

Honduras

Information for applicants

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Honduras has one of the smallest territories and lowest populations in Latin America. Covering an area of 112,492 km², it is around one third the size of Germany, but has a population of just 8.5 million or so, approximately 1.2 million of whom live in the capital Tegucigalpa. Honduras is bordered by Guatemala to the west, El Salvador and the Pacific Ocean to the south-west, Nicaragua to the east, and the Caribbean Sea to the north.

Climate and sights

The climate is tropical on the Caribbean coast, but temperate in the interior highlands. The dry season lasts from November to April and the rainy season from May to October, when temperatures are cooler in the highlands especially. The period from September to November is the peak time for tropical storms, such as the devastating Hurricane Mitch in 1998. Honduras is one of the countries hardest hit by extreme weather events exacerbated by climate change. The north coast experiences high temperatures for the most part, with year-round rainfall. The climate on the Pacific coast is tropical warm and humid, but with a more pronounced dry season.

Medical care

The larger cities have good health care provision, with private hospitals and doctor's surgeries and a network of chemists.

Accommodation and quality of life

The major cities offer apartments and houses with European-level rents, located mainly in relatively secure, middle-class neighbourhoods. The housing situation in Tegucigalpa is good, with a decent number of offerings on the market. You should take account of security factors when looking for accommodation, though this does come at a price.

There is a wide range of leisure activities in the capital. The Centro Cultural Alemán organises German-themed cultural events, as well as German classes, and there are a large number of cinemas (with cinema weeks for different nations), theatres and museums. Café Paradiso has a cosy inner courtyard and small bookshop and hosts cultural events such as poetry readings and film screenings.

You can go on hikes and day trips in the area around Tegucigalpa, with nearby La Tigra National Park definitely worth a visit. The Caribbean coast caters to ecotourists and sports tourists.

Shops and services

The major cities offer an excellent range of shops and services. Shopping centres and various supermarkets stock a large selection of goods, including European items. Supermarkets are frequented primarily by upper-middle and upper class residents and expatriates. As you would expect, their prices are higher than those of the city markets. Most large supermarkets open from 8:00 to 20:00 or even 22:00. You will find fresh fruit and vegetables at local markets throughout the country, and the coasts offer a wide variety of fish and other seafood.

Accompanying partners and children

Honduras and Panama are the only Latin American nations without German schools. Nonetheless, Tegucigalpa does have a number of private American schools, including Discovery School, which offers the *Bachillerato Nacional* and High School leaving qualifications, and the Escuela Americana, which also offers the International Baccalaureate (IB). English is the language of instruction, and both schools have a pre-school and a kindergarten admitting children from four and three years of age respectively.

Good to know

The Honduran economy is characterised by agricultural production and the growing exploitation of natural resources.

The north of the country in particular is dominated by plantations. However, the cultivation and export of bananas, which earned Honduras the dubious reputation of being a 'banana republic', is now starting to give way to other products (palm oil, sugar cane, pineapple and coffee).

Find out more

<https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/honduras-node>

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