

REPUBLIC OF SURINAME



Head of State: President Jennifer Geerlings-Simons (since July 2025)
Capital: Paramaribo
Population: 646,758
Independence: November 25, 1975
Currency: Surinamese Dollar (SRD)

Suriname was formerly known as Dutch Guiana. The Spaniards first explored Suriname in the 16th century, and the English then settled it in the mid-17th century. Suriname became a Dutch colony in 1667; the Netherlands granted the colony independence in 1975. Suriname is one of the smallest countries in South America, yet its population is one of the most ethnically diverse in the region. Its economy is dependent on its extensive supply of natural resources, most notably bauxite, of which it is one of the world's top producers. The southern four-fifths of the country is almost entirely covered with pristine [tropical rainforest](#).

Suriname is a culturally [diverse](#) society, characterized by harmonious interaction between its ethnic groups. Culinary traditions often cross ethnic lines, and elements from South Asian, Javanese, Creole, West African, and Chinese cuisines are frequently blended.

Fun Facts

Suriname is the smallest and least populous country in South America.

Suriname is the only country in [South America](#) that was a colony of [the Netherlands](#). It is also the only country on the continent where Dutch is the official language.

Suriname is one of the [world's foremost producers of bauxite and alumina](#).

A "white gold" reserve: Despite having a relatively small population, Suriname is ranked among the top ten countries globally for its abundant freshwater supply—an astonishing 151 billion cubic meters of freshwater flow from its rivers into the Atlantic Ocean each year.

Suriname is among only two (2) other countries that are carbon negative, has a high forest cover, and a low deforestation rate.

Suriname boasts one of the world's largest man-made lakes, the [Brokopondo Reservoir](#), which was created to generate a significant portion of the nation's hydroelectric power.

[Suriname has three UNESCO World Heritage Sites](#): the Historic Inner City of Paramaribo, Central Suriname Nature Reserve, and the Jodensavanne Archaeological Site. Paramaribo, the capital city, showcases a unique blend of European and indigenous architecture. The Central Suriname Nature Reserve is a vast expanse of primary tropical forest. The Jodensavanne Archaeological Site, inscribed in 2023, comprises the ruins of a 17th-century Jewish settlement and a cemetery, providing valuable insights into early Jewish colonization in the Americas.

Within South America, Suriname and Guyana are the only countries that drive on the left.

[The Flag of Suriname](#) features a horizontal triband of green on the top and bottom and a double-width red band with a large white border. In the center of the red band is a large yellow five-pointed star. The flag is rich in meaning; for example, the red color symbolizes progress and love, while green represents hope and fertility. White symbolizes freedom, peace, and justice. The star represents the unity of all ethnic groups.

[Suriname is known for its diverse cultural landscape](#), rich natural resources, and its history as a Dutch colony. It boasts a unique blend of Asian, African, and European influences, with a population that includes Hindustanis, Creoles, Javanese, Maroons, and Amerindians.

[Suriname is a land of many Festivals](#). The country's ethnic diversity contributes to its rich culture, including numerous celebrations and festivals throughout the year. The Surinamese celebrate a variety of festivals and ceremonies, including Holi, Christmas, Javanese Arrival Day, Indian Arrival Day, Day of the Maroons, Diwali, Eid ul-Fitr, Good Friday, among others. We extend our sincere appreciation to the Consulate General of Suriname in Miami for their valuable contribution to our featured country article.

OCTOBER 2025

Division Director's Message



U. Desmond Alufohai

Division Director II

Protocol & International Affairs Division
 Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD)

October is a month rich with history and seasonal significance. Its name, derived from the Latin *octo* meaning "eight," reflects its original position in the Roman calendar before reforms shifted the start of the year to January. This linguistic remnant reminds us how timekeeping evolves while language preserves traces of the past. Across cultures, October traditionally marked the transition from harvest to winter—a time for gathering, gratitude, and preparation, celebrated through festivals like Oktoberfest and Christian harvest rites.

In Miami, October brings a subtropical shift rather than autumn's crisp air and falling leaves. The city experiences gentle breezes, lower humidity, and longer evenings that invite outdoor activity. It marks the easing of hurricane season and a return to steady public life. This seasonal rhythm blends with Miami's rich cultural heritage—Indigenous, African, Caribbean, Latin American, and immigrant influences—encouraging reflection, reconnection, and preparation for the end of the year.

October also carries deeper meaning through global and personal tributes. It is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a time to honor survivors, support those affected, and advance awareness and care. We salute the nations celebrating their independence or national day in October, recognizing their journeys toward freedom and unity. Together, these observances remind us that October is not only a time of transition, but also of resilience, pride, and shared humanity. As always, please be safe.

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DIPLOMATIC & CONSULAR RELATIONS

Diplomatic Treaties: Origins, Challenges, and Global Impact

Origins of Diplomatic Treaties

DIPLOMATIC TREATIES

Diplomatic treaties are formal agreements between states or international entities that establish peace, cooperation, and mutual understanding. Their roots can be traced back to ancient civilizations such as Mesopotamia, Egypt, and China, where early forms of diplomacy involved envoys negotiating trade, alliances, and conflict resolution.

The modern framework of diplomatic treaties began to crystallize with the [Peace of Westphalia \(1648\)](#), which ended the Thirty Years' War in Europe and laid the foundation for the nation-state system. This treaty introduced principles of sovereignty and non-interference, which remain central to international law today.

Evolution and Legal Framework

Over centuries, diplomacy evolved from ad hoc negotiations to structured, codified practices. Key milestones include:

- * The Congress of Vienna (1815): Reorganized Europe after the Napoleonic Wars and established norms for diplomatic rank and protocol.
- * The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969): A cornerstone of international law, this convention defines the creation, interpretation, and termination of treaties.
- * The United Nations Charter (1945): A multilateral treaty that redefined global diplomacy by promoting collective security, human rights, and international cooperation.

Challenges in Modern-Day Diplomacy

While treaties remain vital tools for global governance, modern diplomacy faces complex challenges:

- * Geopolitical Tensions: Rivalries between major powers often stall treaty negotiations or lead to withdrawals from existing agreements.
- * Non-State Actors: Terrorist groups, multinational corporations, and NGOs complicate traditional state-to-state diplomacy.
- * Technology and Cybersecurity: Digital threats require new treaty frameworks, but consensus on norms and enforcement remains elusive.
- * Climate Change: Global environmental treaties like the Paris Agreement struggle with compliance and accountability.
- * Public Diplomacy and Transparency: social media and public scrutiny demand more openness, often clashing with the confidentiality of negotiations.

Landmark Treaties That Changed the World

Several diplomatic treaties have had profound and positive impacts on global stability and progress:

<u>Treaty</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Impact</u>
Treaty of Westphalia	1648	Established modern state sovereignty and diplomatic norms
Treaty of Versailles	1919	Ended WWI and led to the creation of the League of Nations
United Nations Charter	1945	Founded the UN, promoting peace, development, and human rights
Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty	1968	Curbed the spread of nuclear weapons and promoted disarmament
Camp David Accords	1978	Brokered peace between Egypt and Israel
Paris Climate Agreement	2015	United nations in the fight against climate change

Recent trends favor more flexible treaties with built-in review cycles and stronger roles for civil society, making agreements more legitimate, adaptable, and enforceable. By designing pacts that can be updated, scrutinized, and shaped by public stakeholders, negotiators boost compliance and give treaties the agility to meet rapidly changing global challenges.

Diplomatic treaties remain essential instruments for navigating the complexities of international relations. While the landscape of diplomacy continues to evolve, the enduring power of treaties lies in their ability to foster dialogue, resolve conflicts, and build a more cooperative world. As global challenges intensify, the need for innovative, inclusive, and enforceable treaties has never been greater.

Sources: [The Diplomatic Insight](#); [Oxford Academy](#).

AVIATION, CULTURE, ETIQUETTE & PROTOCOL TIDBITS

Culture, Etiquette, and Protocol

Aviation Briefs and Fun Facts

[Florida Fall Traditions You Can Only Find in the Sunshine State](#)

While much of the country trades shorts for sweaters and sips pumpkin-flavored drinks, Florida's autumn looks—and feels—different. The state doesn't get the classic crisp air and blaze of leaf color many associate with fall, but it has its own seasonal customs shaped by heat, coastline, and local history.

Fall Favorites Floridians Love

Spooky Season, Florida Style: Florida's haunted history and local legends make October lively. In Tampa's Ybor City, ghost tours weave together tales of organized crime, eerie happenings, and the neighborhood's cigar-making past; a popular way to start or end the night is with sangria at Hotel Haya and a post-tour cigar back at the boutique hotel.

St. Augustine's centuries-old streets also host chilling historical tours centered on its oldest buildings. For a different kind of supernatural draw, Cassadaga—often called “The Psychic Capital of the World”—features the Hotel Cassadaga and a Halloween event that attracts crowds curious about its spiritual reputation.

Wander through an art festival

Outdoor Art Festivals, such as the Weather Shifts. As humidity and afternoon storms lessen, the state bursts into festival season. St. Petersburg's Shine Mural Festival transforms blank walls into towering works of public art, bringing international muralists to paint vibrant cityscapes.

Central Florida's Winter Park Autumn Arts Festival, running for more than five decades, is the only juried fine arts fair showcasing exclusively Florida artists. And in Daytona Beach, the Halifax Art Festival attracts fine art vendors from across the nation while supporting the Museum of Arts and Sciences.

Savor stone crab season

Stone Crab Season Celebrations One unmistakable sign of fall in Florida is the start of stone crab season, which runs from October 15 to May 1. Coastal towns mark the occasion with festivals that honor the seafood and the communities built around it. Cortez, one of Florida's few surviving historic fishing villages, hosts the Cortez Stone Crab and Music Festival, celebrating local maritime traditions.

The Paradise Coast is widely regarded as the center of the stone crab trade—Everglades City even calls itself “The Stone Crab Capital of the World.” There, the Blessing of the Stone Crab Fleet in September kicks off the season with live music, food, drinks, and quirky local contests like the mullet toss.

Before you go, pick up fresh stone crab claws from family-run operations like Grimm's Stone Crab for a classic Florida seafood meal.

Aviation Industry Trends to Watch in 2025



The aviation industry is soaring into 2025 with renewed momentum, driven by technological innovation, sustainability goals, and a surge in global travel demand. From AI-powered operations to the workforce expansion, here are the top trends shaping the skies this year:

AI-Powered Efficiency: Artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming aviation operations. Airlines use predictive maintenance to reduce delays and improve safety, while AI-driven route optimization cuts fuel costs and emissions. Lufthansa, for example, uses AI to forecast demand and adjust schedules in real time.

Sustainable Aviation Takes Off: Environmental sustainability remains a top priority. The use of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) is expanding, with IATA projecting that SAF could account for 65% of aviation's carbon reduction by 2050. United Airlines and Delta have committed to increasing SAF usage, while Airbus is testing hydrogen-powered aircraft.

Smart Airports and Seamless Travel: Airports are becoming smarter through biometric screening, real-time baggage tracking, and automated security systems. Singapore Changi and [Miami International Airport](#) lead the way with facial recognition boarding and AI-powered crowd management.

Advanced Air Mobility (AAM): Electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft are nearing commercial readiness. Companies like Joby Aviation and Archer are conducting test flights, and they plan to launch urban air taxi services by 2026. Regulatory frameworks are evolving to accommodate these new vehicles.

Workforce Expansion and Training: The aviation industry is experiencing a massive hiring wave. According to CAE's Aviation Talent Forecast, over 1.5 million civil aviation professionals, including pilots, technicians, and cabin crew, will be needed globally by 2034. In the U.S. alone, airline employment reached over 1 million workers in mid-2025, with passenger airlines employing more than 550,000 people, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

Economic Impact: Aviation is a significant economic engine. In the U.S., civil aviation contributes hundreds of billions to GDP through aircraft manufacturing, airport operations, and tourism-related spending. Globally, the industry is projected to surpass \$1 trillion in revenue in 2025, with regions like the Middle East expecting aviation's GDP contribution to more than double by 2043.

Passenger Growth Outlook: Airports Council International (ACI) projects global commercial air traffic will exceed 10 billion passengers in 2026, up from 9.8 billion in 2025, a clear sign of recovery and rising demand. As aviation enters a new era, stakeholders must balance innovation with resilience. The skies of 2025 are not just busier, they're smarter, greener, and more economically vital than ever.

BRIEFS & NOTES

Fun Facts

"Digging a hole to China" is possible if you start in Argentina: One of the most intriguing fun facts about Argentina is that you could dig a hole to China from there. As a feat usually done by cartoon or comic book characters, traveling underground to China is possible in theory, but not so much in practice. Underground conditions such as heat, pressure, and lack of oxygen are just one of the few realities that keep this cartoonish concept just that – a concept for cartoons.

A snail can sleep for three years: Aside from their shocking number of teeth, these small critters have some more astonishing tricks up their sleeves. Nap time for a snail can last from a few hours up to 3 years.

A musician named Jim Sullivan mysteriously disappeared 6 years after recording an album called "U.F.O." The 1969 album featured strange lyrics about leaving his family and being abducted by aliens. Sullivan disappeared six years later, with only his abandoned car found on a desert road in New Mexico as evidence.

The name of the Pringles shape is a hyperbolic paraboloid. The saddle shape of a Pringles chip is known in math as a hyperbolic paraboloid. Pringles were made in this shape because they allow the chips to be stacked easily and kept in place during packaging.

There is a McDonald's on all continents except Antarctica. Fast food giant McDonald's serves 120 countries with about 37,855 restaurants worldwide – but you wouldn't find a single McDonald's joint in Antarctica. Not only does it have a McDonald-shaped void, but Antarctica is the only demilitarized continent worldwide. Instead, the entire continent is relegated to educational and scientific purposes.

At any point in time, 0.7% of the world's population is drunk. As you read this about 50 million people are drunk!

Sonic the Hedgehog isn't his full name. In fact, Sega's poster boy is named Ogilvie Maurice Hedgehog.

A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out. Because of a membrane that holds its tongue to the roof of its mouth, a crocodile can't stick its tongue out of its elongated snout. However, alligators can.

Like fingerprints, everyone's tongue print is different. One of the more mind-blowing fun facts: no two tongue prints are alike. The use of tongue prints as a forensic identifier began recently.

Toilet paper in France is generally pink. What is usually found in our homes as stark white is a lively pink for the French. Pink toilet paper is commonly found in the bathrooms and kitchens of France as a regional preference. In the 1950s, colored toilet paper was also the rage in the U.S. However, health and safety concerns over the dye caused it to be discontinued in the early 2000s.

Artificial banana flavoring is based on an extinct banana. You may notice that your banana-flavored food products don't taste quite like the real thing. The commercially used banana flavoring is based on a type of banana that was wiped out by a plague in the 1950s.

Four out of the ten largest statues in the world are of Buddhas. Out of the 130 largest statues in the world, China has the most at 35 statues. India follows this with 25 statues. It's no surprise that a significant portion of these 130 statues depicts Buddha, who originated from India and is a central figure in Buddhism, one of the main religions in China. The Spring Temple Buddha in Lushan County, Henan, China, stands at 128 m (420 ft) and is the second-largest statue in the world.

Squeaky floors were the best home security in 17th-century Japan. You'd expect Japanese feudal lords to live in pristine houses with the sturdiest materials – and that is primarily true, save for their squeaky, creaky floors. Nightingale floors were flooring systems that "chirped" when somebody walked on them. They were installed in temples and palaces to alert of intruders. The floors were built in a way that the flooring nails rub against jackets or clamps, causing squeaking noises.

A town in Italy once held an annual festival where everyone tried to outrun 200,000 rolling oranges — and it's still on the calendar: [In Ivrea](#), the historic Battle of the Oranges pits teams of "throwers" in carts against foot-soldiers who dodge volleys of citrus. The orange-throwing chaos (part parade, part mock rebellion) draws visitors from across Europe — and yes, lots of messy selfies. Locals treat it like honorable combat: there are costumes, strict team rules, and designated "protected" participants who wear armor — because nothing says civic pride like a thousand people pelting each other with fruit.

A town once elected a cat as mayor — and he served for 20 years: In [Talkeetna, Alaska, locals made Stubbs the cat "mayor"](#) in 1997 as a joke — and tourists loved him so much he kept the title for two decades. Stubbs didn't sign any laws, but he did inspect visitors, nap on town benches, and reportedly vetoed any meetings that interfered with nap time.

Source: <https://facts.net/fun-facts/>

BRIEFS & NOTES

World Food Day 2025: Feeding the Planet Without Leaving Anyone Behind



October 16 marks World Food Day, a global call to action to end hunger, ensure food security, and promote sustainable agriculture. Established by the [Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\)](#) of the United Nations in 1979, this day reminds us that food is not just a commodity—it is a human right. The theme for World Food Day 2025 is "Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future," which emphasizes global collaboration to build a sustainable and food-secure future. The theme also marks the 80th anniversary of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and highlights the importance of transforming agrifood systems through partnerships across governments, organizations, and communities. Yet, in 2025, the world faces a paradox: we produce enough food to feed everyone, but millions still go to bed hungry. According to the 2024 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) report:

Food Waste: A Global Paradox

- * Over 735 million people face chronic hunger.
- * More than 2.4 billion people experience moderate to severe food insecurity.
- * Children are especially vulnerable: nearly 148 million under age 5 suffer from stunted growth due to malnutrition.

While millions go hungry, 1.3 billion tons of food—about one-third of all food produced globally—is wasted annually. This waste occurs at the farm level (due to poor storage or market access), in supply chains (from spoilage or inefficiencies), and in households and restaurants (from over-purchasing or discarding edible food).

- * 13% is lost between harvest and retail.
- * 17% is wasted at the consumer level (households, restaurants, retailers).
- * This waste costs the global economy \$1 trillion annually and contributes to 8–10% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

Climate Change and Food Security- Climate change is disrupting food systems worldwide:

- * Extreme weather events reduce crop yields and livestock productivity.
- * Rising sea levels threaten coastal agriculture.
- * Changing rainfall patterns affect water availability for irrigation.
- * Smallholder farmers—who produce over 70% of the world's food—are among the most affected yet often lack the resources to adapt.

Malnutrition is no longer just about hunger. It includes:

- * Undernutrition (stunting, wasting),
- * Micronutrient deficiencies (hidden hunger),
- * Overnutrition (obesity and diet-related diseases).
- * Today, more than 1 in 3 people worldwide suffer from some form of malnutrition, creating a double burden for health systems and economies.

Toward a Sustainable Food Future - Solving the food crisis requires collective action:

- * Investing in climate-smart agriculture and resilient food systems.
- * Reducing food waste through better logistics, education, and policy.
- * Empowering smallholder farmers, especially women and youth.
- * Promoting equitable access to nutritious food for all.

What Can You Do?

- * Support local and sustainable food producers.
- * Reduce food waste at home—plan meals, store food properly, and compost.
- * Advocate for policies that protect the environment and ensure food justice.
- * Educate others—awareness is the first step toward change.

World Food Day is more than a date on the calendar, it's a call to action and reminder that food is life, and ensuring its fair, sustainable distribution is one of the most significant challenges, and responsibilities of our time. In a world of abundance, no one should go hungry.

Sources: [Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\)](#); [Food Waste Index Report](#); [The Global Nutrition Report](#).

BRIEFS & NOTES



The [Halloween holiday](#) has its roots in the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (a Gaelic word pronounced “SAH-win”), a pagan religious celebration to welcome the harvest at the end of summer, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honor saints. Soon after, All Saints Day came to incorporate some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before All Saints Day was known as All Hallows’ Eve, and later, Halloween.

While Halloween is the best-known October celebration in many countries, the month also invites a quieter, global observance: [Bat Appreciation Month](#). Far from merely symbolizing the spooky season, bats are indispensable partners in ecosystems and economies around the world. Framing bats in an international context reveals regional roles and threats—and why conservation matters everywhere.

Pest control: Worldwide, about 1,400 bat species fill a variety of ecological niches. Roughly 70% are insectivorous, and many temperate- and tropical-region species reduce agricultural pests naturally. In North America and Europe, insect-eating bats cut crop losses and lower pesticide use; in Latin America and parts of Africa and Asia, they protect staple and cash crops from insect damage. Economists estimate that these pest-control services save billions of dollars and reduce farmers’ reliance on chemical pesticides.

Pollination and seed dispersal: Bats are key [pollinators](#) and seed dispersers across tropical and subtropical regions. In the Neotropics (Central and South America), nectar-feeding bats pollinate fruit trees and agave species, supporting industries from tropical fruit markets to tequila production in Mexico. In Africa and Southeast Asia, fruit bats spread seeds for forest trees, aiding regeneration after storms and enabling livelihoods that depend on fruit and timber species. Over 500 plant species—including mangoes, bananas, guavas, figs, cacao, and many native forest trees—benefit from bat pollination or seed dispersal, linking bat health to food security and forest resilience worldwide.

Public health and medical research: Bats also contribute indirectly to human health. Many medicinal plants depend on bat-pollinated ecosystems. Studies of bat immunity and flight physiology have informed vaccine research and other biomedical advances. Research into echolocation has inspired assistive technologies—improving navigation aids for the visually impaired—and continues to influence robotics and sonar design in multiple countries.

Regional threats and conservation challenges: Despite these benefits, bat populations face serious threats that vary by region. In North America and Europe, white-nose syndrome—a fungal disease discovered in 2006—has devastated cave-roosting species. In tropical regions, habitat loss from deforestation, agricultural expansion, and hunting pressures imperil fruit bats that communities rely on. In parts of Asia and Africa, cultural stigma and fear can lead to direct persecution. Climate change is shifting prey availability and roosting conditions everywhere, compounding local stressors.

Global conservation status and actions: More than a dozen bat species are officially listed as endangered or threatened in national and international registers, and many more are declining without formal protection. International cooperation is essential: protected-area networks, transboundary monitoring, habitat restoration, and public education campaigns reduce threats at scale. Community-based conservation—engaging farmers, forest communities, and Indigenous stewards—has proven especially effective in regions where human livelihoods are tightly linked to bat-friendly landscapes.

How to help (global and local ideas)

- * Support habitat protection: protect caves, old-growth trees, and native forests that bats use for roosting and foraging.
- * Promote agricultural practices that favor bats: encourage reduced pesticide use, agroforestry, and bat-friendly crop management.
- * Build and install bat houses where appropriate: these provide alternative roosts in urban and agricultural landscapes.
- * Join or donate to local and international bat-conservation groups: they fund research, disease monitoring, and community outreach.
- * Attend or organize bat-watching events and public education activities to counter myths and encourage coexistence.

Quick international bat facts

- * Bats are the only mammals capable of sustained flight and live on every continent except Antarctica.
- * Most bat species do not carry rabies; incidence is low and varies regionally.
- * [Echolocation](#), used widely by insectivorous bats, has inspired technologies from mobility aids to robotics.
- * Fruit bats and nectar-feeders are vital pollinators and seed dispersers across tropical regions.
- * Bat declines affect agriculture, forest regeneration, and economies across continents.

Celebrating Bat Appreciation Month alongside Halloween offers a chance to replace fear with appreciation and action. Small local efforts—from installing bat boxes in city parks to supporting regional habitat protection—add up to global benefits for biodiversity, food security, and human well-being.

Sources:

[Bats and Halloween - The National Wildlife Federation Blog](#); [Bat Appreciation Month \(October 2025\) | Days Of The Year](#)
[Bats in the Night: Unraveling the Ancient Connection to Halloween - Bat Conservation International](#)

INDEPENDENCE AND NATIONAL DAYS (OCTOBER)

October 1, 1949 – China: The People's Republic of China was founded on October 1, 1949.

October 1, 1960 – Cyprus: Based on the London-Zürich Agreements, Cyprus was proclaimed an independent state and gained independence from the U.K. on August 16, 1960.

October 1, 1960 – Nigeria: The Federal Republic of Nigeria gained independence from the United Kingdom.

October 1, 1978 – Tuvalu: In 1819, the atoll of Funafuti was named the Ellice Islands. In 1892, the United Kingdom declared a protectorate over the Ellice, as well as the Micronesian Gilbert Islands, and this Protectorate became a colony in 1916. In 1974, Tuvaluans voted to secede from the colony, and on October 1, 1978, the Ellice Islands became the independent nation of Tuvalu.

October 2, 1958 – Guinea: After being a French colony since 1893, Guinea declared its independence on October 2, 1958. It was the only French West African colony to opt for complete independence, rather than membership in the French Community.

October 3, 1990 – Germany: Day of German Unity, commemorates the reunification of the two German states on October 3, 1990.

October 3, 1932 – Iraq: Commemorates the date in 1932 when it became independent from British mandate rule and was admitted to the League of Nations.

October 4, 1966 – Lesotho: In 1868 Basutoland became a British protectorate, and after 1884, a crown colony. On October 4, 1966, the country achieved independence and was renamed the Kingdom of Lesotho.

October 8, 1991 – Croatia: The Croatian parliament severed constitutional relations with Yugoslavia. Since 2002, October 8 has been celebrated as Independence Day, while June 25, the day the parliament voted for independence, is recognized as Statehood Day.

October 9, 1962 – Uganda: Uganda was a British Protectorate from 1894 until it achieved independence on October 9, 1962.

October 10, 1970 – Fiji: After being a British Crown Colony since October 10, 1874, Fiji gained its independence on Oct. 10, 1970.

October 10, 1911 – Taiwan: Republic Day, Taiwan's National Day, also known as "Double Ten Day," commemorates the 1911 Wuchang Uprising, which led to the collapse of the Qing dynasty and the birth of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

October 12, 1968 – Equatorial Guinea: Equatorial Guinea achieved independence after 190 years of Spanish rule.

October 12, 1987 – Spain: Spain's National Day, also known as Día de la Hispanidad, commemorates Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas on October 12, 1492. The 1987 law that decreed October 12 as the Fiesta Nacional stated that the day commemorates "the linguistic and cultural projection of Spain outside of its European limits."

October 22, 1953 – Laos: Although Laos gained independence from France on July 19, 1949, full independence was not recognized until the Franco-Lao Treaty of Amity and Association was signed on October 22, 1953.

October 23, 1956 – Hungary: The day commemorates the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, a nationwide revolt against the Stalinist government of the People's Republic of Hungary and its Soviet-imposed policies.

October 26, 1955 – Austria: The law of permanent neutrality was adopted by the National Council. In 1965, October 26 was declared Austria's National Holiday.

October 27, 1979 – Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: On October 27, 1979, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines gained independence from Great Britain.

October 27, 1991 – Turkmenistan: Gained independence from the Soviet Union.

October 28, 1918 – Czech Republic: Although the Czech Republic came into being on January 1, 1993, Czechs commemorate October 28 as their Independence Day.

October 29, 1923 – Turkey: Republic Day commemorates the proclamation of the Turkish Republic on October 29, 1923. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk became Turkey's first president on the same day.

ABOUT US

The core mission of MDAD's Protocol and International Affairs Division is -

To facilitate the movement of official guests, delegations, dignitaries and VIPs through MIA and support the airport's international programs and initiatives.

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