

Afghanistan

Travel Facts



US State Department Travel Advisory

The US State Department currently recommends US citizens DO NOT TRAVEL to Afghanistan due to terrorism, risk of wrongful detention, kidnapping and crime.

<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

[00 93] (0) 700-10-8000; US Embassy Kabul, Bibi Mahru, Kabul, Afghanistan; <https://af.usembassy.gov/>; KabulACS@state.gov; note U.S. Embassy Kabul suspended operations on August 31, 2021; USG is helping through the Embassy in Doha, Qatar: Al-Luqta District, 22nd February Street, Doha, Qatar, +(974) 4496-6000, ACSDooha@state.gov or ConsularDoha@state.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

93

Local Emergency Phone

Police 119, Ambulance 112

Vaccinations

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

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

Climate

Arid to semiarid; cold winters and hot summers

Currency (Code)

Afghanis (AFN)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): C and F



Type C



Type F

Major Languages

Afghan Persian or Dari, Pashto, Uzbeki, English, Turkmani, Urdu

Major Religions

Muslim

Time Difference

UTC+4.5 (9.5 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water

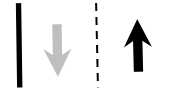
Opt for bottled water

International Driving Permit

Suggested

Road Driving Side

Right



Tourist Destinations

Blue Mosque of Mazar-e Sharif; mausoleum of King Amanullah Khan in Jalalabad; Green Mosque of Balkh; Friday Mosque of Herat; Band-e-Amir National Park; archaeological remains of the Bamyan Valley (includes Shahr-i-zohok (Red City); minaret and archaeological remains of Jam

Major Sports

Buzkashi (form of polo using a goat carcass), soccer, rugby

Cultural Practices

In Afghanistan, you may see people place their hands over their hearts and nod slightly as a greeting.

Tipping Guidelines

Tipping is uncommon except at the fanciest of restaurants. Donations to free historical sites are appreciated, as is extra money for local guides, usually around 20 afghanis

Souvenirs

Tribal hats and scarves, pottery, lapis lazuli and soapstone items, handwoven rugs, brass and copperware

Traditional Cuisine

Kabuli Pulao — long-grained Basmati rice steamed in meat broth, with assorted lentils, raisins, carrots, lamb, and chopped almonds and pistachios

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