



# ESTONIA



## INTRODUCTION

After centuries of Danish, Swedish, German, and Russian rule, Estonia attained independence in 1918. Forcibly incorporated into the USSR in 1940, it regained its freedom in 1991 with the collapse of the Soviet Union.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

President Alar KARIS

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Kaja KALLAS

### Government Type

parliamentary republic

### Capital

Tallinn

### Legislature

unicameral Parliament or Riigikogu (101 seats)

### Ambassador to US

Ambassador Kristjan PRIKK

### US Ambassador

Ambassador Designate George P. KENT

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 45,228 sq km

Land: 42,388 sq km

Water: 2,840 sq km

### Climate

maritime; wet, moderate winters, cool summers

### Natural Resources

oil shale, peat, rare earth elements, phosphorite, clay, limestone, sand, dolomite, arable land, sea mud

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

advanced service-based EU and OECD economy; regional trade and telecommunications leader; recently rejected Baltic sea rail tunnel from Tallinn to Helsinki; flat income taxation; substantial welfare system; balanced budget culture; business-friendly climate

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$51.53 billion (2021 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$38,700 (2021 est.)

**Industries** - food, engineering, electronics, wood and wood

products, textiles, information technology, telecommunications

**Agricultural products** - wheat, milk, barley, rapeseeds, rye, oats,

peas, potatoes, pork, triticale

**Exports** \$29.06 billion (2021 est.)

broadcasting equipment, coal tar oil, refined petroleum, cars,

prefabricated buildings, lumber (2021)

**partners:** Finland 12%, United States 9%, Latvia 9%, Sweden 8%,

Russia 6% (2021)

**Imports** \$29.23 billion (2021 est.)

refined petroleum, cars, coal tar oil, electricity, lumber,

broadcasting equipment (2021)

**partners:** Russia 15%, Finland 10%, Germany 10%, Latvia 7%,

Lithuania 6% (2021)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

1.2 million (2023 est.)

### Population Growth

-0.74% (2022 est.)

### Ethnicity

Estonian 68.7%, Russian 24.8%, Ukrainian 1.7%, Belarusian 1%, Finn 0.6%, other 1.6%, unspecified 1.6% (2011 est.)

### Language

Estonian (official) 68.5%, Russian 29.6%, Ukrainian 0.6%, other 1.2%, unspecified 0.1% (2011 est.)

### Religion

Orthodox 16.2%, Lutheran 9.9%, other Christian (including Methodist, Seventh Day Adventist, Roman Catholic, Pentecostal) 2.2%, other 0.9%, none 54.1%, unspecified 16.7% (2011 est.)