

Mauritius

Continent: Africa

Languages Spoken: English, French, Mauritian Creole

Population: 1,265,000

Currency: Mauritian Rupee (MUR)

Area: 2,040

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Le Morne Brabant', 'writeup': 'A UNESCO World Heritage site, this mountain is a symbol of resistance against slavery.'}
- {'name': 'Black River Gorges National Park', 'writeup': 'A large national park known for its biodiversity and hiking trails.'}
- {'name': 'Aapravasi Ghat', 'writeup': 'A historic site where indentured laborers first arrived, now a UNESCO World Heritage site.'}
- {'name': 'Chamarel Seven Colored Earths', 'writeup': 'A natural phenomenon featuring sand dunes with seven distinct colors.'}
- {'name': 'Pamplemousses Botanical Garden', 'writeup': 'One of the oldest botanical gardens in the Southern Hemisphere, famous for giant water lilies.'}

Head of State / Government:

President Prithvirajsing Roopun

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Cavadee Festival', 'writeup': 'A Tamil Hindu festival marked by acts of devotion and colorful processions.'}
- {'name': 'Diwali', 'writeup': 'The Hindu festival of lights celebrated with fireworks and family gatherings.'}
- {'name': 'Chinese Spring Festival', 'writeup': 'Celebration of the Lunar New Year with traditional dances and food.'}
- {'name': 'Mauritius Carnival', 'writeup': 'An annual event featuring music, dance, and vibrant costumes.'}

Food & Cuisine:

Mauritian cuisine is a blend of Creole, Indian, Chinese, and French influences, featuring dishes like dhol puri, fish vindaye, and gâteau piment.

Brief History:

Mauritius was uninhabited until the Dutch arrived in the 17th century. It was colonized by the French and later the British before gaining independence in 1968. The island has a diverse cultural heritage influenced by African, Indian, European, and Chinese settlers.

Important People:

- Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam - Father of the Nation and first Prime Minister
- Anerood Jugnauth - Former Prime Minister and President

- Navin Ramgoolam - Former Prime Minister
- Jean-Baptiste Charles Bouvet de Lozier - French explorer who discovered the island
- Paul Bérénger - Former Prime Minister

Current Conflicts:

Mauritius has no active internal conflicts but maintains a territorial dispute with the United Kingdom over the Chagos Archipelago.

Youtube Links:

- Mauritius Travel Guide - Top Things to Do in Mauritius
- Mauritius Island - A Paradise in the Indian Ocean
- Mauritius Culture and Traditions
- Mauritius Food Tour - Exploring Local Cuisine
- History of Mauritius - From Colonization to Independence