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<https://www.visitsierraleone.org/>



Sample Itinerary 1 - 8-day Trip - A Diverse Blend of Experiences

\$1,445 per person

The cost above is based on a group of 6 pax.

Trip Summary

Day 1

Arrival in Freetown, transfer to hotel - The Country Lodge Hotel, Cole Street Guesthouse

Day 2

Freetown Historical Tour

Arrive at Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary

Day 3

Bunce Island, Tasso Island

Freetown Peninsula - River Number 2

Day 4

Freetown to Tiwai Island Wildlife Sanctuary - Tiwai Island Wildlife Sanctuary

Day 5

Full Day on Tiwai Island

Day 6

Transfer to Banana Islands - Banana Islands

Check in at Bafa Resort

Day 7

Freetown Peninsula - Tokeh - The Place Resort

Day 8

Farewell - Freetown-Lungi International Airport (FNA)

Day 1



Arrival in Freetown, transfer to hotel

Arrive to Freetown's Lungi International Airport, which is one of the world's most uniquely-situated airports, located on the northern coast of the Freetown Estuary. On arrival, disembark and enter the arrivals hall for baggage reclaim. You will be met by a representative from VSL TRAVEL who will have a signboard with your name on it after customs. He will be available to deal with any immediate questions then get you on your private vehicle for transfer to the dock from where you take the 30 minute boat ride and make a charismatic entry to the city catching a glimpse of the towering hills over Freetown. Once in Aberdeen, you will be met by your guide and driver and transferred to your hotel.

Overnight at Country Lodge or Cole Street Guesthouse



The Country Lodge Hotel

Freetown, Western Area, Sierra Leone



Cole Street Guesthouse

Day 2



Freetown Historical Tour

Today we start the day by having our first look around the vibrant city and make a sweep through its historical core. With the car and guide at your disposal you will visit sites such as the Railway Museum, St. Georges Cathedral, National Museum, Peace Monument, the Maroon Church, the Cotton Tree, The Gateway to the Old King's Yard and Fort Thornton (where the Presidential State House now stands).



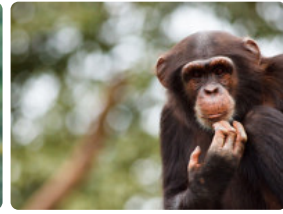
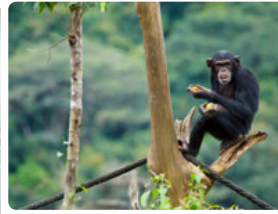
Arrive at Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary

After lunch (not included unless otherwise stated), you will head for Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary.

You will see the amazing work being done by Bala and his team. Chimpanzees are often cruelly or ignorantly kept as pets, or sometimes hunted for their meat. Today however, more than 100 primates find haven at Tacugama, swinging from branches, hooting with happiness, throwing things at passers-by with the petulance of children, nuzzling each other with tenderness of mothers attending to newborns, and picking bugs out of each other furs with the attention of Madonna's manicurist, even the least animal-friendly of visitors gets sucked into the magic within the moments.

Apart from the Sanctuary there are other attraction sites available in this area to occupy your time among which is the viewing of over 100 bird species that have been identified in and around the Tacugama Forest Reserve.

After the sanctuary tour, you're transferred to your hotel.



Day 3



Bunce Island, Tasso Island

This morning we go to Bunce Island with a private speedboat, viewing the city from the coast as you go by. Bunce Island was the largest British slave castle on the Rice Coast of West Africa. Founded around 1670, it exported tens of thousands of African captives to North America and the West Indies until the British Parliament finally closed it down in 1808. Bunce Island is left to decay, and although this raises questions of preservation, it does have a certain charm. It is authentic, raw - a painful history that is burying itself under layers of greenery.

After spending a couple of hours exploring the substantial ruins on the island, including the factory house, fortification, slave prison, watchtowers, dormitories, storerooms, and power magazine you will be transferred to Tasso Island where you could have lunch before being transferred to Freetown



Freetown Peninsula - River Number 2

After the Bunce & Tasso Island tour, you will go on a short tour of some of the peninsula beaches, arguably the best in the sub-region. You'll stop at Lakka, Hamilton and River Number 2 beach for photos before having an early dinner at a beach of your choice.

In the evening, you're transferred to your hotel.



Day 4



Freetown to Tiwai Island Wildlife Sanctuary

A visit to this tropical rain-forest is undoubtedly one of Sierra Leone's wildlife highlights. Enriched by the lazily flowing waters of the Moa River you are immersed in the sights and sounds of this safe haven. There is some of the most diverse chimpanzee and monkey populations and more than 700 species of plants life, not to mention the elusive pygmy hippo, a squat little nocturnal beast found only in Liberia, Ivory Coast, Guinea and Sierra Leone.

Depart Freetown for Tiwai Island, departing 8AM, taking an early lunch in Bo. Arrive at Tiwai Island c. 3pm, with time to rest at camp following transfer to Tiwai Island by boat from Kambama.

After arrival and a bit of a rest, take a late afternoon/early evening boat trip up the Mao River in an engine-powered boat. Take in spectacular views of Tiwai Island and the neighbouring mainland, looking out for monkeys jumping between the trees, some 135 species of birds and, of course, the occasional crocodile and the very elusive Pygmy Hippo. For more details on Tiwai Island check on the link below:

<https://www.visitsierraleone.org/tiwai-island-wildlife-sanctuary/>

In the evening eat dinner cooked by camp staff and rest at camp. Night walks can be arranged at additional cost.



Tiwai Island Wildlife Sanctuary

Sierra Leone

Day 5



Full Day on Tiwai Island

In the morning, walk the forests of Tiwai Island accompanied by a local guide, experiencing the thrill of tracking the 11 different species of primates, 135 species of birds and some 800 species of butterfly, as well as the footprints of mammals such as mongoose, wild pigs and that Pygmy Hippo. Not to mention the incredible plant life.

Departing after an early lunch, take a boat back to the mainland and explore the fascinating culture and heritage of the rural villages of Kambama and nearby Nianiahun (20 min drive), including sites of traditional sacrifice, meeting points for the rituals of village elders, birth ceremonial sites and the 'blood stream' hiding place for the knives and weapons of ancient warriors.

In the evening take a stroll into the forest to watch for monkeys, birds and gaze at the treetops. Eat dinner cooked by camp staff and rest at camp. Night walks can be arranged at additional cost.

Day 6



Transfer to Banana Islands

This morning, we head to Kent Village on the Freetown peninsula to catch a boat to Banana Island, for a chance to explore this scenic paradise. Three islands make up the Banana Islands: Dublin and Ricketts are linked by a stone causeway. The third Mes-Meheux is uninhabited. We will be going to Dublin, with its backyard gardens, big breadfruit trees and rare and delightful butterflies. You will be welcomed by the sleepy but friendly community and go on a tour of this quiet paradise.

These pristine islands are a wonderful place to experience laid-back Sierra Leone and there will be various optional activities available for everyone, including hiking, snorkeling, scuba diving, fishing and or a scenic boat trip around the island. This is an opportunity to have an insightful land tour of the island and set aside some time to explore on our own around this virtually unknown area of West Africa. Lunch will consist of locally-caught fresh fish, prawns and lobsters (all subject to availability)

Overnight at Bafa Resort or similar. See below the link for more details about this Island:

<https://www.visitsierraleone.org/banana-islands/>

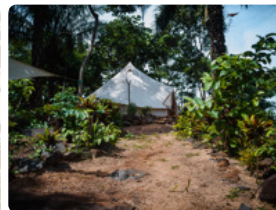


Banana Islands

Western Area, Sierra Leone



Check in at Bafa Resort



Day 7



Freetown Peninsula - Tokeh

After breakfast, depart Banana Island for Tokeh via a stop at Bureh Beach to talk to the guys at Bureh Beach surf club before settling down for seafood lunch. At your own time depart for Tokeh Beach.

Tokeh is a small coastal village settled on the Western Area Peninsula has one of the most beautiful beaches Sierra Leone has to offer. Tokeh beach has a backdrop of lush, green mountains and the old wooden pier that runs into the sea make this place a visual spectacle. You can explore the area or spend your time on the beach or pool area.

Accommodation: The Place Resort

**The Place Resort**

Tokeh, Western Area, Sierra Leone

Day 8

**Farewell**

This morning you can relax on the beach or do some last-minute shopping at one of Freetown's craft markets for gifts and souvenirs before being transferred to the airport for your trip home!

**Freetown-Lungi International Airport (FNA)**

Lungi, Freetown, WESTERN AREA, SIERRA LEONE