

Kunta Kinteh - James Island

📍 North Bank Region, The Gambia



Kunta Kinteh Island carries a weight that few destinations in West Africa can match, and this full-day journey to the North Bank gives it the space it deserves. Rather than rushing past, the day builds slowly: a ferry crossing over the River Gambia, a drive through the North Bank, and a boat trip out to an island whose ruins still tell a difficult story. The route passes through Juffureh and Albreda, the villages tied to Kunta Kinteh, whose life became known worldwide through the novel and television series *Roots*. From there, a short boat crossing reaches the island itself, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where the remains of a former British fort stand as a direct link to the transatlantic slave trade and its lasting impact on African history. Your guide talks you through what happened here plainly and without exaggeration, letting the place speak largely for itself. Between the historical stops, there's real Gambian life to take in too: village visits, river scenery, and a decent chance of spotting birds, monkeys, and, now and then, dolphins along the water. Lunch is a welcome pause partway through what is, by any measure, a long day out. For anyone with a genuine interest in history and heritage, Kunta Kinteh Island is one of the most significant places you can visit in The Gambia, and this tour treats it with the seriousness it warrants.

Tour Facts

Group Size:
Private group - max 7

Language:
English, Restricted Spanish available on selected dates only

Duration:
10

Tour Type:
continuous

Tour Itinerary

7:30 AM : Meet & Greet

Meet your guide at the Banjul ferry terminal to begin your journey along the River Gambia.

8:30 AM : Ferry Crossing

Cross the River Gambia by ferry to Barra, taking in the river and surrounding landscape.

10:30 AM : Drive to Juffureh & Albreda

Travel through the North Bank to the historic villages of Juffureh and Albreda, learning about Gambian culture and the story of Kunta Kinteh.

11:30 AM : Boat Trip to Kunta Kinteh Island

Board a local boat and cruise to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kunta Kinteh Island.

12:30 PM : Explore the Island

Discover the ruins of the former British fort and learn about the history of the transatlantic slave trade.

2:00 PM : Lunch

Enjoy a local lunch with refreshments before beginning the return journey.

5:30 PM : Tour Concludes

Head back with a deeper understanding of Gambian history and heritage.