

The Republic of Moldova

Information for applicants

The Republic of Moldova

Interlaced by a network of deep, flat river valleys, the small Republic of Moldova is located in Southeast Europe between Romania and Ukraine. The country has a population of around 2.8 million (not counting Transnistria), of whom some 530,000 live in the capital city of Chisinau.

The official language is Romanian, although Russian is widely spoken.

The second largest city in Moldova after Chisinau is Balti. The urban-rural divide is considerable. Most villages are not connected to the water and sanitation system and roads and paths are often unsurfaced.

GIZ operates from the capital Chisinau.

Medical care

Medical care in the Republic of Moldova is not up to Western standards. However, the private health care sector does use modern equipment. While health care is readily accessible in the capital, conditions in rural areas are spartan. Health screening for children and young people works best because their regular medical checks are well documented. Chisinau has English-speaking medical doctors and hospitals that specialise in all disciplines.

Germany's Federal Foreign Office recommends getting a doctor to check your immunisation status before leaving for the country.

On entering into the contract, you and your family will undergo a thorough health check.

Living locally, finding accommodation

In addition to many gastronomic highlights, the capital Chisinau in particular offers plenty to do and see.

However, poor road conditions mean there is a significant risk of accidents.

The mobile phone network operates reliably nationwide, also in Transnistria.

Shopping and services

Moldovans like to shop at markets. Held regularly at all larger towns, they not only sell fresh food but virtually everything else. The largest market is in the heart of Chisinau. Clothing is mostly sold in shopping centres that have international retail chains.

Cash can be withdrawn from ATMs in larger towns and cities using credit cards. However, care should be taken when using a credit card to pay for purchases. Making payments and withdrawing money with a chip-and-PIN bank card does not always work reliably. US dollars and euros are widespread and stable currencies throughout Moldova, which means you should generally have no problem paying with either.

The rate of exchange fluctuates and is about: EUR 1 = MDL 20.37 (Moldovan leu) (as at Nov. 2017).

Climate

Moldova has a temperate continental climate with long warm summers and relatively mild winters on average. The average temperature in summer is 20 °C; in winter it is -2 °C.

Accompanying partners

We generally like to advocate a good work-life balance and therefore encourage family members to accompany their partner, as far as this is possible under the provisions governing entry and residence.

Schools

The education system in the Republic of Moldova is reputed to be below European standards and below average.

There are international schools in Chisinau and Balti (e.g. Mihail Kogălniceanu).

Furthermore, Chisinau in particular offers a number of recreational opportunities, such as bowling or youth theatre.

Childcare

Chisinau has a lot of pre-schools, some of which meet international standards. For example, 'CHIPS' and 'Quo Vadis'.

Things to look out for

Chisinau International Airport (KIV) is 14.5 km from the city centre. There are regular buses to and from the city (travel time around 25 mins.). There are daily train connections between Chisinau and Ocnita, Tighina and Ungheni as well as good connections in all parts of the country (Moldova Railways). Busses run between most towns and cities.

Find out more

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

<https://ec.europa.eu/budget/graphs/inforeuro.html>

<https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/293.html>

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