



Country Profile: Libya

Officially known as the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Libya has a developing economy. Islamic ideals and beliefs provide the conservative foundation of the country's customs, laws, and practices. Tourist facilities are not widely available. Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on Libya for more information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Libya
Continent:	Africa
Capital City:	Tripoli
Boundary Countries:	Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Niger, Sudan, Tunisia
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	
Main Cities:	Tripoli, Sabha, Al Jawf, Tobruk, Banghazi, Al Bayda, Ra's Lanuf, Surt, Misratah, Ghadamis, Al Khums, Zuwarah, Al Buraygah
Country Size:	1,759,540 sq km
Population:	6,036,914, note: includes 166,510 non-nationals

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Arabic, Italian, English are all widely understood in the major cities
Currency:	Libyan Dinar (LYD)
Predominant Religions:	Sunni Muslim 97%, other 3%
National Holidays:	Revolution Day, 1 September (1969)
Economic Status:	The Libyan economy depends primarily upon revenues from the oil sector. Substantial revenues from the energy sector coupled with a small population give Libya one of the highest per capita GDPs in Africa, but little of this income flows down to the lower orders of society.
Security:	Armed Peoples on Duty (APOD, Army), Libyan Arab Navy, Libyan Arab Air Force (Al-Quwwat al-Jawwiya al-Jamahiriya al-Arabia al-Libya, LAAF)
US Presence:	U.S. Embassy in Tripoli Please direct inquiries regarding U.S. citizens in Libya to LibyaEmergencyUSC@state.gov
Major Airports:	Airports: 141, Airports w/paved runways: 60 Tripoli International Airport (TIP/HLLT) Tripoli Airport, Libya, Tripoli, LIBYAN SOC PEOPLES' ARAB JAMAHIRIYA Tel: +218 (0)22 605026 x 261 Fax: +218 (0)22 34840

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