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Contents

1	141	1
1.1	141.guide	1
1.2	141.guide/Liechtenstein	1
1.3	141.guide/Geography (Liechtenstein)	2
1.4	141.guide/People (Liechtenstein)	3
1.5	141.guide/Government (Liechtenstein)	4
1.6	141.guide/Government (Liechtenstein 2. usage)	5
1.7	141.guide/Economy (Liechtenstein)	5
1.8	141.guide/Communications (Liechtenstein)	6
1.9	141.guide/Defense Forces (Liechtenstein)	7

Chapter 1

141

1.1 141.guide

Texified version of data for Liechtenstein.

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Liechtenstein

1.2 141.guide/Liechtenstein

Liechtenstein

Geography (Liechtenstein)
 People (Liechtenstein)
 Government (Liechtenstein)
 Government (Liechtenstein 2. usage)
 Economy (Liechtenstein)
 Communications (Liechtenstein)
 Defense Forces (Liechtenstein)

1.3 141.guide/Geography (Liechtenstein)

Geography (Liechtenstein)

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Location:

Western Europe, between Austria and Switzerland

Map references:

Europe, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

160 km²

land area:

160 km²

comparative area:

about 0.9 times the size of Washington, DC

Land boundaries:

total 78 km, Austria 37 km, Switzerland 41 km

Coastline:

0 km (landlocked)

Maritime claims:

none; landlocked

International disputes:

claims 620 square miles of Czech territory confiscated from its royal family ←

in 1918; the Czech Republic insists that restitution does not go back before ←

February 1948, when the Communists seized power

Climate:

continental; cold, cloudy winters with frequent snow or rain; cool to moderately warm, cloudy, humid summers

Terrain:

mostly mountainous (Alps) with Rhine Valley in western third

Natural resources:

hydroelectric potential

Land use:

arable land:

25%

permanent crops:

0%

meadows and pastures:

38%

forest and woodland:

19%
 other:
 18%
 Irrigated land:
 NA km2
 Environment:
 variety of microclimatic variations based on elevation
 Note:
 landlocked

1.4 141.guide/People (Liechtenstein)

People (Liechtenstein)

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Population:
 29,894 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 1.32% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 13.15 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 6.62 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 6.66 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 5.3 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 77.29 years
 male:
 73.65 years
 female:
 80.9 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 1.45 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Liechtensteiner(s)
 adjective:
 Liechtenstein
 Ethnic divisions:
 Alemannic 95%, Italian and other 5%
 Religions:
 Roman Catholic 87.3%, Protestant 8.3%, unknown 1.6%, other 2.8% (1988)
 Languages:
 German (official), Alemannic dialect
 Literacy:
 age 10 and over can read and write (1981)
 total population:
 100%
 male:
 100%

female:
 100%
 Labor force:
 19,905 of which 11,933 are foreigners; 6,885 commute from Austria and Switzerland to work each day
 by occupation:
 industry, trade, and building 53.2%, services 45%, agriculture, fishing, forestry, and horticulture 1.8% (1990)

1.5 141.guide/Government (Liechtenstein)

Government (Liechtenstein)
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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Principality of Liechtenstein
 conventional short form:
 Liechtenstein
 local long form:
 Furstentum Liechtenstein
 local short form:
 Liechtenstein
 Digraph:
 LS
 Type:
 hereditary constitutional monarchy
 Capital:
 Vaduz
 Administrative divisions:
 11 communes (gemeinden, singular - gemeinde); Balzers, Eschen, Gamprin, Mauren, Planken, Ruggell, Schaan, Schellenberg, Triesen, Triesenberg, Vaduz
 Independence:
 23 January 1719 (Imperial Principality of Liechtenstein established)
 Constitution:
 5 October 1921
 Legal system:
 local civil and penal codes; accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction, with reservations
 National holiday:
 Assumption Day, 15 August
 Political parties and leaders:
 Fatherland Union (VU), Dr. Otto HASLER; Progressive Citizens' Party (FBP), Emanuel VOGT; Free Electoral List (FL)
 Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal
 Elections:
 Diet:
 last held on 7 February 1993 (next to be held by March 1997); results - percent of vote by party NA; seats - (25 total) FBP 12, VU 11, FL 2
 Executive branch: reigning prince, hereditary prince, head of government, ←
 deputy head of government

Legislative branch:

unicameral Diet (Landtag)

Judicial branch:

Supreme Court (Oberster Gerichtshof) for criminal cases, Superior Court (Obergericht) for civil cases

Leaders:

Chief of State:

Prince Hans ADAM II (since 13 November 1989; assumed executive powers 26 August 1984); Heir Apparent Prince ALOIS von und zu Liechtenstein (born 11 June 1968)

Head of Government:

Markus BUECHEL (since 7 February 1993); Deputy Head of Government Dr. Herbert WILLE (since 2 February 1986)

Member of:

CE, CSCE, EBRD, ECE, EFTA, IAEA, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ITU, LORCS, UN, UNCTAD, UPU, WCL, WIPO

Diplomatic representation in US:

in routine diplomatic matters, Liechtenstein is represented in the US by ←
the
Swiss Embassy

1.6 141.guide/Government (Liechtenstein 2. usage)

Government (Liechtenstein 2. usage)

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US diplomatic representation:

the US has no diplomatic or consular mission in Liechtenstein, but the US Consul General at Zurich (Switzerland) has consular accreditation at Vaduz

Flag:

two equal horizontal bands of blue (top) and red with a gold crown on the hoist side of the blue band

1.7 141.guide/Economy (Liechtenstein)

Economy (Liechtenstein)

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Overview:

The prosperous economy is based primarily on small-scale light industry and tourism. Industry accounts for 53% of total employment, the service sector 45% (mostly based on tourism), and agriculture and forestry 2%. The sale of postage stamps to collectors is estimated at \$10 million annually. Low business taxes (the maximum tax rate is 20%) and easy incorporation rules have induced about 25,000 holding or so-called letter box companies to establish nominal offices in Liechtenstein. Such companies, incorporated solely for tax purposes, provide 30% of state revenues. The economy is tied closely to Switzerland's economy in a customs union, and incomes and living

standards parallel those of the more prosperous Swiss groups.

National product:
 GDP – purchasing power equivalent – \$630 million (1990 est.)

National product real growth rate:
 NA%

National product per capita:
 \$22,300 (1990 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):
 5.4% (1990)

Unemployment rate:
 1.5% (1990)

Budget:
 revenues \$259 million; expenditures \$292 million, including capital expenditures of \$NA (1990)

Exports:
 \$1.6 billion
 commodities:
 small specialty machinery, dental products, stamps, hardware, pottery
 partners:
 EFTA countries 20.9% (Switzerland 15.4%), EC countries 42.7%, other 36.4% (1990)

Imports:
 \$NA
 commodities:
 machinery, metal goods, textiles, foodstuffs, motor vehicles
 partners:
 NA

External debt:
 \$NA

Industrial production:
 growth rate NA%

Electricity:
 23,000 kW capacity; 150 million kWh produced, 5,230 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:
 electronics, metal manufacturing, textiles, ceramics, pharmaceuticals, food products, precision instruments, tourism

Agriculture:
 livestock, vegetables, corn, wheat, potatoes, grapes

Economic aid:
 none

Currency:
 1 Swiss franc, franken, or franco (SwF) = 100 centimes, rappen, or ↵ centesimi

Exchange rates:
 Swiss francs, franken, or franchi (SwF) per US\$1 – 1.4781 (January 1993), 1.4062 (1992), 1.4340 (1991), 1.3892 (1990), 1.6359 (1989), 1.4633 (1988)

Fiscal year:
 calendar year

1.8 141.guide/Communications (Liechtenstein)

Communications (Liechtenstein)

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Railroads:

18.5 km 1.435-meter standard gauge, electrified; owned, operated, and included in statistics of Austrian Federal Railways

Highways:

130.66 km main roads, 192.27 km byroads

Airports:

none

Telecommunications:

limited, but sufficient automatic telephone system; 25,400 telephones; linked to Swiss networks by cable and radio relay for international telephone, radio, and TV services

1.9 141.guide/Defense Forces (Liechtenstein)

Defense Forces (Liechtenstein)

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Note:

defense is responsibility of Switzerland