



Country Profile: Palau

The Republic of Palau is a constitutional democracy in free association with the United States. Palau is an archipelago consisting of several hundred volcanic and limestone islands and coral atolls, few of which are inhabited, and is politically divided into 16 states. Palau's developing economy depends on tourism, marine resources and a small agricultural sector. There are two kinds of public transportation available, taxi and Airai bus service. Palau International Airport is located on Babeldaob Island, near Koror Island. Direct commercial air service exists from Manila, Taipei and Guam to Palau. Read the Department of [State Background Note](#) on Palau for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Palau
Continent:	Asia
Capital City:	Melekeok
Boundary Countries:	No Land Boundaries
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Palau Medical Center
Main Cities:	Melekeok, Koror
Country Size:	458 sq km
Population:	20,842

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Palauan 64.7% official in all islands except Sonsoral (Sonsoralese and English are official), Tobi (Tobi and English are official), and Angaur (Angaur, Japanese, and English are official), Filipino 13.5%, English 9.4%, Chinese 5.7%, Carolinian 1.5%, Japanese 1.5%, other Asian 2.3%, other languages 1.5%
Currency:	US dollar (USD)
Predominant Religions:	Roman Catholic 41.6%, Protestant 23.3%, Modekngai 8.8% (indigenous to Palau), Seventh-Day Adventist 5.3%, Jehovah's Witness 0.9%, Latter-Day Saints 0.6%, other 3.1%, unspecified or none 16.4%
National Holidays:	Constitution Day, 9 July (1979)
Economic Status:	The economy consists primarily of tourism, subsistence agriculture, and fishing.
Security:	No regular military forces; Palau National Police.
US Presence:	U.S. Embassy in Koror Airai State, in an area known as Omsangel (no street address) P.O. Box 6028 Koro, Palau 96940
Major Airports:	Airports: 3, Airports w/paved runways: 1 Roman Tmetuchl International Airport (ROR/PTRO) Koror, Palau, Koror, PALAU

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