

Geography of Lesotho

Lesotho is a small country located in southern Africa. It is a landlocked country that is completely surrounded by South Africa. The nation is nicknamed "Kingdom in the sky" because it is so mountainous. The terrain is mostly highland with plateaus, hills, and mountains. Lesotho is the only nation in the world that lies completely above 1,000 metres in elevation. Its lowest point is at 1,400 metres, which is the highest lowest point of any country in the world. Lesotho does not have many forests. In fact, forests cover less than 1% of the land area. The climate during Lesotho winters is cold and dry, while it is hot and wet in the summer.



Very little of Lesotho is actually covered in water; however, the rivers that run through the country play an important role in the nation's economy. The Orange River rises in the Drakensberg Mountains and flows across the entire country before flowing westward into South Africa. Other rivers include the Caledon, Malibamatso, Matsoku, and the Senqunyane. Lesotho's natural resources include water, diamonds, agricultural and grazing land.

Did You Know?

- The total length of Lesotho's borders is 909 km
- Lesotho covers a total area of 30,355 square km- approximately the same size as Belgium.
- The Orange River is one of Africa's longest rivers at 1,300 km

