

EUROPE

1. FLAG OF ALBANIA 🇦🇱 (Tirana)

- The flag of Albania is a red flag with a silhouetted black double-headed eagle in the center. The red stands for bravery, strength, valor and bloodshed, while the Eagle represents the sovereign state of Albania. The flag was established as the national flag of Albania when the country gained its independence from the Ottoman Empire in 1912.

CURRENCY - ALBANIAN LEK

- Albania is famous for its remarkable historical structures. The oldest castle in the country, Kruje Castle, is an important reminder of the bravery of Skanderbeg whilst protecting his nation against the Ottoman Empire
- Albania Used To Be The Poorest Country In Europe....
- 70% Of The Country Is Filled With Mountains....
- The Highest Point Is Maja E Korabit....
- Raki Is The National Drink.
- Albania is an ethnically homogeneous country, where the overwhelming majority of the population speaks Albanian, which is also the official language. It has two distinct dialects: Tosk, spoken in the south, and Gheg, spoken in the north

BUNTRINT

- Inhabited since prehistoric times, Butrint has been the site of a Greek colony, a Roman city and a bishopric. Following a period of prosperity under Byzantine administration, then a brief occupation by the Venetians, the city was abandoned in the late Middle Ages after marshes formed in the area. The present archaeological site is a repository of ruins representing each period in the city's development

PEOPLE - ALBANIANS

2. FLAG OF ANDORRA 🇦🇩 (Andorra La Vella)

- The national flag of Andorra features a vertical tricolor of blue, yellow, and red with the coat of arms of Andorra in the center. Although the three vertical bars may at first appear to be of equal width, the center yellow bar is slightly wider than the other two.
- Inspired by French (Blue and Red) and Spanish Flags (Red and Yellow)
- Shield with a motto "Virtus Unita Fortior" (Latin)-United virtue stands stronger

4 Quadrants

La Seu d'Urgell - Town in Spain

County of Foix - The County of Foix was an independent medieval fief in southern France, and later a province of France

Crown of Aragon (Catalonia) - The Crown of Aragon was a **composite monarchy ruled by one king**, originated by the dynastic union of the Kingdom of Aragon and the County of Barcelona

(Former) Viscounty of Bearn - The Viscounty, later Principality of Bearn (Gascon: Bearn or Biar), was a medieval lordship in the far south of France, part of the Duchy of Gascony from the late ninth century.

CURRENCY- **Euro**

- Andorra is small-It's the 16th smallest country in the world by land, and the 11th smallest by population.
- Andorra produces a lot of tobacco....
- Andorra is the world's only co-principality - A principality is a place ruled by a prince. Monaco is an example of a principality. Andorra, however, is a co-principality. They have two princes who jointly share the title of prince. Surprisingly, neither of the two princes are from Andorra. One prince is the President of France, Emmanuel Macron. The other co-prince is the Bishop of Urgell, who is currently Joan Enric Vives Sicília.
- Andorra is the only country in the world with Catalan as its official language- Catalan is spoken in regions of Spain
- Andorra has no national bank and has never had its own currency-Andorra currently uses the Euro as its currency. Before that, it primarily used the Spanish Peseta and sometimes the French Franc. There is no national bank in Andorra, so it has to use private banks if the country wants to incur debt.

Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley

The cultural landscape of Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley offers a microcosmic perspective of the way people have harvested the resources of the high Pyrenees over millennia. Its dramatic glacial landscapes of craggy cliffs and glaciers, with high open pastures and steep wooded valleys, covers an area of 4,247 ha, 9% of the total area of the principality. It reflects past changes in climate, economic fortune and social systems, as well as the persistence of pastoralism and a strong mountain culture, notably the survival of a communal land-ownership system dating back the 13th century. The site features houses, notably summer settlements, terraced fields, stone track and evidence of iron smelting.

PEOPLE - **ANDORRANS**

3. FLAG OF ARMENIA 🇦🇲 (Yerevan)

- The national flag of Armenia, the Armenian Tricolour, consists of three **horizontal bands of equal width, red on the top, blue in the middle, and apricot on the bottom.**
- **Red** - Highland, survival, Christianity, independence and freedom

- **Red** - Blood of Armenians killed in Armenian Genocide
- **Blue** - Will of the people to live under peaceful skies.
- **Orange** - Creative talent/hard working nature of the people
- **Orange** - Color of Apricot (National Fruit)

CURRENCY - **ARMENIAN DRAM**

- Armenia is an ancient country-With a recorded history of more than 3,500 years,
- Armenia is home to one of the world's oldest civilisations.
- First country to adopt Christianity -Armenia proudly claims the distinction of being the first country to adopt Christianity as a state religion. Tradition has it that two of Jesus's Apostles, Thaddeus and Bartholomew, successfully preached Christianity to Armenians as early as AD 40.
- Armenia has its own alphabet. Armenian is written in its own alphabet, which was created by St. Mesrop Mashtots in 405/406 CE with the help of Catholicos Sahak Parlev and King Vramshapuh.
- Armenia is home to the world's oldest winery. The region of Vayots Dzor claims to be home to the oldest winery in the world, in operation some 6,100 years ago.
- Yerevan is actually 29 years older than Rome. You can learn the story of Armenia at the History Museum of Armenia in Yerevan's Republic Square. Yerevan was built from pink volcanic stone called "Tuff".
- Yerevan is one of the oldest cities in the world.

Cathedral and Churches of Echmiatsin and the Archaeological Site of Zvartnots

- The cathedral and churches of Echmiatsin and the archaeological remains at Zvartnots graphically illustrate the evolution and development of the Armenian central-domed cross-hall type of church, which exerted a profound influence on architectural and artistic development in the region.

PEOPLE - **ARMENIANS**

4. FLAG OF AUSTRIA (Vienna)

- The national flag of Austria is a **triband in the following order: red, white, and red.**
- The Austrian flag is considered one of the oldest national symbols still in use by a modern country, with its first recorded use in 1230. The Austrian triband originated from the arms of the Babenberg dynasty. As opposed to other flags.

CURRENCY- **EURO**

- Austria is landlocked, which is one of those well-known facts about Austria. But what it's not lacking is neighbors. It's bordered by Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Germany, Slovenia, Italy, Switzerland, and Lichtenstein.
- Famous names like Franz Liszt (born in Austria), Mozart, Strauss (both junior and senior), Schoenberg, Josef Haydn, and Franz Schubert were all from Austria. Classical and orchestral music is still a big deal in the country.

- Austria Is Home To The Oldest Restaurant In Europe- Founded in 803 AD in the walls of an abbey, St. Peter Stiftskulinarium is a super old restaurant and inn. It's the oldest still in existence. Greats like Mozart and Christopher Columbus are said to have eaten at the restaurant.
- Sigmund Freud Was An Austrian Jew
- The name Austria derives from a Germanic word 'austro' which means 'east'.

Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn

- From the 18th century to 1918, Schönbrunn was the residence of the Habsburg emperors. It was designed by the architects Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach and Nicolaus Pacassi and is full of outstanding examples of decorative art. Together with its gardens, the site of the world's first zoo in 1752, it is a remarkable Baroque ensemble and a perfect example of Gesamtkunstwerk.

PEOPLE - AUSTRIANS

5. FLAG OF AZERBAIJAN (Baku)

- The national flag of Azerbaijan often referred to in Azerbaijani as Üçrəngli bayraq is a horizontal tricolor that features three equally sized bars of bright blue, red, and green; a white crescent; and a centered eight-pointed star. The flag has become the predominant and most recognizable symbol of Azerbaijan. The bright blue represents Azerbaijan's Turkic heritage, the red represents progress, and the green represents Islam, which is Azerbaijan's majority religion.

CURRENCY - Azerbaijani Manat

- Baku is 28 Meters Below Sea Level- The capital city of Baku was once a busy town on the Silk Road. You're actually 28 meters below sea level. This makes it the lowest lying country capital in the world.
- Pancakes are Azerbaijan's National Dish - Every restaurant in Azerbaijan has kutabi (stuffed, savoury pancakes) on the menu. They're usually filled with meat, veggies, pumpkins, and herbs. They're toasted on a griddle and they are absolutely delicious.
- Azerbaijan Has Nearly 400 Mud Volcanoes- Azerbaijan has the greatest concentration of mud volcanoes in the world: nearly 400 in total, and most are located near Baku.
- Human History Here Dates Back 2 Million Years In the Azikh Cave in Western Azerbaijan, archaeologists found tools and human remains dating back to prehistoric times. There are actually six whole chambers in the cave where these artefacts have been found, and archaeologists think the cave was occupied about 2-million years ago.

Gobustan Rock Art Cultural Landscape

- Gobustan Rock Art Cultural Landscape covers three areas of a plateau of rocky boulders rising out of the semi-desert of central Azerbaijan, with an outstanding collection of more than 6,000 rock engravings bearing testimony to 40,000 years of rock art. The site also features the remains of inhabited caves, settlements and burials, all reflecting an

intensive human use by the inhabitants of the area during the wet period that followed the last Ice Age, from the Upper Paleolithic to the Middle Ages. The site, which covers an area of 537 ha, is part of the larger protected Gobustan Reservation.

PEOPLE - **AZERIS**

6. FLAG OF BELARUS (Minsk)

- The national flag of Belarus is a red (2/3) -and-green (1/3) flag with a white-and-red ornament pattern placed at the hoist (staff) end.
- **Red** - Freedom/ Sacrifices of forefathers
- **Green** - Life
- **Rushnyk Pattern** - (Cultural connotation) Used consistently in Belarusian cloths and woven materials.

CURRENCY - **Belarusian Rubel**

- **Around 40% of Belarus is covered by forest** - Referred to as the 'Lungs of Europe' Belarus is home to one of the last and largest remaining parts of the huge primeval forest that once covered the European Plain - the Bialowieza Forest.
- **Belarus National library is award-winning** - Also known as 'The Diamond of Knowledge', the National Library of Belarus is an imposing structure, standing at 74 metres tall, with 23 floors and a viewing deck from the top.
- **The bison is (one of their national symbol(s)).**

When choosing their national animal, the Belarusians opted for the heaviest surviving land mammal in the whole of Europe. Brought back from the brink of

extinction in the early 50s, two European bison were released into the Bialowieza Forest. Today there are around 600 to be spotted here. Other national symbols include the stork and the cornflower.

Belarus is considered to be one of the world centers of religious tourism for Jews. The unique architecture of Belarusian ancient churches attracts many Christian pilgrims.

Białowieża Forest

- The Bialowieza Forest World Heritage site, on the border between Poland and Belarus, is an immense range of primary forest including both conifers and broadleaved trees cover a total area of 141,885 hectares. Situated on the watershed of the Baltic Sea and Blc Sea, this transboundary property is exceptional for the opportunities it offers for biodiver conservation. It is home to the largest population of the

PEOPLE - **BELARUSIANS**

7. FLAG OF BELGIUM (Brussels)

- The national flag of Belgium is a tricolor consisting of **three equal vertical bands displaying the national colors of Belgium: black, yellow, and red.** The colors were taken from the coat of arms of the Duchy of Brabant, and the vertical design may be based on the flag of France. **When flown,** the black band is nearest the pole (at the hoist side).
- Correlated to the country's coat of arms
- **Black** - Shield and Determination
- **Yellow** - Lion and Determination
- **Red** - Claws, Tongue and Crown-Bravery and Strength

CURRENCY- **Euro**

- **Belgium has three official languages** - Depending on which region of the country you're in, you'll find that people in Belgium will speak French, German, or Dutch
- Belgium is technically a Kingdom- Much like the United Kingdom, which lies just across the water, Belgium is technically a Kingdom on account of the fact that it has a royal family. The head of the monarchy is either a King or a Queen and there have been seven Kings since Belgium became its own independent country in 1830.
- The national symbol of Belgium is the Manneken pis-One of the most fun facts about Belgium is that the national symbol of the country is a statue of a small urinating boy. The Manneken Pis dates back to the 17th-century.
- Belgian chocolate is incredibly famous- Belgium is known around the world for the excellent quality of its chocolate. In fact, it's estimated that the 725,000 tons of chocolate produced each year in Belgium means that Belgium is responsible for around 11% of the world's chocolate production!

Flemish Béguinages

- The Beguines were women who dedicated their lives to God without retiring from the world. In the 13th century they founded the beguinages, enclosed communities designed to meet their spiritual and material needs. The Flemish beguinages are architectural ensembles composed of houses, churches, ancillary buildings and green spaces, with a layout of either urban or rural origin and built in styles specific to the Flemish cultural region. They are a fascinating reminder of the tradition of the Béguines that developed in north-western Europe in the Middle Ages.

PEOPLE - **BELGIANS**

8. FLAG OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA 🇧🇦 (Sarajevo)

- The flag of Bosnia and Herzegovina **contains a medium blue field with a yellow right triangle separating said field, and there are seven full five-pointed white stars and two half stars top and bottom along the hypotenuse of the triangle.**
- The **three points of the triangle stand for the three main ethnic groups** (or "constituent peoples") of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Bosniaks, Croats, and Serbs. The **triangle** represents the approximate shape of the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- The **stars**, representing Europe, are meant to be infinite in number and thus they continue from top to bottom. The flag features colors often associated with neutrality and peace -white, blue, and yellow. They are also colors traditionally associated with Bosnian culture and history. The **blue** background is evocative of the flag of the European Union.
- The Bosnian national flag is also used for official purposes by the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, one of the constituent entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

CURRENCY - **Bosnia-Herzegovina Convertible Mark**

- It's home to 170 species of trees, as well as thousands of flora and fauna. The 20,000-year-old Unesco World Heritage Site is also home to one of Bosnia's highest waterfalls, Skakavac Waterfall.
- The country is most captivating for its East-meets-West surroundings, which has been blended with Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian pasts. With an abundance of medieval ruins, unique towns and cities, stunning mountains, waterfalls and rivers,
- Bosnia and Herzegovina has two names because it consists of two regions, one called Bosnia and another Herzegovina. The two regions could not be separated because there was no clear border that would have divided them into two.
- Diverse European and Turkish influences are felt in the cultural life of Bosnia and Herzegovina. There are considerable variations between traditional and modern and between rural and urban culture as well

Stećci Medieval Tombstone Graveyards

- This serial property combines 28 sites, located in Bosnia and Herzegovina, western Serbia, western Montenegro and central and southern Croatia, representing these cemeteries and regionally distinctive medieval tombstones, or stećci. The cemeteries, which date from the 12th to 16th centuries CE, are laid out in rows, as was the common custom in Europe from the Middle Ages. The stecci are mostly carved from limestone. They feature a wide range of decorative motifs and inscriptions that represent iconographic continuities within medieval Europe as well as locally distinctive traditions.

PEOPLE - **BOSNIANS**

9. FLAG OF BULGARIA (Sofia)

- The flag of Bulgaria is a tricolor consisting of **three equal-sized horizontal bands of white, green, and red.** Inspired by the Pan-slav nationalist colors
- **White** - Love, peace, freedom and spirituality
- **Green** - Youth and nature
- **Red** - Valor

CURRENCY- **Bulgarian Lev**

- Bulgaria is the oldest country in Europe that hasn't changed its name since it was first established.
- Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, was founded 7000 years ago

- The gold treasure discovered in the Varna Necropolis is the oldest one in the world
Bulgaria is known for its beautiful beaches by the Black Sea, ancient historic ruins, and intricate religious landmarks, as well as stunning nature spots including Vitosha Mountain and Rila Lakes. Bulgaria is one of the Balkan countries sitting in South-East Europe.
- Bulgaria exports mostly fuels, manufactured goods (clothing, footwear), machinery and transport equipment and chemicals.
Bulgaria's main export partners are Germany, Turkey, Italy, Greece and Romania.

PEOPLE - BULGARIANS

10. FLAG OF CROATIA (Zagreb)

- The national flag of Croatia or The Tricolor is one of the state symbols of Croatia. It consists of three equal size, horizontal stripes in colours red, white and blue. In the middle is the coat of arms of Croatia.
- Blue - Freedom and Hope
- White - Peace and Unity
- Red - Revolution and Sacrifices
- Coat of Arms - The coat of arms of the Republic of Croatia consists of one main shield and five smaller shields (Historical regions of Croatia) which form a crown over the main shield. The main coat of arms is a checkerboard that consists of 13 red and 12 white fields. It is also informally known in Croatian as šahovnica.

CURRENCY- Croatian Kuna then EURO

- The kuna was the currency of Croatia from 30 May 1994 until 31 December 2022. It was replaced by the euro in 2023
- Croatia's Town Of Hum, The Smallest Town In The World.
- Croatia Has The Highest Number Of UNESCO Intangible Goods In Europe.
- Their Old Currency Is Named After A Rodent.
- The Origins Of Dalmatians Stem From Croatia.
- The Largest Collection of Neanderthal Remains Was Found In Croatia.
- It has an incredible history, treasures, and unique cultures, such as its cuisine and architecture. Croatia's coastlines, decorated with a thousand islands, are home to a natural crystal clear sea, wonders of national parks, and preserved natural wonders.
- Culture of Croatia is usually defined as a blend of Central European, Mediterranean and Balkans cultural circles.

PEOPLE - CROATS/CROATIANS

11. FLAG OF Cyprus (Nicosia)

- The national flag features the shape of the entirety of the island, with two olive branches below a symbol of peace between the island's two communities) on white (another symbol of peace). The olive branches signify peace between the Greek and Turkish

Cypriots. **The map** on the flag is a **copper-orange color**, symbolizing the large deposits of copper ore on the island, from which it may have received its name.

CURRENCY - Euro

Choirokoitia

- The Neolithic settlement of Choirokoitia, occupied from the 7th to the 4th millennium B.C., is one of the most important prehistoric sites in the eastern Mediterranean. Its remains and the finds from the excavations there have thrown much light on the evolution of human society in this key region. Since only part of the site has been excavated, it forms an exceptional archaeological reserve for future study.

PEOPLE - **CYPRIOTS**

12. FLAG OF CZECH REPUBLIC (Prague)

- The flag of the Czech Republic is the **same as the flag of the former Czechoslovakia**. Upon the dissolution of Czechoslovakia in December 1992, the Czech Republic kept the Czechoslovak flag while Slovakia adopted its own flag. The first flag of Czechoslovakia was based on the flag of **Bohemia** and was white over red. This was almost identical to the flag of Poland (only the proportion was different), so a **blue triangle** was added at the hoist in 1920.

CURRENCY - **Czech Koruna**

- The Czech Republic ranks as the seventh safest country to live in the world.
- It has the most castles in Europe.
- The Czech Republic is home to the largest ancient castle in the world.
The Czech Republic is a country of architecture. The romanesque, gothic, renaissance, baroque, classicist styles, art nouveau, cubism, functionalism and even the communistera architecture stand side by side across the country.

Historic Centre of Prague

- Built between the 11th and 18th centuries, the Old Town, the Lesser Town and the New Town speak of the great architectural and cultural influence enjoyed by this city since the Middle Ages. The many magnificent monuments, such as Hradcany Castle, St Vitus Cathedral, Charles Bridge and numerous churches and palaces, built mostly in the 14th century under the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles IV.

PEOPLE - **CZECHS**

13. FLAG OF DENMARK (Copenhagen)

- The national flag of Denmark is **red with a white Nordic cross**, which means that the cross extends to the edges of the flag and the vertical part of the cross is shifted to the

Koist side.

Known as "**Dannebrog**"- Oldest consistently used flag in the world

- **White** - Honesty and peace
- **Red** - Valor, strength and bravery

CURRENCY- **Danish Krone**

- Like the rest of Scandinavia, Denmark is known for its high-quality design and architecture. Just think Bang & Olufsen, Arne Jacobsen's Egg chair, Royal Copenhagen porcelain and the Royal Opera House in Sydney - all the work of Danish designers and companies.
- Denmark, the most southerly country in the Nordic Region, is a small, densely populated country, made up of a large number of islands skirted by lovely beaches.
- The Danes are known for being cosmopolitan, well-educated, and open-minded people. Equality is a keyword in Danish culture. The vast majority of people belong to the middle class, and the percentage of poor people is low.
- LEGO is from Denmark.

Wadden Sea

- The Wadden Sea is the largest unbroken system of intertidal sand and mud flats in the world. The site covers the Dutch Wadden Sea Conservation Area, the German Wadden Sea National Parks of Lower Saxony and Schleswig-Holstein, and most of the Danish Wadden Sea maritime conservation area. It is a large, temperate, relatively flat coastal wetland environment, formed by the intricate interactions between physical and biological factors that have given rise to a multitude of transitional habitats with tidal channels, sandy shoals, sea-grass meadows, mussel beds, sandbars, mudflats, salt marshes, estuaries, beaches and dunes. The area is home to numerous plant and animal species, including marine mammals such as the harbour seal, grey seal and harbour porpoise.

PEOPLE - **DANES**

14. FLAG OF ESTONIA (Tallinn)

- The flag of Estonia is a tricolor featuring **three equal horizontal bands of blue, black, and white**. In Estonian it is colloquially called the sinimustvalge. The tricolour was already in wide use as the symbol of Estonia and Estonians when the Republic of Estonia became a fully independent country in 1918.
- **Blue** - Freedom and Truth
- **Black** - Dark Times
- **White** - Purity and Hardwork

CURRENCY - Euro

Historic Centre (Old Town) of Tallinn

- The origins of Tallinn date back to the 13th century, when a castle was built there by the crusading knights of the Teutonic Order. It developed as a major centre of the Hanseatic League, and its wealth is demonstrated by the opulence of the public buildings (the churches in particular) and the domestic architecture of the merchants' houses, which have survived to a remarkable degree despite the ravages of fire and war in the intervening centuries.

PEOPLE - ESTONIANS

15. FLAG OF FINLAND (Helsinki)

- The flag of Finland, also called siniristilippu ("Blue Cross Flag"), dates from the beginning of the 20th century. On a white background, it features a blue Nordic cross, which represents Christianity.

CURRENCY - Euro

- Finland is often ranked number one for being the happiest country in the world, as the Finns have high incomes, health care for all, and a top education system.
- Finland is famous for its stunning Lapland, the northern lights, Saunas, wife carrying, quirky food and for being the home of Santa Claus.
- There are over 2 million saunas in Finland and 99% of Finns take a Sauna once a week or more. There is a Burger King in Finland that has an in-store sauna.
- Finland was the first country in the world to give full political rights to women.

Fortress of Suomenlinna

- Built in the second half of the 18th century by Sweden on a group of islands located at the entrance of Helsinki's harbour, this fortress is an especially interesting example of European military architecture of the time.

PEOPLE - FINNS

16. FLAGS OF FRANCE (Paris)

- Flag of France has three vertical bands colored blue (on the hoist side), white, and red.
- **Blue and Red:** These are the traditional colors of Paris.
- **White:** This was the historic color of the French royal family.

CURRENCY - Euro

- Of all the countries in the world, France is the most visited! Approximately 89 million people visit France every year to take in the culture and enjoy the food.
- Paris is one of the most visited cities. In 2019, over 19 million tourists visited the city of Paris, France.
- The Louvre Museum in Paris, France is the largest art museum in the world. This museum is so big that if you wanted to spend 30 seconds looking at each piece of art, it would take you approximately 100 days to get through the entire museum.

- While the exact number of cheeses produced in France is unknown, it is said that they make over 1,500 different cheeses!
- The Eiffel Tower is a wrought-iron lattice tower on the Champ de Mars in Paris, France. It is named after the engineer Gustave Eiffel, whose company designed and built the tower. Locally nicknamed "La dame de fer", it was constructed from 1887 to 1889 as the centerpiece of the 1889 World's Fair. The tower is 330 meters (1,083 ft.) tall, about the same height as an 81-storey building.

Prehistoric Sites and Decorated Caves of the Vézère Valley

- The Vézère valley contains 147 prehistoric sites dating from the Palaeolithic and 25 decorated caves. It is particularly interesting from an ethnological and anthropological, as well as an aesthetic point of view because of its cave paintings, especially those of the Lascaux Cave, whose discovery in 1940 was of great importance for the history of prehistoric art. The hunting scenes show some 100 animal figures, which are remarkable for their detail, rich colors and lifelike quality.

PEOPLE - **FRENCH**