

# Flag of Central African Republic - A Brief History



Where In The World



### Trivia

The flag was designed as the coming together of the Pan African and French colours.

### Technical Specification



<b>Adopted:</b>	December 1 <sup>st</sup> 1958
<b>Proportion:</b>	3:8
<b>Design:</b>	Four horizontal blue-white-green-yellow banners with a central horizontal red stripe and gold five-pointed star in the right hand corner

<b>Colours:</b>	<b>PMS</b>	Blue:	293	Red:	032	Green:	355	Yellow:	109
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### Brief History

One of the first flags known in Central African Republic was the flag of the Kanem Empire who settled on the area around c.700. The Flag of Kandem is a white field with an outline of a shield on its side and green tree at the centre.

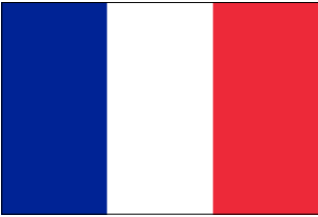


It wasn't until 1885 when part of Central Africa became Congo Free State, which was controlled by Leopold II of Belgium, that an official flag was adopted. This was a blue field with gold five-pointed star.

	
<b>The Kanem Flag</b>	<b>The Flag of Congo Free State (1885 -1908)</b>

In 1910 Central African Republic became a French Colony as part of French Equatorial Africa. The flag was changed to the blue-white-red tricolour and remained that way until independence was granted and the modern day flag of Central African Republic was adopted on 1st December 1958.

The modern day flag is designed to symbolise the coming together of the French tricolour and the Pan-African colours. It features four horizontal blue-white-green-yellow stripes with a central horizontal red stripe and gold five-pointed star in the right hand corner. Blue symbolises freedom, the white symbolises bravery, green of hope and faith and yellow as tolerance and charity.

Between 1976 and 1979 the area became an under ruler Emperor Bokassa I. During this time they kept the same flag and an additional Imperial Standard of Bokassa I, a green field with sun and eagle at the centre, was flown at the same time.

		
<p>The Flag of French Equatorial Africa (1910 – 1958)</p>	<p>The Imperial Standard of Bokassa I (1976 – 1979)</p>	<p>The Flag of the Central African Republic (1958 to Present Day)</p>

**The Coat of Arms of Malta**

The Imperial Coat of Arms of the Central African Republic was first adopted in 1963 and is similar to the previous coat of arms of the Central African Republic.

It features a quartered shield with a square in the centre. In the top left quarter it features a white elephant head on a green background, top right features a green baobab tree on white background, bottom left three stars on a yellow background and on the bottom right a black hand on a blue background. The centre quarter features a gold five-pointed star in front of an outline of the country.

A sun is rising over the shield with a banner reading ZO KWE ZO above and a banner reading UNITE DIGNITE TRAVAIL below.





**The Historical Coat of Arms of Central African Republic**

The Coat of Arms of the Central African Republic was adopted in 1958 and is a simple shield with the flag of the Central African Republic at the centre.

The Imperial Coat of Arms of the Central African Republic was adopted between 1976 and 1979. It is similar to the modern coat of arms of the Central African Republic and features a shield quartered with a square in the centre. In the top left quarter it features a white elephant head on a green background, top right features a green baobab tree on white background, bottom left three stars on a yellow background and on the bottom right a black hand on a blue background. The centre quarter features a gold five-pointed star in front of an outline of the country. At either side are the flags of the country with the motto Zo Kwe Zo at the left and Zo A Yeke Zo at the right.

Above the flag is a sun rising over the shield, with an eagle at the centre and the imperial crown and banner of Bokassa I above. Below is the shield of the Order of Central African Merit and a banner stating "UNITE DIGNITE TRAVAIL"

	
<p>The Coat of Arms of the Central African Republic (1958 – 1963)</p>	<p>The Imperial Coat of Arms of the Central African Republic (1976 – 1979)</p>

**The Presidential Standard of the Central African Republic**

The Presidential Standard of the Central African Republic is the national flag with a gold fridge and is featured on the president's cars.

