

Japan

Japan is an island country in East Asia. Located in the Pacific Ocean, it lies to the east of the Sea of Japan, China, North Korea, South Korea and Russia, stretching from the Sea of Okhotsk in the north to the East China Sea and Taiwan in the south. The characters that make up Japan's name mean "sun-origin", which is why Japan is sometimes referred to as the "Land of the Rising Sun".

Japan is an archipelago of 6,852 islands. The four largest islands are Honshū, Hokkaidō, Kyūshū and Shikoku, together accounting for 97% of Japan's land area. Most of the islands are mountainous, many volcanic; for example, Japan's highest peak, Mount Fuji, is a volcano. Japan has the world's tenth-largest population, with over 127 million people. The Greater Tokyo Area, which includes the *de facto* capital city of Tokyo and several surrounding prefectures, is the largest metropolitan area in the world, with over 30 million residents.

Archaeological research indicates that people were living on the islands of Japan as early as the Upper Paleolithic period. The first written mention of Japan begins with brief appearances in Chinese history texts from the first century A.D. Influence from the outside world followed by long periods of isolation has characterized Japan's history. Since adopting its constitution in 1947, Japan has maintained a unitary constitutional monarchy with an emperor and an elected parliament called the Diet.

A major economic power, Japan has the world's second-largest economy by nominal GDP and the third largest in purchasing power parity. It is also the world's fourth largest exporter and fifth largest importer. It is also the only Asian country in the G8 and is currently serving as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council. Although Japan has officially renounced its right to declare war, it maintains a modern and extensive military force which is employed in self-defense and peacekeeping roles. It is a developed country with very high living standards (10th highest HDI). Japan has the highest life

expectancy of any country in the world (according to both the UN and WHO estimates) and the third lowest infant mortality rate.

Japan is an island country in East Asia. Located in the Pacific Ocean, it lies to the east of the Korean Peninsula, North Korea, South Korea and Russia, stretching from the Sea of Okhotsk in the north to the East China Sea and Taiwan in the south. It is the world's largest island country, with Japan's main islands being Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu, together accounting for 97% of Japan's land area. Most of the population is concentrated in the coastal plain, with the capital, Tokyo, being the largest city. Japan is a highly developed country, with a high standard of living, a highly educated population, and a strong economy. It is a member of the G7, G20, and other international organizations. Japan is also a major power in the world, with a large military and a significant influence in the Pacific region.

Research indicates that people who live in Japan are healthier and live longer than people in other countries. This is due to a combination of factors, including a diet rich in fish and vegetables, a high level of physical activity, and a strong social support system. Japan is also a highly developed country, with a high standard of living and a strong economy. It is a member of the G7, G20, and other international organizations. Japan is also a major power in the world, with a large military and a significant influence in the Pacific region.

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