



2026
TOGO+
BENIN

AFRICAN AMERICAN TRAVELERS



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MEET THE TEAM



Lawrence McLean

**CEO/FOUNDER OF AAT
TRIP HOST**

Lawrence McLean developed the concept of AAT in 2012, as a result of the constant let down of friends backing out of travel plans, or simply not sharing his interest in traveling any further than the Caribbean. He started the group, African American Travelers of Philadelphia, followed by another chapter in New York, on meetup.com. Since, he has led thousands from around the country, on the most epic, unforgettable, international tours. AAT's groups have perused six continents, including its, signature, annual NYE in Dubai experience, and taking travelers "Home for the Holidays" to the beautiful motherland, Africa, year after year. According to "Madame Noir" Lawrence has been recognized as one of the three US entrepreneurs who is changing the perception of travel to Africa!



Andrea McLean

**SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGER
HOST ASSISTANT**

Andrea McLean is known for traveling with style, She has worked in customer service and sales for many years, mastering 60-second pitches since the spunky age of 6! She is focused on customer satisfaction, engagement, and bringing a smile to our travelers faces. Some believe that she may have been a comedian in her past life. Whenever she is around , there is always laughter.



William McLean

**SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGER
HOST ASSISTANT**


William Mclean is our newest addition to the team. William is currently in college majoring in business acquiring relevant skills that will not only enhance your traveling experience with African American Travelers but ensure that your experience is our top priority. William loves building connections and meeting new people, as our entire team is incredibly eager to present our customers with the opportunity to develop lifelong friendships and memories as that will last forever.

“Great things in business are never done by one person. They’re done by a team of people.”

– Steve Jobs

THE ITINERARY

SAT, JANUARY 3rd

 **USA → TOGO**

ARRIVE IN LOME, TOGO



TOGO HOTEL
3:00 PM CHECK IN

SUN, JANUARY 4th



TOGO TOUR

3:00 PM DEPART FOR NATIONAL MUSEUM
& INDEPENDENCE SQUARE

6:00 PM RETURN TO HOTEL

MON, JANUARY 5th



HEAD TO BENIN

8:00 AM DEPART FOR BENIN / GANVIE VILLAGE

5:00 PM CHECK INTO HOTEL

THE ITINERARY

TUES, JANUARY 6th



TOUR OF PORT NOVO & BLACK RIVER

8:00 AM DEPART FOR TOUR

5:00 PM CHECK INTO HOTEL

WED, JANUARY 7th



TOUR OF OUIDAH

1:00 PM DEPART FOR OUIDAH TOUR
• Sacred Forest
• Fire dance

5:00 PM CHECK INTO BENIN HOTEL

THURS, JANUARY 8th



VIP ACCESS TO VODUN

8:00 PM DEPART FOR VODUN FESTIVAL

12:00 AM RETURN TO HOTEL

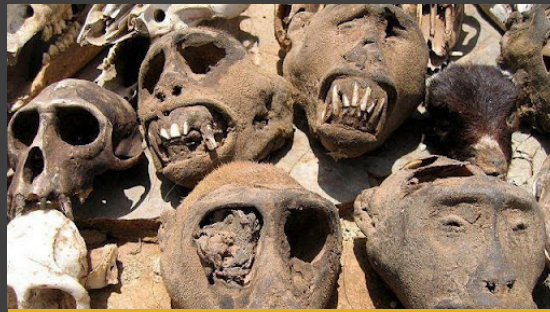
THE ITINERARY

FRI, JANUARY 9th



BENIN HOTEL

12:00 PM CHECK OUT/TRANSFER TO HOTEL



Fetish market in Akodessewa

Togo's capital city of Lomé is the birthplace of the largest Voodoo market in the world – a kind of super supply store for fetishes, charms and anything else one might need for a ritual. The Akodessewa Fetish Market, or Marche des Feticheurs, is a place where you can find anything from leopard heads and human skulls to Vodou (voodoo) priests who bless and create fetishes or predict the future and make medicines to heal whatever ails you.

Though many people think of Haiti as Voodoo's biggest stronghold, the religion originated in West Africa. Vodoun is the official religion of neighboring Benin and is still the largest religion in the area, which is obvious given that the outdoor market's location is in the heart of Togo's capital. Although the market is owned and run by Beninese. The Akodessewa Fetish Market is a mecca to local practitioners and they travel there from all over the African continent. Many believers view the Marche des Feticheurs as a kind of hospital or pharmacy – it is the place you go when you either cannot afford traditional treatment or traditional treatment has failed you. Here you can find talismans and charms good for treating everything from the flu or infertility to removing the blackest of curses.



Togoville

Ntonso is the homeland of adinkra cloth and the only place in Ghana where traditional adinkra is made locally from scratch. Ntonso is still Ghana's biggest producer of adinkra, a cloth famed for its symbols and proverbial wisdom. The cloth was originally worn only for funerals in the Ashanti Region and produced mainly in black, brown and red. These days, however, it is made in all colors and used throughout Ghana. Ntonso has a new visitor center and lays on official guided tours. On a walking tour, visitors can engage in the various stages of adinkra production, such as dye preparation, cloth dyeing, adinkra stamping and embroidery of stamped cloth



Temple of Python

Visitors to the Museum will be able to view video- presentations explaining Asante history and the richness of its culture, as well as splendid examples of the gold-work for which the Asante are world famous. These include gold weights, bracelets and pots for gold dust which were removed from the Palace by Lord Baden Powell, founder of the Boy Scouts Movement and a member of the British expeditionary force in Kumasi in 1896. Here too are the life-sized effigies of the Nana Prempeh I, Nana Yaa Akyaa and the legendary Nana Yaa Asantewaa, Queen of Ejisu, who in 1900 led the uprising and last of the seven Asante wars with the British, when the British Governor demanded the surrender to him of Asikadwa (Gold Stool).



Sacred Forest

Browse for fresh produce, herbs and spices as you explore a neighborhood market with your guide, and learn the fundamental components of the West African kitchen. Bring your ingredients to a nearby home and prepare a meal of traditional Ghanaian dishes like Jollof Rice and Fufu then finish your tour around the table as you enjoy warm Ghanaian hospitality.

ACCOMODATIONS



HOTEL 2 FEVRIER LOME
Place de L'indépendance Bp.131, Lomé, Togo

Located in Togo's capital, Lome, find yourself in the administrative district and minutes from golden sand beaches stretching for miles. Whatever your reason for travel, we welcome you to the new playground of West Africa.

ACCOMODATIONS



NOVOTEL COTONOU ORISHA
1821 Boulevard de la Marina, Cotonou, Benin

enjoy Accor comfort just a short walk from the beach and Cotonou Airport The fully refurbished Hotel is the ideal stay, comfortable and relaxing, great for your business and leisure needs and just 5 minutes from the airport and 10 minutes from the city center