

An Introduction to China

(People's Republic of China)



China is the world's fourth largest country (after Russia, Canada, and US)

Area: 9.6m square km (slightly smaller than the US)

Coastline: 14,500 km

Climate: extremely diverse, ranging from tropical in the south to subarctic in the north

Terrain: mostly mountains, high plateaus, deserts in west; plains, deltas, and hills in east

Highest point: Mount Everest 8,850 m (world's tallest mountain)

Natural hazards: frequent typhoons (about five per year along southern and eastern coasts), floods, earthquakes

Population: 1,321,851,888 (July 2007)

Language: The official language is Mandarin

Government: Communist

Capital: Beijing



Chinese flag