



Togo

228 / POP 7.7 MILLION

Includes ➔

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Côte Jardin (p483)
- ➔ La Belle Époque (p485)
- ➔ Le Fermier (p488)
- ➔ Centre Grill (p490)

Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Chez Alice (p483)
- ➔ Côte Sud (p482)
- ➔ Hôtel Napoléon Lagune (p483)
- ➔ Hôtel Coco Beach (p483)
- ➔ La Douceur (p490)

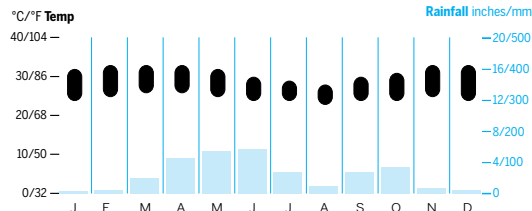
Why Go?

For those fond of travelling off the beaten track, Togo is a rewarding destination. Its great diversity of landscapes ranges from lakes and palm-fringed beaches along the Atlantic coastline to the rolling forested hills in the centre; heading further north, the mantle of lush forest is replaced by the light-green and yellowy tinges of savannah. It's an excellent playground for hikers – there's no better ecofriendly way to experience the country's savage beauty than on foot.

Another highlight is Togo's melting-pot culture. The fortified compounds of Koutammakou are a reminder that the country's ethnically diverse population didn't always get along, but nowadays voodoo, Muslim, Christian and traditional festivals crowd the calendar and are often colourful celebrations for all. The cherry on top is Lomé, the low-key yet elegant capital, with its large avenues, tasty restaurants and throbbing nightlife – not to mention the splendid beaches on its doorstep.

When to Go

Lomé



Mar & Apr The hottest period throughout the country is best avoided.

May–Oct Rainy season; there's a dry spell in the south mid-July to mid-September.

Nov–Feb Best time to visit, with pleasant temperatures. Perfect for outdoor activities.

Togo Highlights

- 1 Lomé** (p482)
Soaking up the the mellow vibes, jazz clubs and vibrant markets of the coastal capital.
- 2 Coco Beach** (p482)
Unwinding on this blissful stretch of sand in a hammock while sipping a sundowner.
- 3 Lac Togo** (p487)
Relaxing on the shores of this serene lake and taking a spin on a pirogue, a traditional local canoe.
- 4 Kpalimé** (p487)
Hiking in lush forested hills and cooling down with a dip beneath waterfalls.
- 5 Parc Sarakawa** (p490)
Tracking buffaloes, ostriches and antelope at Togo's most underrated wildlife reserve.
- 6 Koutammakou** (p490)
Seeking out northern Togo's remote clay-and-straw fortresses, the *tata* compounds.

