

1: The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Ellis Island by Barry Moreno

"Encyclopedia of Islands is an excellent reference guide. I wish I'd had it onboard my vessel, the Sorcerer II, during our circumnavigation."—J. Craig Venter, President, J. Craig Venter Institute, and former Founder and Chair, The Institute for Genomic Research.

Easter Island, the easternmost island in Polynesia, was so named by Jacob Roggeveen who came upon it on Easter Sunday in 1722. Easter Islanders evidently never had a name of their own for the island. The origin of Rapa Nui is unclear but the name was evidently given by people from another island, perhaps Rapa. In 1888 Easter Island experienced a severe depopulation that led to the destruction of much of its traditional culture. Subsequent contact with Chile, which took possession of Easter Island in 1888, has produced a culture containing many elements borrowed from South America. Easter Island is currently a dependency of Chile. It is a triangular-shape volcanic high island with a total area of 163.6 square kilometers. The most prominent physical features are the three volcanic peaks, each located at one corner of the island. The land is either barren rock or covered by grass or shrubs, although parts were heavily forested in the past. Only flocks of sea birds and the Polynesian rat were indigenous to the island, with chickens, dogs, pigs, sheep, and cattle introduced by people from other islands or Europeans. The climate is tropical. Water was obtained from springs and by collecting rainwater. Population estimates by European explorers in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries ranged from 150 to 3,000, although none can be considered reliable. There are indications that the precontact population could have been as much as 10,000 people. From 1770 to 1800 severe depopulation resulted from the kidnapping of about 1,000 men by Peruvian slavers, a smallpox epidemic, and relocation to Mangareva and Tahiti. In 1808 reliable missionary reports indicated only 150 people on Easter Island. The population continued to decline until the late 1800s and then slowly increased to 1,500 in 1900. Easter Islanders make up about two-thirds of the island population, with the others being mainly Chilean military personnel or government employees. Easter Islanders speak Rapa Nui Pascuense, a Polynesian language that has been described as closely related to the languages spoken on Tahiti, Mangareva, and by the Maori in New Zealand. Since contact, words from French, English, and Spanish have been added to the lexicon. Because of the Chilean presence, many Easter Islanders also speak Spanish. There is debate over whether symbols found carved in wood boards called rongorongo are a precontact written language, pictographs, symbolic ornamentation, or copies of Spanish documents left by early explorers.

History and Cultural Relations The settlement of Easter Island has been a topic of considerable conjecture and debate. Wherever the first Easter Islanders migrated from, it is likely that, given the remote location of the island, they were relatively isolated from other Polynesians. First contact with Europeans was with the Dutch explorer Jacob Roggeveen in 1722. There is some evidence that because of deforestation and wars between subtribes, the population was already declining and the culture disintegrating at this time. The island was subsequently visited, usually infrequently and briefly, by a succession of Spanish, English, French, American, and Russian explorers, traders, and whalers. The first major and the most significant contact occurred in 1770 when Peruvian slavers raided the island and kidnapped about 1,000 men to the guano islands off the Peruvian coast. There the Easter Islanders were forced to mine guano for one year during which time 1,000 died. Facing an international scandal, the Peruvian government sent the remaining men home, although only 15 survived the trip. Infected with smallpox, they spread the disease to those on the island, further reducing the population to perhaps 25 percent of what it had been in 1770. The depopulation, disease, fear of outsiders, and death of many leaders led to cultural disintegration and a loss of much of the traditional culture within a decade. Catholic missionaries arrived in 1808, beginning a small though continuous European presence to this day. Within ten years, all surviving Easter Islanders were converted to Roman Catholicism, with many of the economic and social practices taught by the priests replacing traditional culture practices. In 1888 Chile annexed the island and subsequently leased 163.6 square kilometers to the Williamson and Balfour Company, which established sheep ranching for wool. The remaining 20 square kilometers were set aside for use by the Easter Islanders. In 1966 governance of the island and the sheep-ranching business was turned over to the Chilean navy, and in 1978, in response to islander complaints, the island was put under civilian control. Settlements Since the Easter

Islanders have lived in or around the village of Hangoroa in the southwest corner of the island. European-style stone and wood houses have completely replaced the traditional forms. Before , villages were located along the coast, leaving the interior mostly uninhabited. Dwellings included thatched huts, semisubterranean houses, and caves. Wealthier Easter Islanders evidently lived in larger houses, often with stone foundations. In addition to dwellings, villages often contained cooking shelters, underground ovens, stone chicken coops, turtle watchtowers, and stone-walled gardens. Economy Subsistence and Commercial Activities. Prior to , Easter Islanders subsisted mainly on cultivated crops, with sweet potatoes being the most important. Taro, yams, sugarcane, bananas, gourds, turmeric, and arrowroot were also grown while berries and seabird eggs were gathered. Fish provided some protein, although fishing was never a major Subsistence activity. Easter Islanders continue to farm small plots today, although maize is now the major crop and Chilean cuisine has replaced the native diet. Since the introduction of sheep ranching, sheep and cattle on the island have been the primary sources of meat. Most material goods are now obtained from the store on the island and from the Chilean government. In addition to farming and fishing, Easter Islanders now work for the government, in a few small businesses, and in the tourist industry. Easter Islanders were highly skilled stone-cutters and stone-carvers, masons, woodcutters, and canoe makers. Today, some carve wood images for the tourist trade. The stone-carving tradition had already been abandoned at the time of contact, though the large stone statues survived and drew the attention of visitors to the island. Easter Islanders also made various utensils, implements, and tools from stone and wood, baskets, nets, mats, cordage, tapa a cloth made from bark , and body ornaments. Because of their isolation, Easter Islanders evidently did not trade with other groups in Polynesia. There has been conjecture that some culture elements developed through contact with South America , most notably the facial images on the stone monuments. These ideas remain unproven. Men were responsible for planting the gardens, fishing, and building the stone structures. Women harvested crops and handled most domestic chores. There was also a well-defined occupational hierarchy, with expert reciters of genealogies and folklore, stone-carvers, wood-carvers, and fishermen paid for their services with produce. Stone-carvers were a privileged group with the role and status passed from father to son. In traditional times, land was owned by lineages with dwelling and farm plots allotted to families. Since Chile has maintained ownership of all of Easter Island and has restricted the Easter Islanders to land in and around Hangoroa. Newlyweds are given a few acres of land for their use by the Chilean government. Kinship Kin Groups and Descent. The population of Easter Island was divided into ten subtribes or clans mata , each of which evidently occupied a distinct territory in precontact times. By historic times, subtribe members were more widely dispersed as a result of exogamous marriage, adoption, and capture during war. The ten clans formed two larger divisions, with one controlling the western half and the other the eastern half of the island. Traditional kin term usage followed the Hawaiian system, which has been modified over time to reflect changes in family organization. Marriage and Family Marriage. In traditional times, most marriages were monogamous, though some wealthy men had more than one wife. Marriages were generally arranged, with infant betrothal not uncommon. Today, marriage is by free choice, although the fathers of both the groom and bride are involved in approving and making arrangements for the marriage. Upon marriage, the couple generally live with one family or the other until materials can be obtained to build their own home. In the past, many marriages ended in divorce, which could be initiated by either party for virtually any reason. The Roman Catholic church has made divorce more difficult and less frequent. In the past, the basic family and residential unit was the laterally extended family composed of brothers, their wives, and their children. Today, the nuclear family is the norm, although other relatives such as grandparents and brothers might also be present. Under Chilean influence, the role of godparent compadre has developed, and godparents often play a role in child rearing. In the past and today, both men and women could inherit and both men and women could leave property. Puberty in traditional times was marked for boys and girls by secluding them on an island for some months and then holding large separate feasts at the end of the seclusion period. These rites disappeared long ago, and puberty is no longer marked by ritual. The Chilean government provides a school for elementary education and some Easter Islanders attend high school in Chile. Social and Political Organization Social Organization. In addition to social distinctions based on kinship, Easter Island traditionally had four distinct

social classes: The ruler was the main high chief ariki-mau who traced his status to descent from Hotu-matua, the founder of the island. In reality, ariki were invested with considerable mana and were subject to numerous taboos, although they had little actual power. Little is known about the activities of priests, as the role had disappeared by the time missionaries arrived. Kio were war captives who worked for others or paid tribute in the form of percentage of their crops. As noted above, the nominal rulers came from the ariki class, with succession to the position of high chief going to the oldest son at the time of his marriage. However, since this marriage was often delayed many years beyond that of most Easter Islanders, chiefs often held their position for some years. At the time of sustained Contact, warriors were the actual political leaders, reflecting a long history of fighting among the subtribes and the almost continuous fighting that followed the kidnapping of men in Today, the Easter Islanders are governed by Chile, with a Chilean governor, civil service, and police force providing services. Easter Islander representation is through the mayor of Hangoroa. Most early observers described theft as a common occurrence, with items stolen both from Europeans and from other Easter Islanders. Revenge was the major form of social control actually it often led to warfare rather than peace in early historic times. Taboos on the king, nobles, various foods, places, crops, death, and so on were a major aspect of everyday life and were rigorously enforced. Taboo violators were subject to beatings and even death.

2: Island - Simple English Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

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Recent archaeological excavations have revealed the ruins of a cabin in Hafnir on the Reykjanes peninsula. Carbon dating indicates that it was abandoned sometime between 800 and 1000. Lack of arable land also served as an impetus to the settlement of Greenland starting in 985. Possession of Iceland passed from the Kingdom of Norway to the Kalmar Union in 1264, when the kingdoms of Norway, Denmark and Sweden were united. After the break-up of the union in 1380, it remained a Norwegian dependency, as a part of Denmark–Norway. In the ensuing centuries, Iceland became one of the poorest countries in Europe. Infertile soil, volcanic eruptions, deforestation and an unforgiving climate made for harsh life in a society where subsistence depended almost entirely on agriculture. The Black Death swept Iceland twice, first in 1300 and again in 1402. The country subsequently became officially Lutheran and Lutheranism has since remained the dominant religion. A map of Iceland published in the early 17th century. In the 17th and 18th centuries, Denmark imposed harsh trade restrictions on Iceland. Natural disasters, including volcanic eruption and disease, contributed to a decreasing population. Around a quarter of the population starved to death in the ensuing famine. Independence movement[edit] See also: About 15,000 people emigrated, out of a total population of 70,000. In 1918, Denmark granted Iceland a constitution and limited home rule. This was expanded in 1944, and Hannes Hafstein served as the first Minister for Iceland in the Danish cabinet. The Government of Iceland established an embassy in Copenhagen and requested that Denmark carry out on its behalf certain defence and foreign affairs matters, subject to consultation with the Althing. Danish embassies around the world displayed two coats of arms and two flags: After the German occupation of Denmark on 9 April 1940, the Althing replaced the King with a regent and declared that the Icelandic government would take control of its own defence and foreign affairs. A month later, British armed forces invaded and occupied the country, violating Icelandic neutrality. In 1941, the Government of Iceland invited the United States to take over its defence so that Britain could use its troops elsewhere. Republic of Iceland[edit] British and Icelandic vessels collide in the Atlantic Ocean during the Cod Wars Icelandic vessel is shown on the left; the British vessel is on the right See also: Beginning on 20 May 1944, Icelanders voted in a four-day plebiscite on whether to terminate the personal union with Denmark, abolish the monarchy, and establish a republic. On 5 May 1944, a defence agreement was signed with the United States. The US withdrew the last of its forces on 30 September 1944. Iceland prospered during the Second World War. A few years later, Iceland became the first country to recognise the independence of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania as they broke away from the USSR. Throughout the 1950s, the country expanded its international role and developed a foreign policy oriented toward humanitarian and peacekeeping causes.

3: Easter Island | www.enganchecubano.com

"Scientific research on islands has greatly expanded our knowledge not only of insular biology, but also of the ecological and evolutionary processes that shape biodiversity throughout the world. This beautifully illustrated volume is a comprehensive compendium of all topics related to islands and the science conducted on them.

Dutch eiland "island" , German Eiland "small island". However, the spelling of the word was modified in the 15th century because of a false etymology caused by an incorrect association with the etymologically unrelated Old French loanword isle, which itself comes from the Latin word insula. Oceanic crust is also part of tectonic plates, but it is denser than continental lithosphere, so it floats low on the mantle. Islands are either extensions of the oceanic crust e. This holds true for Australia , which sits on its own continental lithosphere and tectonic plate. Types of islands[edit] Continental islands are bodies of land that lie on the continental shelf of a continent. A special type of continental island is the microcontinental island, which is created when a continent is rifted. Another subtype is an island or bar formed by deposition of tiny rocks where water current loses some of its carrying capacity. While some are transitory and may disappear if the volume or speed of the current changes, others are stable and long-lived. Islets are very small islands. High island Oceanic islands are islands that do not sit on continental shelves. One type of volcanic oceanic island is found in a volcanic island arc. These islands arise from volcanoes where the subduction of one plate under another is occurring. Another type of volcanic oceanic island occurs where an oceanic rift reaches the surface. There are two examples: Both are in the Atlantic. A third type of volcanic oceanic island is formed over volcanic hotspots. A hotspot is more or less stationary relative to the moving tectonic plate above it, so a chain of islands results as the plate drifts. Over long periods of time, this type of island is eventually "drowned" by isostatic adjustment and eroded, becoming a seamount. Plate movement across a hot-spot produces a line of islands oriented in the direction of the plate movement. An example is the Hawaiian Islands , from Hawaii to Kure , which continue beneath the sea surface in a more northerly direction as the Emperor Seamounts. Another chain with similar orientation is the Tuamotu Archipelago ; its older, northerly trend is the Line Islands. The southernmost chain is the Austral Islands , with its northerly trending part the atolls in the nation of Tuvalu. Tristan da Cunha is an example of a hotspot volcano in the Atlantic Ocean. Another hotspot in the Atlantic is the island of Surtsey , which was formed in An atoll is an island formed from a coral reef that has grown on an eroded and submerged volcanic island. The reef rises to the surface of the water and forms a new island. Atolls are typically ring-shaped with a central lagoon.

4: Roanoke Island - North Carolina History Project

Adaptive radiation is one of the most important outcomes of the process of evolution, and islands are places where it is best observed. The term itself was first used by H. F. Osborn in describing parallel adaptations and convergence of species groups on different land masses.

See Article History Alternative Titles: It consists of some of the easternmost islands of Micronesia. The Marshalls are composed of more than 1, island s and islets in two parallel chains of coral atoll s—the Ratak, or Sunrise, to the east and the Ralik, or Sunset, to the west. The chains lie about miles km apart and extend some miles northwest to southeast. Government offices are located in the town of Delap-Uliga-Djarrit, named for three islands that were once separated but were later joined by landfill. Land None of the 29 low-lying coral atolls and the five coral islands in the Marshall group rises to more than 20 feet six metres above high tide. The islands are coral caps set on the rims of submerged volcanoes rising from the ocean floor. The island units of the Marshalls are scattered over about , square miles of the Pacific. The largest atoll in the group and in the world is Kwajalein , which has a land area of only six square miles but surrounds a square-mile lagoon. Map of the Pacific Islands. Annual precipitation varies from 20 to 30 inches to mm in the north to inches in the southern atolls. The wettest months are October and November. Several of the northern atolls are uninhabited owing to insufficient rainfall. Most of the Marshall Islands are true atolls, consisting of an irregular, oval-shaped coral reef surrounding a lagoon; the islets lie along the coral reef. The islands and islets of the Ratak chain tend to be more heavily wooded than those of the Ralik. Coconut and pandanus palms and breadfruit trees are the principal vegetation. Soils are generally sandy and low in fertility. People The native people of the Marshalls, the Marshallese, are Micronesians. The most populous atolls are Majuro and Kwajalein, which offers employment at the U. The rest of the population lives in traditional villages on the outer islands away from the two urban centres. Ethnic composition Marshall Islands: American missionaries arrived in the Marshalls in the s, introducing Christianity to the population. Today the Marshallese are predominantly Christian. The Marshallese and English languages are spoken, but only a minority are fluent in the latter. Employment and modern amenities at both Majuro and Kwajalein serve as magnets that draw people to the two urban centres. On the outer islands, subsistence farming , fishing , and the raising of pigs and poultry are the principal economic activities. Coconut, pandanus, breadfruit, and taro are the major food crops. The production of copra is the chief source of income for the outer islands. The principal import is processed foods. Other major imports include machinery and transport equipment, manufactured goods, and fuels, primarily from the United States, Japan, and Australia. Transportation among the atolls and islands is by boat or air. Government-owned ships make scheduled trips among the islands. Several commercial cargo lines also serve the islands. Majuro has a commercial dock complex, and many of the atolls have good anchorage within their lagoons. Majuro and Kwajalein have international airports, and domestic and regional flights link some of the other atolls and islands. Government and society Under the constitution adopted in , the government consists of a president elected by a unicameral, member parliament known as the Nitijela. The Council of Iroij Chiefs has mainly a consultative function, concerned with traditional laws and customs. Hospitals on Majuro and Ebeye part of Kwajalein Atoll and dispensaries on other islands provide health care. There are primary schools, both public and church-run, on the inhabited islands and islets. Majuro and Jaluit atolls each have a public secondary school. Majuro is also the site of the College of the Marshall Islands , which grants certificates and associate degrees in a variety of programs. History The Marshall Islands were settled initially around the beginning of the Christian era by Micronesians who may have been influenced by early Polynesian Lapita culture. Radiocarbon dates from earth-oven charcoal samples that were excavated in Laura village on Majuro yielded dates of about 30 bce and 50 ce. The early Marshall Islanders were skilled navigators and made long canoe voyages among the atolls. The British naval captains John Marshall and Thomas Gilbert partially explored the Marshalls in , but much of the mapping was done by Russian expeditions under Adam Johann Krusenstern and Otto von Kotzebue and Germany established a coaling station on Jaluit Atoll by treaty with island chiefs and in , by agreement with Great Britain, established a protectorate over the

Marshalls. Japan seized the islands in and later after administered them as a League of Nations mandate. After their populations were removed to other atolls, Bikini and Enewetak served as an official testing ground for U. The tests stopped in and cleanup efforts began in the late s. During the trial resettlement of the Bikinians, however, their atoll was found to be too contaminated for permanent habitation, and by the late s the people had to be evacuated once again. The Enewetak people were returned to their homeland, and a program to monitor Bikini was put in place. It formed the republic and brought internal self-government. This agreement, approved by the voters in , requires that the United States remain responsible for defense and external security and that it provide financial assistance for the republic. The compact entitles the United States to use the missile testing range on Kwajalein Atoll , and provides for the republic to become fully independent and to alter its status with the United States at any time, subject to approval of the residents through plebiscites. The United States agreed to set up a separate fund for the people of the four atolls and established an open-ended fund to cover personal injury claims among the islanders; it also agreed to set up a joint U. A further agreement set up a fund to improve living conditions on Ebeye island, where all Micronesians working on the Kwajalein missile range and base resided.

5: Encyclopedia of Ellis Island (, Hardcover) | eBay

The Encyclopedia of Islands examines many such insular settings - oceanic and continental islands as well as places such as caves, mountaintops, and whale falls at the bottom of the ocean.

See Article History Island, any area of land smaller than a continent and entirely surrounded by water. Islands may occur in oceans, seas, lakes, or rivers. A group of islands is called an archipelago. Islands may be classified as either continental or oceanic. Oceanic islands are those that rise to the surface from the floors of the ocean basins. Continental islands are simply unsubmerged parts of the continental shelf that are entirely surrounded by water. Many of the larger islands of the world are of the continental type. Greenland, 2,175,600 square miles (5,660,000 square km), the largest island, is composed of the same materials as the adjacent North American continent, from which it is separated by a shallow and narrow sea. A slight warping of the sea bottom in the vicinity of Torres Strait would be sufficient to join New Guinea to Australia; conversely, a slight rise in sea level may submerge a hilly coast and leave the hilltops remaining as small islands just offshore such as those off the coast near Boston and the islands off the Maine coast. The islands that rise from the floors of the ocean basins are volcanic. Lava accumulates to enormous thickness until it finally protrudes above the ocean surface. The piles of lava that form Hawaii rise as high as 32, feet 9, metres above the ocean floor. Displayed by permission of The Regents of the University of California. Island life exhibits features of special interest. The sea is a barrier to some forms of life but acts as a carrier of others, which, once established in their new home, frequently develop new features in their isolated surroundings. A long-established sea barrier results in marked differences between the animal life and vegetation even of adjacent islands, and from these differences may be deduced the origin of an island. Further, any detailed map of the biological regions of the globe illustrates the importance of islands in the determination of the boundaries of animal-life and vegetational types. Oceanic islands are usually colonized by only a few animal forms, chiefly seabirds and insects. They are often covered with abundant vegetation, the seeds of which have been carried there, for example, by air and water currents or by birds; but the plant variety is relatively limited. Largest islands of the world name.

6: Home Page - Solomon Islands Historical Encyclopaedia

"Islands have captured the imagination of scientists and the public for centuries - unique and rare environments, their isolation makes them natural laboratories for ecology and evolution.

7: Marshall Islands | Map, Flag, History, & Facts | www.enganchecubano.com

Easter Island is located at 27° 8' S and 109° 25' W, about 4, kilometers off the coast of Chile and 1, kilometers east of Pitcairn Island, the nearest inhabited island. It is a triangular-shape volcanic high island with a total area of square kilometers.

8: Solomon Islands

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9: Island | geography | www.enganchecubano.com

The Solomon Islands Historical Encyclopaedia, contains more than entries on places, historical events, institutions, concepts and individuals. This is the first digital Encyclopaedia for any Pacific Island nation and enables access to the colonial years of the Solomon Islands.

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