



CONGO (Republic of)

Capital: Brazzaville

Dialing code: +242

President: Denis Sassou Nguesso

Capital and largest city: Brazzaville; 4°16 ' S 15°17 ' E / 4.267°S 15.283°E

Population: 5.126 million (2016) World Bank

Currency: Central African CFA franc

Doing Business in Republic of Congo

Jackets and ties are not usually worn by men on business visits but are expected when visiting government officials. A knowledge of French is essential as there are no professional translators available. Normal courtesies should be observed and the best months for business visits are January to March and June to September.

Office Hours

Usually Mon-Fri 0700-1400, Sat 0700-1200.

Keeping in Touch in Republic of Congo

Telephone

Links with Western Europe are generally poor.

Mobile Phone

Roaming agreements exist with a few international mobile phone companies. Coverage is mainly limited to Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire.

Internet

Limited access. Facilities are available at some hotels.

VISA INFO

Note: visa information is not guaranteed. Kindly confirm details with the relevant authorities.

[Important Note](#) - [Requirements](#) - [Cost/Delay](#) - [Days Closed](#) - [Office Hours](#) - [Contact Details](#)

Important Note	Embassy issues visa for applicants going to Brazzaville.
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Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valid passport (at least 6 months) with atleast (two) 2 blank pages to insert visa Two recent passport color photographs Completed visa application form Letter of invitation from Congo if invited by someone (must be authenticated by the "Direction de la Surveillance du Territoire, DST" - Homeland Directorate). Hotel reservation if you are a tourist Letter of reference of a company if employed by one Letter of reference of your company if self - employed Copy of airline tickets or itinerary. A copy of your airline ticket showing arrival and departure dates in the Republic of Congo is mandatory An invitation letter or hotel reservation and a recent bank statement (for the Tourist visa): A typewritten invitation letter legalized by the D.G.S.T stating the nature of the trip, the name and address of a referee to be visited in the Republic of Congo. The legalized invitation letter must be forwarded to the Embassy of the Republic of Congo, Visa section. A business letter (for the Business visa): A typewritten and legalized by the D.G.S.T business letter on company letterhead stating the nature of business to be performed, the name and address of a reference to be contacted in the Republic of Congo. The legalized invitation letter must be forwarded to the Embassy of the Republic of Congo, Visa section A prepaid DHL envelope with a tracking number to allow for the return of your passport (if the application is submitted by mail) 	
Cost/Delay	Cost: FREE for South African Passport Holders Delay: Minimum - 3 days	
Days Closed	2017: All South African public holidays and Congolese public holidays including 21 Mar / 14, 17, 27 Apr / 01 May / 16 Jun / 09 Aug / 24, 25 Sep / 16, 25, 26 Dec	
Office Hours	09h00-12h00: Mon-Fri (Submission) 14h00-15h30: Mon-Fri (Collection)	
Contact Details	Embassy of Republic of Congo-Brazzaville (Pretoria)	
	Telephone No	: (012) 342 5507/8
	Fax No	: (012) 342-5510
	Email Address	: pretoria@embassyofcongo.co.za
	Street Address	: 960 Arcadia Street, Arcadia Pretoria
	Postal Address	: P. O. Box 40427 Arcadia 0007
	Website Address	: www.embassyofcongo.co.za

Republic of Congo Health Care and Vaccinations

Title	Special precautions
Yellow Fever	Yes*
Typhoid	Yes
Tetanus	Yes
Rabies	Sometimes

Malaria	Yes
Hepatitis A	Yes
Diphtheria	Yes
* A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required for all travellers over one year of age.	

Medical and dental facilities are generally very limited outside Brazzaville. Health insurance is essential. Medicines are in short supply and it is advised that visitors bring their own medicine, with official labels, into the country.

Food and drink

All water should be regarded as being potentially contaminated. Water used for drinking, brushing teeth or making ice should have first been boiled or otherwise sterilised. Milk is unpasteurised and should be boiled. Powdered or tinned milk is available and is advised. Avoid dairy products which are likely to have been made from unboiled milk. Only eat well cooked meat and fish. Vegetables should be cooked and fruit peeled.

Other Risks

Bilharzia (schistosomiasis) is present; avoid swimming and paddling in fresh water. Hepatitis B is hyperendemic. Meningococcal A and C have been reported and immunisation is recommended. Rabies is present. For those at high risk, vaccination before arrival should be considered. If you are bitten, seek medical advice without delay. Since December 2006, outbreaks of cholera have been reported in Pointe-Noire, Kouilou and Brazzaville.

Where to stay in Republic of Congo

Hotels

There are five good hotels in Brazzaville – three in Loubomo and four in Pointe-Noire. Prices and advance bookings can be obtained via *Air France*. Outside the towns mentioned above, accommodation for visitors is limited.

Camping

Available at Cargo-Point, southeast of Moruya. Be sure to hire a guide and take essentials such as water and food.

Other accommodation

Available in Point-Noire and Brazzaville. Expect to pay high prices.

Money and duty free for Republic of Congo

Currency & Money

Currency information

CFA (*Communauté Financière Africaine*) Franc (XAF) = 100 centimes. Notes are in denominations of XAF10,000, 5,000, 2,000, 1,000 and 500. Coins are in denominations of XAF250, 100, 50, 25, 10, 5 and 1. Congo is part of the French Monetary Area. Only currency issued by the *Banque des États de l'Afrique Centrale* (Bank of Central African States) is valid; currency issued by the *Banque des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest* (Bank of West African States) is not. The CFA Franc is tied to the Euro. However, US Dollars are the preferred currency.

Credit cards

Diners Club and MasterCard have limited use. Hotels in Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire accept major credit or debit cards, although prefer cash. One bank in Brazzaville has an ATM.

ATM

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Travellers cheques

To avoid additional exchange rate charges, travellers are advised to take traveller's cheques in Euros or Pounds Sterling. These are accepted only in the larger cities.

Banking hours

Mon-Fri 0630-1300 (counters close at 1130).

Republic of Congo duty free

The following items may be imported into Congo by visitors over 18 years of age without incurring customs duty:

- 200 cigarettes or 1 box of cigars or tobacco (women are permitted to import cigarettes only).
- 1 bottle of spirits and 1 bottle of wine.
- A reasonable quantity of perfume in opened bottles.

If importing expensive items such as watches and cameras, it is advisable to present the receipt.

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Contact our office for any information not supplied above



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Fax: +27 (11) 794 4910

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday: 08h30am – 17h00pm

Weekends & Public Holidays: Closed

24 Hour after hours service available Contact your travel advisor for assistance