

Marshall Islands

Continent: Australia

Languages Spoken: Marshallese, English

Population: 59,000

Currency: United States Dollar (USD)

Area: 181

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Bikini Atoll', 'writeup': 'A UNESCO World Heritage site known for nuclear testing by the US in the mid-20th century and now a diving destination.'}
- {'name': 'Arno Atoll', 'writeup': 'Famous for traditional Marshallese navigation and canoe building.'}
- {'name': 'Laura Beach', 'writeup': 'A popular beach on Majuro Atoll known for its white sand and clear waters.'}

Head of State / Government:

President David Kabua

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Marshall Islands Constitution Day', 'writeup': 'Celebrates the adoption of the constitution on May 1, featuring traditional dances and ceremonies.'}
- {'name': 'Kajjuren Festival', 'writeup': 'A cultural festival showcasing traditional music, dance, and crafts.'}

Food & Cuisine:

Marshallese cuisine features seafood, breadfruit, coconut, and pandanus, often prepared with traditional methods like steaming and baking in earth ovens.

Brief History:

The Marshall Islands were settled by Micronesian peoples around 2,000 years ago. They became a German protectorate in the late 19th century, then controlled by Japan during WWI. After WWII, the US administered the islands and conducted nuclear tests. The Marshall Islands gained independence in 1986 under a Compact of Free Association with the US.

Important People:

- Amata Kabua - First President of the Marshall Islands
- Kessai Note - Former President
- Tony deBrum - Diplomat and climate change advocate

Current Conflicts:

No active military conflicts; ongoing concerns include climate change impacts and nuclear legacy issues.

Youtube Links:

- Marshall Islands: Life on a Remote Pacific Atoll
- The History and Culture of the Marshall Islands

- Bikini Atoll Nuclear Test Site - Marshall Islands
- Traditional Navigation in the Marshall Islands
- Climate Change Threats to the Marshall Islands