

# 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, piracy, and lack of availability of routine consular services.

<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

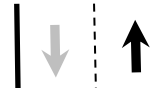
Opt for bottled water

### 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

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Somalia