

# More Liberia Facts



*Liberian Flag*

## CULTURE

- ★ Women will use lappa cloth for many uses including hair cover, carrying baby, skirts, shawl and blanket
- ★ Rice, the country's staple food, is consumed at every meal.
- ★ Some other food ingredients include cassava, fish, bananas, citrus fruits, plantains, coconut, okra, and sweet potatoes.
- ★ Liberia's flag, adopted in 1847, patterned after the United States demonstrates the unique history shared between the two nations..
- ★ Cassava tree provides leaves and roots that are very popular to eat.
- ★ Most Liberians speak English.
- ★ Liberia adopted a constitution and governmental structure patterned directly after that of the United States.
- ★ Liberia is the home for weird animals like the endangered long-tailed pangolin.
- ★ Fufu is a popular starchy ball consumed without chewing
- ★ Liberia lies just north of the equator, making it hot all year round with two seasons, wet and dry.
- ★ Liberia is 43,000 square miles of land - about the size of Tennessee.
- ★ Liberians are generally positive with a relaxed sense of time. Schedules are considered less important than building relationships.





## GEOGRAPHY

- ★ Liberia is the only black state in Africa that was never subjected to colonial rule.
- ★ Liberia is Africa's oldest republic.
- ★ Liberia's capital is Monrovia.
- ★ Liberia is bounded by Sierra Leone to the northwest.
- ★ Liberia is also bounded by Guinea to the north.
- ★ Liberia is bounded by Côte d'Ivoire to the east.
- ★ Liberia is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the south and the west.
- ★ Liberia has a year-round evergreen vegetation.



*Bong County Liberia*

## ECONOMY

- ★ Liberia's economy revolves mainly around agriculture and raw materials.
- ★ Rubber produced by tapping Rubber Trees to extract the latex is a top commercial cash crop.
- ★ Liberia's status as a flag of convenience caused it to have the second-largest maritime registry in the world, closely behind Panama.
- ★ Liberia is rich in natural resources such as iron ore, diamonds, gold, lead, manganese, graphite, cyanite, and barite.



# Liberia History

- Liberia was known as the Grain Coast or Pepper Coast because of the grains of Melegueta Pepper.
- Melegueta peppers were as valuable as gold.
- In the beginning of the 19th century, the Grain Coast was declared as a suitable home for freed American slaves.
- The first American freed slaves, known as Americo-Liberians, headed by the American Colonization Society, began arriving on the Grain Coast in 1822.
- In 1841, Joseph Jenkins Roberts became the colony's first black governor.
- In 1847, Roberts proclaimed Liberia as an independent republic.
- From 1847 until 1980, the Americo-Liberians, were a ruling elite.
- During World War II, the rubber plantation of Liberia was the only source of natural latex rubber available to the Allies.
- In 1980, the Liberian military overthrew the government transferring power to the indigenous for the first time in history.
- In 1989 a 13-year civil war erupted, killing 250,000 people, displacing 1 million and destroying Liberia's infrastructure.
- In 2005, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf became the president of Liberia. She was the first female president in Liberia and all of Africa.
- In 2014, an Ebola outbreak killed 5,000 and closed schools and businesses for a year
- In 2018, President George Weah was elected President. When he took office, it was the first time in Liberia's history for power to be transferred between 2 democratically elected leaders.

