

Tiwai Wildlife Sanctuary

Visit. Learn. Explore. Connect with nature.



Get back to nature - and back to basics - on Tiwai Island (Mende for 'Big Island'). This wildlife sanctuary and community-led tourism site sits within the heart of the Upper Guinea forest of West Africa, in south-eastern Sierra Leone.

Accomodation



Tiwai offers rugged refurbished sleeping accomodation and the option to camp in the forest, for more adventurous travelers. Enjoy sleeping to the sounds of hornbills and monkeys calling from the canopies.

Community visits



Visit some of the host communities that surround Tiwai Island, and experience first-hand their rich culture and traditions.

Forest walks



Take a guided tour through the forest and glimpse some of the rarest primates in the world. If you are lucky you might even see the elusive pygmy hippopotamus.

Boat tours



Take a boat tour across the majestic Moa River and see how many of Tiwai's primate species you can spot. Also watch birds fly overhead and river turtles surface.

Beaches



In the dry season enjoy a cooling swim in one of Tiwai's two sandy beaches. Look out for river otter paw prints as they sometimes like to play on the sand.



Directions to Tiwai Island

How to get there by Public Transport

- Take a public bus from Freetown to Bo. The journey is 3-4 hours as the highway is paved. SLL 80,000 for public bus and 90,000 - 100,000 for private minibuses and taxis.
- **Bo to Potoru:** From Bo Bus station take a minibus / taxi for a 3 hr drive through Gondama-Koribundo-Bandajuma to Potoru. The road from Bo is paved all the way. SLL40,000-50,000.
- **Potoru to Kambama:** the road is a narrow stretch through secondary forest and the only transport is via motorbike (okada) for 30 minutes. SLL40,000.
- Once in Kambama on the west bank of the Moa River the Tiwai team will greet you and take you to the landing site on Tiwai Island via canoe or motorboat.

What to bring

- While Tiwai Island offers basic accommodation, camping and shower facilities for visitors, you are advised to bring towels, drinking water, toiletries, a torch, insect repellent etc.

Catering on the island

- Basic local food will be prepared, mainly rice, stews and sauces prepared on the island. If you would like non-traditional food, please inform the team when booking.

Prices

- Please see our website for the full price list.

Tread Lightly



Tiwai Island is a special piece of nature and as such it is important that visitors do not leave behind too many footprints. Please respect and follow the general guidelines of the island.



Contact us

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