Country Profile: Mauritius

The Republic of Mauritius is a small island nation of four inhabited and several other islands located in the southwestern Indian Ocean. Mauritius has a stable government and a diverse economy. Its per capita GDP of \$6,300 is the second highest in Africa. Facilities for tourism are well developed. English is the official language of Mauritius, however Creole and French are also widely spoken. English may not be understood outside of main towns and tourist areas. The capital city is Port Louis. Read the Department of State Background Notes on Mauritius for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Country Name:	Mauritius
Continent:	Africa
Capital City:	Port Louis
Boundary Countries:	
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Rose Hill: Nouvelle Clinique Du Bon Pasteur Belle Rose: St. Jean Clinic Curepipe: Nouvelle Clinique Floreal: Clinique Darne Pointe aux Cannoniers: Centre Medical Du Nord
Main Cities:	Port Louis, Triolet, Goodlands, Tamarin, Chemin Grenier, Curepipe, Centre de Flacq, Quatre Bomes, Mahebourg, Souillac
Country Size:	2,040 sq km, note: includes Agalega Islands, Cargados Carajos Shoals (Saint Brandon), and Rodrigues
Population:	1,250,882

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Creole 80.5%, Bhojpuri 12.1%, French 3.4%, English (official; spoken by less than 1% of the population)
Currency:	Mauritian Rupee (MUR)
Predominant Religions:	Hindu 48%, Roman Catholic 23.6%, Muslim 16.6%, other Christian 8.6%, other 2.5%, unspecified 0.3%, none 0.4%
National Holidays:	Independence Day, 12 March (1968)
Economic Status:	Since independence in 1968, Mauritius has developed from a low-income, agriculturally based economy to a middle-income diversified economy with growing industrial, financial and tourist sectors.
Security:	No regular military forces; National Police Force, Special Mobile Force, National Coast Guard
US Presence:	U.S. Embassy in Port Louis 4th Floor, Rogers House John Kennedy Avenue P.O. Box 544 Port Louis Republic of Mauritius Tel: (230) 202-4400

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Major Airports:

Airports: 6, Airports w/paved runways2

Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport (MRU/FIMP)

Mauritius Airport, Mauritius, Department of Civil Aviation, SSR International Airport, Plaine-Magnien,

MAURITIUS

Tel: +230 (0)603 6000, +230 (0)637 3531 Fax: +230 (0)637 3164, +230 (0)637 5306

Customs, hours: 24 hours

Tel: +230 (0)637 3564, +230 (0)637 3230

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