

The Republic of Belarus is situated in Eastern Europe. The population comprises 9 498 700 (as of the beginning of 2016) people, the territory is 207 600 square kilometers. The country is ranked the 93th in the world for the population and the 84th in the world for the territory.

In the north and in the east the country shares borders with Russia, in the south – with Ukraine, in the west – with Poland and in the north – with Lithuania and Latvia. The territory comprises 207 600 square kilometers. Belarus is divided into 6 territorial units – regions with its administrative centres. Minsk city is the capital of the country. The country has no seaboard, but due to its geographical position represents a significant trade and transfer corridor between Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.



The Belarusians comprise more than 80% of the population. The representatives of other nationalities (even several generations) also live in Belarus, which results from the historical past of the country.

The official languages are Belarusian and Russian.

Belarusian climate is moderately continental. The average temperature varies in regions. In July it varies from +17°C in the north to +18,5°C in the south. In January the average temperature varies from -4,5°C in the south-west to -8°C in the north-east. The average amount of precipitation is about 600-700 mm annually. Maximum snow-cover height varies from 15 to 30 centimeters.



Belarusian nature is unique. Many rare plants and animal species can be encountered here. Large nature reserve areas and national parks were created.



Due to its rich history and authentic architecture Belarus attracts tourists throughout the year. Regardless numerous wars and distractions which occurred throughout the history of our country, many architectural units were preserved. The construction of the most ancient Belarusian buildings is traced back to the Middle Ages.



The formation of Belarusian architecture was influenced by various art and religious directions. There are samples of such architectural styles as Romanesque, Gothic, Baroque, Classicism, Art Nouveau, Eclecticism.

Suitable geographic position and unique nature make Belarus a real dream for recreationists. Even the most sophisticated and experienced traveller can find places of interest in our country.

Belarusian culture was formed within centuries. The authentic architectural and artistic schools, unique pieces of music and literature were created here.

Belarusian fine art comprises many styles, directions and genres. The most outstanding samples of painting and sculpture are presented in national art museums.

Belarusian education is of a high value all over the world, that`s why a great number of foreign students study here.

Our country has rich and long-lasting craft traditions, some of them are still relevant today. Such arts as weaving, wood processing, pottery, straw weaving deserves particular attention.



Folklore dancing and folklore theatre are rather popular.

National Belarusian cuisine has been developed within centuries. It is remarkable for the simplicity of national recipes and aristocratic sophistication, diversity of ingredients, unusual ways of preparation. Some ancient recipes which have been preserved till nowadays are of great



interest of visitors.

The Belarusians are very frank and hospitable. Their patience and peacefulness is largely predetermined by numerous wars. None of these wars was unleashed by our country. The visitors which are interested in culture and traditions always welcome in Belarus.

