

# Resources

NOTE: Please choose the resources that are most appropriate for your age group.

## COSTA RICA

Costa Rica, a Spanish-speaking republic in Central America, is bordered by Nicaragua to the north and Panama to the south. Costa Rica is rich in biodiversity with thousands of different species of flora and fauna, such as sloths, monkeys, anteaters and several types of tortoises. There also are beaches, volcanoes, rainforests and cloud forests. To protect the varieties of life forms in the ecosystem, a large part of the land has been designated as national parks and wildlife preserves. Ticos, as native Costa Ricans are commonly known, tend to be warm, approachable, helpful, and polite. Most ticos are descendants of Spaniards; some, however, are mestizos – a mixture of European and indigenous ancestry. The majority of those who live along the Caribbean coast are of African descent, and a few regions are inhabited by full-blooded indigenous tribes. Girl Guides in Costa Rica are currently working on a project about improving the environment.



*Courtesy of CountyReports.org*

### General Resources

CIA World Fact Book: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/cs.html>

Costa Rica Travel Guide: [www.tourism.co.cr/](http://www.tourism.co.cr/)

Unicef: [www.unicef.org/infobycountry/costarica.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/costarica.html)

U.S. Department of State: [www.state.gov/p/wha/ci/cs/](http://www.state.gov/p/wha/ci/cs/)

World InfoZone: <http://worldinfozone.com/country.php?country=CostaRica>

### Culture, Food, Music

Costa Rican Culture Guide: <http://music.incostaricaguide.com/>

Articles on culture: [www.infocostarica.com/culture/](http://www.infocostarica.com/culture/)

National Geographic World Music: <http://worldmusic.nationalgeographic.com/worldmusic/>

Smithsonian Global Sound: [www.smithsonianglobalsound.org/](http://www.smithsonianglobalsound.org/)

Viva Costa Rica Food & Drink: [www.vivacostarica.com/costa-rica-information/costa-rica-food.html](http://www.vivacostarica.com/costa-rica-information/costa-rica-food.html)

### Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting

Costa Rican Girl Guides: [www.siemprelistos.com/](http://www.siemprelistos.com/)

### Fighting Disease

The Global Fund: [www.theglobalfund.org/programs/countrysite.aspx?lang=en&CountryId=COR](http://www.theglobalfund.org/programs/countrysite.aspx?lang=en&CountryId=COR)

Global Health Reporting: [www.globalhealthreporting.org/countries.asp](http://www.globalhealthreporting.org/countries.asp)

World Health Organization: [www.who.int/countries/cr/en/](http://www.who.int/countries/cr/en/)

\*The country resources were researched and organized by GSUSA interns Ayana Keys and Irene O'Hare.

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## FIJI

Fiji, officially the Republic of Fiji Islands, is a nation of about 322 islands (only 106 are inhabited) in the South Pacific Ocean. English (the official language), Fijian, and Hindustani are widely spoken. The people celebrate many native traditions, and village culture is similar to what it was centuries ago. It is a multi-ethnic country primarily made up of native Fijians (who are Melanesians), Indians, Chinese, Europeans and Micronesians. Some Fijians still live in yavusa, or tribes, in which they share a common ancestor. There are close family ties among all members of a yavusa, whether they consist of 50 members or 400. Fiji has had Girl Guides since 1924, and they hold an annual camp every year for all members.

**General Resources**  
*A Cultural Profile Project:* <http://www.cp-pc.ca/english/fiji/index.html>

Fiji Government Online: <http://www.fiji.gov.fj/>

Fiji Islands Travel Guide: <http://www.bulafiji.com/>

U.S. Department of State: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/1834.htm>

World InfoZone: <http://worldinfozone.com/country.php?country=Fiji>

### *Culture, Food, Music*

Fiji Culture and Religion: <http://www.tourismfiji.com/fiji-culture-religion.html>

Fijian Culture Guide (traditional drinks, dance, etc.): <http://www.fiji-travel.com/culture.html>

Fijian Music and Dance: [www.janesoceania.com/fiji\\_music/index.htm](http://www.janesoceania.com/fiji_music/index.htm)

### *Guide Guiding and Girl Scouting*

WAGGGS: <http://www.waggsworld.org/en/home>

Experience as a Girl Guide and leader in Fiji: [www.waggsworld.org/en/issues/Globalactiondays/internationalwomensday2007/girlsstories](http://www.waggsworld.org/en/issues/Globalactiondays/internationalwomensday2007/girlsstories)

The Fiji Times Online (annual camp): [www.fjitemps.com/story.aspx?id=96317](http://www.fjitemps.com/story.aspx?id=96317)

### *Fighting Disease*

The Fiji Times Online: [www.fjitemps.com/story.aspx?id=77667](http://www.fjitemps.com/story.aspx?id=77667)

Global Health Reporting (click Fiji): [www.globalhealthreporting.org/countries.asp](http://www.globalhealthreporting.org/countries.asp)

UN AIDS 2006 Report on HIV/AIDS: [http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2006/2006\\_country\\_progress\\_report\\_fiji\\_en.pdf](http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2006/2006_country_progress_report_fiji_en.pdf)

Unicef in Fiji: [www.unicef.org/infobycountry/fiji.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/fiji.html)

World Health Organization: [www.who.int/countries/fji/en/](http://www.who.int/countries/fji/en/)



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## IRELAND

Ireland is an island nation located just west of England. The official languages are English and Irish Gaelic. Ireland's rich history is rooted in Celtic traditions such as Celtic songs, dance and storytelling of myths and legends. Many of the "Emerald Isle's" writers have made significant contributions to literature including five Nobel Prize winners. Known for their hard-work, friendliness, hospitality, and sense of humor, many Irish still maintain a sense of traditional ways, even though the country is very modern. Fifty percent of the population is under 25 years old, making for a dynamic youth culture. Irish Girl Guides are committed to protecting their natural environment through a "Leave No Trace" approach to outdoor activities and respect for the environment.

### General Resources

CIA World Fact Book: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ei.html>

Cultural Profile Project: [www.cp-pc.ca/english/ireland/index.html](http://www.cp-pc.ca/english/ireland/index.html)

Discover Ireland: [www.discoverireland.com/us/](http://www.discoverireland.com/us/)

Government of Ireland: [www.irishgov.ie/](http://www.irishgov.ie/)

A Kid's Life in...Ireland: <http://library.thinkquest.org/CR0212302/ireland.html>

U.S. Department of State: [www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3180.htm](http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3180.htm)

### Culture, Food, Music

Food Ireland: [www.foodireland.com/recipes/](http://www.foodireland.com/recipes/)

Irish Culture and Customs: [www.irishcultureandcustoms.com/](http://www.irishcultureandcustoms.com/)

National Geographic World Music: <http://worldmusic.nationalgeographic.com/worldmusic/>

Smithsonian Global Sound: [www.smithsonianglobalsound.org/](http://www.smithsonianglobalsound.org/)

### Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting

Catholic Guides of Ireland: [www.girlguidesireland.ie](http://www.girlguidesireland.ie)

Irish Girl Guides: [www.irishgirlguides.ie](http://www.irishgirlguides.ie)

### Fighting Disease

Irish Aid fight against AIDS: [www.irishaid.gov.ie/development\\_aids.asp](http://www.irishaid.gov.ie/development_aids.asp)

Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations: [www.un.int/ireland/g3.htm](http://www.un.int/ireland/g3.htm)

UNAID's Report on HIV and AIDs in Ireland: [http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2008/ireland\\_2008\\_country\\_progress\\_report\\_en.pdf](http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2008/ireland_2008_country_progress_report_en.pdf)

World Health Organization: [www.who.int/countries/irl/en/](http://www.who.int/countries/irl/en/)



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## JORDAN

Jordan, officially the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, is an Arabic-speaking country in the Middle East that spans the southern part of the Syrian Desert to the Gulf of Aqaba. With a population that is almost entirely Arab, Jordan's racial minorities—Circassians and Armenians—comprise barely one percent of the population. Although the majority of people live in urban areas, nomads and semi-nomads represent about five percent of the population. Today, most Jordanians are Muslim; historically, Jordan has been prized by Jews, Christians and Muslims as one of the oldest civilizations in the world with archaeological treasures that date back to 9000 BC. The spectacular ancient city of Petra, which means “stone” in Greek, is one of the “new” Seven Wonders of the World, and is Jordan's greatest tourist attraction. Jordanian Girl Guides are known for their community service. They paint schools, hold literacy campaigns, harvest crops, and care for the sick.



Courtesy of CountyReports.org

### General Resources

Info Please: [www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0107670.html](http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0107670.html)

Lonely Planet: [www.lonelyplanet.com/worldguide/jordan/](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/worldguide/jordan/)

Unicef: [www.unicef.org/infobycountry/jordan.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/jordan.html)

U.S. Department of State: [www.state.gov/p/nea/ci/jordan/](http://www.state.gov/p/nea/ci/jordan/)

World InfoZone: [worldinfozone.com/country.php?country=Jordan](http://worldinfozone.com/country.php?country=Jordan)

### Culture, Food, Music

Everyculture: Culture of Jordan: [www.everyculture.com/Ja-Ma/Jordan.html](http://www.everyculture.com/Ja-Ma/Jordan.html)

LangMedia's Arabic in Jordan: [http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/collection/lm\\_jordan/joIndex.html](http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/collection/lm_jordan/joIndex.html)

TDS Jordan Culture: [www.traveldocs.com/jo/culture.htm](http://www.traveldocs.com/jo/culture.htm)

Music from Jordan: [www.focusmm.com/jordan/jo\\_musmn.htm](http://www.focusmm.com/jordan/jo_musmn.htm)

National Geographic World Music: <http://worldmusic.nationalgeographic.com/worldmusic/>

Smithsonian Global Sound: [www.smithsonianglobalsound.org/](http://www.smithsonianglobalsound.org/)

### Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting

The Jordanian Association For Boy Scouts and Girl Guides: [www.wagggsworld.org/en/home](http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/home)

WAGGGS World Citizenship Award to Princess Basma of Jordan: [www.wagggsworld.org/en/about/awards/world\\_citizenship/awardees#basma](http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/about/awards/world_citizenship/awardees#basma)

Wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jordanian\\_Association\\_for\\_Boy\\_Scouts\\_and\\_Girl\\_Guides](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jordanian_Association_for_Boy_Scouts_and_Girl_Guides)

### Fighting Disease

Global Health Facts: [www.globalhealthfacts.org/country.jsp?c=115&cat=5](http://www.globalhealthfacts.org/country.jsp?c=115&cat=5)

U.S. AID Profile on AIDS: [www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/global\\_health/aids/Countries/ane/jordan\\_profile.pdf](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/aids/Countries/ane/jordan_profile.pdf)

World Health Organization: [www.who.int/countries/jor/en/](http://www.who.int/countries/jor/en/)

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## KENYA

Kenya, named after a mountain of the same name, is in East Africa. Its population is a mixture of 42 ethnic groups or tribes—each with their own unique dialect—although Swahili and English are the national languages. Indigenous Kenyans fall into three major linguistic groups: the Bantu, Nilotes and Cushites. The Maasai, Samburu and Turkana are semi-nomadic pastoral tribes that have retained most of their traditional ways including tribal dress (red is a favored color) adorned in beautiful ornaments made of beads, feathers and copper. Descendants of people from all over Africa, Europe, Asia and Arab countries have migrated to Kenya over the centuries. Kenya is famous for its wildlife including wildebeests, elephants, zebras, hippos, and more. It is also home to diverse music styles, including Afro-fusion, benga music, and traditional folk songs. The guitar is the most popular musical instrument, and songs often feature intricate rhythms. Kenyan Girl Guides have a Girl Centre in Kiberia, where girls can feel safe, learn life skills, and connect with other Girl Guides.



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### General Resources

CIA World Fact Book: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ke.html>

A Cultural profile Project: [www.cp-pc.ca/english/kenya/index.html](http://www.cp-pc.ca/english/kenya/index.html)

Kenya Travel Guide: [www.lonelyplanet.com/worldguide/kenya/](http://www.lonelyplanet.com/worldguide/kenya/)

U.S. Department of State: [www.state.gov/p/af/ci/ke/](http://www.state.gov/p/af/ci/ke/)

### Culture, Food, Music

Kenya Information Guide.com: [www.kenya-information-guide.com/kenya-culture.html](http://www.kenya-information-guide.com/kenya-culture.html)

Kenya: Menus & Recipes from Africa: [www.africa.upenn.edu/Cookbook/Kenya.html](http://www.africa.upenn.edu/Cookbook/Kenya.html)

National Geographic World Music: <http://worldmusic.nationalgeographic.com/worldmusic/>

Smithsonian Global Sound: [www.smithsonianglobalsound.org/](http://www.smithsonianglobalsound.org/)

### Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting

The Kenya Girl Guide Association: [www.kgga.co.ke/](http://www.kgga.co.ke/)

### Fighting Disease

Carter Center: [www.cartercenter.org/countries/kenya.html](http://www.cartercenter.org/countries/kenya.html)

Global Health Reporting (click Kenya): [www.globalhealthreporting.org/countries.asp](http://www.globalhealthreporting.org/countries.asp)

Global Fund in Kenya: [www.theglobalfund.org/en/in\\_action/kenya/hiv1/](http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/in_action/kenya/hiv1/)

Unicef in Kenya: [www.unicef.org/infobycountry/kenya\\_2621.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/kenya_2621.html)

World Health Organization: [www.who.int/countries/ken/en/](http://www.who.int/countries/ken/en/)

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