
Liberia Independence Day Special

Independent and ripe for investment

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AMBASSADOR OF LIBERIA



This year, July 26 marks the 176th anniversary of Liberia's self-declared independence from the oversight supervision of the American Colonization Society. The ACS was a nongovernmental

organization of prominent Americans promoting the return of free blacks to Africa, after the U.S. Slave Abolition Act of 1833.

The unilateral Declaration of Independence was made in Monrovia on July 26, 1847, by the leadership of the settlement that was created following the return of emancipated Africans. This year's celebrations will be held two months ahead of the fourth round of Liberia's post-civil war general and presidential elections, which

will be conducted on Oct. 10.

Each year, July 26 is the nation's most celebrated statutory holiday, full of pomp and pageantry. On this day, Liberians young and old, at home and abroad always put on their best in terms of generosity and appearance. Foreign heads of state and other dignitaries usually attend as guests of the government.

The celebration usually begins with a 21-gun salute at 0600 hours from Fort Norris, at the tip of Cape Montserrado, Liberia's highest point along the Atlantic coast, overlooking Monrovia, our capital city.

The ceremonies include a colorful parade involving students, civil groups, paramilitary units and our armed forces.

The State Assembly at the Centennial Memorial Pavilion, the hall of the people, is where the national orator of the day, designated by the president, delivers a special message dissecting and critiquing the state of the nation. The president closes the day with a statement and an extravagant banquet to honor visiting dignitaries.

In addition to a population of 5.4 million with a median age of 19.4, Liberia has a very friendly investment promotion policy that includes an attractive package of incentives for domestic and foreign investors.

The list of investment opportunities is long and covers 13 areas in our infrastructure development plan, including transportation, communications, sanitation, water treatment and management, agriculture, health care, education, tourism, housing, governmental administration, freight, energy and environmental protection.

Liberia is a very rich country with enormous deposits of gold, diamonds, manganese, bauxite, uranium, zinc and lead. It also has a 350-mile Atlantic coastline and 13 oil blocks waiting to be explored and exploited.

Welcome to Liberia.

This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.