United States

Travel Facts

Passport/Visa Requirements

A foreign national or alien entering the US is generally required to present a passport and valid visa issued by a US Consular Official, unless they are a citizen of a country eligible for the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) or are a lawful permanent resident of the US or a citizen of Canada. The VWP allows foreign nationals from certain countries to be admitted to the US under limited conditions and for a limited time without obtaining a visa. The foreign national must arrive on an approved carrier (if coming by air or sea), stay no more than 90 days (for pleasure, medical purposes, and/or business), and be able to prove they are not inadmissible. The foreign national is still required to have a passport. To obtain a list of VWP-eligible countries and VWP passport requirements, please visit https: www.dhs.gov and/or visa waiver program requirements. Note: all travelers transiting the US are subject to US customs and/or immigration laws.

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

1

Local Emergency Phone 911

Vaccinations

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations for United States: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, 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

Mostly temperate but tropical in Hawaii and Florida, arctic in Alaska, semiarid in the great plains west of the Mississippi River, and arid in the Great Basin of the southwest; low winter temperatures in the northwest are ameliorated occasionally in January and February by warm chinook winds from the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains

Currency (Code)

Dollar (USD)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

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



Type A Major Languages

Major Languages English, Spanish, Chinese, Hawaiian

Major Religions Protestant, Roman Catholic

Time Difference

UTC-5 (during Standard Time); daylight saving time: +1hr, begins second Sunday in March; ends first Sunday in November; note: the 50 United States cover six time zones

Potable Water

Yes

International Driving Permit Suggested for non-US citizens.

Road Driving Side Right



Tourist Destinations

Grand Canyon; Niagara Falls; Statue of Liberty; Washington, DC (includes White House, National Mall); Yellowstone National Park; Yosemite National Park; Denali National Park; Times Square; Golden Gate Bridge; Mesa Verde; Disney World/Land in Florida/California; Hawaii (includes Oahu, Maui, and island of Hawaii); Utah's national parks; Las Vegas

Major Sports

American Football, baseball, basketball, ice hockey, soccer, tennis

Cultural Practices

Being on time is important. Americans can be very direct and honest, even though it may seem rude to people from another culture. Americans wait their turn in lines.

Tipping Guidelines

At restaurants, tip 15-20% of the bill, based on quality of service. For bartenders, tip \$1 per drink. Tip taxi drivers 10-15% of the fare. Tip housekeeping \$2-3 per night; tip room service \$1-2 per delivery; tip bellhops \$1-2 per bag; \$2-5 for valet; \$1-2 for doormen if they hail a taxi.

Souvenirs

Regional food items such as sauces, preserves, and candy, tshirts, Disney merchandise, American flag, statue of Liberty model, and local specialties.

Traditional Cuisine

Highlights of American cuisine include milkshakes, barbecue, and a wide range of fried foods. Many American dishes are unique takes on food originally from other culinary traditions, including pizza, hot dogs, and Tex-Mex. June 2024



