Tonga Travel Facts





US State Department Travel Advisory

The US State Department currently recommends US citizens exercise normal precautions in Tonga. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html

Passport/Visa Requirements

For the latest passport and visa requirements for this country, please consult the US State Department's "Learn About Your Destination" search tool, available through the link below.

https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages.html

US Embassy/Consulate

US does not have an embassy in Tonga; the US Ambassador to Fiji is accredited to Tonga; +(679) 331-4466; EMER: +(679) 772-8049; US Embassy Suva, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, Tuvalu, 158 Princes Rd, Tamavua, Suva, Fiji Islands

LGBTQIA+, Women, and Special Needs Travelers

Additional travel considerations can be found on the US State Department's International Travel page. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations.html

Telephone Code

676

Local Emergency Phone

911

Vaccinations

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations for Tonga: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, meningitis, polio, measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), chickenpox, shingles, pneumonia, COVID-19, and influenza. http://www.who.int/

Climate

Tropical; modified by trade winds; warm season (December to May), cool season (May to December)

Currency (Code)

Pa'anga (TOP)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

240 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): I



Type

Major Languages

Tongan, English

Major Religions

Protestant, Church of Jesus Christ, and Roman Catholic

Time Difference

UTC+13 (18 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time); daylight saving time: +1hr, begins first Sunday in November; ends second Sunday in January

Potable Water

Opt for bottled water

International Driving Permit

Suggested

Road Driving Side

Left

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Tourist Destinations

Nuku'alofa; Ha'atafu Beach; Mapu'a 'a Vaea Blowholes; Pangaimotu Island

Major Sports

Rugby, soccer, American football, boxing

Cultural Practices

Tongans place a high value on 'loto to' (humility). Everyone is expected to be humble, including the king. Some common practices of humility include self-deprecatory speech. Parents also avoid praising their children for accomplishments as a way to promote humility in the family.

Tipping Guidelines

Tipping in restaurants is not the norm for locals, but most tourists leave a little tip to waiters to show their appreciation. It is not customary to tip in hotels in Tonga.

Souvenirs

Hand-woven tapa cloth, woven pandanus mats and baskets, coconut-shell handicrafts, model canoes, silverinlaid jewelry and knives, collectable coins and stamps

Traditional Cuisine

'Ota 'ika — fresh, raw fish marinated in coconut milk and citrus juice; later the fish is typically combined with vegetables including tomatoes, green onions, cucumbers, and hot peppers.

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