

TANONGOU, Ethnics close to waterfalls, and a national park

The splendid waterfalls of the Tanongou village are safeguarded by ethnics of Gourmantché and Waama. Wildlife, Mounts, landscapes, and cultures constitute the varied Ecotourism offer of these communities of Tanongou.

ECO-TRIP 1: THE MOUNTAIN HIKE

Have 4 to 6 hours of walking through mountains, plains and pans. For this hike, you have 10 hours with a picnic at the end. There is a nocturnal hike possibility with camping ornamented of cultural evening (tales, traditional meals) at the Kayarga village behind mountains.

ECO-TRIP 2: LAZING AT THE WATERFALLS

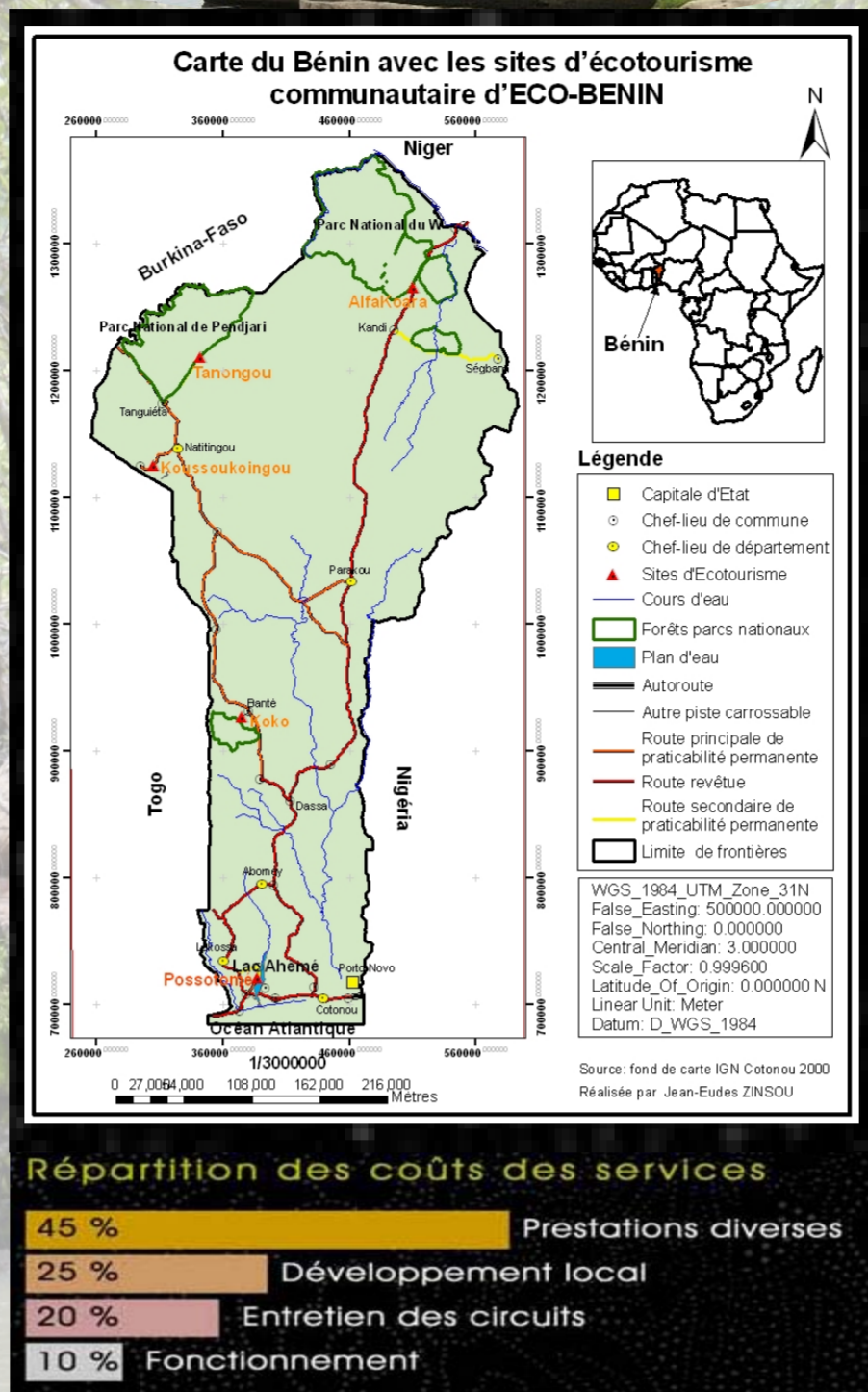
Discovering of the origin of the 3 waterfalls, you will be discovering mountain vegetation and fauna (monkeys, bats in caves, etc).

ECO-TRIP 3: THE VILLAGE ECO-TRIP

Experience the daily life in Tanongou village watching attics, traditional millstone, women vegetables garden, local architectures, handicraft activities of populations while meeting different ethnic groups. End up your trip by watching the sunset with panoramic view of the village and the savanna at the Bori pool surrounded by rapacious birds.



Carbon offset program: Planting of endogenous tree species with multiple use (baobab, Parkia biglobosa, shea nut tree, Blighia sapida). Planting of raffia trees
Related services: Safari in the Pendjari National Park - local food – Center of handicraft and traditional dances - bathing at the waterfalls of Tanongou.
Actions under preparation: home stay, promotion of the moringa tree planting.



POSSOTOMÉ, Thermal springs in authentic fishermen villages around Aheme Lake ...

ECO-TRIP 1: TRADITIONS AND VODOO CULTURE

Have a complete immersion in “voodoo culture” during this tour where the local guide will tell you about divinities that protect the village from bad spirits. It is 3 hours walking along the lake and the sacred forests to discover the voodoo divinities and traditions, their rituals and significances; while learning about plants secrets you will visit the fishers’ village. Let’s go to the nature heart to be in the heart of the culture!

ECO-TRIP 2: ON WATER CURRENT

After an earlier breakfast, you will start the “senses of water” tour for 3 hours. From your dugout, you will observe fishermen casting their nets to discover their specific techniques. On the quiet waters of the Ahémé Lake, have interesting moment of bathing, training and knowledge of water divinities and fishing techniques to end up by cooking the “dakouin”, the fishers’ meal. Wake up your fishing instincts!

ECO-TRIP 3: THE ROAD OF CRAFTSMEN

Enjoy a half-day of bicycle or walking to discover the richness of the local handicraft, with the ending point at the village of potters, Sè. A tour rich in exchanges and discovery!

ECO-TRIP 4: EFFUSION OF SENSES

2 hours walking to learn the importance of the traditional healing in the common life and the utilization of plants. End up your tour by preparing and tasting an invigorating infusion. Make vibrate your senses!



Carbon offset program: Contribute to the objective of a million mangrove trees planting on the horizon 2010 at Ahémé Lake. Contribute to the rehabilitation of sacred forests for Mona and Green monkeys conservation.
Related services: Camping on the lake beach - local food - village Camp - shops of handicraft and traditional dances.
Actions under preparation: Establishment of a monkey sanctuary – eco-lodges building - Rehabilitation of a village farm - construction of a restaurant on stilt



ALFAKOARA,

Elephants cohabiting with communities near a national park
Southern entry of the Park “W”, Alfakoara, a small village where populations are cohabiting with elephants of the Park “W”/Benin since the night of times.

ECO-TRIP 1: ON THE TRACK OF ELEPHANTS

Elephants of West Africa give you appointment at the pool of Alfakoara. From the observatories, admire the animals taking their baths or walking through picturesque vegetation offered by the periphery of the park “W”/Benin to make you feeling in the jungle.

ECO-TRIP 2: THE SECRETS OF AN OURO

Hike of 2 hours through the village to meet and exchange with the Mokollé and Peuhl of Alfakoara on their life and their activities. Learn the last Peuhl recipe of cooking the local cheese. You have the choice of one night in a family to go very early for cattle grazing search.

ECO-TRIP 3: TCHOKA, THE LAST MOKOLLÉ VILLAGE,

Have one hour half walking through Tchoka village to discover the Mokollé culture, the process of king enthronement and divinities which intervene in the life of local communities. The great singers of the village might initiate you to the traditional violin.



Carbon offset program: Planting of endogenous species with multiple use (tamarind; Parkia biglobosa, shea nut tree). Installation of solar panels
Related services: Safari in the Park “W” - village Camp - local food - Shops of handicraft and traditional dances -
Actions under preparation: Construction of a camping in the village – Home stay – establishment of an eco-museum.



Working for Nature and Communities Welfare



Ecotourism & ecodevelopment

Mission?

To ensure better living standards of communities at local and national level through ecotourism and eco-development promotion as a sustainable management of natural resources

Why?

Working to impulse the process of the local development with the quest of the ability, the well-doing, and the well-living necessary to guarantee the natural resources preservation while creating the added value for the local population

How?

- By providing the sound scientific information necessary for implementing sustainable conservation programs;
- By working with rural communities and local landowners to set up sound ecotourism projects for the mutual benefit of both people and wildlife;
- By providing communities with the skills necessary for the ecotourism planning and management;
- By supporting the development of human and institutional capacity for applied conservation research within the target regions;
- By promoting online marketing of local community-based destinations;
- By developing tools for the assessment and certification of ecotourism sites;
- By social mobilization, training and development of volunteering;
- By organizing and coordinating responsible ecotourism tours.



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KOUSSOUKOINGOU, Communities and mountains,

On the flanks of the mountainous chain of Atacora, is Koussoukoingou village. The exceptional architecture of houses (Tata Somba) still remains a mark of a community tied to the old beliefs and the equity.

ECO-TRIP 1: MYSTERY AND SPLENDORS OF THE TATCHIENTAS

At the heart of the village, discover of Tata Somba houses and their multiple function, 2 hours of visit to understand the fashion of life of the Otammari people and their intelligent techniques of houses building.

ECO-TRIP 2: SAVANNAS AND CULTURES OF THE SOMBA LAND

From the plain to the pothole on the immemorial trail, discover with surprise the landscapes enchantresses and the daily life of women in that man’s world. Prepare the shea nut butter or the Tchouk that you will have all leisure to taste.

Eco-trip 3: ON THE GERMAN COLONIAL ROAD

History and the culture are below every stone all along this trail! Appreciate the knowledge and the ability of the ancients who constructed the road joining several townships of the Atacora region!



Carbon offset program: Promotion of the domestic forestry. Installation of solar panels - rehabilitation of mountain forests and riverside forests
Related services: Lodging in Tata Somba - local food - Kiosk of handicraft products sale
Actions under preparation: Building of an eco-lodge - Promotion of the biologic vegetable growing – Establishment of modern distribution system of drinking water - Creation of a center of art.