

Key Facts about Gabon

August 31, 2023 • vajiramandravi.com



About Gabon

- The Republic of Gabon is **located at the Equator** in **West-Central Africa**, **bordering the Atlantic Ocean**.
- **Bordering countries:** It is bordered by **Equatorial Guinea** and **Cameroon** to the north and the **Republic of the Congo** to the east and south.
- A **former French colony**, Gabon **retains strong ties to France** and to the French language and culture.
- **Independence:** Gabon **gained independence from France on August 17, 1960**.
- **Government:** It is a **presidential republic** where the **president is both the head of state and the head of government** of the country.
- **Capital:** **Libreville**
- **Language:** Spoken languages are **French (official)** and a **variety of Bantu languages**.
- **Currency:** The currency of Gabon is the **Central African CFA franc (XAF)**, a currency used by five other African nations.

- **Religion:**
 - A large **majority of Gabon's population is Christian.**
 - **A small segment** of the country's population **is Muslim.**
 - **Adherents of traditional religions also account for a small segment** of the population.
 - **Climate:** It has an **equatorial climate**, with **year-round high temperatures and humidity.**
 - Gabon's **largest river is the Ogooué.**
 - About **three-fourths of the country is covered by a dense equatorial rainforest** containing more than 3,000 species of vegetation.
 - It is a **member of the United Nations, the African Union, and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).**
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Q1) What is the Equator?

The Equator is an imaginary line that circles the Earth horizontally, dividing it into two equal halves: the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere. It is situated equidistant from the North Pole and the South Pole and runs east-west around the Earth's circumference.

Source: [Mutinous soldiers in Gabon say they have ousted president whose family has ruled for 55 years](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/key-facts-about-gabon/>

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