

# Lebanon

**Continent:** Asia

**Languages Spoken:** Arabic, French, English

**Population:** 6,800,000

**Currency:** Lebanese Pound (LBP)

**Area:** 10,452

## Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Baalbek', 'writeup': 'Ancient Roman temple complex known for its grand architecture and historical significance.'}
- {'name': 'Jeita Grotto', 'writeup': 'A system of interconnected limestone caves famous for its stunning stalactites and stalagmites.'}
- {'name': 'Byblos', 'writeup': 'One of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world, rich in archaeological sites.'}
- {'name': 'Cedars of God', 'writeup': 'Ancient cedar forest, symbolizing Lebanon and mentioned in various historical texts.'}
- {'name': 'Beirut National Museum', 'writeup': "Houses a vast collection of archaeological artifacts showcasing Lebanon's history."}

## Head of State / Government:

President Michel Aoun

## Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Beirut International Film Festival', 'writeup': 'Annual event showcasing regional and international films, promoting cultural exchange.'}
- {'name': 'Byblos International Festival', 'writeup': 'Music and arts festival held in the ancient city of Byblos featuring global artists.'}
- {'name': 'Mawazine Festival', 'writeup': 'Celebrates Lebanese music and culture with performances across the country.'}

## Food & Cuisine:

Lebanese cuisine is known for its use of fresh ingredients, olive oil, herbs, and spices, featuring dishes like hummus, tabbouleh, kibbeh, and manakish.

## Brief History:

Lebanon has a rich history dating back to ancient Phoenician civilization. It has been influenced by various empires including Roman, Ottoman, and French. Lebanon gained independence in 1943 and has experienced periods of conflict and cultural flourishing.

## Important People:

- Rafic Hariri - Former Prime Minister and influential political figure
- Khalil Gibran - Renowned poet and writer

- Fairuz - Iconic Lebanese singer
- Michel Aoun - Current President
- Gebran Tueni - Prominent journalist and politician

#### **Current Conflicts:**

Lebanon faces political instability, economic crisis, and tensions related to Hezbollah's role and regional conflicts impacting its security.

#### **Youtube Links:**

- Discover Lebanon: A Journey Through History and Culture
- Lebanon Travel Guide - Top Places to Visit
- Lebanese Cuisine Explained: Traditional Dishes
- The Cedars of Lebanon: Nature and Heritage
- Lebanon's Political Landscape: An Overview