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About Rwanda



- **Population:** 10.47 million
- **Location:** Landlocked country in east-central Africa
- **Size:** 26,388 sq km. One of the smallest and most densely populated African countries
- **Capital:** Kigali
- **President:** General Paul Kagame (since April 22, 2000)
- **Politics:** Presidential, multi-party system. After the 1994 genocide, Rwanda embarked on national reconciliation and rebuilding, with signs of rapid development. Peace and political stability were re-established, though lingering conflict with Hutu insurgents across the border with Democratic Republic of Congo is a concern
- **Independence:** July 1, 1962 (from Belgian-administered UN trusteeship)
- **Economy:** Subsistence agriculture, exports of coffee and tea. Aims to be middle-income nation and knowledge-based service hub by 2020
- **Natural resources:** Few, but include some gold, tin ore, tungsten, methane, hydropower and arable land
- **Gross domestic product:** US\$13.7 billion (purchasing power parity)
- **GDP growth rate:** 11.2 per cent (2008)
- **GDP per capita:** US\$1,600 (S\$2,200)
- **Major trading partners:** The United Kingdom, Kenya, Uganda, Belgium, the United Arab Emirates
- **Climate:** Temperate
- **Terrain:** Mostly grassy uplands and hills
- **Languages:** Kinyarwanda, French, English, Swahili

Sources: *CIA World Factbook, World Bank, United Nations Statistics Division*