

POST: Abidjan

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COUNTRY: Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)

Côte d'Ivoire was a French protectorate from 1842 until 1960 when it became independent. In 1985, Côte d'Ivoire officially changed its name from "Ivory Coast". The country is among the most prosperous tropical African nations. Prosperity is attributed to the diversification of agriculture for export, close ties with France, political stability and encouragement of foreign investment and foreign workers. Approximately 20% of the population are workers from neighbouring countries. Europeans and Lebanese are important to the import and distribution trades.

Côte d'Ivoire is located on the south coast of West Africa and borders Liberia and Guinea on the west, Mali and Burkina Faso on the north, and Ghana on the east.