

BAHRAIN



M	D	HOLIDAYS
1	1	New Year's Day
2	26	Mouloud (Birth of the Prophet)
5	1	Labor Day
9	10-12	Eid al-Fitr (End of Ramadan)
11	15	Mount Arafat day
11	16-17	Eid al-Adha (Feast of the Sacrifice)
12	7	Al-Hijrah (Islamic New Year)
12	16-17	National Day (two days)
12	16	Ashura

CAPITAL	MANAMA
CURRENCY	DINAR
POPULATION	791,473 (2008)
TIME ZONE (GMT)	+3
SUMMER TIME (GMT)	NONE
COUNTRY CODE	973
GDP:	US\$19.68 billion (2008)

Religion:

Islam is practised by around 85% of Bahraini society (of which 60% is Shi'ite and 40% Sunni). There are also other faiths, including Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism, Zoroastrianism and Buddhism.

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Note:

Muslim festivals are timed according to local sightings of various phases of the moon and the dates given above are approximations. During the lunar month of Ramadan that precedes Eid al-Fitr, Muslims fast during the day and feast at night and normal business patterns may be interrupted. Many restaurants are closed during the day and there are restrictions on smoking and drinking. Some disruption may continue into Eid al-Fitr itself. Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha may last anything from two to 10 days, depending on the region.

<http://www.bahrainembassy.org>