

Kiribati

Continent: Australia

Languages Spoken: English, Gilbertese

Population: 119,000

Currency: Kiribati dollar (KID), Australian dollar (AUD)

Area: 811

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Phoenix Islands Protected Area', 'writeup': 'One of the largest marine protected areas in the world, known for its rich biodiversity and pristine coral reefs.'}

- {'name': 'Betio War Memorial', 'writeup': 'A memorial on Tarawa Atoll commemorating those who died in World War II during the Battle of Tarawa.'}

- {'name': 'Te Umanibong Museum', 'writeup': "The national museum located in South Tarawa, showcasing Kiribati's cultural heritage and history."}

Head of State / Government:

President Taneti Maamau

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Te Kaimatoa', 'writeup': 'A traditional dance festival celebrating Kiribati culture, featuring music, dance, and storytelling.'}

- {'name': 'Independence Day', 'writeup': "Celebrated on July 12th, marking Kiribati's independence from the United Kingdom in 1979."}

Food & Cuisine:

Kiribati cuisine primarily consists of seafood, coconut, breadfruit, and pandanus. Traditional dishes often include fish prepared with coconut milk and root crops.

Brief History:

Kiribati was first settled by Micronesian peoples around 3000 years ago. It became a British protectorate in the late 19th century and gained independence in 1979. The country faces significant challenges due to climate change and rising sea levels.

Important People:

- Anote Tong - Former President known for climate change advocacy

- Taneti Maamau - Current President

- Teatao Teannaki - Former President

Current Conflicts:

Kiribati faces no active military conflicts but is significantly impacted by climate change, leading to environmental and socio-economic challenges.

Youtube Links:

- Kiribati: Life on the Frontline of Climate Change
- Exploring Kiribati's Unique Culture and Traditions
- The Phoenix Islands Protected Area - Kiribati's Marine Treasure
- Battle of Tarawa - World War II History in Kiribati
- Kiribati's Struggle Against Rising Sea Levels