

# Somalia

## Travel Facts



### US State Department Travel Advisory

The US State Department currently recommends US citizens DO NOT TRAVEL to Somalia due to crime, terrorism, civil unrest, health issues, kidnapping, and piracy.

<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

Mogadishu, Somalia (reopened October 2019 on the grounds of the Mogadishu Airport); US citizens may call US Dept of State (202)-501-4444 for emergencies; alternate contact is the embassy in Kenya; [254] (20) 363-6000; US Embassy Nairobi, United Nations Avenue Nairobi, PO Box 606 Village Market, 00621 Nairobi, Kenya; Kenya\_ACS@state.gov; <https://so.usembassy.gov/>

### 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

252

### Local Emergency Phone

Police 888, Ambulance 999, Fire 555

### Vaccinations

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations for Somalia: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, cholera, yellow fever, rabies, meningitis, polio, measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), chickenpox, shingles, pneumonia, COVID-19, and influenza.

<http://www.who.int/>

### Climate

Principally desert; northeast monsoon (December to February), moderate temperatures in north and hot in south; southwest monsoon (May to October), torrid in the north and hot in the south, irregular rainfall, hot and humid periods (tangambili) between monsoons

### Currency (Code)

Somali shillings (SOS)

### Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

220 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): C



Type C

### Major Languages

Somali, Arabic, Italian, English

### Major Religions

Sunni Muslim

### Time Difference

UTC+3 (8 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

### Potable Water

Opt for bottled water

### International Driving Permit

Suggested

### Road Driving Side

Right



### Tourist Destinations

Mogadishu; cave art of Laas Geel; Hargeisa; sea beaches of Berbera; Kismayo National Park

### Major Sports

Soccer, track and field

### Cultural Practices

Somali families are very collectivist with communal responsibilities. For example, the whole family and community is considered to be responsible for a child's parenting and upbringing.

### Tipping Guidelines

Tipping is not obligatory. For exceptional service, an additional tip is always welcome. Hotels and restaurants tend to include a tip of 5-10%, but luxury hotels and high-end restaurants may charge 10-15% of the total bill in the form of a service charge.

### Souvenirs

Woven cloth, woven baskets, woodcarvings, meerschaum carvings, gold and silver jewelry

### Traditional Cuisine

Bariis Iskukaris — rice cooked in stock and spices (including cumin, cinnamon, black pepper, cardamom, cloves, coriander, and nutmeg) topped with fried onions and raisins; sometimes peppers or potatoes are added; typically served with roasted lamb or goat and bananas

June 2024



Somalia