



TIMOR-LESTE

AT A GLANCE

Tropical beaches on Jaco island in Timor-Leste



Home to over
1.3 MILLION
PEOPLE

MAJOR INDUSTRIES



Agriculture



Oil and gas

Timor-Leste is primarily a market economy, with most villages relying on subsistence farming. About 80% of the population is employed in the agriculture sector.

Major exports are oil and gas, coffee and services (remittances) followed by tourism.

GEOGRAPHY

Timor-Leste, previously known as East Timor, occupies the **eastern half** of the island of Timor.

It shares a border with **Nusa Tenggara Timur**. Australia is the country's southern neighbour, separated by the Timor Sea.

The country's size is about **15,007 km²**.



CAPITAL
DILI

Dili is the capital of Timor-Leste. It is located on the island's north coast and has a population of almost 350,000 people.



For detailed country map please visit: maps.google.com



LANGUAGES

Portuguese and Tetun

English
Indonesian

The 2 official languages of Timor-Leste are Portuguese and Tetun. English and Indonesian are also spoken and considered 'working languages'.



CULTURE

The people of Timor-Leste are known for being hospitable, friendly and gregarious.

Society is generally conservative and traditional with a strong focus on family, the community and religion. Timorese culture reflects its Timorese, Portuguese, Chinese and Indonesian influences. This can be seen in its local arts and handicrafts, as well as in its dance, music and poetry.

RELIGION

Catholic

Around 90% of the population of Timor-Leste is Catholic.



CUSTOMS

Hospitality is important in Timor-Leste.

If you are offered food or drink, it is important to at least taste it but always wait for your host to take the first sip or bite.

Women often cheek or air kiss, usually on both sides of the face.

Shaking hands is common and expected.

Elders, church and community leaders are treated with deference.

Swearing and blasphemy are not common and can be interpreted as offensive or aggressive behaviour.



DRESS

The traditional textile of Timor-Leste is known as tais, which is incorporated into traditional dress. Styles of tais worn on the body are differentiated by gender. Men wear the tais mane (or 'man's cloth'), which is a single large wrap around the waist. Women wear the tais feto ('women's cloth'), which is a form of strapless dress woven in the shape of a tube.

PASTIMES

Football

Badminton, boxing and weightlifting



Timorese people are passionate about football. Other popular sports include badminton, boxing and weightlifting.

Visitors to Timor-Leste can take part in diving, whale watching, trekking and biking.



PHRASES & GREETINGS

PHRASE — English	Tetun	PHRASE — English	Tetun
Hello	Elo	Goodbye	Hau ba lai
How are you?	Diak ka lai?	I'm sorry	Deskulpa
Please	Favór ida	Do you speak English?	Ita, bele ko'alia Inglês?
Thank you	Obrigadu (m), Obrigada (f)		

For more common phrases and translations, refer to: <https://omniglot.com/language/phrases/tetum.php>



Dili, Timor-Leste