

# Ethiopia

**Population:** 110 million people (2019)

**Capital:** Addis Ababa with 3.4 million inhabitants

**Language:** Amharic

**Religion:** Christian 61%, Muslim 34%

**Life expectancy:** 66.3 years

Ethiopia is a country on the Horn of Africa, the oldest independent country in Africa and the only African country that evaded colonial rule. In Ancient times, the region which is now Ethiopia and neighbouring Eritrea was referred to as Abyssinia.

Ethiopia is the second most populous country in Africa, after Nigeria. It is also the most populous land-locked country in the world. Only one in five people live in urban areas, such as the capital city or in larger towns. Most people live in rural areas and work in agriculture.

Ethiopia is eight hours flight from London and roughly five times the size of the UK.

Ethiopia is one of the poorest countries in the world and has been affected severely by drought and famine in recent years. In 2016, Ethiopia experienced its worst drought in thirty years. Coffee is the biggest export product of Ethiopia. Other exports include oilseeds, vegetables and gold. The main export partners are Sudan, Switzerland and China.



# Ghana

**Population:** 30 million people

**Capital:** Accra with 2.2 million inhabitants

**Language:** English plus 80 other languages

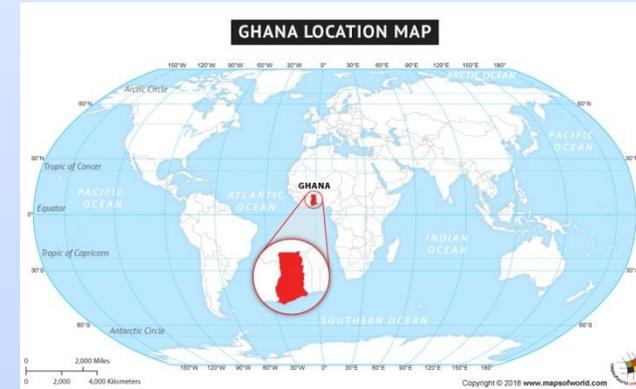
**Religion:** Christians (71%), Muslims (18%) , traditional (5%)

**Life expectancy:** 63.9 years



Ghana is situated on the west coast of Africa and is a land of lowland hills. It is near the equator and can be very hot.

Ghana's main export is gold (it became the largest producer of gold in Africa when it overtook South Africa in 2018). Ghana is also the world's second largest producer of cocoa beans. Ghana has a space programme and launched a satellite, GhanaSat-1, in 2017. GhanaSat-1 has cameras on board for detailed monitoring of the coastlines of Ghana.



Ghana has a colourful national costume, made from handwoven cloth, called kente. Ghanaian tradition placed large value on storytellers, called griots, whose job was to entertain the villagers with stories. Some of their stories had moral messages that were used to teach the children about good and bad behaviour.



# Sudan

**Population:** 41 million people

**Capital:** Khartoum with 5 million inhabitants

**Language:** Arabic and English

**Religion:** Muslim (97%)

**Life expectancy:** 65.18 years

Sudan covers a large area in north-eastern Africa with a coast along the Red Sea. In ancient times, the northern part of Sudan was known as Nubia. Ancient Egypt sometimes ruled Nubia.

For many years, Sudan was divided into northern and southern regions.

Fighting between the groups that lived in each of these regions led to a long civil war. In 2005, the fighting stopped. A peace agreement meant that there was an official split into two different countries in 2011: Sudan and South Sudan.

The name Sudan comes from Arab words meaning “land of the blacks.” However, most of Sudan’s people are Arabs. They follow Islam.

Sudan is one of the poorest countries in the world. Its main export is gold, followed by agriculture.



# Nigeria

**Population:** 195 million people

**Capital:** Abuja with 2.4 million inhabitants

**Language:** English (official), Yoruba, Igbo, Hausa and others

**Religion:** mainly Christians (83%), Muslims, Hindus, Jews, other faiths

**Life expectancy:** 54.5 years

Nigeria is a country in West Africa. It is the most populous country in Africa, and the seventh most populous country in the world.

The largest city in Nigeria is Lagos with an estimated population of around 21 million people. The capital city is of Nigeria is Abuja, which was planned out and then built in the 1980s, officially replacing Lagos as the capital in 1991.

Poor healthcare, living conditions and a lack of access to good water means Nigeria has a low general standard of living. The life expectancy is on average just 54.5 years which is the amongst the lowest in the world (compared to 81.2 in the UK). Its main export is petroleum.

Football is popular in Nigeria, the national team known as the "Super Eagles" have made five appearances at the World Cup and won the African Cup of Nations three times.



# Kenya

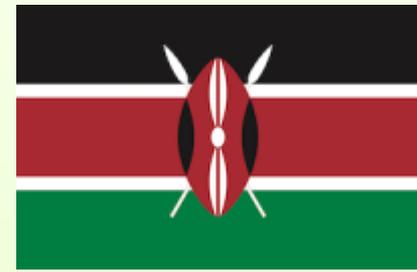
**Population:** 50 million people

**Capital:** Nairobi with 5 million inhabitants

**Language:** Kiswahili and English

**Religion:** mainly Christians (83%), Muslims, Hindus, Jews and other faiths

**Life expectancy:** 66.4 years



Kenya is located in East Africa and borders the Indian Ocean. The country lies on the Equator. Its main exports are horticultural products and tea.

Bantu tribes settled in the region about 500 BC. Some of the coastal regions of Kenya (such as Mombasa and Zanzibar) started trading with Arabs as early as the first century AD. From 1895, Kenya was part of the British Empire, gaining independence from Britain in 1963.



Kenya's name come from Mount Kenya and means 'God's resting place'. Mount Kenya is an extinct volcano which is also the second highest peak on the African continent: only Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania is taller.

Kenya is eight hours flight from London and roughly the size of France.

