

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

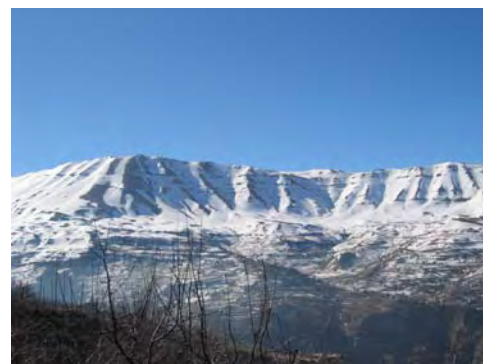
size : 10 452 Km2
 comparison to Europe : Belgium is app 3 x Lebanon
 Denmark is app 4 x Lebanon
 France is app 53 x Lebanon
 Germany is app 35 x Lebanon
 Italy is app 26 x Lebanon
 Norway is app 31 x Lebanon
 Spain is app 49 x Lebanon
 Sweden is app 44 x Lebanon
 UK is app 22 x Lebanon



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

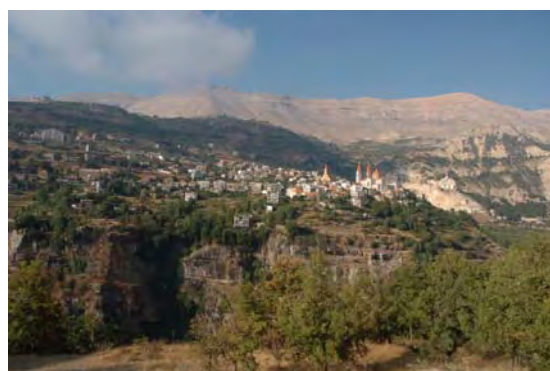


Highest point: 3.088 m

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:		
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