

West African cities – Dakar

African cities are exciting. They are growing quickly each year. The cities are getting bigger and there are more people and more jobs. There are more restaurants and more nightlife – and more exciting things to do.

There are many exciting cities – Lagos, Accra, Abidjan, Bamako, Luanda, and many more.

One of these cities is Dakar, the capital of Senegal.

Dakar

Dakar is a beautiful city on the sea. There are lovely beaches in Dakar.

There are interesting beach clubs in Dakar. There is a good surf club.

Dakar is an exciting city, and an old city.

It started hundreds of years ago. The French arrived in 1677.

Dakar is going to be the centre of the Olympics. In 2022, the Summer Youth Olympics will be in Dakar. Thousands of young people will come to Dakar to play sports.

Dakar is a big financial centre. Many banks have their offices in Dakar. There are many jobs in banks and offices.

The city is growing because people want to work there. The city is growing in the Pikine area and the Rufisque area. The total population is 3 million – 25% of Senegal's people.

People come to Dakar to find work. They come because it is modern and very safe. It is full of life – there is good music, good food, good nightlife. There are good restaurants by the sea – you can watch the sun go down at the Ngor Lounge or Sharky's bar.

People can make new friends and have a good life here.

There are a lot of French people in Dakar. There are a lot of Lebanese people in Dakar. They came in the 1920s.

And many people from Morocco, Guinea and many other countries.

Dakar is also famous for the Dakar Rally. It was a long car race from Paris to Dakar.

Now the race is in South America – but its name is still the Dakar Rally.

Many people come to visit Dakar. and the people are very friendly. Come and visit!

New words for this article -

1	financial	things to do with banking and finance
2	to grow	to get bigger
3	safe	not dangerous
4	rally	a car race
5	climate	the weather in one place

Comprehension questions

- Which city is the capital of Senegal?
- When did the French come to Dakar?
- When is the Youth Olympics coming to Dakar?
- Where is the Dakar Rally now?
- What can you see at Ngor Lounge?

- Comprehension questions**
- Dakar is the capital of Senegal
 - They came in 1677
 - the Youth Olympics is coming in 2022
 - It's in South America
 - You can watch the sun go down at the Ngor Lounge

Answers