Guatemala

Travel Facts

US State Department Travel Advisory

The US State Department currently recommends US citizens Reconsider Travel to Guatemala due to crime. Some areas have increased risk. 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

[502] 2326-4000; US Embassy in Guatemala City, Avenida Reforma 7-01, Zona 10, Guatemala Ciudad, Guatemala; https://gt.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

502

Local Emergency Phone Ambulance: 123; Fire: 123; Police: 110

Vaccinations

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

Climate

Tropical; hot, humid in lowlands; cooler in highlands

Currency (Code)

Quetzales (GTQ)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

120 V / 60 Hz / plug types(s): A, B





Major Languages Spanish, Maya languages

Major Religions Roman Catholic, Evangelical, other, atheist

Time Difference

UTC-6 (1 hour behind Washington, DC during Standard Time)

Potable Water

Opt for bottled water

International Driving Permit

Suggested; additionally, if you plan to drive in Guatemala, you will need an Inter-American Driving Permit issued by the AAA

Road Driving Side Right



Tourist Destinations

Mayan ruins of Tikal; Antigua Guatemala; Lake Atitlan; Chichicastenango Market; Quetzaltenango; Archaeological Park & Ruins of Quirigua

Major Sports

Soccer, futsal (type of indoor soccer on a hard court)

Cultural Practices

Guatemalans value honesty, family, honor, work, and education. Most Guatemalans are gracious and eager to find humor in most situations.

Tipping Guidelines

Tipping is a question of rewarding good service rather than an obligation. Restaurant bills do not include gratuities so adding 10% is customary. Bellhops and maids expect tips only in the most expensive hotels.

Souvenirs

Coffee, Mayan native textiles and jewelry, jade, wood carvings, leather goods, hammocks, baskets, ceramics

Traditional Cuisine

Pepián — a spicy stew made with chicken, beef, or pork and containing both fruit and vegetables and a mix of spices; traditionally served with rice and tortillas or Pupusas (thick corn tortillas stuffed with a variety of fillings including refried beans, cheese, or pork and then fried)

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