**Swansea** officially known as the **City and County of Swansea**, is a coastal [city](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/City_status_in_the_United_Kingdom) and [county](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subdivisions_of_Wales) in [Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wales). It is Wales's second largest city and the UK's twenty-sixth largest city.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swansea#cite_note-1)Swansea lies within the [historic county boundaries](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Historic_counties_of_Wales) of [Glamorgan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glamorgan). Situated on the sandy [South West Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_West_Wales) coast, the county area includes the [Gower Peninsula](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gower_Peninsula) and the Lliw uplands. The City and County of Swansea had a population of 239,000 in 2011,[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swansea" \l "cite_note-2) making it the second most [populous local authority area](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Welsh_principal_areas_by_population) in Wales after [Cardiff](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cardiff). During its 19th-century industrial heyday, Swansea was a key centre of the copper industry,[[3]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swansea#cite_note-3) earning the nickname 'Copperopolis'.[[4]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swansea#cite_note-4)