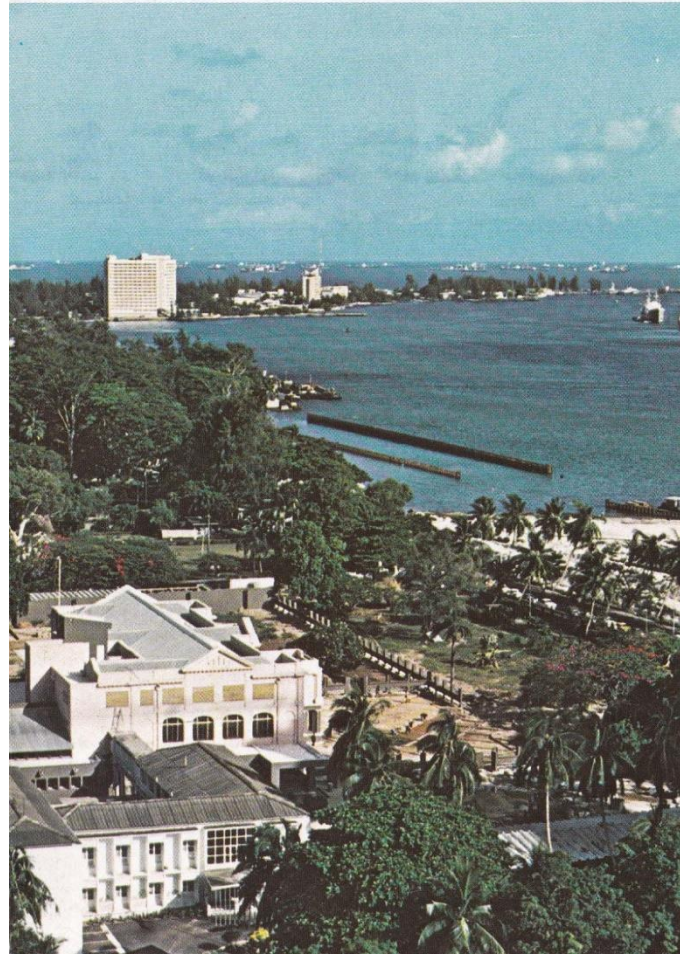


Lagos

SAS City Portrait





Code numbers in this folder refer to the above map. Thus (J8) is located where lines drawn from "J" and "8" cross each other.

Interesting sights in Lagos

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| (H7) Independence Building. | (I9) Nigerian Museum. |
| (G6) City Hall. | (I8) Houses of Parliament. |
| (H7) King's College. | (E1) Oba's Palace. |
| (H8) State House. | (E3) Jankara Market. |
| (I9) Craft Center. | (C4) Cloth Market. |

Useful addresses



SAS Ticket Office:
 21/22 King George V Road (J8), 1st floor, tel. 63 71 20.
 Open hours: Monday-Friday 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., Saturday
 8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Tourist Information Office (off map):
 Lagos State Ministry of Information and Tourism, 10 Waziri Ibrahim
 Street, Victoria Island, tel. 24135.
 Open hours: Monday-Friday 7.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Distance from city center to airport: 15 miles (24 km).



A short stroll through Lagos

The climate is too warm and humid for our usual "One hour's walk" feature but here is a short stroll through the city which should help you to find your bearings:

Starting from the SAS office at 21/22 King George V Road, turn left and walk along Macarthy Street until you reach Tafawa Balewa Square, where you face the impressive Ceremonial Ground. Turn right here and walk round the square, passing The High Court, The Supreme Court and King's College.

Continuing round the Ceremonial Ground, you will pass Independence Building, one of the highest buildings in Lagos. At the first roundabout walk down Cable Street to the Marina. Turning left you pass the State House, used as a Guest House for visiting Heads of State, and Lagos House, residence of the Governor of Lagos. At Force Road, turn left and walk to the roundabout where you turn right at Awolowo Road. On the left side of Awolowo Road there is a Craft Center and, further on, the Nigerian Museum. Turn left at King George V Road and walk back to the SAS office.

Introduction

One of Africa's largest cities with a population of two million, Lagos is the capital of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. It is built on three islands and the mainland, just above sea level and six degrees north of the Equator.

Lagos Island is the commercial center, Ikoyi and Victoria are residential areas and most industries plus the airport are located on the mainland. There is also a big and busy port at Apapa.

The name of the city dates back to 1730 when the Portuguese established a trading post here dealing in iron, brass, pepper, elephant tusks and later slaves. The Portuguese traders named the city, Lagos, which means lakes, referring to the lagoons surrounding the island. When the British Government outlawed slavery in 1833 it applied pressure on the local rulers to stop the slave market. The power struggle that followed resulted in a treaty with Great Britain in 1852 and in 1861 Lagos became a British colony. In 1914 the different regions were gathered into the colony of Nigeria.

A movement for self-rule began in the 1930s and Nigeria finally became independent on October 1, 1960.

Present-day Lagos is a city of contrasts. Ambitious reconstruction programs with new bridges, hotels and commercial centers are changing the skyline – but it is still a city of old and new. Modern skyscrapers and street vendors, fishing canoes and ocean-going ships, colorful national dresses and European fashions, blaring traffic and quiet parks.

A vibrant city on the move . . . an important gateway to Africa.

Entry regulations

All travelers, with the exception of nationals of certain West African countries, must hold a valid passport and an entry permit for the period of their stay. You must apply to the nearest Nigerian embassy or consulate for this permission. You are required to have with you a health certificate showing vaccination against smallpox and yellow fever. It is also recom-

This is the 3rd edition of Lagos City Portrait printed in 30,000 copies – with information based on facts available in July 1979. Main changes from 2nd edition: new telephone numbers for all addresses, two restaurants deleted, three new ones added.

mended to have the following inoculations: cholera, polio, tetanus, typhus and gamma-globulin. You should take malaria pills one month before your arrival, during the stay and one month after departure.

Currency regulations

All currency must be declared on arrival and departure. Nigeria has a decimal system with two units, Naira and Kobo. 1 Naira (N) = 100 Kobo (100k.). Bills: 50k, N1, N5, N10, N20. Coins: 1k, 5k, 10k, 25k.

Up to N50 in banknotes can be imported/exported. Foreign currency and traveler's checks can be changed at the airport and the main bank branches in Lagos.

Your arrival

On arrival at Murtala Muhammed Airport, Ikeja, you pass to the Arrival Hall where health, passport, currency and customs control take place. There is no coach service to/from the airport but taxis (all bright yellow) are available. Be sure to fix the fare before you enter the vehicle. The normal rate from the airport to central Lagos is approximately N12 but be prepared to haggle. Please remember to check your onward reservation as soon as possible after arrival. You can do this by calling SAS (tel. 63 71 20).

Hotels

The hotel situation in Lagos is very tight and you should book your room well in advance. Listed below are the best-known hotels in the city:

Airport Hotel (off map)
Isheri Road, Ikeja.
Tel. 93 20 51.

Bristol Hotel (C4)
8 Martins Street,
Lagos Island. Tel. 63 00 48.

EKO Holiday Inn (see area map)
Victoria Island.
Tel. 61 16 95, 61 20 76.

Federal Palace Hotel
(see area map)
Ahmadu Bello Road,
Victoria Island. Tel. 61 00 31.

Ikoyi Hotel (see area map)
Kingsway Road, Ikoyi Island.
Tel. 68 05 05, 68 07 65.

Mainland Hotel (see area map)
Denton Street, Ebute Metta.
Tel. 84 40 33, 84 11 01,
84 61 91.

Also near airport:

Maryland Guesthouse
(off map)
Airport Road,
Maryland Estate, Ikeja.
Tel. 93 44 66, 93 44 68.

Prices range from N25 upwards for single room, bed and breakfast. Please note it is standard practice in Lagos to pay a deposit covering the whole of your stay when checking into a hotel.

Restaurants and cuisine

Though prices tend to be rather high, there is a wide variety of restaurants in Lagos. They serve both continental and Nigerian food, a dinner for two costing from N25 upwards. Though Nigerian dishes are very "hot", being well spiced with red peppers, be sure to sample some of the local delicacies. Here are some of the specialities worth trying:

Jollof Rice – rice mixed with onions, red pepper, tomato paté, oil and spices.

Efo – vegetable stew with meat, tomatoes, onions, dried fish, oil and spices.

Akara – fried bean "cakes".

Moin Moin – steamed bean "cakes" stuffed with fish and eggs.

Ewedu – greens, dried fish with spices.

LAGOS ISLAND

Antoine's Restaurant (D5)
61 Broad Street. Tel. 63 58 81.
French and Lebanese cuisine.
Closed Sundays and public holidays.

Cathay Restaurant (D5)
88/92 Broad Street (3rd floor).
Tel. 65 84 79.
Chinese food, Peking-style.
Closed Sundays and public holidays.

Quo Vadis (G8)
8–10 Broad Street,
Western House (19th floor).
Tel. 65 16 45.
Popular lunch restaurant with panoramic view of Lagos. French and Italian food. Closed Sundays and public holidays.

IKOYI AND VICTORIA ISLANDS

Atlantic Restaurant (see area map)
Ikoyi Hotel, Ikoyi.
Tel. 68 05 05, 68 07 65,
ext. 271.

Restaurant and bar on top floors. Continental food. Dancing in the evening. Closed Tuesdays.

Café de Chine (see area map)
Federal Palace Hotel,
Victoria Island. Tel. 61 03 66.
Chinese food.

EATING HOURS

Breakfast 8 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.
Lunch 12 noon to 3 p.m.
Dinner 8 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

China Restaurant (see area map)
Ikoyi Hotel, Ikoyi.
Tel. 68 05 05, 68 07 65,
ext. 235.
Chinese food.

Foods of the Sun (see area map)
EKO Holiday Inn,
Victoria Island.
Tel. 61 16 95, 61 20 76.
Many delicious dishes from various tropical countries around the world.

Kuramo Café and Poolside Snack Bar (see area map)
EKO Holiday Inn,
Victoria Island.
Tel. 61 16 95, 61 20 76.
Light snacks and refreshments.

Summit Restaurant (see area map)
EKO Holiday Inn,
Victoria Island.
Tel. 61 16 95, 61 20 76.

Twelve stories up at the top of the hotel with panoramic view of Lagos especially at night. Continental cuisine.

APAPA

Safari Restaurant (see area map)
86 Kofo Abayomi Avenue.
Continental and Lebanese food.

DRINKS

There is an excellent local beer well worth drinking. Imported wines and liquor are also available – but are expensive

Please note: You should not drink the tapwater – stick to the bottled mineral water.

Tipping

In Lagos a tip (“dash”) is expected by anyone who offers you services.

A 10% service charge is added to your hotel bill. If a service charge is not included on your restaurant bill you should tip approx. 10% of the total.

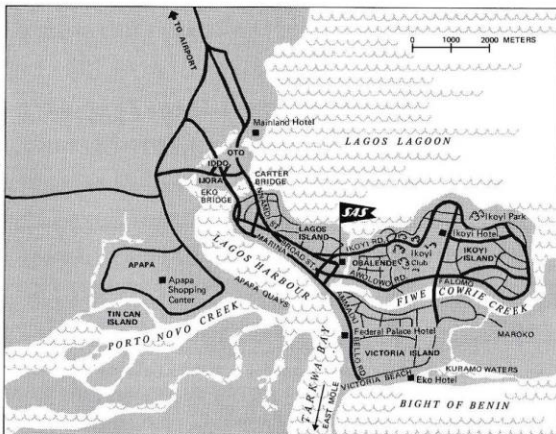
Sights and excursions

Below are listed some of the most important sights with map references to guide you:

SIGHTS

Oba's Palace (E1). In the old part of Lagos called Isale Eko in Yoruba is the Oba's (King's), Palace. Located between Upper King Road and Adeniji Adele Road, the palace is still used today as a royal residence.

Jankara Market (E3). In this part of the city you can also see the Jankara Market, one of the biggest in Lagos, where almost anything can be bought. Another interesting shopping goal is the cloth market at Balogun Street where you can purchase the local batik material.



Marina. Along this avenue you can see the Christ Church Cathedral (dating from 1867) the main Anglican Church in Lagos (E6), the colonial-style Old Secretariat, the State House and Lagos House.

Nigerian Museum (I9), Awolowo Road. Excellent collection of bronze and terra-cotta sculptures plus a display of masks and head-dresses and a section with household goods. Open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Not far from the museum are the *Houses of Parliament* completed in 1960.

The High Court, Supreme Court and King's College (H7), established in 1909, are located at Tafawa Balewa Square.

Lagos City Hall (G6), an impressive building, is situated on Catholic Mission Street with the Holy Cross Cathedral (dating from 1934) opposite it.

EXCURSIONS

For a pleasant afternoon tour, it is suggested you drive around Ikoyi Island and Victoria Island.

Other alternatives:

Tarkwa Bay and Lighthouse Beach. A ferry boat will take you from Federal Palace Hotel to the beach at Tarkwa Bay. Lighthouse Beach is a 15-minute walk from Tarkwa. Caution must be taken when swimming in the sea due to the strong undercurrents.

Badagry. This small town is situated about 35 miles (57 km) from Lagos. It used to be one of the centers of the slave trade and these former slave quarters are still to be found there. Today, most people visit Badagry to enjoy the town's beautiful beach.

Photographs

Please note that great care must be exercised when taking photographs. Anything that can be regarded as military areas or objects such as harbors, bridges plus soldiers etc., must **not** be photographed. Never photograph anybody without first obtaining permission.

Entertainment and night life

Lagos has a number of night clubs featuring live and recorded music. In addition to the entertainment establishments at the main hotels, there are:

Bacchus (off map), 57 Awolowo Road, Ikoyi, tel. 68 35 82, **Bagatelle** (B4), 208–212 Broad Street, tel. 63 28 01, and the **Peacock Club** at EKO Holiday Inn, tel. 61 16 95, 61 20 76.

There are also several air-conditioned cinemas screening foreign films. Performances usually start at 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.

(cont'd overleaf)

(cont'd)

For information about **exhibitions**, contact the Nigerian Arts Council, 163-165 Broad Street, Old Niger House, tel. 65 02 95.

For **museum events**, contact The National Museum Society, Nigerian Museum, Awolowo Road, tel. 63 60 05, ext. 6.

For **plays and movies**, contact Glover Hall, Customs Street, tel. 63 21 72.

For more details of "What's On" consult the advertisements in the local newspapers "Daily Times" and "New Nigerian".

Shopping

If you are an experienced and patient bargainer and understand the art of haggling you will find the markets of Lagos offer a rewarding shopping experience.

Best buys are the hand-made colorful materials, the ebony and ivory carvings, bronze sculptures and leather goods. Do not try to buy any antiques for it is not allowed to take them out of the country.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Department stores: Kingsway, Leventis and UTC, all situated along the Marina (B4/C5).

Handicraft: Craft Centre (I9), Awolowo Road/Tafawa Balewa Square. Aladire, 4-6 Oil Mill Street. Nigerian Art Centre, 20 Moloney Street, The Federal Palace, Ikoyi, Mainland and EKO Holiday Inn hotels also have shops selling Nigerian handicraft and souvenirs.

OPENING HOURS

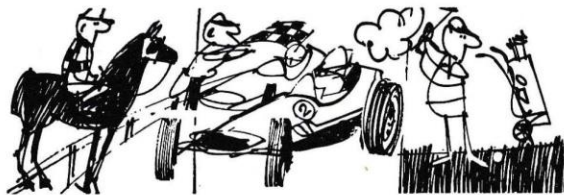
Department stores 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily. Most other shops are open from 8 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sports

The most popular sports in Lagos are table-tennis and football. Matches are advertised in the local newspapers.

There are three golf clubs - two 9-holes and one 18-holes. If you are on a short visit and want to play, contact the Golf Professional, Ikoyi Club, tel. 68 05 15

Swimming pools open to the public are located at the Airport Hotel, the Ikoyi Hotel, Federal Palace Hotel and EKO Holiday Inn.



Climate and clothing

The climate of Lagos is warm and humid. There are two seasons. The dry season from November to April with an average humidity of 80-85 % and temperatures between 85°F (30°C) and 90°F (32°C). In January the Harmattan, a desert wind, blows from the northeast. The air becomes full of dust but the nights are relatively cool.

In the rainy season the temperature "falls" to 70°F (21°C) and 80°F (26°C) but the humidity rises to 85-95 %.

Lightweight, washable suits and dresses are recommended all year round. Most restaurants require tie and/or jacket. Ladies need a shawl or cardigan for air-conditioned rooms.

For the rainy season, a lightweight raincoat and an umbrella are useful.

Laundry service is available in all hotels, but dry cleaning facilities are inadequate.

National and public holidays

October 1, Independence Day; January 1, New Year's Day; Good Friday; Easter Monday; December 25, Christmas Day; and December 26.

Variable Moslem holidays: Id-el-Fitr, two days; Id-el-Kabir, two days; Id-el-Maulud.

Name of my hotel:

Address:

Tel.:

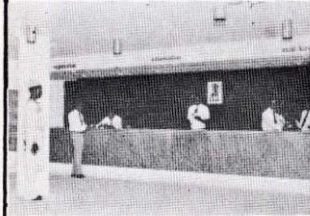
Edited by Mike Simon

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EKO Holiday Inn®

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Lobby



A view of the Swimming Pool



Main Building

475 rooms with bath, Presidential Suite, 4 Junior Suites, 5 Dining Outlets and Bars, Conference and Banquet Rooms, Open air swimming pool.

RESTAURANTS - THE SUMMIT:

Penthouse Rooftop Restaurant Breathtaking view of Lagos, the Atlantic Ocean, Cocktail, Dinner

FOOD OF SUN – Main Lobby:

Outstanding international tropical food served in an atmosphere of elegance, Lunch, Dinner

KURAMO CAFE: Ground floor, for informal meals, breakfast, luncheon and dinner in pleasant surroundings overlooking the swimming pool

PEACOCK CLUB – Main Lobby: Elegant night and drinks club for dinner and dancing cocktails

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