

Wales



Population: 3,133,000 (2025)

Languages: English and Welsh (Welsh is derived from Celtic)

Welsh speakers: 850,000 (the majority of these are bilingual)

Wales (Cymru – pronounced “kemri”) is part of the United Kingdom. It is mostly mountainous with its higher peaks in the north and central areas. Its capital and largest city is Cardiff. It has the largest number of castles per square mile of any country in the world.



A distinct Welsh culture emerged among the Celtic Britons after the Romans left Britain in the 5th century. After over 200 years of war, King Edward I of England conquered Wales in 1283. In the 16th century, Wales was incorporated into the English legal system.

At the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, development of the mining and metallurgical industries transformed the country from an agricultural society into an industrial one. This caused a rapid expansion of Wales's population. Today, two-thirds of the population live in South Wales, mostly in the cities Cardiff, Swansea and Newport. The other parts of Wales are sparsely populated. Since the decline of the country's traditional coal and other heavy industries, service industries and tourism play major roles in its economy. Agriculture in Wales is largely livestock-based, and its major exports are sheep and cattle.



Americans try Welsh Town Names: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZPhPf-0pYM>

Welsh Lessons for Beginners: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjhiYLsgdjw>

Naomi Watts is from Wales: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwYAuvBcQ1Y>

News in Welsh: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqDvYnbqHNQ>

Places to see in Wales: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zf1WVzRLlgw>