Map of the physical geography of the Golfe d’Arguin, showing the boundaries of the Banc d’Arguin National Park, the road network within the park and vegetation (from Compredon, 2000)
Map showing the location of the Banc d’Arguin National Park (from www.AfricanNaturalHeritage.org, above left) and the principal roads in this part of Mauritania providing access to the park (Michelin Map No. 741, above right)

Map of bird migration routes for selected species which over-winter in the Banc d’Arguin National Park, showing their northern breeding sites. 1= Ringed Plover, 2= Grey Plover, 3= Knot, 4= Sanderling, 5= Little Stint (breeding site subject to confirmation), 6= Curlew Sandpiper, 7= Dunlin, 8= Bar-tailed godwit, 9= Whimbrel, 10= Curlew, 11= Redshank, 12= Turnstone (from PNBA Bird Guide, 1996)
Map showing the physical and geological characteristics of the Banc d'Arguin National Park region (from the Mauritanian Government publication (2004) 'Le Littoral Mauritanien')
Map showing authorised roads and management infrastructure in the Banc d’Arguin National Park, including GPS waypoint information (complete PNBA brochure with legend is available at www.AfricanNaturalHeritage.org)
Google Earth satellite image of the western Sahara desert in Mauritania, showing the location of the Banc d’Arguin National Park, ‘where desert meets ocean’ on the Atlantic coast.

The southern tip of Cap Blanc, an outlying area of the Banc d’Arguin National Park known as the only location outside the Mediterranean supporting a population of the rare Mediterranean monk seal (Google Earth satellite image).
Satellite image of Cap Tafarit, a rocky promontory in the middle of the Banc d’Arguin National Park. An ecotourism facility is located here, providing beach-front accommodation on the northern shore.

A small coastal inlet at Cap Tamaris near the southern boundary of the park signifies a wetter past for the area now designated as Banc d’Arguin National Park.
Channels, mudflats and shallows around Ile Tidra in the core of Banc d'Arguin National Park are rich feeding grounds for millions of over-wintering migrant waders using the East Atlantic Flyway. (Google Earth image).

Islands and channels in the Golfe d'Arguin indicate that the area was once the delta of a significant river system originating in what is now the Sahara desert.
Satellite image of Cap d'Arguin and nearby Île d'Arguin

Channels and sandbanks adjacent to Île d'Arguin (Google Earth image).
The islands of Kiaone are home to a colony of greater flamingos.

Tidal mudflats and channels such as this area of shoreline south of Cap Tafarit provide rich feeding grounds for millions of migratory wading birds over-wintering in the Banc d’Arguin National Park (Google Earth image).
The Imragen people live off the rich coastal fishery, practicing traditional fishing techniques and occupying a number of small coastal settlements within the Banc d’Arguin National Park, such as the desolate village of Iwik.

The Imragen settlement of Mamghar (on the park’s southern boundary) is more accessible than other villages so traditional houses (circular structures closer to the shore) are giving way to more permanent dwellings (rectilinear structures around a courtyard, right).