

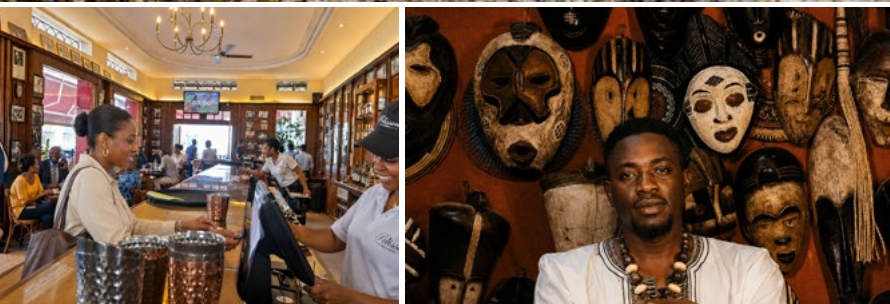
MACHABA WILD

GABON

Est. 2012

ACTIVITIES AND TOURS





LIBREVILLE HERITAGE & CULTURE WALKING TOUR (HALF DAY)

Highlights: St Michael's Church of Nkembo, Stele of Freedom, National Museum of Arts, Rites & Traditions, Les Chocolats Gabonais de Julie, Artisinal Market & Pelisson Boulangerie.

Included: All vehicle transfers, English-speaking guide, all admission fees, chocolate tasting and lunch (including non-alcoholic drinks) at Pelisson.

Cost Per Person:	EUR 180 per person*	Duration:	Approximately 6 Hours
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PONGARA NATIONAL PARK & BIRDING EXPERIENCE (FULL DAY)

Highlights: Pongara National Park, Buggy Excursion, Lunch & Birding Activity

Included: Transfers to/from hotels in Libreville (Sabliere & Centreville), English-speaking guide, private return boat transfers between Libreville and Pointe Denis, buggy excursion from Pointe Denis to Pongara return, bird-watching activity and guide, lunch at Pongara Lodge.

Cost Per Person:	EUR 360 per person**	Duration:	Approximately 8.5 Hours
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BWITI CEREMONY (FULL EVENING)

Highlights: Sundowners, Dinner & Bwiti Ceremony

Included : All vehicle transfers, English-speaking guide, one cocktail at Mystic Bantu, dinner and bwiti ceremony.

Cost Per Person:	EUR 300 per person**	Duration:	Approximately 5.5 Hours
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AKANDA NATIONAL PARK & CAP DES PÈRES COASTAL ESCAPE (FULL DAY)

Highlights: Akanda National Park & Cap des Pères beaches

Included: Transfers to/from hotels in Libreville (Sabliere & Centreville), English-speaking guide, boat excursion from Cap Caravane to Baie de la Mondah with ornithologist guide, Akanda national park fees, lunch at Miondi Restaurant at Cap des Peres, water and soft drinks.

Cost Per Person:	EUR 280 per person**	Duration:	Approximately 9 Hours
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* Libreville walking tour departures are guaranteed with a min 2 pax

** All full day trips and Bwiti Ceremonies are guaranteed with a min 4 pax

To guarantee an activity departure with fewer pax, a surcharge may apply. Contact us for details.



LIBREVILLE HERITAGE & CULTURE WALKING TOUR (HALF DAY)

Discover Gabon's vibrant capital on this guided walking tour through Libreville. Founded in 1849 by formerly enslaved people liberated from a captured slave ship, Libreville means "Free Town", and these origins continue to shape the city's identity.

Begin with a road transfer to **Saint Michael's Church of Nkembo**, renowned for its remarkable wooden columns, intricately carved with biblical scenes and traditional Gabonese imagery. Local legend holds that the carvings were created by a blind artisan, adding to the mystique of this unique fusion of Christian architecture and local artistic tradition.

Continue by vehicle to the **Stele of Freedom**, commemorating the abolition of slavery and the history behind Libreville's founding, before visiting the **National Museum of Arts, Rites and Traditions**. Its collection of ceremonial masks, musical instruments, sculptures and artefacts offers insight into Gabon's diverse cultures, spirituality and craftsmanship.

From the museum, the rest of your morning is spent **on foot** through the heart of Libreville, soaking up the atmosphere of its bustling streets and people watching along the way.

Stop in at **Les Chocolats Gabonais de Julie**, where locally inspired chocolates draw on ingredients and flavours from Gabon's forests. Learn about chocolate production and sample Julie's creations. Continue to the **Artisanal Market**, where stalls showcase Gabonese crafts, carvings, textiles and souvenirs.

The experience concludes at **Pelisson Boulangerie**, a long-standing Libreville institution and popular meeting place. Take a seat on the balcony and watch the capital pass by below while enjoying lunch. It is a relaxed final stop that captures another side of Libreville: social, lively and distinctly local.

Pick-up Times

- Sablière Hotels: 08h00
- Centreville Hotels: 08h25

Drop-off Times

- Centreville Hotels: Approx 13h25
- Sablière Hotels: Approx 14h00



BWITI CEREMONY (FULL EVENING)

Experience one of Gabon's most fascinating cultural and spiritual traditions through an evening combining contemporary creativity, local cuisine and an introduction to the ancient practice of Bwiti.

Begin at **Mystic Bantu**, one of Libreville's most distinctive cultural venues. Set amongst lush gardens and decorated with traditional masks, African artwork and village-inspired architecture, it offers an atmospheric setting for a pre-dinner drink. Sample a Gabon-inspired cocktail, including the famous Iboga Cocktail, alongside creations infused with local fruits, spices and botanicals.

Dinner follows at a popular Libreville restaurant, where Gabonese and French-inspired cuisine may include fresh Atlantic seafood, grilled fish, plantains, cassava, local vegetables and regional specialities.

After dinner, transfer to **Ebando Bwiti Village**, where guests are welcomed by Tatayo (Hugues Poitevin) and members of the local Bwiti community. Originally from France, Tatayo is widely recognised as one of the first Europeans to undergo full Bwiti initiation and has spent decades living in Gabon and studying the tradition.

More than a religion, Bwiti is a philosophy and initiation system exploring the relationship between the living, ancestors and the natural world. Ancestor veneration lies at its heart, while the forest is viewed as a source of wisdom, healing and spiritual power.

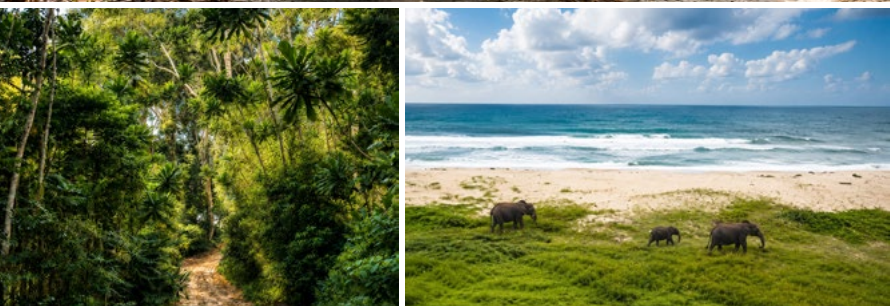
During the evening, observe elements of a **traditional Bwiti ceremony**, including sacred music, drumming, dance, ceremonial dress and explanations of the symbols and beliefs underpinning this uniquely Gabonese tradition. It is a rare opportunity to engage with a living cultural heritage and gain deeper insight into the enduring connections between people, ancestors and the forest.

Pick-up Times:

- **Sablière Hotels:** 18h30
- **Centreville Hotels:** 18h00

Drop-off Times:

- **Sablière Hotels:** Approximately 23h10
- **Centreville Hotels:** Approximately 23h30



PONGARA NATIONAL PARK & BIRDING EXPERIENCE (FULL DAY)

Escape the city and discover one of Gabon's most accessible wilderness areas on a day excursion to Pongara National Park, across the Gabon Estuary from Libreville. Combining a scenic boat journey, wildlife viewing, forest birding and lunch overlooking the Atlantic, this experience offers a fascinating introduction to Gabon's biodiversity.

Following hotel pick-ups, transfer by private boat across the estuary to **Pointe Denis** (approx 20 mins), before continuing by buggy through Pongara's forests, savannas and coastal habitats. This one-hour journey offers opportunities to spot terrestrial wildlife, with possible sightings of forest buffalo, red river hog, duiker, monkeys and reptiles. The mosaic of forest, grassland and wetland provides a glimpse into the ecosystems that make Gabon one of Africa's most intact wilderness destinations.

At Pongara, join local naturalist **François Boussamba**, one of Gabon's respected birding guides. Known for his knowledge of the country's forests and protected areas, François has guided in Pongara, Akanda and Mondah Forest for many years, identifying species by sight and sound while sharing insights into forest ecology.

The guided walk explores rich forest habitats supporting diverse Central African birdlife. Regularly encountered groups include hornbills, kingfishers, bee-eaters, parrots, sunbirds, bulbuls and weavers, while more elusive forest species may reward keen birders.

Following the walk, enjoy **lunch at Pongara Lodge** overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and the park's pristine beaches. From July to mid-August, humpback whales may occasionally be seen offshore, with dedicated whale-watching boat trips available (whale watching at additional cost). From October to March, Pongara's beaches become important nesting grounds for leatherback turtles, although viewing requires an overnight stay and is not included on the day trip.

After lunch, return by buggy to Pointe Denis, followed by the boat crossing to Libreville and onward hotel transfers.

Pick-up Times:

- **Sablière Hotels:** 07h00
- **Centreville Hotels:** 07h45

Drop-off Times:

- **Centreville Hotels:** Approximately 14h55
- **Sablière Hotels:** Approximately 15h30



AKANDA NATIONAL PARK & CAP DES PÈRES COASTAL ESCAPE (FULL DAY)

Located just north of Libreville, **Akanda National Park** protects one of Central Africa's most important coastal wetland systems. Its mangrove forests, mudflats, tidal channels and estuaries form part of the internationally recognised Ramsar wetlands of the Gabon Estuary and make Akanda one of the country's premier birding destinations.

The morning starts with a 1hr road transfer from Libreville to **Cap Caravane**. From here explore the spectacular waterways of **Baie de la Mondah** by boat with specialist bird guide **François Boussamba**, one of Gabon's most experienced ornithologists. During the 2.5-hour cruise through mangrove-lined channels and estuaries, guests have excellent opportunities to observe Akanda's rich birdlife.

Regular sightings include **Western Reef Heron**, **Little and Great Egret**, **Grey and Striated Heron**, **African Sacred Ibis**, **Pink-backed Pelican**, **African Fish Eagle**, **Pied and Blue-breasted Kingfisher**, **Osprey**, together with numerous terns, waders and migratory shorebirds. The mangroves also provide an important nursery for fish and marine life, while the surrounding forests support monkeys, reptiles and diverse plant life.

Following the boat excursion, continue by road to **Cap des Pères** for lunch at **Miondi Restaurant**, a relaxed beachfront venue overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and renowned for its fresh seafood and laid-back atmosphere.

The afternoon is spent at leisure on the nearby beaches, with time to stroll the shoreline, relax beneath the palms or simply enjoy the peaceful coastal scenery before returning to Libreville.

Combining exceptional birdlife, pristine mangrove ecosystems and a relaxing coastal setting, this excursion offers one of Gabon's most rewarding and accessible nature experiences.

Pick-up Times:

- Centreville Hotels: 07h30
- Sablière Hotels: 08h00

Drop-off Times:

- Sablière Hotels: Approximately 16h05
- Centreville Hotels: Approximately 16h30