



THE PALM BEACH RESEARCH GROUP INTERNATIONAL GUIDE TO BUYING BITCOIN

FIND OUT WHERE TO BUY BITCOIN ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD

By Teeka Tiwari



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Introduction

This document is a comprehensive, but not exhaustive, list of where you can buy bitcoin anywhere in the world with the local currency.

In Section 1, we cover common ways to buy bitcoin anywhere in the world.

In Section 2, we cover our recommended services and in what countries they're available.

In Section 3, we cover specific countries and the services you can use to buy bitcoin in those countries.

Section 1

How to Buy Bitcoin in Your Country

Worldwide: Nearly everywhere in the world, you can use [LocalBitcoins](#), [Bitsquare](#), or a bitcoin ATM.

LocalBitcoins is a peer-to-peer exchange that we've written about [here](#). As of this writing, LocalBitcoins is available in 248 countries and 14,398 cities. You can find the list [here](#).

Similar to LocalBitcoins, Bitsquare is a decentralized bitcoin exchange. Bitsquare supports the following currencies:

- Australian dollar
- Bahraini dinar
- Brazilian real
- British pound
- Cambodian riel
- Canadian dollar

- Chinese yuan
- Costa Rican colón
- Euros
- Israeli new shekel
- Japanese yen
- New Zealand dollar
- Norwegian krone
- Polish zloty
- Swedish krona
- Swiss franc
- U.S. dollar

The best way to find a bitcoin ATM near you is to conduct a Google search. Please be aware of the fees that apply for using a bitcoin ATM.

Section 2

Country Availability for Recommended Services

Gemini Exchange

The Gemini exchange is available in the following areas:

- Canada
- Hong Kong
- Singapore
- South Korea
- United Kingdom

- United States (all states except Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, Michigan, Oregon, and Washington)

You can find the most up-to-date information [here](#).

Coinbase

Coinbase is available in the following countries:

- Australia*
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Canada*
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Liechtenstein
- Malta
- Monaco
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- San Marino
- Singapore
- Slovakia
- Slovenia

- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United States
- United Kingdom

*Coinbase currently only supports buying in Australia and Canada. It's working to support selling as well.

For the most up-to-date information, follow this [link](#).

Abra

Abra is available in the following countries:

- Philippines
- United States

Abra is working on adding more countries, especially the ability to add/withdraw funds via a bank account in more countries. You can use this [link](#) to check the status of your country.

This link shows the banks currently supported by Abra.

Airbitz

Airbitz provides local currency conversion via a service called Glidera. As of this writing, Glidera is only available in the United States. However, it does intend to add more countries. You can find the most up-to-date information [here](#).

Section 3

Other Ways to Buy Bitcoin in Your Country

This section goes country by country and covers services that allow you to buy bitcoin with your local currency.

PLEASE NOTE: This is for informational purposes and does not include official recommendations. Before you use any service, take some time to learn about it and see what others are saying about it. Then, if you decide to use a service, test it out with small transactions first.

Canada

- **Direct:** Both [Kraken](#) and Coinbase are open for Canadian customers who can buy bitcoins with bank transfers or credit cards and store them on the platform's online wallet. Also, [Indacoin](#) is available for Canadian customers. More specifically for Canadians, however, are [QuickBT](#) and [Canadian Bitcoins](#), platforms where you can directly buy bitcoin up to 150 Canadian dollars with several means of payment like Interac Online and Flexepin vouchers. Canadian Bitcoins also offers the option to pay with cash in person or by deposit.
- **P2P:** Canadian customers can use international P2P markets like [Paxful](#) and [LocalBitcoins](#) to buy bitcoins.
- **Exchange:** Several exchanges support trade with Canadian dollars. [Kraken](#), [QuadrigaCX](#), and [Coin-square](#) are the most prominent examples.

Mexico

- **Gift Cards:** With the [Chip-Chap](#) app, you can buy bitcoin gift cards at more than 5,000 shops.
- **Direct:** [Volabit](#) allows people to buy bitcoin with Mexican pesos by bank transfers or cash deposits at OXXO, 7-Eleven, and Banamex branches and ATMs.
- **Exchange:** [Bitso](#) is an exchange for Mexico. Fees are rapidly decreasing with trade volume to as low as 0.1%; the spread is relatively small.

Central and South America

Several exchanges are available in some South and Central American countries. [SatoshiTango](#) is a direct vendor for Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Peru. [Bitex](#) offers services in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, and Uruguay.

Local P2P bitcoin markets are available in most Latin American countries.

Brazil

- **Direct:** People living in Brazil can buy bitcoins directly at [Mercado Bitcoin](#), a broker calling itself the biggest bitcoin exchange in Latin America.

- **Exchange:** One major bitcoin exchange in Brazil is [FlowBTC](#). Here, users can buy or sell bitcoins. Deposits can be made with bank transfers. Another major exchange is [Foxbit](#).

Argentina

- **Direct:** [Ripio](#) is a wallet app that lets users buy bitcoins. Its special feature is that it allows users to purchase bitcoins on credit and serves as a payment gateway to pay with bitcoin.

Venezuela

- **Exchange:** Venezuela has its own bitcoin exchange called [SurBitcoin](#).

Chile

- **Exchange:** Chile has its own bitcoin exchange, [SurBTC](#), which hit international news when it received funding from the Chilean government. People can buy or sell bitcoins here and make deposits in Chilean pesos with local bank transfers. SurBTC is also available in Columbia and Peru.

Europe

- **ATM:** The website [Coin ATM Radar](#) lists hundreds of bitcoin ATMs in Europe.
- **Direct:** Due to the unclear state of regulation in the eurozone, there are a dozen direct exchanges to buy bitcoin that offer a variety of payment channels. Most of these brokers charge their customers fees of 0.5–5% depending on the payment channel and earn by the spread.

Examples in alphabetical order:

- [Anycoin Direct](#) (SEPA, Sofort, Giropay, iDeal, MyBank, TrustPay)
- [Bitit](#) (Neosurf prepaid voucher, not available in every country)
- [BitPanda](#) (SEPA, Sofort, Skrill, credit card, Neteller, PayPal)
- [BTCDirect](#) (SEPA, Sofort, credit card, Giropay, Neteller)
- [Coinify](#) (SEPA, credit card, PayPal)
- [CoinMate](#) (Sofort, SEPA, MoneyPolo)

- [HappyCoins](#) (Sofort, iDeal, Mister Cash, SEPA, Giropay, MyBank)
- [Indacoin](#) (credit card)
- [SpectroCoin](#) (Sofort, Giropay, iDeal, Perfect Money, SEPA)

While the platforms above just sell bitcoin and offer no advanced online wallet—or no wallet at all—the Coinbase online wallet has the option to buy bitcoin via bank transfer or credit card and is available in most European countries.

- **P2P:** [LocalBitcoins](#) is available for every country in the eurozone except Germany. [Bitcoin.de](#) is a P2P marketplace for the whole eurozone where people can buy and sell bitcoins with SEPA transfers. With 0.5% fees and a low spread, Bitcoin.de is likely the cheapest method to buy bitcoins outside exchanges.
- **Exchange:** Several exchanges serve the eurozone. [Kraken](#) is the leading exchange followed by [Bitstamp](#) and [BTC-E](#). All exchanges demand full Know Your Client (KYC) forms to ensure you have all the details.

Europe (euro)

- **Austria**

Citizens of Austria can buy bitcoins with gift cards from [Bitcoinbon](#) that are sold in many traffic shops. This is an easy but relatively expensive way to buy bitcoins.

- **Germany**

For Germans, the Fidor Bank is a good place to start buying bitcoins. This online bank partners with Bitcoin.de and Kraken, making trading on these platforms significantly faster and easier. On Bitcoin.de, Fidor customers can immediately achieve full KYC status and use the so-called ExpressTrade. This allows them to buy an unlimited amount of bitcoins for relatively low prices only minutes after the first contact with the platform.

- **Spain**

In Spain, you can easily buy bitcoins at thousands of ATMs with [Bit2Me](#) and [Chip-Chap](#).

Europe (non-euro)

In nearly every European country, [LocalBitcoins](#) is available. Due to the good currency exchange between local currencies and the euro, many people in European countries use the big European platforms (Kraken, Bitcoin.de) to buy bitcoins. Since high fees and a big spread on small exchanges can add a huge premium on the price, it is often cheaper to change the local currency into euros and use the euro platforms that mostly accept clients from all of Europe.

An easy method is to pay with your credit card if available. Your credit card provider profits from the currency exchange spread and fee, but you can buy bitcoins quickly and easily.

United Kingdom

- **Direct:** Coinbase is available for U.K. citizens to buy bitcoins with bank transfers and credit cards. Many people from the U.K. use [Bittylicious](#), which offers bank transfers and credit cards, in addition to U.K.-specific payment options like Paym or Barclays Pingit. However, depending on the payment option, the fees can be quite large.
- **Exchange:** The most popular exchange in the U.K. is Coinfloor followed by [Kraken](#) and Coinbase's [GDAX](#).

Switzerland

- **ATM:** Recently, the Swedish national railway company SBB announced that citizens could buy bitcoins at any ticket machine in every rail station. Payment can be made with cash or electronic cash; credit cards are not accepted. On top of this, people in Switzerland can find bitcoin ATMs operated by [Bitcoin Suisse](#) in several places.
- **Direct:** The broker Bitcoin Suisse offers the option to buy bitcoins with cash and bank transfer. [247exchange](#) offers options to buy bitcoin as well.

Poland

- **Exchanges:** Poland has three bitcoin exchanges where you can buy bitcoins: [BitMarket](#), [BitBay](#), and [Bitmaszyna.pl](#). They offer relatively good conditions to buy bitcoins with zloty.

Norway

- **Direct:** In Norway, you can buy bitcoin with kroner using [Cubits](#).
- **Exchange:** Norway has one exchange, [Bitcoins Norway](#). But the volume is quite low, resulting in higher premiums.

Sweden

- **Direct:** Sweden has two Bitcoin brokers you can use to buy bitcoin with kronas: [BTCX](#) and [FYB-SE](#).

Denmark

- **Direct:** The only Danish exchange is [Coinify](#).

Ukraine

- **ATM:** With [Btcu.biz](#), users can buy bitcoins at many bank ATMs in Ukraine.
- **Direct:** [The Kuna Exchange](#) offers a direct exchange of bitcoin for hryvnas. Another direct exchange is [Btcu.biz](#).
- **Exchange:** With [the Kuna Exchange](#), Ukraine has its own bitcoin exchange for hryvnas.

Russia

- **Direct:** [Matbea](#) is a direct vendor of bitcoin for rubles. It requires users to register with their phone numbers.
- **Exchange:** [BTC-E](#) is the major exchange to trade rubles and bitcoin. It works with a variety of payment providers to allow the deposit of funds. Another popular exchange in Russia is [MaRSe](#).

Asia

Asia is the fastest-growing market for bitcoin. In China, Japan, and South Korea, there's a vibrant bitcoin trade on exchanges. But countries like the United Arab Emirates are more or less bitcoin-free. In these countries, your best chance is to find an ATM or sellers on [LocalBitcoins](#).

China

- **Exchanges:** China has some of the most liquid bitcoin exchanges in the world. [Huobi](#), [OKCoin](#), and [BTC China](#) have the biggest volume.

Japan

- **Direct:** The most popular direct exchange broker for yen is [bitFlyer](#). The broker offers a wide range of verification degrees—including emailing your full KYC form—and charges very low fees.
- **Exchange:** [Quoine](#), [Coincheck](#), and [Kraken](#) are three exchanges that serve the Japanese market.

Thailand

- **Direct:** One bitcoin broker for Thailand is [bitcoin.co.th](#). Another is [coins.co.th](#), and it also includes an easy-to-use online wallet.
- **Exchange:** Thailand has its own bitcoin exchange, [bx.in.th](#).

South Korea

- **Direct and ATM:** [Coinplug](#) offers a variety of services to buy and sell bitcoins. It provides two unique ATMs in Seoul and enable the purchase of bitcoin in thousands of ATMs in the country by partnering with an ATM producer. They also provide the option to buy bitcoins with several gift cards.
- **Exchange:** With [Korbit](#), South Korea has a well-developed exchange that offers not only trading with bitcoin, but also wallets for all devices and a remittance service. [Coinplug](#) has an exchange as well.

India

- **Direct:** India's biggest bitcoin vendor where you can buy, sell, save, and send bitcoin is [Unocoin](#). There's also [Zebpay](#), another big platform for bitcoins in India. Like every exchange in India, those two platforms require an identity verification.
- **Exchange:** [Coinsecure](#) is both an online wallet and an exchange.

Philippines

The Philippines has a wide variety of platforms to buy bitcoins.

- **Gift Cards:** On [Prepaid Bitcoin](#), you can redeem voucher cards you buy in several locations in the Philippines.

- **Direct:** [BuyBitcoin](#) and [Coins.ph](#) are two bitcoin vendors. Coins.ph accepts a wide spectrum of payment channels like cash deposits at banks, online transfers, and vouchers available in stores nationwide.
- **Exchanges:** The Philippines has two Bitcoin exchanges: [Coinage](#) and [BTCExchange](#).

Turkey

- **Gift Cards:** With [Bitupcard](#), you can buy a voucher and redeem it for bitcoins online.
- **Direct:** [Koinim](#) is a platform where you can directly buy bitcoin and Litecoin with lira.
- **Exchange:** [BTC Turk](#) is Turkey's first Bitcoin exchange. Here, you can buy and sell bitcoins.

Malaysia

- **Direct:** In Malaysia [CoinBox](#) and [coins.my](#) provide an online wallet and an easy method to buy and sell bitcoins.
- **Exchange:** [Coinhako](#) is a wallet with the option to buy and sell for Malaysia and **Singapore**. [Luno](#) offers an exchange for Malaysia and Indonesia.

Vietnam

- **Direct:** In Vietnam, you can buy bitcoin at [Bitcoin Vietnam](#).
- **Exchange:** [VBTC](#) is Vietnam's major bitcoin exchange.

Indonesia

- **Direct:** You can also buy bitcoins at [Bitcoin.co.id](#).
- **Exchange:** [Luno](#) offers an exchange for Indonesia and Malaysia.

Taiwan

- **Direct:** Citizens of Taiwan can use [MaiCoin](#) to buy, sell, and use bitcoins.

Middle East

Israel

- **Direct:** [Bits of Gold](#) is the oldest bitcoin platform in Israel. Here, you can directly buy and sell bitcoins.

- **Exchange:** [Bit2C](#) is Israel's major bitcoin exchange.

United Arab Emirates

- **Direct:** Citizens of the United Arab Emirates can use [BitOasis](#) to buy bitcoins directly.

Kuwait

- **Direct:** In Kuwait, you can buy bitcoins on [BitFils](#).

Oceania

Australia

- **Direct:** Australia has several direct bitcoin vendors: [Bit Trade Australia](#) supports POLi Payments; [buybitcoin.com.au](#) accepts cash deposits from banks; [CoinTree](#) supports both POLi Payments and cash deposits from banks; [CoinLoft](#) supports POLi Payments, cash deposits from banks, and Flexepin vouchers; [bitcoin.com.au](#) allows users to acquire bitcoin by depositing cash at kiosks; [CoinJar](#) offers ways to buy bitcoin and an easy-to-use wallet.
- **Exchange:** [Independent Reserve](#) and [CoinSpot](#) are the two major bitcoin exchanges in Australia.

New Zealand

- **Direct:** With both [Coined](#) and [buybitcoin.co.nz](#), you can buy bitcoins through your bank; [Coinhub](#) allows you to not only pay with bank transfers, but also with cash deposits at ATMs and through PayPal; [MyBitcoinSaver](#) offers a wallet and the option to invest regularly in bitcoins with automatic bank transfers.
- **Exchange:** New Zealand has one bitcoin exchange: [NZBCX](#).

Africa

South Africa

- **Exchange:** South Africa has two bitcoin exchanges: [Luno](#) and [Ice3x](#).

Nigeria

- **Direct:** In Nigeria, you can use [NairaEx](#) to buy bitcoins with bank transfers or [BitPesa](#) to purchase coins with debit cards or Paga.
- **Exchange:** In Nigeria, you can use the Luno exchange.

Tanzania

- **Direct:** In Tanzania, you can use [BitPesa](#) to buy bitcoins with bank transfers.

Uganda

- **Direct:** In Uganda, [BitPesa](#) allows citizen to buy bitcoins with MTN Uganda or Airtel Money.

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