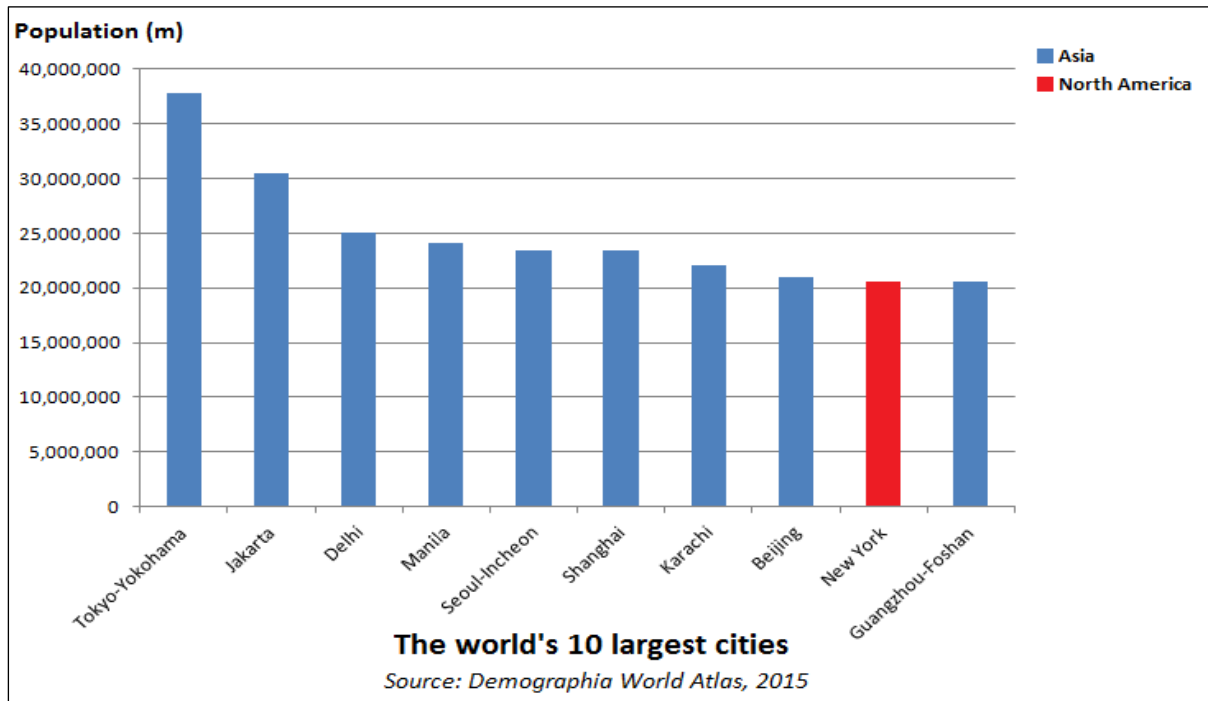


CITIES

Text A is a graph showing the population of the world's 10 largest cities



Text B offers guidance to young people moving to a new city

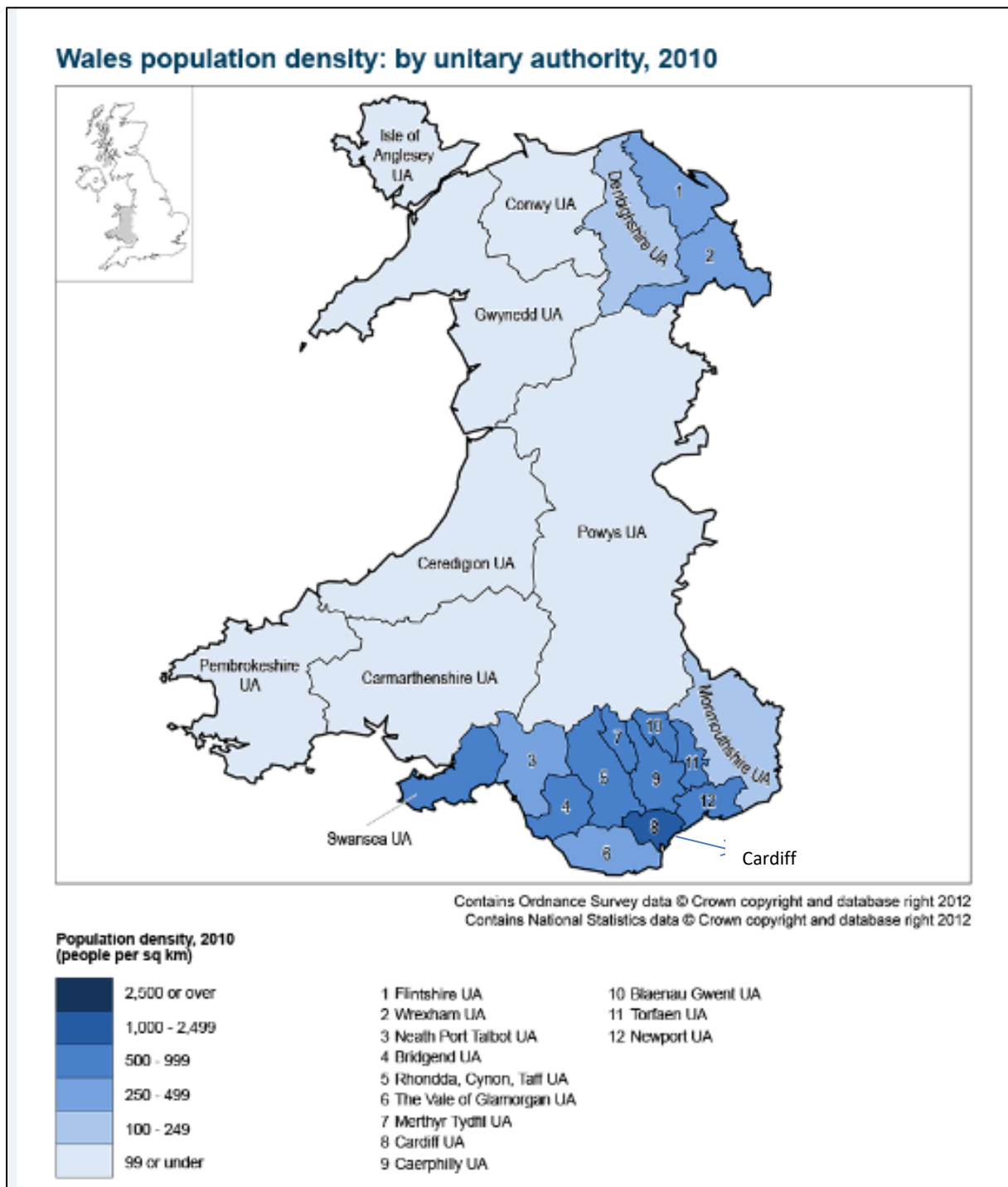
Make friends with people around you
After settling in and planning your travel and money, start broadening your horizons and ask local people for tips on where to go and what to do. It can result in finding some pretty cool places.

Invest in an A-Z map or app
When you first arrive buying and using a map is essential when living in a big city. You will thank the stars that you have one when you inevitably get lost somewhere!

Spend your money wisely
Once you're here and know your way about, remember that anywhere you turn in a city you can spend money. Clothes shops, restaurants, cafés, market stalls, charity shops – you name it, you'll be spending money there, so make sure you set a weekly budget!

Prepare yourself for all weathers
The next thing to bear in mind on arrival is that when moving to any UK city, you should prepare for rain! In most big cities, you're likely to experience variation in the weather, so be prepared.

Text C is a map of Wales showing the density of population



Text D is an extract from a blog written about living in Cardiff

My name is Helia Phoenix. I was born in Cardiff but I've lived all over the place. For my day job I work as web editor for the National Assembly for Wales, and in my spare time I'm a writer, blogger, DJ, gig attender, reviewer ...

I live in Butetown which is in Cardiff Bay. During my time in Cardiff, I've only ever lived on the east of the river Taff, which pretty much splits the city in half. Most of my friends live in Canton or in Roath, though I've got some friends with children who are starting to move further and further out of the city.

Cardiff is pretty cheap to live in for a capital city. I hear about the rent that my friends are paying in London and I'm always astounded at how they can even afford to live. In London the rents are double or triple what you'd pay for an equivalent place here.

Recently Cardiff was voted the UK's most sociable city and I can see why. There's so much on here, and the cost of living is relatively lower, so it's easier to spend weekends having fun, particularly when the weather is nice! It's great that there are so many sporting events on here too. It brings a really nice atmosphere to the city when you've got Moto X or rugby fans here from all over the world for the weekend.

Because Cardiff is so small, the best way to get around is definitely by bike. We even have a naked bike ride here every year, come rain or shine! There aren't really enough dedicated cycle lanes to get around, and there's not a big cycling culture here yet, but it's getting more popular. It's actually pretty easy to get around without a car or a bike here, just walking and taking buses. The trains stop quite early, so if you live on the outskirts and want to go out for the night, you've got no choice but to wait for the first trains or get a taxi home.

Cardiff is a great city if you love nature. There are a lot of parks, mountains to the north, the coast to the south, and castles all around. It's small, so it's easy to get around quickly, but major roads are dangerous for cyclists and we do get some gridlock during rush hour.

There are lots of great independent shops, cafes, bars and brands based in the city, and it's a nice feeling to have the choice to support the independents. They bring a real sense of community to the city, more so than the chain or big brand stores. Go to Cardiff Indoor Market and get a cup of tea on the first floor. It's the best place for people watching in Cardiff, and there are some great cafes in there. Plus really good butchers: if you can get into the market, forget about buying meat from the supermarket, you'll never go back.

Generally speaking, the worst buildings in Cardiff are all the horrible new-build flats that are everywhere across the city. Century Wharf in the bay is a particular eyesore, especially the inland side of it that's become covered in moss and damp. When you see the beautiful old buildings that used be in the bay, then it's really apparent how terrible most of Cardiff's architecture is. You go to cities like Bath, which have an aesthetic and all new buildings have to stick to that. There's nothing remotely similar in Cardiff.



Text E is taken from the Wales Tourist Board's guide to Cardiff



**This is Legendary.
This is Cardiff.**

Wales was voted one of the world's top 10 must-visit countries by Rough Guides and Lonely Planet, while Cardiff came out as Europe's third best capital city to live in according to a recent EU survey.

What makes it so special is its mix of old and new culture, its vibrant food scene, its major events and the beautiful countryside on its doorstep.

Arts and culture

Cardiff is a city full of culture. National Museum Cardiff houses the largest collection of Impressionist art outside Paris as well as works spanning over 500 years of art history. The Cardiff Story tells the tale of the city from its 1300s origins to present day. For alternative culture, head to Chapter Arts Centre in Canton – a hive of independent film, art, theatre and creativity

Shopping

Weaving through the city is nearly a kilometre of arcades, dating back to Victorian and Edwardian times. Inside you can find independent shops, family-run cafes and cute boutiques. Highlights include Hobos for vintage clothing, Madame Fromage for all things cheese and the world's oldest record shop, Spillers Records. You can find high-end stores and well-known brands in the large modern shopping centre, St David's, just five minutes from the arcades.

Cardiff Bay

This area of the city was hugely significant in the 1900s, being the main way of transporting coal from South Wales to the rest of the world. It has since been reinvented into a waterfront escape from the city's bustle. Wales Millennium Centre is the country's equivalent to the Sydney Opera House, hosting shows, performances and major events inside a spectacular architectural delight.

A food safari

The city offers a world of food experiences to suit all tastes. Visit City Road in Roath or Cowbridge Road East in Canton for authentic international cuisine at fair prices. Mill Lane in the city centre has fancy bars for cocktails, while Womanby Street has a pub belonging to Tiny Rebel (a famous small brewery near Cardiff). Don't forget Cardiff Indoor Market for nibbles.



Text F is written by a Welsh writer, Peter Finch, about his home town of Cardiff

Cardiff is a post-industrial city. There was a time - one which many who live here now can still remember - when the place stank permanently of coal, fume and ash. The vast East Moors steel works at its centre turned the air dark. Most of the south Wales valleys' coal output clanked its way through the city's heart to leave through its port. Cardiff was a place of smog and dark sunrises. But all that has gone. Its residue flattened and built on. The stonework has been washed and the streets are full of trees. Cardiff is now a city of call-centres, leasing agents, insurance companies, utility providers, transport undertakings, media hqs, plc head offices, government centres, banks and building societies. Hardly anyone gets their hands dirty. There are lots of suits and cell-phones. It is a metropolis. These are rare in Wales.

Cardiff has been the Welsh capital since 1955 when it saw off Wrexham, Aberystwyth and a few other pale pretenders. Our sense of identity is vivid. We wear it well.

Nonetheless Cardiff does not feel a very Welsh place despite the bilingual street signs and the willingness of the Halifax Building society to take your money from you yn Gymraeg. The city is overtly multi-cultural with, for Wales, a large percentage of Asians, afro-Caribbeans and significant numbers from Somalia and Yemen. Against this background it is difficult to believe that Cardiff is actually home to more Welsh speakers than anywhere in Gwynedd. When you leave home for the bright lights in Wales you don't go to Aberystwyth or Swansea, you come here.