

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

Flag of Nauru - A Brief History





Trivia

The design of the flag is similar to that of the flag of Curaçao.

Technical Specification	
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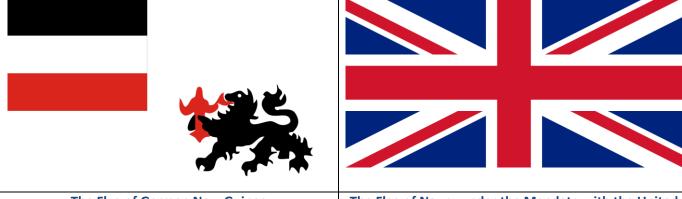
Adopted:	31st January 1968
Proportion:	1:2
Design:	A dark blue field with horizontal yellow stripe and a white 12-pointed star lower left.

Colours: PMS Blue: 280 Yellow: 123

Brief History

In 1886 Germany took control of Nauru and by 1888 was Governed by German New Guinea. The flag of German New Guinea was a white filed with German national flag top left and a black lion with red fleur-de-lis centre right.

After World War Two both Australia, Great Britain and New Zealand were chosen as co-trustees of Nauru under the Mandate of Nauru. The flag adopted at this point was the Union Flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Australia.



The Flag of German New Guinea (1888-1914)

The Flag of Nauru under the Mandate with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Australia (1919 – 1948)

The Japanese occupied Nauru between 26th August 1942 and 13th September 1945. The white field and red sun flag of the Japanese Empire was the de-facto flag. When the Japanese lost control of the area the country went back the co-trustees.



In 1947 The Trusteeship of Nauru was formed between the United Nations, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. The flag was the Australian Civil Ensign which is a red ensign with five seven-pointed stars in the shape of the Southern Cross on the right side and on the left a large seven-pointed star under the Union Flag of Great Britain.



The Flag of the Empire of Japan (1942 – 1943)

Nauru gained independence from the Trusteeship in 1968. The flag adopted is a dark blue field with horizontal yellow stripe and a white 12-pointed star lower left.

The gold stripe represents the equator with the blue at either side representing the Pacific Ocean and two boulders. The star is positioned to show how far the island is from the equator and the white of the star is phosphate with the twelve points is represents the twelve tribes of Nauru.



The Flag of Nauru during the Trusteeship with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Australia (1948 – 1968)



The Flag of Nauru (1968 to Present Day)

The Coat of Arms of Nauru

The Coat of Arms of Nauru was adopted in 1968.

It features a shield split into three. The top part is the symbol for Phosphorous over a yellow woven background. The lower left part is a black frigatebird on a white background and blue wavy lines. The lower right part is a calophyllum flow on a blue background. At either side are ropes and palm leaves, feathers and shark teeth.

Above is a 12-pointed star and ribbon stating "NAOERO" and below is a banner stating "GOD'S WILL FIRST".



The Flag of the Nauru Pacific Line



The Flag of the Nauru Pacific Line is a plain blue field with the 12-pointed star from the national flag in the centre behind a black anchor.

