

Benin

US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens consult its website daily via the link below for any travel advisories about visiting this country.

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

Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 6 months after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 1 blank page in their passport for any entry stamp and or visa that will be required. A visa is required. US citizens will need to get in touch with the country's embassy or nearest consulate to obtain a visa prior to visiting the country.

US Embassy/ Consulate

[229] 21-30-06-50; US Embassy Cotonou, Marina Avenue, 01 BP 2012, Cotonou, Benin

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

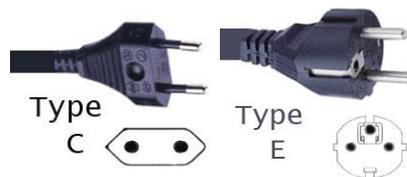
Tropical; hot, humid in south; semiarid in north

Currency (Code)

Communaute Financiere Africaine francs (Western African CFA francs, XOF)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

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



Major Languages

French, Fon, Yoruba

Religions

Muslim 27.7%, Roman Catholic 25.5%, Protestant 13.5%, Vodoun 11.6%, other Christian 9.5%, other traditional religions 2.6%, other 2.6%, none 5.8

Time Difference

UTC+1 (6 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water

Opt for bottled water.

International Driving Permit

Suggested

Road Driving Side

Right

Tourist destinations

Cotonou; Ouidah; Porto Novo; Royal Palaces at Abomey

Cultural Practices	Many people in Benin eat using the fingers of the right hand; eating or offering food to others with the left hand is considered rude.
Tipping Guidelines	Tipping in restaurants is appreciated; round up the bill in smaller establishments or tip up to 10%. Tipping at bars is unexpected. When taking a taxi, round up the fare. Tipping in hotels is not required, but if you enjoyed your stay you could tip the bellboy 200 francs per bag and the maid 200 francs per night.
Telephone Code	229
Local Emergency Phone	Local numbers only

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)

[US State Dept Travel Information - Overall information about foreign travel for US citizens. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html)

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

US citizens may call the US Dept of State (+1-202-501-4444) for emergencies abroad.

Thursday, January 28, 2021