



# HOTEL SAHARA

by Bettina Haasen



## SYNOPSIS

A dead-straight, endless road leading to nowhere. And at the end of the road: Nouadhibou, a town in the West African country Mauritania, bordered by the ocean on one side and the Sahara Desert on the other. A bleak and inhospitable departure point for the tens of thousands of people that pour in from neighboring countries, all with only one dream in mind: Europe. Hotel Sahara is a film journey to the last invisible border from the West-African coast to Europe. This place is a metaphor, a point of arrival, of departure, of broken dreams – of waiting for that better life on the far side of the Atlantic. It is above all, a no-man's land, a place of endless waiting, and endless hoping. The film reveals how difficult it is to differentiate between "true" and "false" refugees. Is one "real" only when threatened life and limb? What if one simply desires to escape a deadening lack of perspective? With an observant and cautious eye, Hotel Sahara documents how closely the dream of a...

## FESTIVALS

DOK Leipzig, Nyon, Warsaw, Jihlava, Copenhagen

## CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Bettina Haasen · EDITOR Kristine Langer · DOP Jacko van t Hof

Germany 2008

85 min

### FORMAL CATEGORIES

Current Affairs, Migration, Social issues

### ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

German, Hassaniya, French, English

### PREMIERE

Germany (2008)

### PRODUCTION COMPANY

[beetz brothers film production](#)

Berlin

Germany

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