



**12th EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ROOTS FESTIVAL,
Friday 6th – Friday 13TH MAY 2016
DRAFT OFFICIAL PROGRAMME**



Registration Fee: £150 \$240 €220

DATE	ACTIVITY	VENUE	TIME	REMARKS
Friday 6 th May 2016	JUMA PRAYERS REGISTRATION WELCOME RECEPTION/ DINNER & NIGHT OF THE GRIOTS	Mosque Ebunjan Theatre Complex, Kanifing Ebunjan Theatre Complex, Kanifing	2.00pm Departure from Hotels 7.00pm 8.00pm	Introduction and orientation on festive week's programme of events. - Registration of guests, - Food and local drinks served. - Welcome greetings from the Minister of Tourism and Culture and members of the National Organizing Committee. - Traditional Music and Dance, Music of the Kora, Halam, historical narratives and traditional songs, including a drama.
Saturday 7 th May 2016	OFFICIAL OPENING CARNIVAL PROCESSION OF MASQUERADES AND CULTURAL GROUPS Ceremony to be presided by His Excellency The President of the Republic of The Gambia. - Official Speeches - Cultural Entertainment.	Arch 22 Grounds, Banjul (Departure from hotels 2.30pm)	3.00pm	The carnival procession will start at 22 nd July Square to Arch 22. The carnival will feature the different masks and masquerades of the ethnic groups of The Gambia, Dance troupes, Drum Symphony, Acrobatic Displays of the Fulani tribe, and cultural entertainers from all the regions of The Gambia and beyond. - International Guests are invited to participate in the carnival procession.
At-Night	MUSICAL JAMBOREE	Independence Stadium Bakau	10pm Till Daybreak	Featuring local and international artists.

<p>Sunday 8th May 2016</p>	<p>City Tour visiting places of cultural interest (Optional)</p> <p>Visual Arts / Craft Exhibition (Shopping Day)</p>	<p>National Museum Banjul and Kachikally Crocodile Bakau,</p> <p>Bakadaji Hotel Grounds, Kotu</p>	<p>10am – 12pm</p> <p>Start 10am</p>	<p>Display of locally made art works accompanied by cultural entertainment.</p>
<p>Monday 9th May 2016</p>	<p>ROOTS PILGRIMAGE Day's trip to the villages of Juffureh/Albreda.</p>	<p>Albreda / Juffureh Kunta Kinteh Island</p>	<p>Departures from Hotels at 7.00am (Journey by boat/Road)</p> <p>2.00pm</p> <p>3.00pm</p> <p>4.30pm</p> <p>5.00pm</p>	<p>Visits to Kunta Kinteh Island (James Island), if travel by boat and if by road, first visit the Kinteh family.</p> <p>LUNCH</p> <p>Visit the other sites of historical importance including the Slavery Museum.</p> <p>Meet the village elders of Juffureh/Albreda and other invited guests of North Bank Region.</p> <p>Cultural entertainment by Cultural Groups.</p>
<p>Tuesday 10th May 2016</p>	<p>“FUTAMPAF” (Rites of Passage)</p> <p>Guests to be initiated and adopted into a family in Kanilai, the birth village of H.E. The President of the Republic of the Gambia.</p>	<p>Kanilai Village, Foni Kansala</p>	<p>Departures from hotels 8.00am</p>	<p>Futampaf is a Jola initiation Ceremony hosted by His Excellency The President of the Republic of The Gambia, Sheikh Professor Alhagi Dr Yahya A.J.J. Jammeh. Gambian names to be given to initiates, cultural dances and kumpo masquerades featured.</p>

<p>Wednesday 11th May 2016</p> <p>Evening</p>	<p>SYMPOSIUM</p> <p>African Gala Dinner (Taste of Africa) and Awards Night</p>	<p>Kairaba Beach Hotel</p> <p>Senegambia Beach Hotel Garden</p>	<p>11am – 1pm</p> <p>9.00pm</p>	<p>- Various national and International speakers</p> <p>Award of certificates to deserving collaborators and special invited guests, punctuated by African food and drinks buffet and a cultural extravaganza.</p>
<p>Thursday 12th May 2016</p> <p>Afternoon</p>	<p>ECO-TOURISM EXCURSIONS</p> <p>“REGATTA” (Traditional Boat Race)</p>	<p>Makasutu Culture Forest, Kembujeh / Sande, Kartong / Ndembaan, Foni</p> <p>Banjul Wharf Gambia Port Authority</p>	<p>Departure from Hotels 09.00 A.M</p> <p>4.00 P.M</p>	<p>Renowned Eco-Tourism Lodges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nature trail - Boat ride through the creeks in Mankasutu; - Music and dance, - Food and drinks. <p>Programme is co-ordinated by staff of the Gambia Port Authority. It entails</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Boat races; - Pillow fights, - Climbing the greasy pole, - Traditional drumming and dance. - Award of prizes.
<p>Friday 13th May 2016</p>	<p>DEPARTURES / FAREWELL</p>			<p>Collection of feedback questionnaire</p>