

# Montserrat

**Also known as:**

*“Emerald Isle”*

(Source: Caribbean Islands Handbook (Footprint Handbooks), 8th ed)

**Motto:**

*“Each Endeavoring, All Achieving”*

**History:**

Sighted by Columbus in 1493, Montserrat was settled by Anglo-Irish colonists from 1632. The island fell under French occupation twice, but was otherwise continuously under British rule. In 1967, Montserrat opted for colonial status instead of Associated Statehood. In 1995 the Soufriere Hills Volcano came to life and by 1997 the majority of the population was forced to leave the island. Approximately two thirds of the island, including the capital, Plymouth, and the W.H. Bramble Airport is covered with ash. Only the northern section of the island is now inhabited. The Government now functions from Brades.

**Head of State:**

**H.E. Mr. Adrian Derek Davis, Governor**



**Head of Government:**

**The Hon. Donaldson Romeo  
Primer**

**Economic Summary:**

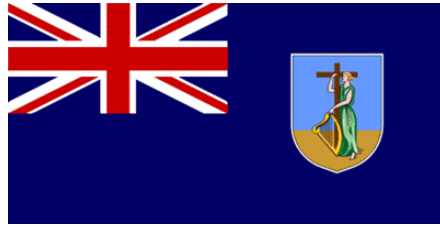
From July 1995 normal life was disrupted due to severe volcanic eruptions on the island. By mid-1998 volcanic activity subsided and normalcy returned, but with a significantly reduced population and economic activity. The once vibrant tourism industry is re-emerging as a major contributor to national economic growth. The fledgling industry caters mainly for day excursionists.

**Seaport:**

Montserrat-Antigua and Barbuda Ferry Service

<b>Heliport:</b>	Gerald Heliport
<b>Status:</b>	British Dependency
<b>Capital:</b>	Plymouth (abandoned in 1997 due to volcanic activity. Interim government buildings built at Brades Estate at the northwest end of Montserrat)
<b>Population:</b>	4,681 (2004)
<b>Currency:</b>	Eastern Caribbean Dollar (EC\$)
<b>Date of CARICOM Membership:</b>	1 May 1974
<b>National Anthem:</b>	<p><b>God Save Our Queen</b></p> <p>God save our gracious Queen,  Long live our noble Queen,  God save the Queen;  Send her victorious,  Happy and glorious,  Long to reign over us:  God save the Queen.</p> <p>O Lord our God arise,  Scatter her enemies,  And make them fall:  Confound their politics,  Frustrate their knavish tricks,  On Thee our hopes we fix:  God save us all.</p> <p>Thy choicest gifts in store,  On her be pleased to pour,  Long may she reign:  May she defend our laws,  And ever give us cause  To sing with heart and voice  God save the Queen.</p>
<b>Highest National Award:</b>	Montserrat Badge of Honor
<b>National Dish:</b>	Goat Water

**National Symbols:**



**National Flag**



**Coat of Arms**