

OSUN STATE POCKET FACTFINDER

A Publication of Osogbo Book Club
(An Initiative of the Society of Young Nigerian Writers)



It contains all you need to know about Osun State



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HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT:

Osun, state, western Nigeria. Osun state was created in 1991 from the eastern third of Oyo state. It is bounded by the states of Kwara on the northeast, Ekiti and Ondo on the east, Ogun on the south, and Oyo on the west and northwest. The Yoruba Hills run through the northern part of Osun state. The state has a covering of tropical rain forest, and the Oshun is the most important river. Osun state is inhabited mainly by the Yoruba people.

Osun's economy is based mainly on agriculture. Major crops include yams, cassava (manioc), corn (maize), beans, millet, plantains, cacao, palm oil and kernels, and fruits. Cottage industries produce brass work, woven cloth, and wood carvings. Oshogbo, the state capital, has a textile industry, a food-processing plant, and a steel-rolling mill. The state's tourist attractions include the Mbari Arts Centre at Oshogbo, the residential palaces of Yoruba rulers in Ilesha and Ile-Ife, and the Osun-Osoybo Sacred Grove, a forest that contains several shrines and artwork in honour of the Yoruba deity Osun (designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2005). The Obafemi Awolowo University (founded in 1961) is at Ile-Ife. Oshogbo is linked by road and railway to Ibadan in Oyo state. Pop. (2006) 3,423,535.

GEOGRAPHY

Osun State, Nigeria, came into existence on 27th August, 1991. The State which is one of the then nine newly created States was carved out of the old Oyo State by the

General Ibrahim Babangida's administration. It is one of the 36 States which make up Nigeria. The 1991 census puts the population of the State at 2.2million. There are more than 200 towns, villages and other settlements in the State. The state has a considerable number of highly urbanized settlements. Some of the major towns are Osogbo, Ile-Ife, Ilesa, Ikirun, Iwo, Ede, Ila-Orangun and Ikire. Others include Ipetumodu, Ejigbo, Ilobu, Gbongan, Okuku, Inisa, Ijebu-Ijesa, Ipetu-Ijesha, Ifon-Osun etc.

The State covers an area of approximately (check from ministry of lands). Osun State is bounded in the West by Oyo State, Ondo and Ekiti States in the East, Kwara State in the North and Ogun in the South. The State runs an agrarian economy with a vast majority of the populace taking to farming.

OSUN STATE – “THE STATE OF THE LIVING SPRING”

Located in the south-west geopolitical zone of Nigeria, Osun State is an inland state with its capital in Osogbo city. The people of the state are warm, hospitable and highly enterprising and could be found engaged in trading all over the country. The state has 30 local government areas and it is also divided into three federal senatorial districts, each of which is composed of two administrative zones.

HISTORY

The modern Osun State was created in 1991 from part of the old Oyo State. The state's name was derived from the River Osun, the venerated natural spring that is the manifestation of the Yoruba goddess of the same name. The 1991 census puts the population of the state at 2.2million. The state is made up of 30 local government areas with over 200 towns, villages and other settlements. The state has a considerable number of highly urbanized settlements some of which are Osogbo, Ile-Ife, Ilesa, Ikirun, Iwo, Ede, Ila-Orangun and Ikire. Others include Ipetumodu, Ejigbo, Ilobu, Gbongan, Okuku, Ifon-Osun, Inisa, Ijebu-Ijesa, Ipetu-Ijesha etc.

THE LEGISLATURE

The First Assembly of the Osun State House of Assembly was inaugurated on the 13th January, 1992 within the chambers of the Osogbo City Hall, Olonkoro, Osogbo, which then served as the temporary location of the House of Assembly, following a proclamation by the first Executive Governor of the State Alhaji Isiaka Adeleke.

During the period, the House under the Speakership of Barrister Adewale Afolabi consisted of 46 Honourable members made up of two members from each of the then 23 local government areas of the state. The Assembly was abruptly dissolved on the 17th of November, 1993, with the forceful seizure of power by the military regime of General Sani Abacha.

The second Assembly in Osun State was inaugurated on the 31st of May 1999 by Chief Adebisi Akande, the then Executive Governor of the State. Barrister (Dr) Mojeed Olujinmi Alabi emerged the Speaker of the 26 member legislative arm of the State government.

The third Assembly was inaugurated on 3rd June, 2003 by the Executive Governor, Prince Olagunsoye Oyinlola. It was made up of 26 legislators with Hon. (Barrister) Rafiu Adejare Bello as the speaker.

PEOPLE & CULTURE

The major sub-ethnic groups in Osun State are Ife, Ijesha, Oyo, Ibolo and Igbomina of the Yoruba people, although there are also people from other parts of Nigeria. Yoruba and English are the official languages. People of the state practice Islam, Christianity and paganism called traditional faith. The people of the state are mainly traders, artisans and farmers. Their other occupations include hand-woven textiles, tie and dye, leather work, calabash carving and mat-weaving.

The annual Osun Osogbo cultural festival that usually comes up in August is held along the banks of the river bearing and it attracts thousands of devotees from across the country and beyond. Visitors at the festival include nationals of United States, Brazil, Cuba, Trinidad, Grenada, and other nations in the Americas with a significant Yoruba cultural heritage.

Ọṣun-Ọṣogbo Grove, the shrine of the annual rites of the deity and an important artistic centre, was declared a World Heritage Site in 2005.

Osun State is bounded in the West by Oyo State, Ondo and Ekiti States in the East, Kwara State in the North and Ogun in the South. The State runs an agrarian economy with a vast majority of the populace taking to farming.

CITIES & TOWNS

Other important cities and towns include Oke-Ila Orangun, Ila Orangun, Ede, Iwo, Ejigbo, Esa-Oke, Ilobu and Ilesa.

OCCUPATION

The major occupations in the State are fishing, farming, palm oil milling, lumbering, palm wine tapping, local gin making, trading, carving and weaving.

DEMOCRATIC TERRAIN OF OSUN STATE

Osun State was created following series of pressure mounted on the federal military government over a long period of time by the founding fathers, most of whom are traditional rulers and community leaders.

Col. Ajiborisa pioneered the new State between August 1991 and January 1992, when an election was conducted under the zero party system which was introduced by then Military President Ibrahim Babangida. It was that

election that saw the emergence of Alhaji Isiaka Adetunji Adeleke as the governor of the state. As the first Executive Governor of the state, Otunba Adeleke was in power for about 23 months (January 1992 – November 1993) before the military government aborted the transition to full civilian administration.

Col. A.F.K. Akale of the Nigeria Army Regiment Corps. Ede, was appointed the Acting Military Administrator of the state and he prepared the ground for the substantive Military Administrator.

In December 1993, Navy Captain Anthony Udofia was appointed the military administrator of the State and he ruled till August 1996 when another military officer, Col. Anthony Obi took over and left two years (August 1996 – August 1998). Col. Theophilus Bamigboye, was named as the military administrator of the State in August 1998. It was Bamigboye who handed over power to the civilian administration of Chief Adebisi Akande of the Alliance for Democracy (AD) in May 29, 1999.

Chief Akande who again contested the 2003 gubernatorial election on the ticket of AD lost the exercise to the civilian government headed by Prince Olagunsoye Oyinlola of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). Other political parties which participated in the 2003 election in the state were, All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) All Progressive Grand Alliance Party (APGA) and the National Conscience Party (NCP).

Prince Olagunsoye Oyinlola took over the administration of the State on May 29, 2003. His tenure witnessed economic growth and peace. He held sway until 26th November 2010, when an appellate court annulled his re-election into the second term of office in April 2007 and the erstwhile opposition party Action Congress of Nigeria candidate Engr. Rauf Adesoji Aregbesola, was declared the winner of the April 2007 gubernatorial election.

Engr. Aregbesola was sworn into office on Saturday, 27th November 2010, and has since assumed duties as Executive Governor of Osun State.

ADMINISTRATIVE AREA

For administrative convenience, Osun State is divided into six zones: Osogbo, Ede, Iwo, Ikirun, Ilesha and Ileife. The following are the thirty local government areas in the State: Aiyedade, Aiyedire, Atakumosa East, Atakumosa West, Boluwaduro, Boripe, Ede South, Ede North, Egbedore, Ejigbo, Ifelodun, Ife Central, Ife East, Ife North, Ife South, Ila, Ilesha East, Ilesha West, Irewole, Irepodun, Isokan, Iwo, Obokun, Odo Otin, Olaoluwa, Olorunda, Oriade, Orolu and Osogbo.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

The administration of Osun State is organised at state and Local levels of government. At the state level, there are the Ministries of Education, Youth and Sports, Health, Finance. Agriculture, Works and Transport,

Lands and Town Planning, Trade and Industries, and Women Affairs.

OSUN STATE IN BRIEF

Osun State is located in the South-Western part of Nigeria. It covers an area of approximately 14,875 square kilometers, lies between longitude 04 00E and latitude 05 558", and is bounded by Ogun, Kwara, Oyo and Ondo States in the South, North, West and East respectively.

PEOPLE AND CULTURE

The indigenes of the State belong to the Yoruba tribe and are composed of the Ifes, Ijeshas and Osun. However, non-indigenes from all parts of Nigeria and foreigners reside in the State, living together in harmony. Yoruba and English are the languages of the people for official and business transactions. The State is blessed with a highly literate and articulate populace who constitute a virile and productive workforce. Traditionally, the people engage in agriculture and produce sufficient food and cash crops for domestic consumption and as inputs for agro allied industries and for export. A reasonable segment of the populace comprises traders and artisans. Other occupations of the people include hand-weaving, mat-making, dying, soap making, wood carving, among many others.

The people have a rich cultural heritage which is eloquently demonstrated in all areas of their lives. Their

culture finds expression in their arts, Literature, music and other social activities. It is marvelous being among the people savouring the beauty of their well acclaimed cultural inheritance.

TOURISM

Tourist centres abound across the State. Some of the popular ones are the Oranmiyan Staff, Ife Museum, Obafemi Awolowo University Zoological gardens, Ile-Ase, Yeyemolu and Oduduwa Shrines and groove, all at Ile-Ife. Others include Osun Osogbo shrine which is the venue of the internationally recognized Osun Osogbo festival, the Mbari-Mbayo cultural Heritage, Idi-Baba Cultural Centre, Adunni Susuan Wengers Centre and Nike Arts Gallery, all based in Osogbo. There are also the Olumirin Water-Falls at Erin-Ijesa, Igbo-Sango at Ede and the Ayikunugba Water-Falls at Oke-Ila.

Tourists in Osun State are guaranteed maximum hospitality as there are standard hotels in all the major towns in the State which cater for their basic needs. They provide suitable accommodation and render other hotel/catering services at moderate charges. An ultra modern, State-owned Five Star Hotel is under construction in the State Capital.

The State also boasts of the existence of a modern golf course at the Mic-Com Golf and Holiday Resort, a serene settlement on the outskirts of Osogbo.

The State government accords great importance to tourism. All issues pertaining to tourism are handled by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture and its parastatals. The Ministry is charged with the responsibility of modernizing and developing tourism in the State.

POSTAL AND TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

Efficient postal services are rendered in the State by the Nigeria Postal Services Limited, a Federal government parastatal and private courier companies. In the same vein, telephone, E-mail, fax and internet facilities are available. With the take off of the Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) in Nigeria, high rate of mobile telephony penetration and increased volume of business transactions in Osun State are assured.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Osun State enjoys a heavy presence of Commercial, Development, Merchant, Mortgage and Community Banks. Branches of these financial institutions are in the State Capital, Zonal and Local Government Headquarters as well as other major towns in the State. These institutions render local and international services.

MASS MEDIA

Both the electronic and print media are well-represented in the State. The State Broadcasting Corporation

operates a radio and a television station both of which are clearly received within and outside the State. In addition, two television stations of the Nigeria Television Authority are located in Osogbo and Ile-Ife respectively.

All national newspapers have their correspondents' offices in the state capital and some of the major towns. This has made media coverage of social and economic activities in the state very effective.

EDUCATION

Convinced that education is the key to complete human emancipation, the State Government has restructured and committed enormous resources to the education sector. The Government operates free and qualitative education at all levels. It also operates an economic policy of a private sector driven approach.

There are 1,460 primary and 330 secondary schools in the State. There are 24 State-owned Technical Colleges of Two Colleges of Education, a Polytechnic and a College of Technology which are also run by the State while a Federal Polytechnic is also located in the State. The State is a joint-owner of Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomosho with Oyo State. The College of Medicine of the University is located in Osogbo. Bowen University, Iwo, owned by the Nigerian Baptist Convention operates in Osun State while the permanent site of Redeemed University is located in Ede, also in

Osun State. In addition, the site of the proposed Hijirah University is located in Ede, Osun State. The State Government has established the Osun State University as a model.

Since the inception of the Oyinlola administration in May, 2003, an appreciable amount has been committed to Education and the Government is determined to continue to accord the sector priority.

ADMINISTRATIVE SET-UP

The State is divided into three senatorial districts namely, Osun I, Osun II and Ife/Ijesa. Each of these districts is further divided into two zones. Osun II consists of Osogbo and Ikirun Zones while Osun I is made up of Ede and Iwo Zones. Ife and Ilesha Zones are the constituents of Ife/Ijesa district. In all, the State is divided into six zones. The State is made up of thirty Local Government Areas and the Ife East Area Council.

The Local Governments and their headquarters are:

Atakumosa East - Iperindo
Atakumosa West - Osu
Ayedaade - Gbongan
Ayedire - Ile-Ogbo
Boluwaduro - Otan-Ayegbaju
Boripe - Iragbiji
Ede North - Oja Timi
Ede South - Ede
Egbedore - Awo
Ejigbo - Ejigbo

Ife Central - Ile-Ife
Ife East - Oke-Ogbo
Ife North - Ipetumodu
Ife South - Ifetedo
Ifedayo - Oke-Ila
Ifelodun - Ikirun
Ila - Ila-Orangun
Ilesa East - Iyemogun
Ilesa West - Ereja Square
Irepodun - Ilobu
Irewole - Ikire
Isokan - Apomu
Iwo - Iwo
Obokun - Ibokun
Odo-Otin - Okuku
Ola-Oluwa - Bode-Osi
Olorunda - Igbona
Oriade - Ijebu-Jesa
Orolu - Ifon-Osun
Osogbo - Osogbo

OSOGBO

Osogbo is the state capital, it is very rich in arts and crafts. It is about six hours drive from Abuja, the Federal Capital and 232 kilometers from Lagos, Nigeria's most prominent port city and commercial/industrial nerve-centre. Ibadan, the most populous city in West Africa is about 88 kilometers from Osogbo. Federal Government Agencies in the State Capital include the Nigeria Machine Tools, Osogbo Steel Rolling Company and the Industrial Development Centre. Others are the Federal

Department of Solid Minerals, the Liaison Office of the Raw Materials Research and Development Council, National Directorate of Employment, National Examinations Council and the West African Examinations Council.

The state capital also houses a National grid of the National Power Holding Company of Nigeria. It is linked by a good network of roads with other parts of the country and it is also connected by a rail line for passengers. The Ofatedo aerodrome, near the state capital, is being upgraded to an international Airport.

The state Government operates from an ultra-modern Secretariat complex in the State Capital. The legislative and judicial arms of government are independent and work harmoniously with the executive arm to move the State forward.

Local Government administration in the State, as in other states of the Federation, is operated under a two-tier system made up of the executive and legislature. Developmental activities in the Local Government areas complement the efforts of the State Government in making the State truly investment-friendly.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The State has an appreciable Federal presence in addition to thousands of kilometres of motor able roads. Osogbo the state capital houses the National grid of the

National Electric Power Authority. In addition, a natural rail line cuts through the State Capital.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Osun State is blessed with vast mineral resources. These include gold, clay, limestone, kaolin and granite. It also has many agricultural resources.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The people are generally industrious and highly articulate. The State is blessed with vast human resources and an articulate, intelligent and aggressive workforce.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Investment opportunities abound in the densely populated cities of the State, which is very compact. Osogbo, the State Capital can be reached from any part of the State by road within an hour. Yam, Maize, Cassava, Millet, Plantain and Rice are the major cash crops in the State. Lumbering and the growing and marketing of cocoa and Kolanut are carried out on a large scale. The mining sector being activated. The Living spring minerals promotion Co., ltd, formed with the backing of the government of Osun state is involved in mining activities in various parts of Nigeria.

TOURISM AND RECREATION

Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove

The Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove is 75 hectares of dense primary forest on the outskirts of Osogbo along the Osun River. The Grove contains shrines and sculptures in honour of Osun (the Yoruba goddess of fertility) and other deities. It was named a UNESCO World Heritage Cultural Site in 2005.



Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove

Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove

Ile Ife City Walls

These are the relics of walls built to protect the city from being invaded by enemies. The walls around the royal quarter of Ile-Ife were approximately 3.8 kilometres long (enclosing an area of 7.8 square kilometres). A second wall encircles an area of fourteen square kilometres; both walls are around 4.5 metres tall and two metres thick.

Oranmiyan Staff (Opa Oranmiyan)

The Oranmiyan staff is a historic object which represents Oranmiyan, the third Ooni of Ife, who was the youngest son of Oduduwa, the father of the Yoruba people.

Oranmiyan was a powerful warrior credited with founding the Oyo and Benin Empires. The 5.27 metre-high Oranmiyan staff made of granite with iron studs is in a grove he was buried in, located within the Mopa area of Arubidi in Ile-Ife. Whenever a new Ooni (king) comes into power, he receives his staff of office from the grove.

Ibodi Monkey Forest

The Ibodi Forest houses monkeys which reportedly came to Ibodi with an Oba (king) of the town and a spirit from Ile-Ife. A festival called Araomofe is held every September to appease the Aromofe spirit and the monkeys.

Oke Maria (Mary's Mountain), Otan-Ayegbaju

This mountain is a popular pilgrimage site for Catholics who visit on the second Saturday and Sunday of every February. The first pilgrimage took place in December 1980.

Monuments and Museums

National Museum, Ile Ife

The National Museum in Ile-Ife was established in 1948. The museum's collections are primarily ethnographic and

archaeological and it has a permanent exhibition of Ife antiquities.

National Museum, Osogbo

The National Museum in Osogbo was established in 1988. The museum's collections focus on ethnography, archaeology and natural history. It was established primarily for the preservation and maintenance of the Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove.

Natural History Museum, Ile-Ife

This museum is located at the Ile-Ife campus of Obafemi Awolowo University. Its initial collections were the zoological specimens of the Department of Biological Sciences, but it has since diversified into collections of plants, insects and other invertebrates, reptiles, birds, reptiles, rocks, fossils and minerals. Aside from the Institute Fondamental Afrique Noir located in Dakar, Senegal, the museum is the only one of its type in the entire West African region. Renowned for its striking architecture, the museum was officially commissioned on February 25, 2011, after forty years of planning.

Osun Shrine at Afin Ata-Oja, Osogbo

The Osun Shrine at Afin Ata-Oja (King's Market) and its grove were declared a monument in 1964.

River Side Shrine and Sacred Grove of Osun, Osogbo

The Riverside Shrine and Sacred Grove of Osun in Osogbo were declared a monument in 1965.



Sacred Grove



Sacred Grove

Ooni's Palace, Enuwa, Ile-Ife

The Ooni is the traditional ruler of Ile-Ife (the spiritual home of the Yorubas) and his palace is a historical monument that houses various important relics.

Shrine of Osun in King's Market, Osogbo

The Shrine of Osun in King's Market in Osogbo and its grove were declared a monument in 1964.

Ita Yemoo, Ife

When Frank Willett, a British anthropologist, archaeologist and museum curator, excavated Ita Yemoo between 1956 and 1957, he discovered terracotta and bronze figurines in a shrine which had a pottery

pavement. The objects found at Ita Yemoo date to between the ninth century and fifteenth centuries. The site was declared an ancient monument in 1959.

Carved Stone Figure, Igbajo

The carved stone figure at Igbajo was declared a monument in 1964. The 24-inch high carving was created in honour of the god Esu.

No. 41 Ibokun Road, Osogbo

This house was the residence of the late Suzanne Wenger, an Austrian-born artist and Yoruba priestess who helped preserve the Osun Grove in Osogbo.

Ife Museum, Enuwa Square, Ile-Ife

Next to the Ooni's palace, this museum was established for the purpose of collecting and preserving various relics of antiquities found in Ile-Ife. The archaeological artefacts on display include bronzes and terracotta sculptures dating back to the thirteenth century.

Ile-Ona (Museum of Arts and Archival Materials)

This museum, located in Iragbiji in the Boriye LGA, is home to the private collection of Chief Muraina Oyelami and consists of traditional and contemporary Nigeria artworks such as masks, metalwork, carved house-posts, ancient musical instruments and rare photographs of scenes from plays by Nigeria's foremost playwright and

actor Duro Ladipo which were taken in the early 1960s. Paintings, prints and wood-carvings of notable contemporary artists are also on display.

FESTIVALS

Osun-Osogbo International Festival

The most significant festival in Osun State is the twelve-day annual Osun-Osogbo festival which takes place in July/August. The festival is a celebration of culture and the fulfilment of a pledge between the people and the goddess Osun and underscores the long history of the early settlers of the town of Osogbo. The festival brings devotees of the deity from all over the world together to pay homage to the goddess whom they believe is the source of life.

Ifa Festival, Ile-Ife

The Ifa Festival is an annual seven-day event which ends on the first Saturday of June. Ifa (also known as Orunmila) is an oracle of divinity and one of the principal deities of the Yoruba people. The first day of the festival involves various rituals, including *Ijawe Ifa Ooni* (the plucking of leaves for Ooni's oracle) and *Arisun Idana Afin* (a vigil at the palace that involves cooking), while the second day is for the *Bibo Ifa Ooni* (making a sacrifice for Ooni's oracle). The third and fourth days are dedicated to the performance of rituals by *Awo Olodu merindinlogun* (a cult with sixteen faces). On the fifth day a public lecture and roundtable

discussion on 'women in Ifa' take place, as does a performance of rituals by a priest called *Araba Agbaye*. The *iwure* (blessing/prayers) by *Araba Agbaye* (worldwide *Araba*) and other Arabas as well as the feeding of Ifa and making of the year's divination all hold during the grand finale, which starts on Saturday and continues until early the following day.

Egungun Festival

Egungun refers to the return of the ancestors in masquerade form and is celebrated by the Yoruba people. In Iragbiji, a town near Osogbo, the Egungun festival is celebrated as the period of interaction between the living and the dead. Many colourful masquerades parade the streets and offer prayers for the living. The festival takes place in May every year and lasts for seven days. On the final day of the festival, all of the masquerades meet at the Oja-oba (king's market) to entertain the people. The Aragbiji (owner) of Iragbiji and his chiefs arrive at Oja-oba from 5.00pm to receive them and perform the traditional blessing.

Olojo Festival

This is the biggest festival on the culture calendar of Ile-Ife. The *Olojo* (the owner of the day) festival is celebrated in remembrance of Ogun, the god of iron who is believed to be the first son of Oduduwa as well as the creation of the world according to Yoruba mythology. The festival takes place annually in October and involves several elaborate ritual prayers led by the Ooni. It is

marked by a carnival-like atmosphere and is attended by people of all ages. Olojo has remained popular in Ile-Ife because it is the only day in the year believed to be specially blessed by *Olodumare* (the Creator of the Universe).

GOVERNORS AND ADMINISTRATORS

- Leo Segun Ajiborisha (Administrator - Military): August 1991 - January 1992
- Isiaka Adetunji Adeleke (Governor - Civilian (Social Democratic Party)): January 1992 - November 1993
- Anthony Udofia (Administrator - Military): December 1993 - August 1996
- Anthony Obi (Administrator - Military) August 1996 - August 1998
- Theophilus Bamigboye (Administrator - Military) August 1998 - May 1999
- Adebisi Akande (Governor - Civilian (Alliance for Democracy)) May 1999 - May 2003
- Olagunsoye Oyinlola (Governor - Civilian (People's Democratic Party)) May 2003 - Nov 2010
- Rauf Aregbesola (Governor - Civilian (Action Congress of Nigeria)) Nov 2010 - Present

OSUN STATE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Atakunmosa West

Atakunmosa West is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Osu (or Oshu) in the north of the area at $7^{\circ}35'00''\text{N } 4^{\circ}37'00''\text{E}$.

It has an area of 577 km² and a population of 68,643 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 233.

Boluwaduro

Boluwaduro is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Otan Aiyegbaju (or Otan, or Ota) at $7^{\circ}57'00''\text{N } 4^{\circ}48'00''\text{E}$.

It has an area of 144 km² and a population of 70,775 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 231.

Boripe

Boripe is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Iragbiji.

It has an area of 132 km² and a population of 139,358 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 230.

Ede North

Ede North is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Oja Timi.

It has an area of 111 km² and a population of 83,831 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 232.

Ede South

Ede South is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Ede.

It has an area of 219 km² and a population of 76,035 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 232.

Egbedore

Egbedore is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Awo at 7°46'00"N 4°24'00"E.

It has an area of 270 km² and a population of 74,435 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 232.

Ejigbo

Ife Central (Yoruba: **Gbongan Ife**) is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the city of Ile Ife to the south of the area.

It has an area of 111 km² and a population of 167,254 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 220.

Ife East

Ife East is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Oke Ogbo.

It has an area of 172 km² and a population of 188,087 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 220.

Ife North

Ife North is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Ipetumodu in the north of the area at 7°31'00"N 4°27'00"E.

It has an area of 889 km² and a population of 153,694 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 220.

Ife South

Ife South is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Ifetedo at $7^{\circ}11'00''\text{N } 4^{\circ}42'00''\text{E}$.

It has an area of 730 km² and a population of 135,338 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 220.

Ifedayo

Ifedayo is one of the 30 local government areas of Osun State in southwestern Nigeria. It is one of the most recent local government areas to be created.

Its headquarters are in the town of Oke-Ila Orangun.

It has an area of 128 km² and a population of 37,058 at the 2006 census.

Ifelodun, Osun State

Ifelodun is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Ikirun.

It has an area of 114 km² and a population of 96,748 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 231.

Ila, Nigeria

Ila is a local government area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Ila Orangun.

It has an area of 303 km² and a population of 62,049 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 234.

Ilesa East

Ilesa East is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in Iyemogun in the city of Ilesa.

It has an area of 71 km² and a population of 106,586 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 233.

Irepodun, Osun State

Irepodun is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Ilobu.

It has an area of 64 km² and a population of 119,497 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 230.

Irewole

Irewole is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Ikire in the south of the area at $7^{\circ}21'40''\text{N } 4^{\circ}11'00''\text{E}$.

It has an area of 271 km² and a population of 143,599 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 221.

Isokan

Isokan is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Apomu at $7^{\circ}20'00''\text{N } 4^{\circ}11'00''\text{E}$.

It has an area of 179 km² and a population of 103,177 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 221.

Iwo, Nigeria

Odo Otin

Odo Otin is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Okuku.

It has an area of 294 km² and a population of 134,110 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 231.

Ola Oluwa

Ola Oluwa is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Bode Osi.

It has an area of 328 km² and a population of 76,593 according to the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 232.

Olorunda

Olorunda is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in Igbona, on the outskirts of the state capital Osogbo.

It has an area of 97 km² and a population of 131,761 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 230. According to water resources studies, the "presence of coliform populations in Olorunda groundwater renders the water unfit for drinking purpose without pre-treatment."

Oriade

Oriade is a Local Government area in the northeastern part of Osun State. It is predominantly occupied by the Ijesa people. Its capital is Ijebu-Jesa (or Ijebu Ijesha) in the north of the area at 7°41'00"N 4°49'00"E.

It has an area of 465 km² and a population of 148,617 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 233.

The area covers various cities and towns, including parts of Ilesa, Ijebu-Jesa, Ipetu-Ijesa, Erinmo, Erin-Ijesa, Iloko, Ijeda, Iwaraja, Erin-oke, Ikeji-Arakeji, Ikeji-Ile, Ira-Ikeji, Orisunbare, Iwoye, Owena, Dagbaja, Omo-Ijesa, Ilo-Ayegunle, Ere, Eti-Oni, Apoti, Ijinmo etc.

There are tourists sites such as Oluminrin Water Falls among others.

Women in towns like Ipetu Ijesa, Ikeji Ile, Ikeji-Arakeji work are mat weavers. This is derived from local long grass called "Eni" in the local dialect.

Olashore International School is located in the area.

Orolu

Orolu is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Ifon (or Ifon Osun) at 7°52'00"N 4°29'00"E.

It has an area of 80 km² and a population of 103,077 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 230.

Osogbo

Osogbo (also *Oṣogbo* , rarely *Oshogbo*) is a city in Nigeria, the capital of Osun State and a Local Government Area. The Local Government Area has an area of 47 km² and a population of 156,694 at the 2006 national census; the postal code of the area is 230.

Aiyedaade

Aiyedaade is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Gbongan in the north of the area at 7°28'00"N 4°21'00"E.

It has an area of 1,113 km² and a population of 150,392 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 221.

Aiyedire

Aiyedire is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Ile Ogbo (or Ile Ogo) at 7°47'00"N 4°12'00"E.

It has an area of 262 km² and a population of 75,846 at the 2006 national census.

The postal code of the area is 232.

Atakunmosa East

Atakunmosa East (Yoruba **Ilaorun Atakunmosa**) is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its

headquarters are in the town of Iperindo in the east of the area at $7^{\circ}30'00''\text{N}$ $4^{\circ}49'00''\text{E}$.

It has an area of 238 km^2 and a population of 76,197 at the 2006 census.

Obokun

Obokun is a Local Government Area in Osun State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Ibokun at $7^{\circ}47'00''\text{N}$ $4^{\circ}43'00''\text{E}$.

It has an area of 527 km^2 and a population of 116,511 at the 2006 census.

The postal code of the area is 233.

Other towns include Imesi-Ile, Esa-Oke and Ora.