



GHANA

TOURIST HANDBOOK

Dr. Veronica Mills

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Tourism outlook

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Dedication

I dedicate this book to the Almighty God who has blessed our nation Ghana with all the natural resources and beautiful people.

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Welcome Address

Welcome to Ghana, the most preferred tourist destination in West Africa. With her numerous National Attractions, Culture and Arts. Not to talk of the colourful traditional annual festivals celebrated by the different tribes of the land.

Enjoy our warm hospitality and explore the beauty of the land in peace as you comply with the laws of the land. I promise you will have more than enough to make your stay a memorable one.

May God grant you the grace to tour.

Veronica Mills Lamptey



Introduction

Ghana is one of the beautiful countries on the continent of Africa and in the world. It was formerly called the Gold Coast before she attained Independence in the year 1957. Ghana is an embodiment of rich culture, friendly people and a peaceful surrounding.

Ghana has a population of about 30.8 million, with adult literacy rate of about 79%. The official language spoken is English, although there are so many local dialects. There are sixteen (16) regions in all. Inter-marriages are very common. Ghana has gone through democratic governance and she is a relatively stable country.

Ghana can be popularly known as the nation of the “great and strong” as highlighted in the anthem. It has a diverse range of deep-rooted cultures. The name Ghana, is derived from an African Empire that was located around the center of the River Niger, between 400-1240 AD.

Ghana sits on the southern coast of West Africa. Sometimes she is referred to as “the gateway to West Africa.” She has been endowed with several natural resources; the most popular ones are cocoa, gold, timber, and diamond. Now the world’s first largest exporter of cocoa as at December, 2020, the sixth largest exporter of diamonds, and now with the merge of the gold industry, ANGLO-GOLD, she is the sixth largest industry

Introduction

supplier of gold. In addition to this, she is a major exporter of manganese, and has in recent times, discovered crude oil in the Western Region.

To add to her many great attributes, she has the third largest man-made lake in the world and that is Lake Volta. This lake serves as a significant waterway that joins the Northern and Southern side of the country.

Succinctly, Ghana is a great tourist destination. Many of her attractions include the overwhelming forts and castles, beaches, national parks, game reserves, rich and colourful durbars.



Ghana Flag

What the colours represent:

RED: The shed Blood of our forefathers who fought for our independence.

GOLD/YELLOW: The Gold and other Minerals of the land.

GREEN: The Green vegetation and agricultural produce of the land.

BLACK STAR: The Ghanaian as a shining star among the black race.



WELCOME TO GHANA

Ghana for You

Location

Located on the West Coast of Africa along the Gulf of Guinea, on the Greenwich Meridian, Ghana is bordered by the Burkina Faso to the North, Cote D'Ivoire to the West, Togo to the East and to the South by the Atlantic Ocean. It lies precisely on the latitude 3.11° West and 1.11° East, and indeed at the centre of the world.

Fact File

Land Area: 227,540sq.km (87,830sqmiles)

Coastline: 550km

Climate: Tropical. General temperature ranges from $25-35^{\circ}\text{C}$.

There are two raining seasons from March to July and from September to October. November to March is the dry-hot season with the dry Harmattan winds blowing from the Sahara Desert.

Population: 30.8 million (2020 census)

Language: The official language is English. Other languages spoken include Akan, Ewe, Ga, Dagbani, Nzema and Hausa.

Religion: About 71.2% of Ghanaians are Christians, 17.6% Muslims and the rest traditionalists and other religions.

Capital City: Accra

Independence: 6th March, 1957 from British Administration.
The country was formerly known as the Gold Coast.

Republic: Ghana became a Republic on July 1, 1960.

Government: Constitutional Democracy (multi-party).

Business Hours

General: From 8:00am to 12:00 noon and from 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Banks: 8:30am to 4:30pm (Mondays to Fridays)

8:30am to 12:30pm (Saturdays for some banks)

Local Time: Greenwich Meridian Time (GMT)

Currency: Ghana cedi (introduced at the beginning of July 2007).

The Ghana cedi (Gh¢) notes are in denominations of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 (100 and 200 were recently introduced). Coins (Gh¢1=100 Gh pesewas) in circulation are 1p, 5p, 10p, 20p, 50p and Gh¢1 (and Gh¢2 which was recently introduced)

Natural resources: The major natural resources are gold, diamond, bauxite, fish, rubber, hydropower, silver manganese, salt, limestone, timber, cocoa and oil.

Administration: Ghana is divided into sixteen (16) administrative Regions and Capitals.

Driving Distance from Accra to the Regional Capitals

Accra – Koforidua (Eastern)	-	82km
Accra – Ho (Volta)	-	157km
Accra – Cape Coast (Central)	-	146km
Accra – Takoradi (Western)	-	222km
Accra – Kumasi (Ashanti)	-	248km

Accra – Sunyani (Bono)	-	371km
Accra – Tamale (Northern)	-	559km
Accra – Bolgatanga (Upper East)	-	776km
Accra – Wa (Upper West)	-	686km
Accra – Damongo (Savannah)	-	645km
Accra Nalerigu (North-East)	-	646km
Accra – Dambai (Oti)	-	353km
Accra – Wiawso (Western-North)	-	388km
Accra – Techiman (Bono East)	-	362km
Accra – Goaso (Ahafo)	-	379km

Public Holidays:

January 1:	New Year's Day
January 7:	Constitution Day
March 6:	Independence Day
April:	Good Friday
	Easter Monday
May 1:	Labour Day
May:	Eid al-Fitr
July:	Eid al-Adha
August 4:	Founders' Day
September 21:	Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Day
December (1st Friday):	Farmers' Day
December 25:	Christmas Day
December 26:	Boxing Day

Commemorative Days:

May 25:	African Union Day
July 1:	Republic Day

Electricity: 230 volts

Country Dialling Code: +233

Driving: Ghana drives on the right. International Driving Licence and insurance are required of visitors to drive. Vehicles driven across the borders require a special permit. Most of the roads outside the major cities have seen improvements which makes night driving equally enjoyable as day.

Medical Facilities: Modern private and public hospitals and clinics are available in all cities and big towns. Health Insurance is advised.

Drinking Water: Bottled mineral water recommended.

Clothing: Light and casual clothing for warm and tropical climates.

Photography: While you are encouraged to use your camera throughout your vacation, there are a few dos and don'ts in these areas. Where you are in doubt, consult your guide. Areas to specifically avoid are the seat of Government (Osu Castle), military installations, and the Airport.



Past Heads of State



Dr. Kwame Nkrumah
[1957-1966]



Lt. General J. A. Ankrah
[1966-1967]



Lt. Gen. A. A. Afrifa
[1967-1969]



Justice E. Akuffo-Addo
[1970-1972]



Dr. Kofi Abrefa Busia
[Prime Minister]
[1969-1972]



Gen. I. K. Acheampong
[1972-1978]



Lt. Gen. F.W.K. Akuffo
[1978-1979]



Flt. Lt. J. J. Rawlings
[June 1979 - Oct. 1979]



Dr. Hilla Limann
[Sept. 1979 - Dec. 1981]

Ghana Tourist Handbook



Flt. Lt. J. J. Rawlings
[1981-1992]



John Agyekum Kufuor
[2001-2008]



John Evans Atta Mills
[2009-2012]



John Dramani Mahama
[2012-2016]



Nana A.D. Akuffo Addo
[2017-Current]

National Anthem

God bless our homeland Ghana
And make our nation great and strong
Bold to defend for ever
The cause of freedom and of right
Fill our hearts with true humility
Make us cherish fearless honesty
And help us to resist oppressors' rule
With all our will and might for ever more

National Pledge

I promise on my honour to be faithful and loyal to Ghana my motherland. I pledge myself to the service of Ghana with all my strength and with all my heart. I promise to hold in high esteem our heritage won for us, through the blood and toil of our fathers. I pledge myself in all things to uphold and defend the good name of Ghana. So, help me God.



Coat of Arms

The Ghana Coat of Arms is an important emblem found on all government official letter heads. The Coat of arms was designed by Mr. Amon Kotei, a Ghanaian.

The coat of arms of Ghana consists of a shield divided into four quarters by a green St. George's cross-rimmed with gold. In the top left-hand quarter is a crossed linguist staff and ceremonial sword on a blue background, representing local administration. In the top right-hand quarter is an heraldic castle on an heraldic sea with a light blue background,

representing national government. In the bottom two quarters will be found a cocoa tree and a mine shaft representing the wealth of the country. In the centre of the green St. George's cross will be found a gold lion, representing the continued link between Ghana and the Commonwealth. Surmounting the shield is a black five-pointed star rimmed with gold, representing the lodestar of African freedom, and this star stands on the wreath of the colours red, gold and green which again stand on the top of the shield. Under the shield will be found the motto FREEDOM AND JUSTICE. The supporters of the coat of arms are two eagles, coloured gold. Around each eagle's neck hangs a black star suspended from a ribbon of Ghana's colours.



Ex-President John Dramani Mahama (right) shaking hands with the current President, Nana Addo Danquah Akuffo Addo. Standing close is the current Vice President, Alhaji Mahamudu Bawumia

Although they differ in ideology, our political leaders occasionally come together to exchange greetings. One nation, One people, One great destiny indeed!



Greater Accra

The Greater Accra Region is the currently the most populated region in Ghana with a population of 5,446,237. It is the most influential of Ghana's sixteen (16) regions, with the regional capital, Accra serving as the nation's capital and the commercial, administrative and sporting hub of the country. Two important international gateways, the Kotoka International Airport and Tema Harbour are located in this region.

Situated on a plain in the southern coast of Ghana, Greater Accra is endowed with sandy beaches, luxury hotels, a variety of restaurants, three golf courses, conference and exhibition centres, colourful markets, museums, historical monuments and many more.

The region is the traditional home of the Ga tribe who migrated from Benin in search of food. They celebrate their migration in an annual festival called Homowo. The Ga Mantse, paramount chief of Accra, has his palace in the city.

Located 30km from Accra, Tema is one of the country's important industrial and commercial centres, linked to the

capital by a world-class motorway. The name Tema comes from the Ga word Toman, which means ‘gourd town’. The town is home to Ghana’s chocolate factory, where chocolate is made from home-grown cocoa beans. Large ships and fishing fleets can be viewed at Tema’s bustling harbour. Next to the beach, the Sakumo Ramsar Site has a rich stock of rare birds.

Most sports can be enjoyed in Accra and Tema, including soccer-the nation’s favourite, water sports, horse riding, athletics, boxing, golf, lawn tennis, squash, motor racing and cycling. There are golf courses at Achimota, Sakumono and Tema.

Nightlife in Accra is most vibrant on weekends. There is a variety of cinemas, bars, restaurants and casinos to choose from. Colourful food stalls are open till late in most busy areas.

Pan-African Attractions

The Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum is a striking marble structure marking the last resting place of Ghana’s first President Dr. Kwame Nkrumah. The George Padmore Research Library is a research and educational centre for African-American Studies. The Du Bois Centre is dedicated to African-American and Pan-African issues, and houses the grave of African-American scholar William E. B. Du Bois and his wife.

Shai Hills Resource Reserve

The Shai Hills Resource Reserve is 50km north-east of Accra on the Tema-Akosombo road. This 22sq. mile reserve is the ancestral home of the Dangme Shai tribe, and is now the protected home of several species of monkeys, antelopes, baboons, birds and reptiles.

Volta River Estuary at Ada

The sleepy town of Ada is home to the most beautiful and serene areas of Ghana. Here, the Volta River meets the Atlantic Ocean in a splendid array of natural colours of earth, sky and sea. Ada offers the possibility of exploring the many islands and island communities dotted offshore. An exciting combination of water sports, hiking, fishing, and luxury accommodation awaits the domestic and international visitor.

Natural Attractions

- Shai Hills Resource Reserve, on the Accra-Akosombo Road
- Volta Estuary at Ada
- Sakumo Ramsar Site, Tema
- Various beaches.

Heritage and Culture

- Seat of Government, Osu (Christiansburg) Castle, Accra
- National Museum, Accra
- Ga Mantse's Palace, Accra
- Historical 28th February Street, Accra
- Independence Square, Accra
- Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum
- George Padmore Research Library
- Centre for National Culture, Accra
- Colourful Markets.



A Market Scene



Accra Beach



Cultural Display



Accra International Conference Centre



Accra International Conference Centre



Du Bois Centre



Du Bois centre



Kokrobite Beach



Tema Fishing Harbour



Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum



Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum



Du Bois Centre



Central Region

The Central Region is located on the Atlantic shores of Ghana sharing boundaries with the Western, Ashanti, Eastern and Greater Accra Regions. Its regional capital, Cape Coast, the seat of the British Colonial Administration until 1877, is some 144km from Accra. It has a population of 2.9million.

The Central Region has earned several accolades like “the heartbeat of Ghana’s tourism”, because of its pivotal in the development of the tourism in Ghana, as well as its endowment of beaches, forts and castles, festivals, forest reserves and events.

The Central Region is home to the historical towns of Cape Coast, Elmina and Assin Manso. The Cape Coast Castle, Elmina Castle and Fort St. Jago in Elmina are rated World Heritage Sites by the United Nations agency UNESCO. These sites have gained importance due to their gateway for early European influence and slave trading. Elmina Castle, built in 1482 is said to be the oldest European building outside of Europe.



Cape Coast Castle



Elmina Castle



Oasis Beach



Aboakyer Festival



Aboakyer Festival



Kakum National Park



Kakum National Park



Kakum National Park

Also in the Central Region are Kromantse and Abandze, twin fishing villages and important trading centres to which the late Louis Armstrong traced his ancestry.

The Central Region is pregnant with history. A visit to a town like Assin Manso on the Cape Coast-Kumasi Road, will afford the opportunity to see the slave river, which provided the slaves a final opportunity to bath, before they journeyed on to one of the castles to wait for a ship which could take as long as three months to transport them to places like Europe and the Americas.

The region's culture is depicted through its many exciting festivals which are held throughout the year.

These include "Bakatue", the opening of Benya Lagoon into the sea, marking the beginning of the fishing season for the people of Elmina. "Aboakyer" or game hunting is a festival of the people of Winneba, and is celebrated on the first Saturday in May each year. "Fetu Afahye" is celebrated by the people of Cape Coast in the first week of September. The people of Saltpond celebrate "Odambea" on the last Saturday in August. The Central Region also hosts several international events, such as Emancipation Day and PANAFEST.

For ecotourism, the British Airways' award-winning Kakum National Park has been designed to meet all tastes. Its canopy-walk, the first in Africa, provides an unforgettable 'jungle' experience amidst tropical vegetation and wildlife. Follow the adventure by sampling the many palm-fringed beaches warmed by the African sunshine, where the surf ranges from gentle rollers to sizeable breakers.

Kumasi is the capital of both the Ashanti Region and Ashanti Kingdom. Historically, the city dates back to 1700, where the traditional priest, Okomfo Anokye, assisted his friend Osei Tutu to establish the Ashanti Kingdom. As the seat of the government of a rich and prosperous 17th century monarchical kingdom, the city of Kumasi and its suburbs has lots of artisanal settlements.

In 1980, the Asanti Traditional Buildings (shrines) were listed on the World Heritage List as rare surviving examples of a unique architectural style.

Ejisu Besease Shrine

Located at Besease, 22km from the centre of Kumasi on the Accra-Kumasi Road; this was the shrine consulted by the Late Yaa Asantewaa, queen mother of Ejisu, before she led the Ashanti armies to their last war with the British. The building has recently been restored and also hosts a small exhibition which provides both historical and technical information on Traditional-Ashanti Architecture. The shrine contains some of the finest decorations, and is open to the general public.

Centre for National Culture

There is a lot to see at the Centre for National Culture office in Kumasi. The Centre houses the Prempeh II Museum, souvenir shops, communications centre, restaurants, campsite, religious centre, Ashanti Library, exhibition hall, open-air theatre, craft centre and Regional Tourist Board Offices. The Centre is a must-see sight for all visitors to the Ashanti Region for it provides a vivid overview of the Ashanti Kingdom, its people and their heritage. A visit to this place will surely leave no one in doubt that Ashanti Region is the Cultural base of Ghana's tourism.

Bobiri Forest Reserve

This forest reserve is situated 35km south-east of Kumasi at Kubease on the Kumasi-Accra Road. It has the largest collection of butterflies in the country. The forest has been developed through an arboretum approach of identifying trees and shrubs of interest to both international and domestic tourist. Research Kente is also conducted into the medical properties and uses of tropical trees.

National Attractions

- Lake Bosomtwe, Abono, 35km south-east of Kumasi-Accra.
- Bobiri Forest Reserve and Butterfly Sanctuary, Kubease 35km.
- Owabi Bird Sanctuary, 50km from Kumasi.
- Atiwa Rock formations, Nsuta, 40km from Kumasi.
- Mframabuo Caves, Kwaman, 55km from Kumasi.

Craft Villages

- Kente weaving at Bonwire, 8km north-east of Kumasi.
- Pottery at Pankronu, 3km north of Kumasi.
- Wood carving at Ahwiaa, 6km north of Kumasi.
- Adinkra clothing making at Ntonsu.
- Beads making at Asuofa-Asamang, Barekese road.
- Brass-smiths at Ampabeme Krofrom.
- Goldsmiths and silversmiths in Kumasi.

Historical Heritage

- Manhyia Palace Museum, Kumasi.
- Okomfo Anokye Sword, Kumasi.
- Prempeh II Jubilee Museum, Kumasi.
- Centre for National Culture, Kumasi.
- Kumasi Fort Museum.

- Asantemanso Village.
- Kumawu Town.
- Kentinkrono Shrine.
- Patakro Shrine.
- Ejisu-Besease Shrine.



*Otumfuo Osei Tutu II,
[King of Ashanti]*



Weaving of Bonwire Kente



Prempeh II Jubilee Museum, Kumasi



Manhyia Palace Museum, Kumasi



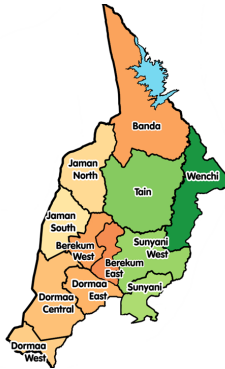
Okomfo Anokye's Sword



Lake Bosomtwe, Abono



Wood Carving, Ahwiaa



Bono Region

The Bono Region was carved out of the Brong Ahafo Region, and its capital is Sunyani. The region prides itself to have the cleanest capital city, Sunyani and a destination for major conferences. Bono Region is bordered on the north by the Savannah Region, on the west by the Cote d'Ivoire International border, on the east by Bono East Region and on the south by Ahafo Region. It has a population of 1.2million as per the 2021 census.

Vegetation

The region is into cash crop production like cashew, timber, etc and food crops such as maize, cassava, plantain, cocoyam, tomatoes and many other crops.

Education

The Bono Region boasts of having public tertiary institutions such as University of Energy and Natural Resources, Sunyani Technical University and other private educational institutions.

Religion

Christianity and Bono Ancestral Worship and spirituality are the dominant religions in the region.

Bui National Park

For the single most extensive concentration of the hippo population in Ghana, you have to visit this national park. It covers some 1, 821km.sq. and lies within the catchment of the black Volta, next to the borders with the republic of Cote D'Ivoire. It also contains several primates, endangered black-and-white colobus monkeys, antelope species and great variety of birds. Bui Park has no visitor facilities or accommodation. Like the Kintampo Falls, the Bui National Park is probably going to be developed for tourism purposes. Part of the park has been deluged by the reservoir of the Bui Dam which was constructed in 2007.

Natural Attractions

- Bui National Park
- Bui Dam, base of Banda Mountains
- Duasidan Monkey Sanctuary, southwest of Dormaa Ahenkro
- Black Volta
- Hani Archaeological Site, Wenchi
- Nwoase Ostrich Farm, Nwoase near Wenchi
- Busia Mausoleum, Nawkaw

Heritage and Culture

- Munukwasie, Munufie and Benyao festivals
- The Catholic Grotto
- Kwafie
- Akwanatukese



Black Volta



Bui National Park



Busia Mausoleum, Nkawkaw



Bui Dam

The Eastern Region is reputed as being one of the few regions with a little of everything in terms of tourism attractions. From Aburi on the Akwapim Ridge to Odonkorkrom on the Afram Plains, the landscape is fringed with enchanting hills, lush vegetation, historic monuments, intriguing waterfalls, rivers and caves. There is a sharp contrast between the old and new, Christianity and traditional religion, highlands and lowlands. It is also widely regarded as the cradle of protestant religion in Ghana.

Visitors to the Eastern Region will be enchanted by the mysterious but pleasant waterfalls, shrines, caves, ancient monuments and festivals. The proud past of the Eastern Region is vividly portrayed by its old buildings, monuments and relics.

Boti Falls

Currently the most popular waterfall in Ghana. This spectacular waterfall, located at Huhunya near Koforidua, falls with a rapidity of 25km per second from a height of 30 meters. It falls in two (2) large columns (regarded to be 'male' and 'female' deities by the locals) which 'marry' at the peak of the rainy season. Visit to the falls is incomplete until one has taken a 35-minute walk to discover a cave, cascades, umbrella rock and three-in-one palm tree. Current deforestation along its course however, have rendered the falls seasonal.

Currently, efforts are being made to develop the falls into a viable tourism destination.

Volta Lake

A dominant feature of the Eastern Region is the Volta Lake, one of the largest man-made lakes in the world, created through the damming of the Volta River in 1965. A cruise on the lake

via the vessel Dodi Princess to Dodi Island is a pleasure that one will certainly treasure. For the less adventurous, relaxing on the balconies of the Volta Hotel or Maritime Club will provide panoramic view of the lake.

Aburi Botanical Gardens

This is the most successful and largest botanical garden in the country, attracting about 5000 visitors monthly. 28Km from Accra, the century old garden covers 35 acres of land, and is replete with over 1,000 different species of plants and flowers. Its cool and soothing temperature makes it a sanatorium for recuperating patients as well as a tourist haven.

Kloyo Mountains

Located at Somanya, about 80km from Accra, this mountain stands as an island on the Accra plains, reaching a height of 1,094ft above sea level. The mountain has a history which is equally significant. A guided tour will unravel the history of the migration of the Krobos.

The Obosabea

This is a mysterious natural landform, located one-and-a-half kilometres north of Akyeremanteng village. It depicts the shape of a heart as well as other varied and intricate designs. It is also believed to be standing on an ancient mausoleum and to have a cure for impotence.

Tetteh Quarshie's Cocoa Farm

Located at Mampong-Akwapim, this is the first cocoa farm established in Ghana. Tetteh Quarshie is believed to have brought the first cocoa seeds from the Fernando Po Islands in South America. His house and some of the original cocoa plants dating from 1879 are still standing.

Slave Market of Abonse

As an important crossroads to the infamous trade in human cargo, this site still bares traces of the original slave market 17th and 198th centuries.

Akonodi Shrine

56km north of Accra, on the Akwapim Ridge, is the Larteh, which accommodates the famous Akonodi Shrine. It is the abode of the god “Akonedì” which is alleged to support the infirm and those yearning for prosperity. The fetish priest practices psychic healing and herbal medicine. Visitors can also pay to observe live religious ceremonies.

Craft Villages

The wood carving centre at Aburi offers both traditional and contemporary woodcarvings. Wood and pottery crafts are also produced at Nkawkaw, whilst wood and cane crafts are produced at Enyiresi. Plans for expansion of the villages into a world-class handicraft centre have stalled a bit, but talks are still on-going.

Festivals

The Odwira and Ohum festivals are perhaps the most popular festivals. They are celebrated in turns by the chains of towns on the Akwapim Ridge. The main purposes of these festivals are strengthening of political allegiance, traditional allegiance and purification of secret stools. They commence in September and end in January each year, and are characterized by colourful durbar of the chiefs and people of the area concerned. The annual festivals held in the region are:

- Odwira and Ohum festivals, Akwapim Ridge: September-January

- Apamfra festival, Akwamus: January
- Volo festival, Akuse: March
- Mgayem festival, Krobo Oduamse and Somanya: March-April
- Bohum or Dipo festivals, Krobo Odumase and Somanya: April
- Gyemprem festival, Tafo: June
- Ohum festival, Akyem Abuakwa traditional areas: June-July (Ohumkan), September-October (Ohumkyire)
- Kloyo Sikplemi festival, Yilo Krobo: November
- Akwantukese festival, New Juabeng, Koforidua: November
- Ahwie festival, Begoro

Natural Attractions

- Boti Falls, Huhunya
- Nsuta Falls, 1km north-east of Akyeremanteng near Akropong
- Asenem Falls. 500M north-east of Asenema village near Adukrom
- Akua Falls, 2km from Akyeremanteng village
- Obosomase Falls, Obosomase
- Amenapa Falls, Amenapa, a suburb of Akropong Akuapim
- Osubin buom Falls, Nkankama, 14km from Begoro
- Magic Forest, 10km north of Kibi
- Dodowa Forest, Dodowa
- Big tree, Asante Manso, Akyem Oda
- Six-in-one palm tree, Kwamoso, 200m off the Mamfe-Koforidua Road
- Unusual stones, Amate, 48km from Mpraeso
- Obuodan (stone house), within the Nsuta Falls

Heritage and Culture

- Tetteh Quarshie's original cocoa farm, Mampong-Akuapim
- Presbyterian Training College, Akropong-Akuapim
- Akuffo Addo's Tomb, Daakye, suburb of Akropong-Akuapim
- Old Basel missionary buildings dotted along the Akuapim Ridge
- Samuel Otu Memorial Chapel, Larteh
- Abonse Slave Market, Abonse, near Adukrom
- Okomfo Anokye's hometown, Awukugua, near Adukrom
- Akonodi Shrine, Larteh, 56km north of Accra
- Obuotabiri Shrine, Koforidua
- Bruku Shrine, Kwahu Tafo
- Cocoa Research Institute, Tafo



Beads exhibition



Dipo Ceremony



Begoro Falls



Boti Falls



Umbrella Rock at Boti Falls



Aburi Gardens



Adome Bridge



Craft shop – Aburi

mahogany and silk cotton tree.

The region is linked to others by air, rail, water (Volta Lake) and road. It is 559km from Accra by road.

Slave Market at Salaga

Salaga is about 100km south-east of Tamale. The town was the location of a major slave market where slaves were exchanged for cola nuts and gold. The market took place under a baobab tree in the village square. The tree has since died and another tree stands in its place. The building that once housed the slaves is still standing. To this day, the chief of Salaga has some of the shackles and stakes used for the slaves.



Salaga Slave Market



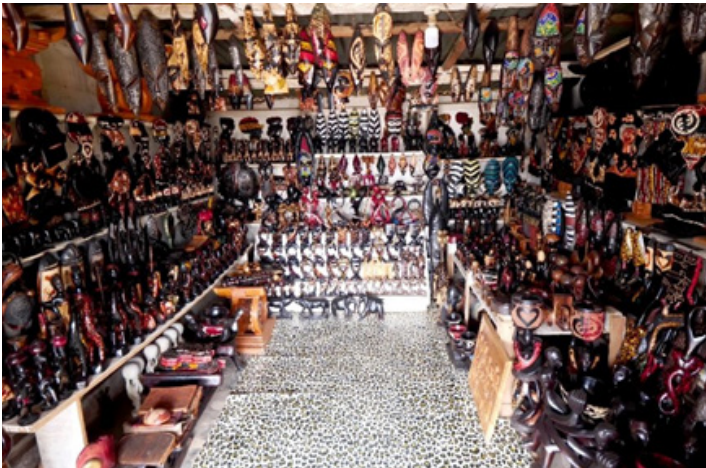
Slave Shackles



Slave Well- Salaga



Xylophone making



Rich African Artefact Shop

Damba Festival

Originally celebrated by Muslims to mark the birth of Prophet Mohammed on the 12th day of the third month of the lunar calendar, Damba has taken a traditional rather than Islamic turn. It is a two-day festival which is full of pageantry and showmanship, and celebrated by most of the ethnic groups in northern Ghana.

Bugum Chugu (Fire) Festival

The Bugum Fire Festival is held on the 9th day of the first month of the Dagomba lunar calendar (October-November), commemorating the finding of a beloved son of a prominent chief in the 16th century. The present-day chief takes the initiative by lighting the ceremonial torch and thousands of torches illuminating the streets amidst drumming and dancing till daybreak.

Heritage and Culture

- Cultural dancing, Tamale Cultural Centre
- Babatu and Samori's Grave at Yendi
- Tali Horse hoof tree, Tali, 30km from Tamale
- Archaeological site at Yikpanbongo
- Bugum Fire Festival
- Handwoven Fugu (smock) at Daboya, Cushiegu
- Xylophone making at Cilsiya near Bimbila
- Unique round compound houses



Upper East Region

The Upper East Region with its capital as Bolgatanga, is located in the extreme north-eastern corner of Ghana. It is the only region in Ghana that share international boundaries with two (2) countries, Burkina Faso on the north and Togo on the east. The region has a tropical savannah climate with warm temperature throughout the year. Temperature ranges between 23 degrees at night and 40 degrees in the day time.

The region covers 842sq.km of relatively flat land except in the east, where the Gambaga escarpment extends from the Northern Region to form spectacular rock features and hills around Tongo, Bongo, Nangock and Bawku areas. Four main ethnic groups inhabit the land; the Gurenese of Bolgatanga, Builsas of Sandema, Kusases of Bawku and Kassena Nankanas of the Navrongo Paga area.

The unique cultural heritage of the people is portrayed in their way of dancing, dressing and cuisine. Their warlike nature is expressed in their ubiquitous war dance. The fabrication of smocks, their traditional attire, is through a handed-down

tradition of weaving. The local cuisine of tuo zaafi is made from home-grown corn and millet eaten with green vegetables. The people live in traditional round mud houses with thatched roofs; a group of these together form a large compound shared by the extended families, depicting unity. Islam, Christianity and African traditional religion are practiced, although Islam is dominant.

What is special about this region is the fact that its historical relics can be traced back to the period of slavery and trans-Saharan trade during the Sudanese empires of Ghana, Mali and Songhai. The ancient Wurinyanga mosque at Wurinyanga, about 36km south-east of Bawku, and built by Muslim missionaries along the trans-Saharan trade routes, is in typical Sudanese architecture from about 3 centuries ago. About 18km from Bawku on the eastern side is Gbewaa's Shrine at Pusiga. Legend has it that Naa Gbewaa, the founder of the Mole Dagbani tribes is buried here. The shrine is situated on a plantation hill in a calm environment suitable for meditation. A little further north of Bawku is the Kulungugu Bomb Site, where an assassination attempt was made on the Late Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, Ghana's first President in August 1961. Sandema, 40km west of Navrongo is the home of brave traditional warriors, who defeated the notorious slave raider, Babatu at the turn of the 20th century. One can see the weapon used by the slave raiders at Fiase Shrine in Sandema.

Also in the Upper East Region is a crocodile pond at Paga. This pond is said to house the friendliest crocodiles in the country. The crocodiles are enticed from the pond with a fowl, and photography opportunities are permitted. There are forest reserves at Siring and the Bawku area; wildlife species found in these areas are the elephant and roan antelope.

In Navrongo, one can visit the Navrongo Cathedral, the last remaining mud cathedral in Ghana, built in 1906. The cathedral has traditional interior decoration amid mud walls and mud floors. Also in Navrongo is the Navrongo Tono Irrigation Dam, which offers opportunities for water sports and relaxation at the guest house.

Bolgatanga, the regional capital, is referred to as the handicraft capital of Ghana; famous for intricately designed straw baskets, hats and smocks. The Regional Museum in Bolgatanga has a collection of terracotta figurines representing the region's cultural history.

Public and even private transportation is generally irregular, but mostly reliable on market-days, which is every three (3) days. The region is also linked to Accra by FanAir, which flies every day apart from Saturdays from the Paga airstrip.

Festivals

- Foik, celebrated by the Bulsa in Sandema
- Sampiid, celebrated by the Kusasis in Bawku
- Gologu, celebrated by the Teng-Zuk in Tongu
- Fao, celebrated by the Kassena Nkankana in Navrongo

Natural Attractions

- Crocodile Pond, Paga
- Tongu Rocks, Tongu 10km south of Bolgatanga
- Drumming Rocks, Chiana
- Bongo Rocks, Bongo
- Natural Fountain, Namoo
- Forest Reserve, Sirigu

Heritage and Culture

- Catholic Church, Navrongo built in 1906
- Fiiase Slave Shrine, Fiiase
- Bolgatanga Museum, Bolgatanga
- Naa Gbewaa's Shrine, Pusiga
- Wurinyanga Ancient Mosque, Wurinyanga, Bawku East District
- Kulungugu Bomb Site, Kulungugu
- Rich artifacts in Bolgatanga



Paga Pond



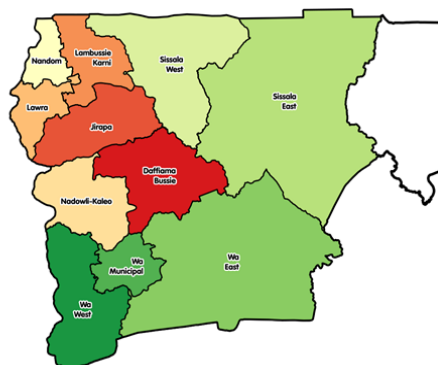
Cultural Display



Tongo Rock



Tongo rock



Upper West Region

The unsung Upper West Region is physically one of Ghana's smallest regions, yet it arguably possesses one of the greatest stocks for tourist attractions. It used to be Ghana's youngest region until the creation of the six (6) new regions. These attractions range from landmarks and relics of the slave trade, through wildlife to indigenous architecture and culture. The culture of the region is strongly linked to the Islamic background of the people. Agriculturally, the Upper West is the largest producer of Ghana's cotton, groundnut, millet and sorghum.

The region with its nine (9) districts has Wa as its regional capital and nerve centre. The four (4) main tribes which consists of Wala, Dagarti, Sisala, and Lobe constitute the region's population of approximately 904,695.. The savannah grassland is sparsely dotted with short trees such as the strange looking baobab, dawadawa and nim.

Natural attractions spread all over the region. Starting from Wecliau 40km south-west of Wa, one can enjoy trailing hippos

up the Black Volta. During the dry season, the trailing is spiced by the beautiful scenery of gorges carved by the river.

Moving north-wards, your first port of call could be Kaleo, a small farming village 12km north of Wa where in a pond the biggest crocodiles in the region can be sighted. 8Km from Kaleo you have the opportunity to view one of the numerous slave caves where the locals hid during the notorious activities of slave trade warriors like Samori and Babatu. A cave can be found close-by in Cherepon, a few kilometres from Sankana along a dusty rippling road. The Jirapa district, located very near to Lawra, has two (2) fascinating mushroom shaped rock formation in the-not-too distant village of Wicling. At Ullo, still in the Jirapa district, the human footprint of Bayon, the great anti-slave warrior can be seen on the trunk of a baobab tree.

Lawra District

The Lawra district, home of the Ghanaian xylophone, has Lawra as its capital and is 82km from Wa. Lawra is midway on the Western boundary and is the second most popular town after Wa. Here at Lawra is the detention camp in which Ghana's first president, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, was held. At Eremon, 10km from Lawra, you must try not to trip into a pond with over 200 crocodiles. Moving up on the stony road to Nandom you can have a look at the classic architecture of the Gothic Cathedral which is thought to be the largest stone building in West Africa. Built in 1936, the cathedral can accommodate 3500 worshippers at a time.

Gbelle Game Reserve

The Gbelle Game Reserve lies 17km south-west of Tumu. The hippo head-shaped reserve is home to hippos along the Kulpawn River which flows through the reserve. There are also

roan antelopes, ducks, warthogs and a bird sanctuary in the reserve, which is savannah grassland with sparse, short trees and nursed between the surrounding rocky hills. It is managed by the Game and Wildlife Department and supported by British Aid. Tours are available through the management at Tumu. Overnight stays are possible at the seven camp sites. Reservations must be made at least a week in advance.

Wa

The city of Wa at the centre of the region, used to be a slave trading centre and was popular among Muslim scholars during the trans-Saharan trade. The legacy left behind by these trades is the heavy Islamic influence on the city. To this end, two (2) ancient mosques, both over 400 years old, can be found in the distant suburbs of Nakore and Dandoli. They have a unique local and Sundanic blend of architecture. Wa also happens to be the seat of the Wala dynasty, and is home to the Waa Naa's Palace, which is over 300 years old. The imposing traditional structure has so far housed 35 dynasties of rulers. Also in Wa, is the tomb of slave martyr, George Ekeum Ferguson.

Natural Attractions

- Crocodile Pond, Erenom, 10km from Lawra
- Gbelle Game Reserve, Gbelle, 17km south of Tumu
- Mushroom Shaped Stones, Wuling, 8km from Jirapa
- Hippopotamus trailing up the Black Volta

Heritage and Culture

- Xylophone-making at Lawra
- Slave Defence Wall, Gwollu
- Gothic Stone Church, Nandom
- Nakore Islamic Heritage Mosque, 8km from Wa

- Dandoli Islamic Heritage Mosque, 1km from centre of Lawra.
- Wa Central Market, with its xylophone and indigenous cloth, leather and straw handicraft
- George Ferguson's Tomb, Wa
- Hilla Limann's Tomb, Gwollu
- Wa Naa's Palace, Wa
- Slave caves near Kaleo, 12km from Wa
- Wala Dynasty, Festival, Damba: August-October
- Kobine Festival, Lawra traditional area: September and October
- Zumbenti Festival rotating along the Islamic calendar, Sisala district
- Kakubre festival, Nandom traditional area: November and December



Nakore Mosque



Cultural Display



Mushroom Rock



Defence Wall - Gwollu



Defence Wall - Gwollu



Likpe Ancestral Cave

Economic and Agriculture

The main economic activity apart from agricultural is commerce. Retailing of traditional and modern wares in the 5 district capitals and few other towns. The remaining 70% of the people are engaged in agricultural activities, specifically, cultivation of yam, millet, beans and cotton. Extraction of Shea butter, rearing of cattle, sheep and other ruminants take prominence.

Investment Opportunities

The most probable sectors of the industry which need investment or should attract investment are the accommodation and transportation.

Climate

The dry season begins from February to May. The average

temperature during this season is about 37 degrees. The earlier part of the season is marked by the harmattan. The rainy or wet season starts from June to October. Humidity is generally low.

Banking

Apart from Lawra and Tumu, the rest of the district capitals have at least three (3) banks each. They include GCB, ADB,, Societe General among others.

Conference Facilities

The main and standard conference facilities are located in the Upland Hotel and Five Diocesan Guest House all in Wa.

Tourist Information Centre

The regional GTB office in Wa provides comprehensive details and orientation on locals and attractions. It is located in the Ministries Block B. They can be reached by telephone on 0392022431.

The Ghana Game and Wildlife Department is located in Tumu. They provide information on the Gbelle Game Reserve. The nine (9) District Assemblies provide information on their tourism potentials.

Medical Facilities

All the district capitals have district hospitals. Other towns have clinics being supported by NGO's. Particularly DANIDA. There are several pharmacies and chemical shops in the district capitals.

Note-worthy Retail Outlets

There are several shops and supermarkets dotted in the

region, especially in the district capitals.

The Wa Central Foka Enterprise deals mostly in house-hold items and educational facilities. Jatrad Supermarket also located in Wa Central is a Lever Brothers distributor who deals in provisions at very reasonable prices.

Rest Shops

They mainly exist in the main towns and the capital, and provide food and drinks. They are thus hardly found in between routes.

Sports, Leisure and Recreation

The main sporting activity that the people enjoy apart from soccer is volleyball and badminton. It must be added that they exist on community basis.

Drinking outdoors happens to be the recreational activity due to the high temperatures of annual average of about 30°C.

Religion

A larger percentage (35.5%) of the population are Christians, with the rest belonging to the Muslim (32.2%) and Traditional (29.3%) religion. This percentages however varies from each district. Nadawli and Lawra have the largest Christian population (over 55%) in the region, while the Muslims are also dominant in Sisala with about 70%, and Wa with about 44% of the district's population. Catholics remains the largest Christian religion across all districts.

It is worth noting that all these religions exist in a cordial environment.

Protocol and Codes of Behaviour

As characteristic of the Ghanaian culture, interaction with locals is done in the most of general atmosphere and a free mood. To add to that, customary greeting is much cherished to be most respectful form in recognizing each other. The normal English greeting is widely used.

Apart from the Wa Naa's Palace which requires one to have permission, most other places do not generally require permission in taking pictures. In obtaining permission for taking any pictures, you must first ask from the GTB offices.

Dress Code

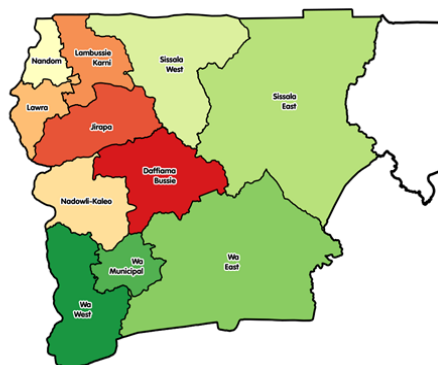
Due to hot climate of the region, one-layer clothing is most desired for the dry season where average temperatures measures not less than 36°C. Double layer clothing is much appropriate in the wet season when the sun's activity reduces.

This recommendation must be done with strict moral consideration of the people's culture and religion.

Utilities

Water supply in the district capitals is quite regular and safe for drinking, whilst the villages and other towns use bore-holes and streams.

With respect to electricity, some villages and towns are still not connected to the national grid. The rest of the towns enjoy regular supply of electricity.



Volta Region

Tourism Development Potentials- Volta Region

The Volta Region is a long strip on the eastern side of the country sharing border with Togo. Covering an area of about 20,334sq.km with a total population of 1.65million as of 2021 census.

The region is the 7th most populous region in Ghana (2021 census) having 60% of the nation's labour force engaged in semi subsistence agriculture. It embraces all the major vegetational belts of Ghana and being the leading producer of cattle in Ghana and contributes about 15% of the nation's marine catch.

The region has the biggest lagoon called The Keta Lagoon. The highest mountain Afadjato is about 2,905ft and the lowest point, the Keta basin, with Ewe language dominating the medium of communication. There are different ethnic groups with their different languages with diverse culture.

The Ewes were the first to be ruled by the Germans and the English. The region shares its border with the French Togoland.

Hogbetsotso celebrated by the Anlos is one of the famous and unique festivals in Ewe land particularly in the south. The grand durbar to climax the week-long celebration is held on every 1st Saturday of November. The celebration recaptures the (exodus) of their ancestors from the Notsie in Togo to their present home.

The Kyabobo National Park

This is a unique and amazing wildlife reserve situated in the foothills of mount Djebobo on the border with Togo, about 20km east of Nkwanta.

Health Facilities

There are about 50 health facilities in the region; 24 of which are hospitals and the rest, health centres and health posts.

Water Supply

Portable water supply is available in major towns and cities. Other places rely on bore-holes, streams, springs and rivers. The caution is that some of the water bodies are infected with bilharzia.

The Volta River Estuary

This is an area of extraordinary scenic beauty where the river, ocean and sandy beaches come together. There are picnic spots shaded with coconut trees. It has sand bars which are resting grounds for sea shore birds. Endangered species of turtles are found here.

Wli Waterfalls

Located in the Wli nature reserve, about 15km from Hohoe. A 45 minutes' walk-through woods and shallow streams with rickety wooden foot bridges.

The water flows from part of the Akwapim-Togo range. The water from the fall is ice cold from a height of about 80ft. The fall has a colony of wild bats, flowers and butterflies which add excitement to the falls. There are exotic plant species on top of the mountains. The water forms a pool at the bottom in which one can swim. There are local guides who take you round after paying a fee.

Natural Attractions

- Cape St. Paul Beach
- Volta River Estuary, Ada
- Keta Lagoon, Keta
- Mangrove Swamps along the river course
- Volta River
- Avi Tawa a giant waterbird, Agave
- Kloe 1,500ft Avatime hills
- Wli Falls
- Tagbo Falls
- Tizor Falls, Lake Wote
- Tsutsudu Fall, Alavanyo
- Monkey Sanctuary, Atome
- Grottoes, Agbenehoe
- Kalalapa Game Reserve, houses monkeys, buffaloes, bush pigs, water ducks, etc.

Heritage and Culture

- 18th Century Danish Fort
- Fort Pridzeinstein, Keta

- Keta Convent, Keta
- Tombs of Bishop Augustine
- The Hunters Collection Museum

Shrines

- Togbe Adzina, Klikor
- Nyibla, Afife
- Keve Cult, Nogokpo

Festivals

- Dzawuwu, celebrated by the people of Dabala during Easter period
- Mere, celebrated at Mepe in July
- Akwesidae, by the people of Jume
- Agbelidza, by the Avenorpedo: August



Wli Falls



Tagbo Falls



Monkey Sanctuary - Tafi Atome



Dodi Princess



Dodi Princess



Festival



Mount Gemi - Amedzofe



Western Region

The Western Region, with its rich natural resources and unique tourism assets, is a major tourist destination. The Western Region is located on the south-western coast of Ghana, bordered on the north by Bono Region, on the east by the Central and Ashanti Regions, and by Côte d'Ivoire on the west. The region covers an area of approximately 2,404sq. km. Takoradi is the regional capital.

As the saying goes, “the best comes from the West”. From the sandy and sunny beaches of Shama, through the thick merchant forest of the region, to the border with Côte d'Ivoire, the wealth in minerals, timber, forts and castles, the people and their rich culture are all a magnet for the tourists.

The people of the Western region are the Ahanta, Aowin, Nzema, Sefwis and Wassa with their district unadulterated culture. The tropical climate of the region is characterized by moderate temperature with an average annual rainfall of 52.8 inches, the heaviest rainfall pattern in Ghana.

192km of Ghana's most beautiful, serene, pristine and unspoilt coconut-fringed beaches belong to the West. The region boasts some of the oldest mines in the country and also presents a striking contrast between ancient and modern. It is also distinguished by a large number of forts and castles, having been one of the regions to welcome early European traders.

Recreational facilities abound in the Western Region. From the Takoradi Sports Beach Club, Paradise Beach, through the golden sands of Busua to Cape Three Points, spans the most inviting beaches, ideal for relaxation and marine sports. Sailing along the shores of Axim and Ankobra is smooth.

The Western Region is accessible from every part of the country by road and railway, and by sea through the Takoradi port. There are fairly good road links to all tourist sites. A rail trip transports visitors from Takoradi to the garden city of Kumasi.

Bia National Park and Bia Resource Reserve

This 360sq.km park and resource reserve have been designated as international biosphere reserve parks. 62 mammalian and 10 primate species- including 3 species of colobus monkeys, chimpanzees, forest elephant and the threatened bongo. Over 160 species of birds are listed here including the threatened white-breasted guinea fowl.

Nini Suhien National Park and Ankasa Resource Reserve

This largely unexplored park and reserve covers 490sq.km of pristine evergreen rain forest with up to 300 plant species per hectare, 43 mammalian species have been recorded including bongo, forest elephant, 10 primate species,

including the endemic-dian monkeys and endangered West African chimpanzee. The rich bird life includes parrots and hornbill and the rare white fronted guinea fowls. Visitors are allowed to visit the forest, contacting the senior wildlife officer to provide the necessary assistance.

Egyambra Crocodile Sanctuary

Egyambra is 16km off the Abora-Ahanta on the Takoradi-Elubo Highway (62km from Takoradi). The local fetish priest entices the crocodiles from the water with a live chicken after pouring libation. Visitors are welcome to the village on all days except on Thursdays, which is a sacred day.

Ehunyame Natural Caves

The village of Ehunyame is located 32km off the Takoradi-Elubo road. The distance from the village to the forest where natural caves can be found is about 4.5km on foot through winding footpaths.

Nzulezu Settlement

Nzulezu is a village on stilts over Lake Tandane, about 90km west of Takoradi. From a town called Beyin, a walk at the edge of the lake and a trip in a dugout canoe will bring you to the village. Here too the village welcomes visitors to the place every day of the week except Thursdays, which is a sacred day.

Mines

With visitor facilities like golf courses, guest houses, catering and other entertainments are:

- Nsuta Manganese Mine, 20km south-east of Tarkwa.
- Tarkwa Goldmines founded in the 1800's, 92km north-west of Takoradi.

Heritage and Culture

Fort Batensteyn Butri, 38km west of Takoradi. The Dutch built it in 1656 and handed over to the British in 1872 who were then the administrators of Gold Coast.

Fort Orange Sekondi

It is 7km east of Takoradi. It was built by the Dutch in 1640 and currently controlled by G.P.H.A. It is used as a lighthouse.

- Fort Dorothea, Akwidaa built by the Germans in 1864 is now in ruins.
- Fort St. Appolonia, Beyin
- Fort Metal Cross, Dixcove (1693)
- Fort Groot Friederichsburg, Princesstown
- Fort St. Antonio, Axim (1515)
- Fort Sebastian, Shama

Natural Attractions

- Egyambra Crocodile Sanctuary, 16km of Abora-Ahanta on the Takoradi-Elubo Highway
- Ehunyame National Cave, 53km on the Takoradi-Elubo road
- Bia National Park and Bia Resource Reserve, 360sq.km
- Nini Suhien Park and Ankasa Resource Reserve, 490sq. km



Princess-town Beach



Fort Groot Fredericksburg, Princess-town



Ankasa Resource Reserve



Fort Metal Cross-Dixcove



Fort Sebastian



Nzulezu Settlement



Savannah Region

Savannah Region is one of the newest regions of Ghana located in the north. The region was created following a petition by the Gonja Traditional Council which was led by Yagbonwura Tumtumba Boresa Jakpa I. It is yet the largest region in the country, and its capital is Damongo. The Savannah Region is divided into seven (7) districts. She is bordered on the north by the Upper West Region, on the west by the Ghana-Cote d'Ivoire border, on the south by the Bono and Bono East regions, and on the west by North East and Northern regions.

Mole National Park

This Park is the heart of the attractions in the Northern Region and regarded as Ghana's largest wildlife refuge and primary African preserve for antelope species, monkey species. It covers an area of 4840sq.km, and 144km from Tamale and 24km north of Damongo. The Park offers Savannah and riverine forest landscape with more than 9m mammals species including elephant, buffalo, lion, leopard, warthogs, antelope, and primates and about 344 bird species. The Lovi and Mole Rivers flow through the park, though they are

ephemeral. Mole National Park is guarded by professional rangers to prevent hunters from trespassing the boundaries of the park.

Larabanga Mosque

This is one of the oldest mosques in West Africa, and it is the oldest mosque in the country, and the largest Sudanic-styled Mosque in Ghana. It is also known as the “Mecca of West Africa”. In the mosque there is a Quran as old as the mosque and believed to have been brought to earth as a gift from heaven in 1650 to the then Imam, Yidan Barimah Bramah, resulting from his prayers.

Wechiau Hippo Sanctuary

The sanctuary can be found on the south side of the Black Volta. Great efforts have been made by the people of the community, who upon education on the importance of the hippos and the ecology of the river have started an eco-tourism industry in the area. The sanctuary has a visitors’ centre, trained guides, organized cultural activities and a guest house. Transport to the sanctuary is however a challenge which is currently been tackled.

Religion and Language

Majority of the people of the Savannah Region are Muslims. The official language spoken is English, however, most inhabitants speak at least one of the Niger-Congo languages: Gonja, Vagla, Dagbani, Mamprusi or Tamprusi of the subfamily, Oti-Volta.

Climate and Vegetation

Due to its proximity to the Sahel and the Sahara, the Savannah Region is much drier as compared to the southern areas of

Ghana. The wet season is between July and November with an average rainfall of 750 to 1050mm. Highest temperatures are reached at the end of dry season and in December, and in January, lowest temperatures. The hot Harmattan wind blows frequently between December and the beginning of February, from the Sahara. The temperatures can vary between 40°C during the day and 14°C at night.

The region consists primarily of grassland, especially savanna with cluster of trees which are drought-resistant including baobab and acacias.

Tourism and Attractions

- Mole National Park, near Larabanga.
- Larabanga Historic Mosque, Larabanga.
- Wechiau Hippo Sanctuary.
- Mystery stone at Laranbaga



Mole national park



Laranbaga Mosque



Mystery stone at Laranbaga



Wechiau Hippo Sanctuary



North East Region

One of the new regions carved out of the existing Northern Region is the North East Region. The capital town of the region is Nalerigu in the East Mamprusi Municipal Assembly. The region has six (6) districts. The North East Region is bordered on the north by the Upper East Region, on the east by the eastern Ghana-Togo border, on the south by the Northern Region and on the west by the Upper West Region. Nayiri Nabɔhaga is the king of Mamprugu traditional area which is part of the entire region.

Damba Festival

Originally celebrated by Muslims to mark the birth of Prophet Mohammed on the 12th day of the third month of the lunar calendar, Damba has taken a traditional rather than Islamic turn. It is a two-day festival which is full of pageantry and showmanship, and celebrated by most of the ethnic groups in northern Ghana.

Economy

More than 85% of the economically active population are agricultural.

Religion and Language

The population of the region is fairly distributed among Christianity, Islam and Traditional African Religion.

The official language also spoken is English, however, most inhabitants speak at least one of the Niger-Congo languages being it Mampruli, Tampulma, Bimoba, Kusaal, Dagbani or Konkomba of the Gur subfamily.

Climate

The North East Region experience almost the same climate changes as the Savannah Region. However, in this region, the wet season is between June and November, and the temperatures can vary between 47°C during the day and 17°C at night.

Tourism and Attractions

- Gambaga Escarpment
- Nalerigu Defence Wall
- White Volta and Red Rivers
- Ancient rock art at Gingana, Kpatiritinga, Jilik and Tusugu.
- Nayiri Palace, Nalerigu
- Najeringa historic slave wall, Nalerigu
- Gravesites of ancient Mamprusi and Mossi kings, Gambaga
- Zayaa Mosque/Shrine, Wulugu
- Ancient Koma Figurines, Yikpabongo
- Buyuori Cave, Yikpabongo



White Volta



White Volta



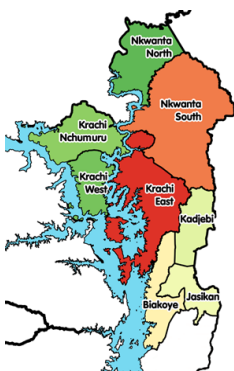
Buyuori Cave, Yikpabongo



Gambaga Escarpment



Zayaa Mosque



Oti Region

The region shares boundaries with Northern region (North), Savannah (West), Volta Region (south) as well as Togo (East). The region has a total area of 13,233sq.km with Dambai, its capital town. It has eight (8) districts. If one is constrained by limited resources or time, visiting just the Oti Region can be satisfactory to the traveller. Why, you may ask? This is because Oti Region has nearly everything that the other regions boast of and has more tourist attractions that make this region unique. The Oti Region can boast of its exceptional serene beautiful rolling hills and valleys, rocky outcrops overlooking the Lake Volta and lagoon, rivers and waterfalls.

Ethnicity

Several ethnic groups can be found in Oti Region. This can be evident in how the region's capital Dambai, is made up. The tribes that can be found in Dambai include the following:

- Nchumru
- Zabarama
- Hausa
- Kotokoli

- Ewe
- Kokonba
- Basari
- Hausa
- Ada
- Fulani

This has resulted in a difference in languages spoken in the Oti Region, depending on the density of population of an area.

Religion

The people of Oti Region are mostly Christians, Muslims, and Traditional African Religion; however, the Christian religion is the most dominant.

Games

The people of Oti hold traditional outdoor games like Ampe, Alikoto, Oware, Chempe, Zanzama, Alasa, Pilolo and Chaskele.

Climate

The wet season for the Oti Region is between about May and November, also with an average annual rainfall of 750 to 1050mm. The temperature can vary between 40°C during the day and 14°C at night.

Tourism and Parks

- Kyabobo National Park
- Breast Mountain, Chilinga
- Chaiso Forest Reserve
- Hanging Village, Shiare
- Crocodile Pond, Kadjebi
- Monkey Sanctuary, Ntumda-Adzamansa
- Kobo Forest Reserve, Nkonya Ntumda
- Stone cave, Bakpa-Papase

Heritage

- Ancestral utensils made of stones, Dzolu and Odumase.
- Shrines and fetish homes, Kete- Krachi.
- Sacred Site Ghlogo, Tokuroanu.
- Tombs of unknown Germans, Nkonya Bumbulla.
- Caves of ancient tigers, Nkonya Bumbulla.
- Historical earthenware pots, Nkonya Bumbulla.

Festivals

- Lissi, people of Bowiri
- Senkyeba, people of Nkonya
- Akwasidaekese Kuntukunu, people of the Oti Region
- Yam festival, people of Oti Region
- Odakpa, people of Nawuli
- Dawuro Kese, people of Kedjebi

Note that the above listed are not the only festivals celebrated by the various tribes in the Oti Region.



Hanging Village, Shiare



Kyabobo National Park



Breast Mountain



Kayabobo National Park



Waterfall at Kayabobo National Park



Western North Region

The Western North, also one of the six (6) new regions in Ghana, is bounded by Cote d'Ivoire on the west, the Ashanti, Ahafo, Bono East and Bono regions on the north, the Central Region on the south-east and Western Region on the south-west. Wiawso is the region's capital town, with nine (9) districts and a population of 880,855. The region has numerous small and large-scale gold mining companies. Deposits of minerals such as gold and bauxite, and granite rocks can be found in the region's mining areas.

Ethnicity

The Anyins, Sefwis, Brussa and are the most dominant in the region. As a result of the region's nearness to La Cote d'Ivoire, some of the people in the region speak French in addition to their local dialect. English is however acknowledged as the official language.

Religion

The Western North people are associated to either of the three main religions; Christianity, Islam or Traditional African

Religion. Christianity is however the dominant religion.

Climate

The region experiences humidity of about 75% during the day and about 90% at night. The heavy but unique rainfall pattern (between 1200mm and 1780mm per annum) makes the region's land suitable for agricultural activities. The region falls within the tropical rainforest climatic zone, with high temperatures between 25°C and 30°C throughout the year.

Games

The traditional games in the region include Adakamu, Abodaan, Asafo, Bosoe and Kete.

Food

Given the variety of foods in the region, the people of Western North Region can proudly boast of different dishes, though the most preferred are fufu and soup prepared with bush meat or fish, and ampesi with kontomire stew.

Festivals

The main festival of the region is the Yam Festival called "Aluelue". This festival is celebrated yearly in December by the people in the District Capital and later, both the Paramount and Divisional Chiefs find a convenient date between December and February to observe it. A period of three weeks (every Thursday) is also set aside to observe what they call "Abiedue Huhue" before the festival.

Tourist Attractions

- Bopapre Waterfall, Bopa/Kofikrom Electoral Area
- Tree of God, Nyamebekyere-5km from Wiawso
- Abombirim Sacred Tortoise Forest Reserve, Sefwi Boako

- Ancestral Hole, Sefwi Bosomoiso
- Atta Nyamekrom Mountain, Bibiani-Anhwiaso-Bekwai
- Mining sites, Bibiani, Awaso and Chirano
- Giant Squeaker Frogs at Yawkrom Forest Reserve, Akontobra District



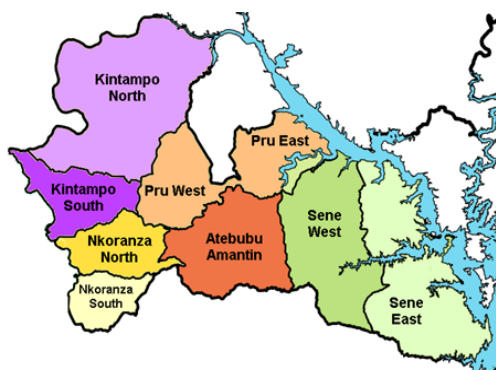
Giant Squeaker Frog at Yawkrom Forest Reserve



Ancestral Hole at Sefwi Bosomoiso



Bibiani Mining Site



Bono East Region

The Bono East Region is one of the six (6) new regions, carved out of Brong Ahafo Region. Techiman is the capital of this new region. The region shares boundaries with the Savannah Region on the north, Bono Region on the west, Ashanti Region on the south and Volta Lake on the east. The region has eleven (11) districts and covers a total area of about 22,952sq.km. The region's capital, Techiman, has a market, which is known to be Ghana's largest and oldest weekly market.

Religion and Language

The dominant religions of the region are Bono ancestral worship and spirituality, and Christianity. When it comes to language, most inhabitants speak the Bono dialect which is mutually comprehensible with the primary Fante, Asante and Akuapem (Akan dialects collectively known as Twi).

Climate

Between December and April is the dry season for the Bono East Region. The region sometimes experiences wet season between about July and November with an average annual

rainfall of 750mm to 1050mm. At the end of the dry is when the highest temperature is reached, while the lowest in December and January. The temperatures may vary between 40°C during the day and 14°C at night (just like the Oti and Savannah Regions).

Vegetation and Agriculture

The people of Bono East Region are highly into yam cultivation, especially in the Techiman, Yeji, Nkoranza, Kintampo, Kwame Danso, Prang and other towns with woodland Savannah zones. Beans, cocoyam, plantain, rice, cassava, maize and other crops are also produced in this region, as well as fishing activities that takes along the area close to the Lake Volta.

Festivals

- Apoo Festival, Techiman and Wenchi, a week-long celebration in March and April
- Kurubi Festival, Kintampo, celebrated in November
- Nkyife, Prang, celebrated in September and October

Notable Attractions in the Region include the following:

Boabeng-Fiema Monkey Sanctuary

For a unique real-life experience with these monkeys, visit Boabeng-Fiema in the Nkoranza District. The best time to visit this village-cum-monkey sanctuary is early in the morning, or in the evening. As to why this motley collection of colobus (black and white) and Mona monkeys are not harmed by locals is a mystery in itself. Local folklore however suggests that some of the monkeys are actually human beings who were made 'monkeys' by their chief to prevent capture during the slave trade. Ironically, the chief himself was captured and killed, and no one could turn them back into human form.

In this community the monkeys are indeed treated like human beings and funeral ceremonies are held for any monkey that dies. It is prohibited by law to kill or harm any of such monkeys. Not surprisingly, these animals interact peacefully with the locals; eating, playing and sleeping, in their homes. There are about 165 black and white Colobus Monkeys and 405 Lowe's Mona Monkeys in the sanctuary.

The Geographical Centre of Ghana

An edifice has been erected at Kintampo to mark the geographical centre of Ghana as identified by Captain Fuller, Commander of the West African Frontier Force during the first and second world wars. Quite close to this is also an European cemetery where expatriate functionaries of the colonial administration (army commanders, district commissioners etc.) were buried.

Fuller Falls

The Fuller Falls, named after the Late Captain Fuller, is yet another tourism site which doubles as a resort for Catholic nuns and priests, and other visitors. The site is ideal for relaxation and swimming.

Kintampo Falls

On the other side of the road is the Kintampo Falls, which is located 4km from Kintampo on the Tamale Road. It is interesting to observe the effects of water action. The persistent action of the water has created three (3) big holes in the rock, thus making the water flow as though being collected in funnel. The water then completely disappears in the earth reappears again underneath a series of rock some 50m away. The subsequent fall is approximately 80m high, creating a shallow pool for swimming. The falls has neither

visitor facilities nor site attendants and is currently being considered by the district assembly for development into a proper tourism site.

Digya National Park

This is a 3, 478km.sq park on the western shore of the Volta Lake. Gazetted in 1971, it is Guinea Savannah Woodland, housing six (6) species of primates, black and white Colobus, Mona monkeys and a variety of antelopes. Has seen limited tourism development.

Tourism and Attractions

- Digya National Park
- Fuller Falls, Kintampo
- Tanoboase Sacred Grove and Shrine, Techiman
- Forikrom Boten Caves and Shrines, Techiman-Nkoranza
- Nchiraa Waterfalls, Nchiraa
- Wurobo Ancestral Cave, 8km from Nchiraa
- Tano River Sacred Fish Reserve, Tanoso
- Boabeng Fiema Monkey Sanctuary, twin communities Boaben and Fiema
- Kintampo Waterfall
- Kristo Boase Monastery
- Buoyem Caves and bats colony, Bouyem in Techiman



Fuller Falls



Boabeng Fiema Monkey Sanctuary



Boabeng Fiema Monkey Sanctuary



Kristo Boase Monastery



Kristo Boase Monastery



Tano River Sacred Fish Reserve



Tano River Sacred Fish Reserve



Buoyem Caves and bats colony



Kintampo falls



Ahafo Region

The Ahafo Region is also one of the six (6) new regions created with Goaso as its capital town. The region was carved out of the south-eastern part of the Brong Ahafo Region. The region covers a total area of about 5,193sq.km. The region is bordered on the south by the Western North Region, the north and west by the Bono Region, the east by Ashanti Region and south by the Western North Region.

Economy

The region is referred to as the “Bread Basket of Ghana”. This is because the soil type in the region makes it possible to produce both food and cash crops. Cocoa and cashew are largely produced in the region.

Ahafo Region is naturally enriched with natural resources such as gold, diamonds, timber, etc. Gold deposits can be found in large quantities in areas like Mim, Ahafo, Kenyasi and Yamfo. Due to the many forests reserves the region has, the timber industry is recognized as the second highest employer in the Ahafo Region.

Climate

The Ahafo Region experience dry season between December and April and the wet season is between about July and November with an average rainfall of 750mm to 1050mm. Highest temperatures are reached at the end of dry season and in December and in January, lowest temperatures. The hot Harmattan wind blows frequently between December and the beginning of February, from the Sahara. The temperatures can vary between 40°C during the day and 14°C at night.

Tourism and Attractions

- Mim Bour/Mim Rocky Mountains, Mim
- Mim Lake, Mim
- The White-necked Rockfowl conservation, Asumura
- Okomfo Anokye tree, Sankore



Whitenecked Rockfowl Conservation



Mystery Kola tree planted by Okomfo Anokye



Mim Bour Rocky Mountain



Mim Bour Rocky Mountain

Proverbs – The Wisdom of the Ghanaian

Proverb	Meaning
Wofiri kusi basa na wotua na wotua a yede dwansre firi wo. <i>If you take on credit the foreleg of a rat bigger loan in future.</i>	The little loan you took and honoured its payment can pave a way for you to get a bigger loan in future
Mpampa mmaebae mu ka ne die ho. <i>Opening up the hot porridge to facilitate cooling is part and parcel of the eating process.</i>	With patience, much can be achieved.
Praee wo ho yi, woyi baako a ebu; woka bo mu a emmu. <i>A stick of broom can be easily broken, but when they are fastened together, they will be strong and cannot be broken.</i>	Unity is strength.

Proverb	Meaning
Dua-koro gye mframa a ebu. <i>One tree cannot stand the might of a great storm.</i>	One man's palm cannot cover the sky or one man cannot fight a dozen.
Wotia aboa (owo/nyanyakyere) no yayaaya a,oka wo yayaaya. <i>If you mercilessly step on the animal (a snake or a scorpion) it will bite you mercilessly.</i>	If you don't disturb someone, the one may not retaliate.
Konkontimaa mfa wo ho mmo adwene. <i>The tadpole is advised not to be swollen-headed and think he is equal to the fish.</i>	When someone is not your equal, do not compare yourself to the one, you may run into trouble if you think and act like the one.
Obi nkyere abofra Nyame. <i>No one directs a baby to God.</i>	A baby sees God by his or her own observation by looking up to the sky.

Proverb	Meaning
Akwadaa bo nwa na ommo akyekyedee. It is easier for a child to break a snail's shell than that of the tortoise.	A child should attempt what he/she can do.
Wonom ahinakoro mu a wonom fam. <i>If you drink from one earthenware pot automatically you will be drinking from the ground.</i>	If you have only a job and you lose it or it does not function well, you will go impoverished.
Odupon tutu a, boroferere na esi n'anan mu. <i>When a big tree is uprooted, it is replaced by a pawpaw tree (which is considered weak).</i>	When a good and generous man kicks the bucket, a wicked man may inherit him
Asaa wo ho a, ankaadweaa nni man mu. <i>With the existence of the sweet berry there cannot be unripe or bitter orange.</i>	When what makes a man happy and prosperous exists e.g., good health, good business or wealth and good marriage. There cannot be unhappiness or wretched life.

Proverb	Meaning
Ahina bo a, na kraa atwe ne ho. <i>When the earthenware pot breaks, the Calabash finds its way out.</i>	When one is wealthy, many a time, the one gets several friends but when one becomes impoverished they despise him.
Dufokye da asuom kyere se deen ara a, erentumi nnane odenkyem. <i>No matter how long a piece of wood lies in a river, it cannot turn into a crocodile.</i>	The uniqueness of everybody should be recognized and respected; for so long as turn into an European, and vice versa.
Yensiane kokurobetie ho mmo po. <i>A knot cannot be made without the help of the thumb.</i>	We cannot do something worthy when we bypass God or the ultimate helper.
Kotere nya nkwa a, na oto aduasa. <i>If there is life, the lizard can lay thirty eggs.</i>	While there is life, there is hope.
Akwadaa hunu okoto ani a, ose abaa. <i>A child considers the crab's eyes as mere sticks.</i>	If someone does not know the value of a precious thing, then one may not value it or may have ill feelings about it.

Proverb	Meaning
Topen-koro yento no ha bone. <i>The last bullet is not hastily fired.</i>	If you have something precious be careful to use it wisely, otherwise you will suffer in the end when you miss it completely.
18. Dee sebe onni se no, onntwe kasee ho manso. <i>A toothless person does not quarrel over a bone.</i>	A person should not waste his or her time on things that will not benefit him or her.
Akoko boro nsa a, ne were mmfiri akroma <i>When the fowl gets drunk, it does not forget its enemy, the hawk.</i>	No matter how generous an enemy can be, he is still an enemy.
Kwaterekwa se obema wo ntoma a, tie ne din. <i>If a naked man promises you a piece of cloth, listen to his name.</i>	If a poor man promises you a cloth of any gift he does not possess, don't take him seriously; weigh what people say before you believe it.

Proverbs – The Wisdom of the Ghanaian

HWEMUDUA



Examination & Quality Control

SɛPO



Freedom Of Speech

DUAFE



Beauty & Cleanliness

ƆWO FORO ADOBE



Steadfastness & Prudence

GYE NYAME



Awesomeness Of God

DWENNIMMɛN



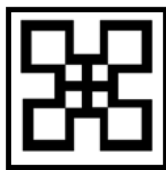
Humility & Strength

HYE-WONHYE



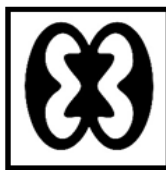
Imperishability & Endurance

NSAA



Good & Longlasting

NKONSONKONSON



Unity & Friendship

SANKOFA



Return & Take

FIHANKRA

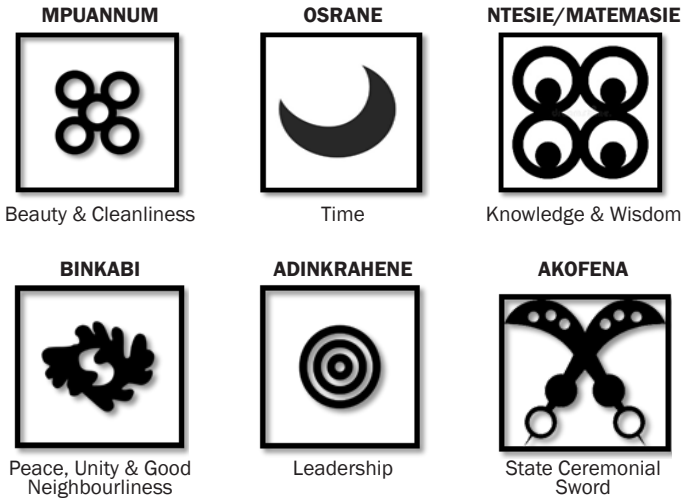


Protection

**AKOKOBAATAN
NANTIA BA**



Caring & Carefulness



Ghana Investment Promotion Centres

The Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC) is the statutory agency set up to promote and facilitate investments in the various sectors of the economy under the GIPC Act, 2013 (Act 865). The mandate of the centre however does not cover mining, petroleum, portfolio, and all such investments found in the Free-Zone areas. Ghana Chamber of Mines oversees Mining investments, Ghana National Petroleum Corporation oversees Petroleum investments, Ghana Stock Exchange oversees Portfolio investments and Ghana Free-Zones Board handles Free-zone operations.

The Act enjoins the GIPC to assist both domestic and foreign investors in:

- The provision of information on investment opportunities in Ghana.

- The identification and promotion of value-added activities and new potential area for investments.
- Liaising with MDAs to create the enabling environment for investors by progressively identifying and removing obstacles and barriers to private investment initiatives.
- Facilitate the acquisition and transfer of technology.
- The provision of professional and technical advice.
- The registration of investments which foreigners have interest in.

As the institution with the mandate for implementing government policy initiatives on direct investments, the Centre pursues such policies that would attract investments to promote the productive sectors of the economy in partnership with the private sector within the framework of the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy II.

The Centre places great emphasis on investments that utilize the country's natural resources, especially those that involve secondary and tertiary processing of these resources for export.

The main pillar on which the Centre is building its investment servicing is the ONE Stop Shop (OSS) which allows investors to interface with the relevant regulatory and facilitatory agencies. This has become necessary, because most of the agencies including the Centre, have now evolved from being regulatory to facilitating agencies. Some agencies have desks at the OSS, while others are linked electronically.

One of the major functions of the Centre is the provision of information on the investment opportunities in the country. To ensure that this information is available at all times, the

Centre has set up its own website, gipc.gov.gh, which is updated regularly by the Research Department, a very well stocked Information Centre, as well as documented and designed brochures which are distributed all over the world through the Ghana embassies.

The centre keeps record of all enterprises in the country and also plans and organizes promotional programs and activities that brings to bare various investment opportunities that the local and foreign investor are willing to tap into. Foreign investors must note that there are some activities that are reserved for the natives.

The centre's latest addition is the Diaspora Investment Desk. This was set up to pool resources from the 'Year of Return' initiative for businesses and investment opportunities. This desk serves as the middleman between the country and the diaspora communities in attracting investments into the country through programs and activities.

The Centre has been named Africa's Best Investment Promotion Agency 3 years in a row by Capital Finance International, and has also been adjudged by Annual Investment Meeting (AIM) Awards as Best Investment Promotion Agency in West and Central Africa. Ghana is Africa's investment hub and her name has been etched in the hearts of many investors.

Investment Opportunities includes:

- Tourism
- Transportation
- Infrastructure
- Information and Communication Technology
- Manpower Training

- Health Facilities
- Educational Facilities
- Manufacturing
- Agriculture



Appendix

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