11. Tourist attractions in the Africa





Předmět:

The Tourist Attractions in the Czech Republic and in the World

Geography of Egypt



- ☐ Most of Egypt is covered by the low-lying sand dunes and depressions of the Western and Libyan Deserts. East of the Nile River, the semi-arid Arabian Desert extends to the edges of the Red Sea.
- ☐ In the far southwest, the land rises into the Gilf Kebir Plateau, with elevations near (609 m) Sandstone plateaus front the Nile and the Red Sea, with cliffs as high as (548 m). In the far southeast, the Red Sea Mountains, an extension of the Ethiopian Highlands, continue on into Sudan.
- The country is dissected by the amazing Nile River, as it flows north to the Mediterranean Sea from it source in central Africa. The surrounding Nile Valley, 5-10 miles (8-16 km) wide, is the country's only fertile land. and home to 98% of the population.
- ☐ The Red Sea is extended into the Mediterranean by the man-made Suez Canal. The Sinai Peninsula lies east of the canal, and this limestone plateau rises to Mt Catherine in the south, the highest point of the country at (2,637 m).

The main tourist attractions in Egypt



- ☐ The last surviving of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the **Pyramids of Giza** are one of the world's most recognisable landmarks. Built as tombs for the mighty Pharaohs and guarded by the enigmatic Sphinx, Giza's pyramid complex has awed travelers down through the ages and had archaeologists (and a fair few conspiracy theorists) scratching their heads over how they were built for centuries.
- □ Famed for the Valley of the Kings, Karnak Temple, and the Memorial Temple of Hatshepsut, the Nile-side town of Luxor in Upper Egypt has a glut of tourist attractions. This is ancient Thebes, powerbase of the New Kingdom pharaohs, and home to more sights than most can see on one visit. While the East Bank brims with vibrant souk action, the quieter West Bank is home to a bundle of tombs and temples that has been called the biggest open air museum in the world.
- ☐ The atmospheric, narrow lanes of the capital's Islamic Cairo district are crammed full of mosques, madrassas (Islamic schools of learning), and monuments dating from the Fatimid through to the Mameluke eras.

The main tourist attractions in Egypt



- Egypt's most tranquil town is Aswan, set upon the winding curves of the Nile. Backed by orange-hued dunes this is the perfect place to stop and unwind for a few days and soak up the chilled-out atmosphere. Take the river ferry across to Elephantine Island and stroll the colorful streets of the Nubian villages. Ride a camel to the desert monastery of St. Simeon on the East Bank.
- Even in a country festooned with temples, **Abu Simbel** is something special. This is Ramses II's great temple, adorned with colossal statuary standing guard outside, and with an interior sumptuously decorated with wall paintings. Justly famous for its megalithic proportions, Abu Simbel is also known for the incredible feat, which saw the entire temple moved from its original setting set to disappear under the water because of the Aswan dam during the 1960s in a massive UNESCO operation that took four years.
- Egypt's kookiest natural wonder is the **White Desert** where surreally shaped chalk mountains have created what looks like a snowy wonderland in the middle of the arid sand.

The main tourist attractions in Egypt



- Way out west, **Siwa** is the tranquil tonic to the hustle of Egypt's cities. This gorgeous little oasis, surrounded by date palm plantations and numerous fresh water springs, is one of the Western Desert's most picturesque spots. The town is centered around the ruins of a vast mud-brick citadel that dominates the view.
- The most European of Egypt's cities, **Alexandria** has a history that not many others can match. Founded by Alexander the Great, home of Cleopatra, and razzmatazz renegade city of the Mediterranean for much of its life, this seaside city has an appealing days-gone-by atmosphere that can't be beaten.
- ☐ The Red Sea, off the coast of Egypt, is one of the most beautiful places in the world to go diving. The waters of the Red Sea are renowned for their spectacular visibility and features some of the most exotic seascapes.
- ☐ Cruising the Nile is a popular way of visiting upper Egypt. The Nile River has been Egypt's lifeline since ancient times and there is no better way to trace the passage of Egypt's history than to follow the course of the Nile.

Geography of Morocco



- ☐ Much of Morocco's landscape is mountainous with slopes that gradually transition into plateaus and valleys. The Atlas mountains dominate the central part of the country, while the Rif mountains make up the northern edge.
- ☐ Jebel Toubkal is the highest point of Morocco at (4,165 m), and is also the highest peak of the Atlas mountains.
- ☐ The southeastern region of the country is blanketed by the Sahara Desert, the world's third largest desert at over (9,400,000 sq. km).
- □ Significant sources of water of Morocco include the Moulouya River, whose source is located in the Atlas Mountains, and flows into the Mediterranean Sea.

The main tourist attractions in Morocco



- The bustling and vibrant buzz of **Marrakesh medina** sums up Morocco for many visitors and is a major tourist attraction. The old city is entered from the vast plaza of **Djemma elfna Square** where, it seems, half the city converges throughout the day and into the evening to hang out with the stall vendors, traditional musicians, snake charmers, and random acrobats.
- Casablanca's major point of interest and landmark building, the **Hassan II Mosque** is a lavish symbol not only of the city, but also of Morocco itself. This modern mosque (finished in 1993) doesn't do things by halves. The decoration detail covering every centimeter of the mammoth two-hectare site took 10,000 artisans to complete.
- Morocco has plenty of beautiful old town **areas but Rabat's** Oudaias Kasbah neighborhood has to be one of the country's most picturesque. This is a peaceful and perfectly quaint district that feels miles away from the city, despite being right in the city's core.

The main tourist attractions in Morocco



- □ Along with Marrakesh, **Fes** is Morocco's other big cultural destination. But unlike its sister Imperial City to the south, Fes hasn't been trussed up for the tourists. **Fes el Bali** (old city) is an authentic muddle of a place, where it's easy to get lost.
- ☐ The most European of all Morocco's cities, **Tangier** has a fascinating and slightly debauched role in 20th-century literary history, and this past is what draws many tourists here.
- ☐ In the beautiful Rif Mountains, **Chefchaouen** is a gorgeous labyrinth of blue-on-blue buildings that has an incredibly photogenic glow. There isn't much actual sightseeing to be done, and that's one of the town's main attractions. It's simply about wandering the **medina** alleys and lapping up all that colorful architecture.
- ☐ Morocco's number one **Roman ruin** is a feast for history lovers, with a clutch of remarkable **mosaics** still interred where they were unearthed.
- This golden-stoned adobe **kasbah** (fortress) thrusts dramatically out of the earth amid scenery that wows all who visit. It's a fairy-tale place, and unsurprisingly the orange-hued turrets and curvy lanes inside have become a favorite film location for Hollywood.

Geography of Tunisia



- ☐ Tunisia is the northernmost country in Africa. It is bordered by Algeria to the west, Libya to the southeast, and Mediterranean Sea to the north and east.
- ☐ Tunisia is dominated by the Atlas Mountains in the north and the Sahara Desert in the south.
- ☐ The Atlas Mountains extend northeast from the Algerian border to the Mediterranean Sea. To the north and east of those mountains the topography is generally characterized by low, rolling hills and flat coastal areas.
- □ The Medjerda River rises in Algeria and then flows through Tunisia before entering the Mediterranean Sea. With dozen of smaller tributaries and a length of (450 km), it is the longest river in Tunisia.
- ☐ Lake of Tunis is a natural, shallow lagoon located between Tunis and the Gulf of Tunis (Mediterranean Sea). The lake is (37 sq km) in size.

The main tourist attractions in Tunisia



- ☐ The walls of the mighty Roman amphitheater of El Djem dwarf the surrounding modern town. This incredibly well preserved Roman relic is Tunisia's big sightseeing highlight and one of the best examples of amphitheater architecture left standing in the world, reminding of Rome's once grand grip across North Africa.
- ☐ If you're looking for the picture-perfect beach escape, then the island of Djerba checks all the right boxes. The island town of **Houmt Souk** is the main point of interest off the beach, with an old town district that is a muddle of whitewashed houses.
- Once Rome's major rival, **Carthage** was the city of the seafaring Phoenicians forever memorialized in the Punic Wars. The atmospheric ruins of this ancient town now sit beside the sea amid the suburbs of Tunis, a warning that even the greatest cities can be reduced to rubble, UNESCO World-Heritage-listed.
- Even non-museum fans can't fail to be impressed at the massive haul of beautiful mosaics exhibited inside the Bardo. This is one of North Africa's top museums, and it houses one of the world's most important mosaic collections, all curated beautifully.

The main tourist attractions in Tunisia

walled and exceptionally well-preserved fort.



Impossibly cute, and amazingly photogenic, Sidi Bou Said is a clifftop village of petite dimensions that seem to have fallen off an artist's canvas. Unsurprisingly, artists have feted this little hamlet for decades. Tunisia's vast Sahara covers much of the country's interior, and the most beautiful corner of the desert is the field of sand dunes known as the **Grand Erg Oriental**. Tunisia has no shortage of Roman ruins, but **Bulla Regia** near Tabarka is the country's most interesting and intriguing site. With mosques, madrassas, and tombs aplenty, **Kairouan** has more than its fair share of monuments as the fourth most important city for those of the Muslim faith. The moonscape surroundings of the **Chott el Djerid** are a storybook panorama brought to life; filled with shimmering mirages on the horizon and jigsaw puzzle pieces of blindingly white cracked land under foot. **Hammamet** is all about the beach. This is Tunisia's top sun-and-sea resort; a dreamy place dotted with pristine white buildings set beside a bright blue sea. • One of Tunisia's most photographed buildings and a film star to boot, the **Ribat in Monastir** is a bulky

Geography of South Africa



- ☐ Fronted by reefs, the low-lying coastal areas of South Africa's land rises (with a few exceptions) into a mostly level plateau, one crisscrossed by hills, mountains and shallow valleys in the east and northeast.
- The Drakensberg (or Dragon Mountains) are the highest mountain range in Southern Africa, rising to over 11,000 ft) in height. South Africa's highest point, Njesuthi at (3,408 m) is located there.
- ☐ Forming the northern part of the Drakensberg escarpment is the Blyde River Canyon, one of the largest canyons on Earth at (26km) in length and (762 m) deep.
- □ South Africa's Kalahari Desert is part of a huge sand basin that reaches from the Orange River up to Angola, in the west to Namibia and east to Zimbabwe.

The main tourist attractions in South Africa



- **Kruger National Park** is one of the world's most famous safari parks. One of the oldest game reserves in South Africa, the park lies about a 3.5 to 4.5 hour drive from Johannesburg and offers visitors the chance to see the "Big Five": lion, leopard, buffalo, elephant, and rhino, as well as an astounding diversity of other wildlife.
- One of the planet's most breathtaking cities, Cape Town is, by population, the second largest settlement in South Africa. For a spectacular overview, hike to the peak of flat-topped Table Mountain, or glide up on the cableway. On Table Mountain's eastern slopes, the magnificent Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens lie within a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Penguins waddle along the golden beaches in False Bay, while south of the city, Cape Point is home to abundant wildlife and diverse botanical wonders. One of Cape Town's top attractions is the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront.
- A merger of South Africa's Kalahari Gemsbok National Park and Botswana's Gemsbok National Park, the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park is one of the largest wilderness areas in the world.

The main tourist attractions in South Africa



- **Stellenbosch** is one of the most picturesque towns in South Africa. A mosaic of farms, old oak trees, and white-washed Cape Dutch dwellings, Stellenbosch is one of the best preserved towns from the era of the Dutch East India Company.
- The spectacular Drakensberg, meaning "Dragon Mountains," is one of the most popular vacation destinations in South Africa and home to the country's highest peaks. The region encompasses the World Heritage-listed uKhahlamba-Drakensberg Park, a region of jaw-dropping beauty with jagged basalt buttresses and San rock art, and Royal Natal National Park, home to the awe-inspiring Amphitheatre, a magnificent cliff face and source of South Africa's main rivers. The Giant's Castle Game Reserve in the region protects large herds of eland
- Along the country's southeast coast, the **Garden Route** runs for about 200 kilometers through some of South Africa's most breathtaking coastal scenery. The route stretches along the Indian Ocean from Mossel Bay, in the Western Cape, to the Storms River, in the Eastern Cape.

The main tourist attractions in South Africa



- Beautiful **Blyde River Canyon Nature Reserve** (also called Motlatse River Canyon) is a favorite stop on the drive between Johannesburg and Kruger National Park. The park is home to Africa's second largest canyon as well as a rich diversity of wildlife and plants.
- □ Climb into a thick iron cage, plunge into the ocean, and come face-to-face with a great white shark. Cape Town tour operators organize shark cage dives to areas such as **Simon's Town**, **Seal Island**, **Dyer Island**, **Mossel Bay**, and **Gansbaai**, the self-proclaimed "Great White Shark Capital of the World." Trips can also be arranged out of **Durban** and **Rocky Bay**.
- Durban's sweeping waterfront promenade, the Golden Mile, is a legendary tourist magnet and a great starting point for a tour of the city. Besides the beach scene, top attractions along this stretch include **uShaka Marine World**, a wonderland of sea-themed attractions; **Moses Mabhida Stadium**; and **Mini Town**, a tiny replica of Durban with a miniature rail network, airport, and harbor scene.

Geography of Kenya



- ☐ From its Indian Ocean coastline, Kenya's flat land rises into central highlands. Those highlands are the site of the country's highest point; Mount Kenya, standing at 5,199 m
- ☐ The Kenyan highlands are bisected by the Great Rift Valley; a valley that divides Kenya down the length of the entire country. It contains all but uninhabitable desert, flat arid plains, steep cliffs and slopes, and in some areas, very fertile farmland.
- ☐ In the Rift Valley there are some active and semi-active volcanoes, along with numerous hot springs. Also found in the valley are a string of alkaline lakes including Lake Turkana (formerly Lake Rudolf), the world's largest permanent desert lake and the world's largest alkaline lake.
- Additional lakes across the valley include Lake Baringo, Lake Bogoria, Lake Nakuru, Lake Elementaita, Lake Naivasha, and Lake Magadi in the far south.

The main tourist attractions in Kenya



- ☐ Maasai Mara is one of the world's most magnificent game reserves. Bordering Tanzania, the Mara is the northern extension of the Serengeti and forms a wildlife corridor between the two countries.
- ☐ Crowned by Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest peak, **Amboseli National Reserve** is one of Kenya's most popular tourist parks. The name "Amboseli" comes from a Maasai word meaning "salty dust", an apt description for the park's parched conditions.
- ☐ Kenya's largest park, Tsavo, is sliced in two; Tsavo West and Tsavo East. Together these parks comprise four percent of the country's total area and encompass rivers, waterfalls, savannah, volcanic hills, a massive lava-rock plateau, and an impressive diversity of wildlife.
- ☐ On the banks of the palm-lined Ewaso Nyiro River, Samburu, Buffalo Springs, and Shaba Reserves lie in an arid region in the remote north of Kenya.
- Lake Nakuru National Park, in Central Kenya, is famous for its huge flocks of pink flamingoes. The birds throng on Lake Nakuru itself, one of the Rift Valley soda lakes that comprises almost a third of the park's area.

The main tourist attractions in Kenya



- The small island of **Lamu**, northeast of Mombasa, oozes old world charm. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Lamu Old Town is Kenya's oldest continually inhabited settlement with origins dating back to the 12th century.
- A haven for birders, Lake Naivasha lies at the highest point of the Great Rift Valley and has been known to shrink considerably in times of extreme drought.
- Kenya's capital and largest city, **Nairobi**, is legendary for its colorful colonial history. It was once the capital of British East Africa, luring settlers who came here to stake their fortune in the coffee and tea industries. Kenya's second largest city and biggest port, **Mombasa** is a multicultural tourist magnet. British, Portuguese, Arab, Indian, and Asian immigrants add to the rich cultural mix and their influence is evident in the architecture as well as the many different types of cuisine.
- North of Mombasa on the Kenyan coast, Malindi is a beach resort popular with European visitors. In the Central Highlands, east of the Great Rift Valley, **Mount Kenya National Park** is a UNESCO World Heritage Site encompassing the country's namesake highest mountain at 5,199 m and providing the rare sight of equatorial snow.

Geography of Madagascar



- □ A steep, narrow escarpment runs along Madagascar's eastern coast, and the island's remaining tropical rainforest is located here. Along the west coast of the island swamps of mangroves give way to deep bays.
- ☐ Moving inland, the central highlands are punctuated by grassy, deforested hills bordering rice-growing valleys.
- ☐ At the north end of the island, the Tsaratanana Massif region is home to Madagascar's highest point, Maromokotro at (2,876 m).
- ☐ Major rivers of Madagascar include the Mananara, Mangoro Sambirano, Mahajamba, Betsiboka, Mania, north and south Mahavavy, Mangoky, Onilahy, and the Ikopa; lakes unclude: Alaotra, Lake Kinkony and Lake Ihotry.
- ☐ Madagascar's lowest point is the Indian Ocean at 0 m.

The main tourist attractions in Madagascar



- The **Ile Sainte Marie** lies off the east coast of Madagascar. The island's array of protected bays and inlets drew pirates to Ile Sainte Marie during the 17th and 18th centuries, and the wrecks of several pirate ships can still be viewed from the shallow waters of the Baie des Forbans.
- □ The Isalo National Park is notable for is varied terrain. Located in the central southern region of Madagascar, the park includes areas of grassland, steep canyons and sandstone formations, all dotted by occasional pools lined by palm trees.
- ☐ The Tsingy de Bemaraha Reserve lies in the southern region of Madagascar's largest natural reserve, Tsingy de Bemaraha Strict Nature Reserve. The word "tsingy" refers to the pinnacles that dot the park's limestone plateau.
- ☐ The small island of **Nosy Be** is one of Madagascar's premier tourist spots attracting thousands of tourists from across the globe year round.
- ☐ The Avenue of the Baobabs is a group of trees lining the dirt road between Morondava and Belon'i Tsiribihina in western Madagascar.

The main tourist attractions in Madagascar



- ☐ Ifaty is the name given to two dusty fishing villages on the coast of southwest Madagascar. Offshore, a 60-mile long coral reef is a natural barrier to rough sea waves, creating coastal waters that are ideal for diving, snorkeling and fishing.
- Considered one of the country's most sacred spots by the Malagasy people for 500 years, the **Royal Hill of Ambohimanga** is a historical village that was once home to Madagascar royalty.
- Encompassing around 100 miles of land in eastern Madagascar, Andasibe-Mantadia National Park is home to eleven lemur species, including the country's largest lemur, the Indri.
- ☐ Situated in the northeast Madagascar, the **Masoala National Park** covers nearly 250 miles of rainforest and includes three marine parks as well.

Geography of Seychelles



- □ Located in the Indian Ocean, Seychelles is an archipelago of nearly 155 islands, most of which are uninhabited.
- ☐ There are two regions within the archipelago: the granitic islands and the coralline outer islands. The granite's are the only islands composed of granitic rock in the world, as well as the oldest islands; conversely, the coralline islands are mainly younger.
- The island of Mahe is the largest of the group, and has a rocky landscape with a narrow coastal strip. The central part of island consists of a range of hills that rise upwards of over. (609 m).
- ☐ The highest point of the country is Mt. Seychellois (905 m), and the lowest point is the Indian Ocean (0 m). There are no significant lakes or rivers.

The main tourist attractions in Seychelles



- One of **Mahé's** most beautiful beaches, this small and secluded crescent of sand on the island's south coast is a favorite surfing spot thanks to its frequent big swells and wild waves. The lack of a protective reef makes swimming a little rough when tradewinds blow from the southeast, but sunbathers, beachcombers, and photographers will enjoy this picturesque, palmframed strand at any time of year.
- On the north shore of **Praslin Island**, Anse Lazio (Chevalier Bay) is one of the island's most picturesque beaches. You have to hike over a hill to access the beach, but it's worth the effort.
- The pretty village of Baie Lazare on Mahé was named after 18th-century French explorer Lazare Picault, who landed here when the French government sent him to explore the islands. One of the area's main tourist attractions is the neo-Gothic **Baie Lazare Church**, dedicated to St. Francis of Assisi, which provides a panoramic view of the area.
- The fourth largest island in the archipelago, La Digue is a haven for nature lovers and those seeking a glimpse of traditional island life; bicycles and oxcarts are popular modes of transport.

The main tourist attractions in Seychelles



- □ Once known as Île Rouge due to its russet-toned earth, **Curieuse Island** is now home to a breeding program for giant tortoises, which roam freely around the sandy coves. Curieuse is the only place besides Praslin where the coco de mer palm grows naturally.
- The largest national park in the Seychelles, **Morne Seychellois National Park** covers more than 20 percent of the area of Mahé and is a haven for nature lovers and hikers. Within its lush borders lies the mountain chain named after its highest point, Morne Seychellois, which reaches a height of 905 meters and overlooks the capital of Victoria.
- Encompassing six islands a 15- to 20-minute boat ride off the coast of Mahé near Victoria, Ste Anne National Marine Park became the first national park in the Indian Ocean in 1973.
- The alluring curve of glittering sand at **Beau Vallon**, on Mahé's northwest coast, is a magnet for both tourists and locals. Looking out to sea, mountainous Silhouette Island shimmers on the horizon, and hotels fringe the shore.
- ☐ On the northeast coast of Praslin, Anse Volbert (also known as Côte d'Or) is one of the island's most popular beaches.

Geography of Capo Verde Island



- ☐ The Cape Verde islands are hilly and mountainous (all volcanic in origin), and encircled by rugged cliffs and reefs.
- ☐ The archipelago holds 10 islands and 8 islets covering a total area of (4,033 sq km). The islands are divided into two groups: the windward islands and the leeward islands. Santiago is the archipelago's largest island, both in size and population.
- ☐ Extensive salt flats cover Sal and Maio, while arid slopes transition into fields of sugarcane on Santiago, Santo Antao and Sao Nicolau.
- ☐ Mt. Fogo on Fogo Island is an active volcano, and the highest point of Cape Verde at 9,281 ft. (2,829 m). Its most recent eruption was in 1995.

The main tourist attractions in Capo Verde Island



- ☐ It's easy to guess what Sal's main industry once was: The name translates as "salt." Most of the salt mined in the 19th century was exported to Brazil; salt today is mined mainly for tourists to take home and for local use. Sal is now a popular tourist destination, having the main international airport in Cape Verde.
- Mountains, desert and beaches combine to make **Boa Vista**, Cape Verde's third largest island, a good place to visit.
- Santiago Island is the largest Cape Verde island; it's where half the country's people live. The first of the islands to be settled, it is home to the country's capital, Praia. The island is a good place to see some of nature's endangered species, including 38 plants and several rare birds.
- Sao Vicente is an arid island that is marked by low-lying mountains. On a clear day you can see other islands.
- Santo Antao, the second largest of the Cape Verdean islands, is famous for its mountains. Though it seems desolate in some places, the island also features lush subtropical vegetation, such as fir, pine, and date and coconut palms.

The main tourist attractions in Capo Verde Island



- **Fogo Island** is the highest island in the Cape Verde chain. This is due to Pico de (Mount) Fogo, which is 2,829 meters feet tall. The volcano has erupted periodically since 1680, with the most recent eruption occurring in 2014.
- Sao Nicolau has less than 13,000 in habitants, making it a good place to escape the crowds. Because of its mountainous terrain, the island is popular with hikers and mountain bikers. It's not a particularly good place to visit if you're into beaches, because beach access is difficult.
- Brava has a few things going for it. It's the smallest Cape Verde island that is inhabited, so you won't run into a lot of people. Not that you could fit a lot of people into an island that isn't even seven miles long.
- Santa Luzia Cape Verde's smallest island is basically uninhabited but draws yachters like honey draws flies. The island is low-lying, which. means lots of sunshine, and the northeasterly trade winds make it a popular, but isolated, anchorage for yachts.
- ☐ If you enjoy beachcombing, you'll want to visit **Malo**, with its beautiful sandy beaches.

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