

# Gibraltar

(dependent territory of the UK)

## Geography

Location: Southwestern Europe, bordering the Strait of Gibraltar, which links the Mediterranean Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean, on the southern coast of Spain

Area:

total area: 6.5 sq km

land area: 6.5 sq km

Land boundaries: total 1.2 km, Spain 1.2 km

Coastline: 12 km

Maritime claims:

territorial sea: 3 nm

Climate: Mediterranean with mild winters and warm summers

Terrain: a narrow coastal lowland borders The Rock

Natural resources: negligible

Land use:

arable land: 0%

permanent crops: 0%

meadows and pastures: 0%

forest and woodland: 0%

other: 100%

Environment:

current issues: limited natural freshwater resources, so large concrete or natural rock water catchments collect rain water

Note: strategic location on Strait of Gibraltar that links the North Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea

# People

Population: 31,874 (July 1995 est.)

Age structure:

0-14 years: 24% (female 3,757; male 3,835)

15-64 years: 63% (female 9,730; male 10,485)

65 years and over: 13% (female 2,360; male 1,707) (July 1995 est.)

Population growth rate: 0.62% (1995 est.)

Birth rate: 15 births/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Death rate: 8.85 deaths/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Net migration rate: 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Infant mortality rate: 7.9 deaths/1,000 live births (1995 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:

total population: 76.61 years

male: 73.7 years

female: 79.48 years (1995 est.)

Total fertility rate: 2.29 children born/woman (1995 est.)

Nationality:

noun: Gibraltarian(s)

adjective: Gibraltar

Ethnic divisions: Italian, English, Maltese, Portuguese, Spanish

Religions: Roman Catholic 74%, Protestant 11% (Church of England 8%, other 3%), Moslem 8%, Jewish 2%, none or other 5% (1981)

Languages: English (used in schools and for official purposes), Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Russian

## Government

Names:

conventional long form: none

conventional short form: Gibraltar

Type: dependent territory of the UK

Capital: Gibraltar

Independence: none (dependent territory of the UK)

National holiday: Commonwealth Day (second Monday of March)

Legal system: English law

Suffrage: 18 years of age; universal, plus other UK subjects resident six months or more

Flag: two horizontal bands of white (top, double width) and red with a three-towered red castle in the center of the white band; hanging from the castle gate is a gold key centered in the red band

## Economy

Overview: Gibraltar benefits from an extensive shipping trade and offshore banking.

Industries: tourism, banking and finance, construction, commerce; support to large UK naval and air bases; transit trade and supply depot in the port; light manufacturing of tobacco, roasted coffee, ice, mineral waters, candy, beer, and canned fish

Agriculture: none

## Transportation

Railroads:

total: NA km; 1.000-m gauge system in dockyard area only

Highways:

total: 50 km

Pipelines: none

Ports: Gibraltar

Airports:

total: 1

Defence Forces

Branches: British Army, Royal Navy, Royal Air Force

Note: defence is the responsibility of the UK