Country Profile: Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan is a constitutional republic with a strong presidency and a market economy. Kazakhstan's tourist facilities are not highly developed; the availability of goods and services is better than in most neighboring countries, but not up to the standards found in North America and Western Europe. Internal travel and travel to neighboring countries, by air and land, can be subject to delays due to infrastructure shortcomings and winter weather. Read the Department of State Background Notes on Kazakhstan for additional information.

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COUNTRY OVERVIEW	
Country Name:	Kazakhstan
Continent:	Asia
Capital City:	Astana
Boundary Countries:	China, Kyrgystan, Russia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Vita-Vent Clinic
Main Cities:	Astana, Oral, Almaty, Taraz, Pavlodar
Country Size:	2,717,300 sq km
Population:	15,233,244 244

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Kazakh (Qazaq, state language) 64.4%, Russian (official, used in everyday business, designated the "language of interethnic communication") 95%	
Currency:	Kazakh Tenge (KZT)	
Predominant Religions:	Muslim 47%, Russian Orthodox 44%, Protestant 2%, other 7%	
National Holidays:	Independence Day, 16 December (1991)	
Economic Status:	Kazakhstan is a constitutional republic with a strong presidency and a market economy. Kazakhstan's availability of goods and services is better than in most neighboring countries, but not up to the standards found in North America and Western Europe. Upward pressure on the local currency continued in 2006 due to massive oil-related foreign-exchange inflows.	
Security:	Ground Forces, Air and Air Defense Forces, Naval Force, Republican Guard	
US Presence:	U.S. Embassy in Astana Rakhymzhan Koshkarbayev Avenue, No. 3. Astana, Kazakhstan, 010010 Phone: +7 (7172) 70-21-00 U.S. Consulate General Almaty Samal-2, 97 Zholdasbekov Street, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 050051 Tel: +7 (727) 250-76-12/17	

Major Airports: Airports: 150, Airports w/paved runways: 67

Astana International Airport (TSE/UACC)

Astana, Kazakhstan, Airport 14, Astana, 010014, KAZAKHSTAN

Tel: +7 3172 33-37-09, +7 3172 77-77-77

Fax: +7 3172 77-79-82

Website: www.astanaairport.kz

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