



## Country Profile: Gambia

The Gambia is a developing country in western Africa, and the capital is Banjul. The official language is English. Facilities for tourism in the Banjul area are good; however, outside the capital region, tourist facilities are limited in availability and quality. Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on The Gambia.

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### COUNTRY OVERVIEW



<b>Country Name:</b>	Gambia
<b>Continent:</b>	Africa
<b>Capital City:</b>	Banjul
<b>Boundary Countries:</b>	
<b>Recommended Hospitals in Capital:</b>	Kololi Clinic (Banjul), Lamtoro Clinic (Banjul), The Royal Victoria Hospital (Banjul), Bansang Hospital (Northants)
<b>Main Cities:</b>	Banjul, Gunjur, Brikama, Georgetown, Basse Santa Su, Mansa Konko, Kerewan, Serekunda, Farafenni
<b>Country Size:</b>	11,300 sq km
<b>Population:</b>	1,688,359

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### COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

<b>Language:</b>	English (official), Mandinka, Wolof, Fula, other indigenous vernaculars
<b>Currency:</b>	dalasi (GMD)
<b>Predominant Religions:</b>	Muslim 90%, Christian 9%, indigenous beliefs 1%
<b>National Holidays:</b>	Independence Day, 18 February (1965)
<b>Economic Status:</b>	Unemployment and underemployment rates remain extremely high; short-run economic progress depends on sustained bilateral and multilateral aid, on responsible government economic management, on continued technical assistance from the IMF and bilateral donors, and on expected growth in the construction sector.
<b>Security:</b>	Gambian National Army (GNA), Gambian Navy (GN), Gambian National Guard (includes Presidential Guard)
<b>US Presence:</b>	Americans living or traveling in The Gambia are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the <a href="#">State Department's travel registration web site</a> so that they can obtain updated information on travel and security within The Gambia. Americans without Internet access may register directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency. The U.S. Embassy is located 92 Kairaba Avenue in Fajara, a suburb of the capital city of Banjul. The mailing address is P.M.B.19, Banjul, The Gambia. Twenty-four hour telephone numbers are (220) 439-2856, 439-2858 and 439-1971; the fax is (220) 439-2475; and the web site is <a href="http://banjul.usembassy.gov">http://banjul.usembassy.gov</a> . Normal business hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and till noon on Fridays.

**Major  
Airports:**

Airports: 1, Airports w/paved runways: 1

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