

Zircon: Gbangbama Deposit

Deposit Details

Location of Deposit:	Bonthe District, Southern Province of Sierra Leone
Deposit Identification:	Gbangbama Deposit
Geological Formation:	Heavy Mineral Deposit derived from quartzo-feldspathic gneisses of the Precambrian Kasila Group and also hosted within the Bullum sediments.
Resource Volume Estimate:	Produced as a by-product of rutile mining
Resource Quality/Grade:	15% ZrSiO ₄
Operating Mining Company:	Sierra Rutile Limited

Sierra Rutile Limited mines the Gbangbama Zircon Deposit, a by-product of rutile mining, in the Bonthe District of Sierra Leone. The zircon is found in the Bullum deposits and is produced from quartzo-feldspathic gneisses of the Precambrian Kasila Group. About 15% of the heavy mineral sands in the deposit are zircon. Industrial applications for zircon include the production of ceramics, abrasives, refractory materials, foundry mould coatings, and nuclear reactor building. Sierra Leone's mining industry benefits economically from the Gbangbama zircon production, which also supports international companies that depend on zircon-based goods.

