

# Texas A&M at Qatar Visitor Information Packet



Updated August 2008

# Important Travel Information

## Preparing to Leave

- Make 2 copies of your passport identification page. This will facilitate replacement if your passport is lost or stolen. Leave one copy at home with friends or relatives. Carry the other with you in a separate place from your passport
- Leave a copy of your itinerary and emergency contact card (given with the briefing book) with family or friends at home so that you can be contacted in case of emergency.
- Carry necessary medicine, personal items, and a change of clothes in case something happens to your checked bag.
- If you are traveling on two different airlines, ensure that you are compliant with both airlines' luggage and carry-on requirements.
- Please check the transportation Security Authority (TSA) website for updates on airline travel. <http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/index.shtm>

## In Flight

- The flight takes approximately 26 hours.
- Sleep as much as possible on the first leg of your journey from the U.S. to Europe.
- Stay awake as much as possible from your European connection city to Doha (6-8 Hours).
- It will be night upon your arrival so you want to be able to sleep you get to Doha.

## Currency

- The local currency is the Qatar riyal (QR) with a fixed exchange rate of 3.65 riyals to the American dollar. If you wish to obtain riyals, you will be able to do so at your hotel either through the ATM or with the concierge. Some business operate on a cash-only basis so it may be to your advantage to exchange a small amount of money, especially if you plan to visit the souqs.
- Otherwise, major credit cards are accepted at the hotels, department stores, etc. Please be aware that you will likely incur foreign transaction fees on any overseas purchase. Also, you need to let your bank and credit card companies know of your travel plans so they will allow your transactions to occur without incident.

# Emergency Travel Contact Information

Profile Travel	(202) 463-2015 (Normal Business Hours)
Elie Ghostine (Owner/Agent) elie@profiletravel.com	(202) 297-3141 (Available 24 hours)
Maria Chavez (Agent) Maria@profiletravel.com *Primary Contact	(301) 254-0679 (Available 24 hours)
Rahel Woldemauam Rahel@profiletravel.com	(202) 390-1396 (Available 24 hours)

If any problems are encountered during your airline travel, please contact the travel agency listed above for assistance.

## Make an international call:

### Land Line:

- Dial Int'l Dialing Prefix + Country Code + Area/City Code + Local Number
- There won't always be an area/city code
- Calling Qatar doesn't require a city/area code

### Cell Phones:

- Hold down "0" until you see a "+" appear
- or press "\*" twice until you see a "+" appear
- then dial Country code + Area/City Code + Local Number

### Int'l Dialing Prefix (Calling from this location):

US – 011

Qatar – 0

UK – 00

Netherlands – 00

Germany – 00

### Example

Calling from US to Qatar: 011-974-423-0012

### Country Codes (Calling to this location):

US-1

Qatar-974

UK-44

Netherlands-31

Germany-49

UAE– 971 (Dubai-4)

Calling from Qatar to the US: 0-1-979-845-2295

**Dial Int'l Dialing Prefix + Country Code + Area/City Code + Local Number**

**Country Calling Codes: <http://www.countrycallingcodes.com/index.php>**

# Airline Information

## AMERICAN AIRLINES

800-433-7300(US) 974-499-5737 (Qatar)

[http://www.aa.com/index\\_us.jhtml](http://www.aa.com/index_us.jhtml)

## CONTINENTAL AIRLINES

800-231-0856(US) 974-462-2122 (Qatar)

<http://www.continental.com/web/en-US/default.aspx>

## BRITISH AIRWAYS

800-247-9297(US) 974-432-1434 (Qatar)

<http://www.britishairways.com/travel/globalgateway.jsp/global/public/en>

## EMIRATES AIRLINES

800-777-3999(US) 974-438-4477 (Qatar)

<http://www.emirates.com/>

## QATAR AIRWAYS AIRLINES

877-777-2827(US) 974-449-6688 (Qatar)

<http://www.qatarairways.com/global/en/homepage.html>

This database contains all major airline 800 numbers, and websites:

<http://www.airtimetable.com/Airline800numbers.htm>

This is the official Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and it has information about carrying liquids, prohibited items, information about what items can be carry-ons.

# Useful Arabic Phrases

## Courtesies

Peace be with you (greeting)	AsSalam Alaikom
And with you be peace (reply)	Wa alaikom asSala
Hello	Marhaba
Good Morning	Sabah al Kheir
Good Morning (reply)	Sabah al Noor
Good Evening	Masa al Kheir
Good Evening (reply)	Masa Al Noor
How Are you ?	Keif Haalak ?
Well	Zein
By God's grace	Al-hamdu lillah
Thanks	Shukran
Not at all	Afwan
Please	Min fadlak
Please (do)	Tafaddal
Goodbye	Ma-as-salamah
Yes	Na'am
No	La
Sorry	Muta' assef

## Directions

Tell me	Oulli
This	Hatha
That	Hathak
How much ?	Kam ?
What's the matter	Aish fi ?
On your right	Al Yameenak
On your left	Ala Shimalak
Straight on	Alatool
When ?	Mata? or Emta ?
Go !	Imshi
Come !	Ta'ala !
Stop !	Qif !
There isn't any	Ma fi
Impossible	Mush Mumkin
Look !	Shuft !
Finished	Khallas

# Useful Arabic Phrases

## Time

What time is it ?	As-sa'a kam ?
It is late	Al-waqt
It is early	Badri

## Travel

Porter, take my luggage	Ya hammal, khuth'afshee
I want a taxi	Areed taxi
How much is the taxi ?	Kam al-ijar ?
Where is the airline office?	Wain makrab at-tayaran ?
Take us to the airport	Khuthna ilal-matar

## Shopping

I want to buy ...	Areed ashtiri...
Do you have ... ?	Andak ?
Where is the market ?	Wain al-souq ?
How much is it ?	Kam qimtah ?

## Numbers

One	Wahad
Two	Ithnain
Three	Thalatha
Four	Arba'a
Five	Khamsa
Six	Sitta
Seven	Saba'a
Eight	Thamanya
Nine	Tiss'a
Ten	Ashara
Eleven	Ihda ashar
Twelve	Ithna ashar
Twenty	Ashreen
Hundred	Mi'a
Thousand	Alf

## Days of the week

Sunday	Yom al-ahad
Monday	Yom al-ithnain
Tuesday	Yom al-thalatha
Wednesday	Yom al-arba'a
Thursday	Yom al-khamees
Friday	Yom aljum'a
Saturday	Yom al-sabt

# Qatar Support Office Contact Information

Qatar Support Office  
Bizzell Hall West - 2nd Floor  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, Texas 77843-4251

E-mail: [qso@tamu.edu](mailto:qso@tamu.edu)

Website: [qatarsupportoffice.tamu.edu](http://qatarsupportoffice.tamu.edu)

Fax: 979-845-4824

Patti's Cell: 979-575-2732

Emergency Cell: 979-571-0265



	Phone (979)	E-mail	Title
Patti Urbina	845-9371	<a href="mailto:purbina@ipomail.tamu.edu">purbina@ipomail.tamu.edu</a>	Director
Nancy Allaham	458-3622	<a href="mailto:nallaham@ipomail.tamu.edu">nallaham@ipomail.tamu.edu</a>	Administrative Coordinator
Rachel Levins	845-5232	<a href="mailto:rlevins@tamu.edu">rlevins@tamu.edu</a>	Senior Office Assistant
Amal El-Halwagi	845-2295	<a href="mailto:ael-halwagi@ipomail.tamu.edu">ael-halwagi@ipomail.tamu.edu</a>	Program Coordinator for Arabic Language and Culture
Margie Billingsley	845-2297	<a href="mailto:Margie.billingsley@qatar.tamu.edu">Margie.billingsley@qatar.tamu.edu</a>	Program Coordinator

