

SENEGAL

Duration: **9 days / 8 nights**

Up-to-date dates, prices and included services: moai.ch/senegal

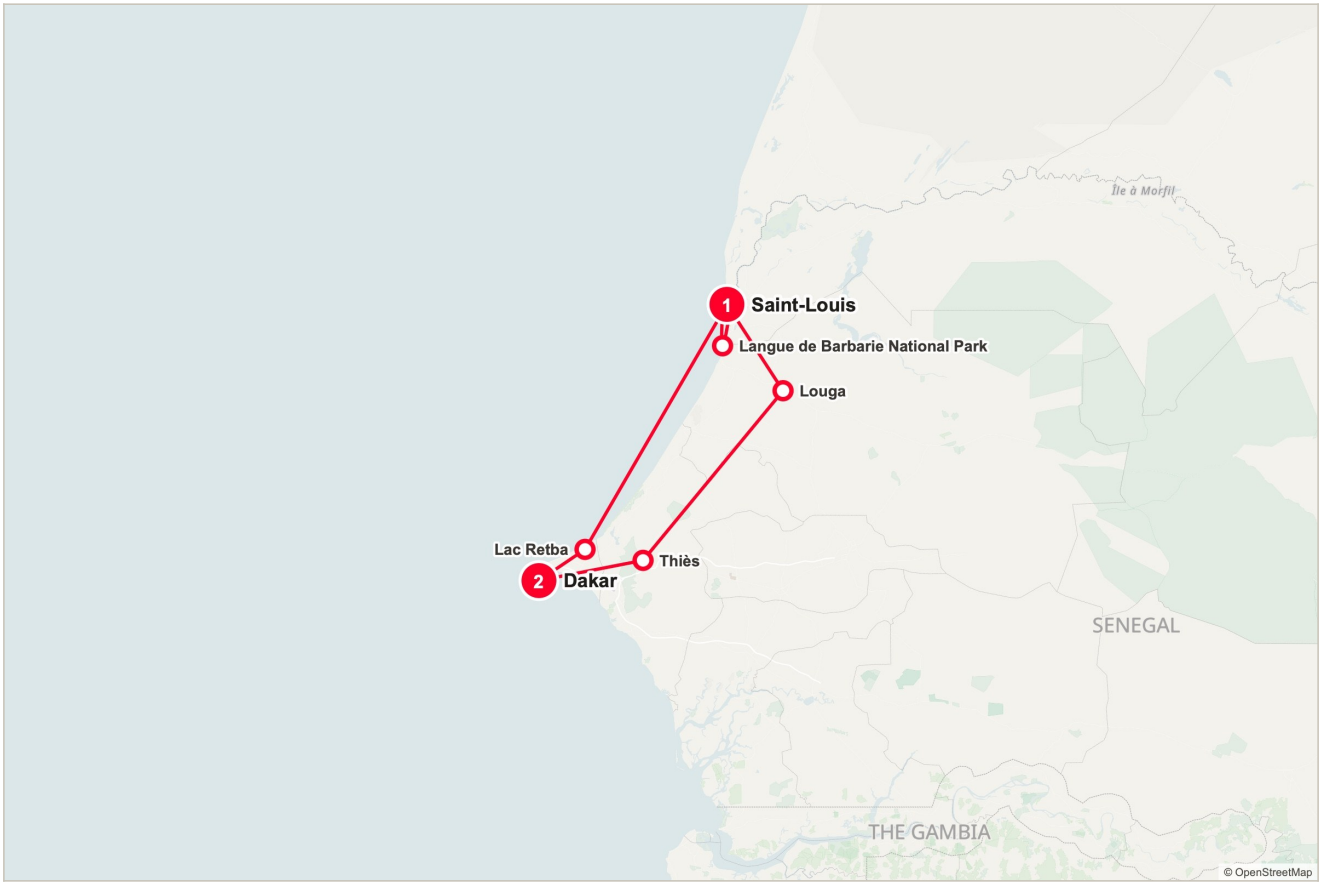
The photo tour in Senegal with photography guide Didier Ruef is a unique opportunity to develop your photographic skills and capture extraordinary images in one of Africa's most evocative destinations.

During this tour, Didier will share his expertise and passion for photography, guiding you through a series of activities across different locations, including the colonial city of Saint-Louis, the bustling markets of Dakar, and the stunning beaches along Senegal's coast.

You'll refine your photographic eye, deepen your understanding of light and composition, and put into practice everything you learn day by day.

The workshop is open to all levels of photographic experience, and it will give you the chance to fully immerse yourself in Senegalese culture, meet local people, and share your passion for photography with fellow participants.

The route



1 Saint-Louis
4 nights · Days 1–4

2 Dakar
5 nights · Days 5–9

Itinerary

Day 1 – Arrival in Senegal

Departure from Milano in the morning. Direct or connecting flight, arriving in Senegal at Dakar Blaise-Diagne International Airport in the afternoon. Transfer to Saint-Louis, check-in at the hotel, introductory briefing, city tour, and dinner.

If possible, you will stay at the Hotel de la Poste, a famous historic building constructed at the end of the 19th century as a post station and converted into a hotel in 1895. If not, we will visit it.

The building, located in a strategic position on Place Faidherbe, is renowned for its French colonial architecture and retro atmosphere, evoking the elegance and charm of Senegal's colonial era. The Hotel de la Poste has hosted notable historical figures, such as the French writer and aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, and has featured in numerous films and documentaries.

Overnight: Hotel in Saint-Louis

Day 2 – Saint-Louis

The city is made up of three parts: the mainland, a peninsula – Langue de Barbarie – connected to Mauritania, and a small island just over 2 km long and only 400 metres wide, where the heart of the old colonial city lies, including our accommodation.

The day is dedicated to exploring the colonial city, either individually or in small groups.

Gather in the afternoon to watch the fishermen return (5 PM) to Guet N'Dar on the Barbarie lagoon near the Muslim cemetery, with graves covered in fishing nets.

Walk back to the hotel, relax, and have dinner together to share what you've seen during the day.

What you can see during the day:

- The historic centre of Saint-Louis: This UNESCO-listed area is famous for its French colonial architecture. You can admire the old colonial houses, colourful doors, squares, and churches.
- The Great Mosque of Ndar
- The Cathedral of Saint-Louis, consecrated in 1828, was the first church in West Africa
- Faidherbe Square and the government palace of Saint-Louis
- The Mupho, or Saint-Louis Photography Museum, with its history, pioneers, and masters of photography, evolving from the 19th century through the golden age of studios. Today, Senegalese photography is richer, more diverse, dynamic, and full of promise than ever.

Overnight: Hotel in Saint-Louis · Meal included: breakfast

Day 3 – Saint-Louis

Saint-Louis is a city on the northwest coast of Senegal, known for its French colonial architecture and cultural heritage. Founded in the 17th century, it was the first colonial capital of Senegal and remains an important commercial and cultural hub. Today, Saint-Louis is a UNESCO World Heritage site and a popular tourist destination thanks to its architectural beauty, beaches, and its role as a base for exploring the Langue de Barbarie National Park and the Djoudj Nature Reserve, two key protected natural areas in Senegal.

This day is dedicated to visiting the Langue de Barbarie National Park with a guide speaking French and English.

Departure at around 9:30 AM towards Gandiol, specifically the Gandiol lighthouse. The destination is about a 45-minute drive, with landscapes of scrubland and the Senegal River along the way, not far from its mouth. You'll encounter patas monkeys (erythrocebus) and countless birds. We'll board a boat to descend the Senegal River into the Langue de Barbarie Park to visit Bird Island, where you can spot hundreds of Caspian and royal terns, royal gulls, pelicans, and sometimes flamingos.

Stop with the chance to swim on the beach opposite Bird Island. Lunch is included at the lodge, followed by free time and a return in the afternoon to explore the historic centre of Saint-Louis. Overnight in Saint-Louis.

Overnight: Hotel in Saint-Louis · Meals included: breakfast, lunch

Day 4 – Saint-Louis

Another day dedicated to discovering this city.

Overnight: Saint-Louis · Meal included: breakfast

Day 5 – Saint-Louis – Dakar

After breakfast, we set off in 4x4 vehicles from Saint-Louis to Dakar along the Atlantic Ocean coast—our road will be the beach itself. You'll witness an exceptional landscape and the flight of thousands of birds during the 200 km journey. As we approach Dakar, we'll stop at the spectacular Lake Retba, the famous pink lake that must feature in your landscape photographs. From there, we'll head to the hotel in the capital. This will be a unique experience where you'll feel like you're alone in the world.

Arrival in Dakar in the late afternoon, check-in, and exploration of the neighbourhood.

Overnight: Hotel in Dakar · Meal included: breakfast

Days 6–8 – Dakar

We have three full days to explore Dakar, alternating between group activities and free time for you to wander around on your own or in small groups.

You'll visit Gorée Island, a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its deep symbolic value; from this tiny 36-hectare islet, millions of slaves passed through between the 15th and 19th centuries. During your visit to the island, you'll have a guide speaking Italian.

Other highlights that won't be missed in the capital:

- City centre
- The Corniche, Dakar's waterfront promenade
- Soumbédioune Fish Market
- Sandaga Market, a grand neo-Sudanese-style building in the heart of Dakar's plateau, built in 1935, housing two floors of food products and countless traders
- African Renaissance Monument, a 49-metre bronze statue facing the Atlantic Ocean

Our trip will conclude on Saturday evening, as your return flight to Milano departs overnight; after dinner, we'll transfer to the airport.

Day 9 – Departure

Return flight during the night.

If you'd like to stay longer in Dakar, you can contact us for advice or to extend your hotel stay.

MOAI

Explore the world, live unique experiences, grow your photography, discover new cultures.









NOTES

Thank you!

To thank you for your interest and for printing or sharing this itinerary, here is a voucher worth **US$ 130** on your next trip. Use the discount code **PDF**.

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