



SEE WILD

TRAVELS Ltd



PONGARA LODGE-PONGARA | 2-NIGHTS
DISCOVER LIBREVILLE'S CLOSEST MARINE PARK

Arrival in Libreville

Night at the Radisson

Guests who do not arrive in time to take the boat journey from Libreville to Pongara can spend their time relaxing at the Radisson in Libreville. Boats only operate in daylight hours, with hours dependant on the tides.

Guests who have spare time in Libreville are welcome to request day rooms or city tours for the daytime. The rest of this itinerary will be based upon the assumption that guests stay overnight in Libreville, because those who travel from Loango almost always do.

International Flights

Most guests add Pongara to the end of their Gabonese adventures. For those who choose Pongara as their only destination please note that we do not provide international flights. However, we can suggest the Airlines that work well: [Air France](#), [Ethiopian Airlines](#), and [Turkish Airlines](#). Whichever airline you book yourself on, we will arrange for you to be collected from Libreville Leon Mba international airport on arrival for transfer to your hotel.

Relax and Prepare for your Adventure to Begin

The Radisson is our hotel of choice for our guests because it offers everything a first-time traveller to West Africa requires. Currency exchange can be done here. Card payments are accepted for dinner, drinks etc.





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Day 1 - Morning Departure for Pongara

Drop-off at Marina

We will arrange for a private taxi from your hotel to Libreville's marina. The boat journey across the estuary is normally calm, unless there are tropical storms close-by. Be prepared with travel sickness remedies and appropriate clothing; In the rainy season waterproof jackets or ponchos for yourself, and covers for your bags are highly recommended. In the dry season, a warm jacket is often appreciated. Your departure time will depend on the morning tides.

Arrival in Pongara

In the rainy season you can expect a boat journey of roughly 1 hour. In the dry season it is a shorter boat journey followed by a 4wd overland to arrive at Pongara Lodge. Enjoy a welcome cocktail, get settled into your private cabin & prepare to enjoy lunch with an ocean view.

The afternoon can be at your leisure or some guided tours can be arranged. Admire the sunsetting over the beach, followed by dining under the stars with the sounds of the waves lapping against the shore, and the songs of the forest behind you.





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Day 2 - Explore the Park

Guided Excursions

Pongara is a 928 square k.m. national park, incredibly rich in biodiversity & has enjoyed Ramsar status since 2007. Elephant, Buffalo, Hippo, crocodile (a large population of dwarf crocodiles are living just behind the guest rooms), duiker, sitatunga, & a diverse variety of primates are present, including gorillas and chimpanzees. Civit, mongoose, pottos, & galagos are common nocturnal residents & Leopards are present but shy. Most of the animals are shy/afraid of humans & none have been habituated to human presence. It is a completely wild experience so viewings are sometimes fast & fleeting, especially if you are lucky enough to encounter apes or leopards. This all adds to the excitement of seeing nature in its raw form.

In the marine area, hawksbill sea turtles, green sea turtles, & olive ridley sea turtles visit the estuary. While the beaches are used by leatherback sea turtles for breeding. Humpback whales visit the waters for breeding & calving, offering the chance to see males breaching out of the ocean in impressive displays. Multiple species of dolphin are frequently spotted in the waters. *Turtle and Whale visits are seasonal so choose the right season if you want to see these wonders.*

Around 40,000 migratory birds use Pongara as a "technical stop".

With so much to explore you can arrange with your guide your preferred way to see the park. Favourites among guests are forest hikes, kayaks, and beach walks. Either way, the wildlife is everywhere so a guide is required for your safety. Even on the beach you may encounter elephants, hippos, or buffalos!



Day 3 - International Departure / Next Adventure

Morning Beach Indulgence

After a full night's rest and breakfast in the forest restaurant with an ocean view, you will likely have time to relax on the beach, or even take an early morning adventure before your boat departs for Libreville.

Most return boat journeys are in the afternoon however, sometimes a morning departure is possible, dependant on the number of boat journeys being made that day.

Once in Libreville there are options for dayrooms if you have a spare time before your international flight or the beginning of your next adventure in Gabon.



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This Itinerary is intended as a rough guide for what guests can expect. Highlighting the logistics for travel between Libreville and Pongara.

Timing of activities can vary and specific wildlife sightings are not guaranteed.

Thank you for your business & do not hesitate to contact us at any time to discuss your trip.

Sincerely
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