

OGUN STATE POCKET FACTFINDER

A Publication of Abeokuta Book Club

(An Initiative of the Society of Young Nigerian Writers)



It contains all you need to know about Ogun State



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HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT:

Ogun State is a state in South-western Nigeria. It borders Lagos State to the south, Oyo and Osun states to the North, Ondo State to the east and the republic of Benin to the west.

Ogun State is bounded in the West by the Benin Republic, in the South by Lagos State and the Atlantic Ocean, in the East by Ondo State and in the North by Oyo State.

Ogun State, which was created in February 1976 with Abeokuta as the state capital, comprises the



Olumo Rock

old Abeokuta and Ijebu provinces. It was one of the nineteen states created out of the former twelve state

structure of 1967.

The state shares an international boundary with the Republic of Benin to the West and interstate boundaries with Oyo State in the north, Lagos State in the south and Ondo State in the east.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE:

Ogun State had seven Local Government Areas (LGAs) at its creation, out of which three additional ones were created to bring the number of local government areas in the state to ten. These are Abeokuta, Egbado North, EgbadoSouth, Ifo/Ota, IjebuEast, Ijebu North, IjebuOde, IjebuRemo, ObafemiOwode and Odeda local government areas (LGAs).

In the further creations of Local Government Areas in 1981, 1989 and 1991, the former Abeokuta LGA became AbeokutaNorth and AbeokutaSouth LGAs, Ifo/Ota became Ifo and AdoOdo/Ota LGAs, Ijebu Remo became Sagamu and Ikenne LGAs, IjebuOde became IjebuOde and Odogbolu LGAs and IjebuEast became IjebuEast and Ogun Waterside LGAs, making the total number of LGAs in the state to become fifteen (Odugbemi, 1993).

The last local government creation exercise of March 1997 added five more LGAs to the fifteen in existence then, bringing the total number to twenty LGAs in the state. These are Ewekoro (from Ifo LGA) with its headquarters at Itori, Ijebu NorthEast with Atan as its headquarters, ImekoAfon having its headquarters at Imeko, Ipokia with its headquarters at Ipokia and Remo North having Isara as its headquarters .



Obanta's
Cenotaph, Ijebu
Ode

The creation of more LGAs in the state has three important elements for growth and even development of the state. First, it has brought the government nearer to the generality of the people who would be able to take part in, and give their inputs to, the government decisions which affect them.

Their participation in the governance of their locality would generate pertinent questions on those governments activities that are likely to have negative effects on the development process. Second, it could generate competition among the LGAs which would foster efficiency in resource allocation, utilisation and the overall development of the LGAs.



Rock-soaked Ogun River scene, Ewekoro

Third, the new local government head quarters have become local central places and growth centres from which

centrifugal forces could spread development impulse to the outlying, lagging areas. There are, however, two weaknesses in the proliferation of LGAs, the awareness of which should guide future LGAs creation.

First, there was no continuity in the administrative units for which data could easily be aggregated or disaggregated. This creates difficulties for data

collection and analysis over time. Second, some of the LGAs were not economically viable. The expected spread of growth to the backward areas may not occur.

PEOPLE

Ogun State is made up of six ethnic groups viz, the Egba, the Ijebu, the Remo, the Egbado, the Awori and the Egun. The language of the majority of the people of Ogun State is Yoruba but this is however broken into scores of dialects.

MAIN CITIES AND TOWNS

Abeokuta (capital city), Ijebu-Ode, Sagamu, Ilaro, Ijebu-Igbo and Aiyetoro

LAND MASS, LOCATION AND POPULATION

Ogun State has a total land area of 16,409 square kilometres and is situated at latitude 7° 00' north and longitude 3° 35' east. It has a population of 3,751,140 (2006 census figures) and accounts for 2.7% of Nigeria's total population.

ORIGINAL INHABITANTS AND SETTLERS

The Yorubas are the main ethnic group in Ogun. Abeokuta (which translates to 'under the rocks'), the state capital, was founded around 1830 by a hunter called Sodeke who was the leader of the Egba refugees that fled when the once-powerful Oyo Empire crumbled

under the weight of internecine wars. Abeokuta later gained prominence as the capital of the Egbas and faced several invasion threats by the Kingdom of Dahomey (located where the modern-day Republic of Benin lies). However, with the help of some European missionaries and British officers, the Egbas were able to repulse the threat of Dahomey. The exposure with Dahomey resulted in cultural interaction as well: the Egun, one of the prominent tribes in Ogun State, are said to have migrated from there.

ETHNIC GROUPS

Ogun State indigenes belong to the Yoruba ethnic group, comprising mainly the Egba, the Yewa, the Awori, the Egun, the Ijebu and the Remo.

RELIGION

The two dominant religions in the state are Christianity and Islam. Traditional religion is still practiced, though not by a large proportion of the people.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS

Abeokuta North, Abeokuta South, Ado-Odo/Ota, Egbado North, Egbado South, Ewekoro, Ifo, Ijebu East, Ijebu North, Ijebu North East, Ijebu Ode, Ikenne, Imeko-Afon, Ipokia, Obafemi-Owode, Ogun Waterside, Odeda, Odogbolu, Remo North, Shagamu.

EDUCATION

Ogun has one federal university ; the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta and two state government universities; the Olabisi Onabanjo university,Ago Iwoye(formerly known as Ogun State University) and the Tai Solarin university of education (TASUED) Ijebu Ode. Ogun State thus has the highest number of registered universities in Nigeria (nine in all) with five new private universities also in the state. Ogun state has two major government hospitals,The Federal Medical Center,Abeokuta and the Olabisi Onabanjo university teaching hospital,Sagamu.Ogun State has produced many of the most important Yoruba politicians and musicians in Nigeria, including President Olusegun Obasanjo, Chief Ernest Shonekan, Chief MKO Abiola,Prince Bola Ajibola, Chief Kuforiji Olubi, Prof Ola Rotimi, Prof Olikoye Ransome Kuti, Fela Anikulapo Kuti, Prof.Wole Soyinka and Chief Obafemi Awolowo.

The major food crops include rice, maize, cassava, yam and banana. The main cash crops include cocoa, kolanut, rubber, palm oil and palm kernels. Ogun State is one of the largest producers of kolanut in the country. It also produces timber and rubber on a large scale. About 20% of its total area is constituted of forest reserve suitable for livestock.

Mineral resources available include chalk, phosphate, high quality stones and gravels for construction works.

TOURISM

Management Training Centre, Ogere Man-made * Adire Market, Itoko Abeokuta Cultural * Olumo Rock, Abeokuta Physical * Birikisu Sungbo Shrine Cultural/Religious Attractions * Obute-Oni Tourist Beach Natural * Ancient Palace of the Cultural/ Alake of Egbaland Monument * Ogunde Theatre Centre Man-made/Monument.

MONUMENTS AND MUSEUMS

Cultural features in Ogun State include Suna Cultural Hall not far from Ijebu-Ode which contain archaeological findings; Birikisu Sungbo Shrine at Oke Eri village and the Orisagamu Water Pot near Sagamu. Ogun State is also home to the tombs of famous native sons and daughters such as Chief Obafemi Awolowo at Ikenne, Pastor S.B.J. Oshoffa at Celestial City, and Imeko and Madam Tinubu at Abeokuta. The National Museum at Abeokuta was opened to the public in 2002 and has a photographic exhibition on Treasures of Ancient Nigeria, as well archaeological findings from Olumo Rock.

Madam Tinubu's Tomb

Madam Tinubu's Tomb is a major tourist attraction in Abeokuta, Ogun State. Madam Efunroye Tinubu was a reputed adversary of the British colonial government during the colonial era. As punishment, she was banished from Lagos to her native Abeokuta. She was a former slave trader who. When she realised the relative difference between domestic slavery and the inhumane

treatment of slaves in Europe and the Americas, she became an active opponent to all form of slave trading. She became the first Iyalode of the Egba clan and was able to build a small financial empire through trading in arms and salt. She is considered an important figure in West African history due to her political significance as a powerful female aristocrat of feudal Nigeria. She died in 1887.

Birikisu Sungbo Shrine

The Birikisu Sungbo Shrine is a popular tourist destination located in Oke Eri in the Ijebu Ode LGA. The shrine is believed to be the burial site of the Queen of Sheba, one of the concubines of King Solomon. Legend has it that the Queen of Sheba, an Arabian princess, migrated to Oke Eri in her old age where she died and was buried.



Birikisu Sungbo Shrine

FESTIVALS

Major traditional festivals include Igunuko celebrations at Ifo NIa village in Ifo LGA; Agemo festival at Ijebu-Ode; Boat Regatta at Iwopin; Ojude Oba festival at Ijebu-Ode and Taborah day in Remo North LGA.

Ojude Oba

The Ojude Oba celebration in Ijebuland, Ogun State is an annual event during which indigenes congregate at the palace of the Awujale (king) for a carnival-like celebration. The glitz and colour associated with the festival place it among the most famous cultural festivals in the country.

The Ijebu sons and daughters, Muslims and non-Muslims always look forward to this event. It comes up on the third day of the Eid-el-kabir celebration to celebrate the age-long tradition. This is the time the people at home are joined by those in diaspora together with their friends and well-wishers, irrespective of their religion and political affiliation come together to enjoy themselves.

Agemo

Foremost among the deities in Ijebu is the Agemo whose festival is celebrated by Ijebu communities in June/July of every year. It is believed that the idea was initiated by the Obanta himself as an annual assembly of his priests (Alagemos) at Imosan to curb a rebellion. He was said to have summoned the Agemo priests from sixteen different locations to Ijebu-Ode for a heart-to-heart discussion.

TOURISM AND RECREATION

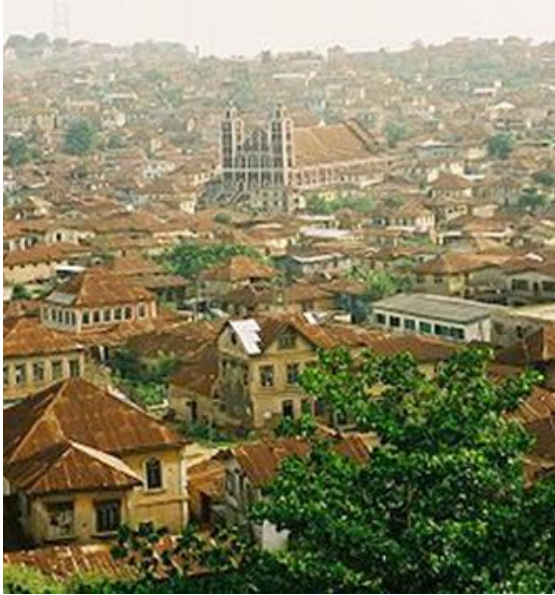
Olumo Rock

Olumo Rock, one of the most popular tourist destinations in Nigeria and West Africa, sits at the heart of the ancient city of Abeokuta (which means ‘under the rocks’). Abeokuta was originally inhabited by the Egba people who found refuge at Olumo Rock during the outbreak of inter-tribal wars in the nineteenth century. The rock provided natural shelter from marauders as well as unfavourable weather conditions. It was also a

strategic vantage point from which to monitor the enemy's advance. There is a staircase carved into the rock leading to its summit, offering a stunning view of the city below. There is also an elevator for those who may not be able to climb.



Olumo Rock



Abeokuta

Yemoji, Ijebu Ode

The Yemoji Tourist Center is located few kilometres from the Ijebu Ode Township. It features a natural swimming pool which tourists visit for a refreshing dip and other fun activities.

Ebute Oni Beach

During the dry season, the blue waters of Ebute Oni beach are warm and welcoming and the waves are calm and gentle. A port is located nearby the beach.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (LGAS)

There are twenty LGAs, each with a Chairman as its head.

- Abeokuta North
- Abeokuta South
- Ado-Odo/Ota
- Ewekoro
- Ifo
- Ijebu East
- Ijebu North
- Ijebu North East
- Ijebu Igbo
- Ijebu Ode
- Ikenne
- Imeko Afon
- Ipokia
- Obafemi Owode
- Odogbolu
- Odeda
- Ogun Waterside
- Remo North
- Sagamu or Shagamu
- Yewa North
formerly Egbado
North

GOVERNORS AND ADMINISTRATORS

- Saidu Ayodele Balogun (Administrator – Military): March 1976 – July 1978
- Harris Eghagha (Administrator – Military): July 1978 – October 1979
- Olabisi Onabanjo (Governor – Civilian (Unity Party of Nigeria)): October 1979 – December 1983
- Oladipo Diya (Administrator – Military): January 1984 – August 1985
- Oladayo Popoola (Governor – Military): August 1985 – August 1986

- Raji Alagbe Rasaki (Governor – Military): August 1986 – December 1987
- Mohammed Lawal (Administrator – Military): December 1987 – August 1990
- Oladeinde Joseph (Administrator – Military): August 1990 – January 1992
- Olusegun Osoba (Governor – Civilian (Social Democratic Party)): January 1992 – November 1993
- Daniel Akintonde (Administrator – Military): December 1993 – August 1996
- Sam Ewang (Administrator – Military): August 1996 – August 1998
- Kayode Olofin-Moyin (Administrator – Military): August 1998 – May 1999
- Olusegun Osoba (Governor – Civilian (Alliance for Democracy; Action Congress)): May 1999 – May 2003
- Gbenga Daniel (Governor – Civilian (People’s Democratic Party)): May 2003 – May 2011
- Ibikunle Amosun (Governor – Civilian (Action Congress of Nigeria)): May 2011 – Present

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES, MINERALS AND INDUSTRIES

Ogun State lies entirely in the tropics. Its key agricultural resources include cocoa, kola nut, rice, maize, cassava, yam, banana, timber, rubber, livestock and palm oil. Ogun’s mineral industries include limestone, gypsum, kaolin, gemstone, feldspar, phosphate, mica, glass and clay, granite, tar sands and

bitumen. Some major companies are located in the state such as pharmaceutical multinational GlaxoSmithKline, Coca-Cola, Dangote Cement, Lafarge Cement and Consolidated Breweries.

EDUCATION

Ogun State possesses the highest number of registered universities in Nigeria (nine in total). Seven of its nine universities are private, including Babcock University in Ilisan-Remo (the country's first private university), Covenant University, Redeemers University, Crawford University, Joseph Ayo Babalola University, Crescent University and Bells University. The federal institutions located in Ogun State are the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta and the Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro. The state-owned institutions include Olabisi Onabanjo University, Tai Solarin University of Education and Moshood Abiola Polytechnic.

NOTABLE RELIGIOUS PLACES IN OGUN STATE

- Ijebu-Ode Central Mosque, Ijebu-Ode
- Celestial Church of Christ (CCC) World-wide Camp, Imeko
- Diadem Christian Church International, Ijebu Ode
- The Redemption Camp of the Redeemed Christian Church of God, along Lagos-Ibadan Exp. Way, Mowe
- Faith Tabernacle aka Winners Chapel, Canaanland, Ota

- Prayer City of Mountain of Fire & Miracle Ministry, along Lagos-Ibadan Exp. Way
- Deeper Life Conference Center (DLCC), along Lagos-Ibadan Exp. Way
- Faith City (Apostolic Faith Church) along Atan-Agbara road, Igbesa, Ogun State
- Chief Oyeneye Olusesan House in Oluwo Onikolobo, Abeokuta
- Bilikisu Sungbo Shrine, Oke-Eiri, near Ijebu-Ode, declared a national Heritage since 1964, was the burial place of the acclaimed (Sungbo Eredo and Its Ecotourism Values: Sonubi O K (2009) Queen Sheba, a gathering of faithfuls during major muslim and christian festivals.
- ST JOHN'S African church Arigbajo

UNIVERSITIES IN OGUN STATE

- University of Agriculture, Abeokuta
- Covenant University, Ota.
- Bells University of Technology, Ota
- Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago Iwoye
- Tai Solarin College of Education (TASCE), Ijagun, Ijebu Ode
- Moshood Abiola Polytechnic (MAPOLY) Abeokuta
- Redeemer's University (RUN), Redemption Camp of The Redeemed Christian Church of God, Mowe
- Babcock University, Ilisan Remo
- Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijebu Ode
- Crawford University, Igbesa

- Adetokunbo University, Sagamu
- Crescent University, Abeokuta
- Mountain Top University, Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, Nigeria

LIST OF TOURISM ATTRACTIONS IN THE STATE:

Olumo Rock in Abeokuta, Bilikisu Sungbo Shrine in Oke-Eri, Yemoji Natural Swimming Pool at Ijebu-Ode, Oyan Dam in Abeokuta North, Iwopin Boat Regatta and Ebute-Oni in Ogun Waterside. Other sites are: Madam Tinubu Shrine, Abeokuta; Oronna Shrine, Ilaro; Area J4 Forest Reserve (Omo Biosphere Reserve); Tongeji Island, Ipokia; Old Manse at Ogbe, Abeokuta; St James Anglican School, Ota and Ijamido River Shrine, Ota. There is also the June 12 Cultural Centre Park and Museum at Abeokuta(source:Ogun State Diary, 2013). Ojude-Oba festival, Ijebu-Ode and Agemo festival in Ijebu.University of Agriculture Zoological Garden, Abeokuta, Sungbo Eredo-the largest single ancient monument in Africa in Ijebu(Darling,1999).

FAMOUS NATIVE SONS AND DAUGHTERS

- Delight Owoyemi
- Obafemi Awolowo
- MKO Abiola
- Mike Adenuga
- Olusegun Obasanjo

- Wole Soyinka
- Peter Akinola
- Fela Anikulapo Kuti
- Ernest Shonekan
- Oladipo Diya
- Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti
- J A Aromire
- Kuforiji Olubi
- Ola Rotimi
- Toyosi Craig
- Tunde Bakare
- Peter Olakeinde Sogbesan
- Tai Solarin
- Prof OA Somefun
- Dr PA Onakoya
- Oba Otudeko
- Tobi Olatanrinrin Sowole
- Subomi Balogun
- Bayo Kuku
- Chief Olu Oyesanya
- Jubril Martins-Kuye

Ikenne Remo is home to many prominent sons and daughters of Ogun State and has over the years evolved to become the political and intellectual 'mecca' of the state. With Obafemi Awolowo home and rich library resources open to the public and history researchers; (acknowledged to have groomed business, religious and political leaders) and of course the annual Ereke Day festival attracting tourists from within and without the country.

Chief Obafemi Awolowo is revered as one of the founding fathers of Nigeria, alongside Chief Nnamdi Azikiwe and Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, the late Sardauna of Sokoto. He was Prime Minister of the Western Region from 1954 - 1959 after which he became the opposition leader in the Federal House of Representatives. He built the educational, political and business infrastructure upon which the Western States have built and thrived.

Ogun State, today, has emerged as one of the fastest growing business destinations in Nigeria, with several local and international businesses and factories strategically sited within the 2 km government acquisition area of the Lagos - Sagamu expressway. With Dangote's cement factory in Ibese, Nestle, DHL, Big Treat, Coleman Cables and several others, Ogun State may as well be the investor's haven in the Sub Region.

Senator Ibikunle Amosun is the current governor of Ogun State.

SAGAMU

Sagamu or **Shagamu** is a city and the headquarters of the Local Government Area of the same name in southwestern Nigeria located in Ogun State near the Ibu River.

The Sagamu region is underlain by major deposits of limestone, which is used in the city's major industry, the production of cement. Agricultural products of the

region include cocoa and kola nuts. Sagamu is the largest kola nut collecting center in the country. The kola nut industry supports several secondary industries such as basket and rope manufacturing, which are used to store the kola nuts.

Sagamu is the part of the Yoruba cultural region of southwestern Nigeria. The city was founded in the mid-19th century when several small towns united for purposes of defense during the wars brought about by the fall of the Oyo Empire. Sagamu controlled the trade routes between the ports in the Niger Delta and the Yoruba mainland until the British occupied the city at the end of the 19th century. Sagamu has experienced both population and economic growth since the 1950s due to its position between the cities of Ibadan and Lagos. The population in 1995 was 114,300 but 2007 estimates place it as high as 228,382. The Olabisi Onabanjo University's college of medicine is located in Sagamu.

Sagamu is the new seat of the Akarigbo of Remo ("King" or "Lord" of Remo), the traditional ruler of the Remo Kingdom. The former seat was located in the area of Offin. Four ruling families are eligible to wear the beaded crown of the *Akarigbo*, all descending from the first Oba, Akarigbo, a prince of the house of Oduduwa. The current *Akarigbo* is Oba M.A. Sonariwo. Notable areas within Sagamu are Sabo, Makun, GRA and Ijokun.

NOTABLE PEOPLE FROM SAGAMU

- Theophilus Oladipo Ogunlesi, Nigeria's first professor of medicine
- Adebayo Ogunlesi, a businessman
- Asiwaju Solomon Onofowokan, Businessman
- Chief Olu Oyesanya (Late). First General Secretary, Nigeria Union of Journalists.
- Mr Michael Ogundero (Late) - Renowned tailor.
- Femi Akinwunmi - descendant of the Akarigbo Koyelu ruling house, brand and marketing strategist, pharmacist, youth leader, champion of the poor and visionair of a greater Sagamu

YEWA NORTH

Yewa North (formerly **Egbado North**) is a Local Government Area in the west of Ogun State, Nigeria bordering the Republic of Benin. Its headquarters are in the town of Aiyetoro (or Ayetoro) at 7°14'00"N 3°02'00"E in the north-east of the Area.

It has an area of 2,087 km² and a population of 181,826 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 111.

Aiyetoro, established around 1813, is one of the founding cites that formed Ogun State in the mid-1970s. It has more than four government secondary schools and many private schools; notable among the schools is one of the best secondary schools in Ogun – Comprehensive High School. The town also has a higher education institution, Olabisi Onabanjo University (Aiyetoro),

which will soon be upgraded to a full University of Agriculture.

There is a native who is representing the senatorial district from the town, Sen. Banjomo.

The town produces many agricultural products and most citizens are farmers. There are functional banks in the city. There are good hotels and a three-star hotel, Afobaje, in the town. Aiyetoro is a town with both Christians and Muslims. There is a post office and eateries in the town.

Notable areas in the city include Olowu, Eemado, Saala, Isale Agboro, Joga and Idofoi.

IMEKO AFON

Imeko Afon is a Local Government Area in the west of Ogun State, Nigeria bordering the Republic of Benin. Its headquarters are in the town of Imeko at coordinates 7°29'00"N 2°53'00"E.

Location

The local Government was created from the old Egbado North Local Government in December 1996, during the military regime of General Sani Abacha. The land area is about 1,711.43 square kilometres (660.79 sq mi). The land is rolling, with small hills rising between 15 and 70 metres above sea level. The Yewa River runs through the area from North to South, with its tributaries, the rivers

Oyan and Oha. The LGA is bounded in the north by Oyo State, to the east by the Abeokuta North LGA, to the south by the Yewa North LGA and to the west it shares an international border with Benin. The international border is 93 kilometres (58 mi), and is one of the most accessible stretches of border between the two countries.

The Local Government is divided into ten political wards: Imeko, Afon, Ilara, Iwoye/Jabata, Idofa, Owode/Obada/Idi-Ayin, Moriwi / Matala /Oke-Agbede, Agborogbomo, Atapele and Kajole / Agberiodo. Imeko, the LGA headquarters, is about 20 kilometres (12 mi) by road from Keton, a major trading town in Benin. The second largest settlement, Ilara, merges into Kanga in Benin.

People

The 1991 population census gave a population of about 118,339. The people are mostly Yorubas of Ketu origin, but there are significant numbers of Ogori and Egun speaking people. As a border community, other West African people live in the LGA, including a substantial number of Hausa-Fulani nomads.

In March 2011, just before the April National elections, it was reported that a mass transfer of teachers disloyal to the Peoples Party of Nigeria (PPN) had begun in the LGA.

Economy

Farming is the main economic activity. The vegetation is a mixture of savannah belt and sparse forest suitable for cattle raising, with the advantage of being free of Tse-tse flies. The climate is tropical, with a rainy season commencing around March and ending in November. The soil is fertile, and Cassava and Tomatoes are grown in large quantities. Cotton grown in the LGA supplies the Yaru, tread and textile industries in Benin Republic. Other crops are pepper, maize, groundnuts, yams, vegetables, cocoa, cashew and teak.

The LGA has 43 public primary schools and 6 secondary schools, and a number of private schools. Tourist attractions include Celestial City, center of the Celestial Church of Christ, Imeko, Odosuuru waterfalls, Mount Boomu, Afon and Jabata Forest. To encourage tourists the LGA is named the "virgin land", and in 2010 a 20 kilometres (12 mi) Imeko-Oke-Agbede-Iwoye road was being built.

IJEBU ODE

Ijebu Ode is a Local Government Area and city located in south-western Nigeria, close to the A121 highway. The city is located 110 km by road north-east of Lagos; it is within 100 km of the Atlantic Ocean in the eastern part of Ogun State and possesses a warm tropical climate.

With an estimated population of 222,653 (2007), Ijebu Ode has 39 Public Primary Schools, 14 Public Junior Secondary school, 13 public Senior Secondary Schools,

110 approved Private Nursery and Primary Schools and 22 approved Private Secondary Schools. It is the second largest city in Ogun State after Abeokuta.

Since pre-colonial times it has been the capital of the Ijebu kingdom.

The LGA has an area of 192 km² and a population of 154,032 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 120.

The largest city inhabited by the Ijebus, a sub-group of the Yoruba ethnic group who speak the Ijebu dialect of Yoruba, it is historically and culturally the headquarters of Ijebuland.

The ruler of Ijebu Kingdom, Oba S.K Sikiru Kayode Adetona is known as the Awujale of Ijebuland resides in Ijebu Ode.

Ijebu Ode has a local television station affiliated with the government's NTA network and is the trade center of a farming region where yam, cassava, grain, tobacco and cotton are grown.

Adjacent to Ijebu Ode are several smaller towns and villages. They are mostly referred to as Egure "this way to"; some of them include Odo-Agamegi, Ogbo, Italupe (a neighbourhood within Ijebu Ode), Ososa, Imomo, Imawen, Odo Ogbun, Apa(Mesan), Okelamuren, Abapawa, Erunwon, Apunren, Isonyin, Imoru, Oke-Eri,

Imagbon, Ijebu-Isiwo, Odo-Iewu, Odo-Arawa, Idowa, Iworo, Ala and Atiba amongst others. Ijebu Ode is made up of three parts - Iwade, Ijasi and Porogun. Italupe is a ward in Iwade, not an Egre of Ijebu Ode.

Agemo is the unity of Ijebus. There are 16 Agemos in various part of Ijebu. They come out every July and they all meet at Ijebu-Ode before moving to Imodi Mosan, where the Agemo Festival takes place. The Agemo of Ijebu-Isiwo is the leader of all Agemo in Ijebu land. Agemo is a fetish mat-dancer. Women are forbidden from seeing the Agemo on their way to Ijebu-Ode. A public announcement is made on radio and television to inform everyone the exact time Agemo will be moving. The Ojude Oba festival of Ijebu-Ode is usually held two days after the Ileya festival while the Ojude Oba festival of Ijebu-Isiwo is usually held three days after the Ileya. It is a festival whose main purpose is for the people of Ijebu to come together as one to honor their king and is regarded as one of the biggest in West Africa.

Notable People

- Professor Adebayo Adedeji, CFR, Nigerian politician.
- Chief (Mrs) Bola Kuforiji-Olubi, Nigerian noblewoman and banker.
- Kola Onadipe (1922–1988), Nigerian children's author.
- Sunday Adelaja, the founder and senior pastor of the Embassy of God church in Kiev

- Prince Kayode Badru, U.S Navy/USA Jr. Table Tennis.
- Harold Olusegun Demuren, Aeronautical Engineer, Director General of Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority.
- "Alhaji Hassan Namaco" (1922–2012), First Rental Owner In Nigeria.
- **Ladi Balogun** serves as the Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.
- **Subomi Balogun** owner First City Group. (FCMB Capital Markets Limited - Investment banking & Advisory services, FCMB (United Kingdom) Limited - Investment banking, CSL Stockbrokers Limited - Stock brokerage services, Nigeria Legacy Pension Fund Administrators - Pension Fund Administrators, Credit Direct Limited - Microfinance lending)
- **Chief Kuku has headed** the Board of Directors of various companies and he was the President of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (1987–91). He has received many awards, including the Distinguished Service Award of the Nigerian American Chamber of Commerce (June 1991); DCL (Honorius Causa)-Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife (December 1992); Fellow, University College, London (December 1994); and he became Honorary Citizen-City of New Orleans, USA (1977).
- **Alhaji Giwa Adewale Akeem** is the Founder and Chairman of Giwa Samonsagudu Nigeria Limited. He is an outstanding business man with long years of experience. He is well travelled, has

a very wide business knowledge and a force to be reckoned with in the automobile industry.

IJEBU NORTH

Ijebu North is a Local Government Area in Ogun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Ijebu Igbo at 6°57'N 4°00'E.

- It has an area of 967 km² and a population of 284,336 at the 2006 census.
- The postal code of the area is 120.
- The local government was established in 1979 and has its headquarters at Ijebu Igbo. It is bounded by Oluyole Local Government of Oyo State in the north, in the west by Ijebu East Local Government, in the south by Ijebu North East, Odogbolu and Ijebu Ode Local Government, and in the east by Ikenne Local Government. The region is partitioned into local wards Atikori, Oke-Agbo, Ojowo/Japara, Oke-Sopen, Ome, Oru-awa-ilaporu, Osun and Ago-Iwoye urban I, Ago-Iwoye urban II, Ako-Onigbagbo Gelete, and Mamu/Ehin-Etiri.
- It plays host to Olabisi Onabanjo University (Annex campus).
- This region is peopled by the Ijebus, who live in the following major towns: Ijebu Igbo, Ago-Iwoye, Oru, Awa, Ilaporu, etc. There are several markets in the town but the most popular of them all is Station Market. Also several indigenes of

the town engage in timber business so there are many sawmills in the town.

- The title of the traditional ruler of the town is called Orimolusi of Ijebu Igbo. The seat of the King is vacant at the moment.
- The **Ado-Odo/Ota Local Government Area** is one of the 19 Local Government Areas of Ogun State, Nigeria. It came into existence on May 19, 1989 following the merging of Ota, part of the defunct Ifo/Ota Local Government with Ado-Odo/Igbesa Areas of the Yewa South Local Government. Ado-Odo/Ota borders on metropolitan Lagos. The Local Government Area is the second largest in Ogun State and it is headquartered at Ota (or Otta) at $6^{\circ}41'00''N$ $3^{\circ}41'00''E$ to the north of the Area. Other towns and cities include Ado-Odo, Agbara, Igbesa, Iju-Ota, Itele, Kooko Ebiye Town, Owode, Sango Ota etc.
- It has an area of 878 km² and a population of 526,565 at the 2006 census. Being primarily agrarian in nature, the Local Government Area produces cash and food crops especially cocoa, kola nut, palm oil, coffee, cassava, timber, maize, and vegetables. Mineral resources include kaolin, silica sand, gypsum, and glass sand.^[1]
- The Local Government is populated mainly by the Awori people, a subset of the Yorubas and the original inhabitants of the area. However, other ethnic groups like Egba settlers, Eguns, and Yewas (Egbados) also live here. There are currently eleven Traditional Obaship institutions

in the Local Government Area namely: Olota of Ota, Olofin of Ado-Odo, Oloja Ekun of Igbesa, Onilogbo of Ilogbo, Alagbara of Agbara, Amiro of Ilamiro, Onikooko of Kooko Ebiye, Onikogbo of Ikogbo, Onitekun of Itekun, Onigun of Odan Abuja and Olodan of Odan Abuja Sule.

- The Local Government Area boasts a range of cultural, traditional, and historic attractions. One of the most popular is the Egungun (Masquerade) festival in Ota alongside the Oduduwa (Odu'a) festival. There are also shrines such as Ijamido and Ogbodo Shrines. The second oldest storey building in West Africa can be found in Ota, the Vicarage of the St. James Anglican Church built in 1842.
- The postal code of the area is 112.
- The Local Government Area is also home to former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo and his post-presidential enterprise, Obasanjo Farms located in Ota.