

BOU EL MOGDAD

A journey into time on the river Senegal



From the elegant Saint-Louis bordering the Atlantic Ocean to Podor, the old sleeping trading post at the doors of the Sahara, experience a unique cruise in Africa on board the Bou el Mogdad. This mythical ship, which at the time was the only link among the populations of the River Valley, invites you to relive the Trading Posts Route.

Across the water stunning landscapes come into view, as well as a wealth of wildlife of North Senegal. Throughout the river's meanders you will meet a genuine population of unforgettable kindness from the villages of the bush.

Step by step, the old trading posts reveal themselves, filled with history. Take the time to discover, meet, and change scenery to the rhythm of the Bou el Mogdad.

Cruises Timetable 2018-2019

7 days and 6 nights Cruise - Departures every Saturday from November 3rd 2018 to May 4th 2019

Departure from Saint-Louis

November: 10
December: 8, 22
January: 5, 19
February: 2, 16
March: 2, 16
April: 13, 27
May: 11



Departure from Podor

November: 3, 17
December: 1, 15, 29
January: 12, 26
February: 9, 23
March: 9, 23
April: 6, 20
May: 4

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The Cruise

SATURDAY: Boarding and visiting Saint-Louis



Lunch at the Hotel La Résidence (or similar) at around 1pm. Boarding and settling from 3pm.

In the afternoon a carriage ride will allow us to discover Saint-Louis. One can feel a strange but familiar atmosphere, admire the finesse of the balconies hung up on the beautiful colonial houses and follow the yellow ochre gradient given by the streets according to the Sun's position. The Northern part of the island is separated from the Southern part by La Gouvernance and the Faidherbe Square.

Still on the island: the town hall and the courthouse (1st ruling in 1875), the hospital (1827), the Ameth Fall girls' high school located since 1927 on an old hospital site from 1840. The famous Faidherbe Bridge (500m long) shipped to Saint-Louis in 1897 due to an enormous administrative mistake.

The fishermen village, especially interesting in the morning and evening when one can see the huge boats in the horizon. The Muslim cemetery in the neighbourhood of Guet Ndar. The tombs are posts covered with fishing nets. The Ndar Toute market located on the Langue de Barbarie.

Dinner on board and night

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The Cruise

Sunday: Saint-Louis – Diama – Tiguet (the Djoudj)



We will be sailing in the Senegal River waters all the way to the Diama dam. This Dam is the limit of salty waters that it stops from going upstream. Going through the lock and visiting the dam during the delicate manoeuvre.

Lunch on board then sailing upstream along the Diouling reserve, bordered with reeds where you will be able to watch many bird species.

Stop at the Gorom river mouth that leads us to the entrance of the Djoudj Bird National Park. You will get on the jetty via the boat tender. This reserve was created in 1971. It is the third ornithological park in the world. It spreads across 16,000 hectares in the river Senegal delta. Therefore, it appeals irresistibly to the European and African avifauna. From November to April 3 million birds meet to winter, as well as a couple of dozens of species of mammals.

Leaving for an excursion in canoe. Idling the engine, it slowly penetrates the heart of the Djoudj as something fantastic unfolds: pink flamingos take off in tight formation, pelicans fly off, cormorants dive. A strange but extraordinary spectacle.

Dinner and night on board on the main stem of the river.

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The Cruise

MONDAY: Tiguet – Diaouar – Richard-Toll



We will carry on sailing the river upstream bordered with Senegal and Mauritania. The Senegalese banks are rice-farming lands and little cultivated on the Mauritanian side.

We will see a few warthogs then we will pass Rosso, bordering city between Senegal and Mauritania, where canoes and a ferry enable people, animals and vehicles to cross. The arrival or departure of these barges generates colourful intense and particularly animated activities.

Lunch on board. You will arrive around 2pm at Richard-Toll (Richard's Garden) that owes his name to the fact that during the colonial period in 1822 the French made it a place of trials for growing methods.

Discovering "La Folie du Baron Roger" a stylish French castle closed nowadays, surrounded by clay constructions, the traditional architecture of the region. Visiting the city and the sugar cane factory, the CSS (Compagnie Sucrière Sénégalaise) that spreads across 10,000ha and that is the main source of income of the municipality.

Dinner and night on board

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The Cruise

TUESDAY: Richard-Toll – Dagana



Crusing from 8am towards Dagana. After breakfast, a Senegalese cuisine workshop will be offered.

Arriving at noon close to the mango field that borders the village of Goumel, in a mouth of the river Senegal. Traditional lunch: rice with fish or “tiep bou dien” among the mango and palm trees.

Leaving with the boat tender to the Wolof village of Dagana called “capital of Walo”, old trading post from the colonial period where it was not unusual to see the Banny or the Ponty (colonial vessels) loading gum or dropping soldiers.

We will visit the dye factory, the market and the school. We will then make a stop at the fort of Dagana which has nowadays been turned into a hotel where you will be able to enjoy its magnificent swimming pool by the river sipping local juices. Back on the boat at sunset.

Dinner and night on board

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The Cruise

WEDNESDAY: Dagana – Thiangaye



With the boat tender we will make our way to the bank for a little two-hour stroll (back and forth) in the Goumel forest. We will visit a traditional Peulh village made up of longish huts built by women. This will be the opportunity to discover the many species of trees along the banks. Back on the boat.

We will sail upstream to enter the heart of the African Sahel in the Toucouleur kingdom. The beauty of the scenery and the peacefulness of these waters will only be disturbed by the paddling of a few ochre-colour-eyed children, the washerwomen with their multi-coloured loincloth or the animal herds coming to drink water along the banks. Lunch on board.

With our tender we will sail up a branch of the river. Stop and visiting Toucouleurs villages entirely made up of land coming from the steep banks of the river Senegal. These villages are the oldest ones of the river, dating back from the 13th.

Leaving at night with a traditional lamb barbecue on the river banks with hurricane lamps.

Night on board

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The Cruise

THURSDAY: Thiangaye – Podor



Crusing then lunch on board

Arriving around 2pm to Podor, former trading post during the French colonisation. Today trade is not done on the river anymore and its stone docks are looking forward to your arrival.

The trading houses bordering the docks with their large inner courtyards and the warehouses where gum Arabic, firewood, ivory and slaves were stored, are the remnant of a not-so-distant past. You will visit its fort built by Faidherbe and under rehabilitation and you will relive a little of this period of history.

Towards the end of the afternoon we will visit the former trading posts of the “Cour du Fleuve et de l’Auberge du Tekrou” and then we will head to the fort of Podor.

Finally for those who wish, it will be possible to visit the market and wander around the peaceful streets or just sit down on the steps of one of these old houses to watch the sun set on the Mauritanian banks.

Dinner and night on board

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The Cruise

FRIDAY: Podor – Saint-Louis



Breakfast on board then transfer to Saint-Louis by bus. Termination of our services.

According to the direction of the cruise, you are likely to start your stay from Podor.

Please find a non-detailed program; visits will remain the same as the Saint-Louis-Podor direction.

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The Boat



Technical specificities

- 52 meters long and 10 meters wide
- Riveted-steel hull
- 2.5 meters draught
- Two 200 hp Sulzer engines at 300 rpm
- 3 power generators
- Tender: a barge with a capacity of up to 80 passengers

On-board lay-out

- 5 levels
- 1 indoor restaurant
- 1 outdoor lounge
- 2 bars
- 1 pool
- 1 solarium (with bar)
- 1 open terrace
- 1 library
- 1 boutique
- 1 massage room
- 1 multi-purpose hall equipped with an overhead projector and sound material.

Safety

- 1 life vest per person
- On-board medicine chest
- Safety visits carried out every year by the merchant navy
- Civil liability insured with AGF Sénégal
- Whole crew trained for fire and abandon-ship drills

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The Cabins

The ship has 25 cabins where every window and opening is protected with a mosquito net, all of which overlook external passageways:

- 8 **Standard** cabins with double bed
- 4 **Standard** cabins with twin beds
- 3 **Comfort** cabins with double bed
- 5 **Comfort** cabins with twin beds
- 3 **Comfort** cabins with twin beds and single bed
- 1 **Luxury** suite with double bed and single bed
- 1 **Luxury** suite with double bed



Standard cabin



Comfort cabin



Rear luxury suite



Front luxury suite

The **Standard cabins** come equipped with a washbasin, a fan and storage compartments (The ship provides the passengers with 6 toilet cabins and 6 shower cabins).

The **Comfort cabins** and **Luxury suites** come also equipped with ensuite bathroom, toilet and air-conditioning.

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Additional Programs *

* Pre/Post Cruise Traveling

Océan & Savane

The cruise is an ideal opportunity to discover the Océan & Savane lodge and its unique surroundings situated in a Natural Park, along the river Senegal and facing the Langue de Barbarie, with a view on the Ocean on the horizon.

This haven of peace especially adapted for stays in couples or families is inviting you to relax and for a change of scenery.



Jeep Road Trip

Combining a unique adventurous moment in a Willys jeep discovering the variety of landscapes of Senegal and its authentic villages, off the beaten tracks.

From Lake Rose to Saint Louis through the beach and the dirt tracks into the Senegalese bush, meeting a warm and still genuine culture.



A Walk to the End of the Bou

It is quite difficult to come all the way to Podor with the Bou el Mogdad and to leave it without taking the time to discover its charm, its secrets and its surprises.

The formula called “Balade au bout du Bou” (“a walk to the end of the Bou”) is offered as an extension of the cruise to allow those who finish it, and those who start it, to discover Podor and its surrounding region.



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Rates

	Rates Adults « All In »	Deal Rates Cruises from April 27th and May 4th 2019
Standard Cabin	760 €	608 €
<i>Single Extra Charge</i>	216 €	172.8 €
Comfort Cabin	1.095 €	876 €
<i>Single Extra Charge</i>	324 €	259.2 €
Luxury Suite	1.430 €	1.144 €
<i>Single Extra Charge</i>	432 €	345.6 €

Services Included

- **Excursions** mentioned in the program
- **Full board and “all inclusive” plan** (open bar and table drinks)
- The French-speaking, English-speaking and Spanish-speaking **guide** during the excursions
- **Shuttle Saint-Louis>ship>Saint-Louis** for cruises of 6,5 or 4 nights

Services Not-included

- **Christmas Eve** supplement of 50€ and **New Year’s Eve** of 75€
- **Shuttle Saint-Louis>ship>Saint-Louis** for cruises of less than 4 nights

Special conditions

- **Complete and exclusive chartering** of the Bou (for 6 days): 32,000€ (50% when reserving, 6 months in advance)The following must be added per person: 90€ (for the “all inclusive” pass)
- **Children** from 5 to 11 years old half double with adult: -25% (with “all inclusive” pass without alcohol)

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Contact



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