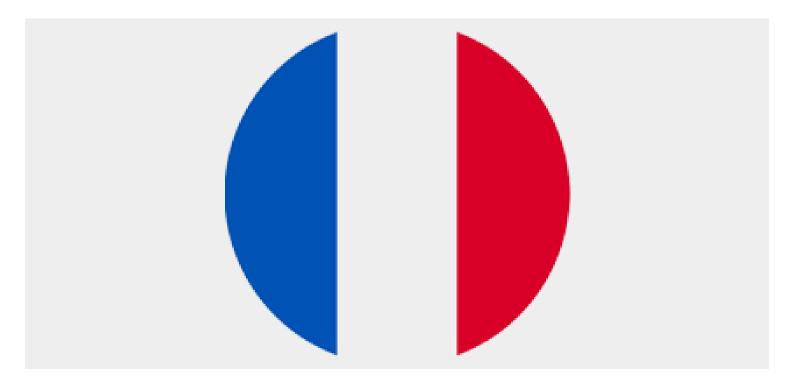
**FRANCE** 

Posted on December 28, 2020 by Naeem Noor





France is one of the oldest nations globally, and it is the most ethnically diverse country in Europe. The official name of France is French Republic. Its deep and broad influences made France a world leader in many aspects of culture like cuisine, politics, philosophy, music, cinema, and art... It is the largest country in western Europe and is also referred to as "Grande Nation.

"Liberté, égalité, fraternité - Liberty, equality, fraternity" is the French national motto initially used in the French Revolution. This motto can also be found in the French flag, which consists of three vertical bands; blue symbolizing liberty, white symbolizing equality, and red symbolizing fraternity.

The country's ethnicity consists of French citizens and foreign nationals from many countries, especially from Africa. Paris is the capital and the largest city in France with its vast history. French is the official national language. The majority of France's population is mostly Christian, and Roman Catholic, while there are also Protestant and Islamic minorities. As one of the European Union's core members, France uses the "Euro" national money. The country code is "+33," and the national domain is ".fr".

The founder and the first king of France are Hugh Capet. The national hero and one of France's national symbols are "Joan of Arc," "the maid of Orleans," with her accomplishments on the battlefield during the Hundred Years' War. France's national day is the 14th of July, during which the "Storming of the Bastille" happened, the flashpoint of the French Revolution in 1789.

France has many national symbols, including the world-famous Eifel Tower, Louvre Museum, and Notre Dame Cathedral. The national mausoleum is the "Place du Pantheon," designed by the famous French architect Jacques-Germain Soufflot.

France's national dance is called "branle," a chain dance characterized by its side-to-side movements. France has one of the richest cuisines in the world. The national food is "Pot-A-Feu," the French beef stew, while cheese and wine are two national symbols and France's culinary lifestyle. "Pastis," the anis liquor, is considered the country's national beverage. The national dress is "Chemise," a knee-length cotton or linen shirt, considered an undergarment for both men and women in the 18th century.

"Yew Tree," symbolizing rebirth and change, is France's national tree; however, they are rare in the country's fauna. "The Gallic Rooster" is the unofficial national symbol and France's national bird.

Having a robust culture, France has many national writers and poets, the most important are Victor Hugo and Charles Baudelaire. The country's national instrument is the violin or, in colloquial terms, "the fiddle." The national sport and the most-watched sport in France is football. France also has an airline called "Airfrance."

Jean Castex is the current Prime minister of France, and Emmanuel Macron is the President.

- Learn about France flag color codes and their meanings -
- Further information regarding the symbols and knowledge of France can be found in the table of contents -

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