



## Country Profile: Montserrat

Montserrat is a British overseas territory and part of the British West Indies. The island rises in a series of mountain slopes to a high point of over 3,000 feet at the Soufriere Volcano in the exclusion zone. Montserrat is a highly active volcanic island. The Government of Montserrat has issued several recent proclamations and warnings urging residents and visitors to be vigilant and to be prepared to move at short notice. Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on the United Kingdom for additional information.

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### COUNTRY OVERVIEW



<b>Country Name:</b>	Montserrat
<b>Continent:</b>	Caribbean
<b>Capital City:</b>	Plymouth
<b>Boundary Countries:</b>	
<b>Recommended Hospitals in Capital:</b>	
<b>Main Cities:</b>	Plymouth, Salem, Gerald's, Davy Hill, Saint John's
<b>Country Size:</b>	102 sq km
<b>Population:</b>	9,538; Note: an estimated 8,000 refugees left the island following the resumption of volcanic activity in July 1995; some have returned

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### COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Currency:</b>	East Caribbean Dollar (XCD)
<b>Predominant Religions:</b>	Anglican, Methodist, Roman Catholic, Pentacostal, Seventh-Day Adventist, other Christian denominations
<b>National Holidays:</b>	Birthday of Queen Elizabeth II, second Saturday in June (1926)
<b>Economic Status:</b>	Severe volcanic activity, which began in July 1995, has put a damper on this small, open economy. A catastrophic eruption in June 1997 closed the airports and seaports, causing further economic and social dislocation. Two-thirds of the 12,000 inhabitants fled the islands. Half of the island is expected to remain uninhabitable for another decade.
<b>Security:</b>	No regular military forces; Royal Montserrat Police Force. Defense is the responsibility of the UK.
<b>US Presence:</b>	None, overseas territory of the UK. The US Embassy is located in the Wildey Business Park, Wildey, St. Michael, tel 1-246-436-4950, website <a href="http://bridgetown.usembassy.gov">http://bridgetown.usembassy.gov</a> . Hours of operation are 8:30a to 4:00p Monday through Friday, except Barbados and US holidays. Assistance may also be provided by the US Consular Agency in Antigua, located at Suite #2, Jasmine Court, Friars Hill Rd, St. John's, Antigua. Tel 1-268-463-6531, Cell 1-268-726-6531, e-mail ANUWndrGyal@aol.com. The mailing address is PO Box W-1562, St. John's, Antigua. The Consular Agent is available by appointment only. The office is closed for local and US Holidays.

<b>Major Airports:</b>	Airports: 2, Airports w/paved runways: 2  Gerald's Airport (MNI/TRPG) Gerald's Airport, Montserrat, Gerald, MONTSERRAT
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