

TL TODAY'S LIBERIA™

BUSINESS. STYLE. CULTURE.

OCTOBER 2026

ISSUE 01 • THE INAUGURAL EDITION

COVER ESSAY

LIBERIA'S NEXT CHAPTER

The people, ambition and style moving a nation forward.

ENTERPRISE • THE OPPORTUNITY DESK • THE COAST • STYLE & CULTURE • DIASPORA • YOUTH

Launch preview edition — original editorial commentary; illustrative photography. Cover photograph is illustrative and does not depict a named person.

INSIDE ISSUE 01

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ILLUSTRATIVE PHOTOGRAPH

A MAGAZINE, MONTHLY.

One issue each month, composed as a whole: essays, practical guides and a clear view of opportunity. Read it online or keep the PDF.

WELCOME

A MAGAZINE FOR THE LONG VIEW

Every publication begins with a promise. Ours is simple: to look at Liberia with seriousness, generosity and style — and to share what we see with readers at home and around the world.

Today's Liberia began online as a place for business, style and culture to sit side by side. They belong together. The way a country dresses, eats, travels and gathers says as much about its future as any balance sheet, and the people building enterprises are the same people setting the tone in our cities and towns.

This monthly edition is a slower companion to the website. News moves quickly; a magazine can afford to pause. Each issue will gather essays, practical guides and the Opportunity Desk into a single, finished object that you can read on a phone, print at a desk or forward to a colleague abroad.

Issue 01 is a launch preview. Its pages contain original editorial commentary written by the Today's Liberia team rather than reporting on specific recent events. We have deliberately avoided statistics, named sources and claims we could not stand behind in print. Where we describe opportunity, we describe ways of exploring it — not promises of returns. The photographs are illustrative and are labelled as such.

What you can expect from us. We will be clear about what is reporting and what is commentary. We will link to original sources when we summarise the work of others. We will not accept payment for editorial coverage, and any sponsored material will be marked plainly.

What we ask of you. Read critically, write to us when we get something wrong and tell us what you want to see. A magazine is a conversation that happens to be printed.

Thank you for opening the first issue. We hope it feels like the beginning of something worth keeping.

— The TL Editorial Desk



COVER ESSAY

LIBERIA'S NEXT CHAPTER

A country is not a headline. It is millions of daily decisions — to open a shop, to finish a course, to come home, to try again. This is an essay about the chapter those decisions are writing.

The language of a next chapter is tempting because it suggests that the past can be closed and the future opened like a book. Real change is rarely so tidy. It arrives in increments: a road that makes a weekly trip possible, a training course that turns a hobby into a trade, an older relative who lends a younger one the confidence to start.

What makes this moment worth writing about is not one project or one policy. It is a temperament — a widely shared impatience to build, paired with a hard-earned understanding that building takes time. Liberians who lived through difficult decades know the cost of shortcuts. Many of the most interesting people we meet are, quietly, long-term thinkers.

Ambition with patience

Ambition is easy to admire and hard to sustain. The entrepreneurs, designers, farmers and organisers who last tend to share a few habits: they keep records, they keep promises and they keep learning. None of these habits makes headlines. All of them compound.

A country's reputation is built the same way. Every invoice paid on time, every contract honoured and every visitor treated well adds to a shared account of trust. That account is the most valuable asset any economy holds, and it is owned by everyone who participates in it.

“Trust is the infrastructure you cannot see — and the one every other kind depends on.”

Style as a statement of intent

It may seem odd for a business magazine to care about tailoring, but style is a form of self-respect made visible. A well-cut jacket in country cloth, a carefully chosen head wrap or a crisp shirt in a local print tells the world that the wearer takes the occasion — and themselves — seriously. That confidence travels into meetings, markets and

negotiations.

The world is a conversation

Liberia has always been connected beyond its borders: through its coastline and ports, its long history of exchange, and a diaspora spread across several continents. The next chapter is not about choosing between home and abroad. It is about making the connection between them more useful — easier to visit, easier to invest in, easier to collaborate with.

This magazine exists to serve that connection. It will celebrate what is working, ask honest questions about what is not and offer practical tools to readers who want to take part. The chapter, after all, is still being written. Its authors are reading this page.



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BUSINESS

ENTERPRISE, UP CLOSE

Durable businesses are rarely the loudest. They are the ones that know their numbers, understand their customers and plan for the season that goes badly as well as the one that goes well. These principles apply to a market stall as much as to a logistics firm.

Know the real cost

Many small enterprises price by instinct. Writing down every cost — materials, transport, rent, wages, phone credit, your own time — often reveals that a best-selling product earns less than it seems. Knowing the true cost is the first step towards a fair price and a business that can grow.

Separate the money

Keeping business money apart from household money, even in a simple notebook or separate account, makes it far easier to see whether an enterprise is working. It is also the first thing any lender, partner or investor will want to understand.

Formalise in steps

Registration, tax compliance and written agreements can feel like burdens. In practice they open doors: to larger customers, to contracts and to finance. The official business registry and revenue authority publish their requirements; reading them directly is better than relying on second-hand advice.

Build relationships before you need them

Suppliers who trust you extend terms. Customers who trust you return. Bankers who know you take your call. Relationships are a working asset — and like any asset, they need maintenance, not only withdrawals.

Ask for help early

Accountants, lawyers, business associations and chambers of commerce exist so that founders do not have to learn every lesson the hard way. A small fee for qualified advice is usually cheaper than a large mistake.

CONNECTING LIBERIA WITH THE WORLD

THE OPPORTUNITY DESK

A practical way to explore sectors — what questions to ask, and where to look for official information. This is a framework for exploration, not a list of approved projects or promised returns.

AGRICULTURE & AGRO-PROCESSING

Explore value added after harvest: processing, storage, packaging and distribution. Ask who buys today, at what quality, and what limits supply.

ENERGY & UTILITIES

Consider how reliable power changes every other business. Ask which bodies regulate supply and what licensing applies.

MARITIME & LOGISTICS

Look at how goods move from port to market. Ask about warehousing, transport routes and the agencies that oversee them.

TOURISM & HOSPITALITY

Think in experiences: guiding, lodging, food and culture. Ask about standards, permits and community partnership.

CREATIVE & FASHION

Design, tailoring, music and media can travel. Ask about intellectual property, production capacity and export channels.

DIGITAL SERVICES

Payments, connectivity and software support every sector. Ask about data rules, partnerships and local talent.

How to use this page. Start with one sector. Read the official websites of the relevant ministry or authority directly. Speak to the chamber of commerce and to qualified local advisers before committing money. The Opportunity Desk at todaysliberia.com lists public institutions with links to their own sites; inclusion there is a public reference, not an endorsement.



ILLUSTRATIVE PHOTOGRAPH

TRAVEL & EXPERIENCES

THE COAST IS CALLING

Liberia's Atlantic shoreline is one of its most remarkable assets: long beaches, lagoons, fishing towns and river mouths. Travelling it well means slowing down, planning carefully and treating every stop as someone's home.

Plan before you go

Check entry and visa requirements with official government sources before booking. Confirm accommodation directly with the property, and ask about transport between towns, since conditions can change with the seasons.

Travel with the seasons

The rains shape the year. Many travellers prefer the drier months for road journeys and beach time; if you travel in the rainy season, build extra time into every plan and pack accordingly.

Hire local, listen local

Local guides, drivers and cooks offer knowledge no guidebook can. Agree prices in advance, pay fairly and ask before photographing people, homes or ceremonies.

Respect the water

Atlantic surf can be powerful and currents strong. Ask locally about safe places to swim, never swim alone at unfamiliar beaches and take advice from people who know the water.

Leave it better

Carry your rubbish out, buy from local businesses and choose operators who employ people from the community. Good travel is an exchange, not an extraction.



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STYLE & CULTURE

MADE TO STAND OUT

Style in Liberia has always been a conversation between heritage and invention. Country cloth, lappa, bold prints and beadwork sit comfortably beside sharp Western tailoring — and the most interesting wardrobes mix them with confidence.

Commission, don't just buy

A good tailor is a collaborator. Bring a reference, agree measurements, fabric and deadline in writing, and allow time for a fitting. The result is a garment made for your body and your climate.

Dress for the heat

Natural fibres, lighter linings and looser cuts keep a look sharp through humid afternoons. Structure can come from the cut rather than from heavy fabric.

Heritage with care

Patterns, cloths and adornments can carry meaning within particular communities. Learning where a design comes from — and buying from the makers who keep those traditions alive — is part of wearing it well.

Culture is the connective tissue

Music, food, storytelling and gathering are where identities are shared and renewed. Supporting live performance, family recipes and local festivals is not nostalgia; it is investment in what makes a place worth visiting and worth staying in.

DIASPORA & NETWORKING

THE DIASPORA BRIDGE

Liberians abroad carry skills, savings, networks and a deep attachment to home. Turning that attachment into lasting collaboration requires something less romantic but more useful: structure.

Start with a clear purpose

Is the goal to invest, to mentor, to trade, to volunteer or to return? Each needs different partners and different safeguards. Clarity saves money and friendships.

Trust, then verify

Family and community ties are powerful, but they are not a substitute for written agreements, receipts and regular reporting. Good paperwork protects relationships as much as it protects money.

Use official channels

Check registration, land and tax rules with the relevant public bodies, and use regulated banks or licensed money-transfer services. Be wary of anyone who discourages you from checking.

Build networks that give back

Professional associations, alumni groups and industry networks are most valuable when knowledge flows both ways. Diaspora members can open doors abroad; people at home understand conditions on the ground. The best networks respect both.

Visit with intent

A trip home can be a holiday, a family duty and a business research mission at once. Schedule meetings in advance, visit sites in person and leave time to listen.



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SOCIETY & YOUTH

THE YOUNG MAJORITY

Liberia is a young country, and its future will be shaped by the opportunities its young people find — and create. Talent is everywhere; access is not. Closing that gap is the work of a generation.

Mentorship matters

A single conversation with someone a few steps ahead can change a career. Mentorship works best when it is regular, honest and specific: reviewing a CV, rehearsing an interview, introducing a contact.

Skills over certificates

Employers increasingly value what people can do. Practical skills — bookkeeping, coding, tailoring, mechanics, customer service, writing — open doors, especially when backed by a portfolio of real work.

Keep girls learning

Communities do best when girls and young women can stay in education and training. Families, schools, employers and faith groups each have a part to play in removing the barriers that push them out.

Institutions that last

Clubs, cooperatives, savings groups and youth associations teach governance in practice: running meetings, keeping accounts and being accountable to members. Those habits scale into businesses and public life.

Our invitation

If you lead a youth programme, a training initiative or a community organisation, tell us about your work. Future issues will feature people and programmes after we have checked the details with them directly.

PRACTICAL TOOL

THE CONNECTION CHECKLIST

Before any business conversation, partnership or investment — at home or abroad — work through these questions. Tick each one honestly.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ 01 PURPOSE | Can I explain in two sentences what I want from this connection and what I offer? |
| ☐ 02 IDENTITY | Have I confirmed the other party's registration and identity with official sources? |
| ☐ 03 RULES | Do I understand the licences, permits and taxes that apply, from the relevant authority's own site? |
| ☐ 04 ADVICE | Have I spoken to a qualified local lawyer or accountant before signing anything? |
| ☐ 05 PAPER | Is every agreement — amounts, dates, responsibilities — written down and signed? |
| ☐ 06 MONEY | Am I paying through a regulated bank or licensed transfer service, with receipts? |
| ☐ 07 RISK | What happens if this goes wrong? Can I afford to lose what I am putting in? |
| ☐ 08 PEOPLE | Who in the community will this affect, and have they been consulted? |
| ☐ 09 FOLLOW-UP | Have we agreed how and when we will report progress to each other? |
| ☐ 10 WALK AWAY | Am I prepared to say no if any answer above is unclear? |

This checklist is general guidance, not legal, tax or financial advice. Always consult qualified professionals for your situation.

STANDARDS

ABOUT THIS EDITION

Issue 01 is a launch preview of the Today's Liberia monthly magazine. We want readers to know exactly what they are reading.

Online

The website carries news summaries with links to original reporting, the Opportunity Desk with official institution links, and the Opportunity Advisor.

Original commentary

Every essay and guide in this issue was written by the Today's Liberia team as general editorial commentary. It does not report specific recent events and contains no interviews, quotations from named people or statistics.

Illustrative photography

Photographs in this issue are illustrative. They are labelled on the page and do not depict named people, specific places or events described in the text.

No promises

Nothing in this issue is an offer, recommendation or guarantee of any investment, return or business outcome. Sector pages describe areas to explore and questions to ask.

Independence

Today's Liberia is an independent publication. No organisation paid for coverage in this issue. Future sponsored content, if any, will be labelled clearly.

Corrections & contact

If you believe something here is inaccurate or unfair, please contact us through todaysliberia.com. We will review it and correct the online edition where needed.



UNTIL NOVEMBER

*Thank you for reading the first issue of Today's Liberia.
Share it, print it, argue with it — and come back next month.*

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