

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION TURKMENISTAN

## PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends, and should have a minimum of one (1) blank visa page for entry and exit stamps.

**A tourist visa is required for U.S. and Canadian passport holders for entry into Turkmenistan and must be obtained prior to departure.** A visa stamp in your passport can be obtained either by applying directly to a Turkmenistan consulate or through a visa processing service. While there are additional costs involved in using a visa service, this option is available for guests who prefer additional assistance in the visa process.

A letter of invitation from the Turkmenistan State Migration Service (SMS) must be submitted with your visa application. A&K will assist you in obtaining this invitation letter. In order to begin this process, please email a clear, full-color photograph or scan of your passport showing the full page including the two digital lines at the bottom of the page to A&K at: [operations@abercrombiekent.com](mailto:operations@abercrombiekent.com). The SMS requires at least 15 working days to process the certified letter of invitation which will then be forwarded to you by A&K so that you may apply for your tourist visa.

**Turkmenistan Immigration Card:** In addition to a tourist visa, visitors are also required to purchase an immigration card on arrival. The current fee is USD \$14 (subject to change without notice.) The fee must be paid in cash and can be paid in U.S. dollars. Two (2) passport-size photos and photocopy of your passport are also required. You must carry this card with you for the duration of your stay in Turkmenistan, and then return it to customs authorities on departure.

If you are asked to provide contact information for your local tour operator, please use:

### **ABERCROMBIE & KENT RUSSIA**

Stoleshnikov Pereulok 11  
Office 311/313  
Moscow, 107031  
Russia  
Telephone: +7 495 514 0089  
Emergency Telephone: +7 926 370 4027

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](http://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

## REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO COVID-19

Visit the U.S. Department of State at [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) or the Government of Canada at [travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories](https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories) for comprehensive and up-to-date country entry requirements as well as information for onward travel. A&K will facilitate in-country testing required for returning home or onward travel at the end of your A&K journey. Costs are paid locally and vary depending on the type and location of testing. All details specific to your journey will be included in with your **Final Documents**.

Requirements for Returning Home or Onward Travel  
**Guests returning to the United States**

Before boarding a flight to the United States, all travellers are required to show printed or electronic proof of a negative COVID-19 viral test (PCR or rapid antigen) result taken no more than one (1) day before travel, or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the last 90 days.

For up-to-date details and FAQs visit [Requirement for Proof of Negative COVID-19 Test or Documentation of Recovery from COVID-19 | CDC](#). Be sure to check state COVID-19 entry requirements, as they may vary.

### **Guests returning to Canada**

All travellers, including Canadian passport holders, must provide printed or electronic proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours of boarding their flight to Canada. Additional information can be found at [travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories](http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories).

Note all guests with flights connecting through and/or continuing to other countries should check the specific COVID-19 entry requirements.

### CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Turkmenistan has a primarily cash-based economy. Major credit cards are not widely accepted, except at large hotels, shops and restaurants catering to international visitors and costly service charges may apply. ATM access is extremely limited; some machines can be found in Ashgabat, and Vnesheconombank locations.

### PLEASE PACK YOUR PATIENCE

Turkmenistan is a developing nation that has experienced significant reforms in their economic and political institutions over the last several decades; however, the country is still in the process of developing its tourist infrastructure.

Abercrombie & Kent is known for its practice of using the very best hotels all over the world, but hotels of that premier caliber are rarely found outside the major tourist destinations. Luckily, people who enjoy travelling “off the beaten path” know that its pleasures far outweigh the small inconveniences of more rustic accommodations. Be assured that A&K believes that the hotels featured on your itinerary are the very best accommodations available - clean, comfortable and with a friendly welcome for their guests.

### PACKING LIST

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to find and manage your luggage for you.

#### Safe Travel Essentials

Be sure to bring personal protective equipment (PPE), including face masks, travel-sized hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, facial tissues and disinfecting wipes or spray.

#### Clothing

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather requires. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

Plan to dress modestly (in clothing that covers knees, shoulders and upper arms) when visiting religious sites.

- Casual slacks
- Walking shorts
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses

- Comfortable walking shoes
- Sweater or lightweight jacket
- Sleepwear (both light and warm)
- Socks
- Lightweight raincoat
- Brimmed hat for sun protection
- Personal garments
- Swimwear/cover-up

Other Recommended Items

- Sunglasses
- Simple first-aid kit
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Charging cables for electronics
- Sun block
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Smartphone
- Global travel adapter

Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Lightweight binoculars
- Foldable walking stick
- Small daypack or fanny pack

Laundry service is available at most hotels. Check costs and return times before using these services.

**TIPPING GUIDELINES**

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars).

	<b>Tailor Made Journeys</b>
Local Guides	\$25 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	\$2 per bag
Housekeepers	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added