



ALGERIA

ABSTRACT

An Erasmus+ project

By „One fo all, All for Green” project members from Greece, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Scotland and Spain.

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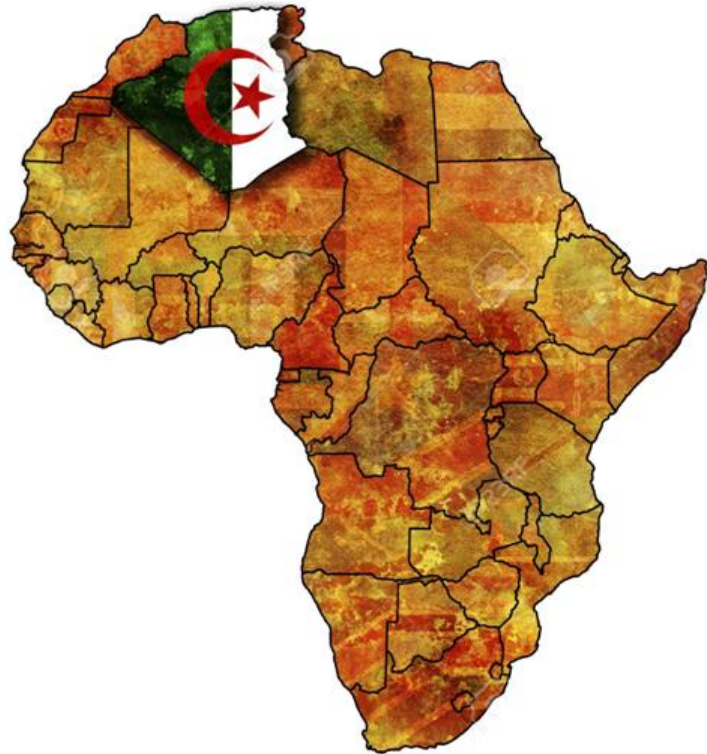
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Chapter 1

The Country

Algeria

Algeria is a sovereign state in North Africa on the Mediterranean coast. It has 1200 kms long coast. It is bordered by Tunisia, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara, Mauritania, Mali, Niger and the Mediterranean Sea. The capital city is Algiers, this is the largest city of Algeria. According to the census of 2014 the population is around 38.815.000. The country is semi-presidential republic, and its president has been Abdelaziz Bouteflika since 1999. Along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea the climate is mediterranean, and on the territory of Atlas Mountains it is semitropical, but the preponderant part of the country has desert climate.



History

The region was conquered by the Muslims in the early 8th century. Later, various Berbers, Arabs, Persian Muslim states, Sunni, Shia or Ibadi communities were established that ruled parts of modern-day of Algeria. During the Ottoman period, Algiers was the center of the Barbary slave trade which led to many naval conflicts.

The last significant events in the country's recent history have been the Algerian War and Algerian Civil War. Madghis (Madghacen) was a king of independent kingdoms of the Numidians, between 12 and 3 BC. According to historians of the Middle Ages, the Berbers are divided into two branches, two are from their ancestor Mazigh. In sum, the two branches Botr and Barnès are also divided into tribes. Each Maghreb region is made up of several tribes. Several Berber dynasties have emerged during the Middle Ages to the Maghreb, Sudan, in Andalusia, Italy, in Mali, Niger, Senegal, Egypt. The 8th and 11th centuries AD, brought Islam and the Arabic language.

The new religion and language introduced changes in social and economic relations, established links with a rich culture, and provided a powerful idiom of political discourse and organisation. The Spanish expansionist policy in North Africa begun with the Catholic Monarchs and the regent Cisneros, once the Reconquista in the Iberian Peninsula was finished.



That way, several towns and outposts in the Algerian coast were conquered and occupied: Mers El Kébir (1505), Oran (1509), Algiers (1510) and Bugia (1510).

Under Khair ad Din's regency, Algiers became the center of Ottoman authority in the Maghrib. For 300 years, Algeria was a province of the Ottoman Empire under regency that had Algiers as its capital (see Dey). Subsequently, with the institution of a regular Ottoman administration, governors with the title of pasha ruled. Turkish was the official language, and Arabs and Berbers were excluded from government posts. Although Algiers remained a part of the Ottoman Empire, the Ottoman government ceased to have effective influence there. The Algerian War of Independence (1954–1962), brutal and long, was the most recent major turning point in the country's history. Although often fratricidal, it ultimately united Algerians and seared the value of independence and the philosophy of anticolonialism into the national consciousness. Abusive tactics of the French Army remains a controversial subject in France to this day. On 8 September 1963, a constitution was adopted by referendum, and later that month, Ahmed Ben Bella was formally elected the first president. The civil war and its aftermath had severely disrupted Algeria's society and economy. In addition to the physical destruction, the exodus of the colons deprived the country of most of its managers, civil servants, engineers, teachers, physicians, and skilled workers.

Culture, Music

The Algerian music is really special, they play their traditional musics on instruments like guembri and karkabou. There is a form a folk music called Rai. It mixes traditional folk elements with pop, jazz or reggae. The „king of Rai” is Khaled.

Literature

Modern Algerian literature, split between Arabic and French, has been strongly influenced by the country's recent history. Known poets in modern Algeria are Moufdi Zakaria, Mohammed Al Aid from the middle of the 20th century, and Achour Fenni and Azrag Omar in the late 1980s. Famous novelists of the 20th century include Mohammed Dib, Albert Camus, Kateb Yacine, and Ahlam Mosteghanemi, while Assia Djebar is widely translated. Among the important novelists of the 1980s were Rachid Mimouni, later vice-president of Amnesty International, and Tahar Djaout, murdered by an Islamist group in 1993 for his secularist views.



Guembri (also known as sintir)



Karkabou (garagab, qraqeb)

Religion

Algerian culture has been strongly influenced by Islam, the main religion. The works of the Sanusi family in pre-colonial times, and of Emir Abdelkader and Sheikh Ben Badis in colonial

times are widely noted. The Latin author Apuleius was born in Madaurus (Mdaourouch), in what later became Algeria.

Religion in Algeria is dominated by Muslims at about ninety-nine percent of the population. The vast majority of Muslims in Algeria adhere to Sunni Islam of Maliki of There are also almost 100,000 Christians, mostly Pentecostal Protestants. There are nearly 2,000 Jews still living in Algeria.

Cuisine



Ingredients:
For the couscous:
2 cups of medium-grained couscous, water, salt, vegetable oil, 6 tablespoons of unsalted butter
For the sauce:
3 tablespoons oil, 1 medium onion (chopped), 1 plum tomato (halved), 1 ¼ teaspoons salt, ½ teaspoon black pepper, pinch of cinnamon, 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper, 2 teaspoons paprika, 1 tablespoon butter, ¼ cup lentils, 1/4 cup dried fava beans (soaked in water overnight), 1/4 cup dried chickpeas (soaked in water overnight), 4 small carrots, chopped into chunks, 1/4 of a medium cabbage head (halved and separated into leaves), 3 small potatoes (chopped into halves), 1 stalk of celery, chopped into chunks, 1 stalk of cardoon (chopped into chunks), 1 medium sized turnip (halved), ½ a medium zucchini (chopped into half moons)

Directions:
For the couscous: Wash the couscous in cold water and drain immediately. Let it rest in a strainer for ten minutes. Fill the bottom of a couscoussier (or any other large pot that can be fitted with a steamer) with 4 cups of water and bring to a boil. Meanwhile, spread the couscous in a large shallow pan and pour 1 tablespoon of oil over it. Using your fingertips, lift and rake the grains to separate them and break up any lumps that have formed. If the couscoussier's seal is not tight: When the water boils, before putting the couscoussier top in place, dampen a paper towel and place it across the circumference of the rim of the bottom part of the couscoussier (as shown here). This is done to effectively seal the top and bottom parts of the couscoussier and to make sure that the steam goes right up through the couscous as opposed to through the sides. Pour the couscous into the top part of couscoussier and steam for 15 minutes. When it's done, spread it out into the large shallow pan again. Fill a small bowl with 1 ¼ cups of water and 1 teaspoon of salt, mix together. Gradually sprinkle the water over the couscous, while separating and stirring the grains gently with your hands. Set aside and let it rest for about 10 minutes. Then add two more tablespoons of oil to the couscous, and again lift and stir the grains gently. Steam one last time, for about 10 minutes (or until you see steam coming up from the couscous). Transfer couscous to a large serving bowl; add butter and toss together until butter melts.
For the sauce: In a large saucepan, add oil and sauté the chopped onion and halved tomato with the salt, spices, and butter for about 3-5 minutes. Cover with about 7 cups of water. Add lentils, fava beans, chickpeas, and all the vegetables except for the zucchini and cook on medium high heat for an hour. After an hour, add the zucchini and two more cups of water. Continue to cook on medium high heat for about 30 more minutes. Serve on top of couscous.

Algerian cuisine differs slightly from region to region. Every region has its own cuisine, including Kabylie, Algiers (couscous) and Constantine.

Pork consumption is forbidden to devout Muslim inhabitants of Algeria in accordance with Sharia, religious laws of Islam. Algerians consume a high amount of meat, as it is found in almost every dish. Mutton is the most eaten meat in the country, poultry and beef are also used.

Vegetables that are commonly used include potatoes (betetè), carrots (zrodiya), onions (bsel), tomatoes (tømètish), zucchini (corget/qar'a), garlic (ethom), cabbages (cromb), and eggplant (badenjan). Olives (zéton) are also used.

Spices used in Algerian cuisine are dried red chillies of different kinds, caraway, Arabian ras el hanout, black pepper and cumin.

There are many different types of Algerian salads, influenced by the French and Turkish, which may include beetroot or

anchovies. There are also dishes of Spanish origin in Algeria, like the Gaspacho Oranais, an Algerian version of a Manchego dish.

Population

There are about 38 million people that live in Algeria. In the north of Africa, it has borders with the Mediterranean Sea in the north, Tunisia in the northeast, Libya in the east, Niger in the southeast, Mali in the southwest, Mauritania in the west, and Morocco in the northwest. Unlike in other Islamic nations, women in Algeria have gained more prominent status in the society. Women make up 60% of Algeria's judges, 70% of the lawyers, and 60% of the student population. What's more, they have a bigger household income contribution than men.



Fun facts

1. Algeria has competed at every summer Olympics since 1964, winning five gold medals.
2. With 2.4 million square miles, Algeria is the 11th largest in the world and the largest country by area in Africa. Before 2011, when South Sudan became independent, Sudan was the largest.
3. There are about 2.4 million people that travel to or are visitors to Algeria each year.
4. The only people born in Algeria to have won Nobel Prizes were Albert Camus (Literature 1957) and Claude Cohen-Tannoudji (Physics, 1997).
5. Camus played as goalkeeper in the football team for the University of Algiers, which may therefore be the world's only university to have had a Nobel Prize-winning goalkeeper in its team.
6. Alcoholic drinks are seldom found in Algeria, largely because of the country's Islamic orientation. In fact, alcoholic drinks are not sold at all in many of the food establishments – and even if they are available, they are often not listed on the menu.
7. The cuisine in Algeria includes seafood, fish, lamb, and Mediterranean fruits and vegetables. The national dish is Couscous, a combination of steamed vegetables, rice, and other local ingredients. Honey is a popular ingredient with desserts, with Algerians being the greatest consumers of honey per person worldwide. The national day in Algeria is on November 1st. It's also called "Revolution Day".



The tourist industry

Accommodation and restaurants

Algerian hotels have long fallen into two camps: business-oriented four-to-five-star hotels or grim budget places aimed squarely at travelling workers. Facilities in the former are improving with a new breed of private operators challenging the state-run (and often chronically run-down) monoliths. There are now also some good midrange newcomers in the northern cities, and pleasant guesthouses and campsites in the south.



Apartment La Pérouse
5 star hotel

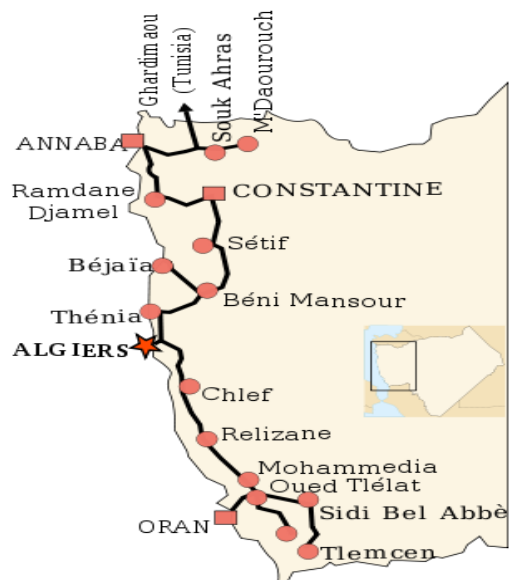


Constantine Marriott Hotel

Guest Accomodation

Transport

As the tenth-largest country in the world, and the largest in Africa and in the Mediterranean region Algeria has a vast transportation system which includes many transportation infrastructures. There are a total of 3,973 km (2,469 mi) of railways: 2,888 km (1,795 mi) is 1,435 mm (4 ft 8 1/2 in) standard gauge, with 283 km (176 mi) of that being electrified and 215 km (134 mi) of that being double tracked. There are also a total of 1,085 km (674 mi) of 1,055 mm (3 ft 5 1/2 in) gauge track. SNTF operates the railways, whilst a new, separate organisation, Anesrif, has been created to manage infrastructure investment. The High Plateau line is a major new project to build an east-west line across the country, parallel to the Rode Nord.



An extensive air service used an estimated 137 airports and airstrips in 2004. As of 2005, a total of 52 had paved runways, and there was one heliport. The main international airport, Houari Boumediene Airport, is about 20 km (12 mi) from Algiers. Constantine, Annaba, Tilimsen, and Oran have smaller modern airports that can accommodate jet aircraft. Air Algérie, the national airline, provides international service. In 2003, a total of about 3.293 million passengers were carried on domestic and international flights.

Maqam Echahid,

this striking architectural design piece is less of a building and more of a monument; however it is just as impressive. Opened to the public in 1982, the same year the M'Zab Valley was celebrating its recognition as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and just 20 years after getting independence, this spectacular feat pays tribute to the lives lost in the Algerian War. Commonly known in English as The Martyrs' Monument, it consists of three giant, concrete palm shaped leaves reaching skyward and coming together to create the architectural achievement it is today.



Tlemcen,



which translates to ‘the town of cherries,’ is an amazing Algerian location to visit, but its most prominent attraction would have to be the Great Mosque of Tlemcen. Not to be confused with The Great Mosque in Algiers, this mosque is one of the best preserved examples of Almoravid architecture and for that reason alone should be worth stopping by. Dating from around 1082, it was first constructed by sultan Yusuf ibn Tashfin before being reconstructed some 100 years later under the rule of his son, Ali ibn Yusuf. Finally, another sultan deigned it fit to add a minaret and a

dome in the 13th century, and the culmination of these reconstructions and additions is The Great Mosque of Tlemcen that we see today.

Ketchaoua Mosque:

Notable for its unique fusion of Byzantine and Moorish architecture, this mosque is situated at the bottom of one of the Casbah de Algiers' first steep stairways, giving it a symbolic and logistic importance. First built in 1612, it has survived many occupations and a change from mosque to cathedral and back again, without losing its impeccable sense of grandeur and beauty. This transition from mosque to church led to



one of Algeria's worst massacres, and it was only reconverted to a mosque in 1962. In design, it is stunning: ornamental porticoes supported by black veined marble columns, Moorish plaster work and octagonal minarets are just some of the many highlights.

Algeria's economy

Algeria's economy is dominated by its export trade in petroleum and natural gas, commodities that, despite fluctuations in world prices, annually contribute roughly one-third of the country's gross domestic product (GDP). Until 1962 the economy was based largely on agriculture and complemented France's economy. Since then the extraction and production of hydrocarbons have been the most important activity and have facilitated rapid industrialization.

Hydrocarbons

Extensive deposits of sulphur-free light crude oil were discovered in the Algerian Sahara in the mid-1950s. Production began in 1958, concentrated in three main fields: Hassi Messaoud, in the northeastern part of the Sahara; Zarzaitine-Edjeleh, along the Libyan border; and El-Borma, on the Tunisian border. Deposits of natural gas were first discovered at Hassi R'Mel in 1956, and since then discoveries have also been made at several other fields. Algeria ranks among the top countries in the world in terms of total gas reserves and gas exports. The gas has a methane content of more than 80 percent and also contains ethane, propane, and helium.

Mining



The main mining centres are at Ouenza and Djebel Onk near the eastern border with Tunisia and at El-Abed in the west. Extensive deposits of high-grade iron ore are worked at Ouenza, and major deposits of medium-grade ore exist at Gara Djebilet near Tindouf. Nearly all the high-grade iron ore from the open-cut works at Ouenza is used to supply the domestic steel industry.

Reserves of nonferrous metal ores are smaller and more scattered. These include

sizable quantities of zinc and lead at El-Abed near Tlemcen—the source of most of the country's production—and of mercury ore at Azzaba.

Phosphate deposits of relatively inferior grade are mined south of Tébessa at Djebel Onk. About one-third of this supplies the Annaba fertilizer complex, but the remainder is exported as raw material. Overall phosphate production declined by the mid-1990s.

Intensive prospecting for minerals in the Ahaggar Mountains has been carried out, and traces of tin, nickel, cobalt, chrome, and uranium have been found. Development of the Ahaggar uranium deposits began in the early 1980s. There are also sizable kaolin deposits at Djebel Debar and large reserves of marble at Djebel Filfila near Skikda.

Manufacturing

The manufacturing sector was mainly confined to food processing, textiles, cigarettes, and clothing before independence. Since 1967, however, the main emphasis has shifted toward heavy industry. The state steel corporation, for example, completed its large El-Hadjar steelworks complex at Annaba in the early 1970s and has constructed a zinc electrolysis plant near the El-Abed mine, at Ghazaouet. Much of the steel produced for domestic consumption is allocated for machine tools, tractors, agricultural equipment, buses, trucks, and automobiles. Paralleling the Annaba steel complex is the vast Skikda petrochemical works, which includes a gas liquefaction plant, an ethylene factory, liquid petroleum gas separation facilities, a plastics factory, and a benzene refinery. Other gas liquefaction plants are located at Bejaïa and Arzew; the latter is also the site of a nitrogenous fertilizer factory, an oil refinery, and a liquid petroleum gas separation plant. A complex at Sétif houses methanol and plastics factories. The phosphate fertilizer factory at Annaba is a major component of Algeria's heavy industrial development.

Other industries

Algeria has many diversified industries that contribute to meet local demands and sometimes to exportation. The food industry is one of the largest industrial sectors in Algeria. Private companies generally dominate the food sector in Algeria with large companies such as Cevital, La Belle and Groupe Bimo. The pharmaceutical industry is also present in Algeria, with the

domination of state-owned company Sidal, as well as other small private companies. The local pharmaceutical industry covers 38% of local needs. The mechanical industry has existed in Algeria for a long time, with the state-owned company SNVI being the largest producer of buses and industrial vehicles in the region. These vehicles are exported to the Maghreb, Africa, and the Middle East. Mercedes-Benz has also invested in Algeria in cooperation with a state-owned company to produce industrial and military vehicles. Deutz AG also invested to produce agricultural utilities. In the electric and electronic industry, Algeria has made a great leap in the field compared to its neighbours. The Algerian region Bordj-Bou-Argeridj is the biggest electronic pole in Africa, local companies cover 83% of its needs and export other products, Algeria started producing some 100% home-made electronic products including smartphones, tablets, TV, TV decoders, air conditioning products ..., at least 16 big companies are active in the field, some of the companies are : Bya Electronic, HB Technologies, ZALA Computer, Cristor, Condor, Cobra, Samha etc.

Agriculture, forestry, and fishing



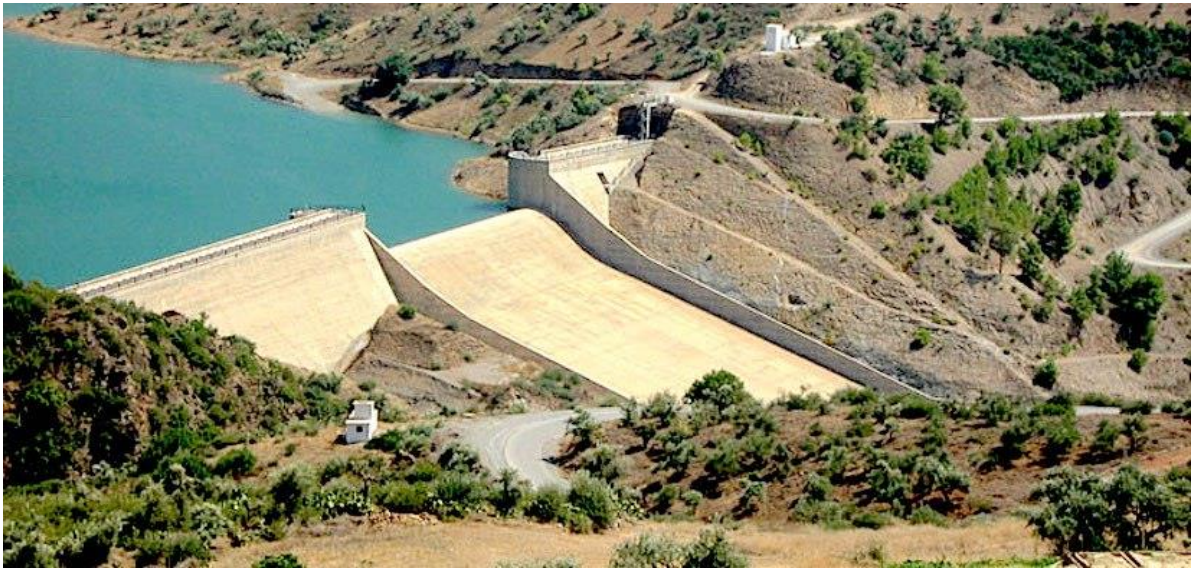
Cultivated land is largely restricted to the coastal plains and valleys. These areas were colonized by French settlers, who established vineyards, orchards, citrus groves, and market gardens. The best farms were located in the well-watered fertile plains around Bejaïa and Annaba in the east, in the Mitidja Plain south of Algiers, and beyond Oran from Sidi Bel Abbès to Tlemcen. Rich vineyard areas were also maintained on the Médéa and Mascara plateaus.

The country's aridity, however, renders more than four-fifths of the land uncultivable, and most of the remaining agricultural land is suitable only for pasture. The rest is tilled or devoted to vineyards and orchards. Winter grains—wheat, barley, and oats—are grown on the largest area of arable land in the drier High Plateau, notably around Constantine, and in the Sersou Plateau to the west. Also in the west, esparto grass grows naturally on the region's steppe plains. Tobacco, olives, and dates are important crops, as are sorghum, millet, corn (maize), rye, and rice. The climate is not well suited to extensive stock raising, but there are many scattered herds of cattle, goats, and sheep, and stock raising contributes significantly to the traditional sector of agriculture.



Irregular precipitation has long been a threat to agriculture, but dam construction and irrigation projects have added some stability to crop production. At independence Algeria possessed some 20 sizable dams. An active and ongoing construction program nearly doubled that number by the late 1980s, adding

substantially to the country's total irrigated acreage. Despite such efforts, the nation's meagre water resources are under increasing pressure to meet its urban-industrial demands as well. Algeria's scant forests have relegated only minor importance to timber production in the



country's economy, although some cork from the cork oak forests in the higher elevations of the Tell Atlas is processed domestically. Forest area has decreased rapidly since the 1950s through logging operations, forest fires, and urban encroachment, adding to the country's serious problem of soil erosion. However, the Algerian government aims at preserving and expanding the remaining woodlands.



Even with the country's long coastline, the fishing industry is underdeveloped and lands only a portion of its estimated potential catch. Refrigeration and canning facilities, necessary for transporting the catch inland, are limited. The government, however, has taken steps to develop the industry by constructing additional fishing ports.

Transportation and telecommunications

At independence Algeria inherited a transportation network geared toward serving French colonial interests. The network did not integrate the country nationally or regionally, and few north-south routes existed. However, a good road network was in place in the densely populated Tell region, complete with express highways around the city of Algiers. Fast and frequent rail service was established between Oran, Algiers, and Constantine by the late 20th century. The main rail line parallels the coast and extends from the Moroccan to the Tunisian border. Several standard-gauge lines branch from the main line to port cities and to some interior towns, and a few narrow-gauge lines cross the High Plateau to the Algerian Sahara. Two trans-Saharan roads have been built: one paved route from El-Goléa to Tamanghasset and then south to Niger, the other from El-Goléa to Adrar and then on to Mali. A state bus company and several private companies provide reliable intercity bus services. In 2011 the country's first subway line was opened in Algiers. At its inauguration, it spanned five and a half miles (nine kilometres) and had 10 stations.



The principal ports are Algiers, Oran, Annaba, Bejaïa, Bettioua, Mostaganem, and Ténès, in addition to the primarily petroleum and natural gas ports at Arzew and Skikda. Algeria's merchant fleet has grown into a major world shipping line. Administered by the Algerian National Navigation Company, the fleet includes more than 150 vessels, including oil tankers and specialized liquefied natural gas tankers.





Air Algérie, the state airline, operates flights to many foreign countries and provides daily domestic flights between the country's major cities and towns. There are international airports at Algiers, Annaba, Constantine, Oran, Tlemcen, and Ghardaïa.

The Algerian government began investing heavily in the country's telecommunications infrastructure in the 1970s and '80s, and, beginning in the early 1990s, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MPT), the sector's controlling body, began to slowly deregulate what had been a complete government monopoly. In 2000 a series of laws opened up the market even further—including allowing foreign companies to tender bids—and Algérie Telecom, a state-owned telecommunications company distinct from MPT, was founded. A separate regulatory body was formed to organize the free-market system.



Despite intensive investment in Algeria's telecommunications infrastructure, telephone, mobile telephone, and Internet access is still limited. Few Algerians can afford the luxury of a home computer, and cable and telephone access has limited the number of Internet subscribers. Consequently, cybercafes are popular among those seeking Internet access.

Algeria GDP growth at 3.9% in 2015

Algeria's economy grew by 3.9 percent in 2015, up from 3.8 percent the previous year, boosted by higher output in agricultural sector, the government said.

Last year's growth was slightly higher than the 3.8 percent government forecast and the 3.7 percent International Monetary Fund (IMF) expectations.

Algeria relies heavily on oil and gas, which make up 60 percent of the state budget and 95 percent of total exports.



After the fall in crude oil prices, which has significantly hit its finances, Algeria has been trying to diversify the economy through incentives to develop the non-petroleum sector but those efforts are still in their infancy.

Hydrocarbon sector grew 0.4 percent last year after a 0.6 percent decline in 2014, according to the National Statistics Office data released on Sunday.

Growth in the non-oil sector stood at 5.5 percent in 2015 slightly lower than the 5.6 percent the previous year.

But agriculture output grew 7.6 percent, up from 2.5 percent in 2014, the figures showed. Algeria's grain output in 2015 reached 4 million tonnes, a 14.3 rise from 2014.

Finance

The Banque d'Algérie, an independent central bank established in 1963, issues the Algerian dinar, the national currency. The government restructured the commercial banking system in the mid-1980s, increasing the number of state-owned commercial banks in the country. The state also opened the financial market to private banks, including some foreign ones, in the 1990s.

The dinar is the currency of Algeria and it is subdivided into 100 santeem. The name "dinar" is ultimately derived from the Roman denarius. The dinar was introduced on 1 April 1964, replacing the Algerian new franc at par. In 1992, a new series of coins was introduced consisting of ¼, ½, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 dinars. A 200 dinar bi-metallic coin was issued in 2012 to commemorate Algeria's 50th anniversary of independence. The 10, 20, 50, 100, and 200 dinar coins are bimetallic.

The first series of dinar banknotes issued in 1964 consisted of 5, 10, 50 and 100 dinar denominations. In 1970 500 dinar notes were added, followed by 1000 dinar in 1992. The 100 dinar note is being replaced by coins. 200, 500, and 1000 dinar notes are in circulation. The 1998 dated 500 and 1000 dinar notes have an additional vertical holographic strip on obverse.

Exchange rate of Euro to American Dollar, currencies of other partner countries and to Algerian Dinar:

Euro	Dollar	Dinar	British pound	Forint
Spain, Italy, Greece, Portugal	USA	Algeria	Scotland	Hungary
1	1.1	122	0.9	308



Chapter 2

Algeria

Algeria, located in North Africa, bordering with the Mediterranean coast, is the largest country in its continent with an area of 2,381,741 square kilometres. Its capital and largest city is Algiers. The resident population rounds 40,400,000, with mostly Arabic, Berber and French speakers, and the most practiced religion is Sunni Islam. Dinar is the currency. Algeria only receives approximately 200.000 tourists and visitors annually. The majority of foreign tourists that visit Algeria are from France and Tunisia.



Algeria is full of history. Significant artefacts have been found in Algeria's North West from early ages, such as Neanderthal tools from 200.000 BC. Besides there are several monuments, libraries and museums which are worth a visit; however we must mention that it's difficult to defeat the unicity of the sand dunes of the Sahara Desert region (which covers 80 per cent of Algeria). Makam Enchahid, La Grande Poste, Casbah, Al Qal'A of Beni Hammad and Grand Erg Oriental are striking landmarks, some included in the capital city (next are, respectively, the Sahara Desert and the Great Mosque).



Museums of significance in Algiers include the Bardo National Museum of Prehistory and Ethnography, the National Museum of Fine Arts of Algiers, the National Museum of Antiquities and Islamic Art, and the Museum of the Revolution, with a collection of souvenirs celebrating Algeria's long-fought war of independence against France. Various local museums are situated at Constantine, El Biar, Oran, Sétif and Skikda. There is a fine antiquities museum in Cherchell, a decorative arts museum in Ghardaia Oasis, and a botanical garden in Beni-

Abbes. Due to the ongoing anti-Western civil terrorism, the condition of many Algeria's cultural reserves have been in doubt.

The largest library in Algeria is the National Library, which was founded in 1835, currently with over 950,000 volumes. In 2005, the National Library (also known as *Bibliothèque nationale d'Algérie*) had seven annex locations to supplement its main location in Algiers. Apart from these two, here are some noble examples of Algerian libraries, many of them being university collections: the University of Constantine (208,000 volumes), the University de Mentouri (240,000 volumes), the University d'Oran Es-Senia (200,000 volumes), the Municipal Library in Constantine (25,000 volumes) and the Aubert Library in Oran (26,000 volumes).

Air Algérie is the air company that most flies to Algeria; it's actually the national airline of the country, with its headquarters in Algiers, Algerian capital. Following are all destinations served by Air Algérie from Algiers: Abijan, Alicante, Bamako, Barcelona, Brussels, Basel, Beijing, Beirut, Berlin, Cairo, Casablanca, Dakar, Damascus, Dubai, Frankfurt, Geneva, Istanbul, London, Madrid, Milan, Montreal, Moscow, New York JFK, Niamey, Paris, Rome, Tripoli and Tunis. Almost all planes take off from or land at Houari Boumedie, since it's the biggest airport in the country.



The best time to travel to the coast of Algeria is in spring and summer, because of the Mediterranean weather, in which we can sunbath and surf, along the vast Algerian coast. However, if we want to go to the Sahara's desert, it is better to visit it in autumn or in winter, owing to the high temperatures there. In this season we can run ski and play other winter sports, and also visit cave paintings.



Even though no accurate data could be found, we can assume that the number of people working within areas related to the touristic industry in Algeria is very low, due to the fact that the tourist industry represents only 1% of the Gross Domestic Product.

Labor force by occupation (2011 est.):

Agriculture: 10.8%

Industry: 30.9

Services: 58.4% (includes the tourism industry)

Not many people work in areas related to tourism, since tourism in Algeria isn't especially high, but we believe more people will work within these areas in a few years, since this sector is finally getting noticed in the country.

The favourite places to stay in Algeria are hotels equipped with security services and controlled access. In Algiers we have Sofitel Algiers Hamma Garden, Sheraton, Hilton and El Aurassi. When we want to go to Oran, we can stay at Royal Hotel, Sheraton or Le Meridien. While in Constantine we have Ibis Hotel, Novotel Constantine and Marriott

In terms of accommodation, here are three kinds: by category, by category and capacity, and by area.

Accommodation by category						
6th Category	5th Category	4th Category	3rd Category	2nd Category	1st Category	Total
1057	851	42	62	67	22	13
Accommodation by category and capacity						
6th Category	5th Category	4th Category	3rd Category	2nd Category	1st Category	Total
4590	3383	14857	5415	2315	51474	82034

Accommodation by area					
Urban	Sea-side	Sahrien	Thermal	Climatic	Total
48680	21710	4431	5742	1411	82034

Algeria is undoubtedly a country worth of a visit: it's quite cheap compared to most western countries, filled with culture, and remarkable to those who have never visited the northern African coast, since it shows not only an African look but also an Arabic one, which makes this country unique with its mixed culture. In conclusion, the reasons that lead people to visit Algeria are its extreme beauty, the amazing coast, the fantastic views and monuments, which are easy and fast to reach by using public transports.

ALGERIAN TOURISTIC POLES



North-East pole



This pole is constituted by 6 provinces (wilayas), which are Skikda, Guelma, Annaba, El Tarf, Souk Ahras and Tébessa. It borders with the Mediterranean Sea to the North, with Tunisian to the East, with Sétif, Bejaia and Batna provinces to the West, and with Oum El Bouagui provinces and Tunisian to the South. It has about 30347sqkm with an estimated population of 3.612.000 inhabitants.

Being the trigger for the regional touristic development, mainly at the seaside, but also at the level of mountaineering, the North-East pole comprises over 300km of coastline and 874.000 ha of forest.

The region's relief is rich and varied, comprehending a 310km-maritime-façade, 10 tree-covered mountain massifs, which range for 874.000ha, whose altitude varies from 500m to 1700m. The pole offers a fine basis infrastructure, quite good national and international equipment, several services, different activities and industries.



The pole's material and immaterial heritage:

- Over 30 thermal fountains
- Closeness to main markets
- An important network of airport, port, railway and road infrastructures, some existing, some to come

- 18 expanding touristic areas covering 10.000ha
- An update program of sanitation and tourism managing

Handicraft:

Heather, Coral, Pottery, Rugs, Ceramic Basketry

Cuisine:

Several traditional dishes, such as Couscous, Chakhchoukha, Chorba and Bourek

Festivities:

- Coral, honey, tomato, peanut, strawberries and the fantasy festivities
- Malouf music festival, theatre, cinema and folklore days, and other festivities that celebrate the habits and traditions of the region

Natural potentials:

- A 310 km-seaside façade with over 70 beaches
- A marine ground full of archaeological remains
- Multicolor gorgons
- Tectonic cliffs where you can find the red coral with over 40 m depth
- Forests of oak Zen, corks oak, pine and scrub
- Varied fauna, featuring Barbary deer, boars, monk seals, otters and eels
- National parks, like El Kala, ecological parks and Béni Salah and Benazouz landscapes



At Annaba you have:

Beaches and touristic resorts, coral lakes, an important fishing port, Hippone ruins, The Citadel, the torture fort and the remains of the city wall of Annaba, Bey mosque as a cult monument, like Sidi Brahim El Mirdassi's koubba and the Basilica of St. Augustine of Hippo

At Souk Ahras you have:

Mountains and forests, the archaeological site of the Roman era, Maddour, Khemissa and Tiffache, Hammam Zaid's sulfur spa, Beni Salah's forest (814m), Ain Dalia dam on Medjerda, and Saint Augustine's route.

At El Taref you have:

A unique ecological heritage in Algeria: the National Park El Kala, and landscape areas of Beni Sallah; Historic Sites and Monuments, like The France Bastion - palace Lalla Fatima, the ancient church of El Kala, The six thermal springs, Beni Sallah forest, the 164 archaeological and historical sites, wetlands, lake, marsh, mouth, hunting and fishing.

At Guelma you have:

The natural reserve of Beni Salah, which covers an area of 2000.00 ha, Turkish baths (the best known, Hammam Debegh), the Roman ruins of Calama.

You can still find the Caves of Jebel Taya (region of Oued Charef - Bou Hamdan), a Roman pool (Hammam Berda), theater remains and baths, dolmens and funeral caves (12 kms north of Hammam Debagh), Ruins of the city of Thibilis (Bellaoua Announa), Dolmens of Cheniour, Bouatfane Citadel, the natural sites of Khenguët El Hadjar, Ain El Arbi, Ain Nechma, Kef Bouzioune Zatarra, and the cult monument of Zaouia Sheikh El Hafnaoui Bedyar. It has 2 hotels, travel and touristic agencies.

At Skikda you have:

19 beaches, a Roman theater and architecture fragments, Skikda Museum with ancient objects, Meriem Azza Palace, The Great Mosque, Guerbez-Senhadja wetlands, which comprises several lakes, 5 classified hotels and 20 unclassified ones, travel and tourism agencies, 2 classified restaurants, 6 local tourism offices and 19 Hotels in progress. You can also celebrate the Cherry Festival.

At Tebessa you have:

Religious sites, shelter stations of Bir Sedet, Garet Retba, Chabet Sibun, Damou kermaia, Fadje Relilai Mengart Site, Fom Relilai Menguebba Site, Merget Sem El Garbi, Oued Retem Site, Relilai Tlidjen Site, ancient ruins, Bou Akkous Caves, Natural Site of Morsott, Youkous Village, Natural Site of Hammamet, Caracalla Monument, Amphitheater, Byzantine Epoche Wall, Basilica, the Zaouia District, excavation site, Theveste territories and Monuments, Roman Temple of Tebessa Khalia, Jebel Mestiri Tower, Dr. Sâadane's Cemetery, Bérrezgane's oil mill. You also have the International Festival of folk poetry, the National Salon of Art, International Festival of Rakrouki song, National Festival of the Bedouin song, Artist National Day, International Theatre Day, Arab child Day, African child Day, international Day of children, carpet national exhibition, national riding festival, World tourism Day, Arabic tourism Day, national tourism Day, burnous and kachabia Festival.



The pole offers different kinds of tourism, such as

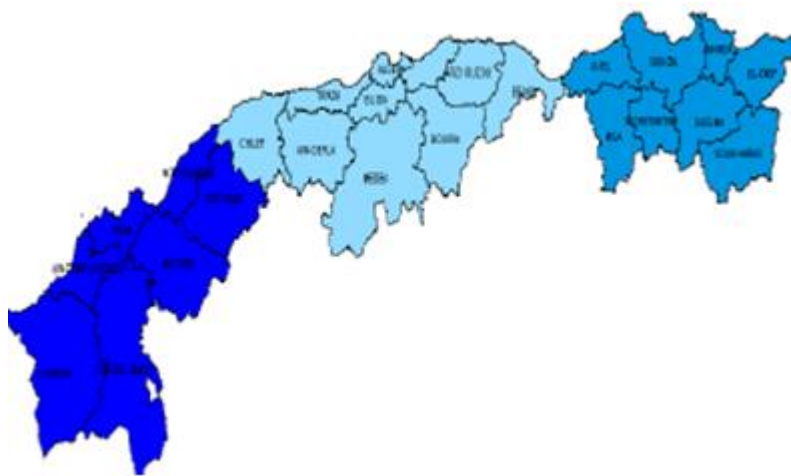
- urban tourism (fun shopping, suburban recreation)
- cultural and historical tourism
- spa tourism
- tourism and health care
- adventure tourism
- scientific tourism
- ecological tourism
- niche tourism
- fishing tourism
- hunting tourism
- climate tourism
- golf
- other worship tourism reasons (pilgrimage to St. Augustine)

The main existing offers:

- An International Airport: Rabah Bitat in Annaba
- An International Airport: Larbi Tbessi in Tebessa
- A port (Annaba), two harbours (Skikda and Annaba)
- A rail network covering the whole pole
- Over 8,500 beds for accommodation (some hotels, especially in Annaba, Skikda, El Tarf)
- 137 hotels altogether
- 41 tourism and travel agencies.



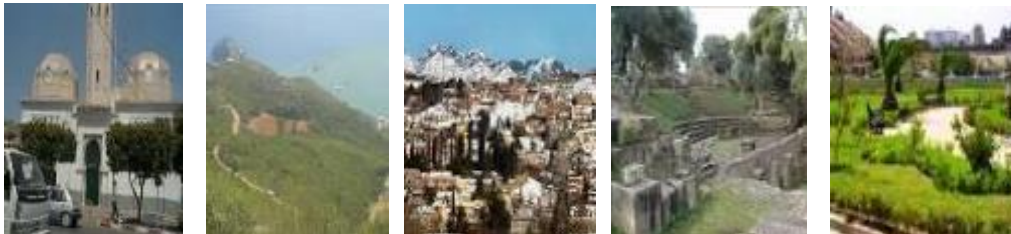
North Centre Pole



With Alger as its capital, this pole lies in the center of the country and is exposed to the seaside for 615km, which makes 51% of the Algerian coast. It has 33,877sqkm with a population of 11.131.000 inhabitants, who represent a third of the Algerian population. It's constituted by 10 districts: Alger, Tipasa, Blida, Boumerdes, Chlef, Ain Defla, Médéa, Bouira, Tizi Ouzou and Bejaia.

It borders with the Mediterranean Sea to the north, with Jijel, Sétif and Borj Bou Arreridj to the East, with Mostaganem, Relizane and Tissemsilt to the West, and with Msila and Djelfa to the south.

As Alger is the political and economic capital of the country, the pole has a developed basis infrastructure, internationally and nationally excellent facilities, several services, and many activities and industries.



Touristic potential

Natural

The most important one is the impressive Atlas Tellien, which crosses the pole from the East to the West, 2,308m high (Djurdjura massif). You can also find Chr ea, Tamezguida, Ain N'sour, Chenal, Yama Gouraya, Tala Rana, Tikjda, Talaguilef, Azrou N' thour, Dahra, Zaccar, Ouarsenis, Bouzegza Mountains, and Lala Khedidja, the highest point of the pole and of the Northern Algeria (2,308 m). The presence of Anu Oufdis, Assouel sinkholes, the caves of the corpse, Bouzegza, Ouled Hellal, Aokas magical caves, as well as a multitude of natural and artificial water sources, Ramsar (lakes and dams), K efrida cascades, Kherrata, Lakhdaria and Chiffa canyons.

Three National Parks classified as World Biosphere Reserve: Djurdjura, Chr ea and Gouraya National Parks. The omnipresent varied forest: Dense forest, undergrowth and scrub, real lush carpet composed, among others, of different species and varieties of oak, ash, pine and mastic, and the old cedar trees that alternate with a tree-covered mountain of olive, fig and cherry trees, as well as a range of medicinal plants endemic to the entire region, such as the thyme, the absinthe, lavender, sage and mint.



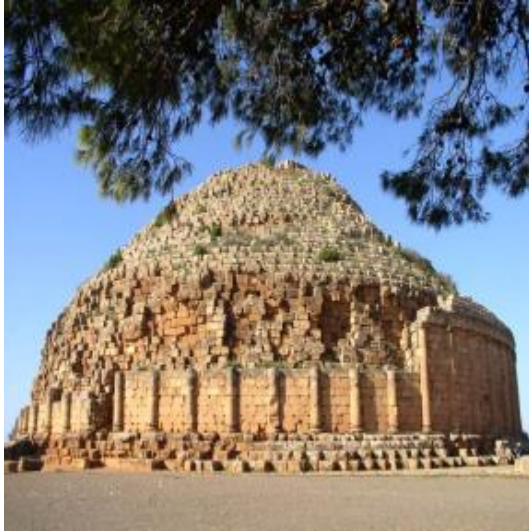
As for the fauna of this area, there are wild boar, hare, partridge, pheasant, thrush, starling, among others, and various birds of prey, such as the golden eagle, the Bonelli eagle, the bearded vulture, the hawk, falcons, buzzards and harriers. The main attraction is the monkey (*Macacus Sylvana*) or common Barbary ape. Plant and animal species develop here because of a temperate climate, with significant rainfall and periodic snow, which also contribute to increase water resources, both on the surface and in the underground. A very steep wild coastline offers beaches, ledges, creeks, cliffs, islands and islets, relatively unspoiled. There are in fact 255 beaches, of which 165 are authorized for swimming, visited by around 56 million summer visitors in 2007. There's still the spa heritage with its 39 sources with therapeutic benefits.

Historical

Phoenicians, Romans, Vandals, Byzantines, Muslims, the Ottoman and the French have left their priceless passage, traces, sites, monuments and cities, some of which are classified as universal heritage.

Old historical sites are, for instance, Mechta Afalou (Bejaia), Ait Rhouna's graves (Tizi Ouzou), Azrou Imedyazen rock carvings (Tizi Ouzou), Phoenician necropolis (Medea, Tipasa), Roman Cities of Tipasa, Cherchell, Tizirt and Azeffoun, Royal Mausoleum of Mauretania (Tipasa), Miliana Walls, Toudja and Cherchell Aqueducts, The Kasbahs of Algiers, Bejaia, Dellys,

Tenes, Cherrhell, Miliana, Medea, The city of Achir, Ketchaoua, Hanafi, Sidi Ahmed Ben Youcef, Djemaa El Kebir and El Boumerdasi mosques, The Basilica of Our Lady of Africa, Bengut Lighthouse, cap Djenet church, Boumerdes black rock site.



Cultural

This centuries-old heritage is valued by an everlasting arts and crafts production. An omnipresent oral tradition reveals its history, traditions and legends, and has brought about a very important literary production, as well as a rich musical and folklore heritage.

The local know-how is represented by a diversified handicraft production of quality, both of use and decorative origin that has created many jobs. Examples are tapestry, jewelry, pottery and ceramics, basketry, copperware, embroidery, upholstery, leather and woodworking. Also there's an important traditional culinary art, which embraces a multicultural mix.

Very high quality local products largely contribute to the development of this culinary diversity, among which we can mention couscous and semolina dishes, olives, fresh, dried and Barbary figs, and wine.



Kinds of tourism

Seaside, business, conferences and niche are the most important ones; but also urban (fun shopping, suburban recreation), cultural, mountain, scientific, healing and health care. Some kinds to be developed are hunting, fishing and scuba diving, caving, climbing, skiing, paragliding and hang-gliding, hiking and horse riding, parasailing, water skiing, sailing, regattas and cruises, rallies and expeditions, cross, marathons and all sports.

Already existing facilities

- Houari Boumediene International Airport
- Bejaia and Chlef Airports
- Marine Terminals of Algiers, Bejaia and Chlef
- South Ring Road
- Caroubier Bus station
- The East highway
- Several ports and fishing shelters
- Nautical club
- Recreational gardens

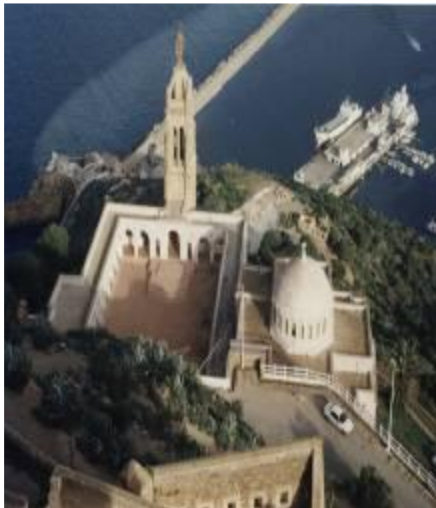


North West Pole



This pole comprises 7 districts: Oran, Ain Temouchent, Tlemcen, Mostaganem, Mascara, Sidi Bel Abbés and Relizane. It borders with the Mediterranean Sea to the north, with Chlef to the East, with Morocco to the west, and with Tiaret, Saida and Naama to the south. It lies in an extremely strategic geographical position, since it is less than 2 hours far from the main tourist market, which is Spain, in Europe. It covers 35.00 sq km of land and has got 6.000.000 inhabitants. It offers various natural assets, as well as touristic potential.

Its enchanting coastline, with majestic beauty and the magical setting, provides the visitor with a landscape where the mountain ranges follow one another, valleys, large areas of water, plains and forests. It's also characterized by both a material and immaterial rich heritage and a very welcoming population, whose traditions have been kept original. The pole consists of seven districts: Oran, Ain Temouchent, Tlemcen, Mostaganem, Mascara, Sidi Bel abbots and Relizane, and it's served by a developed basis infrastructure, quite agreeable facilities and services, and much industry.





Real strengths of the pole:

- An exceptional and diversified tourist potential
- A coastline spanning 400km + 14 wet zones and many dams
- A wide variety of landscapes
- A vast Muslim-Maghreb heritage, both intellectual and artistic
- Material and immaterial heritage
- Hot springs: over 50 sources and eight spas
- Nearness of major source markets
- A large network of airport, port, railway and road infrastructure, some already existing, others under development
- Significant land availability (5000ha of land area)
- An upgrading, maintenance and management program of touristic land.

Handicraft

This supporting sector of tourism is characterized by a strong presence of quality craft products specific to the pole, in particular, to the Tlemcen region. Examples of these are the traditional dress, leather goods, pottery, saddlery, tapestry, weaving, and the traditional culinary art, among others.

The pole's touristic infrastructures

This pole has got 269 hotels with a capacity of nearly 22,000 beds, which represents 26% of the national offer. However, only 5,000 beds on 22,000 can meet the needs of quality tourism.



Main strengths:

Seaside Tourism: both to international and national clients, chosen for its potential, regarding its strategic geographical location; the area stretches out for an exceptional coastline of over 400 km.

From Mostaganem to Tlemcen, crossing Oran and Ain-Temouchent, there are about 125 beaches, with a well-diversified morphology and configuration (creeks, endless beaches, sandy beaches, among others). Rachgoun island (Ain-Temouchent) and Habibas island (Oran) offer a very important asset for tourism and shelter against the winds of the North and Northwest.

The capital of the pole calls for the development of urban, business, conferences and congresses tourism.

Existing kinds of tourism are:

- Urban tourism - fun shopping, suburban recreation
- Cultural Tourism - about 300 very attractive and diversified cultural, historical and archaeological sites, related to different periods: archaeological sites of great value (Siga ruins and the Tomb of Syphax, in Ain Temouchent, the remains of a Roman city in Oran, several sites related to Emir AEK, at Mascara, Ain-Temouchent and SBA, Beni Rached's Kalaa, dating back to the Ottoman era, in Relizane, among others. The district of Tlemcen contains the largest archaeological and historical reserve in the country (70% of the Muslim-Arab heritage).
- Health Care Tourism - The presence of more than 50 thermal springs and eight spas give it a thermal vocation.
- Cultural Tourism and local festivals – It has several Zaouïa that spread beautiful legends and represents the nation, the amount of regions that constitute the pole, and, at least, one local festival (Waada) per community.
- Climate and niche Tourism - The predominance of mountains, the richness of the forest and the water potential may enable the development of certain sectors, such as agritourism and rural tourism, recreational forests, fishing and hunting, camping, hiking and the scientific tourism through ecological tours. The pole has got 14 wetlands and many dams that can be real deposits for the development of niche tourism.



South Eastern Pole - "Oasien"



It has three provinces: Ghardaia, Biskra and El Oued

It is limited to the North by Laghouat, Djelfa, M'sila, Batna, Khenchla and Tebessa; to the East by Libya, to the West by the provinces of Adrar and El Bayadh and on the South by the provinces of Tamanrasset and Illizi.

The pole of the Oasis has the best accommodation capacity and basic infrastructure.

The most touristic sites in the pole are the province of Ghardaïa; province of d'El Oued; province of Biskra and Sahara desert.





The pole has strong points, some related to the desert tourism (scientific, cultural and artistic international events), others concerned to local events (Festival of Saharan tourism of Biskra, the Ghardaia carpet day).

In Southern Eastern Pole is possible to visit global Heritage sites such as a wide variety of Saharan and OASIS landscapes; mozabites customs, carpet weaving, vernacular architecture, historical religious sites, traditional water distribution, life in oasis, BERRIANE and GUERRARA spas in M'zab Valley; Roman historical heritage (Biskra) and Arab Muslim (Sidi Okba), spas of hammam Essalihine Biskra; the gorges d'El Kantara, Djemina, and M'chounech; typical culinary art; feast days in The Zibans and Palm trees plantation in Ghouts; crafts; natural landscapes Oued Souf (city of a thousand domes, religious pilgrimage sites) in Souf Valley.

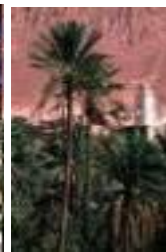
Considering the geomorphologic aspect, we should refer the dune formation of Oriental Erg, Fechfech rocky land, arid and semi-arid Saharan Atlas.

The climate of this region is continental, cold in winter and hot in summer and low rainfall. The wind effect, for a period of 4 months (February to May), it causes winds of sands that detract human activity.

For thousands of years, the inhabitants of the Sahara have left a diversified heritage, tracing the history of mankind such as engravings and paintings; **Neolithic** materials; the pre-Islamic tombs, funeral monuments; the ruins of el-Kantara.



Muslim civilization is an attraction to high tourism value. It is possible to visit the mausoleum of the Sahabi Okba ibn Nafaa el-Fihri in Biskra (4th Muslim site visited in the world); Souf and the M'zab architecture; Saoura, the Touat and Gourara Valley; The legend of Hizyia (Biskra) tomb. It is possible to acknowledge the way of life of the desert people, the Reguibet, the Chaamba, the Zhang and the Tuareg.





South West Pole "Touat-Gourara"



The **South West pole "Touat - Gourara"**, consists of two provinces: **Béchar, Adrar**. It borders with Naama, El Bayadh, to the North; to the East by Tamanrasset and Ghardaia; to the West by Morocco and Tindouf; to the South, Niger and Mauritania.

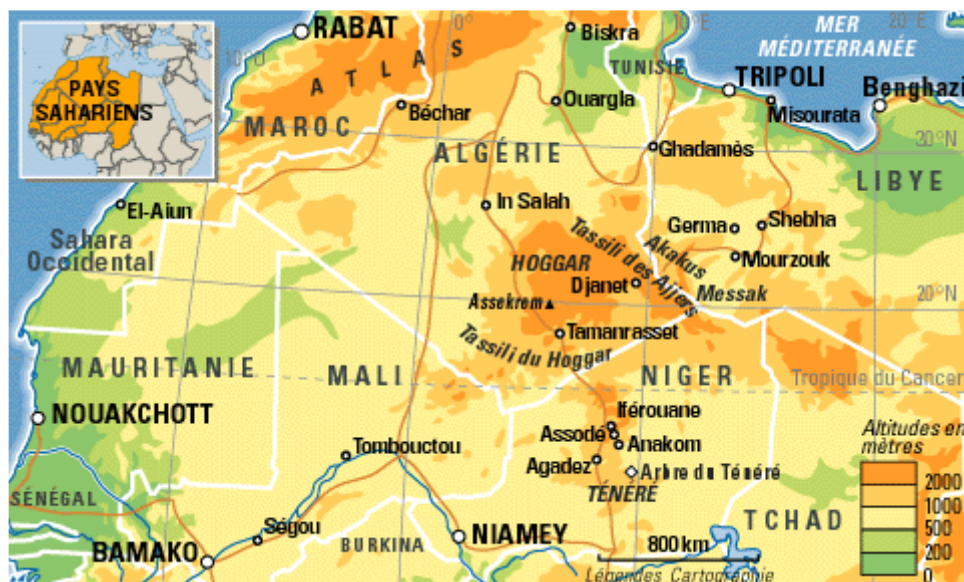


This pole extends over **603 000 km²** and has a population of **900,000 inhabitants**.

The "**Touat - Gourara**" pole is a historic pole of global dimension and also a new emerging space



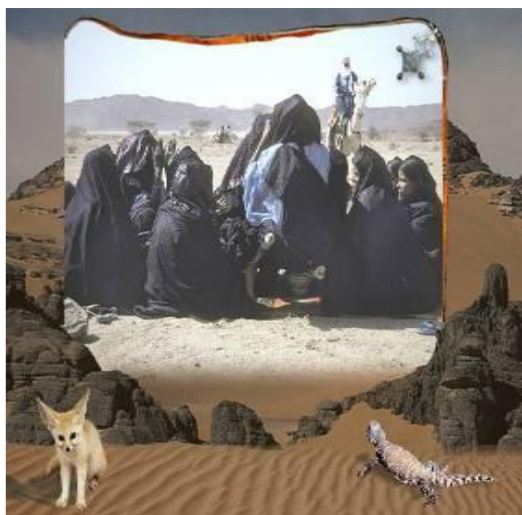
Southern Pole "Tassili N'Ajjer"



The "Tassili N'Ajjer" pole is mainly in the Illizi region.

It is limited to the North by Ouargla and Ghardaia; to the East by Libya; to the West by Tamanrasset and to the South by Niger and Mali. Its natural, cultural and archaeological resources are of main importance to tourism activities.

In the large spaces of this pole we can find shelters of paintings of high historical value protected because they are in a national park area (national park of the Tassili), world heritage of UNESCO since 1981.



At this important pole, there are six hot springs.

The old quarters of Azzelouaz and d'El Mihan, in Djanet, represent an important value of cultural and touristic heritage.

The fragility of the sites, including Tassili, must be taken into account during the touristic development in order to protect the whole environment.

The remaining traces of high cultural value, unique in the world, in the pole of Tassili N'Ajjer, make this pole an 'authentic' tourism product.

There is an important infrastructure network: the airports of Djanet, Illizi and In Amenas; the existing, ongoing and projected roads and land availability for touristic investment.

Saharan tourism, which includes tent and discovery, adventure and wellness tourism: tours, expeditions and treks can be arranged for more than eight months a year.

The region has one of the largest and richest open-air prehistoric Art museums, a large sandstone plateau extends over 80 000 km² with fantastic landscapes, deep ravines, peaks and gigantic columns followed by impressive canyons and a millennial Cypress Valley. These remains are unique in the world and make Djanet pole of high cultural and ecological value.





Southern Pole "Ahaggar"

The touristic Southern Pole "Ahaggar" is built around Tamanrasset. Because of the vastness of its territory and of cultural and natural wealth, this pole is a strategic one and of high value for tourism development in the region.



It is limited to the North by Ouargla and Ghardaia; to the East by the Illizi region; to the West by Adrar and to the South by Niger and Mali.

It extends 456 200 km² and has a population of 137 175 inhabitants.

This pole is of a high cultural value, factor of attraction of international tourists, thanks to the prehistoric remains, the archaeological, natural and cultural heritage present in Ahaggar. Geomorphologic aspect - basaltic mountainous Massif (from the African base) and tops covered with stone. In the southern part, the Tassilis in the Hoggar is distinguished by its microclimate (gueltas, vegetation and relic flora).

It is of touristic importance the massif of the Hoggar, Tefedest, l'Adrar Ahnet, Tassili of Hoggar, Tassili Tin Rahroh, Tamanrasset / Djanet tour, shipments to Mali and the Niger. It is also a touristic attraction the rock engravings, natural landscapes, rustic fauna and flora, intangible heritage (music and dance) characteristic of the Tuareg population.

A large network of airport infrastructure is a development factor of this pole. The touristic pole of "Ahaggar" can rely in its development on the presence of an important road network (Sahel) and international class airport (Tamanrasset, In Saleh and In Guezzam) as well as on current and projected roads.

The Hoggar is intended to become a destination of first importance in control number (fragile ecosystem requires) to a customer of high purchasing power because of its natural, archaeological and human wealth and diversity of tourist products.

THREE DIFFERENT TYPES OF HOLIDAYS IN ALGERIA



- ❑ CITIES AND CULTURE
- ❑ SEASIDE HOLIDAYS
- ❑ EXPLORE NATURE



ALGERIA, A COUNTRY FULL OF CONTRASTS

Due to its situation, Algeria offers a great variety of places to visit. We have cultural cities where you can visit important historic places. Also it has a long Mediterranean coast with beautiful beaches and tourist resorts. And finally it has variety of landscapes, ecological zones with great biodiversity. It has coastal, mountain and Sahara desert National parks.





CITIES AND CULTURE



ALGIERS

Algiers is the capital. This is a city of rare beauty and full of contrast. The country's turbulent history is in the city's architecture: wide French-built boulevards and elegant apartments and villas, Socialist-era monuments and public buildings, and an enduring Islamic heart secreted in the steep, hillside Casbah. Narrow and winding streets go down to the blue sea of the Bay of Algiers,



PLACES TO VISIT IN ALGIERS

* **Kasbah:** it's the heart of the city, a steep and narrow maze of streets. There are several magnificent Ottoman palaces to explore, most concentrated around the Ketchaoua Mosque.

* **Notre Dame d'Afrique:** One of the city's most famous buildings, this Catholic basilica has a striking neo-Byzantine architecture and amazing views out to sea and across the capital.

* **Palais des Raïs:** The palace is the most successful restoration project in the city becoming a grand, Ottoman-period mansion. The rooms are decorated with tiles and painted ceilings;



CONSTANTINE

Constantine is Algeria's third city and it is 100 kilometres inland from the country's long Mediterranean coast. It is surrounded by natural beautiful landscapes, protected by a deep gorge and rocks that form a natural fortress. During Roman times it was called Cirta and was renamed "Constantina" in honour of emperor Constantine the Great.

Due to the deep gorges it is famous for its bridges. Sidi Rached Bridge is a road bridge crossing the gorge Rhummel and connects the district Coudiat (center) with Constantine Station. It was the highest stone bridge in the world when it was built. Also we have The Sidi M'Cid Pont, it is a suspension bridge



The Emir Abdelkader Mosque in Constantine

The Emir Abdelkader mosque is the largest mosque in Algeria and is among the largest of all North Africa. It has capacity for 15,000 believers at the same time. In addition to the mosque it is also home to the University of Islamic Sciences in Algeria. Its minarets are 107 meters high and the dome is 64 meters high.



minaretes



dome

ORAN AND PLACES TO VISIT

Oran is a city in the northwest of Algeria, placed on the coast of the Mediterranean sea. It is an important port. The ancient neighborhoods of the city have a fort and a mosque of the 18th century. Important places to visit are: Demaeght Museum with prehistoric archaeological findings from Maghreb; Cathédrale de Sacré Coeur, Mosque of Hassan Basha, Casbah (Citadel), Great Synagogue of Oran; this was one of the biggest and most magnificent synagogues in North Africa. After Algeria's independence the synagogue was transformed into a mosque in 1975.



ALGERIA ROMAN RUINS

Algeria's catalogue of ancient Roman cities is astonishingly varied. **Djemila, Tipaza, and Timgad** are UNESCO world heritage sites. Smaller sites include Tiddis, Tebessa, Guelma, Lambese and Hippo Regius. What makes them stand out from other Roman sites around the world? What you see is what was originally here. No touch-ups, no restoration, 100% authentic.



Djemila

Described by UNESCO as "one of the world's most beautiful Roman ruins"



Tipaza was once an important Roman colony by the Mediterranean. Today, it is a little fishing port with a protected UNESCO World Heritage Roman ruins archaeological park. Close to Algiers makes it the most visited Roman ruins site in Algeria.



Timgad, another UNESCO World Heritage Site for Roman ruins, was originally built by the Emperor Trajan as a retirement city for his Roman troops. The city is laid out in a perfect grid plan.



ALGERIAN COAST

EMERALD COAST

Emerald coast is situated **east of Algiers**

The Bejaia region in Algeria has some breathtaking beaches which are most loved and visited by the locals. Some of them are located in El Kala and some which are located along the coastline of Jijel. The beaches of Jijel are more popular as they are covered with forests and islands. The coastline of Jijel also has red beaches which have become a major tourist attraction in the recent years.



TURQUOISE COAST

The Turquoise Coast offers rocky coves and long sandy beaches bordered by a typically Mediterranean vegetation. Turquoise Coast is a particularly exceptional destination for tourists and locals. It also has a number of water sports for the tourists to enjoy: boat cruises, excellent submarine fishing possibilities, sailing...



ORAN BEACHES AND PALM BEACH

ORAN BEACHES The city of Oran which is mostly known for its oil depot business sector also has some beautiful and clear water beaches. Some of the popular beaches which are filled with visitors almost whole the year are Sablettes, Ain El Turk, Kristel and Canastel



PALM BEACH This is a world famous beach which has visitors from across the globe. This beach is known to be one of the safest beaches in the World for swimming and is a very clean and well maintained beach.





ALGERIAN NATURE



TO ENJOY NATURE: NATIONAL PARKS

Algeria is considered the most unique natural country of the Mediterranean because it has variety of landscapes, ecological zones and it has a great biodiversity. It is for this reason that it has a lot of National parks and Nature Reserves.

On the coast:

- ❖ El Kala National Park
- ❖ Gouraya National Park
- ❖ Taza National Park



In the Atlas Mountains:

- ❖ Theniet the Had National Park
- ❖ Djurdjura National Park
- ❖ Chrea National Park
- ❖ Belezma National Park
- ❖ Tlemcen National Park



In the Sahara:

- ❖ Tassili National Park
- ❖ l'Ahaggar National Park



Nature reserve:

- ❖ Macta Nature Reserve
- ❖ Mergueb Nature Reserve
- ❖ Beni-salah Nature Reserve
- ❖ Babors Nature Reserve
- ❖ Iles Habibas Marine Nature Reserve



NATIONAL PARKS LOCATION



EL KALA NATIONAL PARK, ON THE COAST

It's on the north oriental part of Algeria along the border with Túnez. It was called national park in 1983 it has an area of 780 Km² with 40 km of coastline and an altitude of 100 mtrs . It has a Mediterranean environment with some rain in winter and a long dry summer. El Kala has four lakes (Tonga, Oubeira, Mellah,Azul) and a swamp (Marais de Bour'dim) with a total area of 60 Km² .The vegetation of the coastal zone is composed by dense forest of juniper and as we move away from the coast, maritime forest of cork oak and Aleppo. Inside the park there are also prehistoric and historic remains in the coastal zone. About 50.000 and 100.000 people visit this national park. It has a hotel and a camping site.



BELEZMA NATIONAL PARK

Belezma national park was created in 1984, and it is one of the most important national parks in Algeria and considered as one of the most promising destinations for eco-tourist and wildlife lovers in Algeria. Located in Batna province, in the Belezma Mountains, just 25 kilometers northwest of Batna town in the north eastern region of Algeria, it stretches over an area of 262.5 km² and the climate ranges from a cool sub humid climate to a dry semi arid climate. The park was designated as a UNESCO biosphere reserve in June 2015.

The main attractions of the park are the wildlife and the several animals considered endangered species. It contains 447 species of flora and 309 of fauna which are protected.

Belezma National Park is also home to several historical and cultural sites including tombs and caves. Suggested activities in the park are hiking, game drives, birding trips and wildlife watching. Hotels near Belezma National park are all located in Tozeur.



DJURDJURA NATIONAL PARK

- ❖ Djurdjura national park is a mountain range of the Tell Atlas and it is located in Kabylie. It was founded in 1983, and this mountain has a ski resort, many forests, grottoes, gorges and important fauna. It has 500.000 visitors a year. Many people go to the mountain to watch the park that is considered to have some of the most beautiful scenery in Algeria. It has also varied flora and fauna including the Barbary macaque that it is in danger of extinction, other species you can see are : wild cat, red fox, hyena etc.



❖ THE SKI RESORT

The resort's name is Tikjda and is located at height of 1,600 meters, the resort is opened in winter month and visitors have the opportunity to enjoy snow sport but in summer the visitors can enjoy other activities like walking, hiking, picnics..

The resort has a lot of local and international visitors a year, the facilities are simpler than European resort facilities, but the snowfall is good, the scenery is spectacular and people are friendly .



THENIET EL HAD NATIONAL PARK

It's located in Tissemsilt Province, in the North of Algeria, near a town with the same name. It's a mountain park, in Atlas Mountains. Its area is 36.16 km². In winter, the park is snowy. In Theniet El Had there are a lot of plants and trees, like the Atlas cedar (in 1000 hectares of the park, there are Atlas cedars), the elm, the holm oak and the Montpellier maple. In the North of the park you also can see the butterfly orchid. There are a lot of mushrooms in the park. There are a lot of animals. Nine species of mammals are protected.



TASSILI N'AJJER NATIONAL PARK



Located in the east of Algeria, in a strange lunar landscape of great geological interest, this site has one of the most important groupings of prehistoric cave art in the world. The nearest town and starting point of most tours into Tassili n'Ajjer is the oasis city Djanet. The geological formations are of outstanding scenic interest, with eroded sandstones forming 'forests of rock'. The formation of these rocks is thanks to the thousands of years of erosion by water and wind which have sculpted a unique and massive collection of arches and spectacular landscapes.





ENGRAVINGS AND PAINTINGS

It is the rock art (engravings and paintings) that have made Tassili world famous from 1933, the date of its discovery. It contains more than 15,000 drawings and engravings which record the climatic changes, the animal migrations and the evolution of human life. Apart from being a National Park it is also Biosphere Reserve and World Heritage Site.

The access to the park and its sites is restricted, you'll need to buy a permit to enter, and to take pictures. Tours include jeep rides, but to reach the top, you'll have to rely on your own legs and some donkey or dromedary help. Take lots of water and of course camping equipment. In Djanet (the nearest town), there are several basic restaurants. Once you're out in the park, no food facilities are available.

Iles Habibas Marine Nature Reserve

They are 12 km on the west of the algerian coast. The main island is 1,3 km long and covers an area of about 40 hectares, the highest point of the first island is about 105 meters and the highest point of the other island is about 25 meters. The Habibas have a volcanic origin ,so they are very rocky. They are a nature reserve because of its flora and fauna. The most popular on these islands are the two different birds species, named *Elenora's falcon* and *Audouin's gull*,



ALGERIA, A COUNTRY WITH MANY THINGS TO OFFER



CULTURE

NATURE

SEASIDE HOLIDAYS