

Travel Facts



US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens exercise normal precautions in Lesotho. 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 will not expire for at least 3 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 that will be required. A visa is not required as long as you do not stay in the country more than 181 days.

US Embassy/Consulate

+(266) 2231-2666; EMER: +(266) 5888-4035; US Embassy Maseru, PO Box 333, Maseru 100, Lesotho; USConsularMaseru@state.gov; <https://ls.usembassy.gov/>

LGBTQ+ Travelers

When venturing abroad, LGBTQIA+ travelers can face unique challenges since laws, attitudes, and legal protections vary from country to country. Consult the website via the link below to learn what precautions to take before and during your trip.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations/lgbtqi.html>

Telephone Code

266

Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance: 121; Fire: 122; Police: 123, 124

Vaccinations

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations for Lesotho: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, yellow fever, 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

Temperate; cool to cold, dry winters; hot, wet summers

Currency (Code)

Maloti (LSL)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

220 V / 50 Hz / plug types(s): M



Type M

Major Languages

Sesotho (southern Sotho), English, Zulu, Xhosa

Major Religions

Protestant, Roman Catholic

Time Difference

UTC+2 (7 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water

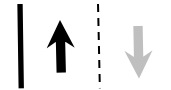
Opt for bottled water

International Driving Permit

Suggested

Road Driving Side

Left



Tourist Destinations

Sehlabathebe National Park; Thaba Bosiu Mountain; Ts'ehlanyane National Park; Liphofung Nature Reserve

Major Sports

Soccer, boxing, judo, cricket

Cultural Practices

Generally, counting on one's hands is done in the opposite order as is common in many Western countries, beginning at the pinky and progressing towards the thumb.

Tipping Guidelines

At most restaurants tipping is expected and 10-15% is appropriate. The exceptions are in rural parts of Lesotho where it is generally the custom to simply round up the bill. Tipping taxi drivers 10% is expected.

Souvenirs

Hand-woven wool/mohair clothing, tapestries, and accessories; traditional woven grass hats; leather goods; silver, gold, and diamond jewelry

Traditional Cuisine

Papa — boiled cornmeal porridge

