



20 Facts about Africa

1. At 30,065,000 Sq. Km, Africa is the world's second largest continent (the largest is Asia at 44,579,000 sq. km)
2. With a total population of about 1,072 million, Africa is the world's second most populated continent (the most populated continent is Asia with about 4,216 million people)
3. Lake Victoria (in Africa) is the second largest freshwater lake in the world, stretched out on the territory of 69,490 square kilometers.
4. Central eastern Africa is believed by most scientists to be the origin place of humans. The earliest remains of the modern human species *Homo sapiens* have been found at Omo in Ethiopia and date to roughly 200,000 years ago.
5. Europeans first arrived on the north coast of Africa, about 332 BC, when Alexander the Great came to Egypt and founded the city of Alexandria.
6. In Latin, the word *Africa* means "sunny,"
7. Africa is home to the world's largest living land animal, the African elephant, which can weigh between 6 and 7 tons.
8. Africa contains the world's largest desert, the Sahara, which makes up an area greater in size than the entire continental United States.
9. The world's record high temperature of nearly 58°C was recorded in Aziziyah, Libya in the Sahara Desert in the year 1922.
10. The Nile River, which drains into the Mediterranean Sea at the northeastern edge of Africa, is the longest river in the world with a total length of 6,650 kilometers.
11. Fewer people have Internet access in the entire continent of Africa, than in New York City.
12. Egypt is the most popular tourist destination in Africa. In 2007, Egypt attracted around 10 million visitors. The Pyramids have been a prime tourist attraction for the past 2,000 years.
13. The first Great Pyramid of Giza, the most extraordinary building in history, was as tall as a 40-storey building. It was made of 2.3 million blocks of limestone and granite.
14. There are 223 pyramids in Sudan, more pyramids than any other country on earth and roughly twice as many as Egypt.



15. Mt. Kilimanjaro is the highest point in Africa. Located in Tanzania, this dormant volcano rises to an elevation of 5,895 meters (nearly 6 kilometers).
16. Mt. Kilimanjaro is the location of Africa's only glacier although scientists predict that the ice on the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro will disappear by the 2030s due to global warming.
17. Over 1,000 languages are spoken in Africa.
18. Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa with a population of up to 145 million people.
19. The second most populous country is Egypt, home to more than 76 million people.
20. Four of the five fastest species of animals live in Africa: Cheetah, wildebeest, lion and antelope. All of them can run at speeds of over 80 km / h and the cheetah can reach speeds up to 112 km / h.