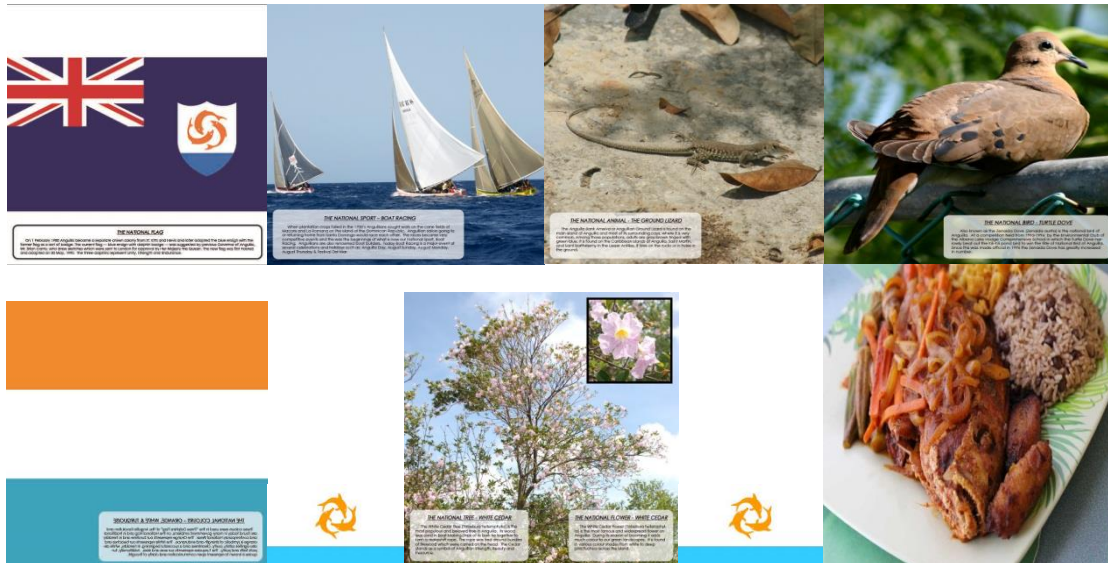


NOTES

# The Department of Youth & Culture 2012

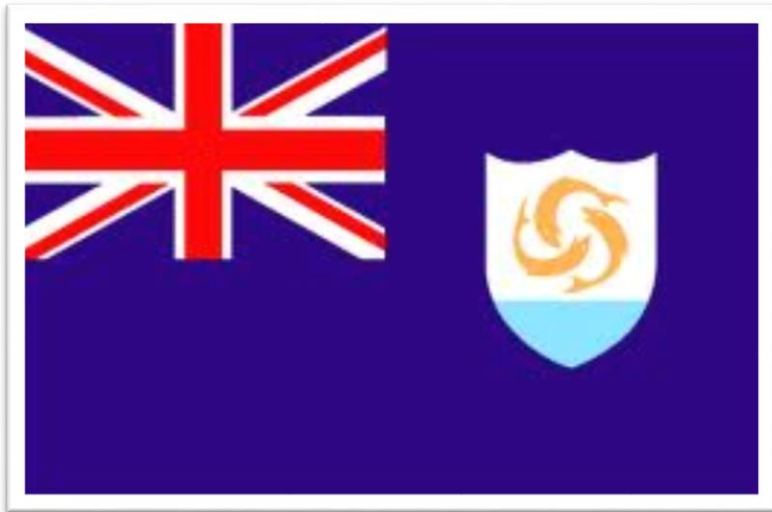
## UNVEILING OF ANGUILLA'S NATIONAL SYMBOLS

Government of Anguilla  
1/1/2012



*These are the results from the National Symbol exercise carried out on September 24th by the Department of Youth and Culture. The winning symbols in the booklet were approved by the Executive Council as Anguilla's Official Emblems.*

## **THE NATIONAL FLAG**



On 1 February 1980 Anguilla became a separate crown colony from St. Kitts and Nevis and later adopted the blue ensign with the former flag as a sort of badge.

The current flag — blue ensign with dolphin badge — was suggested by previous Governor of Anguilla, Mr. Brian Canty, who drew sketches which were sent to London for approval by Her Majesty the Queen. The new flag was first hoisted and adopted on 30 May, 1990.

## **THE NATIONAL SONG - God Bless Anguilla**

Alex Richardson started playing the guitar at about age 10 and started a High School band. He performed as a junior calysonian (Lord Libra) capturing the crown in 1981, the same year he wrote Anguilla's National Song, "God Bless Anguilla".

### **National Song - God Bless Anguilla**

1

God bless Anguilla  
Nurture and keep her  
Noble and beautiful  
She stands midst the sea  
Oh land of the happy  
A haven we'll make thee  
Our lives and love  
We give unto thee

2

Mighty we'll make  
Long may she prosper  
God grant her leaders  
wisdom and grace  
May glory and honour  
Ever attend her  
Firm shall she stand  
Throughout every age

### *Chorus*

With heart and soul  
We'll build a nation  
Proud, strong and free  
We'll love her hold her  
Dear to our hearts for eternity  
Let truth and right  
our banner be  
We'll march ever on

## **THE NATIONAL BIRD – THE TURTLE DOVE**



Also known as the Zenaida Dove (*Zenaida aurita*) is the national bird of Anguilla. At a competition held in 1992 by the Environmental Club of the Albena Lake Hodge Comprehensive School in which the Turtle Dove narrowly beat out the Kili-Kili pond bird to win the title of National Bird of Anguilla. Since this was made official the Zenaida Dove has greatly increased in number.

## **THE NATIONAL TREE**



*The White Cedar Tree (Tabebuia heterophylla) is the most populous and beloved tree in Anguilla. Its wood was used in Boat Making. Strips of its bark tie together to form a makeshift rope. This rope was tied around bundles of firewood which were carried on the head. The Cedar stands as a symbol of Anguillian Strength, Beauty and Resource.*

## **THE NATIONAL FLOWER - THE WHITE CEDAR (Tabebuia heterophylla)**



This is the most famous and widespread flower on Anguilla. During its season of blooming it adds much colour to our green landscapes. It is found in various colour shades from white to deep pink/fuchsia across the island.

## **THE NATIONAL ANIMAL**



The Ground Lizard - The *Anguilla Bank Ameiva* or Anguillian Ground Lizard is found on the main island of Anguilla and most of its surrounding cays, where it is very common. Among those populations, adults are gray-brown tinged with green-blue. It is found on the Caribbean islands of Anguilla, Saint Martin, and Saint Barthélemy in the Lesser Antilles. It lives on the rocks or in holes in the ground.

## **THE NATIONAL DISH - PEAS & RICE AND FISH**



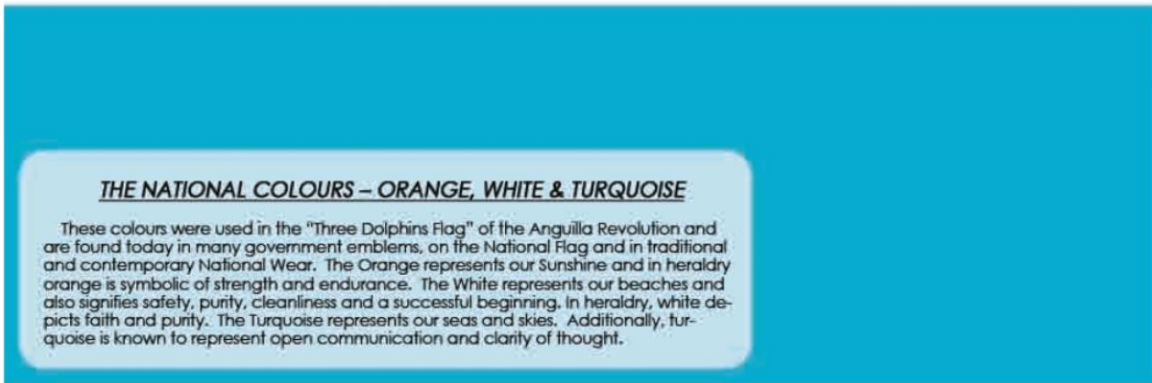
A very popular meal both traditionally and up to this day in Anguilla. The peas used are typically pigeon peas which grow easily in our climate. Anguilla is a small island which relies heavily on fishing for a large part of its food supply; therefore many different fish were used in this meal including:

1. Goat fish
2. Snapper
3. Bufflehead/Cockabelly
4. Grunt
5. Doctor Fish
6. Rockhind
7. Redman
8. Old Wife
9. Butterfish

Traditional ingredients included:

- i. Rice
- ii. Pigeon Peas
- iii. Local Pot Fish
- iv. Salt
- v. Butter
- vi. Black Pepper
- vii. Garlic
- viii. Onion

## **THE NATIONAL COLOURS – ORANGE, WHITE & TURQUOISE**



These colours are found in many government emblems, on the National Flag and in traditional and contemporary National Wear. The Orange represents our Sunshine and in heraldry orange is symbolic of strength and endurance. The White represents our beaches and also signifies safety, purity, cleanliness and a successful beginning. In heraldry, white depicts faith and purity. The Turquoise represents our seas and skies. Additionally, turquoise is known to represent open communication and clarity of thought.

## THE NATIONAL SPORT - BOAT RACING



When plantation crops failed in the 1700's Anguillians sought work on the cane fields of *Macoris* and *La Romana* on the island of the Dominican Republic. Anguillian sailors going to or returning home from Santo Domingo would race each other. The races became very competitive events and this was the beginnings of what is now our National Sport, Boat Racing. Anguillians are also renowned boat builders. Today Boat Racing is a major event at several celebrations and holidays such as; Anguilla Day, August Sunday, August Monday, August Thursday & Festival Del Mar.