

*Standard-bearers and parasols, it could've been medieval Europe, but we were at the Manhiya Palace, centre of the country's centuries old historical tradition. The ceremony is known as Akwasidae, an Akan festival. Every six weeks affords opportunities to tourists, ambassadors, politicians and chiefs from across Ghana and beyond to pay homage to the King. The festival also provides a platform for the King to meet and share his thoughts with his sub-chiefs and subjects and also reward deserving ones. It was all a bit surreal, as subjects came from across the region in a blaze of colours, drums and trumpets under the midday sun.*

