

Part of the "History of National Flags" Series from Flagmakers

Flag of Dominica - A Brief History





Trivia

Playwright Alwin Bully designed the original flag of Dominica.

Technical Specification					
Adopted:	3 rd November 1990 (Originally 1978)				
Proportion:	1:2				
Design:	A plain green field with crossing yellow-blue-white stripes with a red disk in the centre featuring a Sisserou parrot surrounded by then green stars.				

С	Colours:	PMS	Green: 347C	Red: 185C	Yellow: 116C	Purple: 254C	

Brief History

Between 1715 and 1763 Dominica was a French Colony. While no specific flag is mentioned the French bluewhite-red vertical tricolour flag is said to have been flown.

By 1763 Dominica was under British control and a typical British Blue Ensign with coat of arms was adopted. An example of the 1965 British Blue Ensign is below.







In 1988 the Sisserou parrot was changed to face left and in 1990 the gold bordered stars were replaced with black bordered dark green stars.

Each element of the flags design carries a specific meaning. The green base represents the lush vegetation, the three bands represent soil, natives and water, the cross represents Christianity and the stars represents the countries parishes.



The Mamluk Sultanate reign lasted until they were defeated in the Ottoman-Mamluk war in 1517. With Egypt now part of the Ottoman Empire the flag was changed to a red field with a white crescent and five-pointed star in the centre. A similar flag to the Flag of Ottoman Egypt was flown in 1844 when Muhammad Ali, an Ottoman commander, made Egypt a self-declared Khedivate.

The Coat of Arms of Dominica

The Coat of Arms of Dominica was adopted in 1961. It features a shield split into four. The top left and bottom right parts are green with palm trees and the top right and bottom left are blue with a depiction of a boat on the sea. Two Sisserou parrots surround the shieled with a golden lion above and a banner stating "APRES BONDIE C'EST LA TER" below.



The Flag of the President of Dominica



The Flag of the President of Dominica features a plain green field with the Coat of Arms in the centre.

