

Suriname

Continent: South America

Languages Spoken: Dutch, Sranan Tongo, Hindi, Javanese, English

Population: 591,919

Currency: Surinamese dollar (SRD)

Area: 163,820

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Fort Zeelandia', 'writeup': 'A historic fortress in Paramaribo, originally built by the British and later expanded by the Dutch, symbolizing colonial history.'}

- {'name': 'Central Suriname Nature Reserve', 'writeup': 'A UNESCO World Heritage site known for its pristine tropical rainforest and biodiversity.'}

- {'name': 'Saint Peter and Paul Cathedral', 'writeup': 'One of the tallest wooden structures in the Western Hemisphere, located in Paramaribo.'}

Head of State / Government:

President Chan Santokhi

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Maroon Festival', 'writeup': 'Celebrates the culture and history of the Maroon communities with music, dance, and traditional rituals.'}

- {'name': 'Keti Koti', 'writeup': 'Commemorates the abolition of slavery in Suriname with festivities and remembrance events.'}

Food & Cuisine:

Surinamese cuisine is a diverse blend of Indian, African, Indonesian, Chinese, and Dutch influences, featuring dishes like roti, pom, and peanut soup.

Brief History:

Suriname was originally inhabited by indigenous peoples before becoming a Dutch colony in the 17th century. It gained independence in 1975 and has a multicultural society shaped by African, Asian, and European influences.

Important People:

- Johan Adolf Pengel - influential politician and former Prime Minister

- Anton de Kom - anti-colonial activist and writer

- Chan Santokhi - current President

Current Conflicts:

Suriname is generally peaceful with no significant internal or external conflicts reported as of 2024.

Youtube Links:

- Discover Suriname: South America's Hidden Gem

- Suriname Travel Guide: Culture, Food & Nature
- History of Suriname: From Colony to Independence
- Top 10 Things to Do in Suriname
- Suriname's Diverse Culture Explained