

## Angola

<b>Country name</b>	Angola
<b>State title</b>	Republic of Angola
<b>Name of citizen</b>	Angolan
<b>Official language</b>	Portuguese ( <i>por</i> ) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Country name in official language</b>	Angola
<b>State title in official language</b>	República de Angola
<b>Script</b>	Roman script
<b>Romanization System</b>	Not required
<b>ISO-3166 code (alpha-2/alpha-3)</b>	AO/AGO
<b>Capital</b>	Luanda
<b>Area / Population</b>	1.25million km <sup>2</sup> / 35,981,281 (2023 est.) <sup>2</sup>

### Introduction

Angola lies on the Atlantic Ocean sharing land boundaries with Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Namibia and Zambia. It gained independence from Portugal in 1975.

Angola includes the exclave Cabinda, which is separated from the rest of the country by the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Some secessionist insurgency and tension continue within the exclave.

### Geographical names policy

For HMG use, geographical names should be taken from official sources, such as those produced by the national mapping agency in Angola, the [Instituto Geodesia e Cartografia de Angola](#), which will be written in Roman script in a Portuguese style. All diacritical marks, apostrophes and hyphens should be retained.

The US Board on Geographic Names (BGN) [Geographic Names Server](#) can also be used as a source for names in Angola. Additionally, the [Africa Geoportal](#) may be used as a helpful source of geospatial data and names<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> ISO 639 codes are given for languages mentioned in this Factfile.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/angola/>

<sup>3</sup> This is a source collated from multiple sources, including Esri, organisations working in Africa and crowdsourced information. It should be used as a supplementary source.

**Languages**

Portuguese is the only official language, and is spoken as a mother tongue by over 70% of the population. Additionally there are 10 significant (spoken by at least 1% of the population according to the [2014 census](#)) indigenous languages, four of which have over 5 million speakers: Umbundu (*umb*, spoken by over 23% of the population), Kikongo (*kon*), Kimbundu (*kmb*), Chokwe (*cjk*).

**Inventory of Characters (and their Unicode encodings)<sup>4</sup>**

**Portuguese** contains the following letter-diacritic combinations in addition to the unmodified letters of the basic Roman script:

Upper-case character	Unicode encoding	Lower-case character	Unicode encoding
À	00C0	à	00E0
Á	00C1	á	00E1
Â	00C2	â	00E2
Ã	00C3	ã	00E3
Ç	00C7	ç	00E7
É	00C9	é	00E9
Ê	00CA	ê	00EA
Í	00CD	í	00ED
Ó	00D3	ó	00F3
Ô	00D4	ô	00F4
Õ	00D5	õ	00F5
Ú	00DA	ú	00FA

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<sup>4</sup> See [www.unicode.org](http://www.unicode.org)

*Map of Angola*

Map produced by PCGN for illustrative purposes only, and is not to be taken necessarily as representing the views of the UK government on boundaries or political status.

## Administrative structure

Angola is divided into 18 provinces at the first-order administrative level<sup>5</sup>.

Administrative division	ISO 3166-2 code	Administrative centre	Location of administrative centre
Bengo	AO-BGO	Caxito	8°34'48"S 13°39'51"E
Benguela	AO-BGU	Benguela	12°34'42"S 13°24'26"E
Bié	AO-BIE	Cuito	12°23'00"S 16°56'00"E
Cabinda	AO-CAB	Cabinda	5°33'00"S 12°12'00"E
Cuando Cubango	AO-CCU	Menongue	14°39'42"S 17°41'18"E
Cunene	AO-CNN	Ondjiva	17°04'00"S 15°44'00"E
Cuanza-Norte	AO-CNO	Ndalatando	9°18'01"S 14°54'41"E
Cuanza-Sul	AO-CUS	Sumbe	11°12'22"S 13°50'37"E
Huambo	AO-HUA	Huambo	12°46'34"S 15°44'21"E
Huíla	AO-HUI	Lubango	14°55'00"S 13°30'00"E
Lunda-Norte	AO-LNO	Dundo	7°22'52"S 20°50'02"E
Lunda-Sul	AO-LSU	Saurimo	9°39'39"S 20°23'30"E
Luanda	AO-LUA	Luanda	8°50'18"S 13°14'04"E
Malanje	AO-MAL	Malanje	9°32'41"S 16°20'43"E
Moxico	AO-MOX	Luena	11°47'00"S 19°55'00"E
Namibe	AO-NAM	Moçâmedes	15°11'46"S 12°09'08"E
Uíge	AO-UIG	Uíge	7°36'48"S 15°03'24"E
Zaire	AO-ZAI	Mbanza Kongo	6°16'00"S 14°14'18"E

## Other Significant Locations

PCGN Recommended Name	Variant Names/Spellings	Location	Feature Type
Morro do Moco	Mount Moco	12°28'00"S 15°10'00"E	Mountain [2620m]
Okavango River	Rio Cubango (Angola)	18°59'17"S 22°34'34"E	River (Angola, Namibia, Botswana)
Zambezi River	Rio Zambeze (Angola)	11°22'11"S 24°18'30"E	River (Zambia, Angola, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique)

<sup>5</sup> The spellings of some names can be a little inconsistent, particularly the use of 'c' versus 'k' in several of the ADM1 and centre names.

## Useful references

- Angola's Instituto Geodesia e Cartografia de Angola: <https://www.igca.gov.ao/home>
- BBC Country Profile: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-13036732>
- CIA World Factbook: <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/angola/>
- Ethnologue: [www.ethnologue.com](http://www.ethnologue.com) (for information on languages)
- FCDO Geographical Names Index (GNI):  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/geographical-names-and-information>
- FCDO Travel Advice: <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/angola>
- ISO Online Browsing Platform (OBP) : <https://www.iso.org/obp/ui#home>
- Omniglot: [www.omniglot.com](http://www.omniglot.com) (for information on languages and scripts)
- PCGN Country Names list: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/country-names>
- Unicode: [www.unicode.org](http://www.unicode.org)
- US Board on Geographic Names GEOnet Names Server: [GNS Search & Download WebApp \(nga.mil\)](https://geonames.nga.mil/names/)

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