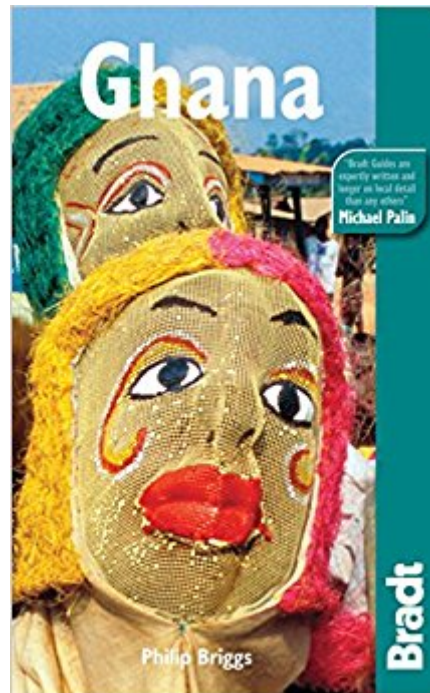




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Ghana (Bradt Travel Guide)



Synopsis

Ghana is packed with national parks, forest reserves, scenic waterfalls and cultural sites, yet is free of the trappings of mass tourism. It's an ideal destination for first-time visitors to Africa: rich in little-visited national parks, forest reserves, cultural sites and scenic waterfalls, blessed with bleached white beaches and lush rain forests of the Atlantic coastline. This only stand-alone guide caters for both the budget backpacker and the luxurious resort wallower. Including authoritative history and wildlife sections, updated accommodation and restaurant recommendations and a wealth of background and practical information, Bradt's Ghana covers the country with unrivalled detail and knowledge. Ghana defeated Sudan 2-0 in Accra to become the first African side to reach the 2010 World Cup in South Africa. What better time to catch this friendly, English-speaking and hassle-free country as it revels on a soccer high? "The best guidebook to the country." The Sunday Times "Philip Briggs is clearly not only an expert on travel in Africa but also someone who cares deeply about the countries he is visiting." Traveller Magazine "One of the few comprehensive guides available." Time Out "The best guide to Ghana." Elle

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Customer Reviews

"[Philip Briggs] is clearly not only an expert on travel in Africa but also someone who cares deeply about the countries he is visiting" • Traveller Magazine "The best guidebook to the country." The Sunday Times "One of the few comprehensive guides available." Time Out "The best guide to Ghana." Elle

Ghana is a vibrant and alluring country, steeped in a rich tradition and a frequently tragic history. Free from the trappings of mass tourism, this former British colony has much to offer the visitor. Tropical beaches abound but there's so much more. Feed the sacred crocodiles at Paga, plunge into the waterfalls of the eastern highlands, marvel at the game-rich savannah of Mole National Park, or relive the chilling story of the coastal slave forts. This guide has been expanded and fully updated for this second edition. It contains information on where to stay, eat, and how to get around; Ghanaian culture, from social traditions to kente cloth weaving; natural history and national parks and over 50 clear maps and town plans. (5 1/4 x 8 1/2, 368 pages, color photos, illustrations, maps, charts) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

My family and I just returned from a five-week tour of natural areas in Ghana (read "remote, rural, inconvenient"). This guide was invaluable, providing practical information on lodging, transport, and destinations in every part of the country (e.g. "it's late in the evening - where can we find decent lodging near the bus station?" or "which guest house is going to be easier with the kids?"). Each section has a map of the region with enough detail to be genuinely useful - a real advantage since there are no good folding maps available. Early pages have helpful summaries of history, culture, and natural history. As some of the other reviewers have pointed out, the guide does contain occasional misinformation on prices, services, etc.. However, this is to be expected - businesses come and go, and the editorial team cannot keep tabs on every establishment in the whole country on a weekly basis. In the acid test, we found these inaccuracies to be infrequent and unimportant. When it counted, the guide was consistently reliable and accurate in its assessments (when we got into difficulty, re-reading the guide usually showed that we had been warned!). Previously we have relied on Lonely Planet, and we started with them in planning this trip. We quickly came to the conclusion, however, that Bradt Guides are the best bet in West Africa.

This book came in handy all the time when I spent a month in Ghana. It has information about every place you could possibly visit. It's current (last published in 2010) and when you are in a foreign town and need to find a place to eat or stay the night, this book is a life saver! The maps are also very accurate and can help you (and the taxi driver!) navigate your way around. There is also history and information about culture and customs in the beginning of this book, so it's very comprehensive for an obruni! Attractions and must see places and things are very well documented and can sometimes be more informative than a local! The only minor problem I had with this book was that

the price estimation for lodging and/or admissions to attractions was not accurate. I realize that pricing can change a lot since I am a tourist and the economy can vary, but the differences were almost always double what was mentioned in the book.

On the whole I was underwhelmed by this guidebook (this was my first Bradt purchase, I usually stick to Lonely Planet or Rough Guides) It has some good basics and background information, and does cover much of the country. The first person writing style is a bit much but that is a personal preference. I think my main issue is that when there are hotels and restaurants listed in the guide (without addresses) not on the maps- which by the way don't even have the streets accurately labeled for the second largest town in Ghana (Kumasi)... you know you are in trouble. That kind of a let down is a bit much for me as I often rely on guides for logistics. And while many of my friends who were living in Ghana for 2-3 months bought it, they all seemed to think the same as me. Provides generals, fairly useful as a doorstep, but not so much on the other information. Honestly since I stuck to the main track (Accra, Cape Coast/Elmina, Kumasi) I probably would have been fine with the LP West Africa guide. I can't honestly suggest the guide (and personally am not likely to get another Bradt Guide), though despite sounding negative I wouldn't say you shouldn't get it... just be aware that it isn't exactly accurate or reliable.

Nice book though it was not updated when I was reading it.

Excellent resource. Worth noting that the restaurant and hotel scene in Ghana changes pretty quickly, as the country has a pretty dynamic, growing economy, so a guide like this really needs to be updated annually. But 99 times out of 100, the info is very accurate indeed, offering far more ideas than the average visitor will be able to use in a short visit. I've been coming to Ghana since the late 70s, and have most recently lived here for the past four years. I use the guide all the time, and was quick to buy the update as soon as it was published. Highly recommended. Don't forget to check out the highly helpful update website at [...]

I bought this for an ex who I no longer speak with. Not sure if she liked it

The Bradt guide was indispensable during my 2 month stay in Ghana. While there were some inaccurate prices quoted, Briggs did explain in his introduction that these prices fluctuate with a currency as weak as the cedi and therefore this was expected. I found the book to be immensely

useful and accurate. I would recommend it to anyone traveling to Ghana for any length of time and I eagerly await the 3rd edition.

I'm rating this book five stars not because it is as comprehensive or accurate as most travel books for more developed countries, but because it is truly the best book available for Ghana. I recently traveled all around the country using the 4th edition and while the information offered was never as complete as I would have liked, traveling with this book was a fun adventure while traveling without it would have been an exercise in frustration. If you're headed to Ghana, there's no doubt that you need this book. Just be prepared to rely on fellow travelers and locals for up-to-date on-the-ground kind of updates and recommendations. A side note - Lonely Planet West Africa and Rough Guide West Africa both have a few tidbits here and there that are not in this book, but they have very thin, flimsy chapters on Ghana. The only other Ghana-specific guidebook out there is written in German, and if you can read German, I'd recommend buying both the Bradt book and the German guidebook. Just a suggestion based on traveling with a few Germans!

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