

Liberia

📍 231 / POP 4.5 MILLION

Includes ➔

Monrovia	245
Marshall	249
Robertsport	250
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Harper	252

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Pak Bat (p252)
- ➔ Sweet Lips (p248)
- ➔ Evelyn's (p248)

Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Mamba Point Hotel (p248)
- ➔ Libassa Eco-Lodge (p250)
- ➔ Kwepunha Retreat & Villas (p250)

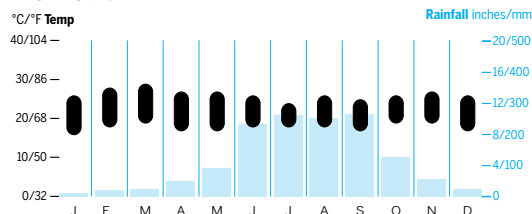
Why Go?

Liberia, a lush, green, friendly and vibrant land, offers everything from excellent surf spots and shops selling wares by edgy local designers to days spent lolling in a comfy hammock on the edge of the rainforest while listening to tropical birds sing. It's home to one of West Africa's best national parks, and still hangs on to a confident American spirit mixed with West African roots. And despite the ravages of the past, it is a fantastic place to travel, full of hope and energy.

After a decade of dusting themselves off and resuming normal life following their brutal civil war, Liberians experienced another deadly conflict in 2014 – the Ebola virus. While the nation is officially Ebola-free per the WHO, it's struggling economically to recover. With travel restrictions lifted, tourism can play a huge role in this.

When to Go

Monrovia



Dec–Jul Dry season and the most popular time to visit.

May–Oct Rainy season; spectacular storms and good waves for surfers.

Oct–Jan Peak tourist season; prices are at their highest.



Liberia Highlights

- 1 Monrovia** (p245)
Exploring the relics of Liberia's rich history and the American influence that still shapes the capital.
- 2 Harper** (p252) Hitting the long, bumpy road to this pretty town that's blessed with southern American

architecture and an end-of-the-line feel.

- 3 Sapo National Park** (p251) Venturing into the habitat of the endangered pygmy hippo, camping beneath the forest canopy and listening to the sounds of the rainforest.

- 4 Robertsport** (p250)
Riding the waves with Liberian surfers, running your hands through the phosphorescent swell and eating fresh lobster in the shade.
- 5 Buchanan** (p250)
Camping on the wild and beautiful beaches and relaxing at the port.

MONROVIA

📍 0880 / POP 1.8 MILLION

Monrovia has been everything over the decades – a splendid African capital brimming with elegant stores and faces, a party city monitored by sheriffs wearing secondhand US police uniforms, a war zone marred by bullet holes, and a broken-hearted city

struggling to climb to its feet after both war and a deadly Ebola outbreak.

Walk along Broad St, Monrovia's main boulevard, and you'll hear the original beat of locally brewed hip-co and the gentle rhythm of Liberian English. You'll see the architectural ghosts of Monrovia's past and the uniformed school children of its future. You'll watch entrepreneurs climb into sleek,