

Armenia Frequently asked questions

PASSPORTS & VISAS

- U.S. Passport must be valid 3 months beyond intended stay
- Tickets and documents for return or onward travel
- Visa required

HEALTH

No vaccination requirements for any international traveler.

DEPARTURE TAX

There is an airport departure tax of 10,000 AMD, which is paid in cash when you leave. It is useful to keep exactly 10,000 AMD for when you depart Armenia.

TELEPHONES AND EMAIL

The telephone connections in Armenia are quite good. However, due to a monopoly of the domestic telephone market, calling overseas from Armenia is expensive. Most public phones use pre-paid phone cards.

Internet cafes are becoming increasingly common throughout central Yerevan, and most charge a standard rate of \$3 per hour.

ELECTRICITY

Electricity in Armenia is 220 Volts, 50 Hz, and the outlets have European-style plugs, with two round plugs.

CURRENCY

The currency of Armenia is the dram, and is divided into 100 luma. The smallest unit normally used is a 10 dram coin, and 500 or 1000 dram notes are the easiest to carry around - although keep small change with you, as a lot of places may have trouble changing larger notes. US dollars are also widely accepted. If you are planning on bringing dollars, it's best to bring crisp bills in excellent condition to avoid hassles. Credit cards are mostly only used at upscale places, and ATMs are mostly only found in Yerevan.

LANGUAGE

The official language in the Republic of Armenia is Armenian (Hayeren). Russian is also widely used. Major Western languages, such as Spanish, Italian, German, French, and especially English are included in the public school curriculums, and are extensively taught in most colleges and universities. The Armenian language is an independent, one-language subgroup within the Indo-European language family.

WHAT TO WEAR

People in Armenia dress similar to people in Europe. For spring or autumn take warm and comfortable clothes. Summers are hot in Armenia, but be sure to bring an umbrella in case of rain. Men - plan to wear pants at all times as shorts are not the norm for Armenians.

CLIMATE

The climate is almost tropical in summer and the winters are warmer than in the regions north to the Caucasus. Cold spells, however, do occur and low temperatures are frequent, both on the high mountains and in the deep, enclosed valleys.

DRINKING WATER

Good drinking water is available almost anywhere in Armenia, with even the tap water being potable. You can also get bottled water; both aerated mineral water and the usual spring water are sold on every street in the capital and also in the interior areas.