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Harare

Profile downloaded on 23 Jan 2019

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Harare

Harare formerly Salisbury is the capital of [Zimbabwe](#). It is the seat of Government, the industrial hub and commercial centre for Zimbabwe. The city was founded by the [Cecil John Rhodes](#)-led [Pioneer Column](#) in 1890 and named Salisbury. The name was only changed to Harare in 1982 a name borrowed from the regional chief Neharawa of the Kopje area where the city stands. The city's favourable climate earned it the name 'Sunshine City'.

History

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Before colonisation, the place was known as Harawa and it was ruled by Chief Neharawa of present day Seke area. The name was eventually corrupted to Harare. Soon after arriving in Zimbabwe, Cecil John Rhodes and his military forces, Pioneer Column founded Salisbury in 1890. By then it was given the status of a fort. Seven years down the line, the fort was elevated to become a municipality in 1897. Salisbury was later declared a city in 1935.^[1] On the 18th of April 1982, two years after the country gained independence, Salisbury was renamed Harare.

Demography

As a province, the city includes Harare Urban, Harare Rural, Chitungwiza, Ruwa, Norton and Epworth. In 2013, the city had a population of about 4.2 million people which was expected to reach 5 million by 2025.^[2]

Government

The city is run by an elected Non-Executive Mayor, Deputy Mayor, 46 elected Councillors and 12 Councillors.^[3] The former represent residents of the constituencies they are elected in. These are all Special Appointments made by the Minister of Local Government Urban and Rural Development. Harare also provides local government services such as education, health, recreation, housing, water and sanitation, fire and ambulance, road construction and maintenance, burial and cremation services among others through its 10 departments which are headed by Directors. The current mayor is Bernard Manyenyeni who was sworn in after the 2013, July 31 elections.^[4]

Climate

Harare has one of the most favourable climates in the whole world. Temperatures range from 6.25 to 28.7 degrees Celsius while rainfall varies from 0.0 to 645.0 (mm/month).^[5] Harar's climate facilitated, Zimbabwe's climate to be voted 'the best climate on Earth' by the International Living magazine's 2011 Quality of Life Index.^[6]

Bad Coverage

Harare has been a victim of western media sponsored falsehoods. In 2011 *The Economist* rated Harare as the world's least livable city on earth. During the same time, some surveys conducted by the West ranked it the 4th worst city on earth in 2012.^[7]

Interesting Facts About Harare

- Harare is the site of the [University of Zimbabwe](#), the largest institution of higher education in the country.
- The city is home to [National Gallery of Zimbabwe](#), Zimbabwe's museum for contemporary art

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and visual heritage; the Zimbabwe Museum of Human Sciences. The Chapungu Sculpture Park with works of Zimbabwean stone sculptors is near the city. The National Botanic Garden in the suburb of Alexandra Park also houses the National Herbarium. The gardens show plants typical to Zimbabwe and the African continent including rare and endangered species.

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About Pindula

Pindula is a place to find information about local things on the internet. We do it a lot like Wikipedia, except everything is hyper-local. We started work on Pindula because we needed something like it. There's so little useful information about local things online and we're working to change that

To join the Pindula community of editors, please go to <https://contribute.pindula.co.zw?> or just get in touch with us on **WhatsApp: +263 77 770 7852**.

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