

Armenia

Country in Asia



Armenia is a nation, and former Soviet republic, in the mountainous Caucasus region between Asia and Europe. Among the earliest Christian civilizations, it's defined by religious sites including the Greco-Roman Temple of Garni and 4th-century Etchmiadzin Cathedral, headquarters of the Armenian Church. Khor Virap Monastery is a pilgrimage site near Mount Ararat, a dormant volcano just across the border in Turkey.

Capital: Yerevan

Population: 2.963 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: Asia

Currency: Armenian dram

Official language: Armenian

Government: executive council of government ministers

Distance Traveling from the USA

14 hr. 35 min. flight

Food

Dolma	Khash	Shashlik and Kebab Assortment
Boerag	Manti	Armenian Bulgur Salad
Topik	Lahmacun	Kchuch
Lavash	Gata	Armenian Coffee
Zhingyalov Hats	Ghapama	Cig Kofte
Basturma	TjvjikSujuk (Churchkhela)	Kefir
Harissa	Armenian Eggplant	Fasulya / Lobashu
Armenian Lentil Kofte (Vospov Kofte)	Armenian Rice Pilaf	Dried Fruits

Natural resources

Armenia has significant deposits of copper, molybdenum and gold, as well as smaller deposits of zinc, lead and silver. Some copper-molybdenum and polymetallic ore deposits are rich in elements such as bismuth, tellurium, selenium, gallium, indium, thallium, rhenium and germanium.

Artist profile

Yerevan



Armenia is a unique country! No matter what touches a hand of the Armenian master, whether it is painting, literature or music – everything has its own special, unique “Armenian flavor.” For lovers of jazz with Armenian accent, Yerevan is a truly paradise!

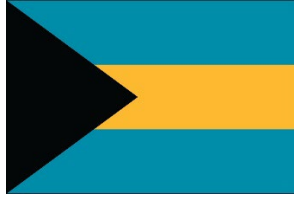
The first jazz band of Yerevan was founded in 1936 by composer Tsolak Vardazaryan. In 1938, composer Artemi Ayvazyan for the first time in the USSR founded the Armenian State Jazz Band. The appearance of jazz in a Soviet republic is indeed a unique fact, as the Stalinist regime in those days led rigid ideological policy, controlling all branches of life and preventing the penetration of anything foreign.



Minas Avetisyan (Born July 20, 1928 — Died 1975) was a painter. He was born in the Armenian village of Djadjur. Leningrad, with its Academy of Fine Arts and its Hermitage, played a significant role in his becoming an artist. Avetisian always remembers with gratitude his teachers, Johannson, Zaitsev and Khudiakov: they never hindered the natural expression of his own artistic individuality.

The Bahamas

Country in the Caribbean



The Bahamas, known officially as the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, is a sovereign country within the Lucayan Archipelago of the West Indies in the Atlantic. It takes up 97% of the Lucayan Archipelago's land area and is home to 88% of the archipelago's population.

Capital: Nassau

Population: 393,248 (2020) World Bank

Continent: North America

Currency: Bahamian dollar

Official language: British English, American English, Australian English

Government: Parliamentary system, Unitary state, Constitutional monarchy

Distance Traveling from the USA

3 hr. 21 min flight

Food

Conch Salad
Johnnycakes
Souse "Sowse"

Rock (Spiny) Lobster
Pigeon Peas and Rice
Guava Duff

Bahamian Stew Fish
Baked Crab
Cracked Conch

Natural resources

Aragonite is one of two naturally occurring crystalline forms of calcium carbonate and is present due to the coral on the islands. The islands have a relatively small area of arable land, making up around 0.5 percent of the total landmass. Timber production is likewise restricted to small areas throughout the island chain.

Artist profile

Melissa Alcena (b.1988, Nassau)



Is a Bahamian portrait and documentary photographer based in Nassau, Bahamas. In 2012 she completed an Applied Photography course at Sheridan College in Oakville, Ontario, Canada. Alcena's work focusses on shifting the paradise narrative of the Caribbean, by directly engaging with the people of The Bahamas in the everyday, and tapping into the humanity of its citizens. Her work has been featured The National Art Gallery of The Bahamas (2017 & 2018), D'Agulair Art Foundation and The Central Bank of The Bahamas (2019) and most recently in a group exhibition 'In Conversation: Visual Meditations on Black Masculinity' for the African American Museum in Philadelphia.

Exuma



Chances are, you've never heard a boast track quite like "Exuma, the Obeah Man," the opening song off Exuma's self-titled 1970 album.

A wolf howls, frogs count off a ramshackle symphony, bells jingle, drums palpitate, a zombie exhales, all by way of introducing the one-of-a-kind Bahamian performer, born Tony Mackey: "I came down on a lightning bolt/Nine months in my mama's belly," he proclaims. "When I was born, the midwife/Screamed and shout/I had fire and brimstone/Coming out of my mouth/I'm Exuma, the Obeah Man."

Cameroon

Country in Central Africa



Cameroon, on the Gulf of Guinea, is a Central African country of varied terrain and wildlife. Its inland capital, Yaoundé, and its biggest city, the seaport Douala, are transit points to ecotourism sites as well as beach resorts like Kribi – near the Chutes de la Lobé waterfalls, which plunge directly into the sea – and Limbe, where the Limbe Wildlife Centre houses rescued primates.

Capital: Yaoundé

President: Paul Biya

Population: 26.55 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: Africa

Currency: Central African CFA franc

Official languages: French, English

Distance Traveling from the USA

16 hr. 55 min. flight

Food

Fufu corn and njama njama (garden huckle berry leaves)

Mbanga soup and kwacoco

Brochettes, known locally as soya (a kind of barbecued kebab made from chicken, beef, or goat)

Eru and water fufu

Sangah (a mixture of maize, cassava leaf, and palm nut juice)

Natural resources

Cameroon is endowed with rich natural resources, including oil and gas, mineral ores, and high-value species of timber, and agricultural products, such as coffee, cotton, cocoa, maize, and cassava.

Ports

Sea ports of Cameroon

Douala

Kole Terminal

Moudi Terminal

Ebome Marine Terminal

Kribi

Tiko

Garoua

Limboh Terminal

Artist profile

Angu Walters



Walters Angu Che was born in 1980, a native of the Mezam District in the Northwest Region of Cameroon. The artist's studio is in the NW city of Bamenda which has since 2017 found itself at the very center of a brutal civil war.



Stanley Enow

A native of the Bayangi tribe in Manyu in Cameroon's South West region, Stanley Ebai Enow was born and raised in Bafoussam, a city in the West region of Cameroon. He left his hometown for Douala, the country's economic capital. Having a great interest in creative works and culture, he graduated in Business Journalism at the University of Douala in 2011. While studying, Stanley kick started a career as a radio host and got spotted by Cameroon's urban culture pioneer and respected veteran, Tony Nobody. Thanks to his talent and passion, Stanley quickly became the go-to media personality, hosting popular television music show 'MBOA' and the 'Stanley Urban Radio Show'.

Canada

Country in North America



Canada is a country in North America. Its ten provinces and three territories extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific and northward into the Arctic Ocean, covering 9.98 million square kilometers, making it the world's second-largest country by total area.

Capital: Ottawa

Prime minister: Justin Trudeau

Population: 38.01 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: North America

Currency: Canadian dollar

Official language: French

Distance Traveling from the USA

1 h 58 min flight

Food

Poutine

Nova scotian lobster rolls

Montreal-style smoked meat

Split pea soup

Nanaimo bars

Tourtière

Bannock

Montreal-style bagels

Peameal bacon

Tire d'érable sur la neige

Pouding Chomeur

Game meat

Butter tarts

Saskatoon berry pie

Beavertails

Ketchup chips

Caesar cocktail

Natural resources

Canada has long ranked among the world leaders in the production of uranium, zinc, nickel, potash, asbestos, sulfur, cadmium, and titanium. It is also a major producer of iron ore, coal, petroleum, gold, copper, silver, lead, and a number of ferroalloys.

Artist profile



James Verbicky is renowned for what he calls “media paintings”, large sculptural assemblages of Baltic birch wood covered in vintage advertisements for popular brands and imagery from foreign magazines bought along the Seine in Paris. He arranges the layers of paper in a horizontal grid, paying homage to pioneering Modernists and Minimalists such as Piet Mondrian, Kenneth Noland, and Morris Louis. A resin topcoat renders the surface shiny and the paper transparent, so that the images on the backsides bleed through to the front, creating a sense of depth. Paying attention to what is behind each piece of paper “makes the collage more interesting and creates a certain mood,” he says. Verbicky’s collages, which can be “read” in any direction, evoke familiar scenes and subjects, from flowers in bloom, to a racetrack blurred in action, to stock tickers scrolling across a television screen.



Bryan Guy Adams (born 5 November 1959) is a Canadian guitarist, singer, composer, record producer, and photographer. Adams has sold between 75[2] and 100 million records and singles worldwide, making him one of the best-selling music artists of all time. Adams was the most played artist on Canadian radio in the 2010s and has had 25 Top 15 singles in Canada, and a dozen or more in each of the US, UK, and Australia.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Country in Central Africa



The Democratic Republic of the Congo, also known as Congo-Kinshasa, DR Congo, the DRC, the DROC, or the Congo, and formerly Zaire, is a country in Central Africa. It is, by area, the largest country in sub-Saharan Africa, the second-largest in all of Africa, and the 11th-largest in the world.

Capital: Kinshasa

President: Felix Tshisekedi

Population: 89.56 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: Africa

Currency: Congolese franc

Official language: French

Distance Traveling from the USA

14 h 10 min flight

Food

Poulet à la Moambé

Ngulu Yako Tumba or Ntaba

Mikate

Fufu

Kwanga

Dongo-dongo

Fumbwa – Congolese Stew

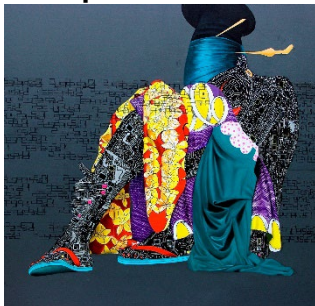
Dabo Kolo

Losu na Madesu

Natural resources

The DRC has an abundance of natural wealth, including a multitude of minerals such as diamonds, gold, copper, cobalt, cassiterite (tin ore) and coltan, as well as timber, coffee and oil.

Artist profile



In his bold figurative paintings, Eddy Kamuanga Ilunga explores the intersections of colonialism, tradition, and globalization in his home country, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). He dresses his subjects in traditional Mangbetu garments and replaces their skin with circuit boards—a reference to the coltan (a metallic ore) exported from the DRC for use in modern devices around the world. Ilunga has exhibited in Paris, London, Madrid, New York, and his native Kinshasa. Today, his work belongs in the permanent collections of Zeitz MOCAA in Cape Town and the Pizzuti Collection of the Columbus Museum of Art, and regularly sells for five figures on the secondary market. As he renders both the beauty of traditional Congolese culture and symbols of historical and contemporary trade and exploitation, Ilunga captures the dissonance within his society.



Lokua Kanza; Born in Bukavu in the eastern part of the DRC to a Congolese father and a Rwandan mother, Lokua Kanza is a singer and songwriter best known for his ballads. His style is more mainstream compared to the others on this list, as he takes a more modern traditional approach to Congolese music. “Wapi Yo” might be his most popular song, but his entire repertoire is full of great material for easy listening. In Europe, Kanza is well known within the acoustic music scene.

Dominican Republic

Country in the Caribbean



The Dominican Republic is a Caribbean nation that shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti to the west. It's known for its beaches, resorts and golfing. Its terrain comprises rainforest, savannah and highlands, including Pico Duarte, the Caribbean's tallest mountain. Capital city Santo Domingo has Spanish landmarks like the Gothic Catedral Primada de America dating back 5 centuries in its Zona Colonial district.

Capital: Santo Domingo

President: Luis Abinader

Population: 10.85 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: North American

Currency: Dominican peso

Official language: Spanish

Distance Traveling from the USA

4 h flight

Food

Sancocho (7 meat stew)

Habichuelas Guisadas (Stewed Beans)

Tostones (Twice-fried plantains)

Morir Soñando (Milk and orange drink)

Mangú (Plantain Mash)

Pollo Guisado (Braised Chicken)

Habichuelas con dulce (Sweet Cream of Beans)

Arroz Blanco (White rice)

Ensalada Verde (Green salad)

Biscocho Dominicano (Dominican Cake)

Natural resources

Country abounds in gold, silver, amber, larimar, ferronickel, bauxite, coal, tin, marble, salt, gypsum, and stone.

Artist profile



Lucia Hierro: Born and raised in Washington Heights, Lucia Hierro focuses her work on the Dominican-American experience in New York City. In her series AM New York and On That Grind, Hierro creates collages out of printed fabrics stretched out on foam to recall scenes from her current life and those from her childhood, when she grew up in a one-bedroom apartment with her mother and older brother. Hierro also challenges the exclusive nature of cultural institutions in her artwork, such as in her New Yorker and Bodega collage series. By inserting references to her Dominican heritage in her work and collaborating with her mother, Hierro asserts Dominican-Americans also have a role in the production of culture and knowledge.



Juan Luis Guerra Seijas: (born June 8, 1957 is a Dominican musician, singer, composer, and record producer. He has sold 30 million records worldwide, making him one of the best-selling Latin music artists. Throughout his career, he has won numerous awards including 21 Latin Grammy Awards, two Grammy Awards, and two Latin Billboard Music Awards. Guerra won 3 Latin Grammy Awards in 2010, including Album of the Year. In 2012, he won the Latin Grammy Award for Producer of the Year.

Ethiopia

Country in East Africa



Ethiopia, in the Horn of Africa, is a rugged, landlocked country split by the Great Rift Valley. With archaeological finds dating back more than 3 million years, it's a place of ancient culture. Among its important sites are Lalibela with its rock-cut Christian churches from the 12th–13th centuries. Aksum is the ruins of an ancient city with obelisks, tombs, castles and Our Lady Mary of Zion church.

Capital: Addis Ababa

Prime minister: Abiy Ahmed

President: Sahle-Work Zewde

Population: 115 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: Africa

Currency: Ethiopian birr

Official language: Amharic

Distance Traveling from the USA

17 h flight

Food

Tibs

Fuul

Enkulan firfir

Kitfo

Tere siga

Dulet

Beyainatu

Doro wot

Natural resources

Ethiopia has small reserves of gold, platinum, copper, potash, and natural gas. It has extensive hydropower potential. Of the total land area, about 20 percent is under cultivation, although the amount of potentially arable land is larger.

Artist profile



Alexander "Skunder" Boghossian (July 22, 1937 – May 4, 2003) was an Ethiopian-Armenian painter and art teacher. He spent much of his life living and working in the United States. He was one of the first, and by far the most acclaimed, contemporary Black artists from the African continent to gain international attention.



Kirubel Assefa

Some might know Kirubel as being the lead character in the Amharic-English movie *Journey to Lasta* and producer of its soundtrack album, *Lasta Sounds*. The movie, based on a true story, follows a group of musicians struggling to 'make it' in the United States, while bringing to light the human drama involved in creating a work of art as a group. Kirubel has established himself as an avant-garde musician through the course of his career. His new project is entitled *Dimptsepa*, and although it has yet to be released, it is sure to be extremely well received, both in Ethiopia and abroad. He is a bassist and a producer based in Santa Monica, California.

Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)

Country in West Africa



Côte d'Ivoire is a West African country with beach resorts, rainforests and a French-colonial legacy. Abidjan, on the Atlantic coast, is the country's major urban center. Its modern landmarks include zigguratlike, concrete La Pyramide and St. Paul's Cathedral, a swooping structure tethered to a massive cross. North of the central business district, Banco National Park is a rainforest preserve with hiking trails.

Capital: Yamoussoukro

President: Alassane Ouattara

Population: 26.38 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: Africa

Currency: West African CFA franc

Official language: It is estimated that 78 languages are spoken in Ivory Coast. French, the official language, is taught in schools and serves as a lingua franca in the country. A semi-creolized form of French, known as Nouchi, has emerged in Abidjan in recent years and spread among the younger generation. One of the most common indigenous languages is Dyula, which acts as a trade language in much of the country, as well as a language commonly spoken by the Muslim population.

Distance Traveling from the USA

15 h 40 min flight

Food

Attiéké

Placali

Poisson Braisé

Poisson en papillote

Kedjenou

Alloco

Sauce Kopè

Poulet Braisé

Garba

Banane braisé

Foutou

Sauce Arachide

Choukouya

Poulet piquet

Pain Brochette

Natural resources

Côte d'Ivoire has rich deposits of gold, diamonds, iron, manganese, cobalt, bauxite, nickel, natural gas and petroleum. Abundant reserves of hydrocarbons are found offshore, while gold deposits are located in the central part of the country.

Artist profile



Aboudia Abdoulaye Diarrassouba (Ivory Coast, born 1983). On his style: "My work is similar to that of a journalist writing an article: I was simply describing a situation, in order to create a record of my country's recent history. But even before the crisis I worked on similar themes, childhood in the streets, poorness, child soldiers. I'm an ambassador of the children - they do writings on the walls, their wishes, their fears, I'm doing the same on my canvas. I'm like a megaphone for these children."



Stéphane Hamidou Doukouré, known professionally as "Douk Saga", was an Ivorian singer and the creator of Coupé-décalé music style alongside a dancing step. He popularized the music genre all over Africa and Europe, his most popular song in early 2000's was "Sagacité".

Ghana

Country in West Africa



Ghana, officially the Republic of Ghana, is a country in West Africa. It spans the Gulf of Guinea and the Atlantic Ocean to the south, sharing borders with the Ivory Coast in the west, Burkina Faso in the north, and Togo in the east.

Capital: Accra

President: Nana Akufo-Addo

Population: 31.07 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: Africa

Currency: Ghanaian cedi

Official language: Ghana has about 50 indigenous languages (Dakubu, 1996), and the major ones are Akan, Ewe, Ga, Dagaare, and Dagbani, with English as the official language.

Distance Traveling from the USA

13 h 15 min flight

Food

Jollof rice

Red-red

Kenkey and fried fish

Waakye

Fufu and goat light soup

Kelewele

Banku and tilapia

Tuo zaafi

Omo tuo

Natural resources

The country is endowed with rich natural resources. Timber, gold, diamonds, bauxite, manganese, and oil contribute to making Ghana among the wealthier nations in West Africa. While its economy is one of the most successful in the region, it remains heavily dependent on international finance.

Artist profile



Ibrahim Mahama: Born in 1987 and based in Tamale, Ibrahim Mahama conceives large-scale installations. He likes to use old jute sacks, which were previously used to transport cocoa beans and charcoal, stitching them together and draping them over architectural units. His most recent piece is a monumental sculpture of stacked 'shoeshine' boxes, pointing to the recurring themes of national decay and collapse. The artist's work was included in the 2015 Venice Biennale. Mahama explains that the hope is that objects' 'residues – stained, broken and abandoned, but bearing light – might lead us into new possibilities and spaces beyond.'



Reggie Rockstone: Often referred to as the Godfather of African hiplife, Rockstone is the purveyor of infectious club hits that are guaranteed to play and play for months after their release. Born in the UK but raised in Accra and Kumasi, he raps in English and Akan and pioneered the hiplife movement in 1994, a distinctly Ghanaian-flavoured form of local hip-hop found pumping at every club, bar and beachside location. In Accra he is the proprietor of Rockstone's Office, a slick bar in Osu, and a new Rockstone release is still the cause of much celebration and fanfare in the city.

Greece

Country in the Balkans



Greece is a country in southeastern Europe with thousands of islands throughout the Aegean and Ionian seas. Influential in ancient times, it's often called the cradle of Western civilization. Athens, its capital, retains landmarks including the 5th-century B.C. Acropolis citadel with the Parthenon temple. Greece is also known for its beaches, from the black sands of Santorini to the party resorts of Mykonos.

Capital: Athens

President: Katerina Sakellariopoulou

Population: 10.72 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: Europe

Currency: Euro

Official language: Greek

Distance Traveling from the USA

11 h 20 min flight

Food

Taramasalata

Moussaka

Courgette balls (kolokythokeftedes)

Honey and Baklava

Olives and olive oil

Grilled meat

Octopus

Dolmades

Fresh fish

Feta and cheeses

Natural resources

The key resources available in Greece include iron ore, lignite, zinc, lead, bauxite, petroleum and magnesite. In 2010, Greece was the world's fourth largest producer of pumice and a leading producer of perlite.

Artist profile



Panayiotis Tetsis: Born in the little island of Hydra in 1925, Panayiotis Tetsis spent his childhood and teenage years on the island, before his family moved to Piraeus in 1937. He graduated from the Athens School of Fine Arts in 1949, and later pursued postgraduate studies at l'Ecole des Beaux Arts in 1953-56 in Paris. This is where he learned the art of engraving. Mostly known for its post-impressionistic seascapes, he regarded himself as a painter driven by his senses. Along with Hadjikyriakos-Ghikas and other Greek artists, Tetsis was part of the Armos art group. He passed away in Athens in 2016.



Dynoro & Fumaratto: Edvinas Pechovskis[1] (born 25 December 1999), known professionally as Dynoro, is a Lithuanian DJ and music producer. He is best known for his international hit "In My Mind", which interpolates the hook from "L'amour toujours" by Italian DJ Gigi D'Agostino. Dynoro started releasing tracks and remixes on SoundCloud and Spotify in 2013, gaining fame in Lithuania thanks to the YouTube channel and record label "Lithuania HQ". In December 2017, his song "In My Mind" was released. It was a mashup of the 2012 song of the same name by Ivan Gough, Feenixpawl and Georgi Kay and Gigi D'Agostino's single "L'amour toujours" from

2000. The song got a lot of attention all over Europe. Due to copyright reasons, the single was taken down from the stores and was re-released in June 2018 with Gigi D'Agostino added as featuring artist. The new version was released on B1 Recordings, a joint venture with Sony Music. In July 2018, the song reached number one in the German music charts. It was also a number 1 hit in the Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Latvia, Norway and a top 5 hit in Belgium, Ireland, the Netherlands, the UK, Romania, Poland and Ukraine.

Germany

Country in Europe



Germany is a Western European country with a landscape of forests, rivers, mountain ranges and North Sea beaches. It has over 2 millennia of history. Berlin, its capital, is home to art and nightlife scenes, the Brandenburg Gate and many sites relating to WWII. Munich is known for its Oktoberfest and beer halls, including the 16th-century Hofbräuhaus. Frankfurt, with its skyscrapers, houses the European Central Bank.

Capital: Berlin

President: Frank-Walter Steinmeier

Chancellor: Olaf Scholz

Continent: Europe

Population: 83.24 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Euro

Official language: German Deutsch

Distance Traveling from the USA

7 h 25 min flight

Food

Wurst

Eintopf

Brezel

Apfelstrudel

Roulade

Sauerbraten

Schnitzel

Käsespätzle

Kartoffelpuffer

Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte

Natural resources

Germany has many natural resources: iron ore, coal, potash, uranium, nickel, natural gas, & copper.

Artist profile



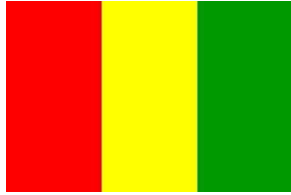
MadC: Claudia Walde, known professionally as MadC, painted her first graffiti piece in 1996 at age 16. She has since become known as a large-scale muralist and views graffiti as the best way to express herself since it is the final product that is most important, not the artist. In addition to spray paint, she also uses ink, acrylic and watercolours. In 2010, her 700 square meter (7,500 square foot) mural "700-Wall" launched her onto the international art scene.



AnnenMayKantereit (occasionally shortened AMK) is a German rock band founded in Cologne in 2011. Their songs are predominantly performed in German, but the band also occasionally publish cover songs in English. A notable feature of the band's music is the distinctly rough voice of the singer Henning May [de].

Guinea

Country in West Africa



Guinea is a country in West Africa, bordered on the west by the Atlantic Ocean. It's known for the Mount Nimba Strict Nature Reserve, in the southeast. The reserve protects a forested mountain range rich in native plants and animals, including chimpanzees and the viviparous toad. On the coast, the capital city, Conakry, is home to the modern Grand Mosque and the National Museum, with its regional artifacts. Conakry was founded on land belonging to the Susu (Soussou) people. The name "Conakry" originally referred to a nearby Susu fishing village. Conakry became the capital of French Guinea in 1904 and was the seaport terminus of the only railroad in the colony. Aug 26, 2014

Capital: Conakry

Population: 13.13 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: Africa

Currency: Guinea franc

Official language: French

Government: Republic, Presidential system

Distance Traveling from the USA

17 hr. 40 min. flight

Food

Fou fou, also known as Tô, is a savory pastry with okra sauce.	Fried plantain.
Bouille.	Patates, fried sweet potatoes.
Cooked mango.	Gateau farine, a variety of cake.
Fouti (rice)	Tamarind drink.

Natural resources

Guinea has an abundance of natural resources: it is the source of several major rivers, and has exceptional biodiversity, the third of the world's bauxite reserves, significant gold, diamond, and oil resources.

Artist profile



Amoako Boafo has experienced a meteoric rise in the art world over the past year. Known for large-scale portraits of Black subjects rendered in bold, gestural strokes, Boafo has only gained momentum in 2020. Recently, in April 2020, he donated a painting, *Aurore Iradukunda* (2020), to an online benefit auction supporting the Museum of the African Diaspora during the COVID-19 pandemic. The painting sold in early May for \$190,000 nearly six times its \$35,000 estimate.



Zahara; Was promised recording deals by different Johannesburg based producers but they all came to empty promises, until in 2010 march when TK Nciza, the CEO of TS Records went to East London for the holidays and was invited to go to a club where Zahara was performing together with other local Artists. TK not only offered Zahara the recording deal but took her back to Johannesburg with him and in August of the same year she was featured on Nhlanhla Nciza's Live DVD performing the song *Loliwe*. Zahara is a breath of fresh air and is sure to take South Africa and the world by storm, with an album recorded in the same studio that has recorded Jennifer Hudson and mixed in France and produced by well accomplished ROBBIE MALINGA and MOJALIFA THEBE.

Guyana

Country in South America



Guyana, a country on South America's North Atlantic coast, is defined by its dense rainforest. English-speaking, with cricket and calypso music, it's culturally connected to the Caribbean region. Its capital, Georgetown, is known for British colonial architecture, including tall, painted-timber St. George's Anglican Cathedral. A large clock marks the facade of Stabroek Market, a source of local produce

Capital: Georgetown

President: Irfaan Ali

Population: 786,559 (2020) World Bank

Continent: South America

Currency: Guyanese dollar

Official language: English is the official language of Guyana, which is the only South American country with English as the official language. Guyanese Creole or Creolese (an English-based creole with African, Indian, and Amerindian syntax) is widely spoken.

Distance Traveling from the USA

7 hr. 40 min. flight

Food

Féroce d'avocat

Metemgee

Guyana Yam Pie

Guyanese Cook Up Rice

Bacon and Fish Rolls

Iguana Stew

Bouillon d'awara

Katahar Curry

Guyana Pepperpot

Tamarind Balls

Natural resources

In addition to its well-known deposits of gold, bauxite, and diamonds, Guyana's mineral heritage includes deposits of semi-precious stones, kaolin, silica sand, soap stone, kyanite, feldspar, mica, ilmenite, laterite, manganese radioactive minerals, copper, molybdenum, tungsten, iron, and nickel, among others.

Artist profile



George Simon (1947 – 2020) was a painter, archaeologist, researcher, former lecturer, and coordinator at the University of Guyana (UG), Anthony Sabga Awards laureate, and former tutor at the Burrowes School of Art. A lecturer in the Division of Creative Arts as well as coordinator and researcher in the Amerindian Research Unit in the Faculty of Education and Humanities at UG, he was also an instructor and organiser for developing artists in St Cuthbert's Mission. In that capacity, he was responsible for the emergence of the Lokono Artists group that originated in the mission and went on to be known as the Moving Circle of Artists.



Brandon Harding: Brandon Harding is no stranger to competitions in Guyana. He was the 2018 Carib Soca Monarch winner and his music is very consistent.

Haiti

Country in the Caribbean



Haiti is a Caribbean country that shares the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic to its east. Though it's still recovering from a 2010 earthquake, many of Haiti's landmarks dating to the early 19th century remain intact. These include Citadelle la Ferrière, a mountaintop fortress, and the nearby ruins of Sans-Souci Palace, the baroque former royal home of King Henry I.

Capital: Port-au-Prince

Population: 11.4 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: North America

Currency: Haitian gourde

Official language: Haitian Creole, French

Government: Republic, Semi-presidential system

Distance Traveling from the USA

4 hr. 19 min. flight

Food

Makawoni au graten

Pikliz

Haitian Patty

Poulet aux noix

Bouillon Soup

Legim

Joumou

Tchaka

Tassot

Griot

Natural resources

Bauxite, copper, calcium carbonate, gold, and marble were the most extensively extracted minerals in Haiti. Lime and aggregates and to a lesser extent marble are extracted.

Artist profile



SAMDI; Born and raised in Haiti, SAMDI is an abstract painter. His work evinces a wide-ranging inspiration, from Picasso to Basquiat. For SAMDI, every moment spent painting is transformed into an experience of self-discovery. The distinctiveness of his paintings lies in a looseness of form that is nonetheless expressive.



Mélissa Laveaux; On a trip to Haiti in 2016 the Paris-based Canadian singer studied old native recordings and stories and was inspired to give them a contemporary reworking, drawing the music into the realms of indie and electronica. Her reinterpretation of the 20th-century song 'Angeli-ko', tells of America's occupation of Haiti, while other tracks highlight the nation's resilience to adversity. A Top of the World in #137.

Italy

Country in Europe



Italy, a European country with a long Mediterranean coastline, has left a powerful mark on Western culture and cuisine. Its capital, Rome, is home to the Vatican as well as landmark art and ancient ruins. Other major cities include Florence, with Renaissance masterpieces such as Michelangelo's "David" and Brunelleschi's Duomo; Venice, the city of canals; and Milan, Italy's fashion capital.

President: Sergio Mattarella Trending

Capital: Rome

Population: 59.55 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Euro

Official language: Italian

Distance Traveling from the USA

9 h 55 min flight

Food

Bottarga

Ribollita

Risotto

Focaccia

Lasagna

Polenta

Carbonara

Arancini & Suppli

Fiorentina Steak

Ossobuco

Truffles

Gelato

Natural resources

Italy has few mineral resources: natural gas, marble, granite, coal, mercury, zinc, and potash. Arable land is important (26% fertile land). Small farms cover much of the country. Grapes & olives are important crops.

Artist profile



Willy Verginer works with wood as his primary sculpting material. Carving away at solid pieces of linden wood from the northern region of Italy, he creates beautifully rendered, figurative sculptures. The life-sized works are then finished with acrylic paint and at times with the addition of other materials to create different textures. The sculptures all possess a sense of otherworldliness, yet they are all somehow realistic. The surreal, imaginary aspect that Verginer inserts in his works, lies in the strange gestures of his figures and the unexpected objects, animals and other elements that wouldn't normally be present. 'Adesso è più normale, adesso è meglio, adesso è giusto' (2013), featured in his solo exhibition Human Nature (2014), represents a donkey with his golden feces on the ground and small child standing on its back. 'Flowers with Colour' takes the form of a statue of a girl whose fingertips give birth to flowers, whereas 'La pel dl vënt' is a 172-centimetre tall female nude, whose skin sporns black ivy leaves.



Malika Ayane; Born and raised in Milan, Malika Ayane has been releasing great music since 2009 and she's one of the most successful artists in Italy. From the first steps of her career, she has managed to make music which is both popular and sophisticated. Her songs fly so high above the average pop tunes. Her singing is restrained, never over-the-top, yet she manages to convey all sorts of emotions thanks to her ability and to the unique timbre of her voice which makes her instantly recognizable. "Come foglie" (like leaves) is a track from her very first album (in which she sings in English too) and it's already considered a classic of Italian music, while "Adesso e qui" (now and here) is a heartbreaking song from her 2015 masterpiece Naïf.

Jamaica

Country in the Caribbean



Jamaica, a Caribbean island nation, has a lush topography of mountains, rainforests and reef-lined beaches. Many of its all-inclusive resorts are clustered in Montego Bay, with its British-colonial architecture, and Negril, known for its diving and snorkeling sites. Jamaica is famed as the birthplace of reggae music, and its capital Kingston is home to the Bob Marley Museum, dedicated to the famous singer.

Capital: Kingston

Population: 2.961 million (2020) World Bank

Continent: North America

Currency: Jamaican dollar

Official language: Although English is the official language of Jamaica, the majority of the population speak Jamaican Patois. This is a creole language (See the lesson on creole on this web site) made up of an English superstrate and African substrate.

Government: Democracy, Parliamentary system, Constitutional Monarchy

Distance Traveling from the USA

4 hr. 16 min. flight

Food

Jamaican jerk chicken

Authentic flaky jamaican beef patties

Jamaican oxtail

Ackee and saltfish

Jamaican curry chicken

Jerk seasoning

Steamed cabbage and saltfish

Jamaican rice and peas

Jamaican cabbage

Natural resources

Iron ore, gypsum, and marble are in eastern Jamaica, and clays occur in the west. Silica sand and limestone are found throughout the island. Other mineral resources include peat, gravel, and smaller quantities of lignite, copper, lead, zinc, and phosphates; Jamaica's black sands contain some titanium.

Artist profile



Michael Elliott was born in 1979, in Manchester, Jamaica. He attended the Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts where he attained a Diploma in Painting (2002). A regular exhibitor both locally and internationally, he was featured in the National Gallery of Jamaica's acclaimed Young Talent V exhibition in 2010 and has participated in several National Biennials and the Jamaica Biennial 2014. Elliott is known for photo-based, hyper-realist still life paintings that explore socio-political issues in local and international affairs, often with biting sarcasm. He lives in St Andrew, Jamaica.



It's very easy to get lost in the soulful vibes of Sevana, and you should because she is incredibly gifted. An artist under Protoje's In.Digg.Nation collective, Sevana's rise to fame was propelled by her appearance on the Jamaican talent show Digicel Rising Star, in 2008, where she became one of the top finalists. Since then, the Savanna-la-Mar native has released a steady flow of singles and features, including a self-titled EP, and has been doing live performances all across the world. Her melodic mashup of reggae, soul and R&B is highly infectious.

Japan

Country in East Asia



Japan is an island country in East Asia, located in the northwest Pacific Ocean. It is bordered on the west by the Sea of Japan, and extends from the Sea of Okhotsk in the north toward the East China Sea and Taiwan in the south.

Capital: Tokyo

Population: 125.8 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Japanese yen

Emperor: Naruhito

Prime minister: Fumio Kishida

Official language: Japanese

Distance Traveling from the USA

14 hr. 5 min. flight

Food

Sushi and Sashimi
Kare-Raisu (Curry Rice)
Miso soup
Udon

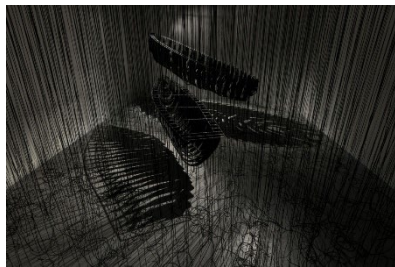
Ramen
Okonomiyaki
Yakitori
Soba

Tempura
Shabu shabu
Onigiri
Gyudon

Natural resources

Coal, iron ore, zinc, lead, copper, sulfur, gold, and silver are among the most abundant minerals (in relative terms), with lesser quantities of tungsten, chromite, and manganese. Japan also has large deposits of limestone.

Artist profile



Chiharu Shiota; B. 1972, Osaka. Lives and works in Berlin. Chiharu Shiota's large-scale and occasionally performative web installations are composed of thousands of black, red, or white threads, carefully strung together throughout entire spaces. These installations are often embedded with common or personal objects that convey and address "the presence in absence."

Shiota's works often feature a selection of objects including a window frame, a chair, and a bed, a suitcase, and keys— objects that allow people to access different internal and external universes through memories. At times, an accumulation of objects like shells or vessels within her woolen installations lend themselves to a symbolic reading of human relationships. Her

monumental installations, which viewers can enter, touch on feelings of anxiety, silence, and oblivion, while also placing the act of remembering in the foreground.



Babymetal They are one of the most polarising bands currently doing the rounds, but people have always been scared and threatened by new, boundary-pushing music. While it absolutely comes across as a novelty to many people, the truth is that Babymetal's songs are genuinely very good.

The band are the undisputed leaders in the world of kawaii metal, a very new genre that strips the hypermasculinity away from heavy metal and focuses on topics more relevant to teens in Japan, especially to young women.

Kenya

Country in East Africa



Kenya is a country in East Africa with coastline on the Indian Ocean. It encompasses savannah, lakelands, the dramatic Great Rift Valley and mountain highlands. It's also home to wildlife like lions, elephants and rhinos. From Nairobi, the capital, safaris visit the Maasai Mara Reserve, known for its annual wildebeest migrations, and Amboseli National Park, offering views of Tanzania's 5,895m Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Capital: Nairobi

Population: 53.77 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Kenyan shilling

President: Uhuru Kenyatta

Official language: Swahili

Distance Traveling from the USA

16 hr. 15 min. flight

Food

Urwagwa

Mabuyu

Mbaazi Za Nazi

Karanga

Mishkaki

Matoke Ya Nyama

Wali Wa Nazi

Kuku Paka

Maharagwe

Natural resources

Natural resources that are found in Kenya include: limestone, soda ash, salt, gemstones, fluorspar, zinc, diatomite, oil, gas, gold, gypsum, wildlife and hydro powers.

Artist profile



Gor Soudan: Born in Kenya, Gor Soudan works with found objects and recycling to create works that question the political situation of the country. Like many Kenyan artists, he uses existing materials and objects, altering them to create something entirely new. Soudan's work looks at the politics of urban environments in Kenya, specifically the bustling city of Nairobi. Soudan uses scraps salvaged from city life and political protests to explore the notion of a utopian urban environment. An example of this are his abstract sculptures made from 'protest wire' that he salvaged from burnt tires during the 2008 Kenyan political protests. He does not shy away from the political issues of the country, instead actively interrogating and exposing them. Soudan is represented by ARTLabAfrica and Deavearts in the Netherlands.



Okello Max, Bensoul and Amlyoto: Okello Max's brand of emotive singing is warm, fuzzy, and instantly addictive. He is emerging as one of the most exciting new faces in the constantly changing music landscape due to his self-assured personality and sharp songwriting.

Liberia

Country in West Africa



Liberia is a country in West Africa, bordering Sierra Leone, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire. On the Atlantic coast, the capital city of Monrovia is home to the Liberia National Museum, with its exhibits on national culture and history. Around Monrovia are palm-lined beaches like Silver and CeCe. Along the coast, beach towns include the port of Buchanan, as well as laid-back Robertsport, known for its strong surf.

Capital: Monrovia

Founded: January 7, 1822

President: George Weah

Population: 5.058 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Liberian dollar

Official language: More than two dozen languages are spoken in Liberia. English is the official language. Predominant languages include Kpelle, Bassa, Grebo, Dan, Kru, Mano, Loma, and Mandingo (spoken by the Malinke).

Distance Traveling from the USA

16 hr. 20 min. flight

Food

Palava

Fufu

Liberian Pepper Kala

Chicken Peanut Soup

Jollof Rice

Liberian Potato Greens

Liberian Chicken Gravy

Liberian Palm Butter Soup

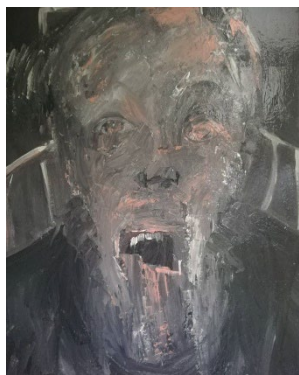
Liberian GB (Geebee) Soup

Fried Eggplant

Natural resources

The country is rich in natural resources which include iron ore, diamonds, gold, fertile soil, fishery, and forestry. However, the economic potential of these assets remains largely untapped.

Artist profile



Ruth Clotworthy: Clotworthy's aesthetic has something in common with Neo – Primitivism and Expressionism, her work beginning in life before being disrupted by dramatic scratches, broad brushstrokes and wild mark making that gives her work a violence, the high contrasts and textures adding a fury and dramatic tension to each composition.

Completely self taught Clotworthy's artistic process is a good example of how the lack of formal art education can free you from the constraints of academic theory, allows you to express and reflect the life around you, as you see it, experience it. Still young Clotworthy is one to watch, her work developing all the time, her knowledge of digital manipulation growing everyday.



J Slught has proven to be outstanding with his sound and the way he fuses the wider Afro sound with the Liberian sound. He released 'No Money' as a way of introducing his debut EP Home & Beyond, which has gained recognition both locally and internationally with good numbers on streaming platforms. 'No money' was featured on BBC Africa's Top 10 playlist by DJ Edu.

Nigeria

Country in West Africa



Nigeria, an African country on the Gulf of Guinea, has many natural landmarks and wildlife reserves. Protected areas such as Cross River National Park and Yankari National Park have waterfalls, dense rainforest, savanna and rare primate habitats. One of the most recognizable sites is Zuma Rock, a 725m-tall monolith outside the capital of Abuja that's pictured on the national currency.

Capital: Abuja

Population: 206.1 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Nigerian naira

President: Muhammadu Buhari

Continent: Africa

Official language: Hausa was an official language of the northern states from 1951 to 1967. It is the most widely spoken language, although English is the official language of Nigeria. In addition to English, Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo, Fula, and English Creole are widely spoken. Many of the languages exist in written form.

Distance Traveling from the USA

14 hr. flight

Food

Jollof Rice

Egusi Soup

Moi Moi

Ewa Agoyin

Ogbono Soup

Garri

Suya

Pepper Soup

Abacha and Ugba

Banga Soup

Pounded Yam

Akara

Nkwobi

Amala and Ewedu

Afang Soup

Natural resources

Apart from petroleum, Nigeria's other natural resources include natural gas, tin, iron ore, coal, limestone, niobium, lead, zinc and arable land. The oil and gas sector accounts for about 10 per cent of gross domestic product, and petroleum exports revenue represents around 86 per cent of total exports revenue.

Artist profile



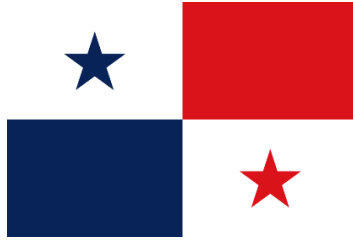
Peju Alatise: Born in 1975, Peju Alatise is an Architecture degree holder, writer, poet and, most importantly, an artist. She utilizes mixed media to voice her opinions on identity and female perceptions and reflections within themselves and in the society. Her work has received international recognition including at the Smithsonian.



SIMI: The singer pens a love letter to her unborn child with Duduke which became a sensation amongst expectant parents during the COVID-induced lockdown and beyond. In a year where the expected could be otherwise, Simi delivered the biggest song of her career yet by sharing the emotions that millions of people in the world experience. The record remains one of the hottest songs in Nigeria this year and has been nominated for Song of the Year at the Headies Award. In the most melodious way, Simi passed on the true understanding of loving someone you haven't seen yet. The record emerged one of the most streamed songs on Apple Music in Nigeria in 2020.

Panama

Country in Central America



Panama is a country on the isthmus linking Central and South America. The Panama Canal, a famous feat of human engineering, cuts through its center, linking the Atlantic and Pacific oceans to create an essential shipping route. In the capital, Panama City, modern skyscrapers, casinos and nightclubs contrast with colonial buildings in the Casco Viejo district and the rainforest of Natural Metropolitan Park.

Capital: Panama City

Population: 4.315 million (2020) World Bank

Currencies: United States Dollar, Panamanian balboa

President: Laurentino Cortizo

Continent: North America

Official language: Spanish

Distance Traveling from the USA

5 h 46 min flight

Food

Sancocho de Gallina

Tamales

Carne Guisada

Bacalao con Papas

Arroz con Pollo

Ropa Vieja

Chicheme

Bollo de Maiz

Hojaldre

Arroz con Guandú

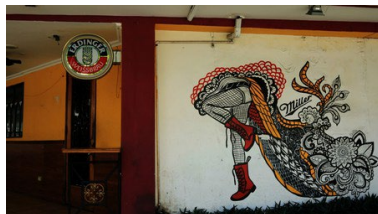
Patacones

Ceviche

Natural resources

Panama's natural resources include copper, mahogany forests and hydropower. There is deforestation of tropical rainforests and mining threatens natural resources.

Artist profile



Lisbeth Gonzalez: An artist of paint, film, writing, and perhaps most impressively, jiu-jitsu, Lisbeth Gonzales is a passionate artist with an incredible perspective. She is also a profoundly talented portrait and street photographer. Intrigued by uniqueness, she is not so sure about perfection. In love with analog living, Lisbeth is a master of tangible art, which she showcases on her website and Instagram account.



Rubén Blades: Rubén Blades Bellido de Luna (born July 16, 1948), known professionally as Rubén Blades in Panama and within the family), is a Panamanian musician, singer, composer, actor, activist, and politician, performing musically most often in the salsa, and Latin jazz genres. As a songwriter, Blades brought the lyrical sophistication of Central American nueva canción and Cuban nueva trova as well as experimental tempos and politically inspired Son Cubano salsa to his music, creating "thinking persons' (salsa) dance music". Blades has written dozens of hit songs, including "Pedro Navaja" and "El Cantante" (which became Héctor Lavoe's signature song). He has won nine Grammy Awards out of seventeen nominations and five Latin Grammy Awards.

Poland

Country in Europe



Poland, officially the Republic of Poland, is a country located in Central Europe. It is divided into 16 administrative provinces, covering an area of 312,696 km², and has a largely temperate seasonal climate.

Capital: Warsaw

Population: 37.95 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Polish złoty

President: Andrzej Duda Trending

Continent: Europe

Official language: Polish

Distance Traveling from the USA

10 h 10 min flight

Food

Rosol

Gołąbki

Kompot

Kopytka

Red Barszcz

Bigos

Kabanosy

Nalesniki

Mizeria

Salatka Jarzynowa

Zurek

Krokiety

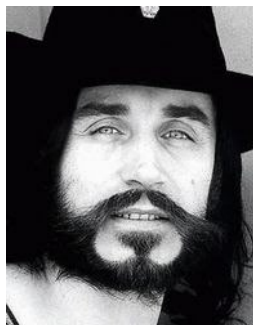
Natural resources

Nature has bestowed Poland generously with natural resources and is a country rich in minerals. It is among the world's biggest producers of hard and brown coal, copper, zinc, lead, sulphur, rock salt and construction minerals.

Artist profile



Katarzyna Kozyra: Part of the 'Critical Art' movement, Katarzyna Kozyra regularly provokes controversy. Her work often consists of gruesome images and materials, igniting extreme reactions. Her installations investigate and subsequently provoke cultural taboos and universal truths about life and death through the exhibition of sensitive content; dissected animals, photographs of human sickness, and nude women placed beside religious symbols. Kozyra has worked with various forms of art, from music to dance and performance art.



Czesław Niemen: Poland's answer to Springsteen and Rory Gallagher comes in the form of Czesław Niemen. With his emotive rock-folk ballads and hard-hitting lyrics, he headed up the new wave of strummers, singers, and keyboardists who would give Poland a more rocky and rhythmic voice in the post-war era. Amongst Niemen's biggest hits is "Jednego serca" (1969), which is still a karaoke regular today.

Puerto Rico

Territory



Puerto Rico is a Caribbean island and unincorporated U.S. territory with a landscape of mountains, waterfalls and the El Yunque tropical rainforest. In San Juan, the capital and largest city, the Isla Verde area is known for its hotel strip, beach bars and casinos. Its Old San Juan neighborhood features colorful Spanish colonial buildings and El Morro and La Fortaleza, massive, centuries-old fortresses.

Capital: San Juan

Population: 3.194 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: United States Dollar

President: Joe Biden

Continent: North America

Official languages: Spanish, English

Distance Traveling from the USA

3 h 43 min flight

Food

Tostones

Empanadillas

Rellenos de papa

Platanos maduros

Arros con dulce

Arroz con gandules

Mofongo

Pasteles

Asopao

Flan

Alcapurrias

Pernil

Pastelon

Coquito

Tembleque

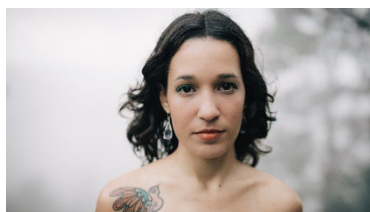
Natural resources

Puerto Rico has a variety of habitats, including forests, coral reefs, wetlands, lagoons, caves, and marshes. The range of natural formations encourages tourism, but is also of value for research. There are substantial deposits of oil and natural gas off the coast of Puerto Rico, according to a recent U.S. Geological Survey finding. It is unclear whether the energy resources can be extracted on a cost-effective basis now but new technology may make it very worthwhile in the future. While the oil and gas may not be practical to harvest now, Puerto Rico has great potential for renewable energy including solar, wind, hydroelectric power. Copper and nickel as well as rocks and minerals used in construction are available in Puerto Rico.

Artist profile



Angel Otero: The Puerto Rican artist based out of Chicago and New York, studied at the University of Puerto Rico and obtained a BFA and MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Thus far, much of his work has been exhibited in Chicago and Puerto Rico. Otero specializes in paintings.



Ileana Cabra: Many music fans may know Ileana Cabra as PG-13, the singer accompanying her brothers and Grammy-winning duo, Residente and Visitante, from Calle 13. She released her debut album *Ilevitable* last year, for which she was awarded the 2017 Grammy for Best Latin Rock, Urban or Alternative Album. It includes contributions by more than 70 musicians, composers, and arrangers, including several family members. While this is her first solo endeavor, Cabra has been making music for most of her life and listeners can expect more good work following her debut.

Rwanda

Country in East Africa



Rwanda, officially the Republic of Rwanda, is a landlocked country in the Great Rift Valley, where the African Great Lakes region and East Africa converge. Located a few degrees south of the Equator, Rwanda is bordered by Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Capital: Kigali

Population: 12.95 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Rwandan franc

President: Paul Kagame

Continent: Africa

Official languages: Kinyarwanda, French, English

Distance Traveling from the USA

17 h 10 min flight

Food

Ibiraya

Isombe

Brochettes

Ubugali

Igisafuria

Agatogo

Umutsima

Matoke

Akabenzi

Mizuzu

Kachumbari

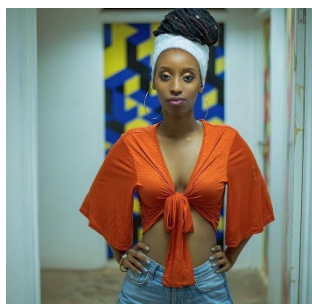
Natural resources

Rwanda's chief natural resources include tin ore, gold, methane and tungsten ore. The significant export commodities in 2010 include tin ore, columbite- tantalite and tungsten ore.

Artist profile



Moses Izabiriza: Moses Izabiriza is a young contemporary narrative painter who is now getting the recognition that he deserves, producing artwork that beautifully transcends natural states of time and space. So far, his work has already been exhibited in a couple of exhibitions in Rwanda, including Imago Mundi which brought Ugandan, Tanzanian, and of course Rwandan artists together. Izabiriza's passion for the arts has started during childhood when he used to love to draw and paint. When he was 10, he was already making art with wires from the surrounding areas, including motorcycles that he would ride with his friends. Izabiriza is now making a living from art, and is part of Ivuka Arts.



Angell Mutoni: From spoken word to belting vocals, Angell Mutoni makes sure to explore the full range of her creativity with her releases. Despite lockdowns and curfews characterising the year, she came out with a fun dance track last December specifically calling on Black women to "Let Loose."

Scotland

UK constituent country



Scotland is a country that is part of the United Kingdom. Covering the northern third of the island of Great Britain, mainland Scotland has a 96-mile border with England to the southeast and is otherwise surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the north and west, the North Sea to the northeast and the Irish Sea to the south. The country also contains more than 790 islands, principally in the archipelagos of the Hebrides and the Northern Isles. Most of the population, including the capital Edinburgh, is concentrated in the Central Belt – the plain between the Scottish Highlands and the Southern Uplands – in the Scottish Lowlands.

Capital: Edinburgh

Population: 5.454 million (2019) Eurostat

Currency: Pound sterling

Continent: Europe

Official languages: Scottish Gaelic, English

Distance Traveling from the USA

8 h 20 min flight

Food

Haggis

Porridge

Bangers and mash

Grouse

Leek and tattie soup

Neeps and tatties

A full Scottish

Sticky toffee pudding

Black pudding

Bacon butty

Scottish salmon

Scottish tablet

Fish supper

Shortbread

Battered mars bar

Natural resources

Scotland has a large abundance of natural resources from fertile land suitable for agriculture, to oil and gas. In terms of mineral resources, Scotland produces coal, zinc, iron and oil shale.

Artist profile



Ronald F Smith: Ronald F Smith was born in Glasgow in 1946. He graduated in Drawing and Painting from the highly respected Glasgow School of Art in 1969. Ronald's subject matters hold a familiarity - landscapes, sky scenes, and still life's – yet he manages to create an intensely unfamiliar atmosphere with his paint. His painterly style forms a large part of the work's attraction, with his rough pastel scrapes of paint under which glimpses of sumptuous colour can be seen. Each of Ronald's works are beautiful to behold and must be seen in the flesh to absorb the warmth which radiates from them.



The Ninth Wave: The Ninth Wave have exactly the sound you'd expect from an outfit operating under such a wave. Though they only debuted in 2017, you'll be hard-pressed to believe that they haven't been progressing the new-wave genre since the '80s. Exuding refined and modern Goth ambiance, they'll fit right into any playlist alongside Joy Division and Blaqk Audio alike. Give their latest release, "Everything Will Be Fine," to see what we mean.

Senegal

Country in West Africa

Senegal, officially the Republic of Senegal, is a country in West Africa. Senegal is bordered by Mauritania in the north, Mali to the east, Guinea to the southeast, and Guinea-Bissau to the southwest.

Capital: Dakar

Population: 16.74 million (2020) World Bank

President: Macky Sall

Currency: West African CFA franc

Continent: Africa

Official languages: French

Distance Traveling from the USA

9 h 45 min flight

Food

Thieboudienne

Bassi Salte

Firire

Bissap

Chicken Yassa

Mafe

Domoda

Caldou

Lakhou Bissap

Pastels

Natural resources

Natural resources: Fish, peanuts, phosphate, iron ore, gold, titanium. Industries: Agricultural and fish processing, phosphate mining, fertilizer production, petroleum refining, construction materials

Artist profile



Mamady Seydi is known for his stunning large sculptures based on Senegalese folk tales. The sculptures, often positioned in groups, have a dramatic narrative quality to them. The artist considers his works to be alive rather than statues because, as he says on his website, they have stories to tell. He has exhibited around Senegal and France and participated in many artist residencies.



Alioune Mbaye Nder: Dakar-born vocalist Alioune Mbaye Nder began his career with Lemzo Diamono, an offshoot of the groundbreaking Super Diamono. He left in 1995 to lead his own act, Le Setsima Group, which has issued several albums on cassette between 1995 and 2007. Nder—whose last name is a nod to the n’der drum—has focused his lyrical content on social issues, particularly the role of women and marriage in modern society.

Sierra Leone

Country in West Africa



Sierra Leone is a country in West Africa, on the Atlantic Ocean. It's known for the white-sand beaches lining the Freetown Peninsula. The capital city, Freetown, commemorates the nation's slave-trade history with the Cotton Tree landmark and King's Yard Gate. Both were known as places of refuge for returned slaves in the 18th and 19th centuries. Nearby Bunce Island was a key departure point during the slave trade.

Capital: Freetown

Population: 7.977 million (2020) World Bank

President: Julius Maada Bio

Currency: Sierra Leonean leone

Continent: Africa

Official languages: Although English, as the official language, is spoken in schools, government administration and the media, Krio is widely spoken as a lingua franca. As of 2005, approximately 97% of the population speak the Krio language (either as first, second or third language).

Distance Traveling from the USA

16 h 50 min flight

Food

Leaf stew

Agidi

Fufu

Krinkinand fish balls

Yebe

Jollof rice

Oleleh

Pepper chicken

Fry fry

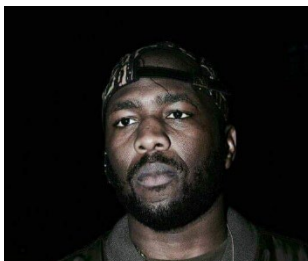
Natural resources

Sierra Leone is well known for its vast endowment in minerals which include diamonds, rutile, bauxite, gold, iron ore, limonite, platinum, chromite, coltan, tantalite, columbite, and zircon, as well as promising petroleum potential.

Artist profile



John Francis: An artist who specialises in expressive watercolour and acrylic paintings that capture the beat of urban and rural life in Sierra Leone, particularly aspects of traditional Krio culture. John's work can be found throughout hotels in Freetown.



Sheik Kargbo: The Renaissance Movement CEO, US based Sierra Leonean rapper Sheik Kargbo aka SK has promoted his native Sierra Leonean culture in his latest track titled 'Poro'. This amazing rapper takes us to the depth of Sierra Leonean culture, and fuses traditional instruments, languages, names, and culture in his latest 'Poro' track. He combines strings of local sounds in a highly pitched contemporary hip hop song. Poro is a traditional society mostly associated and practiced by the Temne people of Sierra Leone. SK wasted no time in bringing this beautiful culture to light.

Saint Lucia

Country in the Caribbean



Saint Lucia is an Eastern Caribbean island nation with a pair of dramatically tapered mountains, the Pitons, on its west coast. Its coast is home to volcanic beaches, reef-diving sites, luxury resorts and fishing villages. Trails in the interior rainforest lead to waterfalls like the 15m-high Toraille, which pours over a cliff into a garden. The capital, Castries, is a popular cruise port.

Capital: Castries

Population: 183,629 (2020) World Bank

Currency: Eastern Caribbean dollar

Continent: North America

Official languages: Saint Lucian Creole French (Kwéyòl [kwejɔl]), known locally as Patwa, is the French-based Creole widely spoken in Saint Lucia. It is the vernacular language of the country and is spoken alongside the official language of English.

Distance Traveling from the USA

4 h 35 min flight

Food

St. Lucia Lambi

Callaloo Soup

St. Lucian Pepper Pot

Fried Bakes

Green Figs and Saltfish

Accra

St. Lucian Bouillon

Fried Plantain

Breadfruit

Green Fig Salad

Natural resources

Saint Lucia's key natural resources are its extensive forests, beaches, wind and mineral springs which have been shown to have viable geothermal potential.

Artist profile



Llewellyn xavier: Llewellyn Xavier (b. 1945, Saint Lucia)

At the age of seventeen, Llewellyn Xavier leaves Saint Lucia for Barbados, where he is first introduced to watercolours while working as an agricultural apprentice. In 1968, Xavier travels to England, and becomes a pioneer in the field of mail art. He moves to the United States in 1979 to attend the school of the Museum of Fine Arts, in Boston. He later joins a monastery in Montreal to become a Cistercian monk for some time, before leaving the monastery, marrying and returning to Saint Lucia in 1987.

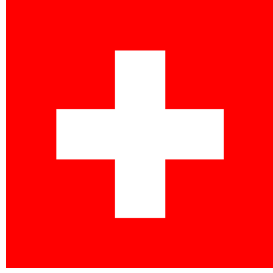
Xavier creates perhaps his most important works in 1993, titled Global Council for Restoration of the Earth's Environment. The series of large collages, first shown at the Patrick Cramer Gallery in Geneva, incorporate all manner of recycled materials, including naturalist prints from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and postage stamps from many countries. They also include signatures of various world leaders of environmentalism and of a number of conservationists.



Taj Weekes. Reggae was created and taken around the world by outspoken iconoclasts. Taj Weekes is right at home in that tradition as he upholds the music's deep roots while expanding its topical reach.

Switzerland

Country in Europe



Switzerland is a mountainous Central European country, home to numerous lakes, villages and the high peaks of the Alps. Its cities contain medieval quarters, with landmarks like capital Bern's Zytglogge clock tower and Lucerne's wooden chapel bridge. The country is also known for its ski resorts and hiking trails. Banking and finance are key industries, and Swiss watches and chocolate are world renowned.

Capital: Bern

Population: 8.637 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Swiss franc

Continent: Europe

Official languages: German, French, Romansh, Italian

Government: Direct democracy, Confederation, Federal republic, Directorial system

Distance Traveling from the USA

7 h 15 min flight

Food

Zopf Bread

Rösti

Swiss Chocolate

Bündner Nusstorte

Berner Platte

Älpermagronen

Cheese Fondue

Wine

Natural resources

Although Switzerland has few natural resources (salt is the only mined resource) and lacks indigenous hydrocarbons to power its industries, high precipitation in the Alps, glaciated U-shaped valleys, the storage of glacial meltwaters behind giant dams, and the great range of elevations provide an ideal environment for the generation of hydroelectric power.

Artist profile



John M Armleder: Working in various media, John M Armleder was a key figure in the Fluxus movement of the 1960s and 1970s, when he utilized John Cage's ideas on the role of chance in creation. As one of the founders of the Geneva-based Groupe Ecart, he was involved in performance art and publications bringing new artists to Switzerland. Armleder's work blurs the boundaries between the avant-garde and the everyday, as well as questioning the medium of the exhibition itself. His 'Furniture Sculptures' famously introduce furniture into the spaces and compositions of abstract paintings.



Stefan Eicher: (Born 17 August 1960) is a Swiss singer. He sings in a variety of languages, including French, German, English, Italian, Swiss German, and Romansh, sometimes using different languages in the same song. Eicher's success started in German-speaking countries in the 1980s when, as part of the band Grauzone, he had a hit single, "Eisbär". With hit songs such as "Combien de Temps" and "Oh Ironie", his popularity spread across Europe with albums, tours, and chart success in France and Switzerland.

Syria

Country in the Middle East



Syria, officially the Syrian Arab Republic, is a country in Western Asia, bordering Lebanon to the southwest, the Mediterranean Sea to the west, Turkey to the north, Iraq to the east, Jordan to the south, and Israel to the southwest. Its capital and largest city is Damascus.

Capital: Damascus

Population: 17.5 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Syrian pound

President: Bashar al-Assad

Continent: Asia

Official languages: Arabic

Government: Unitary state, Totalitarianism, Semi-presidential system, One-party state

Distance Traveling from the USA

13 h 47 min flight

Food

Zlebiye

Ballourieh

Awameh

Tahini

Hummus

Booza

Muhammara

Halawet el-jeben

Makdous

Mahshi

Natural resources

Syria has deposits of petroleum; natural gas; phosphates; chrome, iron, and manganese ores; asphalt; rock salt; marble; and gypsum.

Artist profile



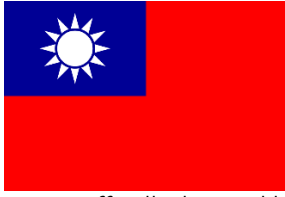
Tammam Azzam: Tammam Azzam (b. 1980, Damascus, Syria) is from the younger generation of Syrian artists and lives in exile in Dubai. He has had various exhibitions with Ayyam Gallery at its different locations, including London (2013), Al Quoz – Dubai (2012, 2009), DIFC Dubai (2011), Beirut and Damascus (2010).

Azzam has come to prominence for his art that address the destruction and suffering of the Syrian populace in the face of the tragedies and devastations caused by conflict, as well as the apathy of the international community. In an interview, Azzam says about his work: 'I'm an artist that's doing artwork with a political background because of the situation, because I'm Syrian so I have to be involved in what's happening in my country.' He adds that he is not a soldier, he doesn't care about the regime, nor is he fighting against the regime. 'I'm fighting to support people so this is the difference for me.'



Lena Chamamyan (Arabic: شاميان لينا) is a Syrian singer of Armenian descent. Born in Damascus, Syria, she started singing at an early age giving her first concert when she was five years old. After graduating from the Faculty of Business in 2002 she studied eastern classical song at the Aleppo Conservatory, but also ventured into jazz and traditional Armenian music. On her first album, Hal Asmar Ellon (2006), which reflects her style of oriental music mixed with elements of jazz, Chamamyan has collaborated with the Aleppo-born instrumentalist and trumpet player Basel Rajoub.

Taiwan



Taiwan, officially the Republic of China, is a country in East Asia. It shares maritime borders with the People's Republic of China to the northwest, Japan to the northeast, and the Philippines to the south.

Capital: Taipei City

Population: 23.57 million (2020)

Currency: New Taiwan dollar

President: Tsai Ing-wen

Continent: Asia

Official languages: Mandarin Chinese

Distance Traveling from the USA

20 h 20 min flight

Food

Beef Noodle Soup

Zong Zi: Sticky Rice Dumpling

Oyster Vermicelli Noodles

Three-Cup Chicken

Aiyu Jelly

Hot Pot

Taiwanese Fried Chicken

Scallion Pancake

Xiao Long Bao, or Soup Dumplings

Pineapple Cake

Gua bao, or the Taiwanese Hamburger

Braised Pork Rice

Century Egg

Fan Tuan

Ice Cream Burritos

Natural resources

Coal, oil and natural gas, gold, marble, asbestos, cement and copper

Artist profile



Lee Kuei-Chih, who is well known for his outdoor installations. His art projects are mainly mixed media sculptures in open spaces where he incites a diverse range of artistic mediums. Lately, he was an artist in residence in Japan at the Shinano Primitive Sense Art Festival constructing Water Aura, an eco-friendly outdoor sculpture installation which embraces natural sources- water and wind- as active agents for this project. In September 2015, he will join the Guandu International Outdoor Sculpture Festival in Taipei.



Mayday (五月天): Formed when they were still students, Mayday debuted with an album of its own compositions in 1999. The vigorous spirit of Mayday has become a huge sensation among the younger generation in Taiwan. Its candid and straightforward music styles along with the lyrics written about growing up have outlined the days of our youth. For over 2 decades, Mayday's music has not only influenced a great number of audiences, but also motivated many youngsters to form their own bands. Even till now, the band's concert tickets still sold out in seconds.

Tanzania

Country in East Africa



Tanzania is an East African country known for its vast wilderness areas. They include the plains of Serengeti National Park, a safari mecca populated by the “big five” game (elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, rhino), and Kilimanjaro National Park, home to Africa’s highest mountain. Offshore lie the tropical islands of Zanzibar, with Arabic influences, and Mafia, with a marine park home to whale sharks and coral reefs.

Capital: Dodoma

Population: 59.73 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Tanzanian shilling

President: Samia Suluhu Hassan

Continent: Africa

Official languages: Swahili, English

Distance Traveling from the USA

19 h 30 min flight

Food

Mchuzi wa samaki

Ndizi na nyama

Mandazi

Ugali

Wali wa nazi

Mchemsho

Mshikaki

Chipsi mayai

Zanzibar pizza

Mchicha

Natural resources

Mining in Tanzania includes metals (gold, iron ore, nickel, copper, cobalt, silver), industrial minerals (diamonds, tanzanite, ruby, garnet, limestone, soda ash, gypsum, salt, phosphate, gravel, sand, dimension stones and graphite), and fuel minerals (coal, uranium).

Artist profile



George Lilanga: born in southern Tanzania in around 1934 into the Makonde tribe, a indigenous group renowned for their rich sculptural traditions and ritual dances. He began his career as a carver and sculptor, and hosted his first international exhibition in 1978 to much critical acclaim. His paintings draw on his Makonde heritage, showcasing the culture and mythology of his tribe, and also serve as a social critique on contemporary African culture. All his works are whimsical and underscored with a sense of humour, and include vibrant colours and mythical figures. Lilanga’s art has found its way into private collections and exhibitions all around the world.



Ali Kiba (born Ally Saleh Kiba): Kiba is a famous Tanzanian lyricist and vocalist whose rise in the music industry has been phenomenal. Surprisingly, Kiba is also a footballer. This Tanzanian musician has worked together with some of the world’s renowned artists, including R. Kelly and Sauti Sol band of Kenya. Ali Kiba featured Rude Boy in his latest hit song, Salute.

Trinidad and Tobago

Country in the Caribbean



Trinidad and Tobago is a dual-island Caribbean nation near Venezuela, with distinctive Creole traditions and cuisines. Trinidad's capital, Port of Spain, hosts a boisterous carnival featuring calypso and soca music. Numerous bird species inhabit sanctuaries such as the Asa Wright Nature Centre. The smaller island of Tobago is known for its beaches and the Tobago Main Ridge Forest Reserve, which shelters hummingbirds.

Capital: Port of Spain

Continent: South America

Population: 1.399 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Trinidad and Tobago dollar

President: Paula-Mae Weekes

Continent: South America

Official languages: official language is English other are; Trinidadian English Creole, Tobagonian Creole, Trinidadian Hindustani, and other Indigenous Languages

Distance Traveling from the USA

7 h 56 min flight

Food

Pholourie

Coconut Bake

Curry Duck

Saltfish buljol

Curried Crab and Dumplings

Bake and Shark

Soursop Ice Cream

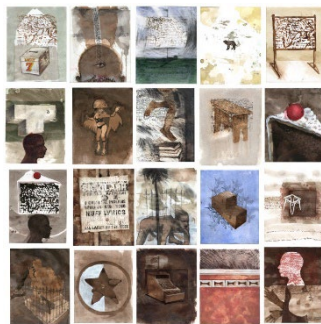
Fish Broth

Doubles

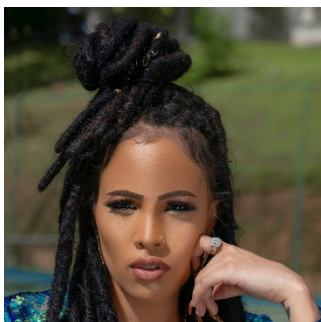
Natural resources

Petroleum, natural gas and asphalt are some of the major natural resources found in and around the main island of Trinidad In fact, T&T is a major exporter of petroleum, natural gas, ammonia, etc. in the world economy.

Artist profile



Christopher Cozier's art reflects the history, race, culture, and politics of the Caribbean, specifically within the context of post-independence Trinidad and Tobago. He places a particular emphasis on the fictionality and flaws of canonical art historical narratives as well as the stereotypes surrounding popularized notions of his home region: paradisiacal, savage, or backward looking, for instance.



Nessa Preppy; if you've done road marches at any carnival this year, you for sure heard the single from the snackboss herself, Nessa Preppy. The Travis World-produced "Issa Snack" dominated the road and carnival mixes this year and was a great follow-up single to her 2018 single "Tingo". The soca artist—who was inspired by the calypso competitions she took part in as a youngster, as well as the hip-hop and rapso music she frequently listened to—has been making records for carnival since 2013 and has no intention of letting up. We're excited to see what Nessa has in store for 2020!

Uganda

Country in East Africa



Uganda is a landlocked country in East Africa whose diverse landscape encompasses the snow-capped Rwenzori Mountains and immense Lake Victoria. Its abundant wildlife includes chimpanzees as well as rare birds. Remote Bwindi Impenetrable National Park is a renowned mountain gorilla sanctuary. Murchison Falls National Park in the northwest is known for its 43m-tall waterfall and wildlife such as hippos.

Capital: Kampala

Population: 45.74 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Ugandan shilling

President: Yoweri Museveni

Continent: Africa

Official languages: Swahili, English

Distance Traveling from the USA

18 h 56 min flight

Food

Matooke/matoke

Luwombo

Chaloko

Grasshoppers

Groundnut sauce

Muchomo

Katogo

Posho/ugali

Rolex

Natural resources

Uganda's reserves include copper, tungsten, cobalt, columbite-tantalite, gold, phosphate, iron ore, and limestone. Gold, cobalt, and columbite-tantalite are mined. Gold is an important export, but it is complicated by the fact that gold has been smuggled into Uganda from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Artist profile



Wasswa Donald wields a fierce brushstroke; creating evocative, semi-abstract landscapes that feature East African wildlife, of which the elephant is the most distinct. Donald studied at the Kyambogo University, where he specialized in Art and Design. His artistic practices focus on the idea of harmony with nature, and he creates exquisite artworks using paint, pen and ink, mixed media, also dabbling in sculpture, clothing and accessory design. His works can be best described as whimsical and dreamlike, and he uses colors to show the African spirit in all its vibrant glory. Besides being a full-time practicing artist, Donald also founded the Artpunch Studio, which provides a platform for him to work with many creative professionals from various artistic fields.



James Ssewakiryanga Junior, professionally known as Ssewa Ssewa, is a Ugandan live performing musician, multi – instrumentalist, founder of Janzi Band and inventor of Janzi, a musical instrument.

Ukraine

Country in Europe



Ukraine is a country in Eastern Europe. It is the second-largest country by area in Europe after Russia, which it borders to the east and north-east.

Capital: Kyiv Trending

Population: 44.13 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Ukrainian hryvnia

President: Volodymyr Zelensky

Continent: Europe

Official languages: Ukrainian

Distance Traveling from the USA

11 h 10 min flight

Food

Koliva

Pampushka

Kutia

Borscht

Banosh

Bublik

Paska

Korovai

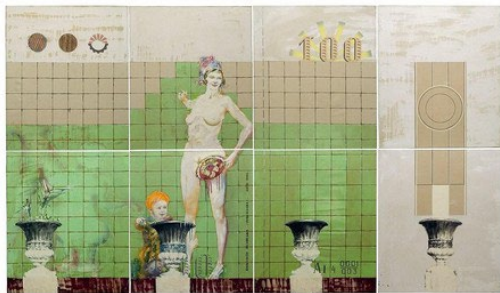
Chicken Kiev

Varenyky

Natural resources

Ukraine's reserves include copper, tungsten, cobalt, columbite-tantalite, gold, phosphate, iron ore, and limestone. Gold, cobalt, and columbite-tantalite are mined. Gold is an important export, but it is complicated by the fact that gold has been smuggled into Ukraine from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Artist profile



Oleg Tistol is one of the most popular Ukrainian artists, who represented the country at the São Paulo Art Biennial in 1994 and the 49th Venice Biennale in 2001. His art is known and appreciated around the world. The distinctive feature of Oleg Tistol's work is the artistic rethinking of various clichés and stereotypes through experimentation. One of them was made in the collaboration with designer Anastasia Ivanova in 2013, when the visitors of the 31st Ukrainian Fashion Week participated in the painting of the piece Colouring Book, thus creating an interactive artwork.



FOA HOKA: On the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary, ukrainian band Foa Hoka presents unique compilation: the 90 best tracks in digital format and also on 30 craft USB flash drives for true audiophiles. The listener is offered a kind of expedition: industrial and neo-folk hits of the 90's, released by the Polish label Koka Records, experiments of the 2000's, electronic dance mutants of the 2010's and the present.

United States

Country in North America



The U.S. is a country of 50 states covering a vast swath of North America, with Alaska in the northwest and Hawaii extending the nation's presence into the Pacific Ocean. Major Atlantic Coast cities are New York, a global finance and culture center, and capital Washington, DC. Midwestern metropolis Chicago is known for influential architecture and on the west coast, Los Angeles' Hollywood is famed for filmmaking.

Capital: Washington, D.C.

Population: 329.5 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: United States Dollar

President: Joe Biden Trending

Continent: North America

Official languages: English

Food

Cheeseburgers

Pecan pie

Lobster roll

Ranch dressing

Tater tots

Buffalo wings

Chocolate chip cookies

Corn dogs

Deep dish pizza

Reubens

S'mores

Brownie

Philly cheesesteak

Natural resources

The U.S. has abundant supplies of coal, copper, lead, iron, natural gas, timber, bauxite, and uranium. 18% of the land in the U.S. is arable land. The U.S. is a major exporter of technology, consumer goods, information systems,

Artist profile



Kehinde Wiley is a New York-based artist known for his portraits inspired by Old Masters' paintings. Originally painting black men from Harlem, Wiley's work grew to include other black men from around the world and eventually black women. Allowing the models to choose a classical artwork depicting noblemen, aristocrats, and other imposing historical figures of their choosing, Wiley then poses the men who are wearing everyday clothes in the same heroic manner and paints them against a colorful backdrop based on decorative textiles. The result is a bold and powerful contemporary spin on classical portraiture. World-renowned, Wiley's paintings can be found in numerous collections around the world, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.



Lady Gaga: Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta, known professionally as Lady Gaga, is an American singer, songwriter, and actress. She is known for her image reinventions and musical versatility. Gaga began performing as a teenager, singing at open mic nights, and acting in school plays.

Vietnam

Country in Asia



Vietnam is a Southeast Asian country known for its beaches, rivers, Buddhist pagodas and bustling cities. Hanoi, the capital, pays homage to the nation's iconic Communist-era leader, Ho Chi Minh, via a huge marble mausoleum. Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) has French colonial landmarks, plus Vietnamese War history museums and the Củ Chi tunnels, used by Viet Cong soldiers.

Capital: Hanoi

Population: 97.34 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Vietnamese dong

Continent: Asia

Official languages: Vietnamese

Distance Traveling from the USA

21 h 10 min flight

Food

Goi Cuon (spring rolls)

Bun Cha (grilled meatballs)

Banh mi (Vietnamese/Saigon sandwich)

Pho (noodle soup)

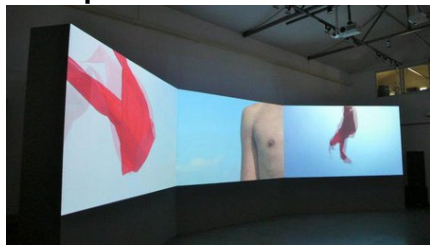
Banh xeo (sizzling pancakes)

Cao lau (noodle bowl)

Natural resources

Vietnam has discovered more than 5000 new minerals and deposits, reviewed a number of minerals and natural resources such as: oil and gas; coal, titanium, bauxite, phosphate rocks, rare earth, copper, gold, iron ore, mineral construction materials and some others.

Artist profile



Tran Luong (b. 1960) is a pioneer of performance art in Vietnam, but he also works in other media, including painting and installation. The Hanoi-based artist came to international prominence as part of the Gang of Five and led the development of contemporary art in Vietnam in the 1980s and 1990s. Still an influential figure, he is now highly regarded for his performance art experience. His work has been exhibited worldwide and his latest performative video work, *Lập Lờ* (2012) is part of the Guggenheim UBS Map Global Art Initiative. Tran was a senior curator at the Singapore Biennale in 2013 and was responsible for selecting some of the best young artists from Vietnam to participate in the event.



St.319 Production Team proudly presents our first artist MIN, with her debut digital mini-album, 'Tim' (Lost). Amalgamating with intricate original St.319 dance choreographies, the mini-album seeks to cater audibly and visually to the entertainment industry, offering never-before-seen performing arts of pinnacle excellence. 'Tim' (Lost) manifests as a milestone as the 3 album tracks: Intro duction M#1, title track 'Tim' (Lost), and support track 'I Don't Need A Man' highlight MIN and St.319's first step into the professional music industry.

Zambia

Country in East Africa



Zambia, in southern Africa, is a landlocked country of rugged terrain and diverse wildlife, with many parks and safari areas. On its border with Zimbabwe is famed Victoria Falls – indigenously called Mosi-oa-Tunya, or "Smoke That Thunders" – plunging a misty 108m into narrow Batoka Gorge. Spanning the Zambezi River just below the falls is Victoria Falls Bridge, a spectacular viewpoint.

Capital: Lusaka

Population: 18.38 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: Zambian kwacha

Continent: Africa

Official language: Numerous languages or dialects have been identified in Zambia. There are seven official vernacular languages: Bemba, Nyanja, Lozi, Tonga, Luvale, Lunda, and Kaonde, the latter three being languages of North-Western Province. English is the official language of government and is used for education, commerce, and law.

Distance Traveling from the USA

20 h 35 min flight

Food

Nshima

Chikanda

Michopo

Ifinkubala

Ifishashi

Vitumbuwa

Inswa

kapenta

masuku

Natural resources

In addition to copper, several other minerals are mined in the state including cobalt, gold, manganese, iron, emeralds and a variety of other gemstones, industrial minerals, as well as energy minerals such as uranium, coal, and hydrocarbons

Artist profile



Stary Mwaba uses sculpture and paintings to reflect on Zambia's past and future – his exhibition at the Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin in 2015 was called Life on Mars, and was inspired by the Zambia Space Program of the 1960s. Other work includes a series called Chinese Cabbage, which tackles Zambia's relationship with China, a major financial donor to many countries on the continent including Zambia. Mwaba's work, which includes acrylic, mixed media, wire mesh, chitenge (cotton print with designs) and other materials, has been featured in New York, London, Johannesburg, Ghana and in Lusaka at various venues. He has been featured on CNN Africa and gave a TED Talk on 'Redefining art as a tool for development' at Ted X Lusaka in 2016.



Jay Rox began his career as part of an award-winning hip-hop group called Zone Fam. The group eventually disbanded in 2013 and the rapper returned to a solo career he had started before joining the group. His first release after the split was an album in 2015 called Outside The Rox and featured songs such as 'Joanna,' 'Auto Pilot,' 'Not For Sello' and more. In 2017 he released Lusaka, an homage to Zambia's capital city. The album features songs such as 'Glory,' 'Best Father Alive' and 'Camera Ready'. His latest offering, titled 'Outside The Rox 2,' was released on June 4, 2018. The album features a collaboration with Kenyan singer Victoria Kimani.

Zimbabwe

Country in Africa



Zimbabwe is a landlocked country in southern Africa known for its dramatic landscape and diverse wildlife, much of it within parks, reserves and safari areas. On the Zambezi River, Victoria Falls make a thundering 108m drop into narrow Batoka Gorge, where there's white-water rafting and bungee-jumping. Downstream are Matusadona and Mana Pools national parks, home to hippos, rhinos and birdlife.

Capital: Harare

Population: 14.86 million (2020) World Bank

Currency: United states dollar, Real time gross settlement dollars

President: Emmerson Mnangagwa

Continent: Africa

Official languages: Shona, Xhosa, Tsonga, Tonga, English, Southern Sotho among many others.

Distance Traveling from the USA

21 h 59 min flight

Food

Sadza

Nyii

The Braai

Kapenta

Mapopo

Mopane Worms

Ifisashi

Lacto

Mupotahayi

Biltong

Nyama

Tilapia

Nhedzi

Whawha

Chikenduza

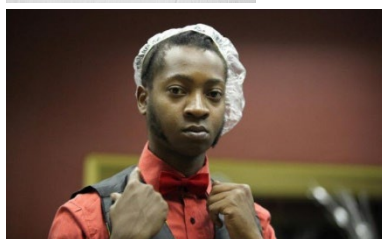
Natural resources

Zimbabwe's mineral resources include, amongst others, coal, chromium ore, nickel, copper, iron ore, vanadium, tin, platinum group metals (such as palladium) and diamonds. Globally it is a significant producer of lithium, chrysotile asbestos and vermiculite.

Artist profile



John Beadle: In this new body of work, Beadle combines natural and manufactured materials to create pieces that reference and warp their original forms. Beadle, who trained as a painter and printmaker, applies a similar attitude toward materiality in these sculptures. These new works are examples of Beadle's ability to merge painting, sculpture and installation, creating a rich sense of line, dimension and texture. Beadle's carbonized mahogany carvings fuse a variety of natural wood textures into single compositions. In his circular wall sculptures, round indentations, thinly etched lines and curving hollows mimic the various textures found naturally in wood, allowing these different patterns to blend into one another.



Rockford Josphat, better known by his stage names Roki or Rocqui, is a Zimbabwean contemporary musician, who has also tapped into acting. Born in Madagascar and raised in ParkTown Waterfalls Harare, Roki made his debut in 2001 after releasing hits such as "Seiko" which featured Leonard Mapfumo and Suzanna.