



Republic of Congo

📍 242 / POP 4.2 MILLION

Includes ➔

Brazzaville.....	227
Pointe-Noire.....	231
Ouessou	233
Parc National Nouabalé-Ndoki.....	234
Understand the Republic of Congo	235
Survival Guide.....	236

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Il Pepe Nero (p232)
- ➔ Mami Wata (p227)
- ➔ Restaurant le Nzalanguye (p234)
- ➔ Kactus Restaurant (p232)
- ➔ Nénuphar (p234)

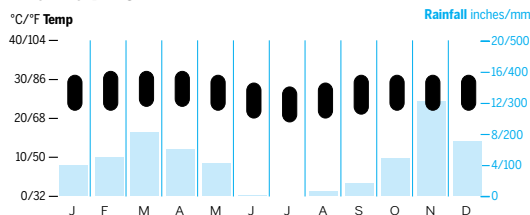
Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Ngaga Camp (p233)
- ➔ Malonda Lodge (p232)
- ➔ Mboko Camp (p233)
- ➔ Hotel Hippocampe (p227)
- ➔ Hotel Onanga (p234)

Why Go?

A land of steamy jungles hiding half the world's lowland gorillas, masses of forest elephants, and hooting, swinging troops of chimpanzees, the Republic of Congo is on the cusp of becoming one of the finest ecotourism destinations in Africa. Boasting three excellent and little-visited national parks where everything from luxurious safaris to bush camping is possible, the main attraction to this alluring slice of West Africa is the raw, untrammelled call of nature. However, Congo-Brazzaville (as it's often called to distinguish it from Democratic Republic of Congo, south of the Congo River) also enjoys a pleasantly laid-back capital city in Brazzaville, some decent beaches on its Atlantic coastline and the warm and welcoming Congolese culture. For those ready to heed the call of the wild – and are not afraid of adventure – the Congo awaits.

When to Go Brazzaville



Jun–Dec The best overall time to travel in Congo.

Oct–Jan The easiest time to see wildlife in the northern forest parks.

Dec–Feb Sea turtles nest on beaches of Parc National Conkouati-Douli.



Republic of Congo Highlights

1 Parc National d'Odzala (p233) Exploring this superb national park virtually alone, with just lowland gorillas, chimpanzees and forest elephants for company.

2 Parc National Nouabalé-Ndoki (p234) Visiting one of Africa's last great wildernesses: an unforgettable experience.

3 Parc National Conkouati-Douli (p231) Discovering beaches, savannah and jungle in this impressively wild national park.

4 Brazzaville (p227) Enjoying this big city's small-town feel on the Congo River and some interesting modernist architecture.

5 Pointe-Noire (p231) Ordering top-notch seafood on the Congolese 'Riviera', then heading to the beach and seeing the lovely gorges in nearby Diosso.

6 Lac Télé Reserve (p235) Getting truly off the beaten path by undertaking a serious expedition to this remote lake.