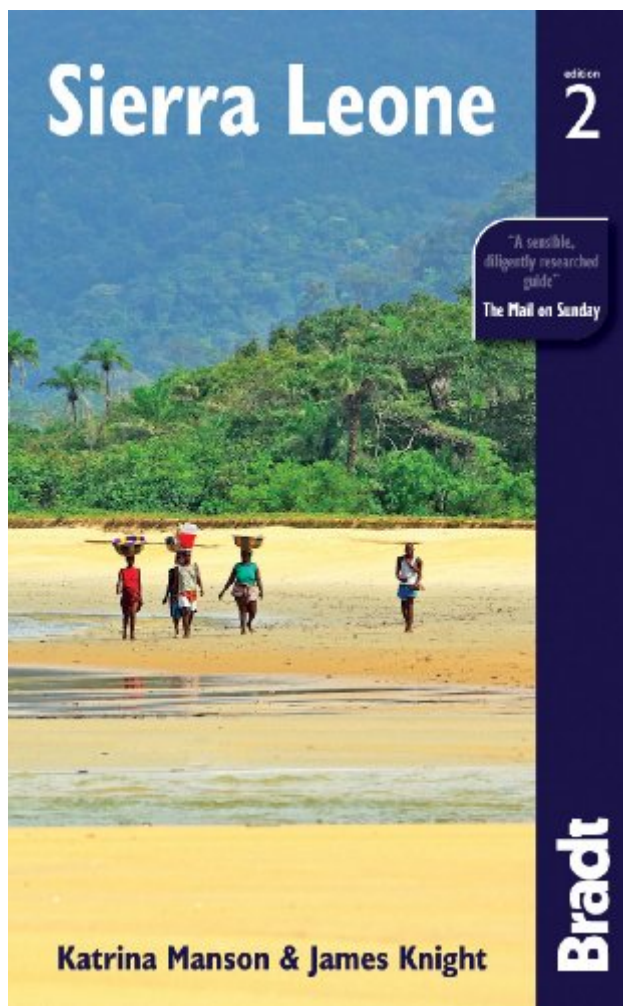


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Sierra Leone (Bradt Travel Guides)



Synopsis

This is the only English-language guide on the market dedicated exclusively to Sierra Leone. Sierra Leone is about the size of Wales and manages to squeeze beaches, rainforests, mountains, savannah grasslands, marshes, mangrove swamps and rivers into its relatively small size. Written for intrepid travellers looking to explore this scarred but vibrant nation, this brand new edition of Sierra Leone invites you to discover the hidden beaches on the country's Atlantic coast, climb to the top of Mount Bintumani, west Africa's highest peak, learn about magical customs, and experience world-class bird-watching.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Wonderful and informative for our mission team going to Sierra Leone. Reread it each year prior to going. A must have for travelers going to this amazing country.

Every place and address/phone number were correct. We met some Hungarians on Banana Is. & told them of our Bradt guide. They smiled & pulled out their own copy, agreeing on its usefulness!

We took the cheaper option on the Island & were pleased with the choice. We had a pristine beach all to ourselves. I do hope SL gets its infrastructure (roads, electrification, water/sewer) upgraded. The country has much to offer. Too much is still potential. Bradt is a great guide.

Somewhat useful but not detailed enough for reference as we have tried to use it in the country.

Absolutely perfect guide, especially for new commers here. After four years here I am sure that I will recommend this book, and only this one, to everyone who is going to come, both for tourists or businessmen.

I just wish I stayed there longer so that I could see more places

I return to Sierra Leone every year and have found this guide to be accurate and helpful, especially with information that is just plain hard to get anywhere else

This is a rather poor travel book, not the comprehensive historical/geographic/sociological work I expected. I will not recommend the book to anyone.

To quote another review "You aren't going to find many other travel guides devoted only to Sierra Leone (and not West Africa more generally)". Thumbs up to Bradt for keep writing guides on destinations, the others(tm) does not cover. As there is no other guides available, there are two possible explanations why "very single foreigner I met in Sierra Leone used this guide like a bible" though - it is exceptionally good or they have no alternative. I think it is a good combination of both. I am the proud owner of the Bradt guides to Sierra Leone, Somaliland, Ethiopia, Algeria and Albania and the strongest side of the Bradt guides both in general and the Sierra Leone guide in particular is the background information chapter. Despite this it tends to be at least one customer review from travelers complaining about a poor historical review (you can have a look at for instance the Algeria guide as well if you want to see an example of what I mean). I suspect the explanation is a combination of that the audience of this type of travel guides have both a lot of knowledge and perhaps a slightly different focus. The Bradt guides tends to be weaker on the road than in the pre-planning phase. This holds true for the Sierra Leone guide as well. I pretty much recognize the experience that many places in the guide does not exist anymore. One of the restaurants that I visited had been closed for several years and a local enthusiast was in an early planning phase to

reopen it. The only drinks you could have there was things he sent one of the boys to town to purchase and there was no food. It was a sunny day and great just to sit outside in the sun. It would not have been any alternative inside though, as they had no furniture yet. The reason why the place was still in the guide, was that the so called update took place as the reviewer called them up and asked them if the place was still open, they answered "yes, of course" and that was that. This is of course not the only "update" of this type. Especially on places outside Freetown and the beaches, you should do like suggested in one of the reviews (and as the reviewers of the new editions do;) - purchase a local sim card and call ahead. Another thing that never stops to amaze me is how detrimental the Bradt guides is on including useless maps in their guides. Over all these years I have never come across a map that can actually can be put to any use. Not that it is that big deal, more or less like certain traits of an old friend that I long ago have learned to disregard, I don't let it ruin my day in any way. But wouldn't it be fun and meaningful for the publisher as well, to start afresh and publish maps that actually can be put to use? Have a nice trip to Sierra Leone!

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