

Flag of Mauritius - A Brief History



Where In The World



Trivia

Each colour of the flag of Mauritius has a specific meaning.

Technical Specification

Adopted:	12 th March 1968
Proportion:	2:3
Design:	A red, blue, yellow and green horizontal four striped flag.

Colours:	PMS	Red:	185c	Blue:	295c	Yellow:	116c	Green:	356c
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Brief History

In 1638 first flag that was flown in Mauritius was the red-white-blue horizontal tricolour flag of the Dutch East India Company. The area remained under Dutch control until 1710 when bad harvests and weather conditions made the Dutch pull out of the area.

It wasn't until five years late, in 1715, that the area was colonised by the French. The area was named 'Isle de France' and the Standard of the King of France was adopted as the official flag.



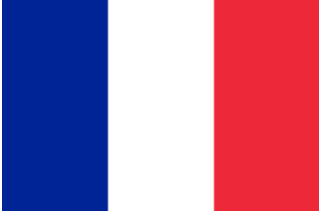
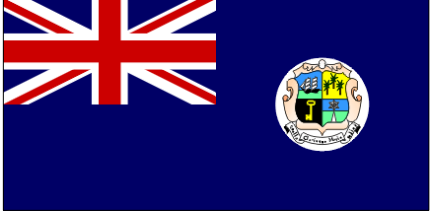

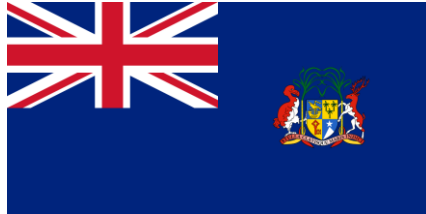

**The Flag of the Dutch East India Company
(1638 – 1710)**



**The Standard of the King of France
(1715 – 1792)**

In 1792 the flag was changed to the more traditional blue-white-red vertical French Tricolour.

When the British took control of the area in 1810 the name was changed to Mauritius. Being a British crown colony the flag was change to a traditional British blue ensign with the area's coat of arms at centre right. The coat of arms was a shield quartered with a ship, three palm trees, a key and a white star.

		
<p align="center">The Flag of France (1792 – 1810)</p>	<p align="center">The Flag of British Mauritius (1810 – 1906)</p>	
<p>In 1906 the British blue ensign was changed to feature the new coat of arms that added a dodo and deer supporting the shield. In 1923 the white circle was removed from the flag.</p>		
<p>When Mauritius became a republic in 1968 the flag was changed significantly. An unusual four banded horizontal flag was adopted. Each colour of the flag has a specific meaning to the country.</p>		
<p>The red band represents colonization and the blood of the slaves, the blue band is the ocean, the yellow band symbolises the sun and freedom, and the green band is the greenery and plants of the land.</p>		
		
<p align="center">The Flag of British Mauritius (1906 - 1923)</p>	<p align="center">The Flag of British Mauritius (1923 – 1968)</p>	<p align="center">The Flag of Mauritius (1968 to Present Day)</p>

The Coat of Arms of Mauritius

The Coat of Arms of Mauritius was adopted in 1906 and features a shield split into quarters. The top left hand quarter is a blue background with a golden ship, the top right hand quarter features a gold background with three palm trees, the lower left hand quarter features a gold background with red key and the bottom right hand quarter features a blue background with white star.

A dodo and deer with sugar cane holds up the shield and below is a banner with "THE STAR AND THE KEY OF THE INDIAN OCEAN" written in Latin.



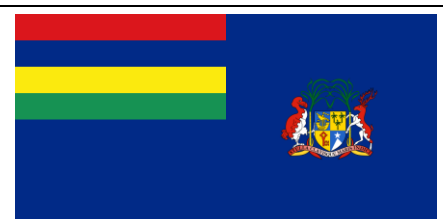
The Presidential Flag of Mauritius

The Presidential Flag of Mauritius is the national flag with the coat of arms in the centre on a white circle. Under the coat of arms is "RM" and golden laurel branches.



The Flag of the Government of Mauritius

The Flag of the Government of Mauritius features a blue ensign with the national flag in the top left hand corner and the coat of arms on the centre right side.



The Flag of the Mauritius Navy

The Flag of the Mauritius Navy is a white field with blue and red vertical stripes. At the centre of the flag are red anchor and golden five-pointed star.



The Civil Ensign of Mauritius

The Civil Ensign of Mauritius is a red ensign with the national flag in the top left hand corner and the coat of arms on a white disk in the centre right.



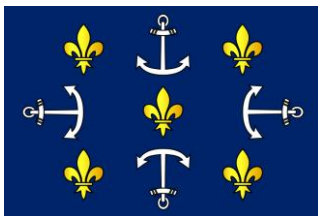
The Historical Flag of the Governor of Mauritius

The Governor of Mauritius under British control is the union flag defaced with the coat of arms of Mauritius.



The Flags of the Places of Mauritius

Some of the Cities and towns of Mauritius have specific flags and shields. Here are some examples of those flags and shields.



The Flag of City of Port Louis



The Coat of Arms of the City Port Louis



The Coat of Arms of the Town of Curepipe



The Flag of the Town of Quatre Bornes



The Coat of Arms of the Town of Quatre Bornes