national symbol of Angola. Unfortunately, this species is now endangered due to hunters who seek them for their horns.



NAMIB DESERT

It is the oldest coastal desert in the world, having endured arid conditions for over 50 million years. Tourists visiting the desert can enjoy activities such as hot air balloon rides.



THE HIMBA PEOPLE

The Himba people are known for their distinctive appearance, especially the women who wear smooth braids. They coat their hair with a mixture of butter fat and red ochre powder. The Himba people believe in a sacred fire whose flame connects the living and the ancestors.



THE SAN

The San (also known as Bushmen) are one of the oldest inhabitants of southern Africa. They established their communities about 44,000 years ago. Today, the San people face many challenges, such as the protection of their lands, the preservation of their traditional culture in the face of globalization, and social changes.



COMOROS

The Comoros is an archipelago of four main islands: Grande Comore, Mohéli, Anjouan, and Mayotte (an overseas department of France). Each island has its own culture, traditions, and tourist sites. Moroni, located on Grande Comore Island, is the capital of the Comoros.

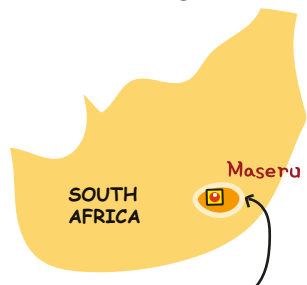


REUNION ISLAND

Réunion is a volcanic island. It's a French territory known for its landscapes including its cirques and the diversity of its people.

MAURITIUS

The dodo was a bird native to the Island of Mauritius, but it is now extinct. The dodo's extinction shows the need for environmental conservation to preserve different species.



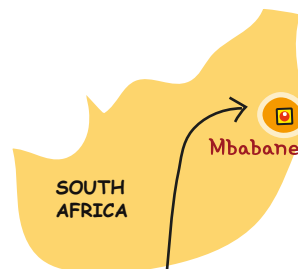
LESOTHO

This small landlocked South African country sits at more than 1400 meters above sea level. It is also referred to as the "Kingdom in the Sky" due to its altitude and its spectacular mountainous landscape. The Kingdom of Lesotho is a parliamentary constitutional monarchy.



THE DHOW

The dhow is a traditional sailing vessel of Arab and Swahili origin, used for fishing, transporting goods, and recreational sailing. The Mozambique dhow is usually characterized by one or two masts, including its triangular sails. These vessels are usually hand-crafted by local artisans using their ancestral knowledge.



ESWATINI

This country is located between South Africa and Mozambique. In 2018, King Mswati III changed the country's name from 'Swaziland' to 'Eswatini', which means 'land of the Swazis' in Swati. The change aimed to foster a national identity and represents a symbolic gesture to break away from the colonial past.



VICTORIA FALLS

Victoria Falls is located on the Zambezi River. It forms the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. Did you know that Zambia and Zimbabwe are the only countries whose names begin with the letter Z?



DIAMONDS

South Africa is one of the world's leading diamond producers. The first diamonds were discovered in 1866, near the town of Kimberley in the Northern Cape province.



LEMURS

They are nocturnal primates native to Madagascar. Lemurs are a fascinating subject of study. Majority of lemur species are female-dominant. This provides some insight into their matriarchal social behavior.



MAURITIUS ISLAND

Lesotho's national symbol is the Mokorotlo. It is a type of straw hat often worn with traditional Sotho clothing. The Mokorotlo is featured on the country's flag and on vehicle license plates.



MALAWI

Malawi is a small landlocked country bordered by Tanzania, Mozambique, and Zambia. It is nicknamed the "Warm heart of Africa" due to the unmatched hospitality of its people. The country is also renowned for Lake Malawi, one of the largest lakes on the African continent.

