

Wechiau, Upper West Region Hippo Sanctuary

Encompasses a 40-km stretch of the Black Volta River including the islands on the River, a belt of riverine forest, and a floodplain. The Sanctuary is located within the Wechiau Paramountcy of the Wa West District, in the Upper West Region of Ghana. The Sanctuary is managed by community members who make up the Sanctuary Management Board in this community-based conservation initiative.

There are over 200 bird species at the Hippo Sanctuary! This level of avifauna diversity ranks the Sanctuary as one of the best birding sites in Africa or the world. Depending on the ecosystem you are exploring, there is opportunity to see aquatic and savannah birds. Violet turacos and brilliantly coloured kingfishers can be seen along the shores of the river, and hornbills, hoopoes, and barbets are part of our wooded savannah ecosystem. The dazzling Abyssinian roller can be spotted during the dry season, and the Red bishop pays us a visit during the wet months.

Activities :

- Experience a river safari in a dugout canoe and see the resident hippo group, birds and mammals, as fishermen plying their nets
- Visit lobi compound and meet a family going about their daily chores.
- Sleep at a hippo hide, overlooking the black Volta River to experience a night in the riverine forest. You will hear hippos and possibly see them as they come onto the banks to feed. Then wake to the dawn chorus of bird song.
- There is a tourist lodge at Telawona which offers rustic but comfortable accommodation in a traditional style Lobi structure. Stay in a family compound in the community of Wechiau. There is a large courtyard where you can pitch your tent.

How to get there :

Wechiau Community Hippo Sanctuary is located in the Upper West Region of the country. The community of Wechiau is approximately 50 kilometres (30 miles) west of Wa. You can reach us by public transit ('tro tro') from Wa.



A Cruise on the Black Volta



One of the over 200 species of birds on record



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Hippopotamus Amphibi-

Wechiau

...Community hippo
sanctuary and river
safari

Experience nature,
discover tradition.

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