Country Profile: Seychelles

The Republic of Seychelles consists of 115 islands off the east coast of Africa. The main islands of this archipelago include Mahe, which is the largest, followed by Praslin and La Digue. The total population is approximately 81,000. The capital, Victoria, is located on Mahe. Read the Department of State Background Notes on Seychelles for additional information.

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COUNTRY OVERVIEW	
Country Name:	Seychelles
Continent:	Africa
Capital City:	Victoria
Boundary Countries:	
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	
Main Cities:	Victoria
Country Size:	455 sq km
Population:	81,895

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Creole 91.8%, English 4.9% (official), other 3.1%, unspecified 0.2%.	
Currency:	Seychelles Rupee (SCR).	
Predominant Religions:	Roman Catholic 82.3%, Anglican 6.4%, Seventh Day Adventist 1.1%, other Christian 3.4%, Hindu 2.1%, Muslim 1.1%, other non-Christian 1.5%, unspecified 1.5%, none 0.6%	
National Holidays:	Constitution Day (National Day), 18 June (1993)	
Economic Status:	Since independence in 1976, per capita output in this Indian Ocean archipelago has expanded to roughly seven times the pre-independence, near-subsistence level, moving the island into the upper-middle income group of countries. Growth has been led by the tourist sector, which employs about 30% of the labor force and provides more than 70% of hard currency earnings, and by tuna fishing. In recent years, the government has encouraged foreign investment to upgrade hotels and other services.	
Security:	Seychelles Defense Force: Army, Coast Guard (includes Naval Wing, Air Wing), National Guard.	
US Presence:	Americans living or traveling in Seychelles are encouraged to register with the US Embassy in Port Louis Mauritius through the State Dept's travel registration website and to obtain updated information on travel and security within Seychelles. Americans without Internet access may register directly with the nearest US Embassy or Consulate. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency. The US Embassy is located at Rogers House, Fourth Floor, Port Louis, Mauritius. The telephone numbers are (230) 202 4400; fax (230) 208 9534. In the event of an after hours emergency, the Embassy duty officer may be contacted at (230) 253 3641. The Embassy website is http://mauritius.usembassy.gov ; e-mail usembass@intnet.mu . The US Consular Agency in Victoria, Seychelles is open to US citizens Tue, Wed, and Thu from 8:30 to 12:30. US citizens are able to obtain passport applications, Social Security applications, and consular report of birth applications there. The US Consular Agency is located at Oliaji Trade Center, Victoria, Mahe; tel (248) 225-256; fax (248) 225-189; e-mail consular agencyseychelles@gmail.com. The international mailing address is US Consular Agency, P.O. Box 251, Victoria, Mahe, Seychelles.	
Major Airports:	Airports: 15, Airports w/paved runways: 9	

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