

## Iraq

### US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens **DO NOT TRAVEL** to this country due to COVID-19, terrorism, kidnapping, armed conflict, and Mission Iraq's limited capacity to provide support to US citizens. Consult its website via the link below for any updates to this advisory.

<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

0760-030-3000; US Embassy in Baghdad, Al-Kindi Street, International Zone, Baghdad, Iraq; note - consulate in Al Basrah closed as of 28 September 2018

### 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

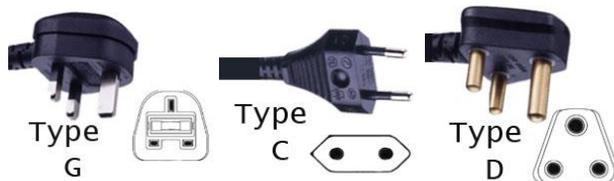
Mostly desert; mild to cool winters with dry, hot, cloudless summers; northern mountainous regions along Iranian and Turkish borders experience cold winters with occasionally heavy snows that melt in early spring, sometimes causing extensive flooding in central and southern Iraq

### Currency (Code)

Iraqi dinars (IQD)

### Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug type(s): C, D, G



### Major Languages

Arabic, Kurdish, Turkmen (a Turkish dialect), Syriac (Neo-Aramaic), and Armenian are official in areas where native speakers of these languages constitute a majority of the population

### Religions

Muslim 95-98% (Shia 64-69%, Sunni 29-34%), Christian 1%, other 1-4%; note: while there has been voluntary relocation of many Christian families to northern Iraq, the overall Christian population has decreased at least 50% and perhaps as high as 90% since the fall of the SADDAM Husayn regime in 2003, according to US Embassy

	estimates, with many fleeing to Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon
<b>Time Difference</b>	UTC+3 (8 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)
<b>Potable Water</b>	Opt for bottled water.
<b>International Driving Permit</b>	required
<b>Road Driving Side</b>	Right
<b>Tourist destinations</b>	Erbil; Ziggurat of Ur; Iraq Museum (Baghdad); Basra; Karbala; Hatra; Samarra Archaeological City; Babylon
<b>Cultural Practices</b>	If meals are served on the floor, sit cross legged or kneel. It is impolite to let your food touch the floor.
<b>Tipping Guidelines</b>	If no service charge is included in the bill, a 10-15% tip is appropriate in nicer restaurants.
<b>Telephone Code</b>	964
<b>Local Emergency Phone</b>	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 \(AATA\) \(www.aataidp.com\)](http://www.aaa.com)

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

Thursday, January 28, 2021