

MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2022

LEGEND Travel Bulletin

AMERICAS

AFRICA & THE
MIDDLE EAST

ASIA & THE PACIFIC

EUROPE

Worldwide

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) COVID-19 UPDATE

Globally, the number of new weekly cases decreased by 24% during the week of August 8, as compared to the previous week, with over 5.4 million new cases reported. The number of new weekly deaths decreased by 6%, as compared to the previous week, with over 15,000 fatalities reported.

As of August 14, 587 million confirmed cases and 6.4 million deaths have been reported globally.

WORLDWIDE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

For the most up-to-date information on current entry restrictions, please visit IATA's "Government Measures Related to Coronavirus (COVID-19)" website by clicking [here](#).

MONKEYPOX

The number of countries reporting monkeypox cases continues to grow. Cases of monkeypox have been confirmed in over 90 countries, some deaths have been reported. Monkeypox is a viral disease not usually present in these countries. Transmission can occur through close contact with an infected person. Investigations are ongoing into how they became infected. Travelers should prevent infection by following good hygiene measures.

FROSCHE TRAVEL RESOURCES

- [Rebooking Policies](#)
- [Health & Safety Measures](#)
- [Travel Restrictions](#)
- [Face Mask Guidance](#)

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

- AUG 29**
- Guernsey: Summer Bank Holiday (except Alderney)
 - Gibraltar: Late Summer Bank Holiday
 - Isle of Man, Jersey, United Kingdom: Summer Bank Holiday
 - Kazakhstan: Constitution Day (extra holiday)
 - Peru: Public Sector Holiday
 - Philippines: National Heroes Day
 - Saint Helena: August Bank Holiday
 - Slovakia: National Uprising Day
- AUG 30**
- Croatia: Day of Remembrance of Missing Persons in the Homeland War
 - Kazakhstan: Constitution Day
 - Nepal: Hartalika Teej
 - Peru: Santa Rosa De Lima
 - East Timor: Popular Consultation Day
 - Turkey: Victory Day
 - United Kingdom, United States: Ganesh Chaturthi
- AUG 31**
- Bangladesh, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Pakistan, South Africa: Ganesh Chaturthi
 - India: Ganesh Chaturthi/Vinayaka Chaturthi
 - Kyrgyzstan: Independence Day of the Kyrgyz Republic
 - Moldova: Language Day
 - Malaysia: Malaysia's National Day
 - Trinidad and Tobago: Independence Day
- SEPT 1**
- Armenia: Knowledge and Literature Day
 - Eritrea: Commencement Day of Eritrean Armed Struggle
 - Grenada: Kirani Day
 - Mauritius: Ganesh Chaturthi
 - Russia: Day of Knowledge
 - Slovakia: Constitution Day
 - Turkmenistan: Day of Students and Knowledge
 - Uzbekistan: Independence Day
 - Vietnam: Independence Day Holiday

UNITED STATES

CDC ENDS NEGATIVE TEST REQUIREMENT TO ENTER US

As of 12:01 AM eastern time on June 12, 2022, the CDC will no longer require air passengers traveling from a foreign country to the United States to show a negative COVID-19 viral test or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 before they board their flight.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL & PREVENTION (CDC) TRAVEL GUIDANCE FOR US CITIZENS

US citizens who are fully vaccinated with an FDA-authorized vaccine or a vaccine authorized for emergency use by the World Health Organization can travel safely within the United States and may travel internationally with close attention paid to the conditions at their destination before traveling. Fully vaccinated travelers are less likely to get and spread COVID-19; however, even fully vaccinated can potentially get and/or spread some COVID-19 variants.

There are several safe and effective vaccines that prevent people from getting seriously ill or dying from COVID-19. The Food & Drug Administration has evaluated that the following vaccines against COVID-19 have met the necessary criteria for safety and efficacy in the United States: Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson. The World Health Organization advises people to take whatever vaccine is made available to you first, even if you have already had COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccines are safe for most people 18 years and older, including those with pre-existing conditions of any kind, including auto-immune disorders. These conditions include hypertension, diabetes, asthma, pulmonary, liver and kidney disease, as well as chronic infections that are stable and controlled.

MASK MANDATE ON CERTAIN AIRLINES LIFTED

On April 18, a federal judge in Florida ruled against the Biden Administrations' mandatory mask mandate for travelers on public transportation, including airplanes. As a result, Alaska Airlines (AS), American Airlines (AA), Delta Air Lines (DL), Southwest Airlines (WN) and United Airlines (UA) have now made masks optional for travelers on their aircraft. Travelers should exercise patience when traveling over the coming days, as enforcement of this change in policy may be inconsistent in the short term. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) announced it will also no longer enforce its Security Directives and Emergency Amendment requiring mask use on public transportation and in transportation hubs.

CDC SHORTENS QUARANTINE PERIOD

Given what is currently known about COVID-19 and the Omicron variant, the CDC is shortening the recommended time for isolation from 10 days for people with COVID-19 to 5 days, if asymptomatic, followed by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others. The change is motivated by science demonstrating that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs early in the course of illness, generally in the 1-2 days prior to onset of symptoms and the 2-3 days after. Therefore, people who test positive should isolate for 5 days and, if asymptomatic at that time, they may leave isolation if they can continue to mask for 5 days to minimize the risk of infecting others. For more information from the CDC, click [HERE](#).

UPDATED INFORMATION ON DOMESTIC TRAVEL FOR FULLY VACCINATED TRAVELERS

The US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) has updated its recommendations for domestic travel. The CDC continues to recommend delaying travel until travelers are fully vaccinated. Travelers who are fully vaccinated with an FDA-authorized vaccine can travel safely within the United States and do not need to get tested before or after travel unless their destination requires it, nor do they need to self-quarantine. Fully vaccinated travelers should still follow the CDC's recommendations for traveling safely, including wearing a mask over the nose and mouth, staying 6 feet from others and avoiding crowds, and washing hands often or using hand sanitizer. This guidance applies to travel within the United States and its territories.

FLOODING IN SOUTHERN STATES

Travelers should continue to exercise caution amid ongoing heavy rainfall and flooding in parts of the Southwest and Southeastern states until at least August 29. The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued flash-flood warnings and advisories for several states, including southern Alabama, northern Arizona, southern California and central

Mississippi. Flood watches have also been issued for parts of Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico and Texas.

ILLINOIS

On August 25, travelers should continue to avoid the vicinity of the intersection of North Milwaukee Avenue and West Addison Street in Chicago, IL due to a security operation following an earlier shooting. On August 24, at least four people were shot at around 2:55 PM local time outside the nearby Carl Schurz high school. Some roads were closed in the immediate vicinity of the incident. Travelers should continue to expect a heightened security force presence and local traffic disruption.

MISSISSIPPI

Travelers should anticipate disruption until August 30 in Jackson, MS linked to flooding caused by ongoing heavy rain. The water level of Pearl River is expected to continue rising until at least August 29. A high risk of flooding in multiple areas, including the city's northeast and downtown areas, will persist until August 30. On August 27, local evacuations were ordered in the Harbor Pines area. The Governor has issued a state of emergency regarding the situation. Travelers should exercise caution and follow all directives issued by officials.

MONKEYPOX

The monkeypox outbreak has been declared a national Public Health Emergency. Monkeypox is a viral disease not usually present in the US. There is a multi-country outbreak and contact tracing and investigations are ongoing. Transmission can occur with close contact with an infected person. Travelers should prevent infection by following good hygiene measures.

OREGON

On August 29, travelers should continue to avoid the vicinity of the Forum Shopping Center in Bend, OR, following a fatal shooting and subsequent police operation. Police responded to reports of a shooting at the Safeway Supermarket in the Forum Shopping Center at around 8:00 PM local time on August 28. Three people were killed in the incident, including the shooter, and one injured. Authorities said a "shelter in place" order is in effect for the remainder of the night. The St Charles Medical Center activated its lockout protocol, and people are encouraged to stay away unless it is a medical emergency.

ARGENTINA

Travelers should anticipate disruption in Buenos Aires on August 30 during a protest by the FESIMUBO municipal workers' union and plan journeys accordingly. Participants will gather at 11:00 AM local time at the Avenida de Mayo and Avenida de 9 July intersection before marching towards Casa de la Provincia de Buenos Aires. They are issuing several demands to the government related to salary and pension, among other grievances. While the event should pass off peacefully, it is likely to garner high attendance and disrupt traffic along its route.

BELIZE

Through at least August 30, travelers should anticipate heightened security and follow official directives amid a state of emergency (SoE) in the Saint Martin de Porres area of Belize City. Authorities imposed the measure until at least August 30 in response to an increase in gang-related violence and a failure of police mediation between rival gangs. Any associated security operations and resulting clashes may pose incidental risks to bystanders.

BOLIVIA

On August 25, travelers should plan journeys in El Alto and La Paz bypassing a pro-government march. The event has been organized by labor unions. Participants will gather at 8:00 AM local time at La Ceja in El Alto and march towards Plaza San Francisco in La Paz, where they will hold a rally. While the march should pass off peacefully, it is likely to be well attended and cause local travel disruption.

CHILE

Through September 13, travelers should expect heightened security in Araucania region and Arauco and Biobio provinces during an ongoing state of emergency (SoE). The SoE, which has been extended again until at least September 13, allows troops to guard roads and highways. This follows a continuing violence linked to a protracted conflict between authorities and the indigenous Mapuche community. Further security incidents are likely in the coming weeks. Travelers should follow all official directives, including any movement restrictions.

COLOMBIA

Through at least August 25, travelers should plan journeys accounting for weather-related disruption in northern and central departments. Heavy rain, flooding, and landslides have been reported in parts of Antioquia, Atlantico, Bolivar, Casanare, Cesar, Cordoba, Guaviare, Meta, Santander, and Vichada departments. The worst-hit departments thus far are Antioquia, Bolivar, Casanare, and Meta. Flooding has affected the city of Barranquilla, while landslides have killed at least two people in Antioquia department. Travelers should exercise caution and reconfirm the status of routes before setting out.

ECUADOR

Travelers should anticipate heightened security in Guayaquil and follow all official directives amid a state of emergency (SoE). On August 14, President Guillermo Lasso declared the SoE following a bombing in the city. The government has blamed the growing violence on rivalries between organized criminal groups. The SoE is set to last until at least September 13. A task force has been constituted between the armed forces and police to counter the violence.

EL SALVADOR

Travelers should continue to expect heightened security through September 19 and follow all official directives after authorities extended an ongoing state of emergency (SoE). The SoE was first declared on March 27 following an increase in gang-related violence and has been extended five times. The SoE restricts gatherings and permits arrests without a warrant, longer detention periods prior to a court hearing and the monitoring of communications. More than 50,000 suspected gang members have been arrested. Any security operations and associated clashes may pose incidental risk to bystanders.

MEXICO

Through at least August 25, travelers should anticipate flood-related disruption in Sonora state, especially in Empalme and nearby Guaymas, and plan journeys accordingly. Local reports indicate that heavy rain has caused the San Miguel River to overflow, prompting severe flooding in the two cities. A bridge collapse has closed Highway 15 between Hermosillo and Guaymas, and another collapse has closed the same highway between Empalme and Ciudad Obregon. Further rain over the coming days will exacerbate related disruption. Travelers should allow additional journey time and reconfirm the status of routes and the feasibility of road travel before setting out.

Three individuals were shot by gunmen on motorcycles during the evening of August 24 in the Villas del Sol neighborhood of Playa del Carmen. Earlier, on August 15, two people were injured when gunmen opened fire inside a bar on the popular Fifth Avenue. On July 23, unidentified gunmen injured three people in the same neighborhood. The motives behind the incidents are unclear. Travelers should exercise vigilance throughout August.

PUERTO RICO

Travelers should plan journeys in San Juan bypassing a planned demonstration on August 25. Participants will gather in front of the Governor's residence at 5:00 PM local time in protest of power outages across the territory. While the event is expected to be well attended, it should pass off peacefully. Travelers should anticipate local traffic disruption and heightened security in the vicinity.

VENEZUELA

Travelers should plan journeys in Ciudad Guayana on August 25 accounting for disruption due to a workers' march. Participants will march at 7:00 AM local time from Plaza Monumental to Edificio Administrativo de Corporacion Venezolana de Guayana in support of President Nicolas Maduro's economic policies. The march is likely to pass off peacefully but will be well attended, causing significant traffic disruption in its vicinity.

Travelers should plan journeys in Caracas bypassing a planned demonstration on September 4 at Esquina de Salas by various workers' unions. Participants will denounce the National Budget Office's (Onapre) instructions regarding contractual benefits. The protest coincides with Public Employee Day and is likely to be well attended. Participants will likely attempt to march towards the Onapre building. Police erected barricades to prevent a march towards Onapre during a related protest on August 23. While the demonstration should pass off peacefully, significant traffic disruption is expected in the downtown area.

Africa & the Middle East

ANGOLA

Travelers should avoid the vicinity of the Maculusso area in Luanda on August 25 due to ongoing unrest. People are blocking the streets and burning vehicles to protest against election results. Police have reportedly used live ammunition to disperse demonstrators. The situation is fluid and unrest may spread to other parts of the city with little notice.

BURKINA FASO

Travelers in Ouagadougou should plan journeys bypassing a demonstration on August 29 as a precaution and to minimize delays. The rally has been organized by several consumer interest groups such as Ligue des Consommateurs du Burkina to denounce the rising cost of fuel and the perceived government inaction. The protest will take place in front of the Ministry of industry, Trade and Handicrafts at 8:30 AM local time. The event has not been approved by the city council. Security forces may forcibly disperse the gathering, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Travelers should anticipate and avoid nationwide protests throughout September related to a planned constitutional amendment that would allow President Faustin-Archange Touadera to run for a third term. Recent demonstrations have been staged both against and in favor of the reform and resulted in local unrest. Flashpoints for protests in Bangui include the Marabena and UN roundabouts, the National Assembly, the Prime Minister's office and Martyr's Monument. Unauthorized gatherings may be forcibly dispersed by security forces, posing incidental risk to bystanders.

CHAD

Travelers should anticipate and avoid further protests in Ndjamena related to the ongoing national dialogue due to the risk of unrest. Political tensions will remain high during the dialogue process, which is expected to last until at least September 10. On August 24, youth groups gathered in the districts of Atrone, Gassi and Habena to demand more inclusivity in the national dialogue process. Protesters in some of these locations blocked roads with burning tires. A related demonstration called for August 25 by trade unions UST and SYNAPET against alleged government corruption has been banned by authorities. Security forces may use tough measures to break up demonstrations, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

CONGO (DRC)

Major rebel attacks have continued throughout Ituri and North Kivu provinces despite an ongoing 'state of siege', which has been extended until further notice. On August 23, seven people were reportedly killed, and three were kidnapped in the Kihusi village in Ruwenzori in Beni territory. Authorities attributed the incident to the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) militia. Travel to rural areas of both provinces should be avoided throughout August.

GUINEA

Travelers should minimize non-essential movement during rallies organized by the opposition National Front for the Defense of the Constitution (FNDC) coalition. While gatherings planned for August 29 and September 4 in Conakry have been suspended, nationwide demonstrations are scheduled on September 5. Fatal unrest was reported during related protests on August 17 and July 28-29. There is a high risk of unrest during further gatherings, which remain banned.

IRAQ

On August 29, travelers should expect disruption amid ongoing unrest in the International Zone (IZ) after the influential Shia Muslim cleric Muqtada al-Sadr announced his resignation from politics. A crowd has gathered to protest against the resignation. Reportedly water cannons are being used by security forces to disperse the protestors.

KENYA

Travelers should monitor developments in Kenya throughout August linked to a challenge by Presidential candidate Raila Odinga to the results of the August 9 Presidential Election. Odinga, who leads the Azimio La Umoja coalition, filed a petition against the results with the Supreme Court on August 22. A verdict on the legal challenge must be issued

within 14 days. While the situation currently remains moderately calm, there is a credible risk of unrest during political demonstrations and associated rallies. Any such gatherings will pose incidental risks to bystanders.

LEBANON

Travelers should plan journeys bypassing a protest in Beirut on August 25 as a precaution and to minimize delays. Participants will gather at 10:00 AM local time at gate number nine at the Port of Beirut. They are demanding justice for the victims of the August 4, 2020 port explosion as well as accountability and prosecution of those responsible. Heightened security and associated travel disruption should be anticipated in the vicinity of the gathering.

LESOTHO

Travelers should expect heightened security and follow all official directives amid an ongoing nationwide state of emergency (SoE) until August 29. Prime Minister Moeketsi Majoro declared the SoE on August 16 in response to tensions surrounding political parties' activities ahead of the October 7 General Elections. The SoE is likely to be accompanied by nightly curfews. Travelers should monitor developments and exercise enhanced caution.

LIBYA

Through at least August 31, travelers in Tripoli should remain updated of the latest developments and determine the feasibility of travel, despite an overall decrease in hostilities. Heavy clashes were reported overnight on August 26-27 between rival militias in various parts of Tripoli, including Az Zawiyah Street, Al-Suraim Street and Bab Ben Gashir area. At least 32 people were reportedly killed, and 159 injured. The development highlights the continued risk and impact of armed mobilization linked to political power struggles.

MALAWI

An outbreak of cholera has been declared in Malawi, involving additional several districts. Many of the cases are in people who had traveled from Mozambique, where an outbreak is ongoing. Cholera spreads via contaminated food and water. Symptoms include vomiting and profuse, watery diarrhea which can lead to severe dehydration. Those staying in quality accommodations with access to safe food and water are at low risk; however, travelers should ensure food and water for consumption are safe and consider vaccination if likely to encounter unsanitary conditions.

MOZAMBIQUE

Despite some recent success in joint counter-insurgency efforts, the Islamist extremist al-Sunnah group continues to carry out periodic attacks in Cabo Delgado province. The extremist Islamic State (IS) group has also claimed responsibility for fatal, mostly small-scale raids on villages. These have occurred in Ancuabe, Macomia, Meluco, Mocimboa da Praia and Nangade districts. Militants will continue to target villages and security force outposts to gain supplies and for propaganda purposes. Travel to these areas should be deferred through at least September 2.

NIGERIA

On August 25, travelers should avoid the vicinity of the Lagos-Badagry Expressway in the Ijanikin area outside Lagos amid reports of ongoing unrest. Local sources indicate that the violence is communal.

Travelers should continue to avoid all protests related to nationwide strikes by education workers due to the risk of unrest. The Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU), after an executive council meeting on July 31, announced an extension of the ongoing strike until August 29. The walkout is linked to various issues, including salary-related grievances. Regular student demonstrations opposing the strike have involved roadblocks and clashes with police, including in Abuja and Akure. Related protests for and against the strikes are likely to intensify.

Throughout August, travelers should exercise caution and abide by a curfew order from August 11 in Karu Local Government Area, which borders Abuja. The curfew will be in effect from 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM local time until further notice in response to perceived security threats.

SOMALIA

Armed militants stormed the Hayat Hotel, near the KM4 Junction, following at least two explosions, reported to be suicide attacks, at around 7:00 AM local time on August 19. The assailants reportedly held the hotel under siege with hostages for 30 hours before security forces retook the building. At least 21 people were killed, and dozens injured during the incident. According to local media sources, the Islamist extremist group al-Shabab has claimed responsibility for the attack. The incident underscores the persistent threat posed by militancy in and the need to defer all travel.

SUDAN

Travelers should continue to avoid nationwide anti-military demonstrations throughout August due to the credible risk of violence. At least 116 people have been killed, and 5,000 injured in related unrest since the October 2021 military coup. Near-daily gatherings are continuing across major urban centers, particularly in Khartoum, Khartoum North, and Omdurman. The anti-military Khartoum Resistance Committees has called for anti-military protests on August 7, 11, 18, 22, 25 and 31. Smaller sporadic gatherings are likely to occur between such protests. Travelers should stand fast in a secure location on days when major demonstrations are planned.

Through October, travelers should anticipate intermittent weather-related disruption during the ongoing rainy season. More than 70 people have been killed, and 30 injured in heavy flooding since the start of the rainy season. An estimated 0.8 square miles of farmland has been damaged, along with hundreds of water source locations and buildings. On August 21, authorities imposed a State of Emergency in El Gezira, River Nile, South Darfur, West Kordofan, and White Nile states. They have also warned of worsening conditions as well as food, shelter, and medical shortages in some affected areas.

TUNISIA

A strike by air traffic controllers affiliated to the UGTT scheduled to take place on August 25 has been postponed to September 9. The strike, which has been called over work-related grievances, was rescheduled following negotiations on August 23. Travelers should continue to monitor developments throughout August as the strike may be further postponed or called off following successful negotiations.

Asia & the Pacific

NORTH KOREAN MISSILE TEST

On August 17, North Korea reportedly fired two missiles from Onchon into the Yellow Sea. If confirmed, this would be the North's first cruise missile launch since January. This coincides with South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol's press conference to mark his 100th day in office. Further North Korean missile tests remain possible in the coming months, especially around key dates such as Day of Songun (August 25) and National Day (September 9). These incidents reflect the need for travelers to monitor related developments given the underlying tensions in the region.

AFGHANISTAN

A renewed spate of attacks on Taliban and civilian targets in Kabul highlights the persistent threat of militancy and need to defer all travel throughout August. On August 15, at least one person was killed, and nine others were injured in an explosion in the central Police District (PD) 3. The attack occurred during Taliban events marking the first anniversary of the group's return to power and the fall of the internationally recognized government. The extremist Islamic State-Khorasan (IS-K) group claimed responsibility for the attack. Other recent attacks have targeted the minority Shia Hazara community, religious sites and Taliban vehicles and personnel.

AUSTRALIA

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption to rail travel in New South Wales (NSW) state in the coming weeks during a strike by the Rail, Tram, and Bus Union (RTBU) to demand safer working conditions and equipment. Union-affiliated rail workers will temporarily cease services on several lines on August 23, 25 and 31. This will likely result in travel delays due to a lack of available alternative options. Travelers should plan journeys in advance and allow additional time through August 31.

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for intermittent disruption during the ongoing winter season until the end of August. Rain and strong winds have caused disruption to electricity and road travel, as well as damage to buildings in the states of Queensland, South Australia (SA) and New South Wales (NSW), including in Sydney and Adelaide. During the season, dense fog, particularly in the morning, may cause poor visibility, resulting in ferry and flight disruption. Travelers should monitor weather conditions and reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

BANGLADESH

Travelers should anticipate disruption throughout August during protests linked to ongoing nationwide power outages. The country is experiencing a daily power supply deficit following a significant increase in the prices of natural gas and oil. Related demonstrations led by the main opposition Bangladesh National Party took place on July 29-31, during which at least one person was killed, and 40 others injured. Further protests by political parties, civil society groups and unions can be expected in the coming days. These events should be avoided due to the risk of unrest.

CAMBODIA

Through November, travelers should plan journeys accounting for intermittent disruption to travel and essential services during the ongoing monsoon season. Flooding and landslides are possible following periods of heavy rainfall, especially in mountainous and low-lying areas, as well as Phnom Penh. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries during this period and liaise with local contacts to reconfirm the feasibility of road journeys.

CHINA

Travelers should expect intermittent disruption during the ongoing monsoon season, which typically lasts until October. Flooding is common and may occur amid persistent rainfall in low-lying areas near water bodies. Heavy rainfall, strong winds and related disruption can also be expected in southern and eastern coastal areas. Flights at major airports, including Beijing Capital (PEK) and Shanghai Pudong (PVG) international airports, may be affected by adverse weather conditions. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries and reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

INDIA

Travelers should anticipate local disruption in Kolkata on August 29 during a gathering by the Trinamool Chhatra Parishad (TMCP) party. Participants will gather at the Gandhi statue on Mayo Road to commemorate the 25th anniversary of TMCP, the student wing of the state ruling Trinamool Congress party. The event can be expected to be well attended and pass off peacefully; however, police may forcibly disperse protesters who engage in unruly behavior, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

Throughout August, travelers should exercise caution in New Delhi following the imposition of prohibitory orders (Section 144) in the Central Delhi district. The measures come ahead of a demonstration by the Samyukt Kisan Morcha farmer's group, which has not been authorized by police. Police have erected barricades along National Highway 44 near Singhu and National Expressway 3 near Ghazipur. Long tailbacks have been reported along both roads. Travelers should anticipate heightened security across the city. Further short-notice traffic restrictions may be implemented to mitigate potential unrest.

Travelers should continue to anticipate disruption during demonstrations by the Indian National Congress (INC) party until September 4. The protests are being held over several issues, including inflation and an alleged increase in unemployment in India. The party intends to hold a large-scale rally on September 4 at the Ramleela maidan in New Delhi. Additional related demonstrations are likely in the coming days. Local traffic disruption can be anticipated along key routes and intersections during this period. Authorities are expected to maintain a heightened security posture in New Delhi and other major urban centers.

Throughout September, travelers should avoid nationwide protests by the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), an umbrella group of farmers' organizations, and anticipate associated disruption. Participants are protesting over several issues, including the government's alleged delay in delivering agricultural policy reforms. The group has announced a demonstration on August 22 at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi at 10:00 AM local time. Related protests will also take place in other states. Authorities are likely to increase surveillance and heighten security across urban centers and major railway stations ahead of these events.

INDONESIA

Travelers should plan journeys bypassing scheduled demonstrations in Jakarta on August 29. A coalition of app-based motorcycle taxi drivers will stage a march at 10:00 AM local time, starting from TVRI Senayan and proceeding towards the People's Representative Council (DPR). The Executive Board of the Islamic Student Association has also called for a concurrent rally at the DPR. The events are being held to protest increased fuel prices, among other issues. While the demonstrations are likely to pass off peacefully, associated traffic disruption can be expected in their vicinities.

JAPAN

Travelers should anticipate disruption in southern areas through at least August 31 during the passage of Tropical Storm Hinnamnor. The weather system is currently moving northwest over the sea south of Japan and is forecast to pass near the Ogasawara Islands on August 29. It is then projected to weaken to a tropical depression by August 31 before making landfall west of Tokaisubg region. Travelers should expect heavy rain and strong winds during Hinnamnor's passage, potentially causing intermittent transportation disruption in affected areas.

Travelers should anticipate disruption during scheduled protests in Tokyo throughout August and plan journeys accordingly. The events have been organized to denounce the government's decision to hold a state funeral for former President Shinzo Abe on September 27. Abe was fatally shot by a lone assailant on July 8 during a public event in Nara city. Some 1,200 people participated in a related rally on August 16 in front of Shinjuku Station. While further such gatherings should pass off peacefully, they are likely to garner high attendance and disrupt travel in their vicinities.

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for intermittent travel disruption due to the ongoing rainy and typhoon seasons. The rainy season typically lasts until the end of July, while tropical storms will affect the country until at least October. Earlier, on May 31, authorities issued evacuation orders for 550,00 people in Naha city due to heavy rain and flooding. Further rainfall and associated flooding and landslides can be expected countrywide during this period, especially in low-lying, riverine, and coastal areas. Travelers should follow all official directives and reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

KYRGYZSTAN

Travelers should plan itineraries accounting for temporary closure of Batken Airport (KGZ) and Jalal-Abad Airport (JBD). The facilities will be closed from August 1 until at least November 1 for maintenance work.

LAOS

Travelers should anticipate intermittent disruption to travel and essential services during the ongoing monsoon season, which typically lasts until November. Flooding and landslides are possible following periods of heavy rainfall, particularly in provinces along the Mekong River. The passage of tropical storms is also liable to exacerbate damage and disruption during this period. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries during the monsoon season and liaise with local contacts to reconfirm feasibility of overland journeys prior to setting out.

MALAYSIA

Travelers should anticipate intermittent disruption and maintain flexible itineraries during the country's southwest monsoon season, which usually lasts from May until October. The states that may be most impacted include Kedah, Kelantan, Malacca, Penang, Perak, Sabah, and Sarawak. While flooding, landslides and associated disruption are more protracted in rural areas, urban centers, such as Kuala Lumpur and Johor Bahru, can also be affected. Travelers should reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

MYANMAR

Violence continues to be reported in urban centers amid heightened political tensions following the July 25 execution of four prominent anti-military activists. At least four people were killed in a shoot-out with security forces on the Ayeyarwady Bridge on August 17. This location is situated just over nine miles south of Mandalay. Further incidents can be expected. Violence is more likely around key dates, including the first anniversary of the anti-military National Unity Government's declaration of 'war' on September 7.

MYANMAR

Fresh clashes on August 22-23 between the military and the Arakan Army (AA), an ethnic armed organization, occurred in Maungdaw and Paletwa townships. Intense fighting since August 13 has been reported in these areas, as well as Rauthedaung. The AA claims to have killed more than 30 soldiers. Travelers should expect further hostilities in these locations throughout August, highlighting the need to defer all travel to Rakhine's northern townships.

NEW ZEALAND

Through at least August 25, travelers should defer non-essential travel to the worst-affected areas and those under evacuation orders including parts of Marlborough, Nelson-Tasman, and West Coast regions of South Island. A State of Emergency remains in place in these regions due to extensive flooding. A heavy rain watch (lowest on a three-tier

scale) remains in place for Fiordland and western Tasman. More than 1,200 households were evacuated, mostly in the northern parts of South Island as on August 20. Restoration works in the affected areas are ongoing.

PAKISTAN

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption during rallies by the opposition Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party through at least August 31. Though exact times and locations have not been announced, PTI offices and public spaces are likely hotspots. This comes after PTI leader and former Prime Minister Imran Khan was charged under terrorism legislation during a speech. Further related events are planned across the country and will be well attended, causing significant traffic disruption.

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for intermittent disruption to travel and essential services during the monsoon season, which typically lasts until September. The government has warned of higher-than-usual rainfall in Punjab and Sindh provinces and have urged all local authorities to take the necessary measures. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries and reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

SRI LANKA

Travelers should continue to defer all travel to Sri Lanka due to the potential for further unrest and operational disruption linked to the ongoing economic crisis. Demonstrations over issues such as fuel shortages and power outages will persist in the coming weeks. Police fired tear gas and water cannon to disperse a protest march on August 18 by the Inter University Students' Federation (IUSF) at Slave Island in the commercial capital Colombo. They also arrested the convener of IUSF along with four other activists. Further protests to demand the release of the detained members are likely. Bystanders will face incidental risks in the event of any ensuing disturbances.

THAILAND

Through August 29, travelers should plan journeys in Bangkok and its environs accounting for disruption due to heavy rainfall and flash flooding. The Thai Meteorological Department (TMD) has issued a severe weather warning due to a low-pressure area moving across northern and north-eastern Thailand. The Department of Highways has cautioned that major roads such as Chaeng Watthana, Kanchanaphisek, Sukhumvit, and Vibhavadi Rangsit may be inundated. Heavy rainfall may also cause short-notice transport and infrastructure disruption.

On August 8, an explosion occurred in Mueang Narathiwat district, near Narathiwat Airport (NAW). Authorities said the perpetrators were targeting security guards and flights, but no casualties were reported. Earlier, on August 6, an explosion at a security checkpoint in Tak Bai district killed a civilian and injured two others. These attacks highlight the persistent risks posed by insurgent groups in the region despite recent peace talks between Thai authorities and the separatist National Revolutionary Front (BRN) group. Further insurgent activity can be expected throughout August.

Two security force personnel were killed and one injured by separatist insurgent attacks in Chanae and Tak Bai districts on August 21-22. On 17 August, fire bombings occurred in 17 different locations in Narathiwat, Pattani and Yala provinces, killing one person and causing significant damage to buildings. The developments highlight the persistent risks posed by the southern insurgency despite recent peace talks between authorities and the militant National Revolutionary Front (BRN). Travelers should expect further rebel activity throughout August and continue to avoid non-essential travel to insurgency-affected areas.

TURKEY

Travelers should plan journeys in Konak district bypassing an anti-war protest outside the Turkan Saylan Alsancak Culture and Art Center on August 29. Activists will gather in the area at 5:30 PM local time. While the event is likely to pass off peacefully, heightened security measures and associated travel disruption should be anticipated in the vicinity.

VIETNAM

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for intermittent weather-related disruption during the ongoing monsoon season, which typically lasts until November. Bouts of heavy rain and associated flooding and landslides can be expected during this period, especially in mountainous and low-lying areas in the northern and central provinces. Flash flooding is also possible in urban areas, including Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, due to ill-equipped drainage and sewage systems. Monsoon rains may also prompt short-notice and intermittent flight disruption. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries, avoid affected areas and reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

Europe

LGBTQ+ PRIDE EVENTS

Travelers should anticipate disruption during LGBTQ Pride events across urban centers in Europe throughout September and plan journeys accordingly. The events are likely to be well attended and accompanied by heightened security and road closures. Counter-demonstrations by far-right groups may coincide with such events, particularly in countries where attitudes toward the LGBTQ community are generally more conservative. The EuroPride march planned on September 17 in Belgrade has been cancelled over safety concerns. Attacks targeting LGBTQ people are possible. If planning to attend an event, travelers remain alert to their surroundings.

ARMENIA

Travelers should continue to exercise caution in Yerevan throughout August linked to anonymous bomb threats and follow all official directives. The Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) received multiple reports of bombs on August 2. These were reportedly planted at all the metro stations, City Hall, the National Assembly, Saint Gregory the Illuminator Cathedral, and several military and government facilities. The metro stations were evacuated during the investigation. The MES subsequently confirmed all the threats to be hoaxes. Further such incidents cannot be ruled out and are likely to cause disruption.

BULGARIA

Travelers should continue to anticipate demonstrations in Sofia outside the Presidential palace throughout August. Demonstrations by the #GaZWithMe activist movement have been staged weekly on Wednesday evenings since August 10 to denounce the government's plan to negotiate with a Russian gas company. The events have also been supported by the Democratic Bulgaria coalition. The demonstrations have passed off peacefully and have been well attended. Travelers should expect a heightened security force presence and traffic disruption in the vicinity.

NETHERLANDS

Travelers should anticipate disruption to rail services beginning August 26 during planned rail strikes organized nationwide. The strikes will be held on August 26 in The Hague and Rotterdam, on August 29 in Amsterdam, on August 30 in Utrecht and Eindhoven, and on August 31 Maastricht. Trade unions including the Netherlands Trade Union Confederation and the Christian National Trade Union organized the action after labor negotiations broke down. Each strike will last 24 hours.

Travelers should continue to anticipate disruption to rail services until August 31 during nationwide strikes, which began on August 24 in the northern provinces. The remaining 24-hour walkouts on August 29, 30 and 31 will affect specific areas, including Amsterdam. Residual disruption is likely on the intervening days. The participating unions called the strikes after negotiations over a collective labor agreement broke down.

RUSSIA

Travelers should continue to reconfirm the status of flights to, from and within Russia amid the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. Russian aviation authorities have repeatedly extended the closure of 11 airports and are likely to continue doing so for the duration of the conflict. The number of international flights to and from Russia has reduced amid mutual airspace closures with multiple countries. Further restrictions, flight delays and cancellations can be expected.