INTRODUCTION
After centuries of Danish, Swedish, German, and Russian rule, Estonia attained independence in 1918. Forcibly incorporated into the USSR in 1940, it regained its freedom in 1991 with the collapse of the Soviet Union.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Alar KARIS
Head of Government
Prime Minister Kaja KALLAS
Government Type
parliamentary republic
Capital
Tallinn
Legislature
unicameral Parliament or Riigikogu (101 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 45,228 sq km
Land: 42,388 sq km
Water: 2,840 sq km
Climate
maritime; wet, moderate winters, cool summers
Natural Resources
oil shale, peat, rare earth elements, phosphorite, clay, limestone, sand, dolomite, arable land, sea mud

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
advanced service-based EU and OECD economy; regional trade and telecommunications leader; recently rejected Baltic sea rail tunnel from Tallinn to Helsinki; flat income taxation; substantial welfare system; balanced budget culture; business-friendly climate
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $47.44 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $35,600 (2020 est.)
Industries - food, engineering, electronics, wood and wood products, textiles, information technology, telecommunications
Agricultural products - wheat, milk, barley, rapeseed, rye, oats, peas, potatoes, pork, triticale
Exports $21.69 billion (2020 est.)
- broadcasting equipment, refined petroleum, coal tar oil, cars, prefabricated buildings (2019)
- partners: Finland 13%, Sweden 9%, Latvia 8%, Russia 8%, US 7%, Lithuania 6%, Germany 6% (2019)
Imports $21.73 billion (2020 est.)
- cars, refined petroleum, coal tar oil, broadcasting equipment, packaged medicines (2019)
- partners: Russia 12%, Germany 10%, Finland 9%, Lithuania 7%, Latvia 7%, Sweden 6%, Poland 6%, China 6% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
1.2 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
-0.69% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Estonian 68.7%, Russian 24.8%, Ukrainian 1.7%, Belarusian 1%, Finn 0.6%, other 1.6%, unspecified 1.6% (2011 est.)
Language
Estonian (official) 68.5%, Russian 29.6%, Ukrainian 0.6%, other 1.2%, unspecified 0.1% (2011 est.)
Religion
Orthodox 16.2%, Lutheran 9.9%, other Christian (including Methodist, Seventh Day Adventist, Roman Catholic, Pentecostal) 2.2%, other 0.9%, none 54.1%, unspecified 16.7% (2011 est.)

as of October 2021