

TF 51/5



Updated Feb 25, 2020



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Welcome to Naval Amphibious Force, Task Force 51/5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, otherwise known as TF 51/5. While you may have received temporary duty (TDY) or permanent change of station (PCS) orders that indicate assignment to either TF 51 or 5th MEB, we operate as a single, fully-integrated Navy/Marine Corps headquarters led by a one-star Marine Corps commanding general. As our first communication with you, this packet is provided to facilitate a seamless and successful transition to TF 51/5. We recommend you begin your transition planning early since completion of required screening and training, processing of passport applications and visa as well as special considerations such as shipping vehicles and pets can take two to three months of preparation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your sponsor.

About Us: As the only standing, forward-deployed and fully integrated Navy/Marine Corps force, TF 51/5 maintains a Joint Task Force (JTF) Capable Headquarters which commands, controls, and employs a shore-based Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force; a sea-based Marine Air-Ground Task Force deployed with an Amphibious Ready Group; Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team; an Afloat Forward Staging Base and an Expeditionary Resuscitative Surgical System in coordination with U.S. 5th Fleet naval assets and special operations forces to conduct expeditionary operations across the full spectrum of conflict in order to provide immediate and effective crisis response options to the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) combatant commander and the National Command Authority. With Joint Force and U.S. Government Interagency augmentation and support, TF 51/5 can rapidly establish a JTF headquarters to respond to missions such as Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations, Foreign Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief, or other crises in the Area of Responsibility (AOR).

About Bahrain: Home to the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and U.S. 5th Fleet, the Kingdom of Bahrain is situated off the coast of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Strategically located, this island enables TF 51/5 to provide operational support to U.S. and coalition forces operating throughout the CENTCOM AOR, ensuring security to ships, aircraft, detachments and remote sites. Nearly 12,000 Americans live in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



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Welcome Families



Congratulations to your family on your new orders to TF 51/5. While the initial shock of receiving orders to the Middle East is still very fresh in your mind, please rest assured that this will be a rewarding tour both professionally and personally. Bahrain offers a diverse culture that is welcoming of Westerners, U.S. military and their families. You will quickly find that although this is a small island, there is much to do for you and your family in the local area and aboard Naval Support Activity Bahrain.

As you begin to prepare for your travel to Bahrain, know that a TF 51/5 family will be assigned as your sponsor. While we do try our best to link you up with families who are similar in size and age as yours, this may not always be the case. We do have a Uniformed Readiness Coordinator (URC), an active command team, and our spouses try to hold a monthly social to bring everyone together. After you arrive in Bahrain we will hold "get togethers" that will focus on finding houses, school activities, job searches, events in the local area, Space A travel, cultural classes, best places to shop, car buying and much more. You will find that you are not the only one who has the same concerns and stresses. We are here to help you and your family.

Surely, you have many questions and there is not enough room to answer them here. There are additional NSA Bahrain Family Readiness Coordinating Committee (FRCC) publications such as the Camel Crossing welcome aboard booklet, which your sponsor will send you. Please take your time going through this TF 51/5 Welcome Aboard packet and our URC is prepared to answer any questions you may have.

Within two weeks of arrival, you are required to attend multi-day Area Orientation-Inter Cultural Relations briefs. Your sponsor will coordinate with you to determine the best time to go based off your arrival. Between the URC, our volunteers, your sponsor, and other families in Bahrain, you will have more than enough resources during this transition.

CONNECT WITH US!

DVIDS: www.dvidshub.net/unit/5MEB

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TF51.5

Website: www.tf515.marines.mil

Links of Interest

<https://www.facebook.com/NSABahrain/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MWR.Bahrain/>

<https://www.facebook.com/NAVCENT.C5F/>

<https://www.facebook.com/AFNBAHRAIN/>



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Frequently Asked Questions

FAQ

Medical Requirements. An overseas screening through your local medical is required prior to departing your permanent duty station (PDS). This is required prior to arrival and may take more than one appointment. It is suggested that you start your suitability screening at least 90 days in advance for active duty personnel and at least 120 days for family members. NAVMED 1300/1, NAVMED 1330/2, 1300/16 and DD form 2807-1 must be completed in order to fulfill this requirement and must be accompanied with an area clearance.

Inbound personnel to the command. Upon notification of PCS orders, all inbound Marines are required to complete the Outbound Interview via MOL. Once completed and submitted to IPAC, Marines will be required to complete the overseas screening. AMHS area clearance and APACS messages are required to be submitted to TF 51/5 prior to departing your PDS (for all inbound Marines). TDY Sailors and Marines will require demobilization coordination with their specific demobilization offices to process orders.

Work email in Bahrain. Complete the NIPR and SIPR SAAR forms, read the NATO security briefing, and complete the NATO briefing certificate as soon as you receive this package. Once complete, scan and send the above documents to your sponsor. It can take more than a month to set up email accounts. Please complete these forms ASAP.

ARRIVAL INFORMATION: It is imperative that you remain in contact with your sponsor. As soon as you receive your confirmed itinerary, email a copy to your sponsor and the Manpower and Personnel (MP) Directorate. If flight times change, contact your sponsor so they can arrange for your arrival. If your sponsor is not at the airport, call the CDO at +973-3947-9216 on a Bahrain phone. If you cannot reach the CDO, dial the SWO at +973-1785-8538. As a last resort, take a taxi/Uber from the airport to NSA Bahrain and report to TF 51/5 Headquarters on the 2nd Deck of Building 100. A ride from the airport to NSA Bahrain is 5 Bahraini Dinar (BHD) or \$14 U.S. dollars (USD) and is reimbursable. Currency exchange services are offered at the airport.

TRAVEL: All travel arrangements **must** be made through your local DMO/ITO/SATO. Ensure service members wear casual business attire for the trip. Make sure you know when Ramadan is occurring (as it will have an impact on your trip). Males and females/dependents and service members must wear collared shirts and have their legs covered during Ramadan.

LODGING: Lodging arrangements for your arrival in Bahrain must be made by your sponsor. Marines/Sailors who PCS to Bahrain are not authorized to make their own arrangements.

IF ARRIVING AT THE COMMERCIAL AIRPORT: After departing the aircraft, go through customs and ensure to complete the customs form. You will need to provide a military CAC and a copy of your orders to the customs personnel. If accompanied and your dependents are not traveling with official passports, you will be required to pay an entry fee for a two-week visa for each of your dependents, BHD and USD are accepted, until they have official passports and approved dependent visas. After passing through customs, retrieve your luggage and your sponsor will meet you in the receiving area. In the event of a flight delay (or some other issue that may arise), contact TF 51/5 at +973-1785-8545.

IF ARRIVING AT AMC TERMINAL: Upon arrival at the Air Mobility Command Terminal, ensure you locate your sponsor. Do not catch a ride with the Navy personnel enroute to NSA Bahrain. Your sponsor will be there to greet you. Once you retrieve your luggage proceed to the Customs Office where you will present your military CAC card and passport(s).



Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT TO BRING: Uniform of the day is NWU III for Sailors and Desert MARPAT for Marines with subdued rank for officers. Sailors are required to carry with them their dress blue uniform while Marines are required to carry their Service Alpha uniform for official check in to the command. Additionally, Marines are required to bring their full issue of uniforms and Sailors are required to bring their NWU III, Service Dress Blues and Summer Whites (officers) NWU III, Service Dress Blues and Service Uniform (enlisted). Depending on billet for Navy, Mess Dress may be required as well. All personnel are required to wear appropriate civilian attire while on liberty (see [OPORD 1000-17](#)). While many uniform and personal items may be shipped, please ensure you travel with the following:

- 2 x NWU III or Desert MARPAT; Navy Service Dress Blues or Marine Corps Service Alphas; Business attire
- Passports
- Medical records/dental records; immunization records
- Government travel charge card
- Valid driver's license
- Prescription glasses
- Two copies of your orders; Page 2 and 4 (Sailors)

WHAT NOT TO BRING:

- Ceremonial swords, NCO swords and Mameluke swords must be approved by customs. Check the Bahrain Ministry of Interior's [website](#) for more information.

Physical Fitness Test (PFT): Marines arriving after April are required to have completed a PFT. PFTs are restricted to select months due to the excessive heat. Individual Augmentee Sailors are required to conduct mock Physical Readiness Test twice per calendar year.

PASSPORTS. It is required that you apply for an official government “no fee” passport and it is recommended that you apply for a tourist passport for personal travel. Government passports can take up to six weeks to process. If you do not currently have one, it is suggested you apply for one immediately upon receipt of your orders.

Ensure that your web orders state the actual location of Bahrain in order to facilitate your application request. Official government no fee passports are for official travel only. If accompanied dependents are authorized, they must possess a valid no fee passport. Information on passports is available from the U.S. State Department's [website](#). Depending on where you are currently stationed, either your local installation Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) will process official passports. Visas are not required prior to entry.

The Bahrain Visa must be obtained after arrival (see MP Directorate for assistance). Before applying for your Bahrain Central Population Registry (CPR) Visa you must obtain dependent entry approval through the MP Directorate and the NSA Bahrain PSD. The visa process takes approximately two weeks and the CPR process is 1-2 weeks after the visa. No fee passports must be valid for at least six months beyond expected departure dates from Bahrain.



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Frequently Asked Questions

FAQ

Is it safe? There is minimal crime in Bahrain however, as with any new location, be aware of your surroundings and stay alert. Most crime is directed toward the Ministry of the Interior personnel and local police. Once you arrive on island, you will receive an in-depth safety brief and a listing of “off limits areas.”

What do I need to do to prepare for our move? While this is a long list, you should immediately get you and your family “No Fee” passports (often referred to as official passports). Once that is complete, ensure you have up-to-date personal passports (blue passports). Decide if you want to ship your car to Bahrain, store or sell it. Your sponsor will help you if you want to ship it. Also, identify which personal belongings and household goods you want to have shipped. You can ship your goods or rent a residence that is fully furnished. Again, your sponsor is your conduit. Begin your family’s overseas screening ASAP. Don’t hold off on trying to get this completed. This is a long and sometimes stressful process. If you run into issues, reach out to your sponsor for assistance.

What clothes can I wear in Bahrain? You are going to find that most Western style of clothes are allowed and authorized in Bahrain however, during Ramadan you are advised to wear more conservative clothing.

What are the schools like? Bahrain has a DoDEA school that offers K-12 classes. Children who attend are primarily the children of DOD and contractors, but there are some local children who attend the school as well. The school is guarded by Naval Security Forces and is within walking distance to base.

Are there activities for children? Yes there are activities for children of all ages. The base offers youth sports programs year round and hosts events at NSA Bahrain. There are also activities within the local community.

Can I bring my pet? Yes. Your sponsor will help you with this process. Things to note in this decision: If you PCS here in the summer, it will be very hot and is hard on pets. You will need specific flights that land later at night when it is cool. There is little grass on the island for pets to run and play. Families do bring pets and some temporarily leave them behind with family or friends.

Where will we live? Immediately upon coming to Bahrain you and your family will reside in a suite at one of the locally approved hotels. You have a maximum of 45 days to reside there while you transition and find your permanent housing. BASE HOUSING IS NOT OFFERED IN BAHRAIN. Permanent housing is located throughout the island, where you will find a wide variety of friendly people from around the world. Three primary means of housing consist of flats, villas and compounds. Flats are apartments, villas are walled house and compounds are single-family homes with a shared common area and parking. You will learn more details about all of this during the housing brief. You will have plenty of time to find the residence that best fits you. Take time and look at as many houses as you can early.

What is the weather like? The summers are hot. You will find that most locals are active at night due to the heat during the day. All people will adjust to the time change and heat differently so don’t be nervous if it takes you longer to adjust than others. There is bottled water sold throughout Bahrain and plenty of shaded areas. The weather will begin to get cooler in September, with October through March being pleasant. By April the heat begins to set in and by May it will be in the 100-degree range. The air quality in Bahrain can be extremely poor, especially in the hotter months of the year. This has the ability to limit outdoor activity.

Is travel easy off of Bahrain? Yes. You can use Space A flights that travel to and from Bahrain weekly or buy your own ticket and depart from Bahrain’s International Airport. Travel is easy in and out of Bahrain and you will quickly find that you are in close proximity to key locations throughout the Middle East and Europe. It is highly encouraged to make the most out of this duty station and take advantage of the travel opportunities. Families and the command team can help walk you through the processes and give you tips on places they have visited. You will have unique opportunities and ability to see the globe.

Can family visit? Not all positions at TF 51/5 are accompanied. For those families who remain stateside, they are able to visit Bahrain any time during the year. Families require a personal passport and can receive a Visa once they arrive in Bahrain or can go online and purchase the Visa in advance of travel. It is recommended to avoid visiting Bahrain during the summer months due to the extreme heat however, fall, winter and spring are enjoyable.



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Housing



*****Disclaimer: All personnel seeking off-base housing will be required to attend a mandatory housing brief. The information contained in the housing portion of this document is not comprehensive in nature and is not to be viewed as a command endorsement. This is for informational purposes only.**

Temporary Lodging. All E-5s and above on PCS orders rate Temporary Lodging Allowance (TLA) for up to 45 days. Your hotel is reserved by the service member's sponsor prior to your arrival in Bahrain to ensure the hotel is on the approved list, is within your budget, and provides shuttle service or is within walking distance of NSA Bahrain. Marines and Sailors on PCS orders will need to pay for (and submit a claim for) reimbursement every 10 days for TLA. MP Directorate staff will guide you through this process when you arrive. Contact your bank and place travel notifications on your credit cards. All E-4 and below personnel will reside in the barracks on board NSA Bahrain.

Power Requirements. The power outlets in Bahrain do not conform to U.S. standard plugs. Any item other than computers and most cell phones will require a step down converter. This converts the power supply from 220 volts to 110. Power converters cost approximately \$80 each, so keep this in mind when shipping items that need an external power source. Most apartments come fully equipped with standard electronic appliances commonly used in the U.S. Adaptors are available for purchase at the on-base NEX for electronics that are dual-voltage with an American plug.

Most TF 51/5 personnel who reside in Juffair either bike or walk to work. Bicycles are often found to be satisfactory transportation. New and used bikes are available for purchase (consider sending one in your household goods). Once permanent housing is established, the first month's rent is required upon move in. PCS members will receive Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) only after the lease is signed. This will cause a delay in the first month's rent being paid and the start of OHA. Ensure you have enough savings to cover the initial rent. Marines are eligible for advance pay prior to departing their PDS.

Additional Housing information for TDY Sailors: It is always good to start looking at housing accommodations online before arriving on the island to get an idea of what is available and the location that you would like to live. Lodging expenses will be reimbursed to the Sailor the following month after rent has been paid and a travel claim has been completed. Lodging expenses are reimbursed at actual cost to the Sailor (up to the approved amount for Bahrain). Many people use a realtor when they arrive in Bahrain. You have to be firm and inform them what you are looking for, how much you plan to spend, where you want to live and what amenities you expect to have. Expect to pay 500-700 BHD (500 BHD X \$2.66 = \$1,330 USD / 700 BHD X \$2.66= \$1,862 USD) to live in Juffair.



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Housing



High rise apartment (mostly in Juffair): High rises offer 24-hour security, gyms in the building that hardly anyone uses (so it is like your own private workout facility), rooftop pools, community rooms you can rent out and some parking. Many are completely or partially furnished and usually include weekly cleaning (even a laundry service in some), utilities to include internet and cable (not phone), in the rent. Many of these types of units allow pets.

Compounds: Similar to base housing, compounds consist of a grouping of identical villas or a mix of different sized villas surrounded by a wall. Compounds usually include a community pool, community center and gym. Many will have playgrounds, waterparks, soccer pitches etc. They are gated with a “night watchman” keeping an eye on things. They can vary in size from a few villas to dozens.

Villas: Stand alone homes (but still surrounded by a high wall), can vary in size. We have found they are either very large or smaller and a little dated. Many landlords will work with you on furnishings and will add or remove items depending on your request.

The base has a rule that a compound or apartment cannot have over a certain percentage of Americans residing in them for security reasons. Housing keeps track of this data and will brief you during your housing brief. Make a list of your priorities, think about your everyday lifestyle and determine your needs. It might be challenging to find everything you want on your list.

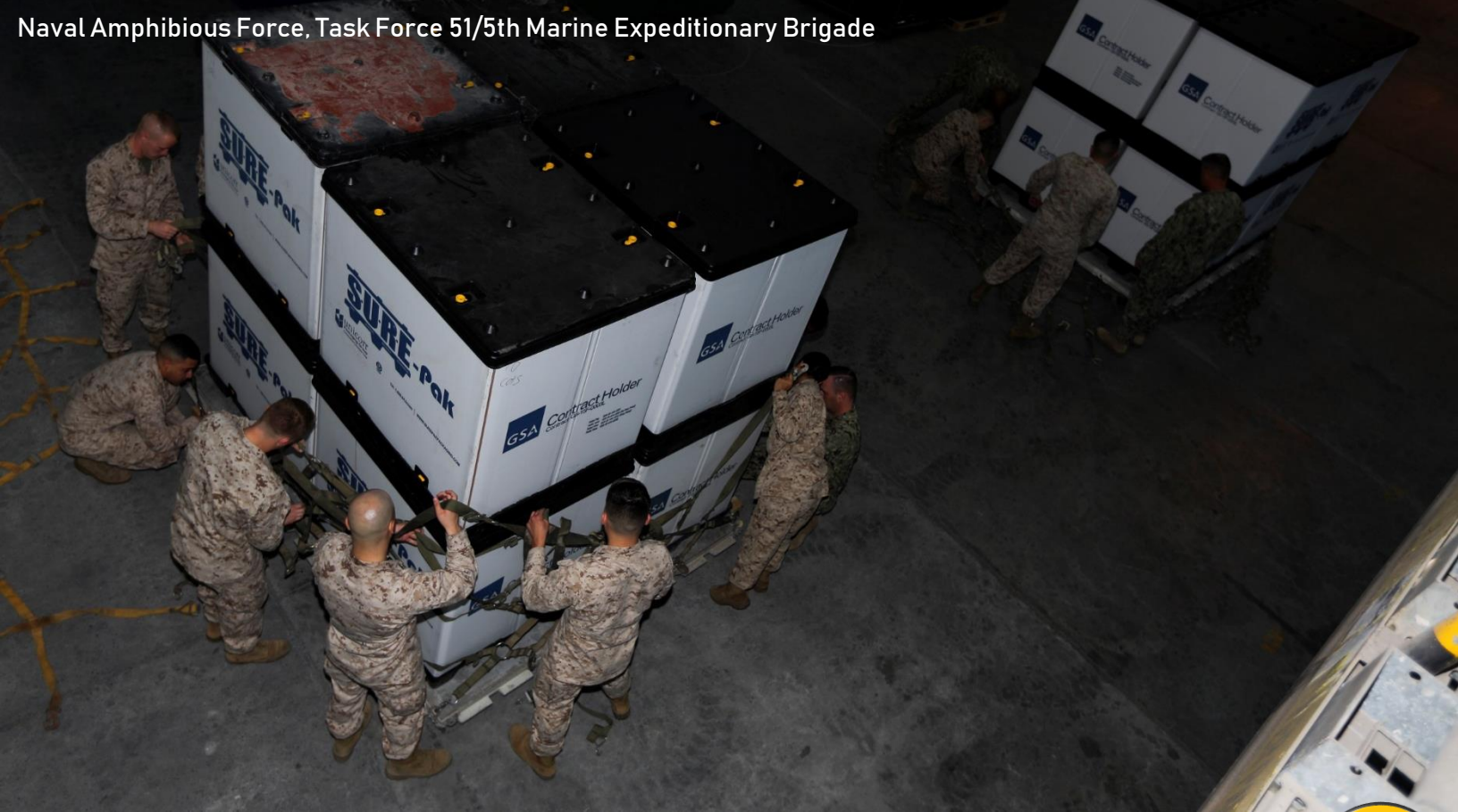
*****Note:** Your first month’s rent will have to come out of pocket, so ensure that you have money saved to pay for this month. You will be reimbursed at the end of your tour.

AMWAJ is a little island off the main island where mostly expatriates live. The Western influence affords females the ability to wear less conservative clothing than in neighboring areas. It is scenic and many people have waterfront homes with docks. Most people who live in Amwaj own paddle boards/kayaks. You will find many pet owners here because it’s a great place to walk. The “floating city” has all waterfront housing, but the homes are close together (similar to living in a townhome community.)

Pros: Great restaurants close by, it’s loosely guarded by a gate guard, the water is spectacular out there. Great for water lovers and dog owners. Cons: It’s probably the most expensive area in Bahrain and the houses are small and lack any architectural appeal-unless you pay over your housing allowance. Few places have both a living room and family room but instead have just one living space. There is also only one way in and out, so there is some traffic. The traffic is getting worse each year with the increased construction.

JUFFAIR is very convenient to base and most people love this area because of its proximity to work and school.

Pros: This is the closest neighborhood to the base and the school. Many folks who live here make do with one vehicle and the active duty member rides a bike to work (though the command cautions pedestrians and cyclists to be aware of the local driving hazards). From an apartment high-rise, no one on the island has a prettier view of the Arabian Gulf. More and more family compounds are being built near the base. Cons: There is a ton of construction going on so you will hear the construction noise. To beat the heat, construction starts quite early in the morning. Parking for guests is challenging. Juffair is “the city” with nightclubs, malls and restaurants. It is home to most single Sailors and Marines who walk or bicycle to work.



Housing



ADLYIA is the restaurant district. When you meet people for lunch or take them out for dinner, this is where you usually go. Pros: It's centrally located and close to the base. You can walk to dozens of great restaurants. Cons: The homes are older and dated.

HIDD is right over the Hidd bridge from the base and on the way to Amwaj. Pros: Relatively close to base with large villas and near the airport. Cons: Traffic can be an issue over the bridge and on weekends. Mostly standalone villas are available, not compounds.

JANABIYA is the last exit before the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's border. Pros: You get a ton of house for your money. The villas are in compounds, which gives you a sense of community, privacy and safety. The villas are enormous and most have pools. Great for dogs. Cons: You are far from the base/schools. Lots of people choose to live here though because of the value. It can be a long commute to base if traffic is bad.

MAHOZ is located near a private cooled pool, tennis courts, gym, library and reasonably priced restaurants. Pros: Near Adliya and the base. Some popular compounds are located here and it is situated near a grocery store, coffee shops and malls as well as fruit and produce stands. Nice combination of residential and commercial living. Cons: You sometimes get a whiff of the sewage plant near Zinj and it's near off-limits areas.

SEEF/SAAR are located almost as far away as Janabiya. Many people chose to live in Saar because it is considered to be a beautiful area with several housing options. Pros: Beautiful and safe area. There are many apartments and big villas. Horse riding stables are nearby.

TUBLI/ZINJ are located near the U.S. Embassy. Pros: Centrally located and you get a lot for your money. Cons: There is a sewage plant nearby and Zinj borders an off-limits area.

How to pay rent: Go to Navy Federal Credit Union on base and pay for your rent in dollars. NFCU will cut you a check for your rent. Take this check upstairs to the "Dinar Office" and he will convert it into BD (in the form of a check or cash). Then, take your check to your landlord. Make sure you get a receipt. Some landlords allow for an electronic transfer into their account from the Dinar Office.

Deciding what to bring is a personal choice. Here are some things to consider:

Pros: You are entitled to bring your rank's weight allowance. Bringing furniture ensures you have all the comforts of home however, some landlords are flexible and will add or take away furniture as needed, to include TVs, microwaves and dishes. Kitchen appliances will work with a transformer, bring lamps (decent ones here are hard to find), bring holiday items (the NEX will sell Christmas decorations, fake trees and lights) and know that closet space can be limited.

Cons: Local style tends to be ornate, gilded and modern. HHGs take a couple of months to arrive and there is no "loan locker" here. Express shipment suggestions: Blowup mattress, sheets, towels, shower curtains (or liners) and rings, a few pots and pans, crockpot, coffee maker, a few dishes and utensils, uniforms (except for what is taken on the plane), formal wear (items will probably arrive before ball time but the Navy Ball is in October quickly followed by the Marine Corps Ball in November), a printer, important papers, bathmats, laundry basket, computer paper, folding table, pet stuff and kids games.



Accompanied Personnel



Accompanied Orders. There are a limited number of accompanied tours available at TF 51/5. Monitors will coordinate directly with the MP Directorate before providing orders to the Marine. Marines with accompanied orders must submit an area clearance through the local area IPAC via AMHS requesting dependent approval. You are not authorized to bring your dependents without approval via AMHS from TF 51/5. If Marines desire to execute accompanied orders, all family members must complete overseas screening and ensure the overseas area clearance message is completed 60 days prior to departure in accordance with the Personnel and Assignment Policy (MCO 1300.8R).

School Information. [Choosing a School for Your Child](#), a publication from the U.S. Department of Education, offers checklists and information to assist parents in making education choices. Bahrain Elementary School/High School is a DoDEA school located in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Be sure to check with the school to make sure the area where you live is serviced by a school bus. The bus route is protected information and changes. For more information and to register your children for enrollment, contact the school at +973-1772-7828. More information is available on the school's [website](#).

For a successful transition. Parents often want to know about the availability of extracurricular activities and sports or the availability of advanced classes for their children. Contact the schools directly for more information.

Child care aboard NSA Bahrain. Daycare is available for children up to five years old. Childcare is also available during the summer months when school is not in session. More information is available from the Navy's Child and Youth programs [website](#). [Register](#) for OCONUS childcare. For more information visit [Military One Source Education Consultant](#).

Pet Information. Ensure you are aware of the most up-to-date requirements in regards to traveling with pets. MARADMIN 595/16 covers flying with pets on AMC flights.

Boarding. NSA Bahrain does not have boarding facilities. The NSA Veterinary Clinic has a referral list of boarding facilities in town.

Pet Import Requirements/Quarantine. All pets must have an original Bahrain Ministry of Agriculture Animal Import Certificate present at the airport upon arrival. Contact the NSA Veterinary Clinic at DSN 318-439-4295 for information. Visit NSA Bahrain's [Facebook page](#) for more information about bringing pets to Bahrain.





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Pay & Entitlements



Entitlements

- Combat Zone Tax Exclusion
- OHA (E-5 and above)
- Up to 45 days of TLA
- Basic Allowance for Subsistence (E-5 and above)
- PCS members receive Cost of Living Allowance (COLA)
- One-time payment of Dislocation Allowance processed with travel claim (PCS personnel) (E-5 and above)
- Family Separation Allowance (if applicable)
- Hardship Duty Pay – Location

Per Diem and Entitlements for Active Duty

Government messing is available on base. E-4s and below will be issued meal cards to eat on base. E-5's and above rate OHA (PCS orders) or per diem (TDY orders) and will be required to live off base. Marines on TDY orders will be required to live in government flats provided by the command.

Per Diem and Entitlements for TDY Sailors and Marines

Per Diem for GSA/IA and mobilized personnel for meals and incidentals (M&IE) for long-term TDY (+30 days) is set to the locality rate for Bahrain. During periods when you are embarked on a ship or TDY out of Bahrain you will not be entitled to Bahrain MI&E but for the actual location. It is important for every member of this command to understand that TF 51/5 is a forward-deployable command that routinely operates in a split-staff environment. There are no guarantees that you will remain in Bahrain for your entire tour, so we highly recommend to all members that you manage finances responsibly and that you **DO NOT** spend your per diem in advance.

Entitlements for TDY Marines and Sailors

- Combat Zone Tax Exclusion
- Family Separation Allowance (if applicable)
- Flat rate per diem of federal locality rate per day, per the DoD travel regulation.
- Marines assigned TDY orders will only rate meals and incidentals, not the lodging rate.
- Hardship Duty Pay-location (for TDY/TAD over 30 days)

Liberty. The following rules apply while on liberty in Bahrain:

- Public consumption of alcohol is prohibited in Bahrain.
- Alcohol consumption under the age of 21 is prohibited.
- There is a 0100 to 0500 curfew for all NSA Bahrain service members.
- All service members will wear appropriate civilian attire while on liberty.
- Uniforms are not worn off base. You must have appropriate civilian attire to travel to and from work.



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Miscellaneous



Required Training:

1	SERE 100: Code Of Conduct (CI060331SA). As an alternative, this training may be completed online at Marine Net. The URL is: https://www.marinenet.usmc.mil/MarineNet/Courses/Catalog.aspx . Copy of the completion certificate must accompany individual to TF 51/5. Training for Sailors can be located at: https://learning.nel.navy.mil/ (SERE 100.2: Code of conduct (JKDDC-LEVEL-A-COCTC-100.2), AT/FP Level 1: (CENSECFOR-AT-010-1.0) and Cyber Awareness: DOD Cyber Awareness Challenge)
2	AT/FP Level I Training. As a minimum, the AT/FP training can be completed at the following websites: https://jko.jten.mil/ , https://www.marinenet.usmc.mil/ or https://my.navy.mil/ . Copy of the completion certificate must accompany individual to TF 51/5.
3	CYBERM0000. The full USMC Cyber Awareness Training must be completed and up to date before you will be able to gain computer or e-mail access. The URL is: https://www.marinenet.usmc.mil/MarineNet/Courses/Catalog.aspx OR CYBERINTEL. If you know that you will be obtaining a TS account (not common), this course will meet all requirements for all network access you may be granted (NIPR/SIPR/JWICS). https://www.marinenet.usmc.mil/MarineNet/Courses/Catalog.aspx
4	Joint Knowledge Online Training. The following courses must be completed by Officers and Staff Non-commissioned Officers within 30 days of arrival - 1) JFC 100 Module 01: Introduction to Joint Fundamentals; 2) JFC 100 Module 03: Joint Operations; 3) JFC 200 Module 3: Inter-organizational Coordination; 4) JFC 200 Module 7: Joint HQ Organization, Integration, and Battle Rhythm; 5) JFC 200 Module 13: Forming a JTF HQ. JKO Website: https://jkodirect.jten.mil/Atlas2/page/login/Login.jsf
5	ISOPREP. Members must deploy with an updated ISOPREP and under no circumstance shall the ISOPREP be over 12 months old. Most unit S-2s or S-3s update the ISOPREP but members can go to https://prmsglobal.prms.af.smil.mil on a SIPR computer, request an account and update their own ISOPREP.
6	ABOUT DTS: TRAX Website: https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/Passport/bin/Passport.html#
7	DTS 101: TRAX Website: https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/Passport/bin/Passport.html#
8	PROGRAMS & POLICIES-DOD TRAVEL POLICES: TRAX Website: https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/Passport/bin/Passport.html#
9	TRAVEL CARD 101: TRAX Website: https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/Passport/bin/Passport.html#

TF 51/5	DSN	Commercial
Manpower and Personnel (MP) Directorate	318-439-1208 318-439-8415 318-439-8715	011-973-1785-8522 011-973-1785-8415 011-973-1785-3421
TF 51/5 MEB CDO (24 hours)	+973-3912-0769	011-973-1785-8545
Senior Watch Officer	318-439-8534	011-973-1785-8538

Mailing Addresses

FEDEX *FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY	TF 51/5
Commanding General	LAST NAME, F NAME MI, (SECTION)
LAST NAME, F NAME MI, (SECTION)	TASK FORCE 51/5
TASK FORCE 51/5	PSC 851 BOX 320
NSA Southwest Asia Bay #2	FPO AE 09834-2800
1 JUFFAIR ROAD	
MANAMA, BAHRAIN 09834	

Note: The mailroom will hold mail for 10 days without prior notification so be sure to inform your sponsor of any packages sent.



Miscellaneous



Shopping: There are lots of malls in Bahrain however, everything is expensive. If something costs \$30 in the states, it mostly likely will cost 30BD here. Many people opt to have furniture or clothing made which is a surprisingly affordable alternative from purchasing it at a store. There are numerous grocery stores within the local community that are reasonably priced. The NEX on NSA Bahrain does price matching and has a decent supply of Western-style foods. The local grocery stores are convenient, easy to find, and many offer delivery services.

You can't drink the water. You can buy a water dispenser and have inexpensive delivery service. You can brush your teeth, do dishes and even cook with the tap water (use tap water to rinse and even cook vegetables, but not to boil food where the water is absorbed -like rice).

You have to get your produce weighed and priced by a clerk in that grocery section before you head to the cashier. This is true at the NEX and out in town.

There are no power outlets in the bathrooms: Outlets are also randomly spaced throughout your house. There are power converters and ample surge protectors sold on base that you can use.

Driving after drinking is forbidden and exceeding the legal limit of 0.0 blood alcohol could get you arrested. Take turns being the designated driver, take cabs or use Uber.

The work/school week is Sunday-Thursday: On base church services are on Friday. The school follows the local holidays and the base follows U.S. holidays.

Telephone: You can't get a phone plan here until you have a CPR card (residency card), which takes a couple weeks. In the meantime, you can buy a cheap phone from the NEX and purchase minutes. If you can bring an unlocked phone, you may be able to get a SIM card at a kiosk in any shopping center or mall. Some people have landlines in their homes - Vonage or something similar, which is affordable and allows you to call the states at a reasonable price. Cell phone plans (calls and data) are pay as you go. You buy a certain amount and when it runs out you just go to the NEX or a kiosk and "top up". Beginning in 2018, to get a SIM card you have to be fingerprinted as well as provide your passport and CPR. Carrier options are Zain, Viva and Batelco. Everyone including locals and businesses use the call/text app called WhatsApp here. The best way to have a text chat with your sponsor is to download the app as soon as possible.

VPN: Virtual Private Network. Websites are often blocked here so to be able to watch more shows on Netflix, Amazon Prime, or Hulu people use a VPN.

TV: Most people have OSN, the Bahrain cable company. It has a lot of movie channels, CNN, Fox News and the Food Network. Apple TV also gives access to current movies and TV series that aren't on OSN. An Armed Forces Network (AFN) box allows you to watch sporting events like the Super Bowl (though you have to get up at 2a.m. to watch). You can buy an AFN box at the NEX or some apartment/villas already have them.

Drivers: Most Bahrainis have drivers who take the kids to and from school or run errands for them. SMS Taxi service and Uber are popular.

Lawn: To stay ahead of the dirt and sand, you can hire a person to wash cars, windows, hose down the villa, water the plants and grass and cut the grass as needed. **Pool:** Landlords cover the cost of the pool maintenance.

Mailing letters: You can mail letters for free. Also, you can ship to store through the NEX. Amazon Prime is a worthwhile investment and takes between 7-10 days for delivery. During the holidays, you need to be proactive as the mail system will become slowed down with deliveries.