

Beat: Travel

## **MONACO - Principality linked to the GRIMALDI FAMILY For 700 Years**

### **Member of UN & Council of Europe**

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**USPA NEWS** - Linked to the GRIMALDI Family for seven hundred years, the Principality has progressively found its place at the centre of the world stage, particularly since the reign of Prince RAINIER III and that of his son H.S.H. Prince ALBERT II. Member of the United Nations and the Council of Europe...

Linked to the GRIMALDI Family for seven hundred years, the Principality has progressively found its place at the centre of the world stage, particularly since the reign of Prince RAINIER III and that of his son H.S.H. Prince ALBERT II. Member of the United Nations and the Council of Europe, MONACO is a prosperous and conveniently located state.

- The Monegasque Territory covers 202 hectares and is divided into seven districts :

- \* Monaco Ville, the Historic Centre
- \* Fontvieille, reclaimed from the Sea in the 20th Century
- \* The Exotic Garden located on the Heights
- \* La Condamine around the Port
- \* Monte-Carlo around the Casino
- \* La Rousse to the Eastern Border
- \* Le Larvotto along the Sea

The population is nearly 38,400 residents, including 9,050 Monegasque citizens. Some one hundred and twenty-five different nationalities live in MONACO, but at least 28% of the population is French. French is the official language but, in this international destination, Italian and English are widely understood and spoken. MONACO is in the Eurozone. Catholicism is the State religion, freedom of working is guaranteed by the Constitution/ The Prince's Motto is 'DEO JUVANTE' (With God's help)

The name MONACO appears very early in Ancient times, but it is in 1297, with the arrival of the GRIMALDI Dynasty, that the Principality's history actually begins. Over seven hundred years later, Prince Albert II still pursues his illustrious ancestor's work. The Constitution of December 17, 1962 is the Fundamental Law of the Monegasque State whose sovereignty and independence are recognised by all international authorities.

The Head of this State defined as a Hereditary Constitutional Monarchy since 1962 is the Sovereign Prince whose succession is by direct legitimate descent, by order of age, with priority going to male progeny with the same degree of kinship. For some questions, the Prince is assisted by the Consultative Constitutional Assemblies. With its Embassies and Consulates abroad and its membership in many international and intergovernmental organisations and institutions, MONACO enjoys a very high profile worldwide.

- Trade, Services, Tourism, Construction and Industry are the Principality's main areas of economic activity :

- \* Trade : The Turnover generated by the 741 retailers and 400 wholesalers represents nearly 49% of the Principality's Turnover.
- \* Services : Information, Telecoms, Transport, Maritime activities, Banking, Insurance, Health... The service sector is extremely varied and in constant progression.
- \* Industry : MONACO's non-polluting industry develops highly diverse activities : Chemistry, Cosmetology, Transformation of plastics, Cardboard,... Grouped in Fontvieille, over a hundred enterprises provide nearly 3,025 jobs.

- Spearheading the Monegasque Economy since 1866, Tourism takes three different forms : Leisure Tourism, Business Tourism and Cruises and Luxury Yachting, in strong progression :

- \* Leisure Tourism : A destination for well-being par excellence, MONACO has Prestige Hotels and exceptional Venues entirely dedicated to body care. The Principality's tourist assets also include many Museums, Cultural and Athletic Events, Trade Fairs, Exhibitions...

\* Business Tourism : Many structures, both public and private, have made the Principality a first-rate Convention destination.

Source : Monaco Tourist & Convention Authority

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