

## Laos

### US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens consult its website daily via the link below for any travel advisories about visiting this country.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

### Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 6 months after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 2 blank pages in their passport for any entry stamp and or visa that will be required. A visa is required. US citizens will need to get in touch with the country's embassy or nearest consulate to obtain a visa prior to visiting the country.

### US Embassy/ Consulate

[856] 21-48-7000; US Embassy Vientiane, Ban Somvang Thai, Thadeua Road, Km 9, Hatsayfong District, Laos

### Vaccinations

See WHO recommendations

<http://www.who.int>

### Climate

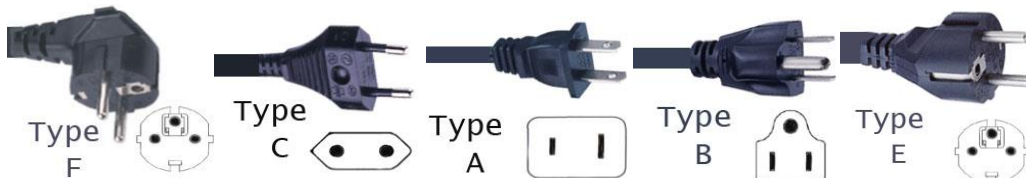
Tropical monsoon; rainy season (May to November); dry season (December to April)

### Currency (Code)

Kips (LAK)

### Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug type(s): A, B, C, E, F



### Major Languages

Lao, French, English, various ethnic languages

### Religions

Buddhist 64.7%, Christian 1.7%, none 31.4%, other/not stated 2.1%

### Time Difference

UTC+7 (12 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

### Potable Water

Opt for bottled water.

### International Driving Permit

Suggested

### Road Driving Side

Right

### Tourist destinations

Elephant Village Sanctuary; Four Thousand Islands (includes Khone Pha Pheng Waterfall); Kong Lor Caves; Wat Phu;; Vientiane; Luang Prabang (former royal city); Plain of Jars

### Cultural Practices

It is considered very rude to touch another person's head or to touch their body with your feet.

**Tipping Guidelines**

Tipping is not customary except in tourist-oriented restaurants where 10% of the bill is appreciated, but only if a service charge has not already been added. Tour guides and day-long drivers expect \$10-15 (USD) per day for a gratuity. Tip hotel staff \$2-3 (USD) per day for their service .

**Telephone Code**

856

**Local Emergency Phone**

Local numbers only

Please visit the following links to find further information about your desired destination.

[World Health Organization \(WHO\) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination. http://www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

[US State Dept Travel Information - Overall information about foreign travel for US citizens. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html)

[To obtain an international driving permit \(IDP\). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs: American Automobile Association \(AAA\) \(www.aaa.com\) and American Automobile Touring Alliance \(ATA\) \(www.aataidp.com\)](#)

US citizens may call the US Dept of State (+1-202-501-4444) for emergencies abroad.

Thursday, January 28, 2021