



Country Profile: Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

St. Vincent and the Grenadines is an English-speaking developing Caribbean island nation. Tourism facilities are widely available. Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on St. Vincent and the Grenadines for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Continent:	Caribbean
Capital City:	Kingstown
Boundary Countries:	
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	Kingstown General Hospital
Main Cities:	Kingstown, Georgetown, Port Elizabeth, Chateaubelair
Country Size:	389 sq km
Population:	118,149

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	English, Créole
Currency:	East Caribbean dollar (XCD)
Predominant Religions:	Anglican 47%, Methodist 28%, Roman Catholic 13%, other (includes Hindu, Seventh-Day Adventist, other Protestant) 12%
National Holidays:	Independence Day, 27 October (1979)
Economic Status:	Economic growth slowed slightly in 2007 after reaching a 10-year high of nearly 7% in 2006, but is expected to remain robust, hinging upon seasonal variations in the agricultural and tourism sectors and a recent increase in construction activity. This lower-middle-income country is vulnerable to natural disasters - tropical storms wiped out substantial portions of crops in 1994, 1995, and 2002. In 2005, the islands had more than 160,000 tourist arrivals, mostly to the Grenadines. Saint Vincent is home to a small offshore banking sector and has moved to adopt international regulatory standards. The government's ability to invest in social programs and respond to external shocks is constrained by its high debt burden- 25% of current revenues are directed towards debt servicing.
Security:	There are no regular military forces; Royal Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force, Coast Guard.
US Presence:	<p>There is no US Embassy or Consulate in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The US Embassy in Bridgetown, Barbados is responsible for consular issues on the islands of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, including American Citizens Services. US citizens are encouraged to carry a copy of their citizenship documents with them at all times so that if questioned by local officials, proof of identity and US citizenship are readily available.</p> <p>The US Embassy in Bridgetown is located in the Wildey Business Park in suburban Wildey, south and east of downtown Bridgetown. The main number is (246) 431-0225; after hours, the Embassy duty officer can be reached by calling (246) 436-4950. The website for Embassy Bridgetown is http://bridgetown.usembassy.gov/ . Hours of operation are 8:30a to 4p Mon-Fri, except Barbados and US holidays.</p>

Major Airports:	Airports: 6, Airports w/paved runways: 5
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