

TRAVEL SAFETY

Tocumen International Airport Security Guide Panamá

2025

Tocumen International Airport – PTY



Visitors

It has around 1.1 million inhabitants according to the 2023 census, counting the district and metropolitan area. Panama City receives an average of 2.6 million visitors per year.



General information

Located about 24 km from downtown Panama City, it is one of the most important air terminals in Latin America due to its numerous destinations. Panama City is the capital and most populated city in Panama. Given its geographical location and naval engineering development, it is one of the most important cities in the world. The city is at sea level, as it borders the Panama Canal towards the Pacific Ocean, but it extends to the east and north, which means that parts of the city reach 700 meters above sea level. This is why the climate in Panama City can be considered a transition between the tropical savannah climate and the tropical monsoon climate, making it humid and warm



The airport

1. It has two runways with a maximum length of 3,050 meters; both normally used for commercial or cargo flights. T1 handles most international flights, while T2 handles domestic flights and supports T1 during times of high congestion.
2. The former main runway of the terminal is used permanently by cargo planes and private flights, although it can be used as an alternative runway to the main runway during times of high demand.
3. Immigration control in the country is handled by Migración Panamá and agencies of the National Directorate of Immigration and Naturalization.
4. Customs control is the responsibility of the Directorate of Customs Prevention and Control (DPFA), part of the National Customs Authority of Panama (ANA).
5. Security is provided by the Directorate of Civil Aviation Security of Panama.



The emergency contacts you might need are:

Police	104
Ambulance	911
Emergency	911
Firefighters	103



Some requirements Panama has for travelers are:

- Valid passport.
- Special entry permit or stamped visa (if applicable).
- Return ticket or onward travel ticket.
- Proof of sufficient funds, minimum USD 500.



Travels

Routes and travel times from the airport to the main hotel and financial areas:



Traffic

Rush hours in Panama City:
6:00–8:00 AM and 5–7:00 PM.

1. Financial center, take the Pan-American Highway South Continue on the Inter-American Highway towards Av. Vasco Núñez de Balboa Take Av. Pablo Arosemena and Av. Eloy Alfaro towards Av. Central.
2. Panama Canal, join Carr. Interamericana/Carr. Panamericana/Carretera towards Av. Ascanio Arosemena/Ave Continue along Los Mártires/Av. Omar Torrijos Herrera Continue along Av. Omar Torrijos Herrera towards your destination in the Province of Panama Oeste.
3. Hotel zone, access Carr. Interamericana/Carr. Panamericana/Corredor Sur then join Calle 54/Corredor Sur take Av. 6B Sur/Calle las Acacias towards C. 50/Calle Nicanor de Obarrio/Av. Nicanor de Obarrio.



Weather conditions



24°C the rainy season from May to November.



32°C the dry season is from December to April.



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Always protect your personal belongings, both inside and outside the airport.
2. Only use reliable transport apps with verification codes or authorized airport taxis.
3. Panama has extensive duty-free shopping areas with competitive prices, so always check your transactions and purchases to ensure they correspond to your items.
4. Do not carry jewelry, large sums of cash or high-value items in plain sight or in checked baggage.
5. Use an E-Sim with data or a paid VPN, but not the airport's free Wi-Fi.
6. Since the predominant currency is the dollar, you do not need to worry about exchanging currency.
7. Avoid public charging ports due to possible data theft via USB ports.
8. Do not carry or look after other people's luggage or packages.
9. Be wary of strangers offering to help you with paperwork or luggage, especially if they do not have airport employee identification.
10. Make sure you always have your personal documents with you and, if possible, have a digital copy.

