

and other cities, the tap water is generally safe to drink, although if it has not been filtered it tends to contain a considerable amount of silt. Health conditions are generally reasonable but visitors are advised to exercise normal prudence in the selection of places to dine to ensure that the food is fresh. If you come directly from a cooler climate in mid-summer, you should drink plenty of fluid to avoid dehydration resulting from Iraq's extremely high temperatures and low humidity.

Iraq is generally safe for visitors but the level of petty theft is rising.

Business Calls and Entertainment

A confirmed business call is generally respected. As a guest in Iraq, you should make every effort to be polite and patient. A low-key soft-sell approach is best and caution should be taken in publicizing business arrangements. Iraqis appreciate punctuality but most understand the transportation difficulties and are graceful in accepting late arrivals.

Mail

Postal service in Iraq is erratic and telex or telephone may better suit the business person if timing is an important factor. Except for telegrams, there is no street delivery of mail anywhere. All correspondence, therefore, should be addressed to the post office number of the company you are contacting. Surface letter mail takes about 30 days and surface parcels take about 75 days to travel between Iraq and Canada. Air mail service takes between 6 and 11 days.

Courier service from Canada is erratic. There is only one courier company in Iraq, Life Express. Their representative in Canada is:

Jet Courier Service
2745 Paulus Street
Ville St. Laurent
Quebec, H4S 1E9
Tel: (514) 331-7470