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DISCOVER QATAR

Welcome To 2022 FIFA World Cup

This winter won't be cold. Qatar Doha FIFA World Cup will definitely heat you up.

From November 20 to December 18, Qatar will host the 2022 World Cup. It's the first World Cup to be held in the Middle East. Want to know more about Qatar Doha? Let's dive in together.

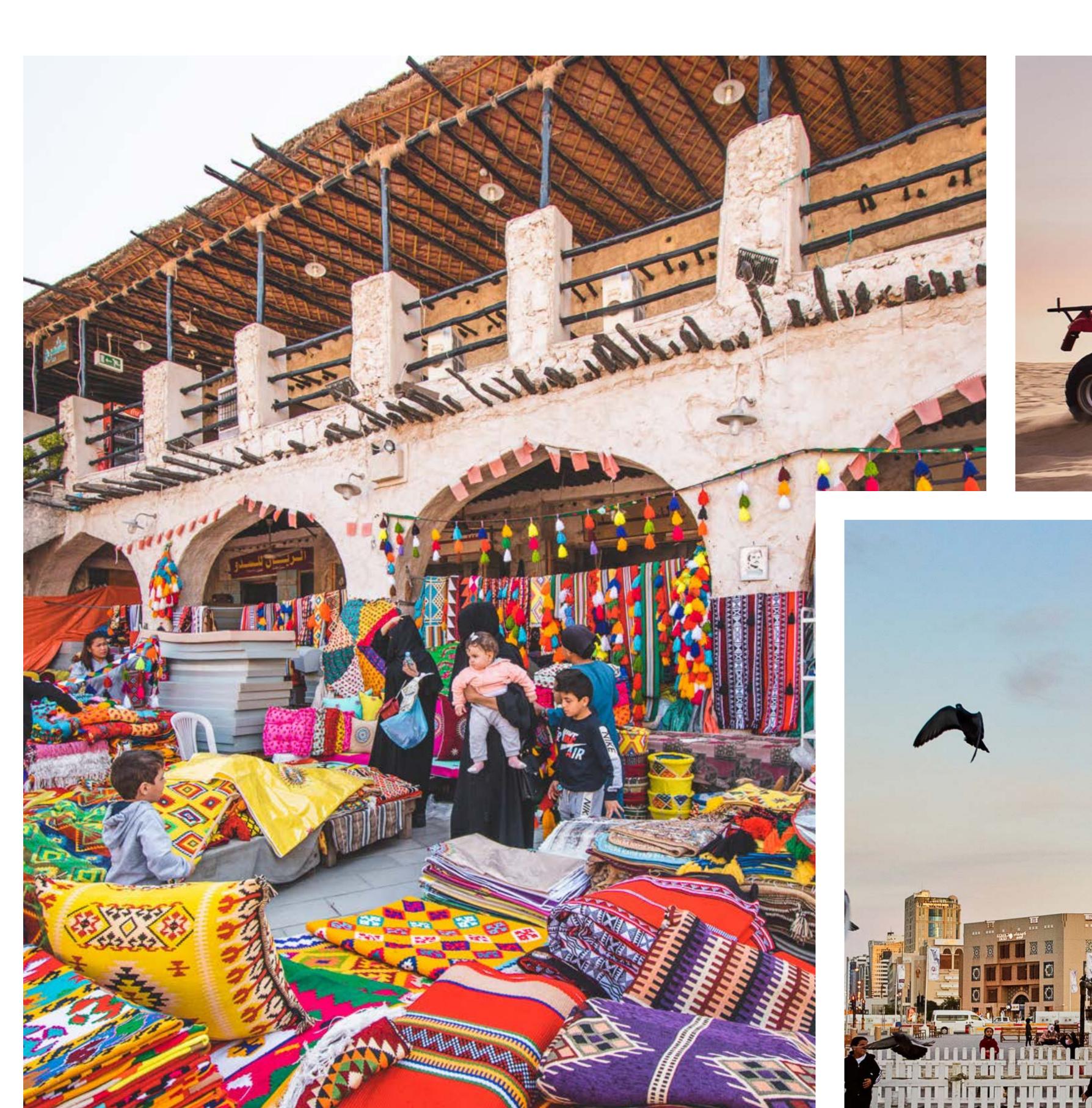








Quick Notes About Qatar Doha







Weather

Qatar Doha weather is comparatively comfortable in November, at least compared to the height of summer!

However, it also has the second-highest chance of rain throughout the year. Make sure to search Qatar Doha weather to dress correctly.

Traveling Around Doha

Most tourists will be staying in close proximity to one another. As such, it'll be in your best interest to book private hire and app-based taxis, like Uber in Doha. Alternatively, the city has its own taxi hire app called Careem.

If you plan to use public transport, remember to download a bus schedule. The World Cup schedule does include transport around some areas, and your ticket should be free on those buses.

Sightseeing

Once you're actually in Qatar Doha, make sure you search "place to visit near me" to discover some sights. The benefit of searching on Google once you get there is that you'll get location-based recommendations.

You can check out this list from TripAdvisor for some leads on where to go. Another good lead is Qatar's tourism board, which has recommendations on places to visit on a budget.











DISCOVER QATAR

Staying In Doha

You're expected to have accommodation booked if you plan to stay in Doha for more than 24 hours. Luckily, the FIFA website has a list of approved accommodations in the city.

You can also stay with friends and family, but they must first register their home as approved accommodation.



GETTING READY

Entry To Qatar Doha

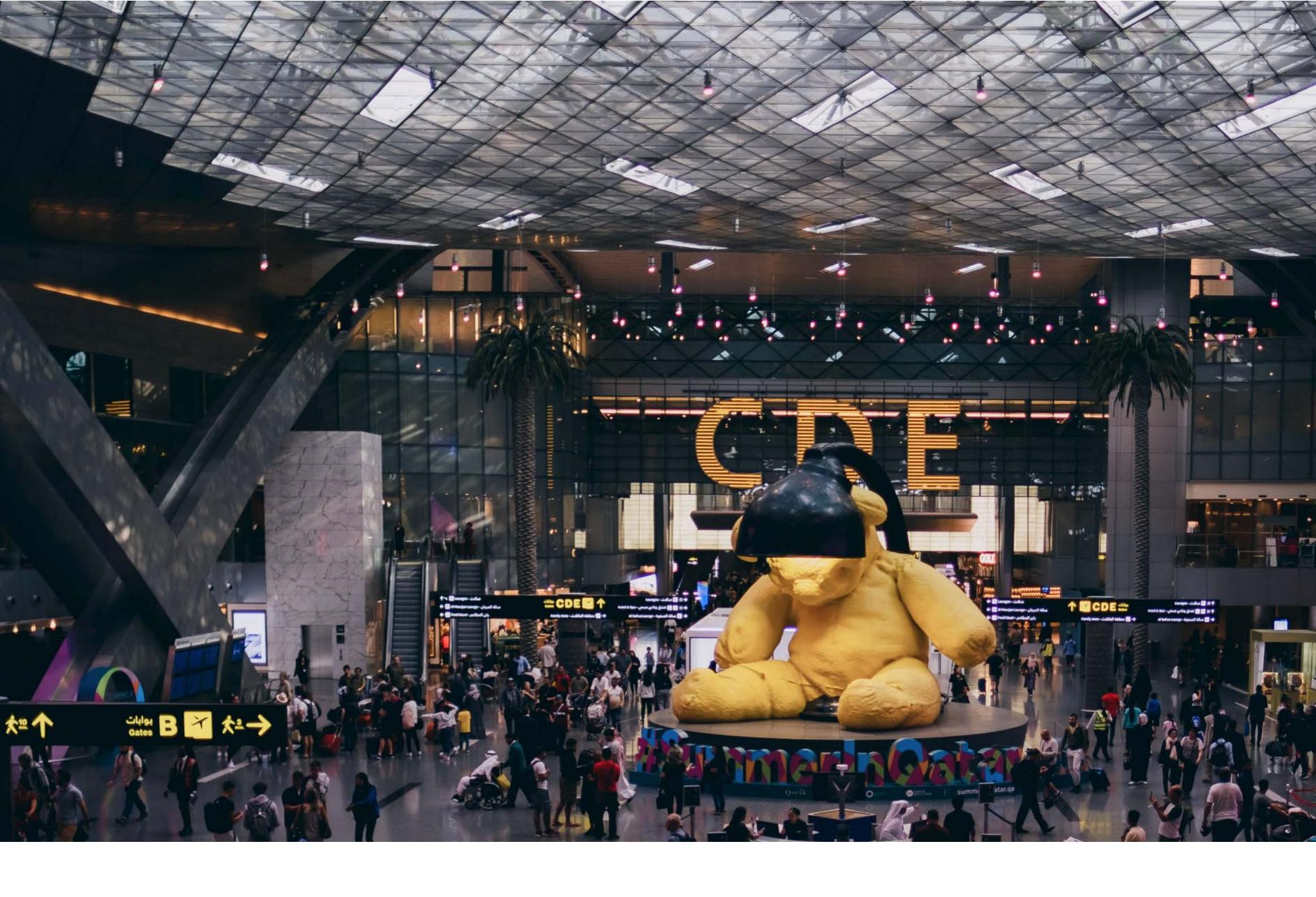
Immigration regulations have been changed slightly during the Qatar Doha World Cup.

The state isn't issuing any standard visas during this period. Instead, you must apply for a Hayya Card (essentially a visa), which you can only get if you have tickets to a World Cup match.

Hayya Card holders can add up to 3 people onto their card for a fee. These people don't need to hold tickets to a football match during the World Cup.

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GETTING READY

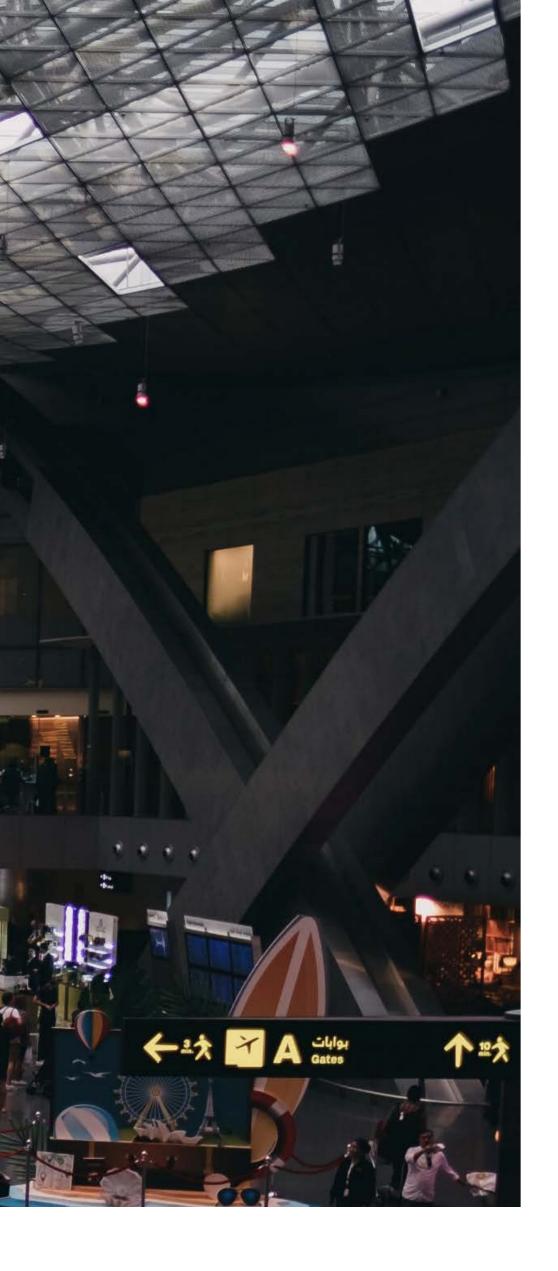
Covid Regulation

Every tourist over 12 must show proof of vaccination using your country's standard-issue vaccine cards. These are typically digital, so make sure you have one before traveling.

Quarantine isn't mandatory when entering the country. Current immigration rules state that you must have a valid rapid antigen or PCR test that was conducted 24 or 48 hours before you travel.

Qatar expects you to download its contact tracing app when you arrive in the state. It's called Ehteraz, and you can find it on Google Play and the App Store. These rules apply regardless of whether you're traveling by land, sea or air.





GETTING READY

Currency And Duty Free

The official currency of the country is the Qatar riyal which is legally pegged at a rate of 1 US dollar to 3.64 QR.

You can take money out at ATMs in malls and hotels around Doha. Bear in mind, though, that most banks will add their service charge on. The standard service charge is 3-5%, meaning you could get 3.46 QR for a US dollar.

When entering the country, you must declare money and valuables that exceed 50,000 QR (around \$13,700 US). This includes cash in any currency and jewelry, precious metals and stones.

Similarly, knowing what to import duty-free is important. You can bring in 400 cigarettes or 500g of raw tobacco, provided the value doesn't exceed 3,000 QR. However, importing alcoholic drinks is specifically banned.





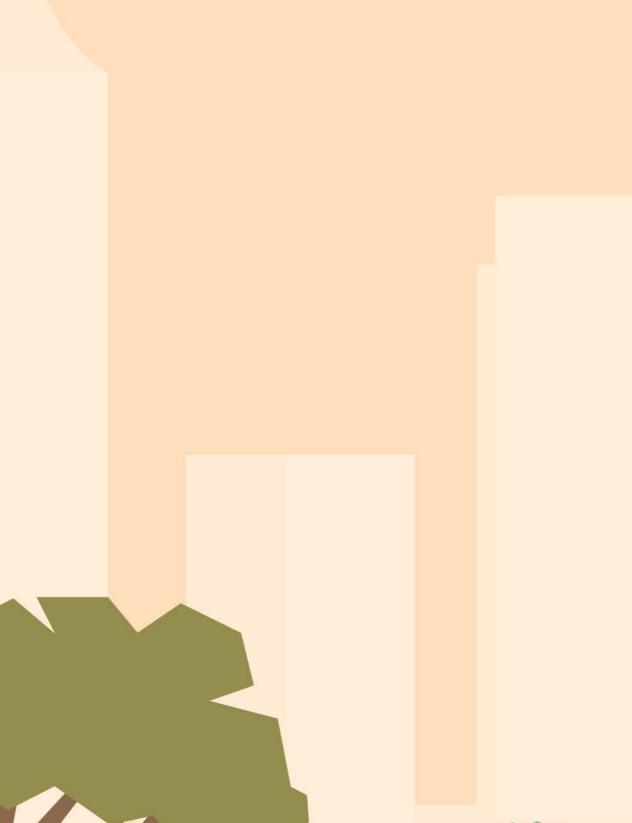


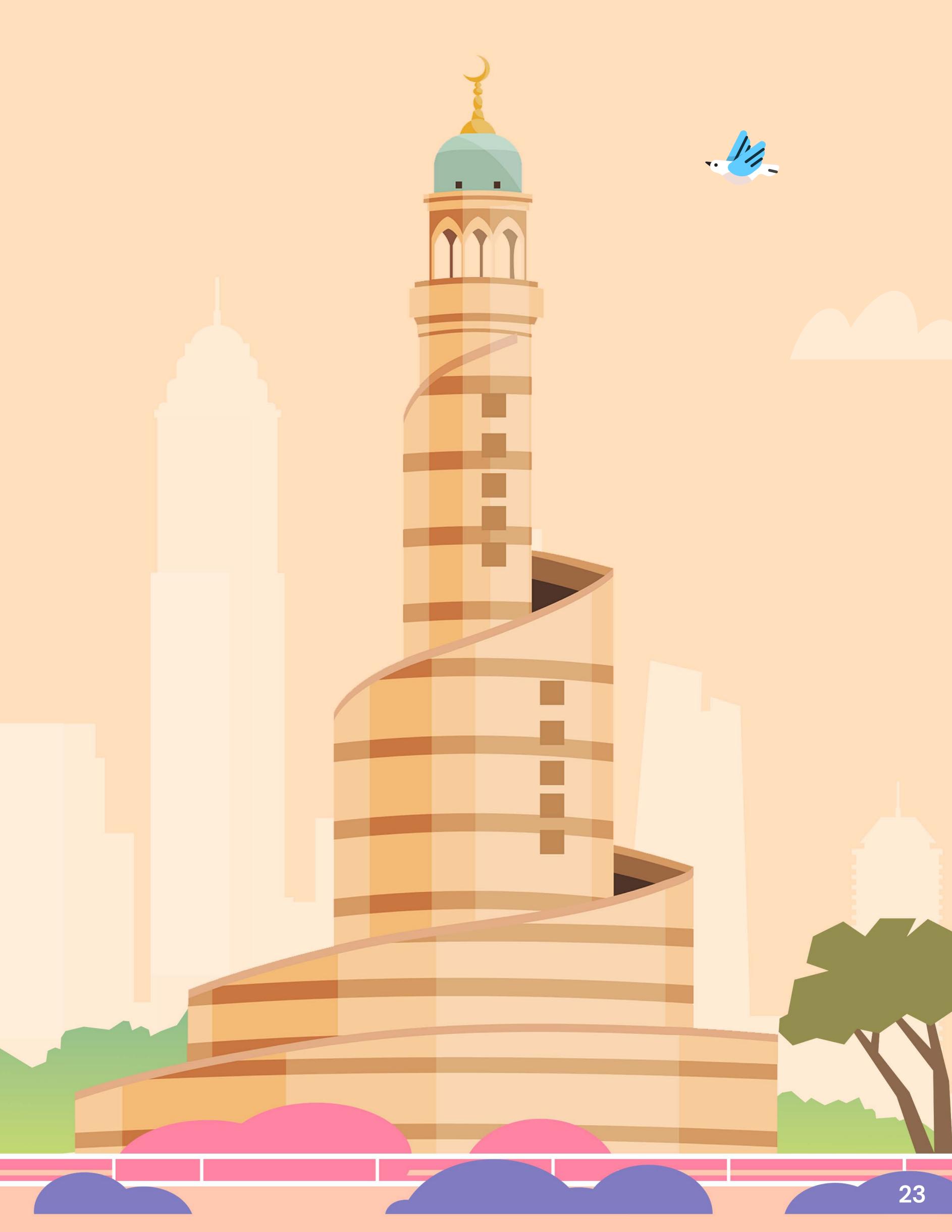
Using VPNs In Qatar Doha

Despite having great internet speeds and Doha being one of the best-connected cities in the Middle East, its internet is heavily monitored and filtered.

Of course, the country is free to do what it wants, but many citizens who want access to the internet use a VPN free to get around national restrictions. Here are some VPN free resources.

Make sure you download your chosen VPN free before traveling to Qatar, as you won't be able to access it using the local internet. Then, once you're in Qatar Doha, you simply open the app and set up the VPN as normal. If nothing else, you can use it to access your Netflix while at your hotel!







Get The Right Data Plan

What might be an issue for some travelers is that you need a SIM issued by a Qatar network or an international eSIM.

Choosing an appropriate plan when you're in Qatar is vital. The 2 main providers of data plans in Qatar are Vodafone and Ooredoo, but their internet is pretty expensive.

Textr's eSIM is a far more convenient option than buying a SIM card from one of Qatar's state carriers. Setting things up in advance saves you from having to buy a physical SIM at Doha airport and trying to get it to work, especially as you need to download the state's contact tracing app before you leave.

Want To Ge The Cheape While Trave

Check out Textr eSIM to get a

Q Search a country or region

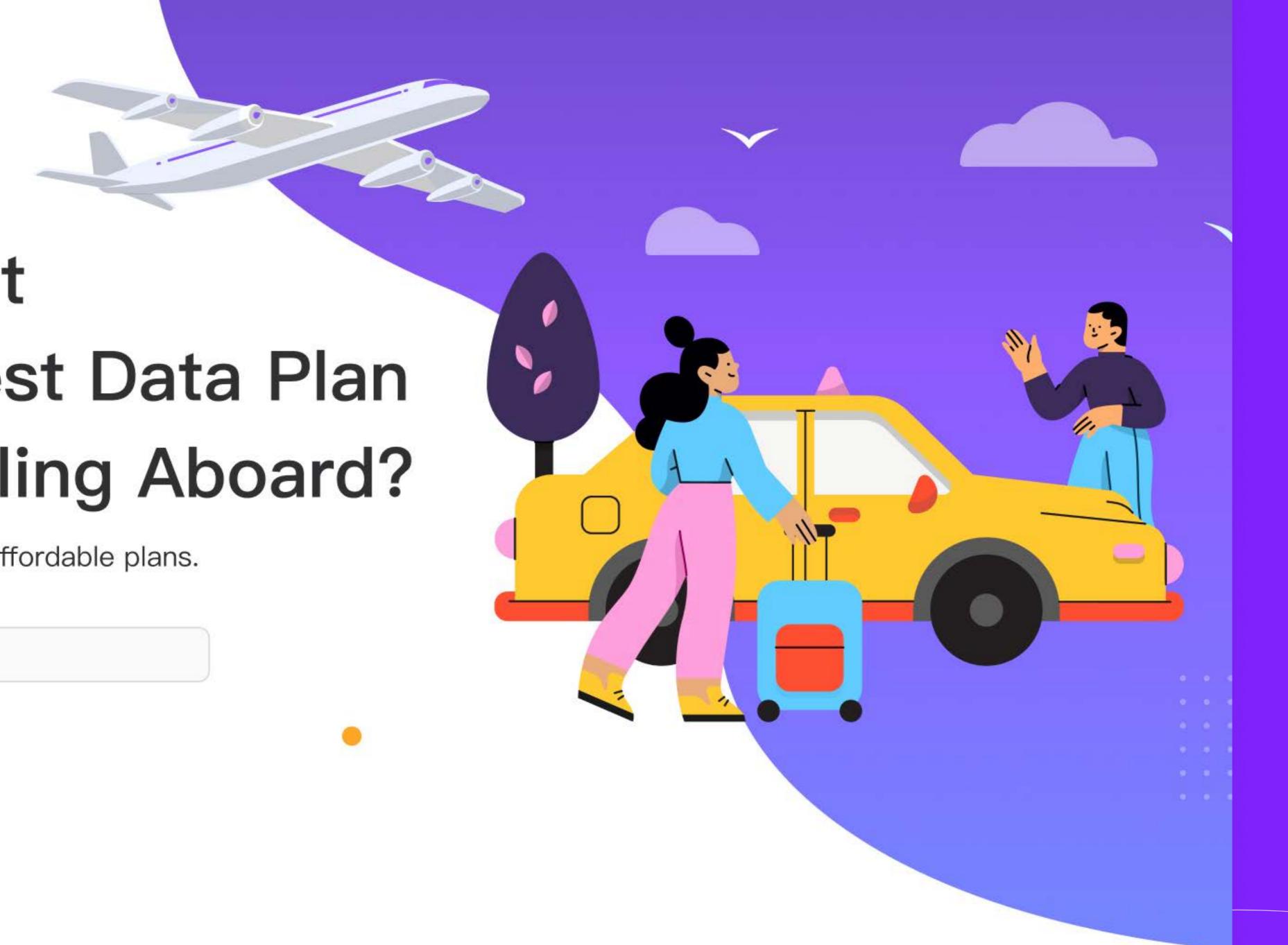
Check if your phone supports eSIM →





My Data Plans





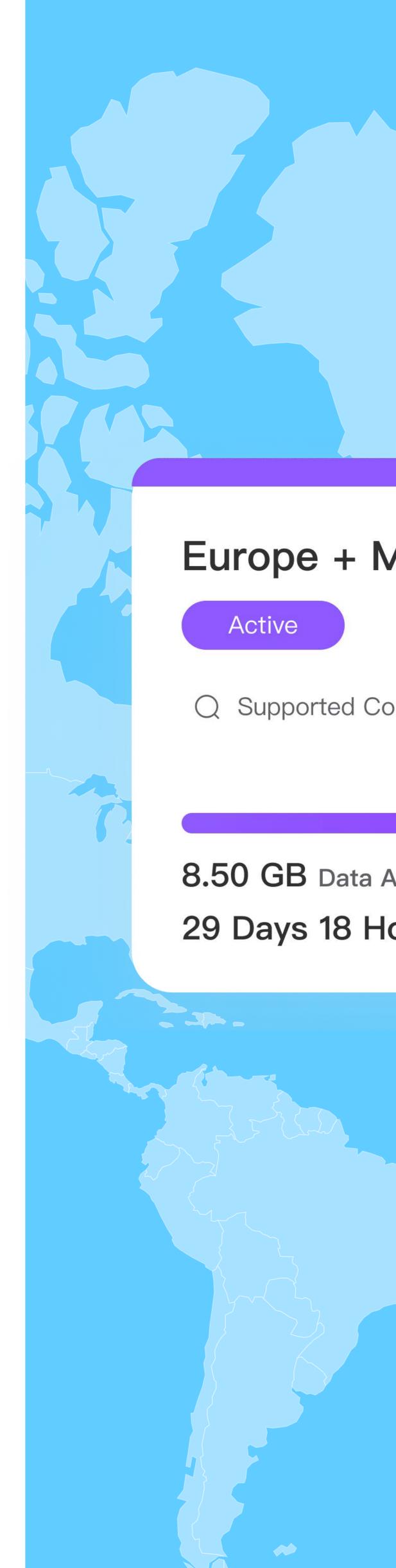
How to Use Textr eSIM in Qatar Doha

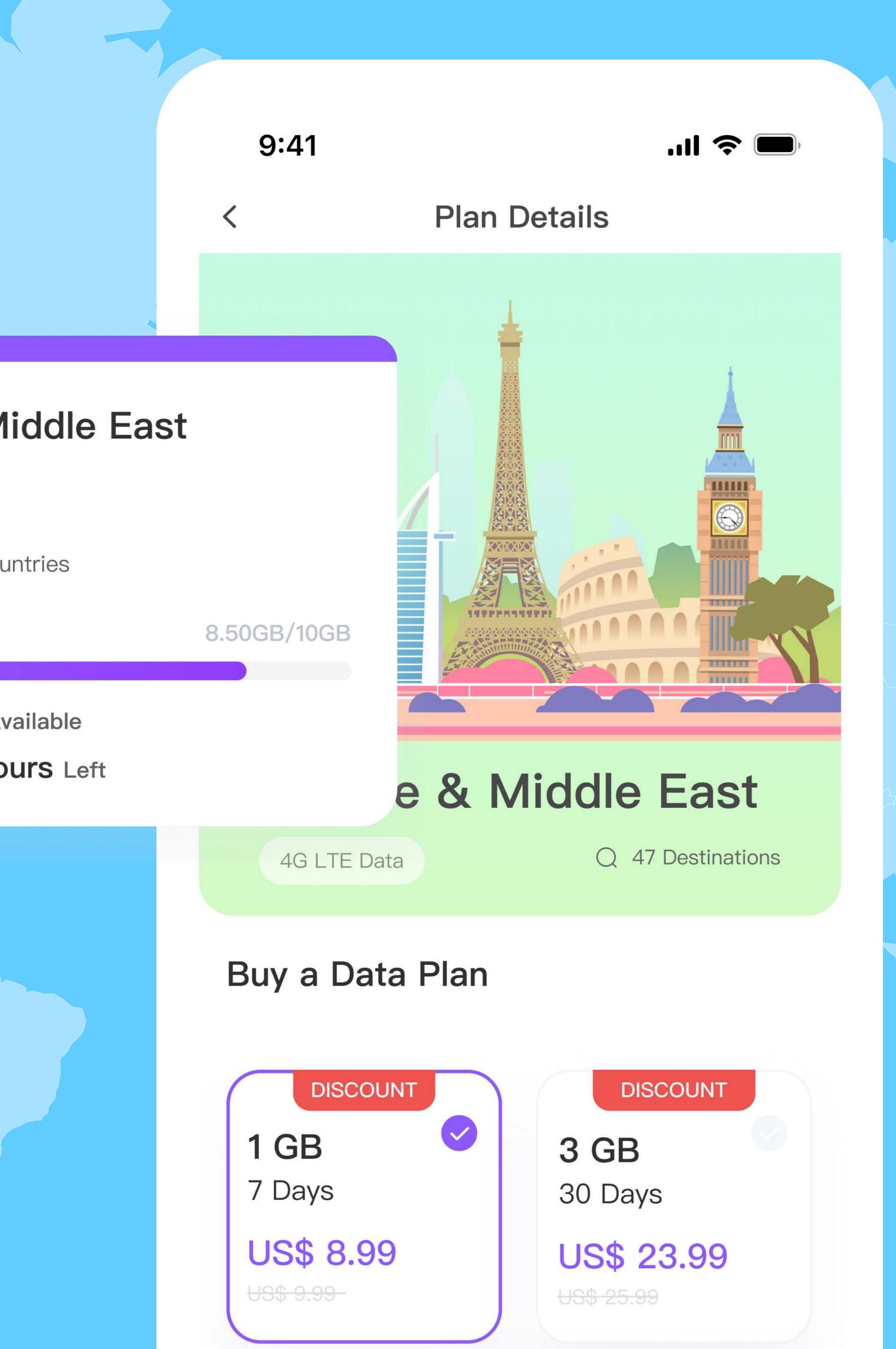
Using an eSIM is much easier than a physical SIM card. You simply purchase data plans on Textr eSIM website in your home country, and then install an eSIM on your phone. Once you arrive in Qatar Doha, you just need to activate your data plan. All information about Textr eSIM, you can check out here.

Textr eSIM is coming out in November, and if you subscribe now, you can be in with a chance to win \$10 of credit! So, what are you waiting for?

On Textr's eSIM, \$8.99 gets you 1GB of data for 47 countries, including followed **Middle East countries**:







Practical Information

A little local know-how goes a long way in Qatar. Here you find all the essential advice and information you will need during your stays

Emergency Number

Local Directory

Mental Health Association

999

180

080 09395

Time zone

UTC +3

Arabia Standard Time

There is no Daylight Saving Time (DST)



Currency

Amounts equal to or more than QAR 50,000 in local currency (Qatar Riyal, or QAR), as well as all other international currencies, must be disclosed upon arrival.



Drinking water

The World Health Organization estimates that 99% of Qatar has access to drinkable tap water. However, bottled water is widely consumed in Qatar with plenty of local and imported brands widely available.



