

Tuvalu Island

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Tuvalu Latest News

As the Pacific island nation of Tuvalu battles rising sea levels that threaten to put large parts of the island entirely underwater by the end of this century, its citizens are making efforts to safeguard their future while preparing for the worst impacts of climate change.

About Tuvalu

- Tuvalu, **formerly** known as the **Ellice Islands**, is a **Polynesian island country** in the **west-central Pacific Ocean**.
- It is the **4th smallest country** in the world with 26 sq.km. of land.
- It sits about **halfway between Australia and Hawaii**.
- Its **neighbours** include **Kiribati, to the north**, and **Fiji, to the south**.
- It **comprises nine islands** (four reef islands and five coral atolls).
- **All islands are low-lying**, with **no point** on Tuvalu being **higher than 4.5 m** above sea level. Thus, the islands are **threatened by any future sea level rise**.

- Nanumanga, Niutao, and Niulakita are the three main islands that make up Tuvalu.
- The **Funafuti atoll** is the **capital** of Tuvalu and is also the **most populous** among all the 9 atolls.
- There are **no rivers**. Tuvalu's climate is **hot and rainy**.
- **With the exception** of tiny **Vatican City**, **Tuvalu has the fewest inhabitants of any other independent nation**.
- **Languages**: Most people speak a language called **Tuvaluan**. **English is widely used**.
- **Currency**: **Tuvalu dollar (equivalent to the Australian dollar)**
- **Political System**:
 - Tuvalu **became independent from the United Kingdom** in October **1978**.
 - It operates as a **parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarchy**.
 - It is **part of the Commonwealth** Realm, with **King Charles III** recognized as **King of Tuvalu**. He is **represented by a Governor-General**, who is appointed upon the advice of the Prime Minister.
 - There are **no political parties**: the **prime minister** is **chosen by** and from the **legislature**.
- **Economy**:
 - Most people are **subsistence farmers** and are **aided by remittances** from relatives working overseas.
 - A small quantity of **copra** is **produced for export**, the **sale of stamps** accounts for modest earnings, and **fees are collected from foreign fishing fleets**, but the country **depends heavily on foreign aid**.
 - It imports most of its food, fuel, and manufactured goods.

Source: UN

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/tuvalu/>

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