



## Safari in the Lobéké National Park & Pygmies

"Meet the local people, Safari, culture & Beach".

Most tourists disembark at Douala or Yaoundé, Cameroon's two largest airports, before continuing their treks into the equatorial forest of East Cameroon, where a change of scenery and adventure await them. Here, gorillas and chimpanzees compete for the forest with pygmies, considered to be Cameroon's oldest inhabitants. In the giant equatorial forest where the Baka's pygmies live, musicians to the core, immerse yourself in the world of these little men who will perform their ritual Buma dance for you, describing their life among the animals of the forest. You'll have the chance to take part in their village activities.

Located in the province of East Cameroon, the Lobéké National Park, part of the Congo Basin, is situated in the extreme south-east of Cameroon. It covers an area of 217,854 ha. Created on 19 March 2001, the Park is managed as part of the cross-border conservation initiative known as the Tri national de la Sangha (TNS). In addition to the Lobéké National Park, this priority landscape for biodiversity conservation includes the protected areas of Dzangha-Sangha (CAR) and Nouabalé-Nkoki (Congo Brazzaville). Lobéké has a network of marshy clearings, particularly on the eastern flank of the park, offering Safari enthusiasts the chance to film elephants, gorillas and chimpanzee monkeys, thanks to the miradors available in the Park, set up near the natural salt pans (or bays) to observe the animals.

### OVERVIEW PROGRAM

#### Day 1. NSIMALEN YAOUNDE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Arrival and welcome at Yaoundé international airport from Paris, transfer to town, check-in at the hôtel. Dinner and overnight at Hôtel

#### Day 2: YAOUNDE-AYOS-ABONG BANG-LOMIE

Morning departure from Yaoundé for Lomié, passing through Ayos and Abang Bang, where the journey is a beautiful discovery of the Equatorial Forest. Arrive in Lomié and check into the Catholic Missionaries' guest house. Dinner and overnight stay.



### **Day 3: LOMIE - PYGMEE CAMPING**

After breakfast, drive to the Pygmy village. Arrival among the pygmies. Settle in and have lunch. Discovery and participation in the various activities that punctuate the daily life of these men, the first inhabitants of the equatorial forest; introduction to hunting, fishing, gathering and traditional medicine. A cultural evening, during which they will perform their dances. Tales and legends of the forest will be told around the fire. Dinner and overnight in tents. Total immersion in nature.

### **Day 4: PYGMEE CAMP**

Wake up to the sounds of animals and birds, and enjoy a day of activities with the Pygmies in the heart of the primary forest: trekking in the forest and picking various forest fruits, hunting with nets, picking medicinal plants, local fishing and honey harvesting, and other activities. Return to camp, dinner and evening Buma Pygmy ritual dance around the fire with storytelling. Overnight in tents at the Pygmy camp.

### **Day 5: PYGMEE CAMP- LOMIE-ABONG-BANG-BATOURI**

Early wake-up call, breakfast and departure for Lobéké via Lomié, arriving at Yokadouma. Check-in at the Catholic nuns' guest house. Dinner and overnight stay.

### **Day 6. BATOURI - YOKADOUMA-MAMBELE-NDANDAYE BAI**

Early wake-up call and breakfast. Departure for the Lobéké National Park, in particular Ndandaye Bai, a saline area where all the fauna of the Park can be found: gorillas, buffalo, elephants, Bongos, chimpanzees, monkeys and a multitude of birds such as red-tailed parrots, green pigeons and thousands of butterflies. Return to camp, dinner and overnight in tents.

### **Day 7 & 8. NDANDAYE BAI (Lobéké)**

Early wake-up call by animal cries and birdsong. Breakfast and departure (an opportunity for a good hike and to discover the Park's flora) for the mirador and the start of the animal watching: gorillas, buffaloes, elephants, Bongos; chimpanzees, monkeys and a multitude of birds; butterflies, etc. The tracking of the gorillas is done in a tent. The gorillas are tracked with the help of a pygmy tracker



who is familiar with their habits. Return to the camp. Dinner and overnight in tents.

**Day 9. LOBEKE -YOKADOUMA**

Early wake-up call by animal and bird calls. Total immersion in the equatorial forest. Departure for Yaoundé, lunch en route, discovery of the villages and meeting with local people, tasting of fruit and local produce, arrival at Yokadouma and accommodation in the guest house of the Catholic nuns. Dinner and overnight stay.

**Day 8. YOKADOUMA-BATOURI-BERTOUA**

Early wake up, breakfast. Return to Yaoundé via Batouri and Bertoua. Arrival in Bertoua, installation at the hôtel. Dinner and night.

**Day 9. BERTOUA-YAOUNDE**

Early wake up, breakfast. Very early departure for Yaoundé, arrival and installation at the hotel. Dinner and night

**Day 10. YAOUNDE-EDEA-KRIBI**

Early wake-up call, breakfast, brief city tour, departure for the seaside resort of Kribi via Edéa.

Arrival in Kribi is breathtaking; the ocean appears with its white sandy beaches stretching as far as the eye can see, lined with rows of coconut palms. The Kribi coast is Cameroon's true riviera, a world where the equatorial forest meets the ocean. Londji, Cameroon's most beautiful beach, is a dream holiday destination. The Lobé Falls flow directly into the ocean in a series of cascades, a phenomenon that is unique in the world. In a magical setting, the river tumbles down a thirty-metre-high cliff, widening the sky with its spray. A little further on, you can discover two typical fishing villages, Eboundja and Ebodjé, where the fishing is almost miraculous. Arrival and check-in at the hôtel. Evening at leisure. Dinner and overnight stay.

**Day 11: KRIBI - LOBE FALLS - KRIBI**

Early wake-up, breakfast. Lazy day and report on the beaches and visit to the famous Lobé Falls with the possibility of eating on the lobsters and freshly caught fish at the edge of the beach.

Evening still free, night at the hotel.



## **Day.12. KRIBI-EDEA-DOUALA-EUROPE**

Early wake-up call, breakfast. Departure for Douala, Arrival and continuation of reports. Stop off at the flower market to see the art object sellers and also do some shopping in the local produce shops, then head for the airport for departure formalities and flight.

End of stay.

## **PRICE & PARAMETRES**

Included :

All transfers as mentioned:

- Welcome and airport/hotel/airport transfers
- Private 4x4 vehicle with driver; English-speaking and French-speaking (fuel, road taxes, parking, insurance for vehicle and driver, driver's accommodation and meals).
- The services of an English-speaking guide throughout the trip, and local guides (pygmies) who know the local languages and customs of the region visited.
- Nights in tents at the pygmy camp at Lomié and at Lobéké National Park (East Cameroon).
- Park fees and activities (introduction to traditional medicine, traditional fishing, hunting, building pygmy huts, lighting traditional fires, drawing water, harvesting raffia wine) with the pygmies.
- Dances, stories and legends around the fire with the Baka'a pygmies.
- Gifts (bags of rice, soap, matchboxes, etc.) for the pygmies.
- Porters, cook
- Entrance fees to the Lobéké National Park



Services of a cook and porters, a tracker and 02 eco-guardians in the Lobéké National Park.

- Full board except in Kribi where the menu is à la carte.

- Accommodation in double or single rooms in the hotel in Yaoundé, in Bertoua and Kribi, guest house at the Missionaries in Lomié and Yokadouma and night in tents with the pygmies and in the Lobéké National Park, mentioned in the programme.

- Mineral water

- Paperwork for Cameroon visa

- 24-hour on-site assistance

### Not included :

- International flights.

- Visa fees

- Gratuities

- Drinks



Destination Management Company  
Cameroon

