Asian Countries

Asia shares the [landmass](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Landmass) of [Eurasia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eurasia) with [Europe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Europe), and of [Afro-Eurasia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Afro-Eurasia) with both Europe and [Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Africa). In general terms, it is bounded on the east by the [Pacific Ocean](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Ocean), on the south by the [Indian Ocean](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Ocean), and on the north by the [Arctic Ocean](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arctic_Ocean). The border of Asia with Europe is a [historical and cultural construct](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_constructionism), as there is no clear physical and geographical separation between them. It is somewhat arbitrary and has moved since its first conception in [classical antiquity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Classical_antiquity). The division of Eurasia into two continents reflects [East–West](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East%E2%80%93West_dichotomy) cultural, linguistic, and ethnic differences, some of which vary on a spectrum rather than with a sharp dividing line. A commonly accepted division places Asia to the east of the [Suez Canal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suez_Canal) separating it from [Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Africa); and to the east of the [Turkish Straits](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkish_Straits), the [Ural Mountains](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ural_Mountains) and [Ural River](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ural_(river)), and to the south of the [Caucasus Mountains](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caucasus_Mountains) and the [Caspian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caspian_Sea) and [Black](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Sea) seas, separating it from Europe.[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia#cite_note-ReferenceA-19)

Two Biggest Countries in Asia

[China](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/China) and [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India) alternated in being the [largest economies in the world](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_regions_by_past_GDP_(PPP)) from 1 to 1800 CE. China was a major economic power and attracted many to the east,[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia#cite_note-20)[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia#cite_note-Dahlman-21)[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia#cite_note-22) and for many the legendary wealth and prosperity of the ancient culture of India personified Asia,[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia#cite_note-23) attracting European commerce, exploration and colonialism. The accidental discovery of a trans-Atlantic route from Europe to America by Columbus while in search for a route to India demonstrates this deep fascination. The [Silk Road](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silk_Road) became the main east–west trading route in the Asian hinterlands while the [Straits of Malacca](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strait_of_Malacca) stood as a major sea route. Asia has exhibited [economic dynamism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economic_dynamism) (particularly East Asia) as well as robust population growth during the 20th century, but overall population growth has since fallen.[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia#cite_note-24) Asia was the birthplace of most of the world's mainstream religions including [Hinduism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hinduism), [Zoroastrianism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zoroastrianism), [Judaism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judaism), [Jainism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jainism), [Buddhism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhism), [Confucianism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confucianism), [Taoism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taoism), [Christianity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity), [Islam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam), [Sikhism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sikhism), as well as many other religions.

Size and Diversity

The concept of Asia—a [name](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toponymy) dating back to [classical antiquity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Classical_antiquity)—may actually have more to do with [human geography](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_geography) than [physical geography](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Physical_geography).[[*citation needed*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)] Asia varies greatly across and within [its regions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regions_of_Asia) with regard to ethnic groups, cultures, environments, economics, historical ties and government systems. It also has a mix of many different climates ranging from the equatorial south via the hot desert in the [Middle East](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle_East), temperate areas in the east and the continental centre to vast subarctic and polar areas in [Siberia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siberia).