

Côte d'Ivoire

Continent: Africa

Languages Spoken: French

Population: 28,000,000

Currency: West African CFA franc (XOF)

Area: 322,463

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Basilica of Our Lady of Peace', 'writeup': 'One of the largest churches in the world, located in Yamoussoukro, known for its impressive architecture.'}
- {'name': 'Taï National Park', 'writeup': 'A UNESCO World Heritage site, this park is home to diverse wildlife and one of the last primary rainforests in West Africa.'}
- {'name': 'Banco National Park', 'writeup': 'A large urban forest reserve near Abidjan, offering a natural escape within the city.'}

Head of State / Government:

President Alassane Ouattara

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Fête des Masques (Festival of Masks)', 'writeup': 'A traditional festival celebrating the cultural heritage of various ethnic groups through masked dances and rituals.'}
- {'name': 'Yam Festival', 'writeup': 'An annual celebration marking the yam harvest, important in many Ivorian communities.'}

Food & Cuisine:

Ivorian cuisine features staples like cassava, plantains, and rice, with popular dishes including attiééké (fermented cassava couscous) and kedjenou (slow-cooked chicken stew).

Brief History:

Côte d'Ivoire was a French colony until gaining independence in 1960. It experienced economic growth under Félix Houphouët-Boigny but faced political instability and civil conflict in the early 2000s. The country has since been working towards reconciliation and development.

Important People:

- Félix Houphouët-Boigny - First President and founding father
- Alassane Ouattara - Current President
- Henri Konan Bédié - Former President

Current Conflicts:

The country has largely stabilized after past civil conflicts, but occasional political tensions and disputes over elections persist.

Youtube Links:

- Discover Côte d'Ivoire: Culture and Nature
- Top 10 Places to Visit in Côte d'Ivoire
- Côte d'Ivoire History and Politics Explained
- Traditional Ivorian Cuisine You Must Try
- Wildlife and National Parks of Côte d'Ivoire