



Djibouti Site Visit Report 30.05.21 – 04.06.21





About Djibouti:

Djibouti, the jewel of the African horn, where the lowest point of Africa is located, also known as “lac assal”, which as translated from french means Salt Lake. It is bordered by Eritrea in the North, Ethiopia in the West and South, and Somalia in the Southeast. The remainder of its border is formed by the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. Its national capital is Djibouti City and its official currency is called Djibouti Franc (DJF). US Dollars and Euro are also acceptable.

Djibouti is an escape for travellers who seek a destination, where its value comes from the local storytellers of how such a peace-making destination has well survived with its balanced stable governing since its independence back in 1977. Overall, the local population is almost hitting one million where almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of it lives in Djibouti City and the remaining is distributed within the 23200 km² of land. Djiboutian are known for having lived a semi nomadic life which traces are still noted along its pathways connecting to the main sites of the country.

Perhaps the most important resource that Djibouti is accounted for is its location at the southern entrance of the Red Sea, connecting to the Gulf of Aden, further the Arabian Sea and the surrounding Indian Ocean. Bab Al Mandab, the strait that is surrounded by Djibouti and Yemen.

The people of Djibouti ethnicity reflect a diversity between Afars, Somalians and certainly Arabs, which is also how Djibouti became a member of the Arabic League in the early 90s of the last century. The common languages spoken are predominantly the local Somali and Afar while officially & commercially French and Arabic account to the main languages not undermining that English has pushed itself through lately too.

Cruise Positioning:

Djibouti is known for being blessed with natural sea drafts allowing ships with different drafts to come alongside the port of Djibouti, which has 15 berths at the city port and 2 berths at the port of Tadjourah to the north of Djibouti. Drafts are ranging between 10-15 meters.



The current cruise capability is somewhat suitable at this stage to the expedition cruise sector and lower capacity luxury cruise ships. Building the case for a mainstream cruise line would require its due time which is assumed to be between 4–7 years from now depending on the expansion of tourism and the related logistics to come up and cater for this sector. Overall tourism accounts as one of the main five pillars that Djibouti is targeting within its 2035 vision.

An expedition itinerary can certainly find an extended stay up to three days, which can vary between port stay, calls on anchorage and navigating with the enclave of Tadjourah. Djibouti has a wide range to offer in terms of shore excursions which would be diverse between cultural, recreational and adventure. Be it nature, wild life, marine life, and certainly the locals associated with their nomadic heritage, which is still preserved until today.

Djibouti Port:

Located at the Southern entrance to the Red Sea, at the intersection of major international shipping lines connecting Asia, Africa, and Europe. It is a minimal deviation from the principal East–West trade route and provides a secure regional hub for transshipment and relay of goods. Since 1998, the port has handled the majority of Ethiopia's maritime traffic.

Tadjourah Port:

Located at the Southern entrance to the Red Sea, at the intersection of major international shipping lines connecting Asia, Africa, and Europe. It is a minimal deviation from the principal East–West trade route and provides a secure regional hub for transshipment and relay of goods. Dedicated port for Potash, 2 Linear Quays LOA: 455 meters Draft: 12–15 meters, Equipped with RORO Terminal LOA: 190 meters Draft: 12 meters.

A potential itinerary particularly for the expedition, luxury and super mega yachts can be worked out by calling the city port of Djibouti, sampling the city through a guided excursions and then move on the next day towards the bay of Tadjourah which enjoys a suitable draft matching the niche cruise profile with a two-day stay exploring and conducting water activities.

Moreover, it is a shorter trip to the Salt Lake “lac Assal” which is a program being submitted to the designated stakeholders.

Ghoubet Port:

Goubet port is located 40 km south of the Gulf of Goubet. This terminal is dedicated to exportation of Salt, 1 linear quay of about 400 m length and with 15 m draft. Terminal can accommodate 100000 DWT Vessels. During our visit discussed with the Port Agent, we cannot berth cruise vessels in Goubet terminal as they don't have a full jetty. We can anchor the vessel near Goubet & crew can be transferred with small boats.



Map showing Location for Djibouti Port, Tadjourah and Potential Anchorage near Goubet Port (Devil's Island)





Terminal & Berths:

- Doraleh Multipurpose Terminal (DMP)
 - Berth 1
- Doraleh Container Terminal (DCT)
 - Berth 1
 - Berth 2
- Old Terminal (PDSA)
 - Berth 1
 - Berth 2
 - Berth 8
 - Berth 10
 - Berth 13
- Horizon Terminal
 - Berth 1
 - Berth 2
- Port Tadjourah

Anchorage:

The anchorage position is between Buoy 1 and Buoy 3 West of Fairway. Barge is available to supply fuel & fresh water at anchorage.

Vehicles:

The following vehicles can be provided in Djibouti:

- Sudan Cars
- SUV 9-Seater
- Vans
- 25-Seater AC Buses

Visa:

As per the new immigration regulation, everyone must obtain a Djibouti Visa in advance from the Djibouti Embassy which is based abroad or by using the E-Visa platform online:

<https://www.evisa.gouv.dj/>

Potential Excursion Options:

- Drive to Canyon – View of Gulf Tadjourah – Hot Springs – Lac Assal – Volcanic Site – Arabian & African Plateau separation – End
- City Tour: Port – People's Palace – Corniche – Villages – Local Market – End
- Drive to Artha – Sightseeing – Local Lunch – Beach – End
- Water Sports Activities limited options in Djibouti City, Jetty not safe, boats unavailable, potential in Tadjourah for snorkelling.

Hotels: Limited Luxury Hotels available.

Capital

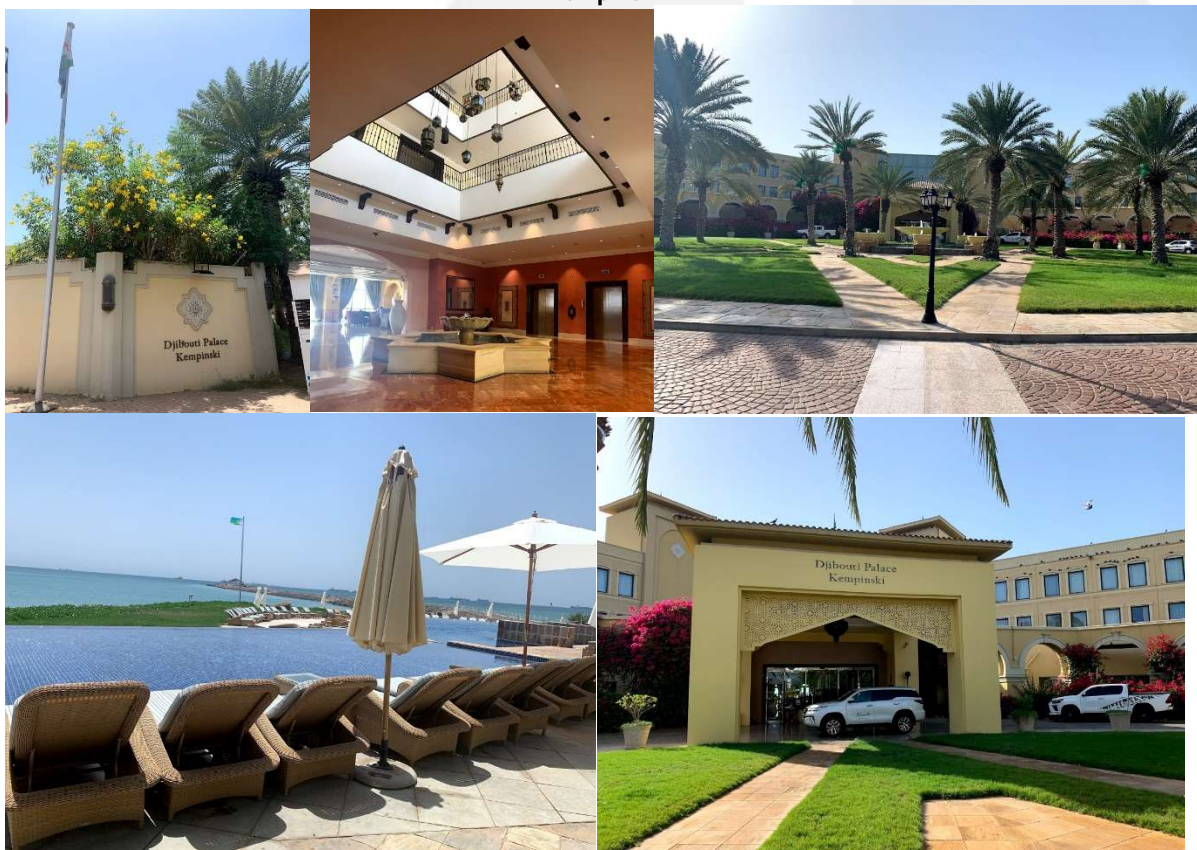




Sheraton



Kempinski





Qasa Beach (Kempinski Hotel)



Local Taxis



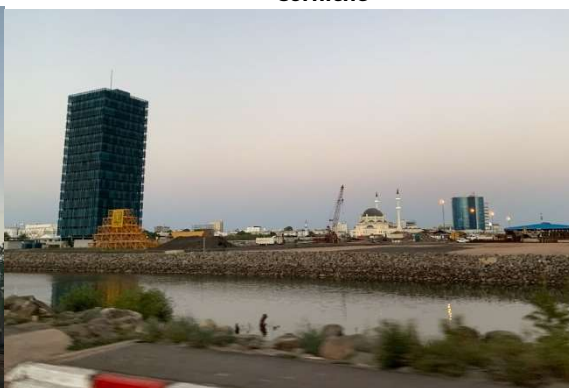
Market



Mosque



Corniche



Jetty



People's Palace



Monument



Fault Near Goubet



Canyon





Devil's Island (Goubet Al Kharab)



Volcanic Eruptions



Hot Springs



Lac Assal



Salt Extraction



Nomadic locals



Mosque



Nomadic Houses



Artha





Stone Carving Artifacts



Sandstorm



Rail Line



Local Building



Local Beach



Local Market



Local Food (Fish)



Souvenir Shop



City



ONID (Tourism Office)





Airport



Tadjourah Port





Djibouti Port

