

# Fact Sheet



## Fiji

### Passports

You must be in possession of a valid passport to travel internationally. Instructions on how to obtain a US passport and an application form can be found on the web at:

[www.travel.state.gov/passport](http://www.travel.state.gov/passport).

You may also contact your local post office and they will advise you of the nearest passport issuing office. Your passport must be valid for at least three months after your scheduled date of return home.

### Visas - Fiji

US and Canadian citizens intending to stay in Fiji no longer than 3 months will be issued a Visitors Permit on arrival. No advance procurement is required. Otherwise, please contact the Fijian embassy in Washington, DC. Tel: 202 337 8320 Fax: 202 337 1996

### Money

Currency is Fijian dollar denominations:

Coins	Notes
5 cent	5 Dollar
10 cent	10 Dollar
20 Cent	20 Dollar
50 Cent	50 Dollar
1 Dollar	

Generally \$200 Fijian per day can be withdrawn from an ATM or bank if you have a major credit or debit card and know your PIN number. Please call the issuing bank to inquire about your own card. A service fee usually applies but this is by far a more convenient way to get ready cash than using traveler's checks. Major credit and debit cards are accepted at most stores including supermarkets and most restaurants.

A credit card is required as a security deposit to check in to a hotel or rent a car.

### Weather

Like Australia and New Zealand, the seasons are reversed in Fiji. Hottest months are December to February, and the coolest are June to August. Fiji is very rarely cold, ranging from warm to hot, and dry to humid. Maximum is 88°F and minimum is 66°F . You may get a 10 day forecast for any city at the following website: [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com) and click on the World tab.

## Language

Fiji is an English speaking country although the two major races – Fijians and Indians – speak their vernacular. Hotel staff are fluent in English. Favorite Fijian words to know are:

Fijian	American
Bula	Hello
Vinaka	Thank You

## Telecommunication

Public telephones are uncommon, but most hotels have direct dialing facilities, and the major hotels have business centers with internet access.

Another option is to purchase an un-locked cell phone prior to leaving the US or Canada. When you arrive at your destination, you can then purchase a pre-paid SIM card that you install into your cell phone and this will give you a local telephone number and you will be able to make domestic and international calls. Note SIM Cards are not generally interchangeable between different countries within the South Pacific. You can also rent a cell phone at any Vodafone store. Gateway airports have a Vodafone store on the premises.

## Public Transportation

Taxis are able to be flagged from Nadi airport and Nadi city but from other points will likely have to be arranged by your hotel concierge.

## Customs/Duty Free

There are strict laws prohibiting or restricting the entry of drugs, steroids, weapons, firearms, protected wildlife and associated products. If you are unsure about anything declare it to Customs.

Each traveler over 17 years of age can bring into Fiji 2 litres of alcoholic liquor, or 4 litres of wine and 500 cigarettes or 500 grams of tobacco products duty/tax free. For other goods, including those intended as gifts, a duty/tax-free allowance of \$F400 per person is available. These articles must accompany you through Customs and must not be intended for commercial purposes.

## Tax Refund

All goods and services are subject to a 12.5% Value Added Tax (VAT). Visitors cannot claim this tax back; however when some suppliers ship a major purchase to a visitor's home address the VAT will not be charged.

## Departure Tax

\$F 30 must be paid as a departure tax in Fiji. This tax is not included in your ticket price. Cash and credit cards are accepted for this payment.