

Sulawesi Island

March 1, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



Sulawesi Island Latest News

In a limestone cave on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi, a hand stencil has been dated to at least 67,800 years ago, making it the oldest known example of rock art currently identified anywhere in the world.

About Sulawesi Island

- Sulawesi, **formerly known as Celebes**, is a large island in **Southeast Asia**, in the **Indonesian archipelago**.
- It **sits centrally** within the **Indonesian archipelago**.
- It is **part of** the island chain known as the **Greater Sunda Islands**.
- It is the **11th largest island in the world**. It covers an area of 180,680.7 sq. km.
- The island consists almost entirely of **four interconnecting peninsulas**. Three large bays, or gulfs, separate these peninsulas.
- **Makassar** is the **largest city** on the island.

- The island is **surrounded** on all sides by **other big islands: Borneo to the west, the Philippines to the north, the Maluku Islands to the east, and Flores and Timor to the south.**
- The island is **highly mountainous**, with some **active volcanoes**.
- The **highest peak** on the island of Sulawesi is **Mt. Ratenkombola**, which is also known simply as Mario.
- Sulawesi is known for its **rainforests**, which **once covered the entire island** until human activity led to mass deforestation.
- It is home to 127 types of native mammals. A large number, **62% (79 species), are endemic**.
- The island contains **thirteen freshwater lakes**, including the **deepest lake, Matano, in Southeast Asia**.
- It has several remarkable **prehistoric cave paintings** depicting ancient hunts and animal life.
- Seven major **ethnic groups** inhabit Sulawesi: the **Toala, Toraja, Buginese, Makassarese, Minahasan, Mori, and Gorontaloese**.

Source: **TOI**

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/sulawesi-island/>

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