

Kosovo

Continent: Europe

Languages Spoken: Albanian, Serbian

Population: 1,800,000

Currency: Euro (EUR)

Area: 10,887

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Ethnographic Museum (Pristina)', 'writeup': 'A museum showcasing traditional Kosovar culture, crafts, and lifestyle.'}
- {'name': 'Visoki Dečani Monastery', 'writeup': 'A 14th-century Serbian Orthodox monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage site.'}
- {'name': 'Germia Park', 'writeup': 'A large national park near Pristina, popular for hiking and outdoor activities.'}
- {'name': 'Newborn Monument', 'writeup': 'A symbol of Kosovo's independence, unveiled in 2008 in Pristina.'}

Head of State / Government:

Vjosa Osmani (President)

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Dokufest', 'writeup': 'An international documentary and short film festival held annually in Prizren.'}
- {'name': 'Pristina Jazz Festival', 'writeup': 'A yearly event attracting international jazz musicians to Kosovo's capital.'}

Food & Cuisine:

Kosovar cuisine blends Balkan and Mediterranean influences, featuring dishes like flija (layered pancake), burek (filled pastry), and tavë kosi (baked lamb with yogurt).

Brief History:

Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in 2008 following years of conflict and UN administration after the 1998-1999 Kosovo War. It is recognized by over 100 countries but not universally.

Important People:

- Hashim Thaçi - Former President and Prime Minister
- Ibrahim Rugova - First President and political leader
- Atifete Jahjaga - Former President

Current Conflicts:

Tensions persist between Kosovo and Serbia, particularly in northern Kosovo where ethnic Serbs reside. Diplomatic efforts continue to normalize relations.

Youtube Links:

- Kosovo Travel Guide - Top Things to Do in Kosovo

- History of Kosovo Explained
- Kosovo Documentary: A Nation's Struggle for Independence
- Kosovo Culture and Traditions
- Exploring Pristina - The Capital of Kosovo