Syria **Travel Facts**

US State Department Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens DO NOT TRAVEL to Syria due to terrorism, civil unrest, kidnapping or hostage taking, and armed conflict. Exercise increased caution due to the risk of wrongful detention.

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

[963] (11) 3391-4444; US Embassy in Damascus, Abou Roumaneh, 2 Al Mansour Street, Damascus, Syria; USIS damascus@embassy.mzv.cz; https://sy.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

963

Local Emergency Phone Ambulance: 110; Fire 113; Police: 112

Vaccinations

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

Climate

Mostly desert; hot, dry, sunny summers (June to August) and mild, rainy winters (December to February) along coast cold weather with snow or sleet periodically in Damascus

Currency (Code)

Syrian pounds (SYP)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

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





Major Languages

Arabic, Kurdish, Armenian, Aramaic, Circassian, French, English

Major Religions

Muslim, Christian

Time Difference

UTC+2 (7 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time); daylight saving time: +1hr, begins midnight on the last Friday in March, ends at midnight on the last Friday in October

Potable Water

Opt for bottled water

International Driving Permit Suggested

Road Driving Side Right





Tourist Destinations

Palmyra & Valley of The Tombs; Damascus (includes Historic Center, Souq al-Hamidiyya, Umayyad Mosque); Ancient City of Aleppo; Krak des Chevaliers; Bosra

Major Sports

Soccer, basketball, tennis, swimming

Cultural Practices

Stand up when someone older than you enters the room and offer them your seat if there are none available. Men also stand for women, especially those with children. Syrian men rarely swear in the presence of women. Spitting in one's face or in front of them is a sign of disrespect.

Tipping Guidelines

Tipping is a common way of showing appreciation, but the amount is left to the discretion of the giver; 10 % is standard in larger restaurants.

Souvenirs

Rosewood, ebony, and olive wood carvings; embroidery, woven items, and hand-loomed brocade fabric; leather goods; gold and silver jewelry; mother-of-pearl items; inlaid steel and copper items; pottery

Traditional Cuisine

Kibbeh — ground lamb, bulgur, and seasonings baked, fried, stuffed or served raw; often served with tabbouleh (a salad made with tomatoes, parsley, bulgur, and onions mixed in a sauce of lemon juice, olive oil, and salt)

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