

Chad

Continent: Africa

Languages Spoken: French, Arabic

Population: 17,500,000

Currency: Central African CFA franc (XAF)

Area: 1,284,000

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Zakouma National Park', 'writeup': 'A major wildlife reserve known for its elephants, lions, and diverse ecosystems.'}
- {'name': 'Ennedi Plateau', 'writeup': 'A UNESCO World Heritage site famous for its rock formations, prehistoric rock art, and desert landscapes.'}
- {'name': "N'Djamena", 'writeup': 'The capital city, notable for its markets, colonial architecture, and cultural diversity.'}

Head of State / Government:

President Mahamat Déby Itno

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Gerewol Festival', 'writeup': 'A traditional Wodaabe festival featuring elaborate dances and beauty contests among men.'}
- {'name': 'Chad Independence Day', 'writeup': "Celebrated on August 11, marking Chad's independence from France in 1960."}

Food & Cuisine:

Chadian cuisine features staples like millet, sorghum, and rice, often accompanied by sauces made from peanuts, okra, or tomatoes, with meat such as goat, beef, or fish commonly used.

Brief History:

Chad gained independence from France in 1960. It has experienced periods of civil conflict and political instability but remains a culturally diverse nation with over 200 ethnic groups.

Important People:

- François Tombalbaye - First President of Chad
- Hissène Habré - Former President and military leader
- Idriss Déby - Former President who ruled from 1990 to 2021

Current Conflicts:

Chad faces ongoing security challenges from armed groups in the Lake Chad Basin and border tensions with neighboring countries.

Youtube Links:

- Discover Chad: Africa's Hidden Gem

- Wildlife of Zakouma National Park, Chad
- The Enigmatic Ennedi Plateau - Chad's Natural Wonder
- Chad: History, Culture, and Challenges
- Life and Traditions of the Wodaabe People in Chad