



Mauritian Country Guide

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Current DFAT Travel Advice

This advice is current for Mon, 5th November 2018.

Exercise normal safety precautions in Mauritius. Use common sense and look out for suspicious behaviour. The cyclone season is from November to May. Severe storms can put you at risk. Essential services can be cut off. If you're travelling during cyclone season, check the [Mauritius Meteorological Service](#) before you plan your trip. See [Natural disasters](#).

Foreign tourists have died in water sports accidents. If you plan swimming with dolphins, scuba diving or other adventure activities, only use tour operators that hold a valid permit from the Ministry of Tourism and have proper safety equipment. See [Local travel](#).

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Mauritius at www.smartraveller.gov.au.

Entry Requirements

Australian passport holders do not usually require a visa to enter Mauritius for tourist purposes. The period of entry is determined by immigration staff upon arrival.

Passports should be valid for intended stay (recommended to be valid for six months beyond intended stay). Travellers should also be able to show documentation confirming their accommodation arrangements, their ability to financially maintain themselves as well as entry documents for their next destination.

Additional conditions may apply to minors. Travellers are recommended to contact a Mauritian mission on the details below for further information and to ensure their specific circumstances make them eligible to enter Mauritius without a visa.

Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against Hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to Mauritius. Frequent or long stay travellers to Mauritius should consider vaccination against Hepatitis B. Vaccination against Typhoid should be considered particularly if travelling to areas with poor sanitation and hygiene. As Dengue Fever occurs in Mauritius insect avoidance measures may be necessary depending on your itinerary.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a recent annual Influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to Mauritius should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas and other issues please visit www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips.

Mauritian Representation in Australia and Mauritius

High Commission of Mauritius, Canberra

2 Beale Crescent
DEAKIN, ACT 2600

Tel: (02) 6281 1203
Fax: (02) 6282 3235

Web: <http://canberra.mauritius.govmu.org>

Honorary Consulates of Mauritius

Queensland (07) 3272 1340
Victoria 0402 459 012
Western Australia (08) 9434 5798

Mauritian Passport and Immigration Office, Mauritius

Tel: (+230) 210 9312
Fax: (+230) 210 9322

Web: <http://passport.gov.mu>



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Mauritius is Greenwich Mean Time +4 hours. Daylight saving time is not observed. The applicable time zone in Mauritius is called Mauritius Time (MUT).

Mauritius, 12 noon, Winter (Jun) = Perth 4pm; Darwin, Adelaide 5:30pm; Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 6pm.
 Mauritius, 12 noon, Summer (Dec) = Perth 4pm; Darwin 5:30; Brisbane 6pm; Adelaide 6:30pm; Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 7pm.

Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Mauritius: +230
 There are no area codes in Mauritius
 Telstra Reverse Charges Direct: 01 610
 To Dial Australia Call: 00 61 <City> <Number>
 Travelex Card Services:
 Call the US on +1 954 838 8294
 Visa Global Assistance:
 Call the US on +1 303 967 1090
 MasterCard:
 Call the US on +1 636 722 7111
 American Express Travellers Cheques:
 Call the UK on +44 20 7365 4846
 (The Visa, MasterCard and American Express numbers can be called reverse charges)
 Emergency Services:
 Ambulance - 114
 Fire - 115
 Police - 999
 Tourist Police - 210 3894

The emergency services may not have English speaking staff. To avoid delay it may be best to seek the assistance of a Creole speaker to call the emergency services.

Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals, and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports

Name: _____ Passport #: _ _ _ _ _
 Name: _____ Passport #: _ _ _ _ _

Credit Cards

Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Card Number: _ _ _ _ _
 Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Card Number: _ _ _ _ _

Travel Insurance

Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____
 Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Australian Representation in Mauritius

Australian High Commission, Mauritius

Level 2, Rogers House
 5 President John Kennedy Street
 PORT LOUIS

Tel: (+230) 202 0160
 Fax: (+230) 208 8878

Web: www.mauritius.highcommission.gov.au

Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305.

Australians in Mauritius are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Australian High Commission in Port Louis, or online with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



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Duty Free Allowances for Mauritius and Australia

Duty Free allowances when entering Mauritius:

Alcohol: 1 L of spirits and up to 2 L of wine, ale or beer.
 Tobacco: Up to 250g of tobacco (approx. 250 cigarettes).
 Other Goods: Up to a value of Rs7,500.

Duty Free allowances when entering Australia:

Alcohol: 2.25 litres.
 Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.
 Other Goods: Up to a value of \$900 (\$450 if under 18 years).

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Mauritius and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For information on Mauritian customs please visit <http://mra.gov.mu>, or for information regarding Australian customs please visit www.border.gov.au.

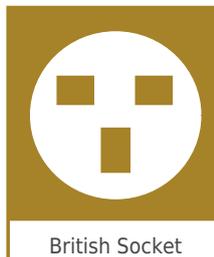
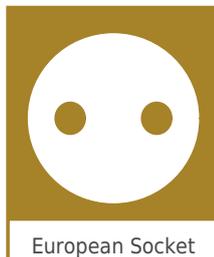
Electrical and Telephone Adaptors

Electrical Socket type: European and British.

Voltage: 220-240 volts (same as Australia, no voltage/frequency converter required).

Modem Plug: US and French.

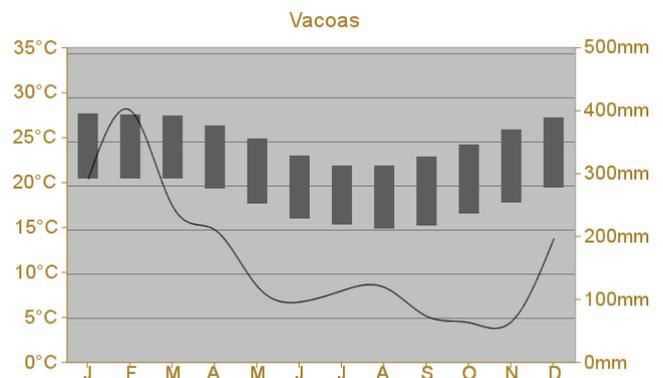
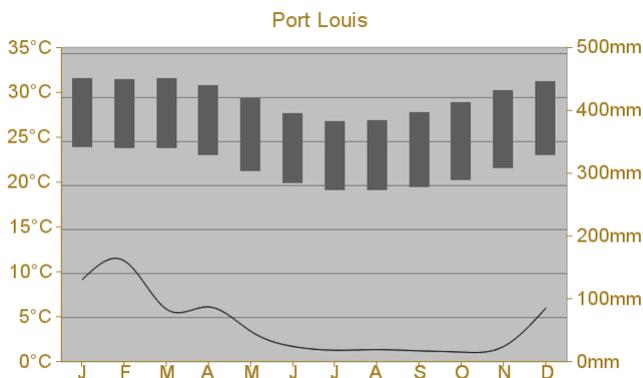
For further information, please view the Korjo adapter guide at www.korjo.com.au.



Mauritian Public Holidays 2018

01-02 Jan: New Year	01 May: Labour Day
31 Jan: Thaipooam Cavadee	16 Jun: End of Ramadan
01 Feb: Abolition of Slavery	15 Aug: Assumption
13 Feb: Maha Shivratree	14 Sep: Ganesh Chaturthi
16 Feb: Chinese New Year	02 Nov: Arrival of the Indentured
12 Mar: National Day	07 Nov: Divali
18 Mar: Ougadi	25 Dec: Christmas

Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Mauritius



Source: Mauritius Meteorological Services. For local forecasts please go to <http://metservice.intnet.mu> or www.bbc.co.uk/weather.

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Page 4 of 5 Mauritian Currency Information and Cheat Sheet Exchange Rate with Australia

Interbank Rate
 1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 25 Mauritian Rupees
 100 Mauritian Rupees (MUR) = 4.00 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin
 1 Australian Dollar (AUD) will buy 24 Mauritian Rupees
 100 Mauritian Rupees (MUR) will cost 4.16 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging currencies. These rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

Currency Cheat Sheet

Rs50 = \$2.08 AUD		This cheat sheet uses the "With 4% Margin" rate of exchange listed above.		Rs10,000 = \$415.94 AUD	
Rs100 = \$4.16 AUD	Rs1,000 = \$41.59 AUD	Rs20,000 = \$831.89 AUD	Rs30,000 = \$1,247.83 AUD	Rs40,000 = \$1,663.78 AUD	Rs50,000 = \$2,079.72 AUD
Rs200 = \$8.32 AUD	Rs2,000 = \$83.19 AUD	Rs60,000 = \$2,495.67 AUD	Rs70,000 = \$2,911.61 AUD	Rs80,000 = \$3,327.56 AUD	Rs90,000 = \$3,743.50 AUD
Rs300 = \$12.48 AUD	Rs3,000 = \$124.78 AUD	Rs100,00 = \$4,159.45 AUD			
Rs400 = \$16.64 AUD	Rs4,000 = \$166.38 AUD				
Rs500 = \$20.80 AUD	Rs5,000 = \$207.97 AUD				
Rs600 = \$24.96 AUD	Rs6,000 = \$249.57 AUD				
Rs700 = \$29.12 AUD	Rs7,000 = \$291.16 AUD				
Rs800 = \$33.28 AUD	Rs8,000 = \$332.76 AUD				
Rs900 = \$37.44 AUD	Rs9,000 = \$374.35 AUD				

Banknotes of Mauritius

The legal currency of Mauritius is the Rupee, which is abbreviated using the symbol "Rs" and has the currency code "MUR". The subunit of the rupee is called the cent, however this unit is obsolete. The following units of currency are the most common in Mauritius however other versions and denominations are also in circulation including the Rs2,000 note. Pictures are not to scale. As it is illegal in many countries to print copies of bank notes, travellers are advised to remove the below images prior to travelling.





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About Mauritius

Full Name:	Republic of Mauritius.	Significant Dates:	
Independence:	12 March 1968 (from the United Kingdom).	900's AD	- Arab and Malay seamen first discover Mauritius.
Size:	2,040 sq km (85% the size of the ACT).	1498	- Portuguese first visit the islands.
Population:	1.3 million (5% the size of Australia). Port Louis (capital) 149,000.	1598	- The Dutch claim the uninhabited island and name it after Prince Maurice Van Nassau.
Ethnicity:	Indian 68%, African and Malagasy Creole 27%, Chinese 3%, French 2%.	1638-1710	- Dutch colonies fail. Dodo bird becomes extinct.
Language:	Creole (French based) 80%, Bhojpuri 12%, French 4%, English (official but not widely used).	1715-1810	- The French claim the islands and establish Port Royal and naval bases to attack British India.
Religion	Hindu 48%, Catholic 24%, Muslim 16%.	1814	- Mauritius ceded to Britain under Treaty of Paris following the Napoleonic Wars.
GDP Per Capita:	US\$15,600 (Australia US\$40,800).	1834	- The British abolish slavery. Indentured labour begins bringing hundreds of thousands from India.
		1910	- Indentured labour system abolished.
		1968	- Independence from the United Kingdom.

