



Country Profile: Montenegro

Montenegro declared its independence from the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro in June 2006, following a peaceful referendum process. Montenegro is a small Balkan country currently undergoing significant political and economic changes. Tourist facilities are widely available but vary in quality and some may not be up to Western standards. Read the Department of State [Background Notes on Montenegro](#) for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Montenegro
Continent:	Europe
Capital City:	Podgorica
Boundary Countries:	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Serbia
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	
Main Cities:	Podgorica, Bar, Berane, Pljevlja, Herceg Novi, Tivat, Budva, Niksic, Bejielo Polje, Centinje
Country Size:	13,812 sq km
Population:	672,180

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Serbian 63.6%, Montenegrin (official) 22%, Bosnian 5.5%, Albanian 5.3%, unspecified 3.7%
Currency:	Euro (EUR)
Predominant Religions:	Orthodox 74.2%, Muslim 17.7%, Catholic 3.5%, other 0.6%, unspecified 3%, atheist 1%
National Holidays:	National Day, 13 June (1878)
Economic Status:	Montenegro severed its economy from federal control and from Serbia during the MILOSEVIC era and maintained its own central bank, adopted the Deutschmark, then the euro - rather than the Yugoslav dinar - as official currency, collected customs tariffs, and managed its own budget. The dissolution of the loose political union between Serbia and Montenegro in 2006 led to separate membership in several international financial institutions, such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. On 18 January 2007, Montenegro joined the World Bank and IMF. Montenegro is pursuing its own membership in the World Trade Organization and signed a Stabilization and Association agreement with the European Union in October 2007. On December 15, 2008, Montenegro submitted an EU membership application. Unemployment and regional disparities in development are key political and economic problems. Montenegro has privatized its large aluminum complex - the dominant industry - as well as most of its financial sector, and has begun to attract foreign direct investment in the tourism sector. The global financial crisis is likely to have a significant negative impact on the economy, due to the ongoing credit crunch, a decline in the real estate sector, and a fall in aluminum exports.
Security:	Armed Forces of the Republic of Montenegro: Army, Navy, Air Force
US Presence:	U.S. Embassy in Podgorica Dzona Dzeksona 2 81000 Podgorica Montenegro Embassy Switchboard: +382 (0)20 410 500

Major Airports:	Airports: 5, Airports w/paved runways: 3
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