



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

WTCA 53RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ACCRA
GHANA

APRIL 23-28
2023

TOWARDS AFRICAN
ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND
ENHANCED GLOBAL PRESENCE



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#WTCAGeneralAssembly

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Akwaaba!

Dear Attendee,

The 2023 WTCA General Assembly (GA) is around the corner, and we want to make sure that you make the most of your experience in Accra. As such, we have compiled this **Know Before You Go** as a handy guide. Before you arrive at the GA, please take five minutes to review the important information listed.

About Ghana

Ghana, a beautiful West African country, is an excellent destination for visitors. The country has a lot to offer visitors because of its rich history, vibrant culture, and diversified geography.

Culture & Customs

Ghana has over 100 ethnic groups, each with its unique set of customs and traditions. The official language is English; however, many Ghanaians also speak local dialects. Visitors should observe local customs and traditions, such as dressing modestly and appropriately, especially in rural areas and places of worship.

Politics

Ghana is a democratic country with a stable political system. The country obtained independence from the British colonial administration in 1957 and has since held democratic elections.

Ghana has a multi-party system, and the current president is H.E. Nana Akufo-Addo, who was elected in 2016 and re-elected in 2020.





Travel CHECKLIST

Documents



- Valid Passport
 - Bring extra photocopies*
- Visa or visa on arrival documentation
- Yellow Fever Vaccination Card
- COVID-19 Vaccination Card

Travel Aids

- Hand Sanitizer
- Sunscreen
- Mosquito Repellent
- Medications



Electronics

- Phone + Charger
- Laptop + Charger
- Travel Adapter**

*If you plan to visit different cities outside Accra, print a copy of your passport to keep in your bag as you travel.

For Ghana, there are two associated plug types, **D and **G**.

Plug **type D** is the plug with three round pins in a triangular pattern, and **type G** is the plug with three rectangular pins in a triangular pattern. Ghana operates on a 230V supply voltage and 50Hz.

Adapters used in the EU (two-round pins) can also work.



Type D



Type G



Dress code

Recommended Attire for:

Receptions

Conference

Excursions

Monday

Conference

- Business Attire

Networking Cocktail

- Business Casual

Wednesday

Business Excursions

- Business Attire

Networking Cocktail

- Business Casual

Sunday

Welcome Reception

- Business Casual.
The reception will be outdoors. Flat footwear is recommended.

Tuesday

WTCA Plenary

- Business Attire

B2B Meetings

- Business Attire

Gala

- Elegant Cocktail

Thursday

Sightseeing

- Casual



Weather in April

April is a tropical spring in Accra, Ghana, with an average temperature fluctuating between 26.4°C (79.5°F) and 31.4°C (88.5°F), making April the warmest month.

Heat Index

The average heat index in April is calculated to be extremely hot, 41°C (105.8°F). Take extra precautions, as heat cramps and heat exhaustion are possible. Sustained activity may result in heatstroke. Take into consideration that the heat index values are calculated for shade and light wind conditions. Exposure to direct sunlight may increase the heat index by up to 8°C (15°F).

Source: [Weather Atlas](#)

Weather Forecast

April 22-29, 2023

SAT 4/22		90° / 77°	Some sun
SUN 4/23		90° / 76°	Mainly cloudy
MON 4/24		91° / 77°	A thick cloud cover
TUE 4/25		92° / 77°	Cloudy
WED 4/26		91° / 76°	A couple of afternoon showers
THU 4/27		91° / 73°	Couple of thunderstorms
FRI 4/28		90° / 73°	Rain and a thunderstorm
SAT 4/29		89° / 74°	Mostly cloudy

Note: Before packing for your trip, please check the weather forecast.

Source: [AccuWeather](#)





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Use cash for Uber and Bolt

Download Uber and Bolt before you arrive. While paying by card is an option on both apps, don't plan on using it. **Many drivers prefer cash** and will cancel your ride if they find out you are paying using your card, or it could be an issue once you arrive at your destination. You can always ask the driver to stop at an ATM before the final drop-off point.





HELPFUL TIPS!

Source: [Lonely Planet](#)



Getty Images

Local Dishes

Ghanaian cuisine is tasty and diverse, featuring delicacies such as Jollof rice, Banku, Kenkey, Waakye and Fufu among others. When you come to Ghana, make sure to sample some of the local cuisine.

Eating with your hand is a cultural practice. Soup-based meals are paired with a starch staple food like fufu or banku and eaten with your hands (remember the right-hand rule below!). Be observant of how those around you are eating, embrace the culture and dig in.

Right Hand Rule

In Ghana, actions like eating, waving, and handing an item to someone are to be done with your right hand only (sorry, left-handers!). From an early age, many Ghanaians are taught that their left hand is to be used for cleaning themselves in the bathroom. Therefore, your left hand is considered filthy and should not be used for eating and other activities. Using your left hand for gestures and main tasks is considered highly disrespectful.

Common Phrases in Twi

English is widely spoke in Ghana. Twi, Ewe, Ga and Krobo are a few of the many languages spoken depending on the region.

Additional phrases can be found on [Edu Spots](#)

Twi	Pronunciation	English
Medaase	Me da say!	Thank you!
Mem a wo akye	Maa chi!	Good morning!
Da yie	Da yeeay!	Good night!

Bottled Water

Drinking tap water in Ghana is not the best idea because there's no guarantee to know whether the water has gone through the proper measure to ensure it is safe. Play it safe and stick to bottled water when:

- Brushing your teeth
- At a restaurant
- At your hotel

Always greet others

Greetings in Ghana are a big deal, and it's considered rude to not greet others.

When you enter a room, you should say hello, good morning, good afternoon or good evening. When you meet a group of adults and greet them with a handshake, start with the person on the farthest right.

Photography

Please ask permission before taking photographs of the locals, when on the streets and especially at the markets.

Keep your thumbs down

While the thumbs-up gesture in many places signifies approval, in Ghana it shows disrespect.



Ghana's warm-hearted citizens make the country one of the friendliest spots in West Africa!



Travel Precautions

Take necessary precautions to protect your health and safety while in Ghana. Be aware of the risks of malaria and other tropical diseases, and take appropriate precautions.

Ghana is typically a safe destination, but tourists should be aware of potential hazards and take proper precautions.

This includes:

- Not carrying large quantities of cash
- Avoiding unlit or isolated areas at night
- Use public transportation with caution
- Be cautious of pickpockets and scams

Currency and Exchange

The local currency in Ghana is the Ghanaian cedi. You can exchange foreign currency at banks and forex bureaus. Keep your money safe and avoid carrying large amounts of cash. You can also use your debit card to withdraw local currency.

Before you arrive in Accra, please be sure to check the current conversion rate between your country and Ghana to get an updated estimate on costs.





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See you in Accra!

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