

The flag of El Salvador is displayed diagonally across the center of the image. It consists of three horizontal stripes: blue on top, white in the middle containing the country's name in black, and light blue on the bottom. The word "El Salvador" is written in a bold, sans-serif font.

El Salvador

El Salvador

Capital

San Salvador

National Symbols

The National Flag



Similar to other Central American countries, El Salvador has a blue-white-blue flag representing the Central American Federation from the middle of the 19th century. The national flag of El Salvador was adopted on May 17th, 1912, by the legislative power. It has three horizontal stripes. The two blue stripes represent the two oceans that surround Central America, the Pacific and the Atlantic Ocean, and the white color represent peace.

Like other countries derived from the federation, El Salvador uses different variants of the flag for civil, governmental, and military purposes.

- Civil Flag: three colored stripes.
- Governmental Flag: A text written in yellow is added to the civilian flag with the words "DIOS, UNION, LIBERTAD ." (God, Union, Liberty).

- Military Flag: The coat of arms on the civil flag.

The civil flag is used for civil and governmental purposes on land. The government flag is used by the government on land and sea, by civilians at sea and by the army on land. The military flag is used by the government on land and the military forces on land and sea.

The Coat of Arms



The Coat of Arms of El Salvador was created by the Salvadoran calligrapher Rafael Barraza Rodriguez for a contest by the Ministry of War and Navy in 1912. Its triangle represents Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. The two open oceans are a reference to the spirit of a village in constant solidarity with other free nations. The five volcanoes represent the tough spirit of our race and the beginning of our nationality.

El Salvador

The sky full of lightning represents the glory, heroism, and sacrifice for freedom. The cap on top of the triangle is a symbol of the liberation from foreign occupation. The rainbow represents the peaceful road in which Central America must move. The five flags represent the heritage of our patriotic heroes and the fourteen laurel branches represent the fourteen departments of El Salvador.

The National Flower

The national flower of El Salvador is called the "Flor de Izote". The fruit of the izote plant is used in cooking.

The National Tree

The Maquilishuat is the national tree. It can grow up to 15 meters high. It has big and beautiful pink flowers. It provides fine wood for furniture and it is also used for medical purposes.

The National bird



The Torogoz was declared as the National bird by a Legislative agreement on October 21st, 1999. The torogoz or talapo was chosen because of its singular beauty, expressed by its much-colored plumage.

History

Independence

El Salvador, with the other countries of Central America, declared its independence from Spain on September 15th, 1821.

El Salvador then was part of a federation of Central American states until that union was dissolved in 1838. For decades after its independence, El Salvador experienced numerous revolutions and wars against other Central American republics. From 1931 to 1979, El Salvador was ruled by a series of military dictatorships.

The Constitution of El Salvador

It dates from 1983, but as a result of the Peace Agreements of 1992 it has undergone several amendments in the areas of: Human Rights, Public Security, the Judicial Branch, and Electoral Matters.

Government

Executive power is exercised by the government. Legislative power is vested in both the government and the Legislative Assembly. The Judiciary branch is independent of the executive and the legislature.

The President of El Salvador is both, head of state and head of government.

First President of El Salvador
Gral. Manuel Jose Arce (1825)

Main political Parties
ARENA, FMLN.

El Salvador

Provinces



El Salvador is divided in 14 departments or provinces; the most important departments are San Salvador, Santa Ana and San Miguel.

Social Recognition

Historic Figures

Manuel Jose Arce

Manuel Jose Arce y Fagoaga (January 1787, December 1847.) was the first president of the Federal Republic of Central America from 1825 to 1829.

Jose Matias Delgado

Jose Matias Delgado was born in El Salvador on February 24th, 1767, and became a priest with a doctorate in Theology and Civil Law. He was one of the most important figures in the libertarian movement of Central America, which started in El Salvador.

Social Figures

Jorge Alberto Gonzalez Barillas

Jorge Alberto Gonzalez Barillas (born in 1957) is popularly known as "El Magico" Gonzalez. He is a former soccer player and stands out for his performance for C.D. FAS

in El Salvador, Cadiz CF in Spain, and El Salvador national team.

Gonzalez was born to a poor family of eight brothers in the Luz neighborhood of San Salvador. His older brother, Mauricio "Pachin" Gonzalez, was also a soccer player who became well known at local level.

Tourist Sites

El Salvador's tourism industry has grown significantly over recent years as the Salvadoran government has focussed on developing the sector.

Most North American and European tourists are attracted by El Salvador's beaches and nightlife. Surfing is an adventure sport that is gaining popularity as more surfers visit El Zonte, Sunzal, and La Libertad, surfing spots that are not yet overcrowded.

The use of the United States dollar as Salvadoran currency, 4–6 hours direct flights from the United States, urbanization and Americanization of Salvadoran culture, and the abundance of American-style malls, stores and restaurants are important attractions for travelers from the United States.

Montecristo Cloud Forest

This forest in Triunfo International Park offers an incredible view of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. It is one of the best places to go trekking.

El Salvador

La Libertad

This seaside village offers the best surfing in Central America. It has become a major destination for surfers and a weekend destination for locals.

Mayan Ruins of Tazumal



The ruins are still visible though partially buried under the town of Chalchuapa. Many of the artifacts found in this place are now kept at a local museum.

