

MAURITANIA

Country name	Mauritania ¹
State title	Islamic Republic of Mauritania
Name of citizen	Mauritanian
Official language	Arabic ²
Country name in official language	Mūrītāniyā موريتانيا ³
State title in official language	Al Jumhūrīyah al Islāmīyah al Mūrītānīyah الجمهورية الإسلامية الموريتانية
Script	Perso-Arabic script for Arabic language; Roman script is used for French and some national languages
Romanization System	PCGN policy is to use the Roman-script names used officially in the country.
ISO-3166 code (alpha-2/alpha-3)	MR/MRT
Capital*	Nouakchott
Capital in official language	Anuwākshūṭ ⁴ انواكشوط

* PCGN recommended name.

Introduction

Mauritania is located in north-west Africa and bridges the Arab Maghreb⁵ and Sub-Saharan Africa. It has a coastline on the Atlantic Ocean to the west and is bordered by Senegal to the south; Mali to the south and west; Algeria to the north-east and the territory of Western Sahara to the north-west.

The original inhabitants of the area which now constitutes Mauritania were Saharan nomads. The area was conquered in the 11th century by the Amazigh-Muslim Almoravids. It then came to be dominated by Arabs. The upper, ruling class in Mauritania today are the descendants of the Yemeni Bani Hassan tribe who invaded the area in the mid-17th century. Imperial France gradually absorbed the territories of present-day Mauritania from the late 1800s onwards and from 1920 Mauritania formed part of French West Africa. In 1960 Mauritania gained independence from France and the capital, Nouakchott, was founded on the site of the small village of Ksar⁶.

¹ The country is named after the Roman province of Mauretania, the name of which is derived from the Latin *Maurus*, meaning Moor, although the site of present-day Mauritania is south-west of where the Roman province was located.

² The dialect of Arabic spoken in Mauritania is Ḥassānīyah (see pages 2-3 for details).

³ Arabic-script names in this Factfile have been romanized using the [BGN/PCGN Arabic Romanization System](#) for reference only. Mauritanian Roman-script spellings are the PCGN recommended names for HMG use.

⁴ The spelling Anuwākshūṭ (انواكشوط) is closer to the Ḥassānīyah version of the name. The spelling Nuwākshūṭ (نواكشوط), without the initial *alif* may be encountered (these Romanized Arabic names are provided for information only. The French-style Roman-script spelling Nouakchott is recommended for HMG use (see Geographical Names Policy on page 2).

⁵ The Maghreb is the name (from Arabic meaning 'west') for the region of north-west Africa, which includes Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Mauritania.

⁶ Now an ADM2 of Nouakchott Ouest.

Geographical names should be taken as found on official Mauritanian Roman-script sources where these are available⁷. All diacritical marks (see languages section below for details), apostrophes and hyphens should be retained⁸. In the absence of any official Mauritanian mapping or online sources, maps produced by France's *Institut national de l'information géographique et forestière* (IGN) may be considered a source of the Roman-script forms of the names. It should be noted that the French-style Roman script names found on Mauritanian and French sources will differ in style and spelling from the forms of the names produced by the application of the BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic. Furthermore, the difficulties of representing the many different African languages which have influenced the geographical names of Mauritania have inhibited a consistent approach to spellings on many IGN and national sources. See page 5 for further details or contact PCGN for further guidance on recommended spellings for HMG use.

Languages

Mauritania's geographical location bridges the Arab Maghreb and Sub-Saharan Africa. Mauritanian culture and language are a mixture of Amazigh (Berber)⁹, Sub-Saharan African and Arab. Arabic is the official language. As is the case throughout the Arab World, Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) (*ara*¹⁰) is used for official written purposes and in the media. The spoken language differs considerably from MSA. The dialect spoken in Mauritania is called Ḥassānīyah/Hassaniyya (*mey*). As a result of Mauritania's history, geographical names derived from local languages have been written using Arabic script and then represented in Roman script in a predominantly French style. The Arabisation and Romanization of geographical names has often been inconsistent and various spellings of a single name may be encountered.

Mauritania has a history of instability. There have been several coups since independence¹¹. Various attempts by the ruling elite to promote the use of Arabic over French have created tensions among the population. The 1991 Mauritanian Constitution¹² states that Arabic is the official language of Mauritania. The Constitution also names Arabic (*ara/mey*), Pulaar (*fuc*), Soninke (*snk*) and Wolof (*wol*) as national languages. There are a few other languages, such as Imraguen¹³ and Zenaga (*zen*), spoken in Mauritania, each with fewer than 1000 speakers in the country, which do not have the status of national language.

⁷ See page 9 for useful references.

⁸ It should be noted that while French mapping utilises diacritics, these are often absent on Mauritanian sources. The difficulty of reproducing them digitally could be a factor to their declining use in Mauritania.

⁹ The name Amazigh is considered pejorative. Amazigh, the name these people call themselves, is preferred.

¹⁰ Where they exist, ISO 639 codes are given for languages mentioned in this Factfile.

¹¹ In 1978, 1984, 2003 (unsuccessful), 2005 & 2008.

¹² <http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/un-dpadm/unpan042393.pdf>

¹³ The language of Imraguen is a unique language to Mauritania and unclassified, although it is sometimes classified under Arabic. It is related to Ḥassānīyah Arabic but structured on Soninke, and spoken by a small population on the Atlantic coast of Mauritania, who are also called Imraguen.

National Languages of Mauritania¹⁴

Language	Language Family	Script	Alternative names	Spoken by	No. Speakers in Mauritania	ISO 639-3
Hassānīyah Arabic	Semitic	Arabic	Hassaniyya	Bidhan & Haratin ¹⁵	2,770,000	mey
Pulaar ¹⁶	Niger-Congo	Roman	Fulani, Peul, Fulbe, Fula, Pular, Poular	Toucouleur & Fulani	192,000	fuc
Soninke	Niger-Congo	Roman		Soninke	39,000	snk
Wolof ¹⁷	Niger-Congo	Roman ¹⁸	Ouolof	Wolof	12,000	wol

Hassānīyah (حسانية)

Hassānīyah is a form of Arabic containing many Amazigh words, which has evolved from the language spoken by the Yemeni Bani Hassan tribes. It has almost completely replaced the Amazigh languages of the region. The Moors who speak the Hassānīyah dialect constitute 60-80% of Mauritania's population. All the phonemes of Classical Arabic are represented in Hassānīyah, along with numerous additional phonemes¹⁹. Due to its geographical location on the periphery of the Arabic-language continuum, Hassānīyah differs substantially from other North African dialects of Arabic, having been influenced by other African languages such as Zenaga and Wolof.

French

French is widely spoken in Mauritania for historical reasons, although not usually as a first language. While it does not have an official status in the Mauritanian Constitution, the *Office National de la Statistique* states in its 2008 Annuaire²⁰ that Arabic and French are the working languages of Mauritania. Despite efforts made in recent years by the Mauritanian government to promote the use of Arabic for official purposes, French is still widely used in government, business and education. Media in Mauritania uses both French and Arabic. French also serves as the *lingua franca* for speakers of the various national languages.

Inventory of Characters (and their Unicode encodings)²¹

French contains the following letter-diacritic combinations in addition to the unmodified letters of the basic Roman script:

Upper-case character	Unicode encoding	Lower-case character	Unicode encoding
À	00C0	à	00E0
Â	00C2	â	00E2
Ç	00C7	ç	00E7
È	00C8	è	00E8
É	00C9	é	00E9
Ê	00CA	ê	00EA
Ë	00CB	ë	00EB

¹⁴ Source: www.ethnologue.com

¹⁵ The Bidhan (also known as White Moors) make up approximately 30% of the population of Mauritania and are the dominant social class. The Haratin (or Black Moors), the descendants of slaves, make up 40% of the population (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mauritania>).

¹⁶ www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fula_language

¹⁷ <http://www.omniglot.com/writing/wolof.htm>

¹⁸ Arabic pre-1974

¹⁹ For more detail see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hass%C4%81n%C4%ABya_Arabic .

²⁰ <http://www.ons.mr/images/stories/doc/publication/annuaire-2008.pdf>

²¹ See www.unicode.org.

Upper-case character	Unicode encoding	Lower-case character	Unicode encoding
Î	00CE	î	00EE
Ì	00CC	ì	00EC
Ï	00CF	ï	00EF
Ô	00D4	ô	00F4
Œ	0152	œ	0153
Ù	00D9	ù	00F9
Û	00DB	û	00FB
Ü	00DC	ü	00FC
ÿ#	0178	ÿ#	00FF

rarely encountered

The **BGN/PCGN Romanization system for Arabic** contains the following letter-diacritic combinations in addition to the unmodified letters of the basic Roman script:

Upper case	Unicode encoding	Lower case	Unicode encoding
Á	00C1	á	00E1
Ā	0100	ā	0101
Ḍ	1E10	ḍ	1E11
Ḥ	1E28	ḥ	1E29
Ī	012A	ī	012B
Ş	015E	ş	015F
Ṭ	0162	ṭ	0163
Ū	016A	ū	016B
Ẓ	005A+0327*	ẓ	007A+0327*
‘	2018 or 02BB	’	2019 or 02BC

*Note, the z + cedilla is not available as a single encoding.

Wolof contains the following letter-diacritic combinations in addition to the unmodified letters of the basic Roman script:

Upper case	Unicode encoding	Lower case	Unicode encoding
Â	00C2	â	00E2
Ă	0102	ă	0103
È	00C8	è	00E8
É	00C9	é	00E9
Ḥ	0048+0324#	ḥ	0068+0324#
Ṭ	0054+0324#	ṭ	0074+0324#

#not available as a single encoding

Spelling Variations

As described above, many variant spellings of geographical names in Mauritania may be encountered. Several examples of these variations are highlighted below. Some elements of Mauritanian toponyms that often create variants are described below.

a) The Arabic definite article

The definite article, which is consistently written Al (ال) in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA), may be encountered in a number of forms in both Roman and Arabic script:

- It may be seen written as /el/ or /El/, e.g. Wilaya du Hodh **El** Gharbi or Hodh **el** Gharbi.
- The assimilation in speech of the Lām (ل) before the so-called sun letters (t, th, d, dh, r, z, s, sh, ṣ, ḍ, ṭ, ḏ, l and n) is represented in both French-style Roman-script forms (e.g. Hodh **ech** Chargui) and the BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic (e.g. Al Ḥawḍ **ash** Sharqī)²². Again the initial 'a' or 'e' of the definite article may or may not be capitalised in the Mauritanian Roman-script forms.
- The definite article as l'...(e.g. l'Assaba) is a feature of both French and Ḥassānīyah Arabic.
- Ḥassānīyah Arabic also sometimes represents the definite article as A (written with Alif in Arabic), dropping the Lām e.g. انواذيبو (Anuwādhībū)²³.
- Sometimes the definite article will be present in the Arabic script form but not in the Roman e.g. Néma vs An Na'mah (النعمة).

b) Vowels

Modern Standard Arabic contains three short vowel sounds and three long vowel sounds. Arabic script has three letters which represent long vowel sounds و, ا, ي and utilises diacritical marks to represent short vowels, though these are not usually written. Most Mauritanian toponyms are not Arabic in origin and depending on whether a vowel sound is perceived as short or long it may or may not be written in Arabic script. For example, one may see Gorgol written as كوركول (Kūrḳūl) or كركول (Kurḳūl) in Arabic script.

The Arabic short vowels may be seen romanized in several different ways. For example, the Arabic *fatḥah* may appear as /a/ or /e/, *kasrah* may be written as /i/ or /e/ and *ḍammah* may be seen as /o/, /u/ or /ou/. Examples include Amourj (Arabic: Amurj - امرج), Bassikounou (Arabic: Bāsikunū - باسكنو), Teyarett (Arabic: Tayārat - تيارت).

c) Non-Arabic phonemes

Some phonemes exist in Mauritanian toponyms, which are not present in MSA. These can be rendered in Arabic and Roman script in a variety of ways, thereby contributing to the inconsistency of spelling found in Mauritanian toponyms. For example the 'g' sound is variously written in Arabic script as ك (k) or غ (gh); and may be written in Roman-script as /g/, /k/ or /gh/. For example, the name written in Mauritanian Roman-script as Magta'-Lahjar may be written as مقطع لجار (Maqṭa' Laḥjār) or مكطع لجار (Makṭa' Laḥjār) in Arabic script.

²² /ch/ being the French-style representation of the Arabic letter Shīn (ش), which is represented as /sh/ in the BGN/PCGN Romanization System for Arabic.

²³ Nouadhibou in Roman script.

Administrative structure

At first-order (ADM1) level, Mauritania is divided into 15 regions, known as wilaya²⁴ (ولاية wilāyah in Arabic)²⁵. The regions are subdivided into 54 departments (ADM2s), known as moughataa (مقاطعة muqāt'ah in Arabic), which are divided into communes (بلدية baladiyah in Arabic) at third-order level. The regions (ADM1s) are listed below along with the administrative centres (PPLAs)²⁶.

ADM1 PCGN recommended short form	ADM1 PCGN recommended long form	ADM1 Arabic short form	ADM1 Arabic long form	PPLA PCGN recommended name	PPLA Arabic (Romanization in brackets)	PPLA Location	ADM2s PCGN recommended names	ADM2s Romanized Arabic	ADM2s Arabic Script
Adrar	Wilaya de l'Adrar	آدرار (Ādrār)	ولاية آدرار (Wilāyat Ādrār)	Atâr	أطار (Aṭār)	20°31'04"N 013°02'55"W	Aoujeft Atâr Chinguetti Ouadane	Awjaft Aṭār Shinqayṭ Wādān	أوجفت أطار شنقيط وادران
Assaba	Wilaya de l'Assaba	لعصابة (L'aṣṣābah) ²⁷	ولاية لعصابة (Wilāyat L'aṣṣābah)	Kiffa	كيفة (Kīfah)	16°37'15"N 011°24'07"W	Barkéol Boumdeid Guerou Kankoussa Kiffa	Bārkayūl Būmdayd Karū Kankūṣah Kīfah	باركيول بومديد كرو كنكوصة كيفة
Brakna	Wilaya du Brakna	لبراكنة (Lbrāknah) ²⁸	ولاية لبراكنة (Wilāyat Lbrāknah)	Aleg	ألاك (Ālāk)	17°03'11"N 013°54'47"	Aleg Bababé Boghé Magta' Lahjar M'Bagne	Alāk Bābābay Būkay Maqṭa' Lahjār ²⁹ Ambānay	ألاك بابابي بوكي مقطع لحجار امباناي
Dakhlet Nouadhibou	Wilaya de Dakhlet Nouadhibou	داخلت انواذيبو (Dākhlat Anuwādhībū) ³⁰	ولاية داخلت انواذيبو (Wilāyat Dākhlat Anuwādhībū)	Nouadhibou	انواذيبو (Anuwādhībū)	20°56'34"N 017°02'19"W	Chami Nouadhibou	Ash Shāmī Anuwādhībū	الشامي انواذيبو

²⁴ The official generic term was changed from the French région to the Arabic wilaya in 1990.

²⁵ A Decree of 25 November 2014 split the region of Nouakchott into three new regions: <http://rimweb.net/decoupage-administratif-de-nouakchott/> ; <http://ospun.cun.mr/index.php/fr>

²⁶ Romanizations of the Arabic names according to the BGN/PCGN Romanization for Arabic are provided in brackets beside the Arabic script as a guide only. As most of these names are not of Arabic origin, the Romanized forms are an approximation

²⁷ The Ḥassānīyah spelling L'aṣṣābah (العصابة) is more commonly used than the more standard Arabic Al 'Aṣṣābah (العصابة) – see spelling variations (pg. 4).

²⁸ The Ḥassānīyah spelling Lbrāknah (لبراكنة) is more commonly used than the more standard Arabic Al Brāknah – see spelling variations (pg. 4).

²⁹ Sometimes written in Arabic as Maṭṭa' Lahjār (مقطع لحجار); and sometimes seen in Roman-script as Magtalahjar or Magta-Lahjar.

³⁰ Although this name is consistently pronounced Dākhlat, with a T sound at the end, it is sometimes seen spelled in Arabic داخلte and sometimes داخلت

ADM1 PCGN recommended short form	ADM1 PCGN recommended long form	ADM1 Arabic short form	ADM1 Arabic long form	PPLA PCGN recommended name	PPLA Arabic (Romanization in brackets)	PPLA Location	ADM2s PCGN recommended names	ADM2s Romanized Arabic	ADM2s Arabic Script
Gorgol	Wilaya du Gorgol	كوركول (Kürköl)	ولاية كوركول (Wilāyat Kürköl) ³¹	Kaédi	كيهيدي (Kayhaydī)	16°09'01"N 013°30'13"W	Kaédi Maghama M'Bout Mônguel	Kayhaydī Maqāmah Ambūd Mūnkāl	كيهيدي مقامه أمبود مونكل
Guidimaka	Wilaya du Guidimaka	كيدي ماجة (Kīdī Māghah)	ولاية كيدي ماجة (Wilāyat Kīdī Māghah) ³²	Sélibaby	سيلبابي (Sīlībābī) ³³	15°09'30"N 012°11'03"W	Ould Yengé Sélibabi	Walad Yang Sīlībābī	ولد ينج سيلبابي
Hodh ech Chargui³⁴	Wilaya du Hodh ech Chargui	الحوض الشرقي (Al Ḥawḍ ash Sharqī)	ولاية الحوض الشرقي (Wilāyat al Ḥawḍ ash Sharqī)	Néma	النعمة (Al Na'mah)	16°37'01"N 007°15'23"W	Amourj Bassikounou Djiguenni Néma Oulata Timbédra N'Beiket Lehwach	Amurj Bāsikunū Jikanī An Na'mah Walātah Tīmbadghah Anbaykit Laḥwāsh	أمرج باسكنو جكني النعمة ولاته تمبدغه انبيكت لحواش
Hodh El Gharbi	Wilaya du Hodh El Gharbi	الحوض الغربي (Al Ḥawḍ al Gharbī)	ولاية الحوض الغربي (Wilāyat al Ḥawḍ al Gharbī)	'Ayoūn el 'Atroūs ³⁵	العيون (Al 'Ayūn) ³⁶	16°39'41"N 009°36'54"W	'Ayoun Kobenni Tamchekket Tintane	Al 'Ayūn Kūbanī Tāmshakaṭ Aṭ Ṭīntān	العيون كوبني تامشكط الطينطان
Inchiri	Wilaya de l'Inchiri	إنشيري (Inshīrī)	ولاية إنشيري (Wilāyat Inshīrī)	Akjoujt	أكجوجت (Akjūjt)	19°44'48"N 014°23'07"W	Akjoujt	Akjūjt	أكجوجت
Nouakchott Nord	Wilaya de Nouakchott Nord	انواكشوط الشمالية (Anuwākshūṭ ash Shamālīyah)	ولاية انواكشوط الشمالية (Wilāyat Anuwākshūṭ ash Shamālīyah)	Dar Naīm	دار النعيم (Dār an Na'im)	18°05'50"N 015°55'58"W	Dar Naīm Toujounine Teyarett	Dār an Na'im Tūjunīn Tayārat	دار النعيم توجنين تيارت

³¹ The letter K (ك) is used here to represent the phoneme [g], which is not present in Arabic. The Arabic letter غ (gh) is sometimes used to represent this sound. Therefore this name will also be seen spelt as غورغول (Ghūrghūl).

³² See note 17. Due to the Arabic letters ك (K) and غ (gh) being used interchangeably to represent the phoneme [g], several variations in the spelling of this name will be seen in both Arabic and Roman script. For example, Guidimagha, غيدي ماجة (Ghīdīmākah), كيدي ماجة (Ghīdīmāghah), غيدي ماجة (Ghīdīmāghā). It is also sometimes written as one word in Arabic (كيدماغة).

³³ Also seen as in Roman script as Sélibabi and in Arabic script as سيلبابي (Sīlībābī), with the second vowel interpreted as short and not written in Arabic script.

³⁴ Sometimes seen as Hodh Chargui or Hodh El Chargui.

³⁵ Now often known as Aioun or Aïoun.

³⁶ The longer form of this name, Al 'Ayūn al 'Atrūs (عيون العتروس) is now rarely used in Arabic.

TOPONYMIC FACT FILE

ADM1 PCGN recommended short form	ADM1 PCGN recommended long form	ADM1 Arabic short form	ADM1 Arabic long form	PPLA PCGN recommended name	PPLA Arabic (Romanization in brackets)	PPLA Location	ADM2s PCGN recommended names	ADM2s Romanized Arabic	ADM2s Arabic Script
Nouakchott Ouest	Wilaya de Nouakchott Ouest	انواكشوط الغربية (Anuwākshūṭ al Gharbīyah)	ولاية انواكشوط الغربية (Wilāyat Anuwākshūṭ al Gharbīyah)	Tevragh-Zeina ³⁷	تفرغ زينة (Tafragh Zaynah)	18°05'56"N 015°59'19"W	Tevragh-Zeina Ksar Sebkha	Tafragh Zaynah Lkṣar As Sabkhah	تفرغ زينه لكصر السبخه
Nouakchott Sud	Wilaya de Nouakchott Sud	انواكشوط الجنوبية (Anuwākshūṭ al Janūbīyah)	ولاية انواكشوط الجنوبية (Wilāyat Anuwākshūṭ al Janūbīyah)	Arafat	عرفات (‘Arafāt)	18°03'30"N 015°57'43"W	Arafat El Mina Riad ³⁸	‘Arafāt Al Mīnā’ Ar Riyāḍ	عرفات الميناء الرياض
Tagant	Wilaya du Tagant	تكانت (Takānt)	ولاية تكانت (Wilāyat Takānt)	Tidjikja	تجكة (Tijikjah)	18°33'22"N 011°25'41"W	Moudjeria Tichit Tidjikja	Al Mūjarīyah Tīshīt Tijikjah	الموجرية تيشيت تجكة
Tiris Zemmour	Wilaya du Tiris Zemmour	تيرس زمور (Tīris Zamūr)	ولاية تيرس زمور (Wilāyat Tīris Zamūr)	Zouérat	ازويرات (Azuwayrāt) ³⁹	22°44'08"N 012°28'17"	Bîr Mogreïn ⁴⁰ FDérik ⁴¹ Zouérat	Bîr Am Ikrayn Ifdayrik Azuwayrāt	بير أم إكرين إفديريك ازويرات
Trarza	Wilaya du Trarza	اترارزة (Atrārzah) ⁴²	ولاية اترارزة (Wilāyat Atrārzah)	Rosso	روصو (Rūṣū)	16°30'51"N 015°48'11"W	Boutilimit Keur Massène ⁴³ Mederdra Ouad Naga R’Kiz Rosso	Būtilimīt Kar Masīn Al Madhardharah Wād an Nāqah Arkīz Rūṣū	بوتلميت كرمسين المذرذره واد الناقة اركيز روصو

³⁷ Sometimes written without the hyphen. The Arabic name is also sometimes spelt تفرق زينه (Tafrāq Zaynah).

³⁸ Also seen as Riyad, Riadh and Riyadh.

³⁹ Also written in Arabic as الزويرات (Az Zuwayrāt) and in Roman script as Zoueirat, Zouérate or Zouerate.

⁴⁰ Also written in Roman script as Bir Moughrein, Bîr Moghrein, Bir Mogren.

⁴¹ Also written in Roman script as F’Dérick, F’Deirick, Fderik, Fdayrik.

⁴² The Ḥassānīyah spelling Atrārzah (اترارزة) is more commonly used than the more standard Arabic At Trārzah (الترارزة) – see spelling variations (pg. 4).

⁴³ Also written in Roman script as Keur Macen, Ker Masin, Keur-Macène, KeurMacene.

Other Significant Features

PCGN Approved Name	Name in Arabic (where known)	Conventional Name (where applicable)	Variant Names/Spellings	Location	Feature Type
Guelb er Rîchat	كَلْب أَرِشَات (Kalb Arīshāt)	Richat Structure	تكوين الريشات حفرة الريشات قلب الريشات عين الصحراء Eye of the Sahara	21° 07' 02" N 011° 24' 07" W	Depression
Sénégal	-	Senegal River	-	15° 47' 17" N 016° 31' 44" W	River
Parc National du Banc d'Arguin	حوض أركين (Ḥawḍ Arkīn)	Banc d'Arguin National Park	PNBA	20°N 16° 25' W	National Park
Keur Massène	كر مسين (Kar Masīn)	-	Keur Macen; Keur-Macène; KeurMacene; Ker Masin	16° 32' 19" N 016° 12' 54" W	PPL
Île d'Arguin	جزيرة أرغين (Jazīrat Arghīn)	-	Aguadir Island; Ergan Island	20°36'1"N 016°27'42"W	Island
FDérik	إفديريك (Ifdayrik)	-	F'Deirik; F'Dérick; Fdérík; Fdayrik	22° 41' 43" N 012° 43' 42" W	PPL
Bîr Mogreïn	بير أم إكرين (Bîr Am Ikrayn)	-	Bir Moughrein; Bir-Moghrein; Bir Mogren	25° 13' 17" N, 011° 34' 45" W	PPL
Bassikounou	باسكنو (Bāsikunū)	-	Bassiknou; Bacikounou	15° 51' 56" N 005° 56' 48" W	PPL
Magta' Lahjar	مقطع لحجار (Maqṭa' Lahjār)	-	Magtalahjar; Magta-Lahjar Makṭa' Lahjār;	17° 30' 22" N 013° 05' 34" W	PPL
Mônguel	مونكل (Mūnkāl)	-	Monguel; Mounguel	16° 25' 25" N 013° 08' 27" W	PPL
Nouâmghâr	أنوامغار (Anuwāmghār)	-	El Mamghar; El Memghar; El Mamrhar; Nouamrhar نوامغار	19°21'30"N 016°30'46"W	PPL
Dakhlet Agâdir	N/A	-	-	20° 33' 09" N 016° 30' 49" W	Bay
Râs Nouâdhibou	رأس انواذيبو (Ra's Anuwādhībū)	Cap Blanc	Cap Blanc; Cabo Blanco; رأس نواذيبو (Ra's Nuwādhībū)	20°46'46"N 017°3'10"W	Cape/Point
Dakhlet Nouâdhibou	داخلت انواذيبو (Dākhlat Anuwādhībū)	-	داخلت نواذيبو (Dākhlat Nuwādhībū); داخله انواذيبو (Dākhlah Anuwādhībū)	20° 52' 14" N 016° 54' 11" W	Bay
Ouadâne	واديان (Wādān)	-	Oudane	20° 55' 40" N 011° 37' 17" W	PPL

Useful references

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