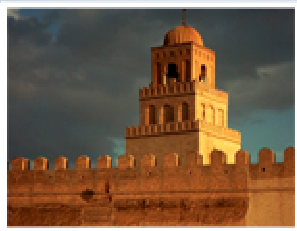


HAMMAMET

Hammamet (Arabic: حمامة, Al-Ḥammāmāt) is a town in **Tunisia**. Due to its **beaches** it is a popular destination for swimming and water sports. It was the first tourist destination in Tunisia. It is located in the south east of the northern peninsula of **Cap Bon** in the Governorate of Nabeul, on the northern edge of the **Gulf of Hammamet**.

The reported number of inhabitants varies from 20,000 to 70,000 and the population quadruples due to tourists in the summer.

Popular tourist destinations near **Hammamet**

Kairouan (Arabic: كايروان, also known as Kirwan, Al Qayrawan, Turkish: Kayrevan) it is the **capital of the Kairouan Governorate in Tunisia**. It was founded by the Arabs in around 670 and the original name was derived from Arabic kairuwân, from Persian Kâravân, meaning "military/civilian camp" (from Kâr, "war/military," and van/wan, "outpost"), "caravan", or "resting place".

After Kairouan's establishment in the 7th century, it became an important center for Islamic and Quranic learning, and thus attracted a large number of Muslims from various parts of the world, next only to Mecca and Medina. The **holy Mosque of Uqba** is situated in Kairouan.

In 2003 the city had about 150,000 inhabitants. In 2009 Kairouan was the **Islamic Cultural Capital**.



Tunis (Arabic: تونس, Tūnis) is the **capital of the Republic of Tunisia** and also the Tunis Governorate, with a population of 1,200,000 in 2008 and over 3,980,500 in the municipal area. It is **Tunisia's largest city**.

Situated on a large Mediterranean gulf, (the Gulf of Tunis), behind the **Lake of Tunis** and the port of La Goulette (Halq al Wadi), Tunis extends along the coastal plain and the hills that surround it. At the centre of more modern development (colonial era and post) lies the old medina. Beyond this section lie the suburbs of Carthage, La Marsa, and Sidi Bou Said.

The medina is found at the centre of the Tunis: a dense agglomeration of alleys and covered passages, full of intense scents and colours, boisterous and active trade, a surfeit of goods on offer ranging from leather to plastic, tin to the finest filigree, tourist souvenirs to the works of tiny crafts-shops.

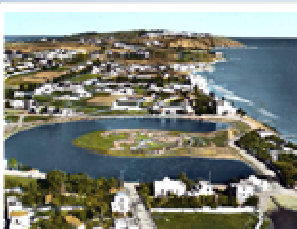
Just through the **Sea Gate** (also known as the **Bab el Bahr** and the **Porte de France**), begins the modern city, or **Ville Nouvelle**, transversed by the grand Avenue Bourguiba (considered by many to be the **Tunisian Champs-Élysées**), where the colonial-era buildings provide a clear contrast to smaller older structures. As the capital city of the country Tunis is the center of Tunisian commercial activity, as well as focus of political and administrative life in the country. The expansion of the Tunisian economy in the last decades is reflected in the booming development of the outer Tunis where one can see clearly the social challenges brought about by rapid modernization in Tunisia



Sidi Bou Said (Arabic: **ديبس وب يديس**) is a town in **northern Tunisia** (it is located only 20 km from the capital of Tunisia, Tunis).

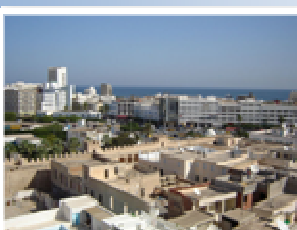
Sidi Bou Said got its name for a Muslim religious figure who lived there, **Abou Said ibn Khalef ibn Yahia Ettamini el Beji** (before he came along, it was called **Jabal el-Menar**). Sidi Bou Said itself is a tourist attraction as it is known for the extensive use of blue and white colors all over the town. All kinds of souvenirs (some

not even remotely connected to Sidi Bou Said and sometimes not to Tunisia itself) can be bought in the main street. While staying in Sidi Bou Said for a few days is not common, tourists from Hammamet and other tourist towns usually come to Sidi Bou Said. It can be reached by a TGM train, which runs from Tunis to La Marsa.



Carthage (Arabic: **جاطرق**, Ancient Greek: **Καρχηδών** Karkhēdōn, Berber: **Kartajen**, Latin: **Carthago** or **Karthago**, from the Phoenician **Qart-ḥadašt** meaning new town) refers both to an ancient city in present-day Tunisia, and a modern-day suburb of Tunis. The civilization that developed within the city's sphere of influence is referred to as Punic or Carthaginian. The city of Carthage is located on the eastern side of Lake Tunis across from the center of Tunis. According to Roman legend it was founded in

814 BC by Phoenician colonists under the leadership of Elissa (Queen Dido). It became a large and rich city and thus a major power in the Mediterranean. The resulting rivalry with Syracuse and Rome was accompanied by several wars with respective invasions of each other's homeland. **Hannibal's invasion** of Italy in the Second Punic War culminated in the Carthaginian victory at Cannae and led to a serious threat to the continuation of Roman rule over Italy, however Carthage emerged from the conflict at its historical weakest. After the Third Punic War, the city was destroyed by the Romans in 146 BC. However, the Romans refounded Carthage, which became one of the three most important cities of the Empire and the capital of the short-lived Vandal kingdom. It remained one of the most important Roman cities until the Muslim conquest when it was destroyed a second time in AD 698.



Sousse (Arabic **سوس** Sousa), is a city of **Tunisia**. Located 140 km south of Tunis, the city has 173, 047 inhabitants (2004). It is in

the central-east of the country, on the Gulf of Hammamet, which is a part of the Mediterranean Sea. Sousse's name may be of Berber origin: similar names are found in Libya and in the south of **Morocco** (Bilād al-Sūs). It is the capital of Sousse Governorate with 540,000 inhabitants (2005 estimate). Its economy is based on transport equipment, processed food, olive oil, textiles and tourism. It is home to the Université de Sousse (or Université de Monastir).



Monastir (Arabic: ريٲسنحما al-munastîr, from Latin monasterium), called /lmisti:r/ in Tunisian Arabic, (20 km south of Sousse; 162 km south of Tunis), is a city on the **central shore of Tunisia**, in the **Sahel area**. Traditionally a fishing port, Monastir is now a major tourist resort. Its population is 41,400. Located in north-eastern Tunisia, it is the capital of Monastir Governorate.



Nabeul (Arabic: [لبان]) is a coastal town in **northeastern Tunisia**, on the south coast near to the Cap Bon peninsula. A former Roman colony, its name is an Arabised form of the Greek Neapolis 'new city' (an etymology it shares with Naples, Nafplion, and Nablus). It is a popular tourist destination and the main centre of the Tunisian pottery industry. It is located at around 36°27'N 10°44'E / 36.45°N 10.733°E / 36.45; 10.733 and is the capital of the Nabeul Governorate. The city has a population of

56,387.

INFORMATION

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