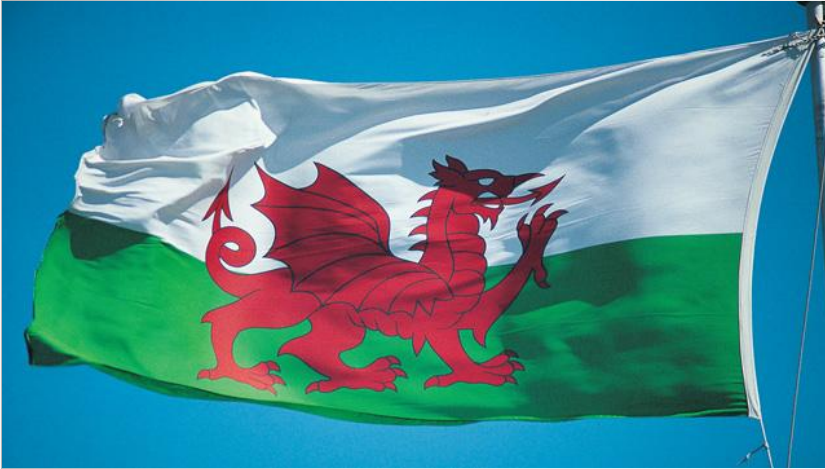


National symbols of Wales



The Welsh Flag

- **The Welsh national flag - The Red Dragon - was granted official status in 1959, but the dragon itself has been associated with Wales for centuries. Some say it's the oldest national flag still in use, and that it was used by King Arthur and other ancient Celtic leaders.**



- The significance of the dragon in Welsh culture is believed to date back to Arthurian legend when Merlin had a vision of a red dragon (representing native Britons) fighting a white dragon (the Saxon invaders). The use of green and white refer to the colours of the House of Tudor, the 15th century royal family of Welsh origin.





The Leek

- According to legend, St David advised the Britons on the eve of a battle with the Saxons, to wear leeks in their caps so as to easily distinguish friend from foe. This helped to secure a great victory. Today Welsh people around the world wear leeks on St David's Day. It is also a surviving tradition that soldiers in the Welsh regiments eat a raw leek on St David's Day.



The Daffodil



The daffodil is also associated with St. David's Day, due to the fact that it breaks into blossom on that day. Interesting to note that one of the many Welsh names for a daffodil is "Cenhinen Bedr" which means "Peter's leek"

The red kite is sometimes named as the national symbol of wildlife in Wales



The Sessile Oak, also called the Welsh Oak is the national tree of Wales



The Harp

The harp is regarded as the national instrument of Wales. The harp has been used through the ages as an accompaniment to folk-singing and dancing and as a solo instrument. Past Royal harpists include Catrin Finch.



The Prince of Wales Feathers

the heraldic badge of the Prince of Wales

It consists of three white ostrich feathers emerging from a gold coronet. A ribbon below the coronet bears the motto *Ich dien*("I serve")



- The Welsh Rugby Union uses such a design for its own badge. The national sport is often considered rugby union, though football is very popular too.





**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION**