

Africa Topside: A Copper Bottomed Marine Vision

MAURITANIA

... topside



Issue n° 2 2021



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Content

MAURITANIA COUNTRY FACTS

04

MAURITANIA PORT COMMUNITY & FACILITIES

09

GREATER TORTUE AMHEYIM GAS PROJECT

16

TRAVELLER INFORMATION, INTERESTING LINKS & TOURIST TIPS

22



Mauritania country facts

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA

- 🇲🇷 **Official Language:** French, Arabic (Hassaniya), Pulaar, Soninke and Wolof.
- 🇲🇷 **Currency name:** Ouguiya (MRU)
- 🇲🇷 **Exchange rate to EUR:** 42 MRU per 1 EUR.
- 🇲🇷 **Capital:** Nouakchott
- 🇲🇷 **Religion:** Islam
- 🇲🇷 **Extension:** 1.030.000 km²
- 🇲🇷 **Inhabitants:** 4.787.000 (2021)

Nouakchott

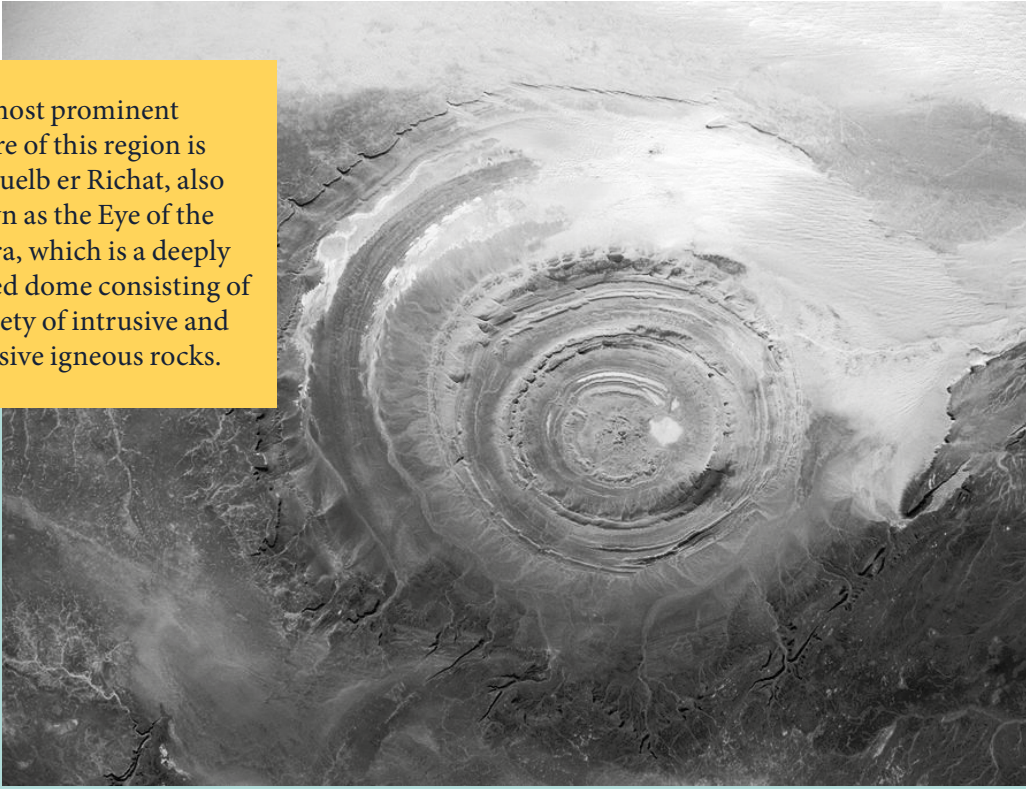


Mauritania is a country in Northwest Africa. It is the eleventh largest sovereign state in Africa and the largest country lying entirely below an altitude of 1,000 metres (3,300 ft).

Mauritania is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the west, Western Sahara to the north and northwest, Algeria to the northeast, Mali to the east and southeast, and Senegal to the southwest.



The most prominent feature of this region is the Guelb er Richat, also known as the Eye of the Sahara, which is a deeply eroded dome consisting of a variety of intrusive and extrusive igneous rocks.



**3/4
of Mauritania
landscape is desert
or semidesert.**

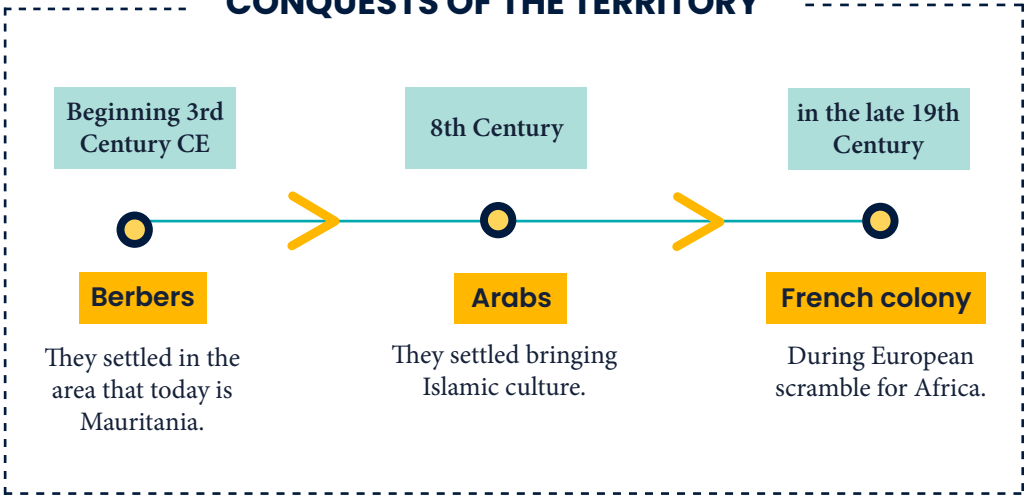


As a result of severe drought, here are no significant lakes or rivers in the country.



The country's name derives from the ancient Berber kingdom of Mauretania, today Maghreb, located in present-day Morocco, Ceuta, Melilla and Algeria.

CONQUESTS OF THE TERRITORY



COUNTRY ECONOMY



It's major industries include:





Climate & Vegetation



Its climate is extremely dry, which explains the low population density. Temperature differences can be very important between day and night. Coastal temperatures are warmer with sea winds and river regions are wetter. A sand-storm sometimes sweeps warm regions, burying crops or villages fighting the desert advance.

There are three seasons:

November–April:

The season of sand-storms, with moderate temperatures during the day and cool at night.



May–July:

The harmattan winds of the north-east, blowing dry hot air. Temperatures are high.



August–October:

Is the rainy season with thunderstorms and heavy but brief rains. The climate is very humid, with temperatures around 45 degrees. Humidity is between 50 and 70%.



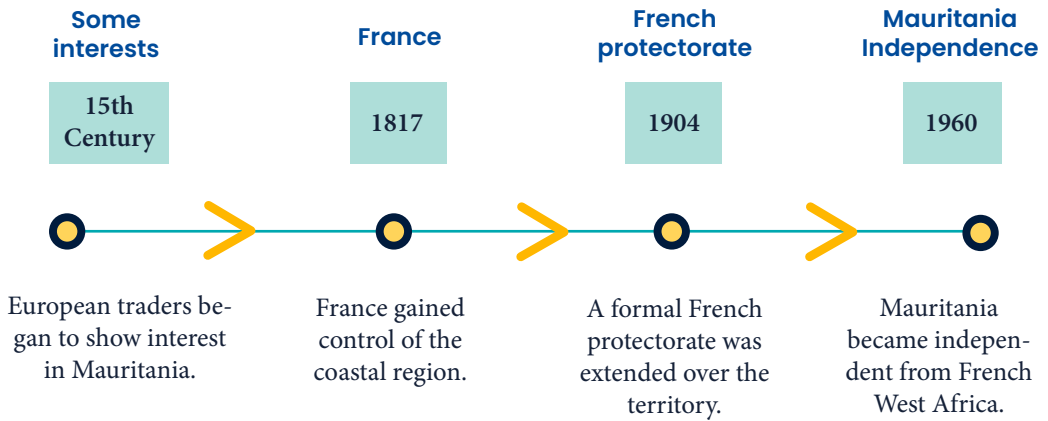
History & Independence



One of Africa's newest energy producers, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania bridges the Arab Maghreb and western sub-Saharan Africa.

The largely-desert country presents a cultural contrast, with an Arab-Berber population to the north and Sub-saharan Africans to the south. Many of its people are nomads.

In the Middle Ages Mauritania was the cradle of the Almoravid movement, which spread Islam throughout the region and for a while controlled the Islamic part of Spain.



Approximately 90% of Mauritania's land is in the Sahara. As a result, most of its inhabitants live in the south of the country, where precipitation is slightly higher.

Nouakchott

Capital & largest city located on the Atlantic coast.



home 1/3 country's population

Arabic is the official language. French is also widely spoken, due to Mauritania's history as a colony of France. Mauritania's official religion is Islam, and almost all its inhabitants are Sunni Muslims. The country's largest ethnic group is the Bidhan who make up around half the population. The second-largest group is the Haratin who make up around one-third of the population. The rest of the inhabitants, for the most part, belong to sub-Saharan ethnic groups.

The country has abundance of natural resources. Its major industries include mining (particularly iron ore), Oil&Gas reservoirs, and fishing.



Mauritania port community & facilities

Mauritania has only two main ports, Nouadhibou and Nouakchott.

The port of Nouadhibou has a mayor fishing activity and has a part dedicated to the artisanal fleet. The country's mineral wealth includes large reserves of iron ore, copper, and gypsum, all of which are now being exploited, as well as Oil/Gas upstream resources under imminent development in the south of the country.

Port of Nouadhibou



Nouadhibou has always been an important transit point for international transport.

Near the harbour is the terminus of Mauritania's only railway line, which

mainly brings iron ore from the mining areas near Fdérík and Zouérat, which is located up to 704 kilometres (437 mi) inland.

Processing iron ore forms the largest industry in Nouadhibou, although the overall major economic activity is fishing.

Nouadhibou was formerly known as the final resting place of over 3000 ships and hence once was the world's largest ship graveyard.



Port authorities details

Port Location: Mauritania
Port Name: Port of Nouadhibou
Port Authority: Nouadhibou Port Authority
Address: BP 236
Nouadhibou
Mauritania
Phone: +222 574 5134
Fax: +222 574 5136
Latitude: 20° 53' 60" N
Longitude: -17° -3' 0" W
UN/LOCODE: MR NDB
Port Type: Seaport

Port characteristics	
Port size:	Medium
Refuge:	Good
Maximum vessel size:	Over 500 feet in length
Kind:	Coastal Natural

Tugboats	
Assists:	Yes
Save:	Not

Communications	
Rail:	Yes
Air:	Yes
Anchor:	Yes



Entry restrictions

Tide:	Not
Channel:	21 – 25 feet 6.4 – 7.6 meters
Bulk cargo:	21 – 25 feet 6.4 – 7.6 meters
Mid tide:	2 feet
Anchorage:	66 – 75 feet 20.1 – 21.3 meters
Oil terminal:	36– 40 feet 11 – 12.2 meters

Elevators and cranes

50–100 Weightlifting:	Yes
25–49 Weightlifting	Yes
0–24 Weightlifting:	Yes
Fixed cranes:	Yes
Mobile tracking:	Yes

Docking services

Longshore:	Yes
Electrical repair:	Yes
Electric:	Yes

Supplies

Fuel oil:	Yes
Water:	Yes
Diesel oil:	Yes

Repairs, Drydock, Railways and Other Services

Ship repairs:	Limited
Marine Rail Size:	Small
Garbage disposal:	Yes



SNIM NOUADHIBOU / Societe Nationale Industrielle et Minière

SNIM mainly operates in the wilayas (regions) of Tiris Zemmour (Zouerate) and Dakhlet Nouadhibou. The ore is extracted and/or processed in the area surrounding the city of Zouerate, before being transported by ore freight train to the port of Nouadhibou.

SNIM has been extracting and selling iron ore from the guelbs (small peaks) of Tiris in northern Mauritania since 1963. It mainly operates in the Zouerate area, where its extracting sites are located.

The company's products are transported to Nouadhibou Port, located 700km from the mine, using ore freight trains up to 2.5km long (one of the longest in the world), with gross tonnage of 22,000 t. From this deep-water ore port that can accommodate ships of up to 150,000 t, the company sends out tradable products to its customers, including in several western European countries and in China.

Benefiting from favorable weather conditions, the Nouadhibou ore port can accommodate 150,000-t ships.

Situated on the Levrier Bay, on the eastern coast of the Cap Blanc Peninsula, SNIM's port can accommodate 150,000-t ships. The access channel is maintained by regular dredging.

The additional port facilities are:

A rotary dumper with nominal capacity of 4,000 t/h.

An ore processing plant (tertiary and quaternary crushing).

A conveying and storage circuit.

A ship-loading circuit, equipped with a shiploader with capacity of 5000 t/h



SNIM's new ore port in Nouadhibou, will be able to accommodate, in the long term, 250,000 metric ton ore vessels. It consists primarily of a 403m wharf, an 800m bridge and a loading circuit with a ship loader whose throughput is 10,000 metric tons/hour.

MEPP

Dépôt pétrolier de Nouadhibou
Nouadhibou MEPP oil depot (formerly
Nouadhibou refinery) in Mauritania
Aprox Storage capacity: 100,000 m3

Google maps:





Port of Nouakchott



Nouakchott has a deepwater port that opened in 1986.

Port authorities details

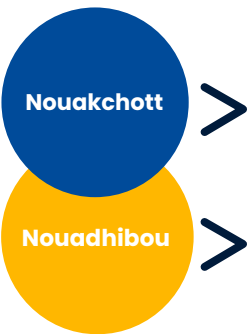
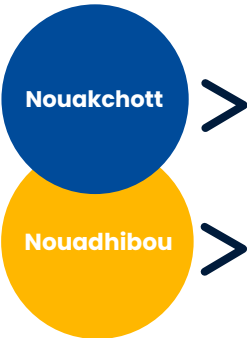
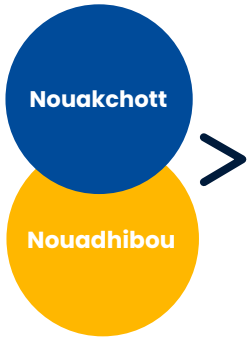
Port Location: Mauritania
Port Name: Port of Nouakchott
Port Authority: Port Autonome de
Nouakchott (PANPA)
Address: BP 5103
Nouakchott
Mauritania
Phone: +222 251 453
Fax: +222 251 794
Latitude: 18° 2' 37" N
Longitude: -16° 0' -1" W
UN/LOCODE: MR NKC
Port Type: Seaport

Technical specifications

- ❏ Storage yard area: 160,000m²
- ❏ Warehouse: 8,000m²
- ❏ Equipment - Reachstackers: 5/45T
SEP equipment (Société d'Equipe-
ments Portuaires)
- ❏ Storage capacity (containers):
1,318 TEU

Service information

- ❏ Continuous loading and unloading
operations: 24/7, 365 days/year except
religious holidays Aid El Fitr – Aid
Kebir – Aid Mawloud, morning
(May 1 – Independence, November 28)
- ❏ Berthing: 24/7 (weather permitting)



Gas & Petroleum	Import of main countries	Export of main countries	Offshore activity
Various Developments	Wheat ex China	Iron, ore to China	Yes
Liquid Bulk terminal	Fishing	Agriculture & Livestock	Tourism Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited
Yes	Yes	No	Limited
Refinery	Mineral terminal	Container terminal	Cereal Storage
No	Yes	Yes	Yes
No	Yes	Yes	Yes



News & Projects

MAURITANIAN SOCIETY OF HYDROCARBURES AND MINING HERITAGE

[SOCIETE MAURITANIENNE DES HYDROCARBURES ET DE PATRIMOINE MINIER.](#)



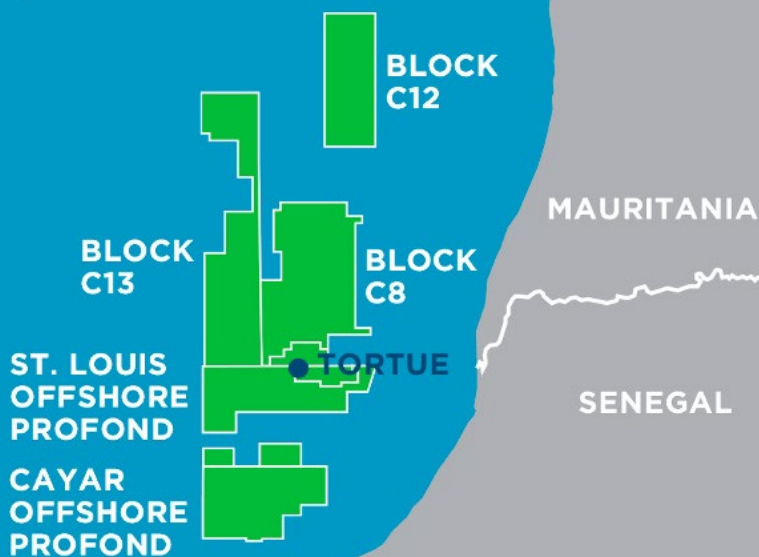
GREATER TORTUE/AMHEYIM Gas Project

At Greater Tortue, a Kosmos-BP partnership, is developing an innovative near-shore liquefied natural gas (LNG) project that is among the lowest cost greenfield projects in the world.

The initial phase of the project is expected to deliver approximately 2.5 mmtpa of natural gas.

The partnership is also evaluating potential expansion up to 10 mmtpa in subsequent phases.

ATLANTIC
OCEAN



Greater Tortue Ahmeyim is an offshore liquefied natural gas (LNG) project based on upstream gas production in 2km-deep waters on the maritime border of Mauritania and Senegal.

Planned to be developed in phases, the Greater Tortue Ahmeyim LNG project will produce up to 10 million tonnes of LNG a year (Mtpa).

It is the deepest offshore project in Africa till date.

The LNG project is being jointly developed by BP, Kosmos Energy, Societe des Petroles du Senegal (Petrosen), and Societe Mauritanienne des Hydrocarbures (SMHPM) with BP as the operator.

A new well named Greater Tortue Ahmeyim-1 was drilled to a total depth of 4,884m in the eastern portion of the Greater Tortue area, which encountered 30m of net gas pay in high-quality Albian reservoir in July 2019. The new discovery indicates the potential to expand the capacity of the LNG project beyond 10Mtpa in future.

Greater Tortue Ahmeyim discovery and development background

The Greater Tortue Ahmeyim project is based on the development of two offshore gas fields namely Tortue and Ahmeyim.

The Tortue field, located in the C-8 block in Mauritania offshore waters, was discovered by the Tortue 1 discovery well, which was drilled up to a depth of 2.7km in 2015.

The Ahmeyim field, located in Saint Louis Offshore Profond block of Senegal, was discovered by the Ahmeyim-2 discovery well, which was drilled up to 5.2km depth in 2016.

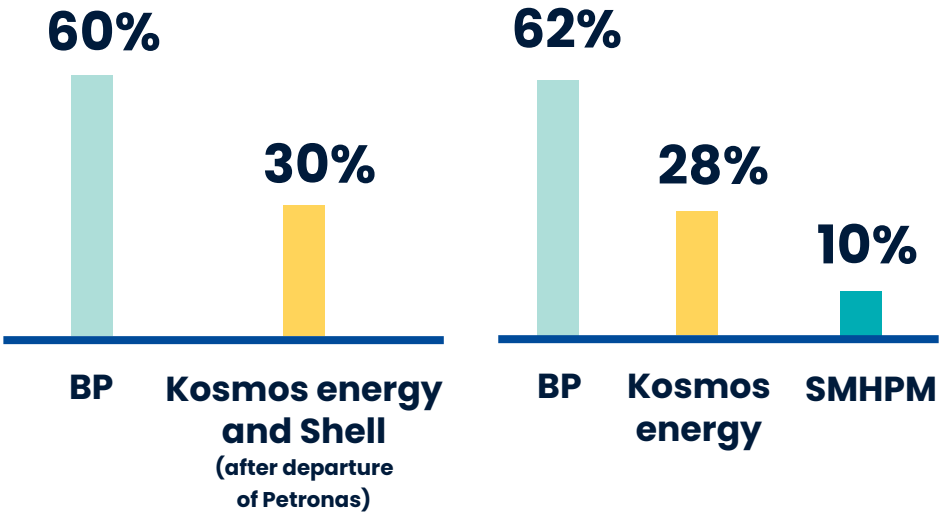
The Tortue 1 discovery well encountered 117m of net gas pay, while the Ahmeyim-2 encountered 78m of net gas pay.



The governments of Mauritania and Senegal signed an inter-government co-operation agreement to develop the cross-border Greater Tortue Ahmeyim offshore gas field in February 2018. Greater Tortue Ahmeyim ownership details.

The Saint-Louis Offshore Profond block offshore Senegal is owned by:

The C-8 block offshore Mauritania is owned by:BP (62%), Kosmos Energy (28%), and SMHPM (10%).



Greater Tortue Ahmeyim gas reserves

Spread over 33,000km², the Greater Tortue Ahmeyim field is estimated to contain approximately 15 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of recoverable gas reserves.

Infrastructure facilities for Greater Tortue Ahmeyim phase one development

The Greater Tortue Ahmeyim field will be initially developed with a deep-water subsea production system comprising four gas production wells tied-back to a floating production, storage and offloading (FPSO) unit.

The gas will be processed for the removal of heavier hydrocarbon components on the FPSO. The processed gas will be further sent via a 100km-sub-sea pipeline to a near-shore floating LNG (FLNG).

The FLNG will be capable of producing 2.5Mtpa of LNG a year for global export. The remaining gas will be sent through pipelines to Mauritania and Senegal gas markets, for domestic consumption.

BP Gas Marketing will off-take the entire LNG output from the Greater Tortue Ahmeyim phase one development project.

Gimi FLNG details

BP signed a 20-year lease and operate agreement (LOA) for the Greater Tortue Ahmeyim FLNG unit with Gimi MS Corporation in February 2019.

Estimated to cost £1.02bn (\$1.3bn), the FLNG development involves the conversion of LNG carrier Gimi at Keppel Shipyard in Singapore.



GIMI MS will construct and operate the FLNG unit and invest 70% of its total development cost, while First FLNG, a subsidiary of Keppel Capital, provides for the remaining 30% of the project cost.



Contractors involved in Greater Tortue Ahmeyim LNG project

TechnipFMC was contracted for the engineering, procurement, construction, installation, and commissioning (EPCIC) of the FPSO unit for the project in March 2019. It followed a front-end engineering and design (FEED) contract for the FPSO awarded to the same company in April 2018.

Golar LNG is responsible for the construction and operation of the Gimi FLNG, while Keppel is engaged for the conversion works associated with the project.

Other expanding projects in the mining sector in Mauritania

Mauritania is gaining global prominence for its mining and energy sector and the 2018 sponsors reflect the key stakeholders involved in the development of the country's potential.

Between them, they represent the key current and upcoming projects in Mauritania which include:

Tijirit Gold Mine

Tasiast Gold Mine

Guelb Moghrein Gold and Copper Mine

Tiris Uranium Project

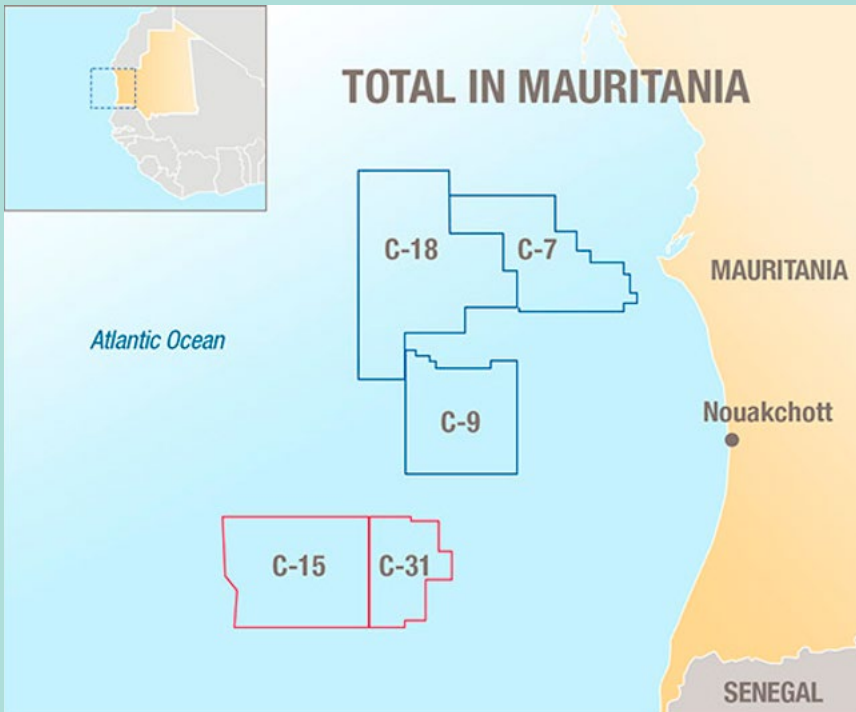
TOTAL MAURITANIE

E Nord Lot No.110
Nouakchott - Mauritania

www.totalfinaelf.com
+ 222 45 29 00 19

Total and the Ministry of Petroleum, Energy and Mines of Mauritania have signed an agreement awarding Total two new exploration and production contracts for Blocks C15 and C31 deep offshore Mauritania, covering an area of 14,175 square kilometers.

According to the terms of the contracts, Total will be the operator of these two blocks with a 90% interest alongside the Société Mauritanienne des Hydrocarbures et de Patrimoine Minier (SMHPM) holding the remaining 10%.



- Exploration licences already operated
- New exploration licences (Total op.)

100 km



Traveller Information, Interesting Links & Tourist tips

DISTANCE BETWEEN PORTS & AIRPORTS

Nouadhibou autonomous
Port is 5,2 Km
from Nouadhibou Interna-
tional Airport, 10 min by car.

Port Autonome de Nouak-
chott is 46,3 Km from
Nouakchott International
Airport - Oumtounsy, 55
min by car.

RECOMMENDED HOTELS & RESTAURANTS IN NOUADIBHOU & NOUACKCHOTT

NOUADIBHOU



SAHEL



Click here



FREE ZONE


Click here



TASIAST

RECOMMENDED RESTAURANTS



GALLOUFA
(SPANISH - GALICIAN)





PLEINE LUNE
(NICE TERRACE)



DELICIAS DE
MARRUECOS



NOUACKCHOTT



RECOMMENDED HOTELS



MONOTEL DAR
EL BARKA





SEMIRAMIS CITY CENTER

RECOMMENDED RESTAURANTS



LA TISSAYADE



LA MAQUIS





LA PALMERIE CAFE & BAKERY



AL FANTASIA



NKC SPOT





USEFUL TRAVEL TIPS

Travellers should be up to date with routine vaccination courses and boosters as recommended. Vaccinations include for example measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine and diphtheria-tetanus-polio vaccine. Those who may be at increased risk of an infectious disease due to their work,

lifestyle choice, or certain underlying health problems should be up to date with additional recommended vaccines. See the individual chapters of the 'Green Book' Immunisation against infectious disease for further details.



MEDICAL TREATMENT



Travellers should ideally arrange an appointment with their health professional. This appointment provides an opportunity to assess health risks taking into account a number of factors including destination, medical history, and planned activities.

All travellers should ensure they have adequate travel health insurance.

SOME RECOMMENDED HOSPITALS & CONTACTS



- [Press link \(youtube video\)](#)

POLICE CONTACTS



Call 117

AMBULANCE TELEPHONE



Call 118



CREDIT CARDS, ATM & MONEY EXCHANGE



It is recommended to always have cash.

In Mauritania ATM may turn difficult to find.

Société Generale is the most popular bank among foreigners for withdrawing money. Outside of these two main cities, ATMs are scarce, so highlight to bring enough cash.

There are several exchange offices in the city center (Capital area).

CAR RENTAL



You can easily rent a car in Nouakchott, or through your preferred guide/tour operator. 4X4 cars would be preferable.

ENTRANCE VISA FORMALITIES



Visa-exempt foreign nationals: All European Union citizens, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kosovo, Kuwait, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Russia, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States, Vanuatu, Vatican City, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Nationalities subject to visa and eligible for e-Visa online: citizens of all other nationalities can obtain their visa online (e-Visa) or in embassies.

- For visiting Mauritania, you must have a negative PCR test issued no later than 72 hours before your arrival.
- For exiting Mauritania, you will also need to be in possession of a negative PCR test, SafetyWing is one of the very few insurance providers with COVID-19 coverage.



INTERESTING LINKS



TORTUE AMEHYIM PROJECT

MAURITANIAN SOCIETY OF HYDROCARBURES AND MINING HERITAGE

SNIM – SOCIETE NATIONALE INDUSTRIELLE AT MINERE

HEALTH & VACCINATION INFORMATION

COVID-19 IMPORTANT INFORMATION – AMERICAN EMBASSY



MAURITANIAN TYPICAL FOOD



MAFÉ

Stew with peanut base.



THIEBOUDIENE (cheb-u-jin)

Fish and rice dish, sometimes served with tomato sauce.



MÉCHOUI

A nomadic feast in which a whole lamb is roasted and stuffed with rice.



ZRIG

Unsweetened curdled goat or camel milk; often accompanies food.



TOURIST DESTINATIONS



Declared a World Heritage Site, it is a stop and breeding place for migratory birds between Europe and South Africa, and therefore, one of the best observation points on the continent. It stretches 200 km north of Cape Timiris and 235 km south of Nouâdhibou. The best thing is to get up close to the birds in a traditional fishing boat.

ADRAR (Richat structure, the eye of Africa)



The undisputed jewel of Mauritania, it allows you to experience the magic of the Sahara and sleep under the starry sky in its saffron-colored dunes. This epic territory shows the great desert in all its variety: its immemorial cities, towering dunes like an artist's sculptures, vast rocky plateaus and peaceful oases lined with date palms.



CHINGUETTI



Shrouded in a historical halo, it was famous by its Islamic scholars as an ancient Moorish capital; some of its buildings date from the s. XIII. The highlight of the visit is getting lost in the labyrinthine alleys of Le Ksar (old town).

PORT DE PECHE

Lively and colorful, it is the main attraction in Nouakchott, where you can see hundreds of men, mostly of the Wolof and Fula ethnic groups, dragging heavy fishing nets. Children scamper with trays of fish, which they select, gut, fillet, and put to dry on large trestles.





