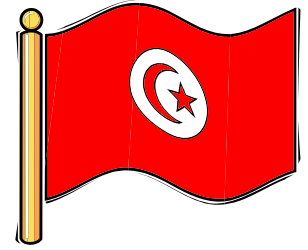


# TRAVEL INFORMATION ON TUNISIA



*Welcome to Tunisia. If this is your first visit to the country, the following guide is intended to help you to get a head start on your visit. Whether you are in Tunis for business or pleasure, you'll find this concise guide helpful in planning your visit, and if you stay with us at the Carlton Hotel, we will be very happy to answer any of your questions and to make your stay as joyful and productive as possible.*

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## Transportation:

If you do not rent a car upon your arrival, there are other convenient means of transportation available in Tunis, the capitol city, and Tunisia. Driving in Tunis can be very hectic for the unaccustomed especially during rush hours. If you avoid those hours, you should have less trouble getting around the city:

### Getting Around Tunis:

**Taxis:** The yellow taxis are available 24 hours within greater Tunis. Metered fare is the norm with a minimum flag down fee added. If you take a taxi from the airport, there is a surcharge for luggage. Another surcharge apply after 21:30 for all fares within the city.



**City Bus:** The bus network offers a fun way to explore the city cheaply. The yellow buses belonging to public company Transtu can be very crowded during rush hours but they connect with the Metro (light rail transit system) where you can use the same ticket until you reach your final destination. Other private companies (TCV and TUT) run lines to and from suburban areas with guaranteed seating.

**Metro:** The green light rail is an efficient and rapid way to travel around the city and surrounding areas.

### Getting Around Tunisia:

**Buses:** The National Intercity Bus Company (SNTRI) runs a network of rapid, reliable and comfortable bus services across Tunisia and especially to Southern destinations. This means of transportation enables you to discover the whole of Tunisia in comfort and safety. Departures are scheduled throughout the day to larger cities and during the night for long-distance trips mostly to the South.

If you are heading to any destination South of Tunis, you need to go to the Main Bus Station at Bab El Falla (5 mn. by car or 20 mn on foot from the Carlton Hotel) and if your destination is North and Northwest of Tunisia, then you need to use the Bab Saâdoun Main Bus Station (20 mn by car or by Metro light rail system). Both stations are also served by regional bus companies from regions close to greater Tunis.

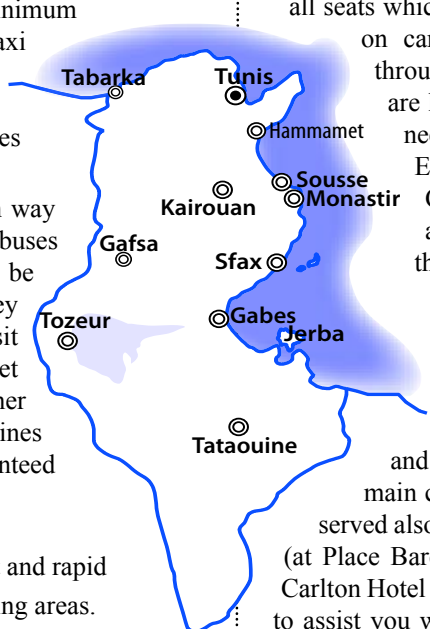
Advanced reservation and purchase is available and recommended with SNTRI buses especially during rush days (school vacations, public and religious holidays and during the summer). At the Carlton Hotel, we will be more than glad to assist you with departure schedules as well as reservation and ticket purchasing to any destination of your choice.

**Taxis:** There are two types of taxis, the economical yellow taxis with metered rates serving the local urban and suburban areas, and the large taxis, more expensive, which can be rented on an hourly or daily rate basis and can be found at airports, ports and larger resort hotels.

**“Louages”:** (Shared long-distance taxis) These are inter-city shared taxis and are a very popular mode of transportation between cities, towns and villages. They are comfortable, fast and cheap with fixed rates. Departure times are conditional on filling all seats which are usually between 5 and 9 seats depending on car model. Numerous departures are common throughout the day especially to larger cities. If you are heading to any destination South of Tunis, you need to go to the “Louages” main station at Bab El Falla (5 mn by car or 20 mn on foot from the Carlton Hotel,) and if your destination is North and Northwest of Tunisia, then you need to use the Bab Saâdoun “Louages” main station.

**Trains:** The National railway company (SNCFT) serves most major cities and towns in the country in the North, Northwest and center south. The trains are very affordable and offer a scenic and pleasant means of travel to the main cities. The cities of Sousse, Sfax and Gabes are served also by express lines. The Tunis Main Train Station (at Place Barcelone) is only 5 to 10-minute walk from the Carlton Hotel where the reception desk will be more than glad to assist you with departure schedules as well as reservation and ticket purchasing to major destinations.

**Airplane:** Tunisia has 8 airports: Tunis-Carthage, Jerba, Tozeur, Sfax, Monastir, Tabarka, Gafsa and Gabes. All these airports are served mostly by Tuninter (the inter-regional carrier) and Tunisair (the national carrier).



## Money, exchange and means of payment:

The country's currency, the Tunisian Dinar (TND), is divided in 1,000 millimes. The exchange rate as of fourth quarter of 2004, 1 TND equals about US \$ 0.83 and € 0.63.

By law, the Tunisian Dinar cannot be imported or exported. Most major foreign currencies can be changed at banks, bureau de change, and larger hotels. The Carlton Hotel provides currency change for its guests at the main lobby and at any time of the day or the night. Exchange rates are fixed on a daily bases (except for weekends and official holidays) by the Central Bank of Tunisia ([www.bct.gov.tn](http://www.bct.gov.tn)).

Most international credit cards are accepted in Tunisia especially at larger retail stores, hotels and major restaurants that display their symbols. All tourist resorts as well as major tourist attractions widely accept foreign credit cards, when in doubt, ask first whether your type of card is accepted before making any purchase.

You can also use your international credit card to withdraw money from some ATMs that display that service. The Carlton Hotel is surrounded by 7 of such machines which are available 24hrs a day.



## Restaurants:

In Tunisia, there are two types of restaurants: listed and ordinary restaurants. The listed restaurants (also called tourist restaurants) are classified according to three categories: 1, 2 or 3 forks. Alcoholic drinks (beer, local wines, and aperitifs) are served in these restaurants. The National Tourism Office (ONTT) is the government agency that is entrusted of overseeing quality standards of such restaurants and is responsible on classifying these restaurants according to the three categories.

You can also enjoy inexpensive yet delicious Tunisian delights and dishes such as "Brik" (pronounced breek) Couscous and Lablabi (spicy chick peas and bread soup) in traditional Tunisian restaurants where the day's special can cost as little as 2 to 3 TND.



The Carlton Hotel is surrounded by a large variety of restaurants (ordinary and listed ones) as well as fast-food restaurants and cafeterias. On the Carlton Hotel access map we suggest to you five restaurants that encompass a wide variety of local and international cuisine.

## Time Zone and Opening Hours:



The official time in Tunisia is one hour ahead of the universal standard time (GMT +1) which is the same as the Central European Time (CET) during winter. However, during the summer, time in Tunisia is one hour back of CET since the country does not use the summer daylight savings time.

There are two schedules for office opening hours in Tunisia: one for government and public sector and another one for business and private sector.

### Government & Public Offices Opening Hours

|           | Mornings     | Afternoons    |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| Mon > Thu | 8:30 - 13:00 | 15:00 - 17:45 |
| Friday    | 8:30 - 13:00 | Closed        |
| Saturday  | 8:00 - 13:30 | Closed        |
| Sunday    | Closed       |               |

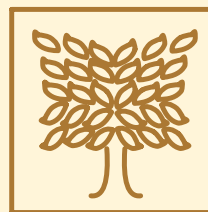
### Business & Private Offices Opening Hours

|           | Mornings     | Afternoons    |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| Mon > Thu | 8:00 - 12:00 | 14:00 - 18:00 |
| Friday    | 8:00 - 12:00 | 14:00 - 18:00 |
| Saturday  | Closed       |               |
| Sunday    | Closed       |               |

During summer (July and August) all offices are open for only half a day 7:30 to 13:30 for the public sector and 7:00 to 13:00 for the private sector. Also during the Holy Month of Ramadan, all offices public and private are open half a day from 8:00 to 14:00.

While banks are open for business according to the private sector time schedule, financial transactions usually are stopped two hours before closing time in the afternoon session. Most bank branches in downtown Tunis are opened for transactions during lunch break.

**Shopping hours:** Stores are usually open non-stop until 19:30 and later than that in some shopping centers and malls. Supermarkets are mostly open until 22:00 whereas convenient stores in residential neighbourhoods remain open until 23:00 and even later.



**CARLTON  
HOTEL**  
★★★  
**TUNIS**

In the heart of Tunis.

Recommended by all major travel guides.  
A destination of charm and choice since 1926.

**Conveniently located.**

**Reasonably priced.**

**Meticulously maintained.**

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