

✈ TRAVEL RADIO LIVE PRESENTS

HOMOWO FESTIVAL GHANA

Your Complete 7-Day Accra Travel Itinerary

📍 Accra, Ghana | 📅 August 11 – September 6, 2025

Welcome, traveller! This guide is your companion for one of West Africa's most powerful cultural celebrations, that is the Homowo Festival of the Ga people.

QUICK FACTS FOR FIRST-TIME VISITORS

Festival Dates	August 11 – September 6, 2025
Theme (2025)	"Respect for All: The Foundation for a Stronger Society"
Location	La, Nungua, Teshie, Osu, Ga Mashie — Greater Accra Region
Key Feast Day	Always a Saturday — check La Traditional Council for exact date
Currency	Ghanaian Cedi (GHS) — ATMs widely available in Accra
Getting Around	Uber or taxi (easiest) Trotro minibuses (cheapest, ask a local)
SIM Card	Buy MTN or AirtelTigo at Kotoka Airport on arrival
Best Base	Osu neighbourhood — central, safe, close to La community

WHERE TO STAY

BUDGET

La Villa Boutique Hotel

Osu | ★ 4.4 (1,820 reviews)

Pool, restaurant, walking distance to Oxford Street. Great mid-range pick.

LUXURY

Mövenpick Ambassador Hotel

Ridge | ★ 4.6 (12,511 reviews)

5-star, central, Executive Lounge, top-rated breakfast. Worth it if budget allows.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1 Arrive & Settle In — Osu

Afternoon	Land at Kotoka International Airport. Grab a local SIM card at the terminal (MTN or AirtelTigo). Take an Uber or taxi to your hotel — allow 20–30 minutes.  On Air Tip: Tell your listeners: Accra traffic is famously unpredictable. Don't book anything tight on arrival day.
6:00 PM	Walk Oxford Street in Osu. This is Accra's social heartbeat — street food stalls, chop bars, live music drifting out of bars. Order fried plantains (kelewele) from a roadside vendor.  On Air Tip: The sights and sounds here make perfect radio content. Describe the smells — spiced plantain, charcoal smoke, the ocean in the distance.
8:00 PM	Find a local chop bar and order jollof rice with grilled tilapia. Wash it down with a cold Alvaro (Ghana's beloved malt drink) or a Club Beer.  On Air Tip: Ask your host or a local which chop bar they love — that personal recommendation always lands better than a TripAdvisor listing.

DAY 2 History & Heritage Day

9:00 AM	Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park & Mausoleum (open 9AM–7PM). Hire a guide on-site. Two hours here covers the independence story through statues, gardens, and the museum. No photos inside restricted zones.  On Air Tip: Nkrumah's story connects to every African independence movement. Great context for international listeners tuning in.
11:30 AM	National Museum of Ghana (open 9AM–4:30PM). Artifacts from the Stone Age to the Ga people's precolonial history. Ask your guide specifically about Homowo traditions — some guides know the oral history in detail.  On Air Tip: This is where you understand WHY the festival matters before you experience it. Set the stage for your audience.
2:00 PM	Makola Market — one of Accra's oldest markets, built in 1924. Fabrics, spices, shea butter, black soap, everyday Ghanaian life. Go with a local guide or a confident haggling spirit. Prices are negotiable — that's normal and expected.  On Air Tip: Describe what you're seeing and smelling. Makola is sensory overload in the best way — perfect radio storytelling.
Evening	Dinner: try kenkey with pepper sauce and fried fish from a stall near Makola. Cheap, filling, authentic.

DAY 3 Art, Coast & Culture

9:30 AM	Artists Alliance Gallery (free entry, open 9AM–5PM). Three floors of Ghanaian painting, sculpture, and textiles right by the ocean. One of the best galleries in West Africa — most tourists miss it.  On Air Tip: If you can get an interview with one of the gallery artists, that's gold. Their stories about art and Ga identity are remarkable.
12:00 PM	Labadi Beach (La Pleasure Beach). The beach closest to the La community where the main feast happens. Weekdays are calm; weekends are lively — horseback riding, ATV rides, jollof from vendors, Atlantic waves.  On Air Tip: This is the beach the Ga people have lived beside for centuries. Standing here gives you physical context for the festival geography.
4:00 PM	La Traditional Council (open weekdays 8AM–5PM). Ask the secretary's office for the confirmed Saturday feast schedule. They welcome respectful visitors. This is your most important logistical stop of the week.

 **On Air Tip:** Confirm the exact Saturday date here. Tell your listeners to do the same — it changes year to year and by community.

DAY 4 Jamestown & Old Accra

- 8:30 AM

Jamestown — Accra's oldest neighbourhood, established in the 17th century around Fort James. The fishing boats, street art, boxing gyms (Ghana has produced world champions here), and crumbling colonial walls. Go with a guide.

 **On Air Tip:** The boxing gym stories are especially powerful for radio. Ghana's Bukom neighbourhood has produced more world champions per capita than almost anywhere on earth.
- 12:00 PM

Lunch: head back toward Osu. La Villa Boutique Hotel's Soprano Restaurant is calm, outdoor, and consistent. Good for a long slow lunch before the big festival days ahead.
- Evening

Oxford Street for your final pre-festival night. Rest early — the real action starts tomorrow or the day after.

 **On Air Tip:** Tell your listeners: the drumming ban ends before the feast Saturday. When the drums break out again after weeks of silence, it's one of the most arresting sounds you'll hear in your life.

DAY 5 HOMOWO SATURDAY — The Main Event

This is the day the whole trip has been building toward. Dress respectfully and colourfully. Ask your guide before photographing anything sacred. If food is offered — accept it. Refusing is considered disrespectful, and more importantly, you'd be missing the entire point.

- 8:00 AM

Meet your local guide at or near the La Traditional Council. The ceremonies begin in the morning. Elders move through homes and streets pouring Kpokpoi (steamed fermented cornmeal with palm oil) on the ground, calling ancestors by name. Families gather. The drumming — silent for weeks — erupts.

 **On Air Tip:** If you're recording for radio: capture this moment. The transition from weeks of enforced silence to that first drumbeat is one of the most emotionally charged sounds you'll encounter anywhere in West Africa.
- 11:00 AM

The community feast. Kpokpoi is shared — not just eaten, but poured on the earth for those who came before. Palm nut soup. Fish. The meal is inseparable from the ritual.

 **On Air Tip:** Describe the food honestly — the texture of kpokpoi, the sharpness of palm nut soup, the communal bowls. Your listeners at home should feel like they're tasting it.
- 3:00 PM

Street parades fill the neighbourhoods — drumming, singing, dancing, colour, movement. Follow the sound. The celebrations often move toward the beach area. Stay as long as your legs allow.
- Evening

Rest. Eat whatever the family you celebrated with fed you. Sleep.

DAY 6 Nungua Homowo & Final Souvenirs

Nungua celebrates Homowo on a different Saturday to La. If your trip overlaps with both, today could be a second feast day in a different community. Confirm the Nungua date with the La Traditional Council.

- Morning

If it's a Nungua feast day: head to Nungua with your guide. Same ritual, different community energy — and a great comparison for your radio coverage.

 **On Air Tip:** Comparing La and Nungua gives your audience a sense of how the festival lives differently across Ga communities. Same roots, different flavours.
- Morning

If rest day: final run to Makola Market. It's calmer in the morning. Better for conversation with vendors. Pick up kente cloth, carved figures, shea butter — anything you didn't grab earlier.
- Afternoon

Artists Alliance Gallery — last chance to buy a piece of Ghanaian art to take home. Larger pieces can be shipped.

Evening

Farewell dinner on Oxford Street. Jollof rice, cold Alvaro, live highlife music. Say goodbye to Accra on your own terms.
 **On Air Tip:** Describe what this city gave you this week. That honest closing reflection is what listeners remember long after they've forgotten the dates and logistics.

DAY 7

Departure Day

9:00 AM

One last walk through Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park (open 9AM weekdays, 10AM Sundays). It hits differently on the way out than on the way in.

12:00 PM

Check out of your hotel. Kotoka International Airport is 20–30 minutes by taxi from Osu. Allow extra time — Accra traffic does not care about flight schedules.
 **On Air Tip:** Final tip for listeners: save some cedis for a last cup of Ghanaian coffee at the airport. It's a quiet moment to sit with everything the week handed you.

WHAT TO EAT — A RADIO LISTENER'S FOOD GUIDE

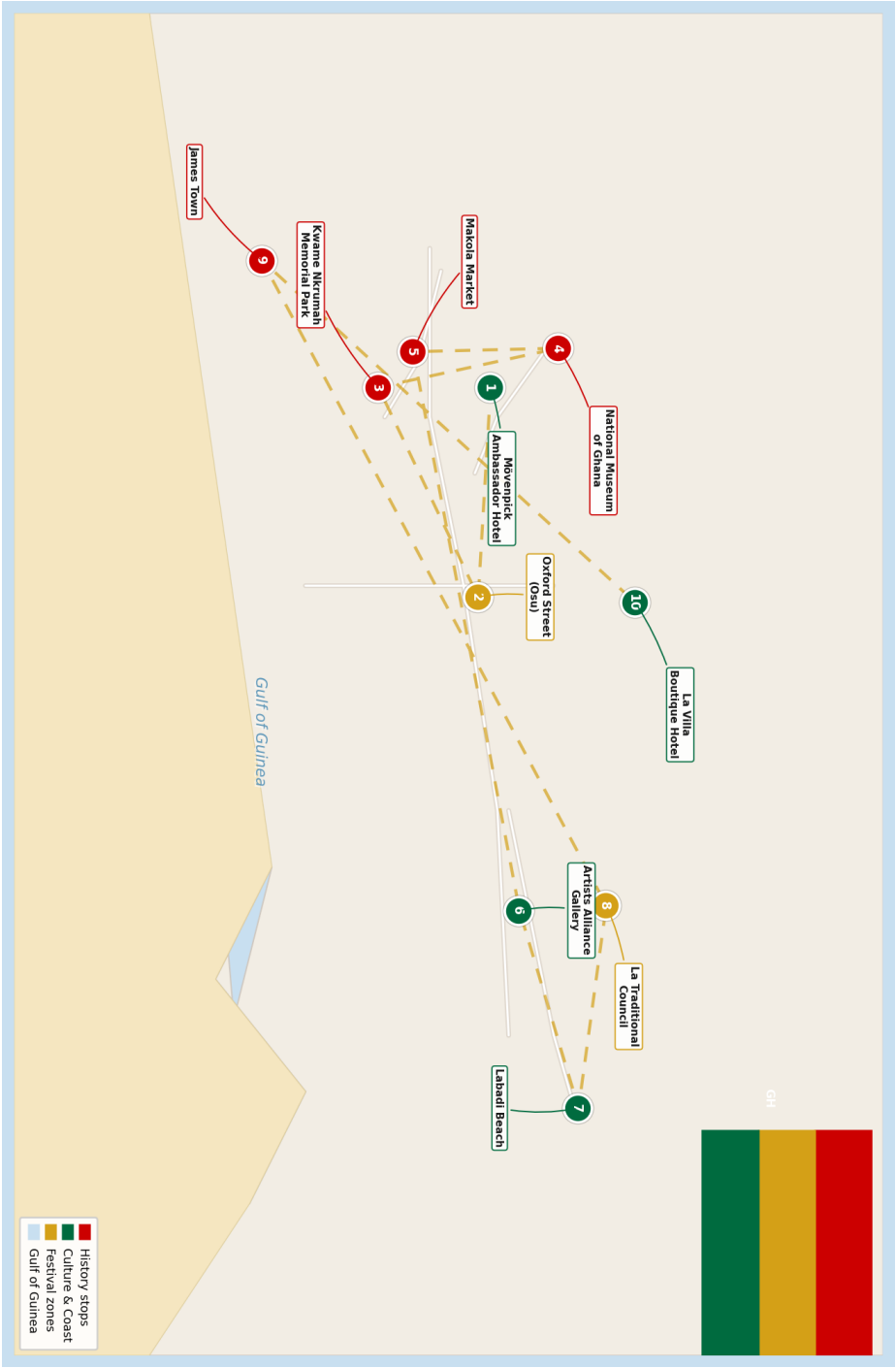
Kpokpoi	The Homowo dish. Steamed fermented cornmeal with palm oil. Served at the feast and poured on the earth for ancestors. Earthy, dense, unlike anything you've tried.
Jollof Rice	Ghana's version is different from Nigeria's — smokier, slightly drier. Order it everywhere and form your own opinion.
Kenkey	Fermented maize dumpling. Dense, sour, filling. Eat it with fried fish and pepper sauce. Costs almost nothing from a street stall.
Kelewele	Fried plantain spiced with ginger, chilli, and cloves. Buy it from the women frying it roadside. Eat it immediately.
Banku & Tilapia	Another Ga staple — fermented maize and cassava dough, usually served with grilled tilapia and hot pepper. Order at any chop bar.
Palm Nut Soup	Rich, red, deeply flavoured. Served alongside kpokpoi at the Homowo feast. The combination is centuries old.
Alvaro	Ghana's beloved non-alcoholic malt drink. Cold, slightly sweet, everywhere. Your default refreshment all week.

"Homowo doesn't need you to show up for it to survive.
This celebration has continued for centuries and will continue long after your visit.
But you might need it."

Produced for Travel Radio Live listeners. Information based on the 2025 Homowo Festival calendar announced by the La Traditional Council, Accra, Ghana.

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Illustrated map of central Accra — all 10 itinerary stops plotted by day

#	Stop	When
1	Movenpick Ambassador Hotel	DAY 1 & 7
2	Oxford Street (Osu)	DAY 1 & 6
3	Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park	DAY 2 & 7
4	National Museum of Ghana	DAY 2
5	Makola Market	DAY 2 & 6
6	Artists Alliance Gallery	DAY 3 & 6
7	Labadi Beach	DAY 3 & 5
8	La Traditional Council	DAY 3-5
9	James Town	DAY 4
10	La Villa Boutique Hotel	DAY 4

● History

● Culture

● Festival

PRACTICAL NOTES

Transport: Uber or taxi between all stops (15–30 min).

Feast day: Always a Saturday — confirm with Stop 8.

Festival core: Stops 6, 7 & 8 form the La/Labadi zone.

SIM card: Buy MTN or AirtelTigo at Kotoka Airport.