

BLACK BEYOND BORDERS



Press Kit

An award-winning documentary series exploring Black life across the African diaspora, told with intimate authenticity and powerful storytelling.

Created by Ebony Walden

Series Overview



Black Beyond Borders is a documentary-style travel series exploring culture, connection, and cuisine across the African diaspora. Season One takes us to **Dakar, Senegal**—a city where history meets vibrant present, and every moment pulses with rhythm, color, and soul.

Created and hosted by Ebony Walden, a seasoned traveler who's visited 48 countries, this series is more than just sightseeing. It's a love letter to the diaspora—a celebration of Black life, identity, and creativity across borders.

Over four 10–15 minute episodes, we follow Ebony as she reflects on identity, eats her way through Senegalese cuisine, celebrates her birthday at The Biennale—Dakar's Contemporary African Art Festival—and reconnects with friends from the U.S. in a city full of passion.

JOIN EBONY ON A VOYAGE OF:



Historical Journey

The legacy of the transatlantic slave trade through visits to Goree Island Slave Houses and the Door of No Return.



Cultural Pulse

Art, fashion and music that pulse with the rhythm of Senegal through local events, festivals and everyday life in Dakar.



Culinary Exploration

Dakar's vibrant food scene — from local markets, to home cooked meals with new friends to high-end restaurants



Connection and Community

Building relationships with Senegalese locals, Black expats, artists, curators and entrepreneurs.

Black Beyond Borders is part travel diary, part cultural study, and part love letter to the African diaspora.

Festival Selections and Awards



Black Beyond Borders: Season One – Dakar, Senegal has garnered significant recognition within the independent film and documentary circuit. This award-winning travel docuseries, exploring culture, creativity, and connection across the African diaspora, has been honored and selected by festivals celebrating travel, global storytelling and diverse narratives. These accolades underscore the series' impact and its compelling approach to showcasing Black life and identity.

Awards

- **Best Web Series Pilot** – LA Independent Women Film Awards
- **Best Travel Web Series** – Travel Film International Film Festival

Nominations

- **Six Award Nominations** – International Black & Diversity Film Festival

Official Selections

- Virginia Black Film Festival
- African Film Festival Dallas
- Depth of Field International Film Festival



Creator Bio



Ebony Walden

Creator, Host & Executive Producer

Ebony Walden is a writer, consultant, and world traveler who has been to **50 countries and all 50 U.S. states**. She uses storytelling to explore themes of travel, transformation, and liberation.

Ebony is passionate about helping Black people reconnect with their roots, reclaim their stories, and live boldly beyond borders. Her approach combines journalistic integrity with deeply personal narrative, creating content that resonates across cultural boundaries while honoring authentic Black experiences.

For more about Ebony visit www.ebonywalden.com

50

Countries Visited

Global perspective through extensive travel

50

U.S. States

Complete domestic exploration

1

Powerful Vision

Connecting diaspora through storytelling

"With just a vlogging camera, Iphone and a vision, I set out to capture the beauty, complexity, and joy of Black life across the globe. Black Beyond Borders is my love letter to the diaspora – a way to inspire others to connect, travel, and tell their own stories."

– Ebony Walden, Creator & Host

Why It Matters

Diaspora Connection

Celebrates and connects the African diaspora across continents, fostering understanding and unity through shared cultural experiences and historical narratives.

Cultural Dialogue

Sparks meaningful dialogue about culture, history, and belonging, creating space for important conversations about identity and heritage in contemporary contexts.

Travel Inspiration

Inspires travel and cross-cultural exploration, encouraging viewers to seek authentic experiences beyond traditional tourist narratives and connect with local communities.

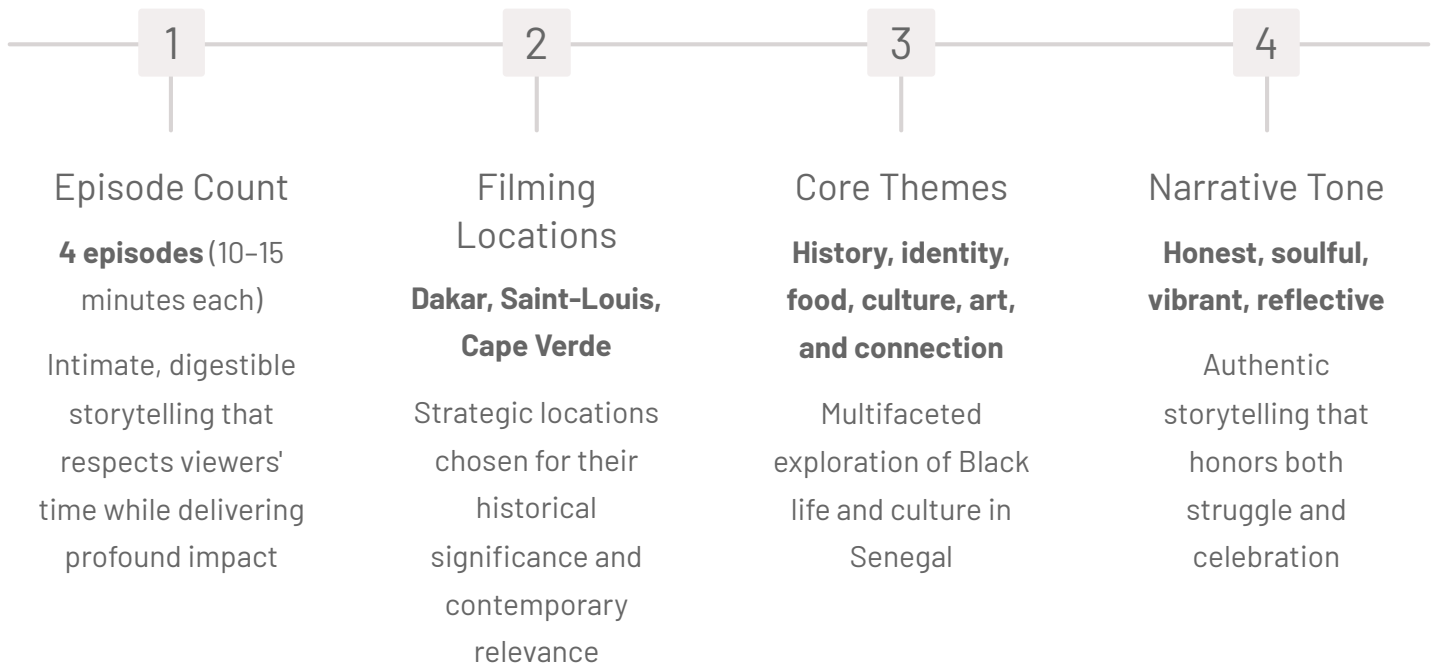
Authentic Perspective

Offers authentic, non-touristy views of Black places, presenting nuanced portrayals that celebrate complexity while honoring cultural depth and contemporary realities.

"This isn't just entertainment – it's cultural engagement, diaspora connection, and inspiration for future generations to explore their heritage with pride and curiosity."



Season One Snapshot



Episode Guide

Episode 1: The Journey Begins

Ebony explores the foundation of her travels and motivation for a six week trip to Senegal, then lands in Dakar, unpacks, and takes a road trip to the coastal city of Saint-Louis.

Episode 2: Birthday and Biennale

From celebrating her 44th birthday to the bold beauty of The Biennale, Senegal's Contemporary African Art Festival, this episode celebrates the joy and artistry of Black expression.

Episode 3: Work, Play (and Cape Verde)

Remote work, happy hours, food with new friends and a quick side trip to Cape Verde—Ebony balances business and pleasure in this delicious and reflective episode.

Episode 4: Cultural Convergence

Ebony shares Dakar with friends visiting from Virginia and explores the power of cultural exchange through the Afrikana Independent Film Festival before she says goodbye to her new community in Dakar.



Release Details

1

October 14, 2025

Private Screening

Location: Common House (Private Prescreening)

This was an exclusive first look for industry professionals, press, and cultural leaders. This intimate gathering showcased the series in a setting that mirrors its authentic, community-focused approach.

2

November 5, 2025

Public Launch

Location: CNTR (318 W Broad Street)

A celebration that connected a personal milestone with cultural impact. The arts venue setting reinforced the series' commitment to preserving and sharing Black creativity and culture.

📺 **Virtual Viewing:** A zoom screening for a global audience, ensuring international accessibility and diaspora connection took place on November 5, 2025

📺 **YouTube:** The Series premiered on YouTube on November 5, 2025.

Upcoming Seasons: Expanding the Narrative

Black Beyond Borders is excited to announce two compelling new seasons that delve deeper into the global tapestry of the African diaspora. These upcoming seasons promise to offer more intimate reflections and vibrant cultural explorations, reinforcing the series' mission to connect, educate, and inspire.

Season Two: Colombia – An Intimate Exploration

This season follows Ebony's month-long journey through Colombia, with a focus on the historically rich Cartagena, the innovative Medellín, and the vibrant Cali, alongside a side trip to Quito, Ecuador.

- In-depth look at Black history and everyday life in Cartagena.
- Celebration of the Festival of the Diaspora, creativity and transformation in Medellín.
- Empowering focus on Black women, community, liberation, and entrepreneurship.
- Embodied joy and cultural significance of salsa and movement in Cali.
- A broadened diasporic lens through the unique context of Quito, Ecuador.

Season Two centers on presence, movement, and meaning, capturing Black life as it is lived, not staged—offering an authentic and unfiltered view of the diaspora's vibrant heartbeat in South America.

Season Three: Ghana – A Collective Homecoming

Season Three evolves into a feature-length documentary, chronicling a powerful two-week Sister City journey from Charlottesville to Winneba, Ghana. This season expands the series into a communal, historical, and deeply reflective documentary experience.

- Documenting the impactful Charlottesville–Winneba Sister City exchange.
- Experiencing Abohyer and other local cultural celebrations.
- Visits to historic Cape Coast and profound reflections on the transatlantic slave trade.
- Communal processing of diaspora, memory, grief, joy, and the concept of return.

This season offers a powerful exploration of historical roots and contemporary connections, inviting viewers to join a shared journey of remembrance, cultural celebration, and collective identity.

Each upcoming season is meticulously crafted to honor the rich tapestry of Black global experiences, providing viewers with both inspiration and deeper understanding.



Call to Action

Join the Journey



Watch Season One

Experience the full series on YouTube and immerse yourself in Dakar's rich cultural landscape



Host a Screening

Bring your community together for meaningful dialogue about diaspora, culture, and connection



Invite Ebony to Speak

Book speaking engagements for festivals, universities, cultural organizations, and community events



Support Future Seasons

To remain independent and intimate, Black Beyond Borders is seeking support from individuals, institutions and organizations committed to supporting glob Black storytelling and narrative change.

"Every journey begins with a single step. Let Black Beyond Borders be the inspiration for your own exploration of culture, heritage, and connection across the global African diaspora."

The conversation doesn't end with the credits. *It begins there.*

Press Contact



Website

For more information on the series details, vision, episodes and screenings.

www.blackbeyondborders.com

Email Inquiries

Direct contact for press interviews, screening requests and media partnerships.

ebony@ebonywalden.com

Social Media

[@ebonywalden80](#)

on [TikTok](#), [Instagram](#), and [Youtube](#)

For behind-the-scenes content and cultural conversations

- 📁 **Media Assets:** High-resolution images, video clips, and interview materials available upon request. Press screenings can be arranged for qualified media outlets.