

What is the French Southern Territories?

The territory is sometimes referred to as the French Southern Lands (French: Terres australes françaises) or the French Southern Territories, usually to emphasize non-recognition of French sovereignty over Adélie Land as part of the Antarctic Treaty System. The entire territory has no known permanently settled inhabitants.

What are the French Southern and Antarctic Lands (TAAF)?

The French Southern and Antarctic Lands (TAAF) are at the heart of these ambitions. Made up of five districts - the Crozet archipelago, the Kerguelen Islands, Saint-Paul and Amsterdam, the Éparses Islands and Adélie Land - these territories are nevertheless one of the ultra-marine collectivities that are least well known to the general public.

Why are the French Southern & Antarctic Lands subject to an original form of governance?

These characteristics explain why these territories are subject to an original form of governance. The French Southern and Antarctic Lands include uninhabited territories in the Indian and Southern Oceans. Image: TAAF

Is France a sovereign country?

France is a sovereign nation of the Indo-Pacific. French overseas territories include seven Regions, Departments and Communities (thereafter: overseas territories) which are home to 1.6 million French citizens: Mayotte, La Reunion, the French Southern and Antarctic territories, New Caledonia, Wallis & Futuna, and French Polynesia.

Why are French overseas territories important?

The French overseas territories host military bases and capabilities which allow for the securing of our sovereign territories as well as the commons around them. They also facilitate military cooperation, crisis anticipation and regional integration. They are essential to France's security activities in the Indo-Pacific.

Who is responsible for TAAF in France?

The TAAF are under the authority of a prefect who is at the same time the representative of the French State and the person responsible for the territory. Since 2000, the head office is located in Reunion island, where it employs nearly 65 people. It houses the Prefect's office and cabinet, the general secretariat and the various departments.

French Southern Territories, comprising of several islands in the Indian Ocean, are isolated with a harsh climate, making technology and telecommunications development challenging. The territories have no indigenous population, with only temporary French military personnel, scientists, officials and support staff residing.



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OverviewHistoryAdministrationGeographyFlora and faunaEconomyLocations and scientific stationsCodesThe French Southern and Antarctic Lands (French: Terres australes et antarctiques françaises, TAAF) is an overseas territory (French: Territoire d"outre-mer or TOM) of France. It consists of: o Adélie Land (Terre Adélie), the French claim on the continent of Antarctica.o Crozet Islands (Îles Crozet), a group in the southern Indian Ocean, south of M...

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French Southern Territories and Seas (2019). Réunion"s Maloya has also been recognized as an intangible cultural heritage since 2009. Protected areas are multiplying, and the network of marine protected areas in the Indo -Pacific could reach 3.5 million km² by 2030. At the One Ocean Summit in 2022 the creation of the French Southern Territories

The French Southern and Antarctic Lands are an important element of this national ambition. Largely unknown to the public, their inclusion within France"s Indo-Pacific Strategy developed by French President Emmanuel ...

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