



# Tunisia

POP 11.135 MILLION / 216

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## Fast Facts

**Capital** Tunis

**Population** 11.14 million

**Language** Arabic

**Area** 163,610 sq km

**Currency** Tunisian dinar (TD)

## Sand, Sea & Ancient Sites

It may be but a slim wedge of North Africa's vast horizontal expanse, but Tunisia has enough history and diverse natural beauty to pack a country many times its size. With a balmy, sand-fringed Mediterranean coast, scented with jasmine and sea breezes, and where the fish on your plate is always fresh, Tunisia has in the past been prime territory for a straightforward sun-sand-and-sea holiday. It's also a destination with distinct cultures and incredible extremes of landscape – forested coastlines along the coast, and Saharan sand seas in the south.

Sadly, there have been a number of terrorist attacks in Tunisia in recent years and most Western governments were advising against travel to the country at the time of writing.

## Tunisia at a Glance

**Tunis** This cosmopolitan Mediterranean city has a fascinating medina, museum and cultural events.

**Mahdia** Small-town charm on the coast.

**Jerba** This island has near-perfect beaches and a fascinating cultural mix.

**Carthage** The modern appearance of these low-slung ruins belies a history as one of the greatest cities of the Ancient World.

**Dougga** Extraordinarily well-preserved Roman ruins and sublime views.

**El Jem** One of the finest extant coliseums from the Ancient Roman times, with fabulous mosaics also in situ.

**Midès Gorge** One of Tunisia's most dramatic natural rock formations.

