# Somalia

**US State Dept Travel Advisory**
The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens DO NOT TRAVEL to this country due to COVID-19, crime, terrorism, civil unrest, health issues, kidnapping, and piracy. Consult its website via the link below for updates to travel advisories and statements on safety, security, local laws and special circumstances in this country.

https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html

**Passport/Visa Requirements**
US citizens should make sure their passport is valid at the date of their entering the country and during the length of their entire visit. They should also make sure they have at least 1 blank page in their passport for any entry stamp that will be required. A visa is not required.

**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/

**Telephone Code**
252

**Local Emergency Phone**
Local numbers only

**Vaccinations**
An International Certificate of Vaccination for yellow fever is required for travelers arriving from countries with a risk of yellow fever transmission and for travelers having transited through the airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. See WHO recommendations.

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 type(s): C

**Major Languages**
Somali, Arabic, Italian, English
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Religions</strong></th>
<th>Sunni Muslim</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time Difference</strong></td>
<td>UTC+3 (8 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Potable Water</strong></td>
<td>Opt for bottled water.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>International Driving Permit</strong></td>
<td>Suggested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Road Driving Side</strong></td>
<td>Right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tourist destinations</strong></td>
<td>Mogadishu; cave art of Laas Geel; Hargeisa; sea beaches of Berbera; Kismayo National Park</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Major Sports</strong></td>
<td>Soccer, track and field</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cultural Practices</strong></td>
<td>The left hand is considered unclean and should not be used for shaking hands.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tipping Guidelines</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
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Please visit the following links to find further information about your desired destination.

World Health Organization (WHO) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination. [http://www.who.int](http://www.who.int)


To obtain an international driving permit (IDP). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs: American Automobile Association (AAA) ([www.aaa.com](http://www.aaa.com)) and American Automobile Touring Alliance (AATA) ([www.aataidp.com](http://www.aataidp.com))

How to get help in an emergency? Contact the nearest US embassy or consulate, or call one of these numbers:
from the US or Canada - 1-888-407-4747 or from Overseas - +1 202-501-4444

Tuesday, November 23, 2021