



Country Profile: Angola

Angola is a large, developing country in south-west central Africa. The capital city is Luanda. Portuguese, the official language, is widely spoken throughout the country. Despite its extensive oil and mineral reserves and arable land suitable for large-scale production of numerous crops, Angola has some of the world's lowest social development indicators. Development was severely restricted by a 27-year long civil war that broke out upon independence in 1975, and destroyed the majority of the country's infrastructure. Since the conflict's conclusion in 2002, the government has initiated extensive infrastructure reconstruction and development projects, and there are growing signs of economic recovery. However, Angola still faces challenges with its infrastructure and with providing government services, especially in basic social services, aviation and travel safety, accommodation availability and quality and communications. Facilities for tourism, particularly outside the capital of Luanda, are often rudimentary.

Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on Angola for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Angola
Continent:	Africa
Capital City:	Luanda
Boundary Countries:	Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo, Namibia, Zambia
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Clinica Sagrada Esperanca Clinica Clidopa, Clinica Mutamba, Clinica Privado do Alvalade, South African Medical Clinic
Main Cities:	Luanda, Cabinda, Soyo, Ambriz, Porto Amboin, Lobito, Luena, Melanje, Huambo, Lubango
Country Size:	1,246,700 sq km
Population:	12,127,071

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Portuguese (official), Bantu and other African languages
Currency:	kwanza (AOA)
Predominant Religions:	Indigenous beliefs 47%, Roman Catholic 38%, Protestant 15%
National Holidays:	Independence Day, 11 November (1975)
Economic Status:	Angola is a large, developing country in southern Africa. Throughout Angola there are growing signs of economic recovery.
Security:	Army, Navy (Marinha de Guerra or MdG), Air and Air Defense Forces (FANA) 17 years of age for compulsory military service; conscript service obligation - two years plus time for training
US Presence:	U.S. Embassy Luanda Rua Houari Boumedienne #32 Miramar, Luanda P.O. Box 6468 Telephone: (244) 222-641-000, (244) 222-447-028, (244) 222-445-481, (244) 222-446-224; Emergency after-hours telephone: (244) 222-641-000; (244) 923-640-154 Facsimile: (244) 222-641-259.

Major Airports:	Airports: 232, Airports with paved runways: 31 Luanda - 4 de Fevereiro Airport (LAD/FNLU) Luanda Airport, Angola, CP 841, Luanda, ANGOLA Tel: +244 (0)2 352387, +244 (0)2 330791 Fax: +244 (0)2 393626 Customs, hours: 24 hours
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