

# Country Fact File: GUATEMALA

<b>Name of country</b>	República de Guatemala means "place of many trees" in Nahuatl
<b>Continent</b>	North America
<b>Hemisphere</b>	northern
<b>Borders</b>	Mexico, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador
<b>Capital City</b>	Guatemala City
<b>Official language</b>	Spanish
<b>Population</b>	16,176,133 (2014 estimate)
<b>Area</b>	108,889 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Currency</b>	Quetzal
<b>Time Zone</b>	UTC -6
<b>Motto</b>	Libre Crezca Fecundo
<b>National Anthem</b>	Himno Nacional de Guatemala
<b>Highest point</b>	Volcán Tajumulco 4,220m above sea level
<b>Longest river</b>	Motagua 486 km
<b>National sport</b>	football



quetzal  
the national bird

## Other Guatemala facts

- ◆ most populated country in Central America
- ◆ once the heart of the Mayan civilisation
- ◆ independent from Spain in 1821
- ◆ Volcán Tajumulco is the highest point in Central America
- ◆ Many traditional foods are based on Mayan cuisine. Key ingredients are maize, chilies and black beans.
- ◆ The two blue stripes on the flag represent the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean.
- ◆ In ancient times quetzal feathers were used as currency.
- ◆ Guatemala City's full name is Nueva Guatemala de la Asunción.

## Famous Guatemalans

Miguel Ángel Asturias	Tekun Umam
Rigoberta Menchú	Oscar Isaac
Erick Barrondo	Mateo Flores
Jaime Viñals	Ricardo Arjona

