

KEY FACTS

Official name: Serenissima Repubblica di San Marino (Most Serene Republic of San Marino)

Head of State: Two Capitani-Reggenti (Captains-Regent), elected for six month terms: Teodoro Lonfernini (PDCS) and Denise Bronzetti (PSD) (from 1 Oct 2012)

Head of government: Secretary of State for Foreign and Political Affairs, Antonella Mularoni (from 3 Dec 2008)

Ruling party: San Marino Bene Comune (San Marino Common Good) coalition of three parties led by (Noi Sammarinesi (NS) (We Sammarinese), with Partito dei Socialisti e dei Democratici (PSD) (Party of Socialists and Democrats) and Alleanza Popolare (AP) (Popular Alliance) (from 11 Nov 2012)

Area: 61 square km

Population: 31,738 (2011)

Capital: San Marino

Official language: Italian

Currency: Euro (€) = 100 cents

Exchange rate: €0.75 per US\$ (Jul 2013)

GDP per capita: US\$62,596 (2010)

GDP real growth: -3.98% (2012)*

GDP: US\$1.86 billion (2012)*

Unemployment: 6.60% (2012)*

Inflation: 2.83% (2012)*

* estimated figure

San Marino

COUNTRY PROFILE

Historical profile

San Marino is completely surrounded by Italy. It is the oldest surviving republic in the world, having been an independent republic since the year 301AD.

1600 The constitution was ratified.

1926 An additional electoral law was passed, which serves some of the functions of a constitution.

1988 San Marino joined the Council of Europe.

1990–92 A coalition of Partito Democratico Progressista (PDP) (Progressive Democratic Party) (ex-communists) and Partito Democratico Cristiano Sammarinese (PDCS) (San Marino Christian Democratic Party) took office.

1992 PDCS formed a coalition with the Partito Socialista Sammarinese (PSS) (San Marino Socialist Party). San Marino became a member of the UN.

1993 In the general election, the PDCS won 26 seats and the PSS 14 seats; the coalition continued.

1998 After general elections, the PDCS/PSS coalition continued.

2001 Differences within the PDCS/PSS coalition led to early parliamentary elections (originally scheduled for 2003), but resulted in a continuation of the coalition.

2002 San Marino, in line with Italy, replaced the lira with the euro currency.

2005 The Partito dei Socialisti e dei Democratici (PSD) (Party of Socialists and Democrats) was formed from the amalgamation of PSS and the Partito dei Democratici (PD) (Democratic Party).

2006 The PDCS won elections, but the PSD formed a coalition government with two other parties.

2008 In parliamentary elections the opposition, four-party centre-right Patto per San Marino (Pact for San Marino) coalition won 54.2 per cent of the vote (35 seats out of 60). Antonella Mularoni was appointed Secretary of State for Foreign and Political Affairs.

2009 Massimo Cenci (NPS) and Oscar Mina (PDCS) took office as captains-regent; six months later, Stefano Palmieri (AP) and Francesco Mussoni (PDCS) took over. An emergency census was conducted in response to the number of bogus residency claims filed by foreign residents in an effort to avoid paying tax in their own countries.

2010 Marco Conti (PDCS) and Glauco Sansovini (Alleanza Nazionale (AL) (National Alliance)) were elected as captains-regent. The Italian finance minister declared that San Marino was on Italy's blacklist for not agreeing to full transparency and to disclose details of bank deposits of Italian residents. San Marino's justice minister rejected the criticism saying that depositing money was not a crime and that rather than this being a matter of transparency it was one of San Marino's sovereignty.

2011 In April, Maria Luisa Berti (Noi Sammarinesi (NS) (We Sammarinese)) and Filippo Tamagnini (PDCS) took office as captains-regent; both are members of the Pact for San Marino ruling coalition.

On 1 October Gabriele Gatti (PDCS), Matteo Fiorini (Alleanza Popolare (AP) took office as captains-regent.

2012 On 1 April, Italo Righi (PDCS) and Maurizio Rattini (NPS) became the captains-regent. On 23 July, the Fitch Ratings agency downgraded San Marino's long-term rating from A to BBB+, due to the deterioration of the financial sector and a weaker than expected outlook for the economy. On 1 October, Teodoro Lonfernini (PDCS) and Denise Bronzetti (PSD) took office as captains-regent. Parliamentary elections were held on 11 November, won by the San Marino Bene Comune (San Marino Common Good) a centrist coalition of three parties led by NS (with PSD and AP) with 50.7 per cent (35 seats out of 60). On 21 November, the first parliamentary session took place. 2013 In October MEPs urged the European Commission to allow the three micro-states of Andorra, Monaco and San Marino to join the European Economic Area.

Political structure

Constitution

The constitution was ratified on 8 October 1600. An additional electoral law was passed in 1926, which serves some of the functions of a constitution.

The country is divided into nine *castelli* (municipalities), each governed by a Captain.

The executive

The Consiglio Grande e Generale (CGeG) (the Great and General Council) elects two members every six months to act as captains-regent, who functions

jointly as heads of state and, together with a 10-member Congress of State (cabinet), exercise executive power. The secretary of state for foreign affairs has come to assume many of the prerogatives of a prime minister.

The Congress of State is elected by the CGeG for a five-year term.

National legislature

Legislative power is vested in the unicameral Consiglio Grande e Generale (CGeG) (Great and General Council), with 60 members elected by universal adult suffrage for five-year terms. It has the responsibility of electing the 10-member congress of state.

Last elections

11 November 2012 (parliamentary)

Results: Parliamentary: San Marino Bene Comune (San Marino Common Good) coalition of three parties won 50.7 per cent of the vote (35 seats out of 60), Intesa per il Paese (Agreement for the Country) coalition of three parties, 22.3 per cent (12), Cittadinanza Attiva (Active Citizenship) coalition of two parties 16.1 per cent (nine), Movimento Civico (Rete) (Civic Movement) (Network) 6.3 per cent (four); two other political parties failed to win any seats.

Next elections

November 2016 (parliamentary)

Political parties

Ruling party

San Marino Bene Comune (San Marino Common Good) coalition of three parties led by (Noi Sammarinesi (NS) (We Sammarinese), with Partito dei Socialisti e dei Democratici (PSD) (Party of Socialists and Democrats) and Alleanza Popolare (AP) (Popular Alliance) (from 11 Nov 2012)

Main opposition party

Riforme e Libertà (Reforms and Freedom) coalition comprising Partito dei Socialisti e dei Democratici (PSD) (Party of Socialists and Democrats), Sinistra Unita (SU) (United Left) and Democratici di Centro (DdC) (Centre Democrats).

Political situation

An emergency census got underway in September 2009, in response to the number of bogus residency claims filed by foreign residents in an effort to avoid paying tax in their own countries.

In May 2010 the Italian finance minister declared that San Marino was on Italy's blacklist for not agreeing to full transparency and disclosing details of bank deposits of Italian residents. So it was somewhat obtuse that the San Marino justice minister to rejected the criticism saying that depositing money was not a crime and that rather than this being a matter of transparency it was one of San Marino's sovereignty.

Population

31,738 (2011)

Population

Last census: July 2000: 26,941

Population density: 433 inhabitants per sq km. Urban population 94 per cent (2010 Unicef).

Annual growth rate: 1.3 per cent, 1990–2010 (Unicef).

Ethnic make-up

The population includes Sammarinese and Italians.

Religions

Roman Catholic

Education

Schooling is free of charge and until aged 16. Primary schooling lasts until aged 11, then on to lower secondary education for three years, from ages 11 to 14, of general education, then the last two years of either technical or specialised academic study.

Higher secondary schools, from aged 16 to 19, provide two-year courses in preparation for higher education.

Higher education is provided by the Università degli Studi della Repubblica di San Marino, and its Istituto di Cibernetica.

Compulsory years: 6 to 15.

Health

The age of the population has risen, reflecting a general trend in Western Europe.

Life expectancy: 82.2 years, 2006 (IMF 2012)

Fertility rate/Maternal mortality rate: 1.2 births per woman, 2004 (WHO 2006)

Birth rate/Death rate: 10.5 births per 1,000 population; eight deaths per 1,000 population (2003).

Child (under 5 years) mortality rate (per 1,000): 3 per 1,000 live births (WHO 2012)

Main cities

San Marino (capital, estimated population 4,454 in 2012); Serravalle/Dogano (9,936), Borgo Maggiore (6,054), Domagnano (2890), Fiorentino (2,252).

Languages spoken

Italian

Official language/s

Italian

Media

Press

In Italian, the two dailies published are *La Tribuna Sammarinese* (www.latribunasammarinese.net) and *San Marino Oggi*, with periodicals *San Marino* and *La Sportivo*. In Italian, *L'Informazione di San Marino* (www.libertas.sm) and *San Marino Notizie* (www.sanmarinonotizie.com) are online news outlets, while *Italica* (www.italica.sm) is in English.

Broadcasting

Radio: The government-controlled San Marino RTV (www.sanmarinortv.sm) broadcasts over several wavebands in FM. Some regional Italian stations can also be received.

Television: RTV operates the television station while some regional Italian broadcasts can also be received.

Economy

San Marino is closely linked with Italy, which surrounds it geographically. The economy is diverse, with tourism being the main source of revenue, providing around 50 per cent of GDP, including duty-free sales of goods to tourists. Traditional industries include quarrying for building stone, ceramics, leather goods, textiles, wine and food production and lately, electronics manufacturing. Sales of postage stamps and coins to collectors provide 10 per cent of the government's income. Italy compensates San Marino, in the form of an annual subsidy, for relinquishing certain rights.

GDP growth was 3.5 per cent in 2007, however the economy fell into recession in 2008 with a negative growth rate of -3.4 per cent. As the economy of Italy weakened, so tourist numbers fell and investment dwindled. The situation worsened in 2009 as growth fell to -12.8 per cent. By 2011 San Marino had experienced rising unemployment and stagnant wage growth leading to a lack of confidence that

KEY INDICATORS

San Marino

	Unit	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Population	m	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	*0.03
Gross domestic product (GDP)	US\$bn	-0	-0	-0	-0	*1.86
GDP real growth	%	-3.4	-12.8	-5.2	-2.6	*-4.0
Inflation	%	4.1	2.4	2.6	2.0	*2.8
Unemployment	%	3.1	4.5	4.9	5.5	*6.6
Exchange rate	per US\$	0.68	0.78	0.76	0.75	0.77
* estimated figure						

contributed to falling private consumption, resulting from the four-year recession. In May 2012 the International Monetary Fund predicted that the country would suffer a further year of loss in 2012 of -2 per cent due to the continued recession in Italy, which typically accounts for 90 per cent of Sammarinese exports.

While San Marino adopted the euro as its currency, it is not formally part of the euro-zone and is not a member of the European Central Bank. As such it did not have access to Euro-system liquidity when the global economic crisis struck in 2009 and its banking system came under stress as it only had indirect access to the EU payment system via Italian banks. Consequently, local banks were under greater credit risk and additional cost through cross-border transactions. Nevertheless, the banking system has contributed to high growth, despite the largest bank in San Marino facing financial difficulties in 2008/09 and accusations of money-laundering levelled at senior bank officials. On 23 July 2012, the Fitch Ratings agency downgraded San Marino's long-term rating from A to BBB+, due to the deterioration of the financial sector and a weaker than expected outlook for the economy.

External trade

San Marino does not belong to the European Union but as it maintains a customs and currency union with Italy and uses the euro it has *de facto* ties with the EU. Italy accounts for 87 per cent of all external trade.

Imports

Imports predominantly consist of food and manufactured goods.

Exports

Important exports include financial services, building stone, lime, timber, hides and ceramics; foodstuffs, live animals, chestnuts, wheat, wine and baked goods.

Agriculture

The republic was formerly dependent on agriculture and forestry. The agricultural sector employs around 1 per cent of the workforce. Approximately 17 per cent of the land is arable. Principal crops include olives, grapes, wheat and corn.

Industry and manufacturing

Quarrying for building stone is a traditional industry.

Manufacturing employs 41 per cent of the workforce, construction 11 per cent, and services, transport and communications 19 per cent.

Tourism

Tourists en route from and to Italy often slip into San Marino as much for the duty free shopping as to visit the sites of the Medieval old town. The structure of the

historic centre and Mount Titano, on which it sits, is included in Unesco's World Heritage List.

Over 100,000 tourists visit San Marino each year and all must gain access through Italy. There are various classes of hotels situated within the old town, most of which include business, conference and training facilities.

Banking and insurance

The banking sector is of strategic importance to San Marino's economy, making a sizeable contribution to the state revenue; its banks are profitable, well-provisioned and cost efficient. The Istituto di Credito Sammarinese (ICS) operates as a central bank, although it does not have an independent monetary policy. San Marino is a signatory of a new EU tax agreement with non-EU countries. San Marino will impose a withholding tax, up to 35 per cent, to be passed to the tax department of an EU citizen's country, but retaining the anonymity of the saver. San Marino has also agreed to supply information on tax fraud, for criminal or civil trials, and notify EU member states about additional malpractices.

Central bank

Banca Centrale della Repubblica di San Marino (Central Bank of the Republic of San Marino); European Central Bank (ECB).

Time

GMT plus one hour (daylight saving, late March to late October, GMT plus two hours)

Geography

San Marino is a landlocked country of 61.2 square kilometres, entirely surrounded by and located in central Italy. The Italian region of Emilia-Romagna borders to the north and east and the Marche to the south and west. The capital, also called San Marino has eight satellite villages. The geography is mountainous dominated by Mount Titano, the highest peak.

Hemisphere

Northern

Climate

San Marino enjoys a Mediterranean climate with warm summers and dry, cold winters. Temperatures can range between 0–30 degrees Celsius.

Dress codes

Lightweight clothing for summer, medium-weight and topcoat for winter.

Entry requirements

As per Italy

Passports

Required by all and passports must be valid for three months from arrival. Nationals of countries which are signatories

of the Schengen Accords, which includes most EU/EEA member states, San Marino and Croatia, may visit on national IDs.

Visa

No visa requirements for citizens of most of Europe, the Americas, Australasia and some Asian countries, visiting for up to 90 days. For a full list, and further information for those citizens not included on the list of visa-free travel, visit www.ambwashingtondc.esteri.it and see *consular services*. A Schengen visa application (offered in several languages) can be downloaded from www.eurovisa.info/ApplicationForm.htm. Business travellers who do not have visa-free arrangements must provide a letter from their employer guaranteeing travel expenses, including full itinerary and purpose of the trip. Letters of invitation from all Italian companies to be visited, and a current (not over 90 days) *Visura Camerale* issued by the Italian Chamber of Commerce should be attached; a return/onward ticket must be produced before collection of the passport and visa from the issuing consulate, which may request any additional documents at its discretion.

Within eight days of arrival in San Marino the visa traveller must appear before local police authorities to receive a Residency Permit and will also need to show proof of health insurance.

Prohibited entry

Visitors may be refused entry for public security or health reasons, or if not holding visible means of support and onward/return tickets and documents for their next destination.

Currency advice/regulations

The import and export of local or foreign currency up to eur10,300 is allowed. Any amount over this must be declared on Form V2 at customs on arrival.

Health (for visitors)

Mandatory precautions

None

Advisable precautions

Up-to-date tetanus and polio immunisations are recommended. Long-term visitors should consider hepatitis A immunisation.

Hotels

There are approximately 30 hotels of various standards.

Credit cards

Credit cards are widely accepted.

Public holidays (national)

Fixed dates

31 Dec–1 Jan (New Year), 6 Jan (Epiphany), 5 Feb (Liberation Day), 25 Mar (Arengo Day), 1 Apr (Captains Regent Investiture Day), 1 May (Labour Day), 28 Jul (Fall of Fascism Anniversary), 15 Aug (

Assumption Day), 3 Sep (Republic Day), 1 Oct (Captains Regent Investiture Day), 1 Nov (All Saints' Day), 2 Nov (All Souls' Day), 8 Dec (Immaculate Conception), 24–26 Dec (Christmas).

Holidays which falls on a Sunday are observed on Monday.

Variable dates

Good Friday, Easter Monday, Corpus Christi (May/Jun).

Working hours

Banking

Mon–Fri: 0830–1330, 1530–1630.

Shops

Mon–Sat: 0830–1300, 1530–1930.

Telecommunications

Mobile/cell phones

Networks 900/1800 GSM are in operation.

Electricity supply

220V AC 50Hz

Getting there

Air

Closest international airports: Rimini (RMI) (Italy) 27km, or Bologna (BLQ) (Italy) 135km.

Surface

There are regular bus services, by highways, from Rimini or Bologna, Italy. The nearest railhead is at Rimini.

Getting about

National transport

The roads are good. A funicular (cable car) operates between Borgo Maggiore and the capital.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The addresses listed below are a selection only. While World of Information makes every endeavour to check these addresses, we cannot guarantee that changes have not been made, especially to telephone numbers and area codes. We would welcome any corrections.

Telephone area codes

The international direct dialling (IDD) code for San Marino is +378 followed by 0549 and subscriber's number.

Chambers of Commerce

Agency for Promotion and Development of the Economy, 33 Via G Giacomini, 47890 San Marino (tel: 914-001; fax: 913-473; e-mail: info@apse.sm).

Banking

Central bank

Banca Centrale della Repubblica di San Marino (Central Bank of the Republic of San Marino), 120 Via del Voltone, 47890 San Marino (tel: (+378) (0)549 882-325; fax: (+378) (0)549 882-328).

European Central Bank (ECB), Kaiserstrasse 29, D-60311 Frankfurt am Main, Germany (tel: (+49-69) 13-440; fax: (+49-69) 1344-6000).

Travel information

National tourist organisation offices

Ufficio di Stato per il Turismo (state tourist office), Contrada Omagnano 20, 47031, San Marino (tel: 882-998).

Other useful addresses

Azienda Autonoma di Stato Filatelica e Numismatica (AASFN) (stamps and coins), 5 Piazza Garibaldi, 47031 San Marino (tel: 882-370; fax: 882-363; e-mail: aasfn@omniway.sm).

British Consulate, 2 Lungarno Corsini, 1-50123 Florence, Italy (tel: (+39-055) 212-594; fax: (+39-055) 219-112).

Direzione Generale PPTT (post and telecommunications), 17 Contrada Omerelli, San Marino (tel: 882-555; fax: 992-760).

Notizie de San Marino, Radiotelevisione Italiana, 14 Viale Mazzini, 1-00195 Rome, Italy (fax: (+39-06) 372-5680).

Office for Industry, Handicrafts and Trade, Palazzo Mercuri, San Marino (tel: 992-745, 991-385).

Secretariat of State for Finance and the Budget, Palazzo Begni, San Marino (tel: 992-345).

Internet sites

San Marino tourism authority:
www.visitsanmarino.com

Web portal for trade:
www.tradecenter.sm/index_e.htm