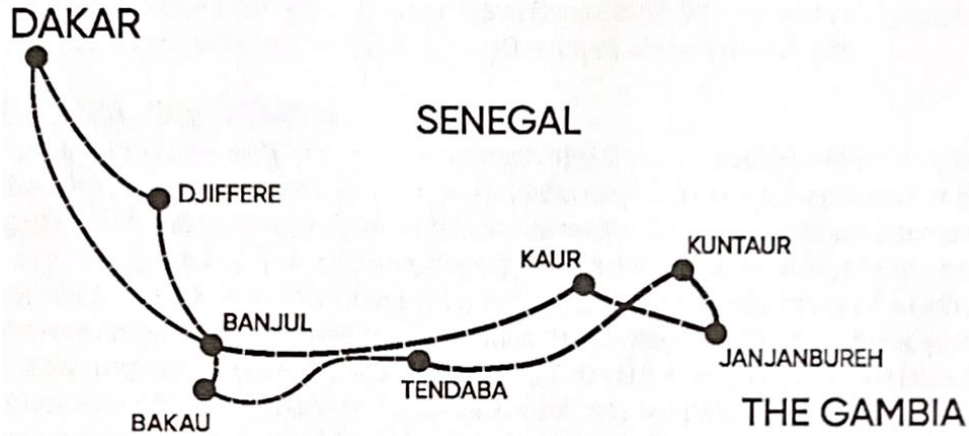


Dakar to Dakar on the Saloum and Gambia Rivers

February 15 - February 23, 2025

Can be combined with our [Atlantic Coast tour](#)
(February 23 - March 13, 2025)



February 15 Arrive in Dakar (SENEGAL)

Upon arrival in Dakar, meet and transfer to the Port and embark on the cruise between 3-4 pm. After dinner, we set sail southward towards the Saloum River Delta. Overnight at sea south along the coast.

February 16 Djiffere - Banjul (THE GAMBIA)

This morning we reach the Sine- Saloum Delta in Senegal, a UNESCO biosphere Reserve and also an important Birding area, as designated by Birdlife international and natural habitat for many bird species but also such aquatic animals as marine turtles, dolphins, Western African Manatees, and crocodiles. Our Joal Fadiout optional excursion starts at the fishing village of Djiffere from where we reach the village of Joal Fadiouth, set on an island of clam shells that also are used in local buildings and crafts. In the afternoon we leave Senegal and the Saloum Delta and sail south to Gambia to reach Banjul, the capital of The Gambia and gateway to the 700 mile Gambia River. Fishermen Night - Overnight in Banjul.

February 17 Banjul - Bakau - Tendaba (THE GAMBIA)

The morning in Banjul will give you the opportunity to take the optional 1/2day excursion offered to Bakau with its crocodile "Katchikaly" and a short Banjul tour, including Royall Albert Market and Historical Museum. Mid-afternoon, we leave Banjul and Sail upstream to Tendaba. We reach Tendaba late into the evening. African Night. Overnight at dock in Tendaba.

February 18 Tendaba (THE GAMBIA)

From the ship we take motor pirogues in order to reach Tendaba, located on the South Bank in the Lower River Division, our starting point of our Tendaba morning optional excursion. It is a small fishing village of mainly Muslim faith with approximately 600 inhabitants whose main occupation is fishing. From there we will walk through to Batelling, a small village at the entrance to Kiang West National Park. The area boasts of over 250 species of birds, many of which are difficult to observe anywhere else. Other residents include Guinea baboons, bushbuck, warthogs, Senegal bushbaby and marsh mongoose. After a refreshing stop in Batelling, we will board an open safari truck which

brings us back to Tendaba. On the way we pass again local villages where you get an impression of local life in The Gambia. In the afternoon, we are picked-up from the ship by motor pirogues for the afternoon Tendaba optional excursion to the Bao Bolong Wetland Reserve. This reserve, lying across from Kiang West National Park features six major bolongs (creeks) that provide great birding and boating opportunities. Numerous rare and migratory birds also reside here including the Pel's fishing owl, African fin foot and brown-necked parrot. Overnight docked in Tendaba.

February 19 GAMBIA RIVER - KUNTAUR - RIVER GAMBIA NATIONAL PARK

Early morning we leave Tendaba and sail upstream on the Gambia River all morning to reach Kuntaur. Early afternoon arrival to the bustling Gambian port town of Kuntaur, the last inland stop along the river that is navigable for ocean-going ships. Later in the afternoon we board a large motor pirogue for a 3 hours optional excursion cruise on The Gambia River. First, we head to the southernmost tip of Baboon Island, one of the five islands of The Gambia National Park. There a local national park ranger is joining us onboard in order to give more information about the park and its fauna & flora. Then we turn, the motor pirogue slows down and sails slowly back to Kuntaur following closely the shores of Baboon Island. This island is home of the Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Project. If we are lucky from our motor pirogue, we can closely observe the chimps with minimal intrusion. There is also the possibility of seeing hippos, crocodiles, Red Colobus, Green Vervet monkeys and also The Gambia's famous birdlife. We return to Kuntaur where we are met by the "Kankurang" and a local dance group on the pier. Believed to have spiritual powers, the "Kankurang" dispenses justice and wards off evil spirits. Overnight docked in Kuntaur.

February 20 KUNTAUR- JANJANBUREH - KAUR, THE GAMBIA

This morning, our optional excursion by bus takes us to the ferry station of Janjanbureh. There we board the local ferry for a short cruise over The Gambia River to Janjanbureh. We continue our excursion with a visit of one of the oldest towns of The Gambia, formerly called Georgetown. During the walk you get an impression of this laidback town and see the residence of the governor, the market and the Methodist church with its school. Afterwards we take the ferry back and re board the bus to reach Lamin Koto. Through the generosity of Variety Cruises and of many of its clients, a new school building is being built. Later in the morning we stop at the mysterious stone circles in Wassu, a megalithic site believed to be a burial ground thousands of years ago. You will visit the little museum of this archaeological site, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site. In the afternoon, after lunch, we sail downstream to Kaur a small fishing village on the banks of the Gambia. You will have the opportunity to walk around this small community and see how Gambians live today. In the evening we leave Kaur and sail downstream towards Banjul. Captains Farewell Dinner.

February 21 KUNTA KINTEH ISLAND - BANJUL (THE GAMBIA)

This morning we anchor at St. James Island in the middle of the Gambia River, which was an important slave trading post under the British rule in The Gambia. In 1976 James Island became famous due to the author Alex Haley and its bestseller book "Roots" and the story of a slave, called Kunta Kinteh. The island is now called and is a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site. Optional walking tour: After disembarking by local tenders your local guide will tell you more about the history of James Island and afterwards you will have some time to explore this island by yourself. After lunch, we leave "Kunta Kinteh" to reach Banjul around 4pm. After formalities, later in the evening, we will sail out of the Gambia estuary into the Atlantic Ocean northwards to Dakar. Gambian Night with Kora instrument Concert - Overnight at sea to Dakar.

February 22 DAKAR, SENEGAL

Early morning arrival in Dakar. Disembarkation at 9:00am after breakfast.

Category C - lower deck, twin or double 113-119 sq. feet - porthole

\$2,290.00/ per person + \$430 .00 port charges

Single supplement are 50% additional

Category B - main deck, same size, twin, or dbl. window

\$3,780.00 per person + port charges

Category A - main deck, two beds, 113-119 sq. ft.

Cost is \$4,290.00 + port charges

Category P, one double or two beds, upper deck, 160-190 sq. ft.

Cost is \$4,890.00 per person + port charges

Shore excursions are additional

For a limited time, Victory Cruises is extending a **20% discount** (reflected already in the cost above). In addition, each guest will receive a **\$50.00 shipboard credit**.

To secure your spot on this incredible expedition, a non-refundable deposit of **35%** is required due to limited space availability.

Final payment is due **60 days** prior to sailing.

Please note that Port charges and shore excursions are excluded from these discounts.

For any further information or inquiries, please feel free to contact our esteemed tour manager, David William, at david@spiekermantravel.com. David will be leading our upcoming Atlantic Coast tour and overseeing the unforgettable cruise experience.

