

A stylized map of Nigeria, colored in a solid light green. The map is set against a light gray background representing the surrounding world. The word "Nigeria" is written in large, white, bold letters with a black outline across the center of the map. A blue line representing a river flows from the top left, through the center, and down to the bottom left. Another blue line representing a river flows from the top right, through the center, and down to the bottom right. The bottom left corner of the map shows a blue area representing the ocean. A small blue cloud-like shape is located in the top right corner of the map.

Nigeria

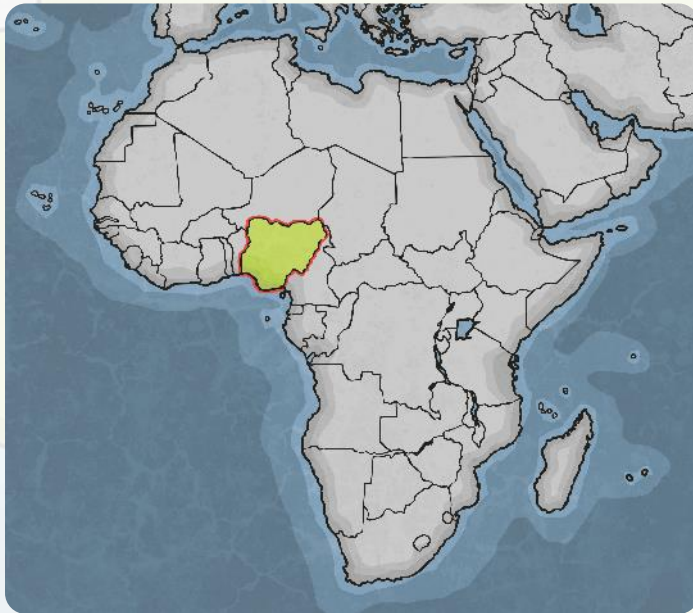
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The Flag of Nigeria

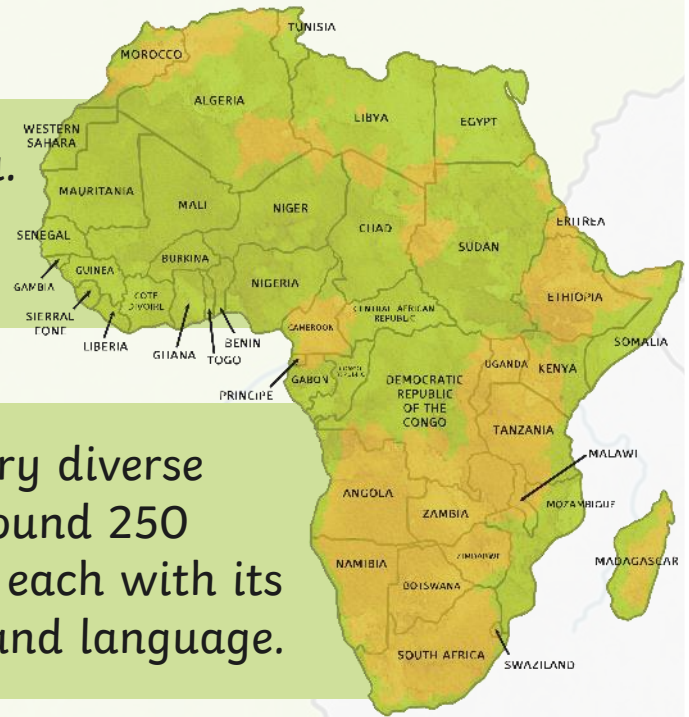


Introduction

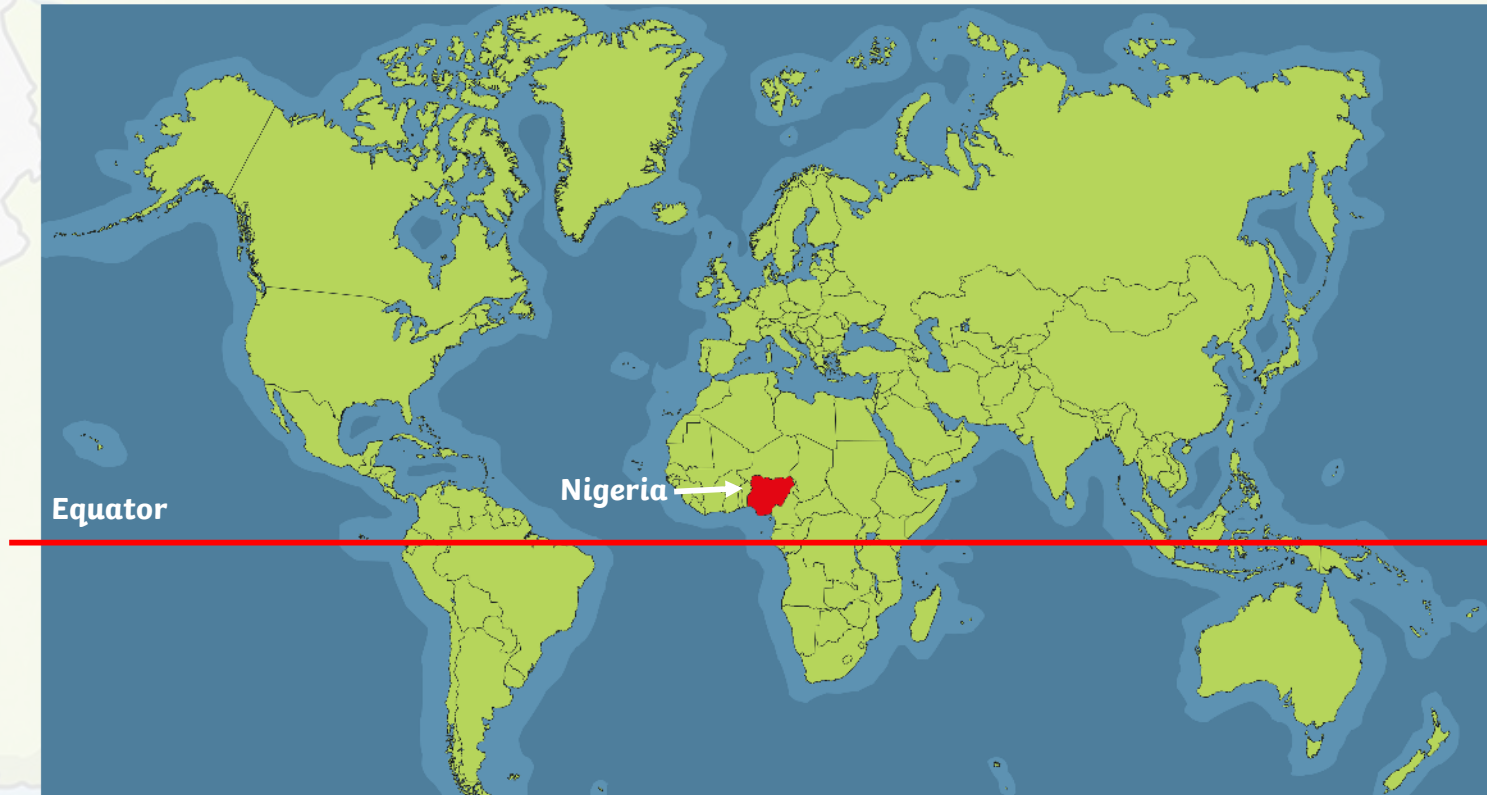
Nigeria is located within the continent of Africa.
It is the most populated African country.



Nigeria is a very diverse place, with around 250 ethnic groups, each with its own customs and language.



Where Is Nigeria?



Nigeria's official name is the Federal Republic of Nigeria. It lies on the coast of western Africa, just north of the equator.

Physical Geography

Climate

The north and west of Nigeria is a '*savanna climate*', with wet and dry seasons.

The north experiences more of a contrast in temperature, for example in the north-east, the average maximum temperature can be around 38°C (100F). However, this same region can also experience frost at night.

There is little rain in the far north (no more than 0.5m each year). This leads to droughts.

The south-east is hot and wet for most of the year, receiving more rain than anywhere else in the country.

On the coast, the average monthly temperature is between 20°C (68F) and 32°C (90F).



Physical Geography

Landscape

Central Nigeria is home to the rugged highlands of the Jos Plateau. This is a large area with a high altitude, where extinct volcanoes can be found. The highest point is 1829m in the Shere Hills.

Eastern Nigeria, where the country borders with Cameroon, is the most mountainous region.

There are plains in the north and south. The Lake Chad basin is in the north-east and in the south-east, is the delta of the Niger river.



Physical Geography



Rivers

The two longest rivers are the Niger river and the Benue river.

Coastline

Nigeria has 853km of Atlantic Ocean coastline.

Mountains

The highest mountain is Chappal Waddi at 2419m.

Natural Hazards

Some of the natural hazard events that can occur are flooding, drought, extreme heat, wildfires and erupting volcanoes.

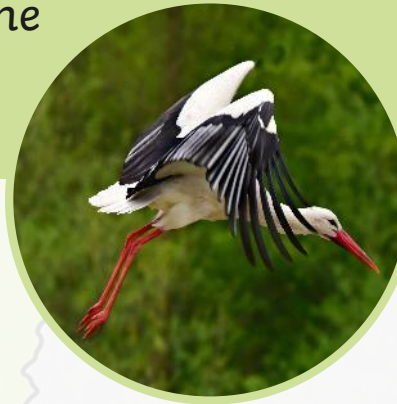
Nature

Freshwater swamps and mangrove trees can be found along Nigeria's coastline and in the Niger delta. Further inland, the swamps become thick, tropical rainforest.



Central Nigeria is home to grassland and woodland. Less grows in the dry north.

You might spot an ostrich or stork in the grasslands or a parrot or toucan in the rainforest.



Landmarks

Third Mainland Bridge, Lagos

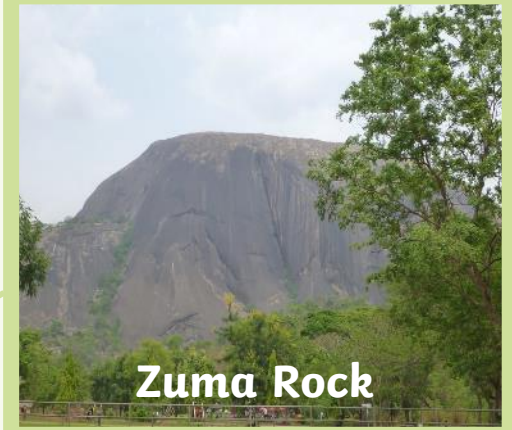
The longest bridge in Nigeria connects Lagos Island to the mainland.



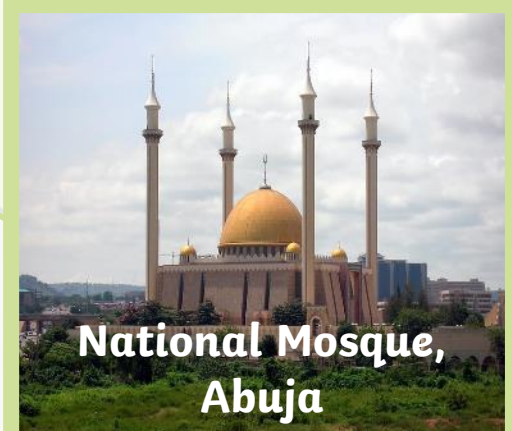
"Niger Delta" by Terry Whalebone is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#)



Abuja
Nigeria's capital city



"Abuja, Nigeria" by Rick McCharles is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#)



"AbujaNationalMosque" by Master_xpo is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#)

Human Geography

Economy and Employment

Nigeria's economy is the largest in Africa.

- It is the largest producer of oil in Africa.
- The country is rich in natural gas, coal and tin.
- Fishing and logging are important for the economy.
- Many people work in factories, making things like cloth or cement.



Human Geography

- Many Nigerians have jobs in tourism, telecommunication (e.g. Internet services) and banking.
- With around half of Nigerians living in rural areas, many people are animal farmers (e.g. pigs, sheep, goats and cows) or crop farmers (e.g. yams, peanuts, rice, sorghum and cassava).
- Nigeria is also known for cocoa beans and natural rubber.



"Cassava" by Thomas Quine is licensed under CC BY 2.0

Human Geography

Education

Children start primary school at age six. They study there for six years before attending secondary school. Primary education and half of secondary education is free and compulsory. Some young adults then study at college or university.

Ethnic Groups

Four of the biggest ethnic groups in Nigeria are the Fulani, the Igbo, the Hausa and the Yoruba.

Languages

There are over 520 different languages spoken in Nigeria. English is the most widely spoken, with Hausa being the second most spoken.

Religion

Around half of the country are Muslims, while the other half are mostly Christians.



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