

Wales



Wales is located on a peninsula in central-west Great Britain. Its area is about 20800 square km. It has population less than 3 million.



Key  Airports  Ports  Airports & Ports

Official languages

The official languages in Wales are English and Welsh.



Welsh



- The Welsh language is one of the oldest in Europe, and is very different from English. All Welsh people can speak English, but about 20% of them can also speak Welsh. Speaking Welsh is an important part of Welsh identity.

National symbol of Wales

- The Welsh flag has a red dragon on the background that is half white and half green.
- The dragon has been a symbol of Wales for more than a thousand years.



The two other symbols of Wales are the daffodil and the leek

- The daffodil is a yellow flower that appears in spring, and some Welsh people attach one to their coat on Welsh national day (St David's Day), which is 1st March.
- The leek has been a Welsh symbol since the seventh century, when the Welsh king told his soldiers to attach leeks to their helmets so they could identify each other.



The view from Snowdon

- Much of Wales's landscape is mountainous. The highest mountains are in Snowdonia, and include Snowdon which is the highest peak in Wales.



Regions of Wales

Wales is geographically and culturally divided into three regions:

resorts located along the coast, rural area with the highest population density in the United Kingdom.

isolated region of mountains, forests, wide river valleys and a coastline along the Irish Sea, the magnificent bay of Cardigan Bay

is by far the most urbanised area. The majority of the population can be found here, particularly in the eastern half. The western half







Cardiff

- Cardiff is the capital, largest city and most populous county of Wales. The city is Wales' chief commercial centre, the base for many national cultural and sporting institutions. Cardiff is a significant tourism centre.
- Photos: Cardiff Bay, The Millennium Stadium, The Senedd, the City Centre and the keep of Cardiff Castle.



Cities and towns

- Wales has many picturesque. These **nine** are the most notable.
- Cardiff — the largest city and capital of Wales, and a major UK tourism centre.
- Swansea — Wales' city by the sea and second largest urban area, and gateway to the Gower.
- Aberystwyth — coastal town with large student population.
- Bangor — picturesque university town.
- Caernarfon — site of Caernarfon Castle, one of Wales' largest and best preserved castles.
- Conwy — medieval, fortified town with impressive castle and quaint shops.
- Hay-on-Wye — the "book capital" of the UK, home to the annual literary festival.
- Llandudno — largest seaside resort in North Wales.
- Tenby — medieval walled town and elegant seaside resort.
- Wrexham — largest town in North Wales.

The national day of Wales

- Saint David's Day is the feast day of Saint David, the patron saint of Wales, and falls on 1 March each year. The date was chosen in remembrance of the death of Saint David on that day in 589.
- It was declared a national day of celebration within Wales in the 18th century. St David was a Celtic |'kɛltɪk| monk |mɒŋk| КЕЛЬТСКИЙ МОНАХ, abbot |'æbət| АББАТ and bishop |'bɪʃəp| ЕПИСКОП who helped to spread Christianity |,krɪstɪ'ænəti| among the Celtic tribes of western Britain.



- The largest parade is held in Cardiff.

The Welsh in their national costumes



The most popular sports in Wales are football and rugby

- Many Welsh people are very passionate about rugby. And are very happy when their national team beats England!



The country is traditionally referred to as "the land of song"

- Wales has a strong musical tradition. Most towns in the south of the country have at least one local choir |'kwɹɹɪə| (xop).

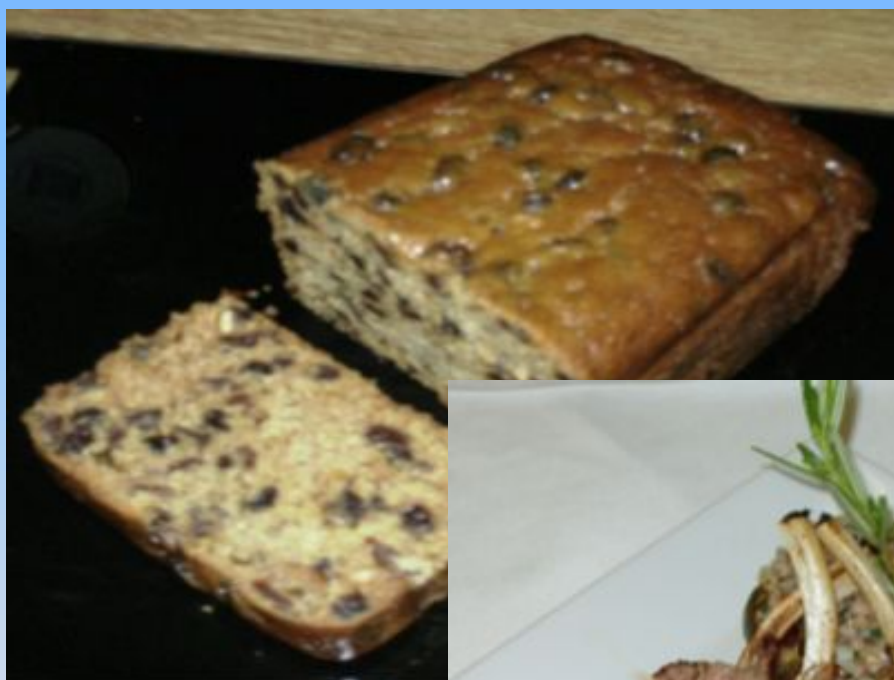


- Welsh rugby crowds are famous for their singing.

Wales is more well-known for its sheep farming, thus lamb is the meat traditionally associated with Welsh cooking.



Some traditional dishes include
bara brith (fruit bread) «ПЯТНИСТЫЙ ХЛЕБ»,
Welsh lamb and Welsh cakes.



**The real welsh, the seagulls from
the island of St.George**

