

Djibouti City, Djibouti

A geopolitical crossroads at the mouth of the Red Sea, Djibouti blends French colonial grandeur, Afar and Somali street life, and otherworldly volcanic landscapes — all from a deep-water industrial port that rarely sees tourists.

-  Pier (deep-water port)
-  Typical call: 7-10 hrs
-  Djiboutian Franc / USD accepted
-  French & Arabic
-  Extremely hot year-round

🍷 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date:	Arrive:	All aboard:
Excursion:	Notes:	

GETTING ASHORE

- Docking:** Pier — deep-water berth at Port of Djibouti; mandatory shuttle to city gate
- Walk to center:** Not walkable from pier; shuttle to Place Menelik (~10 min)
- Best For:** Off-the-beaten-path culture, volcanic day trips, Yemeni cuisine
- Don't Miss:** Lake Assal (lowest point in Africa) if ship is in port 8+ hours

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  \$5–\$15 USD ·  **Rideshare**  not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Lake Assal Day Trip** — Africa's lowest point at 155 m below sea level — a hypersaline crater lake surrounded by black lava fields and blinding...
- Moucha Island Snorkeling** — A 30–45 minute boat ride from L'Escale Marina to a pristine desert island with white sand beaches, turquoise water, and...
- Djibouti City Walking Tour** — Explore the colonial European Quarter from Place Menelik, the bustling African Quarter markets, and the 1906 Hamoudi...
- Decan Wildlife Refuge** — Thirty minutes outside the city, this refuge shelters endangered African species including cheetahs, caracals, lions...
- Yemeni Baked Fish Lunch** — Djibouti's iconic dish — fresh sea bass or kingfish split and baked in a clay tandoor oven with spiced red pepper paste.

BEST WALKS

- European Quarter & Hamoudi Mosque Loop** 2 km · 45–60 min · Easy — Start at Place Menelik and take in the whitewashed French colonial architecture.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	88°	79°	6d
Jun	101°	87°	0d
Aug	103°	88°	3d
Sep	99°	86°	1d
Oct	90°	80°	6d

 **DAYLIGHT &  MONEY**

Apr 5:56AM–6:18PM · Jun 5:44AM–6:31PM · Aug 5:56AM–6:26PM · Sep 5:57AM–6:07PM · Oct 5:57AM–5:49PM

 Djiboutian Franc / USD accepted

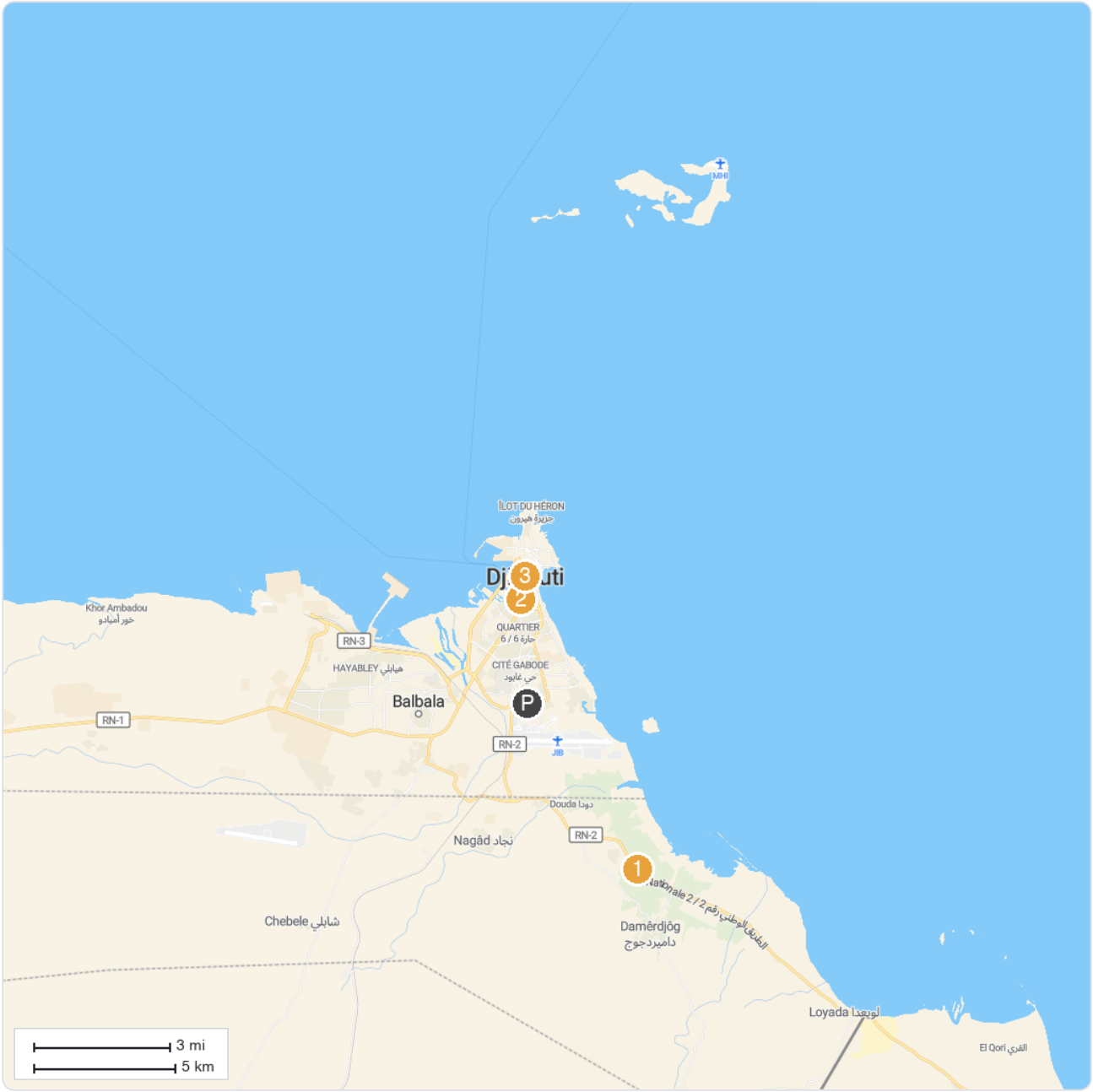
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- No photos of military or port. Djibouti hosts US, French, Chinese, and Japanese military bases. Photographing any military personnel, vessels, or port infrastructure can result in...
- Bring crisp USD bills. Cash is essential — cards are rarely accepted outside high-end hotels. US dollars (post-2013, clean bills)

Djibouti City, Djibouti — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| 1 DECAN Refuge | A wildlife refuge protecting endangered birds and local flora. | 2 Mosquée Al-Hamoudi | Djibouti City's grandest mosque, a beautiful architectural landmark. |
| 3 The People's Palace | Official residence and workplace of Djibouti's President. | P Cruise port / terminal | |