

Lebanon in a nutshell

continent: Asia
 frontiers: Syria, Israel, Mediterranean
 proximity: to Europe (at about 4 hours flying from Paris, London, Frankfurt)
 main attractions: Beirut, Byblos, Cedars, Baalbek, Tripoli, Tyr

country: democratic republic
 full name: Lebanese Republic
 independence: 22/11/1943

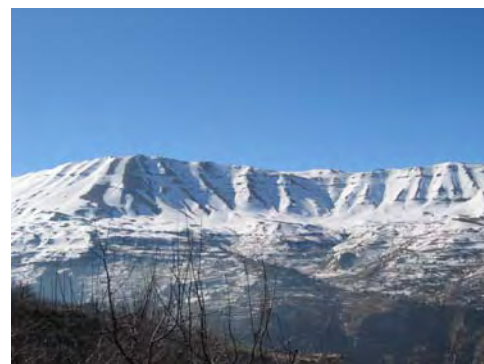
size : 10 452 Km2
 comparison to Europe :
 Belgium is app 3 x Lebanon
 Denmark is app 4 x Lebanon
 France is app 53 x Lebanon
 Germany is app 35 x Lebanon
 Italy is app 26 x Lebanon
 Norway is app 31 x Lebanon
 Spain is app 49 x Lebanon
 Sweden is app 44 x Lebanon
 UK is app 22 x Lebanon



population: 3.8 million
 capital: Beirut
 languages: Arabic (official), French, English, Armenian
 religion: Muslim 59.7% (Shi'a, Sunni, Druze, Isma'ilite, Alawite or Nusayri)
 Christian 39% (Maronite Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Melkite Catholic, Armenian Orthodox, Syrian Catholic, Armenian Catholic, Syrian Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Chaldean, Assyrian, Copt, Protestant)
 other 1.3%

currency: Lebanese Pound (LYP)
 1 USD = 1500 LYP

visa: individual visa upon arrival
 - free of charge for a stay of max. 48 hours
 - 18 USD p.p. for a stay of max. 15 days
 no group visa possible

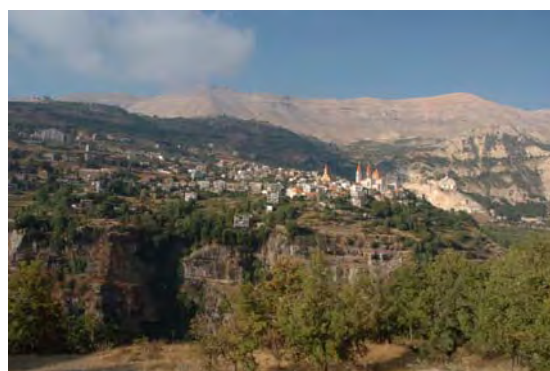


Highest point: 3.088 m

Geography: narrow coast line at the Mediterranean, total coast 240 km
 green mountain ranges comprise the majority of the country

- Mount Lebanon until 3.088 m of height at Qurnat Al Sawda. Rivers have created deep gorges in the mountains. The western side is covered with pine forests and cedars.
- Anti Lebanon, desert plateau at 2.300 m altitude

Bekaa Valley, at 900 m high in between the 2 mountain ranges



The proximity of sea and mountains allows it to ski and be at the coast in the same day!!

Climate: Mediterranean climate with over 300 days of sunshine.
 Winters are soft on the coast and cooler in the mountains with snow

BEIRUT

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
°C	13	13	15	18	21	25	27	27	26	23	19	15

National Holidays:	Month	Day	Observance
	January	1	New Year's Day
	February	9	Saint Maron
	Good Friday		Catholics and Orthodox
	Easter Monday		Catholics and Orthodox
	May	1	Labour Day
	May	6	Martyr's Day
	May	25	Liberation Day
	August	15	Assumption of Mary
	November	1	All Saints
	November	22	Independence Day
	December	25	Christmas

The holidays of the Islamic calendar depend on the lunar calendar:

Eid al-Fitr	end of Ramadan (3 days)
Eid al-Adha	3 days after the pilgrimage to Mekka
New year of the Higra	
Achoura, Shi'a holiday	
Eid al-Mawled	Birth of the prophet Mohammed