



# EMBASSY OF LUXEMBOURG



2200 Massachusetts Ave NW  
Washington, DC, 20008



Welcome  
Bienvenue

## Luxembourg at a glance

|  |  |
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| <i>Official name</i>                       | Grand-Duche de Luxembourg  |
| <i>Official languages</i>                  | Luxembourgish, French and German   |
| <i>Form of government</i>                  | Constitutional monarchy under the system of parliamentary democracy  |
| <i>Head of state</i>                       | H.R.H. the Grand Duke Henri  |
| <i>Head of government</i>                  | Jean-Claude Juncker, Prime Minister since 1995   |
| <i>Capital</i>                             | Luxembourg City  |
| <i>Area</i>                                | 2,586 sq. km (999 sq. mi)  |
| <i>Built-up area</i>                       | 8.4%   |
| <i>Total population</i>                    | 455,000<br>Luxembourg nationals: 277,600 (61%)<br>Foreign residents: 177,400 (39%)   |
| <i>Currency</i>                            | Euro   |
| <i>Gross domestic product (GDP)</i>        | 27.610 billion euros   |
| <i>GDP per capita</i>                      | 60.681 euros   |
| <i>Domestic employment</i>                 | 313.507 people   |
| <i>Workers from neighbouring countries</i> | 120,153  |
| <i>Unemployment rate</i>                   | 5%   |
| <i>Number of banks</i>                     | 155  |
| <i>Number of companies</i>                 | 26,555 offering goods and services<br>2,383 agricultural and winegrowing enterprises<br>973 manufacturers<br>80 energy and water companies<br>1,972 construction companies |



# The Embassy

## A historical house

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg has maintained its diplomatic presence in the United States since the beginning of World War II. The embassy is housed in a Louis XV limestone and brick manor built at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by prominent New York architects Jules Henri de Sibour and Bruce Price for Congressman Alexander Stewart from Wisconsin. In 1940, after the Nazi troops invaded Luxembourg, Grand Duchess Charlotte left the country and went into exile. She came to the United States under the guidance of President Roosevelt and settled with her family in Canada, before joining the Luxembourg government in exile in London. During her stay in North America, Grand Duchess Charlotte purchased the mansion from the Stewart family and her mother, Grand Duchess Maria Anna, resided in it until 1942. The Embassy moved to its present location on Massachusetts Avenue in 1941, after its initial establishment at the Shoreham Hotel in 1940.



# The United States and Luxembourg

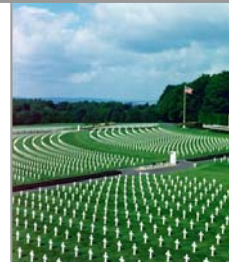
## A close bilateral relationship

As friends and allies, the United States of America and Luxembourg have always had close and warm relations. As nations and as people, we have stood shoulder to shoulder both in the best and worst times. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a third of the population immigrated to the United States, looking for prosperity in the New World. Many settled down in the American Midwest. Even today, strong ties continue to exist between these communities and Luxembourg. When Luxembourg was occupied by the Nazi invaders, American soldiers came to its rescue and contributed to the liberation of the country, as they had done once before during World War I. The friendly ties between our countries have been further strengthened by commercial and business developments. As a centrally located country with outstanding political, economic and social stability, Luxembourg became a prime location for American investment in Europe.



## Emigration

Today, the Grand Duchy is a country of immigration. This was not always the case. Prior to the takeoff of the steel industry, Luxembourg was a poor and rural country, with its agriculture unable to feed an increasing population. Driven by the hope of carving out a better life elsewhere, about a third of the population left their homeland between 1841 and 1891. Significant Luxembourg colonies formed abroad, for instance in Chicago. Some achieved fame in their new homeland, such as Hugo Gernsbach (1884-1967), inventor of the term “science fiction”, and photographer Edward Steichen and the former Speaker of the House Denis Hastert.



# Luxembourg relationship



To the present day, migrations have been a significant component of Luxembourg's population history. But before the country became the target of numerous immigrants during the 20<sup>th</sup> century and in recent times that of refugees and asylum seekers also, it was for a long time a land of no great wealth and shaped by emigration.

## Luxembourg American Cemetery and Memorial



The Luxembourg American Cemetery and Memorial, 50.5 acres in extent, is situated in a beautiful wooded area. The cemetery was established on December 29, 1944 by the 609th Quartermaster Company of the U.S. Third Army while Allied Forces were stemming the enemy's desperate Ardennes Offensive, known as the Battle of the Bulge. The city of Luxembourg served as headquarters for General George S. Patton's U.S. Third Army. General Patton is buried here.



## The Luxembourg American Cultural Society



The LACS was founded in 2004 by individuals of Luxembourg descent in America as well as citizens of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The mission of the Luxembourg American Cultural society is symbolized as *Roots and Leaves*: Preserve the roots of Luxembourg heritage.

[www.luxamculturalsociety.org](http://www.luxamculturalsociety.org)

# Luxembourg

## History

Despite its small size – about half the size of Rhode Island – the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg is a sovereign state with a rich history. Nestled between France, Belgium and Germany in the heart of Europe, it has been involved in the great European developments. The turbulent past of the Grand Duchy is a true mirror of European history. During the Middle Ages, its princes wore the crown of the Holy Roman Empire. In Early Modern Times, its fortress was a major bone of contention in the battle between the great powers. Before regaining its independence in 1839, Luxembourg lived under successive Burgundian, Spanish, French, Austrian and Dutch sovereignty. After World War II, Luxembourg became a founding member of the UN, NATO and the EU.



## Economy

Luxembourg's economy is one of the most open economies in the world. Many major multinational groups are headquartered in Luxembourg. The Grand Duchy offers a wide range of advantages for locating a production or distribution centre. Its location is central in the heart of Europe with a multilingual workforce and a business friendly environment.

Many key industrial firms are located in Luxembourg, e.g. ArcelorMittal, the producer of specialty steel used for the construction of the Freedom Tower in New York and many other similar structures around the world. Other examples are Goodyear, Guardian, Dupont, Exxonmobile, Ferrero, etc. The high-tech, media and telecommunications sectors are also well developed in Luxembourg, e.g. RTL group, SES global, Skype, iTunes (Apple) and Champ Cargosystems.

Luxembourg is also a hub for international logistics and airfreight activities. Companies like Panalpina, Kuehne + Nagel, Thiel Logistik, DHL, FedEx, Cargolux, Luxair and China Airlines take advantage of the dynamism of Luxembourg airport infrastructures.





## Tourism

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg offers a wide variety of landscapes and tourist attractions. The Moselle Valley makes up the Eastern part of the Grand Duchy and the Moselle River creates a natural border with Germany. It's a charming place, with traditional villages sun-drenched hillsides covered with grape vines. Nestling in a green setting in the northeastern part of the country is an unspoiled region known as "Luxembourg's Little Switzerland" or the Mullerthal. Lastly, many picturesque villages and splendid castles dot the Ardennes Mountains in northern Luxembourg.

## The financial centre

Luxembourg is the second largest investment fund centre in the world behind the United States, the premier captive reinsurance market in the European Union and the premier private banking centre in the Eurozone. The financial sector is the largest contributor to the Luxembourg economy.

From its origins as a Eurobond domicile in the 1960s, the financial centre subsequently developed as a private banking centre and then, from the 1980s, as a centre for investment funds. The success of the financial centre is grounded in the social and political stability of the Grand Duchy and on a modern legal and regulatory framework. Thus, over the years, specific regulatory frameworks have been created for investment funds, venture capital companies or international pension funds

Supervised by a competent and proactive regulatory authority, the Luxembourg financial centre is characterized by a strong culture of investor protection and rigorous anti money- laundering policies.

[www.ont.lu](http://www.ont.lu)

[www.luxembourgforfinance.lu](http://www.luxembourgforfinance.lu)



## EMBASSY OF LUXEMBOURG

Learn Luxembourgish . . .

### English

*Good morning*  
*Good afternoon*  
*Good evening*  
*Goodbye*  
*See you later!*  
*Yes*  
*No*  
*Please*  
*Thank you*  
*Excuse me!*  
*You're welcome*  
*How are you?*  
  
*I'm fine, thank you*  
*What's your name?*  
*Where are you from?*  
*Pleased to meet you,  
my name is John*

### Letzebuergesch (Luxembourgish)

Moien!  
Mëtteg! Gudde Mëtteg!  
Gudden Owend!  
Äddi!  
Bis geschwënn! / Bis gläich  
Jo  
Neen  
Wann ech glift  
Merci  
Entschëllegt (mech)  
Ech bieden lech  
Wéi geet et lech? / Wéi geet et  
dir?  
Gutt / ganz gutt  
Wéi heescht Dir?  
Vu wou kommt Dir?  
Et freet mech, ech sinn den John.



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