

TRAVEL

February 2009

Africa Peace Caravan

The vision of the Africa Peace Caravan is to promote peace and freedom on the Continent through an annual 4x4 travel across the Africa. Like an Olympic Torch, the Africa Peace Caravan safari buses are to travel across the African Continent carrying the Peace Flag.

Peace and Africa, in fact Peace everywhere in the world is a concept that needs everyone's support. An African professional Ali Liaquat has formed the concept into concrete reality, and true to the Africa experience and his own professional standing as tourism professional, he has transformed a safari bus to become a core of an "Africa Peace Caravan" project in concert with the Africa Travel Association (ATA).

Mr. Ali Liaquat, currently based in Lilongwe, Malawi has spent all his life traveling. After 15 years in the French Legion, he settled in Djibouti, where he opened the first and only African accredited Land- & Sand-Yachting Centre on Grand Bara site, and helped to develop Adventure Tourism within the entire sub-region of West Africa.

The purpose of the Africa Peace Caravan is to promote the countries and the peoples of Africa, to bring media attention and exposure to the "off-the-road" parts of this exquisite Continent and travel destinations. Based on partnerships built ahead of the Caravan's start, African Governments and their Tourism authorities lend political support to the Peace Caravan. In-country, the Caravan works hand in hand with the tourism industry where the Caravan's itinerary enables the promotion of the country's culture, specificities and facilitates the discovery of the country's natural beauty and historical heritage.

The Africa Peace Caravan began its journey from Malawi on 1st November 2008, traveling to Tanzania, where the 33rd ATA International Congress took place in May 08, with a final 2009 destination scheduled to be reached in time for the official opening of the 34th ATA International Tourism Congress in Cairo, Egypt on May 17, 2009.

The first phase of the Caravan's Peace journey left Malawi and traveled to Tanzania, as part of the ATA 33rd International Tourism Congress, continued to Kenya, and Ethiopia, reaching Djibouti where in January 2008 the ATA's 12th Eco-Cultural Tourism Symposium was held. The second phase of the Caravan's journey starts in April 2009 traveling through Ethiopia and Sudan to reach Cairo, Egypt on 15th May 2009 in time to be part of the opening ceremonies of the 33rd ATA International Tourism Congress.

The Caravans are scheduled each year to start from the host country of the ATA Congress and travel to the country where the next ATA Congress is to be held, crossing as many ATA member countries as possible.

The Africa
Peace
Caravan
is a
modified
safari
bus.



The Africa Peace Caravan travels on a Safari Bus, which has been modified to fit the African roads and weather conditions. It contains over 300 litres of petrol, 280 litres of water; has a small kitchen, an air compressor and a luggage compartment. It seats 15 people. In addition to the Africa Peace Caravan core team of the leader, a medical doctor, mechanic, journalist, photographer and a cook, 6 extra seats are available for tourists and partners to join along. These additional members of the Caravan are able to join the journey for the entire segment or portion within the segment, such as from one capital city to the next. Arrangements to join the Caravan are handled through tour operator partners, who provide the necessary transport and other requirements to join up with this unique, never-ending adventure across Africa.

For more information you can contact our Travel Editor: trvleditor@aol.com plus get more information and monitor the Caravan's progress at: <http://africapeacecaravan.org> .

The African Times-USA has become media sponsors of the 2009 Africa Peace Caravan.
For any Africa, Caribbean, U.S. or world travel questions ask the Travel Editor,
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