

The route! (Jan 2012 version)

Waypoints and notes on the route from France to Banjul

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(but don't blame us if you take a wrong turn or get arrested!!)

FRANCE

"Ferme de Candeloup" N 43.284261° W 0.567392°

SPAIN

The border at Somport N 42.795575° W 0.524821°
(lunch stop???) nice views

Madrid is about 375 kms as the crow flies - Signs to Huesca / Jaca / Zaragoza / Madrid

The Motel-Restaurante N 39.614450° W 3.524074°
El Queso, Tembleque, Toledo (100kms-ish south of **Madrid**)
reasonable night stop – we recommend the chicken/garlic/chips!

Algeciras ferries

"Carlos" ferry ticket office N 36.17926 W 5.44116
nearby LIDL for provisions ... N 36.18183 W 5.43959
Dock gates N 36.13086 W 5.44112

MOROCCO

Rabat – Mauritanian Embassy N33.980585 W6.830676

Just "down the road" - Temara Plage - "La Felouque" hotel
(while you're waiting for visas??) N33.918847 W6.968896

Casablanca – IBIS hotel N33.590398 W7.590677°
(it's next to the train station)

Rick's Bar (not the original!) N33.604998 W7.620488

Marrakech – Ibis hotel N31.629662 W8.018383
There are at least TWO Ibis Hotels – this is the one in the Centre, next to the station.

There are no signs to show the way out of Marrakech!! From the Ibis, turn left

2nd exit N31.632090 W8.007618

"2 o'clock" N31.628641 W8.002924

Turn right N31.613147 W7.992740

Straight on N31.595502 W8.004481

Tizi-n-Test pass N 30.873935° W 8.357057° (approximate)

Mirleft main street (Abertih hotel) N 29.581526° W 10.033229°
Interesting place for a night stop

40 kms north of **Laayoune** N 27.442210° W 13.021760°
“TURNING” TO CAMPSITE

Roi Bedouin Campsite – about 5kms across the sand
N 27.462029° W 13.051858°

left fork to "ring road"
around **Laayoune** N 27.194564° W 13.173853°

the “big hole” N 28.10712 W 12.03749

After about 450 kms N 23.892906° W 15.672925°
Right turn to **Dakhla** (it’s now a roundabout with a fuel stop)
(Detailed examination of your paperwork by the euro-hungry cops!)
(about 4kms toward Dakhla there is a great desert view!)

Dakhla campsite N 23.763980° W 15.907625°

Moroccan border post N 21.363735° W 16.960596°
There’s a bit of a rush to get here before they shut for lunch at 12 –for THREE hours.

4 or 5 kms of dirt track through the mine-field. Following a big truck is always a good idea!
Where there is a choice, keep left, so as to avoid soft sand.

MAURETANIA

Mauretanian border post N 21.333709° W 16.946966°

(IF you are going to Nouadhibou , it’s always good to get a “local” into the car here, even if it’s just to give him a lift to town. There are many check-points and he will get you through without hassle.)

Back onto tarmac. After about 8kms you get to a T-junction.
There will be a police check-point there.

Left to Nouakchott
- **right to Nouadhibou** N 21.285865° W 16.891659°

(You come back to this point after leaving Nouadhibou)

It’s now about 50kms to “Camping Abba” in Nouadhibou.
The road is tarmac but it’s scary – doubly so at night.

There is a “back road” route which is much quieter, going via the airport
and avoiding the really busy parts of town. RECOMMENDED!

Roundabout.

turn left to avoid town centre N 20.964538° W 17.039706°
after 500 metres **turn right** N 20.963992° W 17.034611°
after 1.8 kms **straight on** N 20.948420° W 17.035275°
after 1.4 kms **fork left** N 20.936369° W 17.034883°
after about 800 metres pass the **airport entrance**.

Straight on for about 3kms.

turn right

N 20.907648° W 17.051763°

After 150 metres, at the corner, "**Camping Abba**" will be seen at "2 o'clock".

N 20.908453° W 17.053232°

When leaving Nouadhibou, backtrack to the junction near the border.
The tarmac goes from there to Nouakchott.

Desert beach campsite

N 20.126020° W 16.256308°

(No road to here – you need a guide in 2WD) Big Bedouin tents for hire or pitch your own.

Sahara Auberge, Nouakchott

N 18.102640° W 15.997181°

Recommended / easy to find / café & shops opposite.

When heading south from there ... This is a **LONG** day!! Start as early as possible!!!

This is the easiest way out of Nouakchott Out of Sahara Auberge, turn LEFT

After 500 metres

Straight on at roundabout

N 18.098492° W 15.996855°

After 1.7kms

Straight on at "junction"

N 18.084783° W 15.990996°

(the roundabout had disappeared in Jan 2011)

After 2.4kms

t-junction – turn right

N 18.067428° W 15.979180°

After 500 metres

Turn left at the junction

N 18.064208° W 15.981679°

After 1 km

Roundabout – turn right

N 18.060316° W 15.973579°

After 400 metres

Roundabout – fork left

N 18.057473° W 15.974854°

After 1.4 kms

Straight on at roundabout

N 18.044622° W 15.973705°

Straight on south, out of town.

After about 160-170 kms ???????

The new "piste" to Diama – start

N 16.78850 W 16.09947

- end N 16.52955 W 16.23866

(There are about 80kms to the border at the Diama Dam (on the new piste)).

Or, if you carry on to **ROSSO (about 100kms)**.....

DO NOT MISS THIS TURN!

It will be on you before you realise it!!

You do **NOT** want to go into Rosso and then turn back!!!

It is near the petrol station and just looks like a dirt track, **That is because it is!!**

Diama turn (**right**)

N 16.518687° W 15.812367°

You will have to go through a military checkpoint as you are entering a National Park. Once on the road to Diama, just follow your nose.

DO NOT USE THIS ROAD IN THE DARK!!

This is the roughest road so far, but there is worse to come!!

left turn to Diama N 16.309170° W 16.397337°
("Gare de Peage")
(there may be a checkpoint – watch for slippery hands with the paperwork!!!)
Mauretania border post N 16.221274° W 16.414485°
A fairly low-key – easy process.

SENEGAL

Senegal border post N 16.213992° W 16.415245°
Be prepared for a long drawn-out stay here. But don't stop smiling!

If they tell you that you are going to Zebrabar – nod and smile and agree.
(If you ARE going there, you do NOT need a guide to Zebrabar – it is very easy!!)

When you have your "**passavant**" you can go where you like,
but keep all the vehicles on the form **TOGETHER!! Do not split up!!!**

The current "fee" (Jan 2012) for a vehicle more than 5 yrs old is (up to) 200 euros.
You MIGHT be able to negotiate that down a bit!

From here to St Louis is about 30 kms – expect to be stopped by police.

Here are some waypoints ...

bridge N 16.056732° W 16.402079°
bridge N 16.026869° W 16.477577°
left fork N 16.024958° W 16.489679°
right fork N 16.022983° W 16.491895°
(some new road works are changing the layout of these junctions)

Roundabout N 16.025661° W 16.498403°

Left to Zebrabar and Dakar --- straight over the bridge to town and "Hotel de la Poste"

Hotel de la Poste, St Louis N 16.026327° W 16.503884°

Hotel Diamarek, Barbary Coast N 15.984522° W 16.511796°

Hotel Oasis N 15.988590° W 16.511285°

Right fork to Zebrabar N 15.974822° W 16.482764°

After 15 kms????? (watch for signs)

Zebrabar campsite N 15.864867° W 16.512253°

rejoin the road south N 15.914888° W 16.413376°

From St Louis to the Gambia border is over 300 kms of sometimes **BAD** roads.
It can be a **LONG** day if you are going to do it in one go.

After about 110kms you get to **KEBEMER**
left turn N15.373979 W016.449680
There is then a short right-then-left detour shortly after
to get you on the **DAROU-MOUSTY** road

After about 62kms you get to **DAROU-MOUSTY**
At the crossroad in the centre of town,
Turn left N 15.041263° W 16.046403°

After about 27kms you get to **TOUBA**
Keep the big mosque on **LEFT** N 14.862470° W 15.876995°
(trust me – you can't miss it!!)

just after, **bear right** N 14.861368° W 15.876697°

MBACKE is the next town, but it's all one big sprawl.
After a dead straight 8kms or so
right turn N 14.796402° W 15.905522°

(Watch road signs for Dakar and Diourbel – there is a new dual carriageway.)

After about 39kms you get to **DIOURBEL**

To avoid the town centre.....
TURN LEFT!!! N 14.657336° W 16.222747°
(This is not an obvious turn, so approach slowly!!)

After about 1.4kms, there is a little “wiggle” to the right, then
TURN LEFT!!! N 14.644890° W 16.222011°

After about 63kms you get to **KAOLACK**

Roundabout TURN LEFT!!!
(used to be a traffic light) N 14.138811° W 16.076140°

After about 500 metres
TURN RIGHT!!! N 14.138743° W 16.071574°
(it's signposted **ZIGUINCHOR**)

You pass through the fish market salt pans

After about 4kms **IT'S DECISION TIME**

Road junction – (the police checkpoint may be here or further on toward Farrafenni.)
N 14.105447° W 16.067086°

Right to Toubacouta and BARRA and the Banjul ferry or
Straight on to the Farafenni ferry, southern Gambia and Cassamance.

It's about 100kms to the
Border post at **KARANG** N 13.592159° W 16.422087°
(then on to **BARRA**)

