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CEO/Publisher
World Trade Press

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Venice: City View

Venice is unquestionably one of the truly unique cities of the world. With its extensive canal system, spectacular artworks, and renowned architecture, the storied city is every bit as exciting and beautiful as one would imagine and hope. While Venice doesn't have exciting and continuous nightlife, famous sports teams, or ethnic enclaves, simply put, its history and sheer beauty make these things unnecessary.

Founded in 828 C.E. when a small group of traders stole the body of Saint Mark from the Byzantines and started their own community, Venice was, by the 12th century, the center of the Roman Empire. Situated in the **Venetian Lagoon**, most of the city's buildings sit on pilings set in a layer of *caranto* (clay and sand) that have gradually hardened into mineral form.

"LA SERENISSIMA"

Venice's climate is most pleasant in spring and fall, when it truly earns its ancient nickname "La Serenissima" ("Most Serene"). July and August can be uncomfortably hot, and the canals smelly. Winters can be cold, but are mainly gray and wet. The city does not flood per se, but has *acqua alta* (especially high tides), which occur from April to September, when the streets can stand a few inches deep in water. Warning sirens sound about an hour before such tides. Some shops keep *passarelle* (planks) on hand for pedestrians to walk on; it is the height of rudeness to cut in or hurry across them.

Attractions in the canaled city include **Basilica di San Marco** (St. Mark's Basilica), **Palazzo Ducale** (Ducal Palace), **Ponte dei Sospiri** (Bridge of Sighs), **Torre dell'Orologio** (Clock Tower), **Galleria dell'Accademia** (Academy Gallery), the **Peggy Guggenheim Collection**, the **Scuola (guild house) di San Rocco**, and **San Giorgio Maggiore**. Of course, the canals themselves are one of the main attractions, the **Grand Canal** **Traghetti** being Venice's version of Paris' Champs-Élysées. For shopping, try the **Rialto markets**, **Mercerie dell'Orologia**, and **Calle Larga XXII Marzo**.

A UNIQUE DESTINATION

Venice's uniqueness has made it a huge tourist destination, and that may also be its undoing. The city's population is falling dramatically, and most businesses have left for the mainland. The current population stands at about 80,000, a drop of more than 50 percent since World War II, but the city hosts 15 million visitors a year.

Violent crime is rare, but pickpockets and purse snatchings are common. The canals, stepped bridges, and waterbuses present difficulties for people with physical disabilities. The lagoon struggles with pollution, real estate values have skyrocketed, and almost everything has premium prices. There are complaints that Venice has ceased to be real, but is simply preserved for the tourists—not to mention the fact that many of the city's foundations are also slowly sinking.

In the face of this, the city has tried to increase settlements, and has sponsored many civic improvements—fiber-optic cables installed, bridges rebuilt, sewage improved, museums restored. It is still open to question whether one of the great cities of the past will survive as such in the 21st century, but for now Venice remains the quintessentially romantic Italian destination of choice for travelers the world over.

—World Trade Press

The Grand Canal

Doge's Palace

Carnival of Venice

Gondolier navigating the canals

St. Mark's Square

Rialto Bridge

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Athens: Excursions

In the City

THE ANCIENT SITES OF ATHENS

Plan to spend at least a day exploring the **Acropolis**—perhaps the most important ancient structure in the city—and one that can be seen from almost anywhere in the city—and its handful of surviving monuments. Although it has only one entrance, you can approach it from several directions. The main one is from the north along a path that is an extension of **Dioskouon Street** in the southwest corner of the **Plaka**. It is wise to get to this World Heritage Site early, as the mid-day crowds and heat can be overwhelming.

Visitors to the Acropolis (high city) ascend a switchback marble staircase leading back in time. Upon entering the grounds, loose chunks of marble and broken columns seem to sprout from the earth like giant alabaster mushrooms that culminate in the **Parthenon**, the crowning achievement of the Acropolis. You are now on the **Panathenaic Way**. To the right stands the **Temple of Athena Nike**. Continuing along the path leads to the Parthenon, Greece's largest-ever Doric temple. The next most important monument of the Acropolis is the **Erechtheion**, of which the oft-photographed southern portico consists of six Caryatids carved to look like maidens (taking the place of columns). Other important Acropolis structures include the **Theater of Dionysus** and the **Odeon of Herodes Atticus**, where drama, music, and dance performances are still held.

Located northwest of the Acropolis and at the edge of Monastiraki, the **Ancient Agora**, once the city's most important gathering spot, is the place to roam. The 12-hectare (30-acre) jumble of ruins and buildings includes the **Temple of Hephaestus**, the best-preserved Doric temple in Greece; the **Stoa of Attalus**, an authentic reconstruction that houses the **Agora Museum**; and the **Church of the Holy Apostles**, which was built in the 11th century to commemorate St. Paul's teachings in the Agora.

Another must-see ancient site is the **Temple of Olympian Zeus**. Located southeast of the Acropolis, it was once the largest temple in Greece and took more than 700 years to build. Julius Caesar erected the **Roman Agora**, east of the Ancient Agora, in the 1st century CE. The nearby **Arch of Hadrian**, erected in 132 CE, commemorates the consecration of the Temple of Olympian Zeus.

ATHENS FROM ABOVE

Walk to the end of **Ploutarchou Street** in trendy Kolonaki and you will encounter one of Athens' most popular, and possibly daunting, excursions: **Lykavittos Hill**. Lykavittos (hill of wolves) was once surrounded by countryside. Although the wolves are gone and today it is a pine-covered pillar jutting out of a jungle of concrete, it offers the most commanding view of the seemingly endless white city, as well as the shimmering islands Salamis and Aegina in the Saronic Gulf.

If you aren't up for a hike, reach the top via the convenient funicular, or drive up the road. The more adventurous can climb a path to the summit, which is the highest point in Athens at 277 meters (910 ft). At the halfway point, you can rest and restore your energy at a café. The reward at the top is yet another café and a restaurant with a spectacular view of the Acropolis.

The summit of Lykavittos Hill, which might seem more like a mountain after a long, hot hike, is also home to the chapel of **Agios Georgios**, which is illuminated at night and casts a glow that can be seen all over Athens. Visitors to the top of the hill can also find the open-air **Lykavittos Theater**, which holds jazz and rock concerts during the **Athens Festival** from June through September.

GREEN ATHENS

The heat, humidity, and air quality can be oppressive in Athens, so parks are an essential part of the city as places to rest and just breathe in some healthy oxygen. It's no wonder, then, that one of the city's most visited sites is the **National Gardens**. The gardens are just a stone's throw away from bustling Syntagma Square, and once visitors leave the concrete jungle of Athens on **Leoforos Amalias** they step into a tropical paradise of flowers, plants, trees, shaded walkways, and ponds brimming with ducks and turtles.

Temple of Athena Nike

Church of the Holy Apostles

Chapel of Agios Georgios

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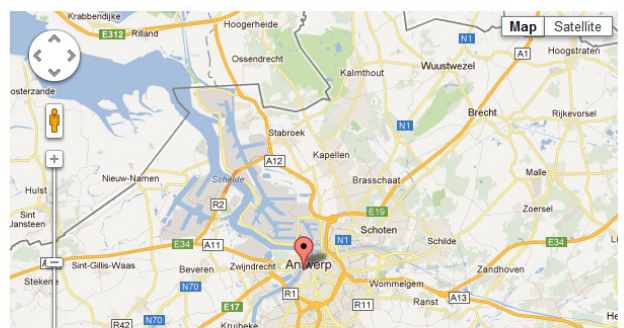
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Antwerp, Belgium Metro Area Map



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Barcelona: Current Weather and Forecast

Barcelona / Aeropuerto, Spain

Lat: 41.28N, Lon: 2.07E
ICAO Used: LEBL

Current Conditions

Updated: 1:30 AM GMT+1 TUE FEB 21 2012



Fair
Temp: 44°F

Humidity: 60%
Wind Speed: NNW 6 MPH
Barometer: 1026 mb
Dewpoint: 32°F
Heat Index: 44°F
Wind Chill: 41°F

Sun & Moon Information:

Civil Twilight: 7:13 AM GMT+1
Sunrise: 7:41 AM GMT+1
Sunset: 6:29 PM GMT+1
Civil Twilight: 6:57 PM GMT+1

Moon Phase:

Waning Crescent Moon



Forecast at a Glance



Clear
Hi: 11°C/51°F
Lo: 7°C/44°F
Winds: NW 10 km.



Clear
Hi: 10°C/50°F
Lo: 6°C/42°F
Winds: NE 0 km.



Clear
Hi: 13°C/55°F
Lo: 8°C/46°F
Winds: WNW 5 km.



Clear
Hi: 15°C/59°F
Lo: 9°C/48°F
Winds: SW 5 km.



Clear
Hi: 15°C/59°F
Lo: 12°C/53°F
Winds: SSW 5 km.

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Turkey: Passport and Visa

Summary of Requirements

PASSPORT

- Required for all travelers

VISA

- Required for citizens of **Australia, Canada, Ireland**, the **United Kingdom**, the **United States**, and other countries listed in **B. Visa Required** below; these travelers may obtain a sticker visa upon arrival
- Not required for citizens of **New Zealand** and some other countries; see section **A. Visa-Exempt**

RETURN TICKET

- Not required; however, may be used as proof of trip conditions in visa application process

ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS

- Those residing, working, or studying in Turkey should register at the nearest local police department upon arrival, regardless of the validity of their visa



Passport

Passports should be valid at least 90 days longer than the expiry date of the visa or the length of the trip.

Visa

Citizens of **Australia, Canada, Ireland**, the **United Kingdom**, and the **United States** may obtain a three-month, multiple-entry visa sticker upon arrival at the border gate.

Citizens of **New Zealand** do not need a visa for tourist or transit purposes for up to 90 days.

A. VISA-EXEMPT

Citizens of the following country do not need a visa to enter Turkey:
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Citizens of the following countries do not need a visa for tourist or transit purposes for up to 90 days:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong SAR (holders of British National Overseas passports must obtain a visa), Iceland, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Romania, San Marino, Singapore, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uruguay, Vatican City, and Venezuela.

Citizens of the following countries do not need a visa for tourist or transit purposes for up to 60 days:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Macedonia.

Citizens of the following countries do not need a visa for tourist or transit purposes for up to 30 days:

Azerbaijan, Costa Rica, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Macao SAR, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

B. VISA REQUIRED

Citizens of the following countries and territories need a tourist visa for Turkey, and may obtain a three-month, multiple-entry visa sticker upon arrival at the border gate. Only a valid passport and the visa-processing fee are required for this visa.

Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Hong Kong British National Overseas passports, Ireland, Jamaica, Kuwait, Maldives, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Spain, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom (holders of British Protected Persons passports must obtain a visa abroad), and United States.

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France: Banknotes

Denominations: 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 (Euro)

500 Euro

Front (Obverse)



Back (Reverse)



Issue Date: January 2002
Size: 82 x 160 mm
Color: Purple
Theme: Architectural period: Modern 20th-century architecture
(F) Detail: Images of windows and gateways, the 12 stars of the European Union, and "EURO" written in both the Latin and the Greek alphabets.
(B) Detail: Images of bridges, a map of Europe, and "EURO" written in both the Latin and the Greek alphabets.
Security: The paper is of pure cotton. Raised print on the lettering and the value numerals on the front. See-through marks in the top corner of both sides of the banknote combine to form the value numeral. Watermark of the value. Security thread has the word "EURO" and the value in tiny letters on the stripe. In the hologram stripe, there are perforations that form the € symbol and tiny numbers showing the value numeral. Microprinting in some areas of the banknote. Under UV light embedded fibers appear red, blue, and green. The flag looks green and has orange stars. The map, bridge, and value numeral on the back appear in yellow.

200 Euro

Front (Obverse)



Back (Reverse)



Issue Date: January 2002
Size: 82 x 153 mm
Color: Yellow-brown
Theme: Architectural period: The age of iron and glass
(F) Detail: Images of windows and gateways, the 12 stars of the European Union, and "EURO" written in both the Latin and the Greek alphabets.
(B) Detail: Images of bridges, a map of Europe, and "EURO" written in both the Latin and the Greek alphabets.
Security: The paper is of pure cotton. Raised print on the lettering and the value numerals on the front. See-through marks in the top corner of both sides of the banknote combine to form the value numeral. Watermark of the value. Security thread has the word "EURO" and the value in tiny letters on the stripe. In the hologram stripe, there are perforations that form the € symbol and tiny numbers showing the value numeral. Microprinting in some areas of the banknote. Under UV light embedded fibers appear red, blue, and green. The flag looks green and has orange stars. The map, bridge, and value numeral on the back appear in yellow.

100 Euro

Front (Obverse)



Back (Reverse)



Issue Date: January 2002
Size: 82 x 147 mm
Color: Green
Theme: Architectural period: Baroque and rococo
(F) Detail: Images of windows and gateways, the 12 stars of the European Union, and "EURO" written in both the Latin and the Greek alphabets.
(B) Detail: Images of bridges, a map of Europe, and "EURO" written in both the Latin and the Greek alphabets.
Security: The paper is of pure cotton. Raised print on the lettering and the value numerals on the front.

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Money and Banking

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Transaction Results

Spot Rate

Transaction Date: Monday February 20, 2012

1000 U.S. Dollars	=	757.69 Euros
1000 Euros	=	1 319.8 U.S. Dollars

New Transaction

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Italian - List of Professions

NOTE: In Italian, many professions have a masculine and a feminine form.

(A)

ENGLISH	Italian (masculine)	Italian (feminine)
Accountant	Ragioniere	Ragioniera
Actor	Attore	Attrice
Acupuncturist	Agopuntore	Agopuntrice
Administrator	Amministratore	Amministratrice
Advertising executive	Direttore pubblicitario	Direttrice pubblicitaria
Air hostess	Assistente di volo	Assistente di volo
Airline pilot	Pilota di linea	Pilota di linea
Ambassador	Ambasciatore	Ambasciatrice
Anesthesiologist	Anestesista	Anestesista
Anthropologist	Antropologo	Antropologa
Antique dealer	Antiquario	Antiquaria
Apprentice	Apprendista	Apprendista
Arbitrator	Arbitratore	Arbitratrice
Architect	Architetto	Architetto
[Landscape] Architect	Paesaggista	Paesaggista
Artist (fine art)	Artista	Artista
Astronaut	Astronauta	Astronauta
Athlete	Atleta	Atleta
Athletic trainer	Allenatore	Allenatrice
[Embassy] Attaché	Addetto d'ambasciata	Addetto d'ambasciata
[Military] Attaché	Addetto militare	Addetto militare
Au pair	Assistente familiare alla pari	Assistente familiare alla pari
Author	Autore	Autrice
Auto dealer	Venditore di automobili	Venditore di automobili
Auto mechanic	Meccanico automobilistico	Meccanico automobilistico

(B)

ENGLISH	Italian (masculine)	Italian (feminine)
Babysitter	Babysitter	Babysitter
Baker	Fornaio	Fornaia
Bank clerk	Impiegato di banca	Impiegata di banca
Bank teller	Cassiere di banca	Cassiera di banca
Banker	Banchiere	Banchiera
[Investment] Banker	Sottoscrittore	Sottoscrittrice
Bartender	Barista	Barista
Bodyguard	Guardia del corpo	Guardia del corpo
Bookkeeper	Contabile	Contabile
Bookseller	Libraio	Libraia
Broker	Intermediario	Intermediaria
Builder	Costruttore	Costruttrice
Building contractor	Impresario di costruzioni	Impresaria di costruzioni
Business broker	Intermediario commerciale	Intermediaria commerciale
Businessman	Uomo d'affari	Donna d'affari
Butcher	Macellaio	Macellaia
Buyer	Acquirente	Acquirente
Buying agent	Agente d'acquisto	Agente d'acquisto

(C)

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Clothing Guide for Women

World Clothing Size Guide: Women

WOMEN'S BLOUSE & SWEATER SIZES

Europe	40	42	44	46	48	50	53
UK	34	36	38	40	42	44	46
USA, Canada	32	34	36	38	40	42	44

Women's blouse or sweater sizes may also (or instead) reflect those in the "Women's Dress, Suit, and Coat Size" chart.

WOMEN'S PANT SIZES

Letter Size	XS	S	M	L	XL
Europe	28-30	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46
UK	0-2	4-6	8-10	12-14	16-18
USA	0-2	2-4	4-6	8-10	10-12
Waist (inches)	23-24	25-26	27-28	30-32	33-35
Waist (cm)	58-61	64-66	69-71	76-81	84-89
Inseam (inches)	29	30	32	33	34
Inseam (cm)	74	76	81	84	86

*Pant sizing varies wildly by manufacturer; the chart above is only a rough approximation.
Inseam: using pants that fit well, measure from the crotch seam to the inside bottom of the pant leg.*

WOMEN'S DRESS, SUIT, & COAT SIZES

Australia	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
Italy	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52
Japan	3	5	7	9	11	13	15	17	19	21
Europe	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48
Switzerland	28	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46
UK	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
USA, Canada	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
USA (letter)	XXS	XS	XS-S	S	M	M	L	L-XL	XL-1X	1X/2X

**"Europe" often refers to France and Germany, while Italy, Switzerland, and others have their own sizing.
These sizes may also refer to pants, skirts, sweaters and tops.*

WOMEN'S HOSIERY

Height										
Feet, Inches	4'10"	5'0"	5'2"	5'4"	5'6"	5'8"	5'10"	6'0"	6'2"	
Centimeters	147	152	157	163	168	173	178	183	188	
Weight										
Pounds	90	100	110	120	130	140	150	165	180	
Kilograms	41	45	50	54	59	64	68	75	82	

Hosiery is usually sized according to height and weight; each manufacturer assigns its own corresponding size chart.

WOMEN'S SHOE SIZES

Japan	22	22½	23	23½	24	24½	25	25½	26
Europe	37	37	38	38	39	39	40	40	41
UK	4	4½	5	5½	6	6½	7	7½	8
USA, Canada, Australia	6	6½	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10

No international or national sizing standards exist. Size conversions vary from country to country and between manufacturers and even between styles with the same manufacturer. ½ sizes in the U.K. indicate width, not length.

WOMEN'S BRA SIZES

Australia	10 A-D	12 A-DD	14 A-DD	16 A-DD	18 A-DD
Belgium, England, France	85 B-E	90 B-F	95 B-E	100 B-E	105 B-E
EU, Japan	70 B-E	75 B-F	80 B-F	85 B-F	90 B-F
Italy	2	3	4	5	6
UK	32 B-DD	34 B-E	36 B-E	38 B-E	40 B-E
USA	32 A-D	34 A-DD	36 A-DD	38 A-DD	40 A-DD

Chart is based on common U.S. sizes with their international equivalents.

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- 56 data categories
- World Dialing Guide
- Emergencies
- Health and Safety
- Disabilities
- Living Abroad
- Clothing Size Guides
- Women Travelers
- Money-Saving Tips

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 - Teaching Abroad
 - Pets and Animals
 - Clothing Size Guides
 - World Time Zones
 - Women Travelers
 - Save Money!

Living Abroad Tips: Pets and Animals

Travelers planning to take a companion animal to a foreign country should be advised to meet the entry requirements of the country of destination and the transportation guidelines of the airline. To obtain this information, travelers should contact the country's embassy or consulate as well as the airline.

There are several ways to travel with a companion animal by air. The animal may be allowed in the airplane's cabin if it meets certain size and weight restrictions, it may be checked in with luggage, or it may be placed into cargo. Travelers intending to bring their pets onboard with them should check with the airline for space and size and weight restrictions. There is often an additional cost. For the health of the animal, pets are allowed to travel in checked luggage or cargo only if weather conditions permit. The airline will be able to help determine the best dates and times for traveling with pets.



Traveling Pets

Requirements

- Some countries, provinces, or states may require general health certificates for animals, including dogs or cats. Health certificates may be required by airlines for pet travel as well.
- Pets may be subject to inspection and may be denied entry if they have evidence of an infectious disease that can be transmitted to humans. For example, if a dog appears to be ill, further examination by a licensed veterinarian at the owner's expense may be required before entry. Depending on the situation, pets may be subject to locally imposed quarantine requirements.

RABIES

Unless a dog is being imported from a country considered "rabies-free" by the World Health Organization, it must be accompanied by a valid rabies vaccination certificate that includes the following information:

- The breed, sex, age, color, markings, and other identifying information
- A vaccination date at least 30 days before importation
- A vaccination date reflecting that the dog was at least 3 months of age at the time of vaccination
- The vaccination expiration date (if not shown, the date of vaccination must be within 12 months of date of importation)
- The signature of a licensed veterinarian

Exotic Pets: The Pet Passport

The pet passport is a CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) Certificate of Ownership for personally owned wildlife. The certificate acts like a passport to simplify the permit procedures for people who frequently travel internationally with companion animals or animals used in noncommercial competitions, such as falconry. It is issued for a single animal, is valid for 3 years, and may be used for multiple border crossings. The owner must accompany the pet when crossing international borders and the animal may not be sold or otherwise transferred when traveling abroad.

Import or Export of Pets and Animals

The import or export of personal pets, especially exotic pets, may be regulated by conservation laws or treaties that are part of international conservation efforts.

TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) was formed in the 1960s and currently has 175 parties (countries that have agreed to be bound by the Convention). You must have a CITES permit before travel if your pet is listed by CITES.

Protected by CITES: Domestic Bengal cats and other crosses between CITES-listed species and the domestic cat; most parrots, cockatoos, lorries, and macaws; iguanas, box turtles, and all boas and pythons

Not protected by CITES: Domesticated animals like dogs, cats, rabbits, and the European ferret; the budgerigar, cockatiel, rose-ringed parakeet, and the peach-faced lovebird.

THE MIGRATORY BIRD TREATY ACT

World Travel Resources

Living Abroad

- Residing Abroad
- Studying Abroad
- Drugs Abroad
- Teaching Abroad
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- Marriage
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How-to-do business guides for 100 countries

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WORLD TRADE PRESS®
The Global Knowledge Company

800 Lindberg Lane, Suite 190

Petaluma, CA 94952 USA

+1 (707) 778-1124

+1 (800) 833-8586

www.WorldTradePress.com

sales@worldtradepress.com

www.AtoZWorldTravel.com