

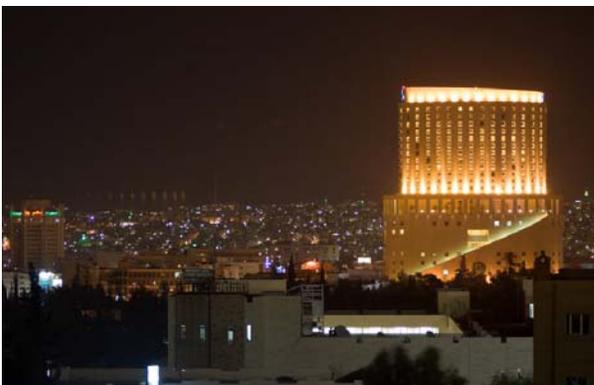
Capitals of the Middle East



What is the capital of United Arab Emirates? **Abu Dhabi**
The city, whose name means “Father of Gazelle,” had settlements in the 3rd millennium BC with inhabitants who lived by herding and fishing. Today it is said to be the richest city in the world. The city lies on an island jutting into the Persian Gulf and has a population of an estimated 1.8 million people.



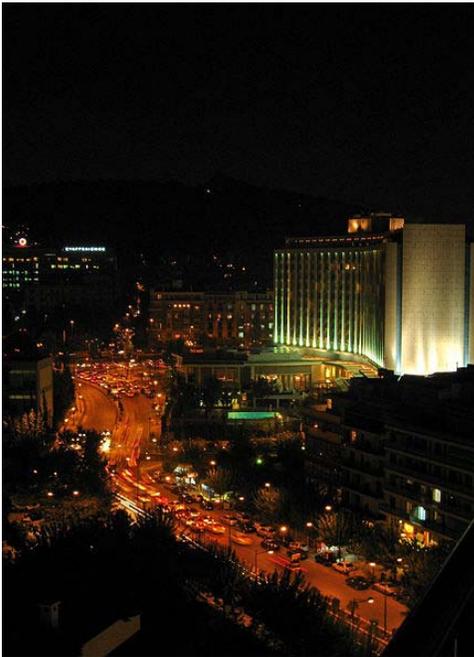
What is the capital of Algeria? **Algiers**
This city is nicknamed “Algiers the White” for the glistening white of its buildings rising up from the sea. It is situated on the western side of a bay of the Mediterranean Sea. The city’s name translates as “the islands,” referring to the four islands which lay off the city’s coast until becoming part of the mainland in 1525.



What is the capital of Jordan? **Amman**
The city has been inhabited by many civilizations from the Assyrians to the Persians to the Greeks. The Greek ruler named the city Philadelphia and it was later renamed Amman. In 1921, the city was chosen as the seat of government for Jordan.



What is the capital of Turkey? **Ankara**
The city has a population of 4,319,167 inhabitants. It replaced Istanbul as the capital city in 1923. From its central location, it is an important commercial and industrial city. Strategically located at the center of Turkey's highway and railway networks, the city is an important crossroads of trade and serves as the marketing center for the surrounding agricultural area.



What is the capital of Greece? **Athens**
Named after goddess Athena, this city is one of the oldest cities in the world with a recorded history of at least 3,000 years. The ancient city was a powerful city-state and a center for the arts, learning and philosophy. It is widely referred to as the cradle of Western Civilization and the birthplace of Democracy, largely due to the impact of its cultural and political achievements during the 5th and 4th centuries BC on the rest of the then known European Continent. Today its metropolitan population is 3.2 million people.



What is the capital of Iraq? **Baghdad**
The metropolitan area of the city has about 7,000,000 inhabitants and is the largest city in the country. Located on the Tigris River, the city dates back to at least the 8th century and probably to pre-Islamic times. The city was designed as a circle about 2 km in diameter, leading it to be known as the "Round City".



What is the capital of Azerbaijan? **Baku**

The history of the city dates back to the 1st millennium BC and has been known for its rich oil resources since 1873.

Because of its petroleum wealth, the city is known as a Black City and by the beginning of the 20th century almost half of the oil reserves in the world had been extracted in the area. It is the largest city in the country and located on the Caspian Sea.



What is the capital of Lebanon? **Beirut**

This city is the capital, largest city, and chief seaport of Lebanon. Its original Phoenician name means “The Wells.” Its history goes back more than 5000 years, including Phoenician, Hellenistic, Roman, Arab and Ottoman civilizations. Backed by the Mount Lebanon mountains, the city is situated on a narrow coastal plain that projects into the Mediterranean Sea.



What is the capital of Egypt? **Cairo**

The city’s name means “The Vanquisher” or “The Triumphant.” Its metropolitan area has a population of officially about 16.1 million people, making Cairo the seventh most populous metropolitan area in the world. Located on the banks and islands of the Nile River in the north of Egypt, it has been an imperial capital since AD 969.



What is the capital of Syria? **Damascus**
It is the largest city in the country and thought to be the oldest continuously inhabited city in the world. Its current population is estimated at about 4.5 million.



What is the capital of Qatar? **Doha**
The city has a population of about 400,051. It is the country's largest city, with over 80% of the population residing in it or its suburbs. It is the economic center of the country. The city was made capital of the British protectorate of the country in 1916, and when the nation gained independence in 1971, it remained the capital.



What is the capital of Pakistan?
Islamabad The city is located in the northwest of the country and was built during the 1960s to replace Karachi as the capital city. The city's name means "Abode of Islam." The city is the site of the earliest habitations of man in Asia. The banks of the River Soan were host to stone-age man over 7000 years ago and human skulls dating back to 5000 B.C. have been found in and around the city.



What is the capital of Afghanistan?

Kandahar

It is the second largest city in the country with a population of approximately 450,300 people. The city is a major trading center for sheep, wool, cotton, silk, felt, food grains, fresh and dried fruit, and tobacco. Alexander the Great founded the city in the 4th century and many empires have fought over the city due to its strategic location along trade routes.



What is the capital of Sudan? **Khartoum**

This city's name means "Elephant Trunk." It is located at the point where the White Nile, flowing north from Uganda, meets the Blue Nile, flowing west from Ethiopia. In 1821, the city was founded by the ruler of Egypt as an outpost for the Egyptian army. However, the settlement grew and became a regional center of trade. Today the city proper has a population of well over a million inhabitants, making it the second largest city in the country.



What is the capitol of Kuwait? **Kuwait City**

It has an estimated population of 32,500 within city limits and 2.38 million in the metropolitan area. The city is located at the heart of the country on the Persian Gulf. Established in the 18th century, this city's name comes from the name of a fort located in the area, "Kut."



What is the capital of Bahrain? **Manama**
Manama is the largest city of Bahrain with an approximate population of 155,000 people. It has emerged as the capital of independent Bahrain after periods of domination by Portugal and Persians earlier in its history. Today, it is a modern capital with an economy based around the sales promotion industry as crude oil takes a less pronounced role in the economy.



What is the capital of Oman? **Muscat**
This city is one of the oldest cities in the Middle East. It has been known since the second century AD. The city's economy is dominated by trade, including more traditional exports of dates, mother of pearl, frankincense, and fish. Its port is an important trading hub between the Persian Gulf, the Indian subcontinent and the Far East.



What is the capital of Cyprus? **Nicosia**
Located on the Pedieos (Kanlidere) river and situated in the center of the island, the city is the seat of government, as well as the main business centre. It is a divided capital with the northern (Turkish) and southern (Greek) portions divided by the "Green Line," a demilitarized zone. In ancient times, Nicosia was a city-state known as Ledra or Ledrae.



What is the capital of Saudi Arabia? **Riyadh** This city is the largest city in the country situated on the Arabian Peninsula and home to over 4, 260, 000 people (around 20% of the country's population). Once a small walled city, it has developed into a dynamic metropolis. The first major thrust came during the oil boom of the 1950s, and today, it is one of the fastest growing and most prosperous cities in the world.



What is the capital of Morocco? **Rabat** The city is located on the Atlantic Ocean at the mouth of the river Bou Regreg and has a population of 1.2 million. The city's fortress was used by the Berbers as a launching point for attacks on Spain. The city thus acquired its current name, meaning "stronghold of victory," due to its militarily significant location.



What is the capital of Yemen? **Sanaa** The old, fortified portions of the city have been inhabited for more than 2500 years. The city was originally surrounded by clay walls, six to nine meters high. The famous "Yemen Gate," which is 700 years old, serves as an entry through the city walls and its 400-year-old buildings. Today the city has a population of 1,747,627. One of the most popular attractions is the Salt Market, where it is possible to buy, not only salt, but also bread, spices, raisins, cotton, copper, pottery, silverware, antiques, and a host of other goods.



What is the capital of Georgia? **Tbilisi**
This country's capital is the largest city in the country with 1,093,000 inhabitants. The city lies on the banks of the Mtkvarti River. Founded in the 4th century, it is a significant industrial, social, and cultural center in the Caucasus. Historically, the city was located along one of the historic Silk Road routes and today it still plays an

important role as a trade and transit center due to its strategic location at the crossroads between Europe and Asia.



What is the capital of Iran? **Tehran**
The city's population is about 7,354,000 inhabitants. More than half of the country's industry is based in the city. It is located at the foot of the Alborz mountain range and is the hub of the country's railway network. There have been settlements in the area since the 5th century.



What is the capital of Libya? **Tripoli**
The city is the largest city in the country with a population of 1.68 million. It is located in the northwestern of the country on edge of the desert, on a point of land that projects into the Mediterranean Sea. When it was founded in the 7th century BCE by the Phoenicians, the city's name was Oea. Today the city is Libya's principal sea port and the largest commercial and manufacturing centre in Libya.



What is the capital of Tunisia? **Tunis**
Situating on a large Mediterranean gulf, (the Gulf of Tunis), behind the Lake of Tunis and the port of La Goulette, the city's products include textiles, carpets, and olive oil. The population of the city's metropolitan area approaches two million.



What is the capital of Armenia?
Yerevan
This is the largest city in Armenia and is situated on the Hrazdan River. The city was founded as a fortress in 782 BC, but prior to that the area had been settled since the Bronze Age. It is thus one of the most ancient cities in the world. Today the city is Armenia's industrial, transportation, and cultural center.