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# BUSINESS GUIDE

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## Introduction

This guide contains important tips for people travelling on business, “do’s and don’ts and covers the most important basic information such as currency/exchange rate, special rules of conduct and negotiations, public holidays, working hours, methods of payment, countertrade, etc. in Ghana.

## Detail description

- **Arrival/departure**

It is dependent on the choice of the traveller. However, first time travellers are advised to choose convenient and safe times to arrive in / depart from the country.

Make sure to inform yourself whether a visa is required.

- **Languages used for business**

English is the predominant language for communication in Ghana. However, due to the diverse culture of the country, other languages such as French can be used within a limited area where these are spoken.

- **Public holidays**

The statutory national holidays in Ghana can be found on the following link: [holidays.gov.gh](http://holidays.gov.gh). Note that as these holidays are observed, no government institutions with the exception of the public security services and health/medical facilities, most private organisations such as banks, schools, embassies, etc. will be opened to the public.

- **Health (inoculations etc.)**

An international health certificate showing a current yellow fever immunization is required for entry into Ghana. General health information and recommended vaccines can be found on the following link: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/Ghana/>

- **Time Zone**

Ghana observes Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) all year. Note that there are no daylight saving time clock changes.

- **Electricity supply**

Ghana's electrical standard is 230 volts, 50 Hz. A three-pronged (grounded) British style plug is used almost exclusively

- **Methods of payment (currency, exchange rate, import/export of currencies, restrictions, credit cards, ATMs)**

Ghana's currency is the Ghana Cedi and the symbol used is GH¢ or GHS. The current trend in Ghana's payment systems development is being driven by economic, financial, public policy factors as well as a growing local ICT industry and global trends in payment systems development.

- **Business and romance scam**

The increasing rate of reported – and often unreported – business scams from Ghana and other African countries targeting Swiss companies and other foreign companies requires a pragmatic approach toward sensitizing and educating the business community to understand the potential risks and possible financial losses. Some Swiss businesses have fallen victim to these scams, which could have been easily avoided if basic due diligence and precautions were taken. For more information and how to detect and treat unexpected business proposals follow the link: <https://www.s-ge.com/en/article/news/20173-ghana-unexpected-business-proposals>