

1st Frimley Scout Group's Prize Competition Xmas 2014

The 'Countries and Capitals' Nomadic Word Search – Results!



The Winners

The two prize winners are as follows. Well done to them and to all who had a go.

1st Prize: £25 W.H. Smiths token Andy Tibbs (144 answers).

2nd Prize: £10 W.H. Smiths token Mike Anthony (141 answers)

The quiz raised at least £56 from donations and competition entry fees (mainly the former, which is always the case). Thanks to all who made such generous donations.

There were not many submissions. The open ended nature of the puzzle meant that you never quite knew whether you had finished, I now realise. I hope that the accessible format enabled youngsters to have a go and improve their geography knowledge as a result (I know that I did).

Comments

I had almost completed the puzzle before realising that definitions of both countries and capitals can be rather slippery, resulting in the over-elaborate rules. Even with those rules in place, which invalidated several carefully placed answers, adjudicating on validity was more difficult than I anticipated.

This is a list of candidate answers which appear, but that I rejected for wide a variety of reasons: ADEN, AGANA, ALMA ATA, ALMATY, ARABIA, BALI, COCOS, EASTER (ISLAND), EIRE, GARAPAN, GAZA, KOROR, MADIERA, OSSETIA, PAGO, PAPUA, SAO TOME, TANA, TARAUA and XANADU!

The Answers

While compiling the puzzle I wrote a piece of software to search for a configurable list of answers. It allowed me to make changes and get instant feedback on the names added or removed. The information it produced (below) shows the **name**, the **number of unique paths** that generate the name and **unique start coordinates** (some paths share start coordinates).

-- Martin

ABUJA	4	I7 H8	LIMA	6	K6 D8 H11 K11
ALAND	5	F2 L2 H4 E7	LOME	1	G13
ALBANIA	1	L2	LONDON	1	G3
ALGERIA	1	E7	LUANDA	1	J4
ALGIERS	2	A13 C14	LUSAKA	1	N6
AMMAN	6	A7 B9 A10 F10 D12	MACEDONIA	2	E6
AMSTERDAM	2	D12	MALABO	1	G14
ANGOLA	1	L2	MALE	3	E6 G14
ANGUILLA	1	A10	MALI	1	E6
ANTIGUA	5	I7 K9 A10 D12 C14	MALTA	1	G14
APIA	2	I7 H8	MAN (ISLE OF)	10	E6 J7 B8 A9 L10 F11 E12
ARGENTINA	1	B9	MANAMA	24	E6 J7 B8 A9 L10 F11 E12
ARMENIA	3	E7 B9	MANILA	8	E6 A9 L10 E12
ARUBA	2	I11 H13	MASERU	1	F11
ASMARA	4	F10 D12	MATAUTU	1	L10
ASTANA	10	K9 I11 D12 L14	MAURITANIA	2	L10
AUSTRALIA	6	I11 N13 L14	MAURITIUS	1	L10
AUSTRIA	6	I11 N13 L14	MBABANE	2	A9
BAKU	1	I8	MEXICO	1	I1
BANGUI	1	B10	MONACO	2	E6 E12
BELARUS	2	I13	MONTSERRAT	1	E12
BELGIUM	1	I13	MORONI	3	E6 E12
BELGRADE	3	B10	MYANMAR	1	F11

BELIZE	2	B10 I13	NAMIBIA	4	J8 N12
BENIN	3	L3 B10	NASSAU	2	K14
BERLIN	2	B10	NAURU	2	G5 N12
BERN	2	B10	NEPAL	1	C1
BONAIRE	1	L3	NEW ZEALAND	1	C1
BRASILIA	2	I13	NIGER	2	D6 E8
BRAZIL	2	I13	NIGERIA	2	D6 E8
BRUSSELS	1	I13	NORTH KOREA	1	C1
CAMEROON	2	D4	NORWAY	1	C1
CANADA	3	H3 D4	OMAN	6	F5 F12 D13
CARACAS	1	E9	OSLO	1	G4
CAYMAN (ISLANDS)	1	E9	PAKISTAN	1	N10
CHAD	1	D4	PALAU	3	E1 M4
CHINA	1	D4	PANAMA	5	H7 N10
COCOS (ISLANDS)	2	H3 J13	PARAGUAY	1	H7
COMOROS (ISLANDS)	1	D14	PARIS	2	H7 N10
CONGO (DEMO. REP.)	1	L5	POLAND	1	M4
CRETE	2	E9 J13	PRAIA	5	H7
CROATIA	1	D14	PRISTINA	1	H7
CUBA	1	J13	QATAR	2	A3
DAKAR	1	C10	RABAT	2	I6 I12
DENMARK	1	E4	ROMANIA	7	F4 E11 E14
DILI	1	J2	ROME	4	F4 E11 E14
DODOMA	2	E4	ROSEAU	1	E11
DOMINICA	1	E4	RUSSIA	2	I12
DOMINICAN (REP.)	1	E4	SABA	2	K1 J10
ENGLAND	2	M2 E5	SAMOA	2	D11
ERITREA	1	M10	SANAA	1	J10
ESTONIA	1	C11	SAN MARINO	2	J10
FALKLAND ISLANDS	1	M1	SANTIAGO	2	N5 J10
FINLAND	1	M1	SENEGAL	1	F3
GABON	1	H14	SERBIA	1	G11
GERMANY	1	C7	SOLOMON (ISLANDS)	1	G11
GIBRALTAR	2	H14	SOMALIA	1	G6
GREECE	3	C2 C7	SOMALILAND	1	G6
GREENLAND	1	C7	SPAIN	1	G6
GRENADA	1	C7	ST LUCIA	2	K13 L13
GUAM	2	H10 A12	SUCRE	1	K13
GUATEMALA	1	H10	SUVA	1	N5
GUINEA	2	I4 A12	SWAZILAND	1	D3
GUYANA	1	H10	SWEDEN	2	D3 F3
HAITI	1	C5	SWITZERLAND	1	D3
HARARE	2	C5	TAIWAN	1	B3
HONG KONG	1	A2	TANZANIA	1	C12
ICELAND	2	H2 F9	TIRANA	8	G7 K7 L12
INDIA	4	K2 H6 D7 F9	TOGO	1	B3
INDONESIA	1	H6	TOKYO	1	B3
IRAN	4	H6 J6 M13	TONGA	1	B3
IRAQ	1	B5	TUVALU	1	K7
IRELAND	2	D7	UGANDA	1	I5
JAMAICA	1	G9	UKRAINE	2	H9
JAPAN	1	G9	UNITED STATES	1	A11
JUBA	2	G9	URUGUAY	1	I5
KENYA	1	A8	UZBEKISTAN	1	L8
KOREA	1	B1	VENEZUELA	1	M7
KRALENDIJK	1	G8	VIETNAM	2	M7
LAOS	1	G3	WALES	1	E2
LA PAZ	1	G3	YAREN	1	A5
LATVIA	1	N6	YEMEN	1	F13
LEBANON	2	L1 M3	ZAMBIA	2	K8
LIBERIA	1	K11	ZIMBABWE	1	J11
