

Accra to Mole

How to Get from Accra to Mole National Park

Flying in from the US, UK, or Canada? In Ghana for work, studies, or a seminar? Or simply someone who has always wanted to see wild elephants and is finally making it happen? This guide is for you.

Mole National Park is Ghana's largest and most rewarding wildlife destination — a 4,500 square kilometre stretch of savannah, woodland, and riverine forest that is home to wild elephants, antelopes, warthogs, baboons, buffalo, over 90 species of mammals, and more than 300 species of birds. Established in 1958 and gazetted as a national park in 1971, it is by far the best place in Ghana to see animals living freely in the wild.

And yet, most people who visit Ghana never make it there.

If you have never been to Mole and have always wanted to go, this is your sign. It does not matter whether you are flying in from abroad for the first time, already in Ghana for work or studies, attending a conference, or simply exploring the country at your own pace. Getting to Mole is more straightforward than you think, and with the right transport, it is one of the most rewarding journeys you will ever make.

Uprise Travel has brought hundreds of travellers to Mole: diaspora visitors, first-timers from the US and UK, corporate groups, students, and solo adventurers. This guide gives you every option so you can choose what works best for where you are and how you want to travel.

Where Exactly Is Mole?

Mole National Park sits in northern Ghana, in the Savannah Region. The nearest major city is Tamale, about 150 km away, which is the main gateway for almost everyone visiting the park. Just outside the park gate lies the small village of Larabanga, famous for its historic mosque. The park has a single entrance, located about 3 km from Larabanga — every route in passes through here.

Option 1: Fly from Accra to Tamale, Then Drive — Fastest Route (~2.5 to 3 hrs to Tamale)

This is the quickest and most comfortable way to reach Mole, and the one we recommend for anyone who values their time.

Fly from Accra International Airport (ACC) to Tamale Airport (TML). Airlines including Africa World Airlines (AWA) and Passion Air operate this route daily, with flights departing throughout the day. The flight takes approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. With check-in time factored in, allow around 2.5 to 3 hours total from airport to airport.

From Tamale, Mole National Park is a 1.5 to 2-hour drive — and this is exactly where Uprise Travel steps in.

Our vehicle will be waiting for you at Tamale Airport. No waiting, no negotiating, no uncertainty. Just step off the plane and into a clean, comfortable vehicle headed straight for Mole.

Perfect for tourists, professionals, seminar attendees, or anyone who wants to make the most of limited time in Ghana. You can fly in the morning and be watching elephants by early afternoon.

Option 2: Drive from Accra to Tamale via Kumasi — Scenic Overland (~10 to 13 hrs)

If you want to experience the full overland journey through Ghana, the drive via Kumasi is the classic route and the most popular road option.

The Accra–Kumasi highway is one of Ghana's best-maintained roads — dual carriageway for much of the route, smooth and well signposted. North of Kumasi, the road continues through increasingly dramatic landscapes until the scenery shifts into the flat, wide savannah of the north. The road quality on this stretch is generally good but can vary.

Route breakdown:

- Accra to Kumasi — approximately 4 to 5 hours (good dual carriageway, Kumasi traffic can add time)
- Kumasi to Tamale — approximately 5.5 to 6 hours (good road overall, some sections slower)
- Tamale to Mole National Park — approximately 1.5 to 2 hours

Good rest stops along the way: grab food and fuel at Ejisu just outside Kumasi, and consider a short detour to Kintampo — home to one of Ghana's most beautiful waterfalls and a great place to stretch your legs halfway through the drive before continuing north.

Total journey: 11 to 13 hours depending on stops, traffic, and road conditions on the day. This is a full day of travel — if you leave Accra early, you can arrive at Mole by evening and wake up the next morning ready for your first game walk.

Travelling this route with Uprise? We handle the driving so you sit back, rest, and enjoy the scenery — no fatigue, no stress, no navigating an unfamiliar road.

Option 3: Drive via the Volta Region — Scenic Alternative (~12 to 14 hrs)

For the adventurous traveller who wants to see more of Ghana on the way, the Volta Region route takes you through green hills, waterfalls, and some of the most beautiful landscapes in the country before heading north toward Tamale.

Be aware: parts of the Volta route have more challenging road conditions than the Kumasi highway — narrower, less maintained, and slower in places. This route is best suited to a sturdy

4x4 vehicle and is not recommended for a standard saloon car. Total journey: approximately 12 to 14 hours.

Option 4: Public Bus from Accra to Tamale — Budget Option (~11 to 14 hrs)

The most affordable way to get from Accra to Tamale is by intercity bus. Operators including Intercity STC Coaches, VIP, VVIP, and Metro Mass Transit run daily services departing from Kwame Nkrumah Circle in Accra. Depending on conditions, the journey can take anywhere from 11 to 14 hours.

From Tamale, you will still need to arrange your own transport to Mole — shared tro-tros from Damongo Bus Station head toward Larabanga or Daboya Junction, from where you take a motorbike or local taxi the rest of the way. Timing is unpredictable and this last leg can add several hours.

The bus is a workable option for budget-conscious solo travellers. The trade-offs are fixed departure times, limited luggage space, and no control over your schedule once you arrive in Tamale.

Our Fleet — The Right Vehicle for Every Journey

Whether you are travelling solo, as a couple, in a small group, or organising a large company or church group trip to Mole, Uprise Travel has the right vehicle for you. Every rental includes a professional, experienced driver — so all you do is enjoy the journey.

Vehicle	Best for	Notes
Saloon / Sedan	Solo & couple travel, airport transfers, city trips	Executive comfort for smooth paved routes — ideal Accra to Tamale via Kumasi
4×4 (Highlander / Land Cruiser)	Safari, national parks, off-road & Volta routes	Built for Mole's terrain and Ghana's more demanding roads — the vehicle of choice for wildlife travel
Minibus (15-passenger)	Small groups, family trips, seminar & event transfers	Spacious group travel — great for church groups, student trips, and corporate teams
Coaster Bus	Large group travel	For bigger groups across any Ghana route

All Uprise Travel vehicle rentals include a professional driver. Customised vehicle and driver options are available on request — just tell us your group size, route, and schedule and we will match you with the right vehicle.

Where to Stay at Mole

There aren't many accommodation options at Mole, but there is something for every budget:

- Zaina Lodge — the luxury option, with an infinity pool overlooking the savannah, fire pit, and rooms with private balconies. A premium safari experience.
- Mole Motel — the most popular mid-range choice, with an unbeatable location overlooking a watering hole where elephants regularly gather.
- Larabanga guesthouses — budget-friendly lodges in the nearby village, handy for visiting the mosque, at a lower price than staying inside the park.
- Damongo — the town between Tamale and Mole has cheaper accommodation, though you'll pay the park entrance fee each time you enter.

Tip: In peak dry season (December to February), the best lodges book out well in advance. Reserve early.

What to Do Once You're There

Mole isn't about ticking off a long list of activities — it's about wildlife, landscape, and slowing down. Here's what's worth your time:

- Go on a safari. This is the main event, and Mole is one of the most affordable places in the world to do one. More on the safari types below.
- Visit Larabanga. Just outside the park, this village is home to the Larabanga Mosque — one of the oldest mosques in West Africa — and the legendary "Mystic Stone." If you're short on time, ask your Uprise driver to stop here on the way in.
- Relax at the Mole Motel viewpoint. Even without a safari, you can watch elephants and other wildlife gather at the watering hole below. Day visitors can even use the pool to cool off.
- Take a village walk at Mognori Eco-Village. A community-run initiative showcasing real village life, where you can meet local people and sometimes catch a traditional dance and music performance.
- Watch sunset over the savannah. Simple but unforgettable — grab a drink, find a spot near your accommodation, and watch the light fade over the park.

The Mole Safari Guide — Which One to Choose

Once you arrive, all safaris are organised through the park office (your accommodation can advise). There's no self-driving and you can't wander off alone — you go out with a trained ranger. You have several options:

- Walking safari — the highlight of Mole. You head out on foot with an armed ranger, tracking animals through the bush. Seeing elephants on foot is far more immersive and memorable than from a vehicle. Roughly 2 hours.
- Jeep (4×4) safari — covers more ground and gets you deeper into the park, increasing your chances of spotting a wider range of wildlife. Less intense than walking, but bumpier.

- Night safari — done by vehicle only, with the chance to see nocturnal animals like genets, bushbabies, hyenas, and owls (and still elephants). Must be booked in advance at the visitor centre.
- Canoe safari — paddle the river for a different perspective, with a chance to see monkeys and the occasional crocodile. Fewer elephant sightings.
- Bird safari — for birdwatchers; Mole has a huge variety including the martial eagle, kingfishers, and the white-backed vulture.

Safari time slots: Morning (around 7:00–9:00) and afternoon (around 15:30–17:30) are the standard walking or driven safaris — no advance sign-up needed. Night safaris (around 19:00–21:00) are driving-only and must be booked ahead. Gather at the main visitor centre 15 minutes before departure.

What to expect: Mornings are the best time — cooler and more active. Midday is very hot, better spent relaxing. Compared to East Africa, wildlife is less dense and elephants roam in smaller, more dispersed groups, but seeing them on foot is something special. As always with nature, sightings are never guaranteed — but elephants and antelope are the most common.

Best Time to Visit

Dry season (November to April) — best overall. Water becomes scarce, so animals gather around the watering holes and are much easier to spot. You'll have higher chances of seeing elephants up close, easier walking trails, and sunny, dry conditions. This is the ideal time for most travellers.

Wet season (May to October) — lush but quieter. The park turns green and vibrant with beautiful birdlife and far fewer tourists, but wildlife spreads out and is harder to spot, and some tracks become more difficult. Worth visiting with different expectations — it becomes more about the overall experience than ticking off animals.

How Long to Stay

We recommend 2 nights minimum. One night can feel rushed after the long journey to get there. Two nights is the sweet spot:

- Day 1: Arrival + afternoon safari
- Day 2: Morning safari + relax + optional second activity
- Day 3: Departure

If you have time, 3+ nights lets you do multiple walking safaris, try different routes and times, and fully unwind by the pool overlooking the watering hole.

A Few Things to Know Before You Arrive

- Bring cash from Tamale — there are no ATMs inside Mole National Park and very limited facilities in the surrounding area. Park entry, safaris, and guide fees are all paid in cash, so stock up before you leave the city.

- Park entry & safari fees are modest — foreign visitors pay a small park entry fee, with additional per-hour fees for walking or vehicle safaris and the ranger. It remains one of the most affordable safari experiences in the world.
- Plan around the early starts — the best safari is the 7am one. Keep a small daypack ready the night before so you're not scrambling at dawn.
- Add Larabanga Mosque — just 3 km from the park gate sits one of West Africa's oldest mosques. It takes 20 minutes to visit and is well worth the stop.
- Your Uprise driver knows all of this already — where to stop, where to get cash, the best time to be at the waterhole for elephants. That local knowledge is part of what you're getting when you travel with us.

What to Pack for Mole National Park

- **Breathable, covered-up clothing** — long sleeves and light fabrics keep the sun off, keep insects away, and still let you stay cool during walking safaris
- **Sturdy closed shoes** — you'll be on foot over dusty, uneven ground, so leave the sandals behind; a solid pair of trainers does the job
- **Sun protection** — sunscreen, a hat, and sunglasses are essential; the savannah offers very little shade and the northern sun is strong from early morning
- **Insect repellent** — mosquitoes and bugs are most active at sunrise and sunset, so keep some handy
- **Refillable water bottle** — safaris run around two hours and the heat adds up; bring water and keep drinking
- **A zoom camera or phone lens** — animals are often at a distance, especially on jeep safaris, and you'll want to capture those elephant moments
- **Binoculars** — not a must, but they make spotting distant wildlife and birds far easier; you can also hire a pair at the park's visitor centre
- **A light layer** — a hoodie or thin jacket is worth packing for chilly early-morning open-vehicle drives
- **A small torch or headlamp** — handy for pre-dawn starts and moving around your lodge after dark

Our Recommendation: Fly + Uprise Vehicle

For anyone travelling from Accra who wants the fastest, most comfortable, and most stress-free experience, the winning combination every time is:

- Fly from Accra International Airport to Tamale (approx. 1 hr 15 min)
- Your Uprise vehicle meets you at Tamale Airport
- Drive to Mole National Park (approx. 1.5 to 2 hrs)
- Arrive rested, relaxed, and ready for your first game walk

For groups of 4 or more, this combination is often more cost-effective than purchasing multiple individual bus tickets — and the difference in comfort and convenience is not even close.

Ready to plan your trip to Mole National Park?

Let Uprise Travel handle the transport, accommodation, and guided tours.

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Social Media Caption

Planning a trip to Mole National Park from Accra but not sure how to get there?

Whether you're a tourist, a student, here for work, or attending a conference in Ghana — we've broken down every single option: fly, drive, or bus — so you can choose what works best for you.

And if you want the fastest, most comfortable way? Fly to Tamale and let Uprise pick you up. We'll have the right vehicle waiting — whether it's just you or a group of 30.

Full guide at the link in bio — or contact us directly.

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Tamale to Mole

Already in Tamale? Here's How to Get to Mole National Park

You're closer than you think. Mole is just 150 km away — here's every way to cover that last stretch, and the one that gets you there in comfort.

You've made it to Tamale — which means you're already closer to one of Ghana's greatest natural wonders than most travellers ever get. Mole National Park lies about 150 km west of the city, and once you've covered that final stretch of road, you'll step into a world of wild elephants, open savannah, and one of the most memorable wildlife experiences in all of West Africa.

Mole is Ghana's largest wildlife reserve — 4,500 square kilometres of savannah and woodland, home to elephants, antelope, buffalo, warthogs, baboons, and more than 300 species of birds. It has a single entrance gate, about 3 km from the village of Larabanga, and every route in passes through it.

Here's how to get there from Tamale — and how Uprise Travel can make the journey effortless.

Option 1: Rent a Vehicle from Uprise Travel — Best Option (~2 to 3 hrs)

This is the option we recommend, and not just because we offer it. A private vehicle gives you what nothing else on this list can: your own schedule, a reliable ride, door-to-gate service, and the freedom to leave when you want and stop when you like.

The drive from Tamale to Mole takes roughly 2 to 3 hours on mostly paved roads. You head west out of the city, pass through the town of Damongo, and continue toward the park gate. The landscape slowly opens up from busy northern city into wide savannah — by the time you reach Mole, the trip already feels like it has begun.

Our fleet is available for hire right here in Tamale. We'll collect you from your hotel, the airport, or anywhere in the city and drive you straight to the park gate — no waiting, no haggling, no surprises.

One thing worth knowing: fuel up before leaving Tamale. Stations are easy to find in the city but become scarce once you head west. With Uprise, that's handled for you — one less thing to think about.

Option 2: Public Bus / Tro-Tro from Tamale — Budget Option (~4 to 5 hrs)

If you're watching your budget and have time to spare, shared transport is the cheapest way to reach Mole — though it takes patience.

From Damongo Bus Station in Tamale (Sankpala Station is another pick-up point), catch a tro-tro heading toward Damongo. You'll get off at Larabanga or Daboya Junction, then take a motorbike taxi or shared taxi the rest of the way to the park entrance. Sometimes the tro-tro driver will offer to run you the final stretch once other passengers have cleared.

The whole trip usually takes 4 to 5 hours depending on how long you wait for the vehicle to fill, since tro-tros leave only when full rather than on a fixed schedule.

Worth knowing before you go by public transport:

- Departure times are unpredictable — vehicles leave when full, not by the clock
- You won't be dropped at the park gate — expect a motorbike or taxi for the last leg
- Luggage space is tight on busy days, so pack light
- It's workable for seasoned budget travellers, but adds a lot of uncertainty to a trip you've come a long way for

Option 3: Charter a Private Taxi from Tamale (~3 hrs)

A middle-ground option between the bus and a full rental is chartering a taxi for the trip. You can find drivers in Tamale willing to make the run to Mole, and the drive takes around 3 hours.

Before you agree to anything, sort out these details up front:

- Confirm whether the price includes fuel — this is the most common point of dispute
- Agree the full fare before you set off, not when you arrive
- Check the condition of the vehicle — the road is paved, but comfort varies a lot from car to car
- Ask whether the driver will wait for you at the park or return to collect you

A chartered taxi gives you more flexibility than the bus but less reliability than a dedicated service. With Uprise, all of this is agreed in advance — no roadside negotiation needed.

Our Fleet — The Right Vehicle for Your Trip

Whether it's just you, a couple, a family, or a large group heading to Mole together, we have a vehicle to match. Every rental comes with a professional, experienced driver — so all you do is enjoy the ride.

Vehicle	Best for	Notes
Saloon / Sedan	Solo & couple travel, airport transfers, city trips	Executive comfort for smooth paved routes — ideal Accra to Tamale via Kumasi

4×4 (Highlander / Land Cruiser)	Safari, national parks, off-road & Volta routes	Built for Mole's terrain and Ghana's more demanding roads — the vehicle of choice for wildlife travel
Minibus (15-passenger)	Small groups, family trips, seminar & event transfers	Spacious group travel — great for church groups, student trips, and corporate teams
Coaster Bus	Large group travel	For bigger groups across any Ghana route

Every Uprise rental includes a professional driver. Customised vehicle and driver options are available on request — just tell us your group size and schedule.

Planning Your Time at Mole

Once you arrive, Mole is all about wildlife and slowing down — walking and jeep safaris (one of the most affordable safari experiences in the world), a stop at the historic Larabanga Mosque, and sunsets over the savannah. There's accommodation for every budget, from the luxury Zaina Lodge to the popular Mole Motel overlooking a watering hole, and we recommend at least 2 nights to make the long journey worthwhile. The dry season (November to April) is the best time to spot elephants gathering at the watering holes.

For our complete guide to Mole — every safari type, where to stay, what to pack, the best time to visit, and how long to stay — see our full guide: [\[How to Get from Accra to Mole National Park\]](#).

A Few Things to Know Before You Go

- Carry cash from Tamale — there are no ATMs inside Mole and few facilities nearby. Park entry, safaris, and guide fees are all paid in cash, so withdraw what you need before leaving the city.
- Plan for early starts — the 7am safari is the best of the day. Your Uprise driver knows the timings and can get you there for it.
- Your driver knows the ground — where to fuel up, where to stop, and the best times to catch elephants at the watering hole. That local knowledge comes with the ride.

Why Travel to Mole with Uprise?

- Safety — professional drivers who know the route and the road conditions

- Comfort — clean, well-kept vehicles suited to the journey
- Reliability — we confirm your booking, show up on time, and get you there
- Stress-free — no waiting at the roadside, no haggling, no uncertainty
- Flexibility — we move on your schedule, not the other way around

Ready to visit Mole National Park?

You're already in Tamale — the hardest part is done. Let Uprise Travel handle the rest.

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Already in Tamale and wondering how to reach Mole National Park?

Mole is just 150 km away — but how you cover that distance makes all the difference. We've broken down every option: private rental, public transport, and chartered taxi — with honest timing and what to watch out for.

Want to skip the guesswork and just arrive? Rent from Uprise. We'll pick you up in Tamale and have you at the park gate in comfort — whether it's just you or a whole group.

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Accra to Cape Coast

One Day from Accra. Three Places That Will Change You.

Your complete guide to Kakum National Park, Cape Coast Castle, and Elmina Castle — what they are, how to get there, and why every person of African descent should make this journey at least once.

There is a stretch of Ghana's Central Region coastline that holds more history, more emotion, and more natural wonder than almost anywhere else on the African continent. Within a small radius, you have three destinations that are completely different from one another — yet together, they tell one of the most powerful stories you will ever encounter as a traveller.

Kakum National Park. Cape Coast Castle. Elmina Castle.

One day, starting from Accra, is enough to visit all three. But the people who do it right — who arrive prepared, move in the right order, and don't rush — leave with something that stays with them for the rest of their lives.

Cape Coast is the most visited destination outside Accra, and for good reason. This guide covers everything: what each place is, why it matters, how to get there from Accra, and the best way to make the most of a single day on this remarkable stretch of coast.

Stop 1: Kakum National Park — Walk Above the Rainforest

Start here. Kakum National Park sits about 30 to 40 minutes north of Cape Coast, tucked into one of the last surviving tropical rainforests in West Africa. The park protects 375 square kilometres of dense green canopy, home to forest elephants, leopards, bongo antelopes, and over 300 species of birds.

But the reason most people come — and the reason it belongs first on your list — is the Canopy Walkway. Suspended 27 metres above the forest floor, it stretches 333 metres across seven linked bridges strung between ancient trees that have stood for more than 300 years. It is one of only three walkways of its kind in Africa, and the only one in West Africa.

Crossing those bridges, with the canopy swaying gently beneath you and birdsong rising from below, is the kind of experience that leaves people lost for words halfway through a sentence.

Tip: Do the canopy walk first thing in the morning. Tours run regularly and fill up fast, and the forest is cooler and far more alive early in the day.

Allow 1.5 to 2 hours here, including the guided walk. There's a café at the visitor centre for breakfast or a snack before you head back down to the coast.

From Accra: roughly 3 to 3.5 hours by road, then the short drive north to the park.

Stop 2: Cape Coast Castle — The Door of No Return

From Kakum, it's about a 40-minute drive back toward the coast to Cape Coast Castle, which stands right on the shore, its white walls rising above the Atlantic.

This is where the weight of the day begins.

Cape Coast Castle is one of around 40 forts built along Ghana's Gold Coast by European traders. The first trading post here went up in the mid-16th century under the Portuguese, with the first true fort built by the Swedes in the mid-17th century, before it passed through Danish, Dutch, and finally British hands. Europeans first came for gold and timber — but as demand for enslaved labour in the Americas grew, the fort became a central holding point for enslaved Africans before they were forced onto ships bound across the Atlantic.

The guided tour leads you down into the dungeons where men and women were held in darkness, in unimaginable conditions, for months on end. It ends at the Door of No Return — the narrow gate at the water's edge through which enslaved people were forced onto the ships, leaving their homeland behind forever.

For visitors of African descent — for the diaspora standing in those dungeons, at that door, looking out at that ocean — this is not a history lesson. It is something far more personal.

Cape Coast Castle is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The entry fee for international visitors is modest and includes a guided tour through the dungeons; you're free to explore the galleries, cannons, kitchen, commander's quarters, and the small museum on your own afterwards. Plan around 90 minutes to 2 hours.

Before you leave, walk up onto the ramparts. The view over the ocean and the coastline is striking — and the contrast between that beauty and what happened in the cells below is something you'll carry with you long after.

From Accra directly: about 2.5 hours in clear conditions on the N1 coastal highway, which is in good condition.

Stop 3: Elmina Castle — The Oldest European Building in Sub-Saharan Africa

From Cape Coast, it's just a 15 to 20-minute drive west along the coast to Elmina. You'll spot the castle before you reach it, sitting on a rocky promontory above a fishing harbour crowded with brightly painted boats.

Elmina Castle was built in 1482 by the Portuguese, making it the oldest European building in sub-Saharan Africa — and the oldest of all the forts on this coast. It began as a gold-trading post,

was captured by the Dutch in 1637, and later became one of the most significant slave-trading sites on the continent. Its dungeons could hold more than 1,500 enslaved people at a time.

Elmina feels different from Cape Coast. The architecture is Portuguese — maze-like and multi-levelled, with open courtyards and, hauntingly, a church built directly above the women's dungeon. The guides here are exceptional storytellers, and after the emotional weight of Cape Coast an hour earlier, the visit lands even harder. Allow around 90 minutes.

While You're in Elmina: Two More Stops Worth Making

The Elmina fishing village and market. Right beside the castle is one of the most colourful, alive communities on the whole Ghanaian coast — painted pirogues, a busy fish market, boat builders at work, traders, and children playing along the harbour. It's worth 30 to 40 minutes of wandering. A local will often offer to walk you through; for a small tip they'll take you deeper into the life of the place than you'd find alone. The contrast between the sorrow of the castle and the energy of the village is part of what makes Elmina unforgettable.

Major Attractions in and Around Cape Coast — At a Glance

For travellers who want to build a longer trip or a second day into the region, Cape Coast and its surroundings offer more than the three headline sites:

- **Cape Coast Castle — the UNESCO slave fort and Door of No Return**
- **Elmina Castle — the 1482 Portuguese fort, oldest in sub-Saharan Africa**
- **Kakum National Park — the rainforest canopy walkway**
- **Elmina fishing village & market — vibrant coastal community life**
- **The Cape Coast coastline — Atlantic beaches and fresh local seafood**

The Perfect One-Day Itinerary from Accra

Leave Accra by 6:00 AM and your day looks like this:

- 6:00 AM — Depart Accra (leaving before 6:30 beats the traffic out of the city)
- 9:00 AM — Arrive Kakum. Canopy walkway tour. Light breakfast at the visitor centre.
- 11:30 AM — Drive south to Cape Coast (about 40 minutes)
- 12:15 PM — Cape Coast Castle guided tour
- 2:00 PM — Lunch in Cape Coast (fresh seafood — you're on the coast)
- 3:00 PM — Drive to Elmina (15–20 minutes)
- 3:20 PM — Elmina Castle tour, then the fishing village and Fort Coenraadsburg
- 5:30 PM — Depart Elmina for Accra
- 8:00 to 8:30 PM — Arrive back in Accra

That's a full but manageable day — not rushed, not stretched. The order matters. Kakum first puts you in a lighter, more open frame of mind before the castles bring the weight of history. Ending on the colour and life of Elmina village gives the day a human, hopeful close rather than a heavy one.

How to Get There: Your Options from Accra

The single biggest variable on this route is leaving Accra. Morning rush hour heading west on the N1 can add well over an hour. Aim to be on the road before 6:30 AM.

Option 1: Rent a Vehicle with Uprise Travel (Recommended)

Whether you're in Ghana for work, a business trip, an exchange program, or just living here for a season, Cape Coast is one of those places you shouldn't leave the country without seeing. The problem most people run into isn't whether to go — it's *how* to actually get there and around once they arrive.

That's where Uprise comes in. We pick you up from wherever you are — your home, hotel, office, or hostel — drive you to Kakum, Cape Coast Castle, and Elmina, wait for you at each stop, and bring you back at the end of the day. One booking, and every part of the journey is handled.

You don't drive unfamiliar roads. You don't hunt for parking. You don't negotiate taxis between sites or risk missing the timing on the Kakum canopy walk. Every vehicle comes with a professional driver who knows the route, so all you have to do is enjoy the day.

And it's not just for the big heritage trip. If you simply want to make Cape Coast a weekend stop, take visiting friends or family, or explore at your own pace, we'll match you with the right vehicle — from a comfortable saloon for one or two people, to a 4×4, minibuss, or coaster for groups.

Planning to visit Cape Coast but not sure where to start? Let Uprise handle the transport. Tell us your dates and group size, and we'll take care of the rest.

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Option 2: Drive Yourself

If you have a vehicle, the N1 coastal highway to the Central Region is good and clearly signposted. The full loop — Accra, Kakum, Cape Coast, Elmina, and back — is roughly 350 km. Fuel up before leaving Accra and again before the return leg.

Option 3: Public Transport

It's possible, but it takes planning and patience. A VIP or STC coach from Accra to Cape Coast takes around 2.5 to 3.5 hours and drops you at the Cape Coast bus station — not at any of the sites. From there you're relying on taxis and tro-tro's to shuttle you north to Kakum, back to the castle, and west to Elmina. On a day this full, you'll likely lose more time waiting for and negotiating transport than you'd like. It works for seasoned budget travellers, but for a first visit it adds real friction.

Practical Things to Know Before You Go

- Wear comfortable walking shoes — all the sites involve walking on uneven ground
- Carry water and light snacks — the coast is hot and humid, especially in dry season
- Bring cash for entry fees; both castles charge a modest fee for international visitors, and Kakum charges separately for the canopy walk
- Dress modestly at the castles — these are solemn, deeply significant places
- Best time to visit: the dry season (November to April) brings clearer roads and less rain, though all three sites are open year-round, seven days a week
- Photography is allowed in most areas — bring a good camera

Why This Trip Matters

There are places that are beautiful, and there are places that are important. This stretch of Ghana's Central Region is both — and rarely does a single day ask so much of you emotionally while giving back so much in return.

The canopy at Kakum. The dungeons at Cape Coast. The fishing boats at Elmina. Three completely different worlds, side by side. One day. One unforgettable piece of Ghana's story.

This trip isn't just for tourists. It's for everyone who has ever wanted to stand on the soil where this history was made — and to leave understanding a little more deeply where we come from.

Ready to make this journey?

Let Uprise Travel handle every detail — from hotel pickup to the drive home.

Kakum. Cape Coast Castle. Elmina Castle. One day. One experience you'll never forget.

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You can do all three in one day from Accra — and it may be one of the most powerful days of your life.

 Kakum National Park — walk 27 metres above an ancient rainforest on one of only 3 canopy walkways in Africa.

 Cape Coast Castle — stand at the Door of No Return. Feel what it means.

 Elmina Castle — the oldest European building in sub-Saharan Africa, built in 1482.

This is Ghana's Central Region — a few hours from Accra, and it belongs on every travel list, especially for the diaspora coming home.

We'll handle everything — pickup, driving, and the whole day — so all you have to do is be present for it.

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#Ghana #CapeCoastCastle #ElminaCastle #KakumNationalPark #VisitGhana #TravelGhana
#UpriseTravelGhana #DiasporaTravel #YearOfReturn #ComeHome #AfricaTravel #BlackTravel
#DoorOfNoReturn #GhanaHeritage #UNESCO

Accra to Volta

Ghana's Most Underrated Road Trip Starts Just Outside Accra

West Africa's highest waterfall. Ghana's tallest mountain. A monkey sanctuary where wild primates eat from your hand. The garden where world leaders planted trees. The very farm where Ghana's cocoa industry was born. And a lake so vast it looks like an inland sea. All of it within reach of Accra — and most people have no idea.

Most people visit Ghana and tick off the obvious — Accra, Cape Coast, Elmina. And those are extraordinary. But there is another Ghana, one that sits quietly between the rolling hills of the Eastern Region and the lush mountains of the Volta — and it is one of the most rewarding travel experiences on the entire continent.

We're talking about waterfalls that thunder from 80 metres. Monkeys that have been sacred for 200 years and will climb onto your shoulder for a banana. A botanical garden established in 1890 where some of Ghana's rarest trees still stand. A cocoa farm that changed the economic history of a nation. A mountain you can summit before breakfast. And a lake — Lake Volta — that is one of the largest man-made lakes in the world.

This guide covers every destination worth stopping at on the route east from Accra, with honest travel times, what to expect, and how Uprise Travel can make the whole journey seamless.

This is not a day trip. It's a route. Plan for a weekend minimum — and you'll leave wishing you'd booked three days.

Stop 1: Shai Hills Resource Reserve — Wildlife Just Outside the City (50 km from Accra)

Barely an hour from Accra, Shai Hills is the perfect way to ease into the journey. This compact reserve sits right off the Accra–Ada road and is home to troops of baboons, grazing antelope, ostriches, and birds, all against a backdrop of dramatic rocky outcrops.

You can spot wildlife from the vehicle, hike up to one of the ancient caves once inhabited by the Shai people, or climb an outcrop for sweeping views across the plains. It's a short, rewarding first stop that reminds you how quickly Ghana's wild side appears once you leave the city behind.

Allow 1 to 1.5 hours. Distance from Accra: approximately 50 km — about 1 hour by car.

Stop 2: Aburi Botanical Gardens — Where World Leaders Planted Trees (35 km from Accra)

As the road climbs the Akuapem Ridge into cooler air and thicker greenery, the city suddenly feels very far away. Aburi sits at about 400 metres above sea level, and the temperature drop as you arrive is noticeable and welcome.

The Aburi Botanical Gardens were established in 1890 during the colonial era — originally as a sanatorium for British officials escaping Accra's coastal heat. Over 135 years later, the gardens span 160 acres and hold one of the most impressive collections of tropical plants, trees, and flowers in West Africa.

Walking through the Avenue of Royal Palms that lines the entrance is a moment most visitors remember. Further in, you'll find century-old silk cotton trees, rare African baobabs, orchids, and trees personally planted by world leaders on state visits — Queen Elizabeth II's mahogany (1961), Prince Charles's silver oak (1977), and more. There's even an abandoned helicopter tucked in one section that has become an accidental landmark.

Pro tip: The gardens are most beautiful in the morning light. Arrive early, walk slowly, and enjoy the cool Aburi air before continuing east.

Allow 1.5 to 2 hours. Distance from Accra: approximately 35 km — about 45 minutes to 1 hour by car.

Stop 3: Asenema Waterfalls — A Hidden Forest Escape (near Aburi)

Just beyond Aburi, tucked into the forest of the Akuapem hills, Asenema Waterfalls is a quiet gem most tourists never reach. A short walk through the trees brings you to a cool cascade tumbling into a natural pool — a peaceful place to pause, take photos, and enjoy nature well away from the crowds.

It pairs perfectly with Aburi as a morning of cool-air, green-hills exploring before you push on toward the lake.

Allow 1 to 1.5 hours including the short walk.

Stop 4: Tetteh Quarshie Cocoa Farm — Where Ghana's Chocolate Story Began (58 km from Accra)

A short drive on brings you to one of the most historically significant sites in all of Ghana — and arguably in all of Africa's economic history.

In 1870, a Ghanaian blacksmith and farmer from Osu named Tetteh Quarshie travelled to Bioko Island (then Fernando Po) for work. When he returned in 1876, he carried something that would change Ghana forever: cocoa seeds. In 1879, he planted them on a farm in Akuapim-Mampong — and Ghana's cocoa industry was born. Today, Ghana is one of the world's largest cocoa producers, contributing billions to the economy every year. It all started here, with seeds carried home by one man.

Three of the original trees Tetteh Quarshie planted in 1879 still stand today. Declared a national monument in 1986 and now managed by the Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana, the farm offers guided tours through the history and the cocoa process — and you can crack open a fresh pod and taste the raw beans that eventually become the chocolate the world loves.

Standing beside a tree planted in 1879 that helped build a nation's economy is one of those quiet, powerful moments that remind you why travel matters.

Allow 1 to 1.5 hours. Distance from Accra: approximately 58 km — about 1 to 1.5 hours by car.

Stop 5: Lake Volta — An Inland Sea You Didn't Know Existed (100 km from Accra)

As you head east into the Volta Region, Lake Volta opens up before you — and if you've never seen it, prepare to be stunned by its scale.

Created in 1965 with the completion of the Akosombo Dam, Lake Volta is one of the largest man-made lakes in the world, stretching over 8,500 square kilometres. From the right vantage point — around Akosombo or the bridge at Adome — it doesn't look like a lake at all. It looks like an ocean.

The town of Akosombo is worth a stop: the dam is an impressive feat of engineering, and boat cruises offer a completely different perspective on Ghana's interior — calm wide water, fishermen in wooden canoes, and small island communities. The sunset near the Atimpoku bridge is extraordinary.

Distance from Accra to Akosombo: approximately 100 km — about 1.5 to 2 hours by car.

Stop 6: Tafi Atome Monkey Sanctuary — 200 Years of Sacred Coexistence (230 km from Accra)

Deeper into the Volta Region lies one of the most charming and genuinely unusual wildlife experiences in Ghana.

For over 200 years, the Mona and Patas monkeys in the forest around the village of Tafi Atome have been considered sacred — messengers to the gods in local belief. Because of this protection, they've never been hunted, and the result is a wild population of around 200 monkeys with essentially no fear of people.

A local guide leads you into the forest, and within minutes monkeys are in the trees above you. Buy a banana from the visitor centre and they'll come straight to you — climbing onto your arm, sitting on your shoulder, meeting your eye. These are wild animals, not performing ones, and the difference is everything.

Established as a conservation project in 1993, the sanctuary's tourism revenue has brought electricity, a better school, and a health clinic to the village. Visiting isn't just a wildlife experience — it's direct community support.

Bring bananas. Move slowly. Let them come to you. Allow 1 to 1.5 hours. Distance from Accra: approximately 230 km — about 3.5 to 4 hours by car.

Stop 7: Mount Gemi — The Hidden Hike

Less famous than Afadjato but no less rewarding, Mount Gemi is one of the Volta Region's best-kept secrets. While the crowds head elsewhere, those who find Gemi discover quiet trails, far fewer tourists, and true solitude in the mountain forest, crowned at the summit by a distinctive iron cross and panoramic views.

The local guides here are extraordinary — this isn't a follow-the-arrows hike. Your guide turns the climb into a nature lesson on the plants, birds, and ecology of the Akuapem-Togo Range. Sitting close to Tafi Atome, it makes an excellent same-day pairing: monkeys in the morning, mountain in the afternoon.

Allow 2 to 3 hours depending on pace and fitness.

Stop 8: Tagbo Falls — A Scenic Forest Trek (near Liati Wote)

Near the village of Liati Wote, a beautiful guided hike through cocoa farms and forest leads to Tagbo Falls, where water spills down a mossy cliff into a cool pool. The walk itself is half the reward — lush, green, and alive with birdsong. It pairs naturally with a climb up nearby Afadjato for a full day in the highlands.

Allow around 45 minutes each way on the trail.

Stop 9: Wli Waterfalls — The Highest Waterfall in West Africa (280 km from Accra)

The name is pronounced "Vli" — and whatever you call it, this is the kind of place that makes you stop talking when you arrive.

Wli Waterfalls, known locally as Agumatsa Falls ("Allow Me to Flow" in Ewe), cascades 80 metres down a cliff in the Agumatsa Wildlife Sanctuary near Hohoe. It's the highest waterfall in Ghana and the tallest in West Africa, with the water originating in Togo before crossing into Ghana and plunging into the pool below.

There are two falls. The lower falls are reached by a gentle 45-minute forest walk — mostly flat, crossing wooden bridges, through a sanctuary home to over 200 bird species and 400 butterfly species. The upper falls require a steeper 3 to 4-hour hike for the fit and properly shod. The

lower pool is a perfect swimming spot, cool and misted by the cascade above. Arrive late afternoon and you may witness thousands of fruit bats launching from the cliffs at dusk — one of Ghana's great natural spectacles.

The falls are most powerful in the rainy season (April to October); the dry season means safer trails but reduced flow.

Distance from Accra: approximately 280 km — about 4 to 5 hours by car.

Stop 10: Mount Afadjato — Summit Ghana's Highest Peak (290 km from Accra)

A short drive from Wli, near Liati Wote, stands Mount Afadjato — the highest mountain in Ghana at 885 metres.

The summit hike takes about 1.5 to 2 hours each way through forest paths, cocoa and coffee farms, and increasingly dramatic views. The final stretch is steep and rewarding, and from the top on a clear day you can see across the border into Togo. Wli and Afadjato together make the strongest possible combination for a day in the northern Volta Region: hike Afadjato in the cool morning, lunch in the village, then walk to Wli for the afternoon and the bat flight at dusk.

Wear proper footwear, bring plenty of water, and budget for the required local guide and a tip.
Distance from Accra: approximately 290 km — about 4.5 to 5 hours by car.

Suggested Route: Accra to Volta Region in 2 to 3 Days

- **Day 1 — Accra into the Eastern Region**
 - Morning: Shai Hills or Aburi Botanical Gardens
 - Late morning: Tetteh Quarshie Cocoa Farm and Asenema Waterfalls
 - Afternoon: Drive to Akosombo for Lake Volta, the dam, or a boat ride
 - Evening: Continue to Ho or Hohoe and check in.
- **Day 2 — Deep Volta Region**
 - Morning: Tafi Atome Monkey Sanctuary (monkeys most active early)
 - Early afternoon: Mount Gemi hike
 - Late afternoon: Wli lower falls walk and swim
 - Dusk: The bat flight at Wli ·
 - Night: Stay in Hohoe or Wli village.
- **Day 3 — Summit and Return**
 - Early morning: Hike Mount Afadjato before the midday heat ·
 - Afternoon: Optional Tagbo Falls · Then the drive back to Accra via Ho, approximately 4 to 5 hours.

How to Get There from Accra

Option 1: Rent a Car and Driver with Uprise Travel (Strongly Recommended)

This route covers multiple destinations spread across two regions, several of which take real local knowledge to navigate. A dedicated Uprise vehicle means you move on your own schedule, never miss the timing on key moments like the Wli bat flight or the early-morning monkeys, and travel with a driver who knows the roads between Akosombo, Hohoe, Wli, and Liatu Wote.

And this is exactly the kind of trip where the right transport makes all the difference. Maybe it's your first time in Ghana and you want to see the Volta Region but have no idea where to start. Maybe you're in Accra for a short trip or a conference and want a stress-free, budget-friendly way to escape into the hills before you leave. Maybe you've heard about these waterfalls for years and never seen them in person. Or maybe you live here — for work, studies, or a volunteer placement — and just want a comfortable weekend away without wrestling with the logistics.

Whoever you are, this is the kind of journey we make easy. Instead of piecing together unreliable transport or navigating unfamiliar roads yourself, you sit back while a professional driver handles everything and knows exactly where to go and when to be there. And whether it's just you, your family, or a whole group, we match you with the right vehicle — a comfortable saloon for one or two, or a 4×4, minibus, or coaster for larger parties.

Let Uprise Travel build your Volta Region trip. Two days or four, we'll plan the route, handle the driving, and make sure you don't miss a single thing.

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Option 2: Self-Drive

The roads from Accra through Aburi, Akosombo, and into the Volta Region are generally in good condition. Fuel up in Ho or Hohoe before heading toward Wli, as stations get scarce. A standard sedan handles most of the route, though a 4×4 is more comfortable on the final stretches toward Wli and Afadjato.

Option 3: Public Transport (Not Recommended for This Route)

Buses and tro-tros connect Accra to Ho and Hohoe, but connections between the individual attractions — Tafi Atome, Mt Gemi, Wli, Afadjato — are infrequent and unpredictable. You'd spend more time waiting for transport than experiencing the destinations. For this route, a private vehicle is essential.

Practical Tips Before You Go

- **Pack for two climates** — Accra and Aburi are warm; the Volta highlands are cooler, especially at night. Bring a light layer.
- **Wear proper hiking shoes** for Mt Gemi, Afadjato, and the upper Wli trail — not sandals.
- **Carry cash** — ATMs are in Ho and Hohoe but scarce near the attractions.
- **Bring bananas for Tafi Atome** — the monkeys are more responsive and it makes for better photos. (you will also get some to buy when you get there)
- **Start early every day** — the best wildlife, coolest hiking, and fewest crowds are all in the morning.
- **Best time to visit** — December to March for dry, cooler conditions; April to October for the waterfalls at their most powerful.
- **Guided hikes** (Afadjato, Gemi, Wli) require local guides arranged at each visitor centre — budget for fees and tips. Your Uprise driver knows the stops and timings to make it smooth.

Why the Volta Region Belongs on Every Ghana Itinerary

Ghana's coast has Cape Coast and Accra. The north has Mole. But the east — the Volta Region and its highlands — is the part of Ghana that surprises people the most.

It's where the country's chocolate story was born. Where monkeys have been sacred for two centuries. Where the highest waterfall in West Africa thunders into a pool you can swim in. Where Ghana's tallest peak waits to be summited. Where a lake so vast it defies the word "lake" sits quietly in the country's interior.

Most travellers leave Ghana without seeing any of it. The ones who go always say the same thing: they wish they'd stayed longer.

Go longer. Uprise Travel will make sure you see all of it.

Ready to explore Ghana's Volta Region?

Let Uprise Travel plan your route, handle the driving, and make sure you see everything.



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Most people visit Ghana and completely miss this. 🌍

Head EAST from Accra and you'll find West Africa's tallest waterfall, Ghana's highest mountain, monkeys that eat from your hand, hidden forest falls, the farm where Ghana's cocoa story began, and a lake so wide it looks like the sea.

Some stops are along the way. Others are deep in the Volta Region. All of them are worth it — and we'll get you to every one.

First time in Ghana? Here for work or studies? Just want a stress-free weekend escape? We handle the driving, the route, and the timing. You just enjoy the ride. 🚗

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#VoltaRegion #Ghana #VisitGhana #TravelGhana #UpriseTravelGhana #CarRental #WliFalls
#Afadjato #TafiAtome #LakeVolta #ShaiHills #AburiGardens #HiddenGhana #AfricaTravel
#GhanaRoadTrip

Kumasi to Mole

Heading to Mole from Kumasi? Here's Everything You Need to Know

You're already halfway there. From the heart of the Ashanti Region, Mole National Park is within reach — here's every way to make the journey, and the most comfortable way to arrive.

Kumasi — Ghana's second city and the proud heart of the Ashanti Kingdom, sits perfectly placed for a trip north to Mole National Park. If you're here for business, studies, a festival, or simply exploring the region, you're already well on your way to one of West Africa's greatest wildlife experiences.

Mole is Ghana's largest wildlife reserve, 4,500 square kilometres of savannah and woodland, home to wild elephants, antelope, buffalo, warthogs, baboons, and over 300 species of birds. It has a single entrance gate near the village of Larabanga, and every route in passes through there.

Here's how to get to Mole from Kumasi — and how Uprise Travel can make the journey effortless.

Option 1: Rent a Vehicle with Uprise Travel — Best Option (~6 to 7 hrs)

This is the option we recommend, and not just because we offer it. A private vehicle gives you what nothing else on this route can: your own schedule, a reliable ride the whole way, and a professional driver who knows the roads north.

The drive from Kumasi to Mole covers roughly 350 km and takes around 6 to 7 hours, heading north through Techiman and Kintampo before turning toward the park. The road is mostly good, though some stretches slow you down — which is exactly why having an experienced driver makes the difference between a long, tiring day and a comfortable, easy one.

Our fleet is available in Kumasi. We'll collect you from your hotel or anywhere in the city and drive you straight to the park gate — no waiting, no haggling, no surprises.

There's a bonus on this route, too: the drive north passes close to the **Kintampo Waterfalls**, one of Ghana's most beautiful cascades and a perfect place to stretch your legs and break up the journey. Just ask your driver to build in the stop.

Option 2: Public Bus from Kumasi — Budget Option (~8 to 10 hrs)

If you're travelling on a budget and have time to spare, public transport is possible, though it takes patience. Buses and tro-tros run from Kumasi toward Tamale or Wa, and you'll need to change vehicles along the way to reach the Mole area, getting off at Larabanga and taking a motorbike taxi or shared taxi the final stretch to the park gate.

Expect the whole trip to take 8 to 10 hours or more, depending on connections and how long you wait for vehicles to fill.

Worth knowing before you go by public transport:

- Departure times are unpredictable — shared vehicles leave when full, not by the clock
- You'll change vehicles at least once, and won't be dropped at the park gate
- Luggage space is limited, so pack light
- It's workable for seasoned budget travellers, but it makes for a very long day with a lot of uncertainty

Option 3: Charter a Private Taxi from Kumasi (~6 to 7 hrs)

A middle-ground option is chartering a taxi for the trip. Some Kumasi drivers will make the run north, and the drive takes around 6 to 7 hours.

Before agreeing to anything, sort out these details up front:

- Confirm whether the price includes fuel — the most common point of dispute
- Agree on the full fare before you set off, not on arrival
- Check the condition of the vehicle — it's a long drive north, and comfort varies a lot from car to car
- Ask whether the driver will wait for you at the park or return to collect you

A chartered taxi offers more flexibility than the bus, but less reliability than a dedicated service. With Uprise, everything is agreed in advance — no roadside negotiation, and a vehicle you can count on for the full distance.

Our Fleet — The Right Vehicle for Your Trip

Whether it's just you, a couple, a family, or a large group heading to Mole together, we have a vehicle to match. Every rental comes with a professional, experienced driver — so all you do is enjoy the ride.

Vehicle	Best for	Notes
Saloon / Sedan	Solo & couple travel, airport transfers, city trips	Executive comfort for smooth paved routes — ideal Accra to Tamale via Kumasi
4×4 (Highlander / Land Cruiser)	Safari, national parks, off-road & Volta routes	Built for Mole's terrain and Ghana's more demanding roads — the vehicle of choice

		for wildlife travel
Minibus (15-passenger)	Small groups, family trips, seminar & event transfers	Spacious group travel — great for church groups, student trips, and corporate teams
Coaster Bus	Large group travel	For bigger groups across any Ghana route

Every Uprise rental includes a professional driver. Customised vehicle and driver options are available on request — just tell us your group size and schedule.

Planning Your Time at Mole

Once you arrive, Mole is all about wildlife and slowing down — walking and jeep safaris (one of the most affordable safari experiences in the world), a stop at the historic Larabanga Mosque, and sunsets over the savannah. There's accommodation for every budget, from the luxury Zaina Lodge to the popular Mole Motel overlooking a watering hole, and we recommend at least 2 nights to make the long journey worthwhile. The dry season (November to April) is the best time to catch elephants gathering at the watering holes.

For our complete guide to Mole — every safari type, where to stay, what to pack, the best time to visit, and how long to stay — see our full guide: [How to Get from Accra to Mole National Park].

A Few Things to Know Before You Go

- **Carry cash before you head north** — there are no ATMs inside Mole and few facilities nearby. Park entry, safaris, and guide fees are all paid in cash, so withdraw what you need in Kumasi or Techiman before the final stretch.
- **Plan for an early start** — it's a long drive, so leaving Kumasi early means you arrive with daylight to spare and can settle in before your first safari.
- **Your Uprise driver knows the ground** — the best places to stop, where to refuel, and how to time your arrival. That local knowledge comes with the ride.

Why Travel to Mole with Uprise?

- **Safety** — professional drivers who know the long route north and the road conditions
- **Comfort** — clean, well-kept vehicles suited to the journey
- **Reliability** — we confirm your booking, show up on time, and get you there
- **Stress-free** — no changing vehicles, no roadside waiting, no uncertainty on a long drive

- **Flexibility** — we move on your schedule, with time for stops like Kintampo Waterfalls along the way
-

Ready to visit Mole National Park?

You're already in Kumasi — let Uprise Travel handle the journey north so all you have to do is enjoy it.

💬 WhatsApp us: <https://wa.me/233249507413>

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🌐 uprisetravel.com

Social Media Caption

In Kumasi and dreaming of seeing wild elephants? 🐘

Mole National Park is closer than you think, and how you make the journey north makes all the difference. We've broken down every option: private rental, public transport, and chartered taxi, with honest timing and what to watch out for.

Want to skip the stress and just arrive? Rent from Uprise. We'll pick you up in Kumasi, build in a stop at the beautiful Kintampo Waterfalls, and get you to the park gate in comfort — whether it's just you or a whole group.

💬 WhatsApp us or ✉️ tours@uprisetravel.com

#MoleNationalPark #Kumasi #Ashanti #Ghana #TravelGhana #UpriseTravelGhana #CarRental
#GhanaWildlife #VisitGhana #SafariGhana #KintampoFalls

Detty December 2026

Detty December in Ghana 2026 — The Complete Guide (And Why Uprise Does It Differently)

Everything happening this December — the festivals, the nightlife, the heritage, and the one thing every other Detty December package leaves out.

Every December, Accra becomes the centre of the Black world. What began as informal Year of Return gatherings has grown into a month-long takeover — nonstop concerts, sunrise beach parties, rooftop lounges, cultural festivals, and a homecoming energy that pulls thousands of diaspora travellers back to Ghana every single year. They call it **Detty December**, and 2026 marks its fourth major edition.

Here's the thing most Detty December guides won't tell you: nearly every curated package on the market takes you through the same three stops — Accra, Cape Coast, and Aburi. That's a great trip. It is not the *whole* trip.

Uprise Travel has been showing people the real Ghana for years — including the north, where wild elephants roam free at Mole National Park and the story of the country doesn't end at the coast. This December, we're building something none of the big travel apps offer: a Detty December experience that takes you from the beaches and rooftops of Accra all the way to the savannah — a true Ghana, north to south.

And whatever you have in mind, this itinerary isn't fixed. Every trip we run is built around what *you* actually want — more nightlife, more heritage, more nature, a shorter stay, a longer one. Tell us your vision and we'll shape the trip around it.

Here's everything worth knowing about Detty December 2026.

What Is Detty December?

"Detty" — Ghanaian slang for "dirty," used the way you'd say a party got wild and unforgettable — captures the energy of the season perfectly. Coined by the Nigerian musician Mr Eazi as a play on "Dirty December," the term took off alongside Ghana's 2019 Year of Return initiative, which invited the global diaspora to reconnect with the continent. What started as a government campaign turned into the defining travel season of the year. Detty December now runs roughly from mid-December through New Year's Day, and it's the single biggest tourism period on Ghana's calendar.

The Events That Define Detty December

Detty December isn't one party — it's a whole season of them, each with its own personality:

AfroFuture Festival — Dec 27–29, Accra

The flagship of the season. International Afrobeats, amapiano, and dancehall acts across multiple stages, with 20,000+ people in attendance. This is the one everyone talks about for the rest of the year.

Tidal Rave Festival — Dec 22, Laboma Beach

A legendary beach party with live sets, top DJs, and the ocean right there beside you. One of the most photographed events of the season.

Detty December Concert — Dec 27–28, El Wak Stadium

One of the season's hottest concerts, and it sells out fast every year.

Small Havana Street Carnival — Dec 22, Osu Oxford Street

Caribbean energy, food, and DJs right in the heart of Osu's nightlife strip — mellow by day, electric by night.

All-White Parties — Christmas Day & Boxing Day

A Detty December tradition. Dress code: all white, energy: unmatched.

Beach parties throughout December — Laboma Beach & Polo Beach Club, Labadi

The premium oceanside party circuit runs the entire month, not just on one night.

Regional highlights: the Volta Region hosts its own Volta Music Festival in late December (mountains, music, cool breeze), and Takoradi puts on the striking Ankos Masquerade Festival on Dec 25–26 — colourful costumes and street parades unlike anything in the capital.

Accra's Thriving Nightlife Scene

If Detty December has a heartbeat, it's Accra's nightlife — and in December, the whole city runs on it. Clubs that are lively year-round become genuinely electric once the diaspora crowd lands, with major Afrobeats artists flying in for single-night sets and every venue running its own December calendar of events.

Here are the names worth knowing:

Twist Nightclub — one of Accra's most iconic clubs and a Detty December institution. Doors open around 10pm, but the real crowd doesn't arrive until well past midnight — come prepared to stay late.

Carbon Nightclub (Airport City) — big-room energy, Afrobeats and amapiano all night, consistently one of the busiest rooms in the city during December.

Bloom Bar (Osu) — a diaspora favourite since 2017, known for its relaxed door policy and younger, creative crowd. One of the best all-round nights out in the city.

Sandbox Beach Club (Labadi) — pool, bar, restaurant, and event space right on the beach. Sea, sand, and a party, all in the same spot.

Ace Night Club (Labone) — one of the newer rooms on the scene and quickly becoming a Detty December favourite.

+233 Jazz Bar & Grill (North Ridge) — for the nights you want live music and real conversation over bottle service. Excellent food, unforgettable live sets.

Republic Bar & Grill (Osu) — the old guard of Accra nightlife, live highlife and Afrobeat for a crowd that actually listens.

Exhale Lounge (East Legon) — rooftop, open-air, slightly more relaxed early in the night before it builds into a full dance floor by midnight.

Cover charges typically run GHS 50–200, and clubs don't fill up until close to midnight — arriving at 10pm sharp usually just means standing near the bar by yourself. Pace your night accordingly.

New Year's Eve — Accra's Biggest Night

However you want to bring in 2027, Accra has a version of it. Rooftop countdowns at hotels across the city, beach celebrations at Labadi and Laboma with fireworks over the Atlantic, and citywide concerts that keep going long past midnight. This is the single night every Detty December traveller plans their whole trip around — and it's worth building real time into your itinerary just for this, rather than treating it as an afterthought.

Welcome to Ghana — Your Trip Starts the Moment You Land

Before the parties and the heritage sites, there's the first thing that actually matters: getting a proper welcome. With Uprise, your Detty December experience begins the second you land — airport pickup, a smooth transfer to your hotel, and a real person from our team ready to walk

you through the days ahead. No scrambling for a taxi, no uncertainty on your first night in a new country. You arrive, and everything is already in motion.

The Uprise Signature Itinerary: Coast to Savannah

Most Detty December packages give you seven days of Accra, Cape Coast, and Aburi and call it complete. We think a real Detty December should include the part of Ghana most travellers never see — and it should flex around what you actually want.

Days 1–2 — Welcome to Ghana

Airport pickup, hotel check-in, and a welcome night out in one of Accra's rooftop lounges. Explore Black Star Square, Jamestown's lighthouse district, and the Accra Arts Centre by day.

Day 3 — AfroFuture & the City After Dark

Festival day. Access to AfroFuture, then the city's nightlife circuit — Twist, Bloom Bar, or wherever the night takes you.

Day 4 — Heritage on the Coast

Cape Coast Castle and Elmina Castle, the Door of No Return, and time in Elmina's fishing village. A day that adds real weight and meaning to the trip.

Day 5 — North to Mole

This is where Uprise does it differently. While every other package keeps you on the coast, we fly you north to Tamale and drive you into Mole National Park — wild elephants, open savannah, a walking safari at dawn. It's a different Ghana entirely, and it's the part of the trip people remember most.

Day 6 — Back to the Beach for New Year's Eve

Return south for Accra's biggest night of the year. Beach club, rooftop, or citywide fireworks — however you want to bring in 2027.

Day 7 — Soft Life & Departure

A relaxed final day — beach time, a cooking class, or just recovery — before your smooth, handled airport transfer home.

This is a starting point, not a fixed package. Want more nightlife and less heritage? Skip the north and add an extra beach day? A longer trip, or a shorter one? Just tell us — every Uprise itinerary is customised around what you actually want to do.

Essential Tips for First-Time Visitors

- **Book early.** Hotels in Osu, East Legon, and Airport Residential — the best areas for event access — fill up fast, and top picks are usually gone by September. The earlier you lock in your dates with us, the better your options.
 - **Flights** from the US (JFK to Accra) run around 10.5 hours direct with carriers like Delta and United. Book by August for the best fares.
 - **Visa** — US citizens need a Ghana visa (around \$60, 1–2 weeks processing). We can point you in the right direction to get this sorted early.
 - **Money** — bring some USD or GBP cash for the best exchange rates; mobile money (MTN MoMo) is widely used and worth setting up once you land.
 - **Nightlife timing** — clubs open around 10pm but don't fill up until midnight. Pace yourself; it's a marathon, not a sprint.
 - **Pack for both worlds** — breathable clothing and your best fits for the Accra nightlife, but also modest wear and comfortable shoes for heritage sites and a walking safari at Mole.
 - **Use trusted transport** — Ghana is one of the safer countries in West Africa, but always travel with a driver you know and trust, especially late at night. With Uprise, that's already handled.
 - **Balance the parties with the culture.** The nightlife is unforgettable, but so is everything else Ghana has to offer — don't let the clubs be the only story you bring home.
-

Why Book Detty December With Uprise

Most Detty December packages are run by travel apps based abroad, coordinating local partners on the ground. Uprise is different — **we are the ground team.** Ghanaian-founded, Ghana-based, and run by people who've spent years guiding across this entire country, not just the coast.

Here's what that means for you:

- **A real north-to-south trip.** We're the only operator building Mole National Park into a Detty December itinerary.
- **Private transport, every step.** No shuttle buses, no shared vans. Every vehicle comes with a professional driver — through festival traffic, between cities, and to and from every event.
- **Fully customised.** Nothing about your trip is fixed. More nightlife, more heritage, more nature, a different pace — we build it around you.
- **A real person on WhatsApp.** No chatbot, no app — message us directly and get a real answer from our team.

- **Local pricing, not app markup.** Because we're the operator, not a platform reselling other people's tours, we can offer more for your budget.
-

Detty December Is Calling. Let's Build Your Trip.

Whether you want the full coast-to-savannah week, a shorter city-and-beach trip, or something entirely your own, Uprise Travel will plan it, drive it, and handle it — start to finish.

💬 WhatsApp us: <https://wa.me/233249507413>

✉️ tours@uprisetravel.com

🌐 uprisetravel.com

Social Media Caption

Detty December 2026 is coming. 🇬🇭🔥

AfroFuture. Tidal Rave. Twist, Bloom Bar, Carbon, all-white parties, and fireworks over Accra on NYE. Everyone's talking about it — but here's what nobody else is offering.

We're the only ones taking you north too. Wild elephants at Mole National Park, a real Ghana safari, all built into your Detty December week. Coast to savannah — and your whole trip customised around exactly what you want.

Start planning now. The best hotels and flights go fast.

💬 WhatsApp us or ✉️ tours@uprisetravel.com

#DettyDecember #DettyDecember2026 #Ghana #VisitGhana #AfroFuture #AccraNightlife
#UpriseTravelGhana #DiasporaTravel #GhanaHomecoming #MoleNationalPark
#CapeCoastCastle #BlackTravel #YearOfReturn #TravelAfrica

CAR RENTAL WEBSITE 2

ABOUT UPRISE TRAVEL

Ghana's premier chauffeur & car rental service — north and south.

Based in Greater Accra and Tamale, covering Accra, Cape Coast, Kumasi, Mole, Tamale, Bolgatanga, Wa and cross-border to Togo & Benin, with professional drivers who know every road.

Who We Are

Uprise Car Rentals was built to solve a real problem; the difficulty of finding safe, reliable, and professional ground transportation in Ghana. Whether you're landing at Accra International Airport (formerly Kotoka), heading north for a safari through Mole National Park, or need an executive vehicle for a multi-day corporate itinerary, we deliver without compromise.

Every vehicle in our fleet comes with a vetted, professional driver. We do not offer self-drive rentals and that's not a limitation, it's our standard. Our clients travel with confidence because someone who knows the roads, the checkpoints, and the local context is always behind the wheel.

We serve diaspora visitors, corporate travellers, NGO and development-sector professionals, tour groups, students and volunteers, and anyone who wants to explore Ghana without the stress of navigating it alone.

CLIENT STORIES

★★★★★

“Uprise has completely changed how I think about ground transport in Accra. My driver is always 10 minutes early, the Mercedes is always immaculate, and I've never once had to worry about a pickup. It's the closest thing to a private concierge service I've experienced in Ghana.”



Solomon Mensah
CEO, Mensah Capital



"Uprise has completely changed how I think about ground transport in Accra. My driver is always 10 minutes early, the vehicle is always immaculate, and I've never once had to worry about a pickup. It's the closest thing to a private concierge service I've experienced in Ghana."

Solomon Mensah

CEO, Mensah Capital

Get your Guide Update

Get your Guide Update

Day 1 — Into the Wild

The city falls away fast. A fifty-minute flight north from Accra, and you land in Tamale — the gateway to a Ghana most visitors never see. Your Uprise guide is waiting at the airport with a smile, and after a quick breakfast at a local bakery, you're on the road: two hours through changing landscape, the city giving way slowly to open savannah, until Mole National Park rises up around you.

Settle into your room, and then — the real reason you came. Your first driving safari takes you deep into the park as the light softens toward evening, tracking whatever the bush reveals: elephants moving through the trees, baboons watching from the roadside, antelope and hartebeest grazing in the open. There's no script for what you'll see out here — that's exactly the point.

By the time dinner arrives, you'll understand why people come back to Mole again and again. *(All meals included today.)*

Overnight: Mole Safari Resort (Standard) / Zaina Lodge (Premium)

Single occupancy: \$2,499 per person · Double occupancy (2–3 travelers): \$2,079 per person

Day 2 — On Foot, Among Giants

Before the sun is fully up, you're already moving — this time on foot, walking into Mole's savannah with an armed park ranger at your side and the whole park waking up around you. This is the safari people talk about for years: no vehicle between you and the wild, just quiet footsteps, the ranger's practiced eye, and the chance that an elephant might appear just ahead on the trail. Watch closely near the waterholes — crocodiles sometimes surface right where you least expect them.

Two hours later, breakfast waits back at the lodge, well earned.

The afternoon shifts pace entirely: a peaceful canoe safari along the Mole River, gliding into corners of the park no vehicle can reach. From there, you'll visit Mognori village, where daily life in Northern Ghana unfolds in front of you — women weaving, shea butter being made by hand, generations of tradition still very much alive. If the timing is right, you may even shake hands with the village chief himself. *(All meals included today.)*

Overnight: Mole Safari Resort (Standard) / Zaina Lodge (Premium) — *see pricing above*

Day 3 — One Last Look, and the Road Home

One final walking safari before you go — a last chance to stand still in the bush and take in what you've spent two days falling for. Say your goodbyes to the elephants, and begin the road back toward Tamale.

On the way, a stop that puts the whole trip in perspective: Larabanga Mosque, one of the oldest mosques in West Africa and the oldest in all of Ghana. Built in the 15th century, it's often called the "Mecca of West Africa" — a place where history feels close enough to touch.

Back in Tamale, there's time to browse the Tamale Cultural Center for a few last souvenirs before your flight south. *(Breakfast and lunch included today.)*

Evening: Return flight to Accra — and a Ghana you'll carry with you long after you land.

One-Day Mole Safari & Tamale City Tour

One-Day Mole Safari & Tamale City Tour

Got a single day to experience the best of Ghana's north? This is the tour for you. Starting and ending in Tamale, the vibrant cultural and economic heart of northern Ghana. You'll spend the morning on safari in Mole National Park, then discover the history, art, and character of Tamale itself. Two very different worlds, one unforgettable day.

Highlights

- Go on a driving safari through Mole National Park, Ghana's largest and most biodiverse wildlife reserve
- Visit the historic Larabanga Mosque, one of the oldest in West Africa
- Explore the Savannah Centre for Contemporary Art, a home of Ghana's modern art scene

Price per person (1 traveler): \$369

Price per person (2–3 travelers): \$229

Price per person (4+ travelers): \$219

Tour cost includes:

- Tour guide service
- All described activities, including entrance fees, external guide fees, outside vendor tips, etc.
- 1 lunch*
- Unlimited bottled water

*We want to make sure our guests don't have to carry large amounts of cash or make frequent stops at the ATM. For each meal, we include the average cost of an entrée and a non-alcoholic beverage at that specific restaurant. If you wish to buy higher-end menu items, your guide may ask you to cover the difference in price. Alcohol and dessert are not included.

Day 1

Your day begins early, the best time to catch the wild awake. Your Uprise guide collects you from your location in Tamale and drives roughly three hours into the heart of Mole National Park. On arrival, you set out on a driving safari, heading deep into Ghana's largest reserve in search of whatever the bush reveals: elephants moving through the trees, baboons and patas monkeys, buffalo, antelope, hartebeest, and much more.

After you've soaked up the morning and waved goodbye to the elephants, you begin the journey back toward Tamale, with a stop that puts the whole region into perspective. The Larabanga Mosque, built in the 15th century, is one of the oldest mosques in West Africa and the oldest in Ghana. Often called the "Mecca of West Africa," it's a place where history feels close enough to touch.

Back in Tamale, the day shifts from nature to culture at the Savannah Centre for Contemporary Art (SCCA) — an initiative of celebrated Ghanaian artist Ibrahim Mahama, dedicated to growing the country's contemporary art scene. It's a striking, thought-provoking contrast to the wilderness you started your morning in.

Finally, you'll make your way to your final destination in Tamale, where you'll say goodbye to your Uprise guide and leave with new memories to last a lifetime. (*Lunch only is included on this day.*)

Overnight: Final Destination

AN IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT SCHEDULE CHANGES

Uprise Travel reserves the right to change this itinerary at any time. We might make changes for a variety of reasons, including local holidays, road or bridge closures, flight delays or cancellations, weather or natural disasters, currency fluctuations, issues with subcontractors or external vendors, the substitution of a new activity, or any unforeseen circumstances. The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry. In the event that we need to alter this schedule, we will endeavour to offer a similar experience of equal or greater value where possible.

Northern Ghana Adventure

Northern Ghana Adventure

4 Days / 3 Nights

This four-day journey takes you off the beaten path and down the dusty red roads of northern Ghana. Enchanting, memorable, and refreshingly far from the usual tourist trail, this trip offers a real snapshot of the animals, peoples, and cultures that make the north so special.

Highlights

- Search for elephants, baboons, antelope, monkeys and more at Mole National Park
- Tour the Mognori village and float the Mole River by canoe
- Meet the hippos of the Wechiau Community Hippo Sanctuary on the Black Volta
- Explore Tamale, the cultural and economic heart of Ghana's north

Price per person (1 traveler, single occupancy): \$1,629

Price per person (2–3 travelers, double occupancy): \$1,159

Price per person (4+ travelers, double occupancy): \$1,049

Single room supplement (added to double price): \$99

Tour cost includes:

- 3 nights' stay at Mole Motel in Mole National Park
- Private transportation and fuel for the entire trip
- All activities mentioned in this itinerary, including entrance fees, external guide fees, vendor tips
- 24-hour tour guide service
- 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner*
- Unlimited bottled water

*We want to make sure our guests don't have to carry large amounts of cash or make frequent stops at the ATM. For each meal, we include the average cost of an entrée at that specific restaurant. If you wish to buy higher-end menu items or desserts, your guide may ask you to cover the difference in price. Alcohol and dessert are not included.

Day 1 — Into the Wild North

Your Uprise guide collects you from your location in Tamale and sets off on the roughly three-hour drive to Mole National Park, the crown jewel of Ghana's national park system and the largest wildlife reserve in the country. Spanning 4,500 square kilometres, Mole is home to

elephants, patas and vervet monkeys, baboons, crocodiles, hartebeest, and hundreds of species of birds.

In the afternoon, you set out on your first game drive, heading into the park to see what the bush reveals as the day cools. After a full day of travel and safari, you'll settle into your comfortable accommodation for dinner and a well-earned rest. *(Dinner only is included on this day.)*

Overnight: Mole Motel

Day 2 — On Foot, Among Giants

Your second day begins before the sun is fully up, on foot. This early-morning walking safari sets out to catch elephants and birds stirring against the sunrise, with an armed park ranger at your side so you can approach wildlife safely. Watch the waterholes closely — if you're lucky, crocodiles may surface right where you least expect them. After about two hours, you'll head back to the hotel for a well-earned breakfast.

The afternoon shifts pace entirely with a peaceful canoe safari along the Mole River, gliding into remote corners of the park no vehicle can reach. From there, you'll visit the village of Mognori, where daily life in Northern Ghana unfolds in front of you — women weaving, shea butter made by hand, traditions passed down through generations. If the timing is right, you may even shake hands with the village chief himself before heading back to the park. *(Breakfast only is included on this day.)*

Overnight: Mole Motel

Day 3 — Hippos on the Black Volta

This morning you depart Mole and drive to Wa, in Ghana's Upper West Region, to visit the Wechiau Community Hippo Sanctuary. This unique community-based project protects a forty-kilometre stretch of the Black Volta River, home to one of only two remaining hippopotamus populations in Ghana. Established by local chiefs in 1999, it's conservation and community woven together, and a rare chance to see these extraordinary animals in the wild.

After your time on the Black Volta, you'll journey back to Mole and settle into your comfortable accommodation, ready for the next day's adventure. *(Breakfast and lunch are included on this day.)*

Overnight: Mole Motel

Day 4 — One Last Safari, and the Road Home

Your final morning brings one last driving safari, a final chance to head deep into the park in hopes of spotting the wildlife you haven't yet seen. From there, you'll make the drive back to Tamale. On arrival, you'll reach your final destination, say goodbye to your Uprise guide, and leave with memories to last a lifetime. *(Breakfast only is included on this day.)*

Overnight: Final Destination

AN IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT SCHEDULE CHANGES

Uprise Travel reserves the right to change this itinerary at any time. We might make changes for a variety of reasons, including local holidays, road or bridge closures, flight delays or cancellations, weather or natural disasters, currency fluctuations, issues with subcontractors or external vendors, the substitution of a new activity, or any unforeseen circumstances. The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry. In the event that we need to alter this schedule, we will make every effort to inform you of changes as soon as they occur.

Errors

One-Day Mole Safari & Tamale City Tour

Issues I spotted

- 1. Repetition in the overview.** The intro paragraph says "the cultural and economic center of Ghana's north" and then immediately repeats "the economic and cultural center of Ghana's north" in the very next sentence. Redundant.
- 2. The highlights are thin.** Only two bullets (drive through Mole, visit Larabanga Mosque), but the Day 1 description mentions a third major stop — the Savannah Centre for Contemporary Art — that never made it into the highlights. That's a miss, since it's a genuinely interesting stop worth advertising.
- 3. Missing quotation mark.** In the Day 1 text: *often considered the "Mecca of West Africa.* — the closing quotation mark is missing after "Africa."
- 4. Double space typo.** "your Uprise guide and leave" has a double space before "and." (this might not necessarily be an error, it might be alignment issues)

Northern Ghana Adventure

Issues I spotted

- 1. The Day 2 safari mislabel:** It opens with "an early morning walking safari," which is correct here, but let me flag: it says "Accompanied by a **gun-toting** park ranger.", I'd change to "armed park ranger" for a more polished tone.
- 2. Meal count inconsistency in the Day 1 text.** Day 1 says "(All meals only are included on this day.)" — but the inclusions list at the top says the tour includes "4 breakfasts, 1 lunches, 1 dinner." If Day 1 includes *all* meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner), that doesn't add up with only 1 lunch and 1 dinner across the whole 4-day trip. Looking at the pattern, Day 1 should almost certainly read "**(Dinner only is included on this day.)**" — since that matches the 1 dinner in the inclusions and the arrival-evening timing.
- 3. Grammar: "1 lunches"** in the inclusions should be "**1 lunch.**"
- 4. "head to head to Wa"** in Day 3 — "head to" is duplicated.
- 5. Double space** — "All meals only are included" and "comfortable accommodation" areas have double spaces. (this might not necessarily be an error, it might be alignment issues)

7. Minor factual polish: Day 1 lists "vervet monkeys" , but the other tours mention, "patas monkeys." is this right? (not really an error, just for confirmation)