

Labadi beachfront: Still a city girl☐

Written by Cordie Aziz

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When I first moved to Accra, I envisioned my perfect house as a self-contained space, near the water, just large enough for me and an occasional guest, or two. After all, I like think of myself as a minimalist. But I must also mention that I am a realist, and the truth about Accra, is that rent is expensive. Finding a decent house, especially one near water, in Accra for a reasonable rate is almost next to impossible. Embassies and other high profile clientele have rented out the best houses at astronomical rates. And to make it worse, in Accra you pay your rent, up-front, for, at least, one year; sometimes renters even pay multiple months up front, depending on the lease. Therefore, non-government and non-corporate citizens have to struggle to find decent housing at an affordable rate. As a result, many people choose to live on the outskirts of Accra for more reasonable rates. But my time in Washington, DC, taught me you either live in the city or you don't, and I definitely am a city girl.

So when I ran across an ad for a 1 bedroom house in Labadi, the beachfront area in Accra, for rent, I just had to go see it. Imagine my surprise when I realized it was actually a 2 bedroom house, which fit all of my previous criteria, and, better yet, it was in my price range. Talk about getting lucky.

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