

Guyana

Also known as:

“Land of Many Waters” (Root: Guiana – Carib)

Motto:

“One People, One Nation, One Destiny”

History:

Guyana was originally inhabited by Amerindians. It was settled by the Dutch in the 16th century and changed hands between the Dutch, British and French from the late 16th to early 19th century, and was finally ceded to Britain in 1814. Independence was achieved in 1966 and the Cooperative Republic of Guyana established in 1970.

Economic Summary:

The Economic Recovery Programme introduced heading into the 1990s brought a market turnaround in the country's economy. Spurred by foreign investment, the major productive sectors responded favourably to the market-oriented policies. Agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors are important areas of economic activity, with Guyana being a major producer of rice and sugar. Forestry has become more significant, and is a potential growth sector. The mining sector is also important with gold and bauxite production leading the way. Manufacturing, mainly the processing and refining of agricultural products, continues to be of importance to Guyana.

Airport:

Cheddi Jagan International

Status:

Cooperative Republic.
Independence - 26 May 1966
Republic - 23 February 1970

Capital:

Georgetown



Head of Government:

H.E David Granger
President

Marital Status: Married

Population: 751,400 (2004)

Currency: Guyana Dollar

Date of CARICOM Membership: 1 August 1973

National Anthem: **Dear Land of Guyana**

Dear land of Guyana, of rivers and plains
Made rich by the sunshine, and lush by the rains,
Set gem-like and fair between mountains and sea -
Your children salute you, dear land of the free.

Green land of Guyana, our heroes of yore
Both bondsmen and free, laid their bones on your shore;
This soil so they hallowed, and from them are we,
All sons of one mother, Guyana the free.

Great land of Guyana, diverse though our strains,
We are born of their sacrifice, heirs of their pains,
And ours is the glory their eyes did not see -
One land of six peoples, united and free.

Dear land of Guyana, to you will we give
Our homage, our service, each day that we live;
God guard you, great Mother, and make us to be
More worthy our heritage - land of the free.

(Words by A.L. Luker, music by R.C.G. Potter)

Highest National Award: Order of Excellence

National Dish: Pepper pot, Guyana Cook Up, Curry and Roti

National Symbols:



Coat of Arms



National Flower



National Flag