

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 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 11% during the week of September 19-25, as compared to the previous week, with over three million new cases reported. The number of new weekly deaths decreased by 18%, as compared to the previous week, with just over 8,900 fatalities reported. As of September 25, 612 million confirmed cases and 6.5 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.

During the week of September 12-18 2022, the number of monkeypox cases reported in the regions of Europe and the Americas declined, driving the global downward trend observed since August 2022. Since September 7, 8,757 new cases (16.5% increase in total cases) and five new deaths have been reported.

LEGEND TRAVEL RESOURCES

- [Rebooking Policies](#)
- [Travel Restrictions & Health Measures](#)

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

OCT 14

- Georgia: Svetitskhovloba
- Israel: Sukkot (Day 5)
- Moldova: Chişinău Day
- Thailand: Bridge Public Holiday
- Tanzania: Mwalimu Nyerere Day
- Ukraine: Day of Defenders and Defenders of Ukraine (Suspended)
- Yemen: Liberation Day

OCT 15

- Brazil: Teacher's Day
- Germany: Sixth Day of Sukkot
- French Guiana: Cayenne Festival
- Hungary: Extra Work Day
- Israel: Sukkot (Day 6)
- Cambodia: Commemoration Day of King's Father
- Mali: Baptism of the Prophet
- Malawi: Mother's Day
- Tunisia: Evacuation Day

OCT 16

- Australia, Canada, Israel, United Kingdom, United States: Hoshana Rabbah
- Germany: Seventh Day of Sukkot
- Yemen: Day off for Liberation Day

OCT 17

- Australia, Canada, Germany, United Kingdom, United States: Shemini Atzeret
- Bolivia: Day of Dignity
- Colombia: Columbus Day
- Haiti: Dessalines Day
- Israel: Shemini Atzeret / Simchat Torah
- Jamaica: National Heroes' Day
- Malawi: Day off for Mother's Day
- British Virgin Islands: Heroes and Forefathers Day

OCT 18

- Australia, Canada, Germany, United Kingdom, United States: Azerbaijan: National Independence Day
- United States: Alaska Day
- Zambia: Prayer Day

Americas

AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE JULIA

Travelers should anticipate residual disruption throughout October following the passage of Hurricane Julia. The hurricane made landfall over Nicaragua on October 9 before moving to other central American countries, including Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. At least 28 people have been reported dead, of whom 14 were in Guatemala. Heavy rains, strong winds and storm surges caused significant destruction. Hundreds of thousands of people will continue to be affected by infrastructure damage, including power outages.

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, avoiding crowds, and washing hands often or using hand sanitizer. This guidance applies to travel within the United States and its territories.

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.

NORTH CAROLINA

Travelers should anticipate residual disruption in the vicinity of Osprey Cove Drive, in Raleigh's Hedingham neighborhood on October 14. Local police have been responding to a shooting in the area since around 5:00 PM local time on October 13. At least five people were killed, and two others were injured. Police arrested a suspect in connection with the incident at approximately 10:00 PM local time. The motive behind the shooting is unclear. Previous shelter-in-place orders have been lifted.

ARGENTINA

Travelers should anticipate disruption during a nationwide 48-hour strike by university teachers on through October 14, and plan journeys accordingly. The industrial action has been called by the National Federation of University Professors over wage-related grievances. Associated demonstrations are likely across the country. While these are expected to pass off peacefully, local disruption can be anticipated around flashpoints such as major public squares and outside university buildings.

BOLIVIA

Travelers should avoid the vicinity of the Governor's office in Santa Cruz city through at least October 14. Residents of rural communities in neighboring Porongo and Buena Vista municipalities have been protesting outside the location since October 4 to demand the construction of a highway. Clashes reportedly erupted on October 10 after environmental activists attempted to displace the demonstrators. Similar disturbances were reported on October 11, with police using tear gas to disperse unruly crowds. Further clashes involving opposing demonstrators and police are likely in the coming days, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

BRAZIL

Passengers transiting Fernando de Noronha Airport (FEN) should anticipate disruption and reconfirm flights. Brazil's National Civil Aviation Agency (ANAC) has restricted most aircraft from operating at the airport beginning October 12 pending sufficient improvements to the facility's runway. Repair works on the runway reportedly began on October 6 and are expected to be completed after 60 days (December 5); however, full operations at the airport could resume sooner with approval from ANAC.

Travelers should anticipate disruption and a heightened security presence following the release of the Presidential Election results. The polls, held on October 2, saw incumbent President Jair Bolsonaro secure 43.7% of the vote, while former President Luis Inacio Lula da Silva got 47.9%. As neither garnered a majority, a run-off is scheduled on October 30. Demonstrations and rallies related to the results and the run-off are likely. These are usually well attended and carry a risk of violence due to the high tensions surrounding the election.

ECUADOR

Negotiations between the government and the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE) are scheduled to conclude on October 14, which thus far remain inconclusive on key issues. The dialogue began on July 13, following a general strike led by CONAIE on June 13 and a subsequent 18-day period of unrest nationwide. The action was called to protest over various issues, especially the rising cost of basic goods and fuel, insecurity and unemployment. Failure of talks could prompt calls for a renewed strike and trigger fresh disruptive and unruly protests. Travelers should closely monitor related developments.

GUATEMALA

Travelers should anticipate disruption through October 14 in Guatemala City and other urban centers during strike by military veterans. Participants are demonstrating over policies related to veterans. They have gathered in front of the National Congress, as well as other departmental government offices nationwide. Blockades are expected along major roads and are likely to restrict access to highways, border entries, ports and airports, including La Aurora Airport (GUA). Any strike-related gathering should be avoided due to the risk of unrest.

HAITI

Travelers should continue to minimize movement and anticipate disruption through at least October 14 due to continued unrest over the government's plans to increase the price of fuel. Gunfire, road barricades and looting of fuel from petrol stations have been reported in Port-au-Prince, Cap-Haitien, Gonaives, Jeremie, Les Cayes and Petit-Goave. Further such incidents are likely in the coming days, as are spontaneous protests, which would pose incidental risks to bystanders. Police may erect barricades and utilize harsh methods to disperse demonstrations.

MEXICO

Travelers in Mexico City and Morelos, Puebla and Tlaxcala states should follow all official directives linked to increased activity at the Popocatepetl volcano through at least October 14. The National Center for Prevention of Disasters (CENAPRED) on October 8 reported 176 volcanic explosions in a 24-hour period. A yellow phase 2 alert (middle on a three-tier scale – 'prepare for possible evacuation') remains in place. CENAPRED advises not to approach the volcano, including low-lying ravines, due to the risks of falling debris, mudslides and volcanic gas emissions.

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption in southwestern states through at least October 15 during the passage of Tropical Storm Karl. The weather system is forecast to make landfall at the east of Nautla municipality on October 14. The US National Hurricane Center (NHC) has issued a tropical storm watch for Cabo Rojo to the Port of Veracruz. Heavy rain and strong winds can be expected in areas within the storm's projected path, including Oaxaca. Such conditions could lead to short-notice transportation disruption, including to air travel, as well as flooding and landslides.

Mexican authorities announced on October 12 the arrest of Cesar Augusto (also known as 'el Gafe'), an alleged leader of the Jalisco Nueva Generacion Cartel (CJNG), during a security operation. Augusto is accused of orchestrating a kidnap attempt on October 2 at Plaza Andares in Zapopan. The incident prompted a shoot-out in which at least one person was killed, and six others injured. Precedent suggests a high likelihood of retaliatory violence, which may include burning roadblocks and attacks on security forces. Travelers in Jalisco should exercise enhanced caution through at least October 16.

PERU

Travelers should monitor developments and anticipate demonstrations through at least October 15 linked to the Attorney General's indictment of President Pedro Castillo for alleged corruption. Castillo has rejected the allegations and considers the indictment an attempted coup. Demonstrations for and against Castillo are likely over the coming days. A planned anti-Castillo march will take place in Lima on October 15 at 3:00 PM local time from Paseo de los Heroes Navales to Plaza de Armas. Protests may be forcibly dispersed by security forces, and any unrest will pose incidental risk to bystanders. Travelers should expect increased security personnel around the Presidential palace.

PUERTO RICO

Travelers should anticipate local disruption on October 14 in San Juan during a demonstration and plan journeys accordingly. Participants will gather on Calle Resistencia in protest of power outages at 1:00 PM local time. This follows Hurricane Fiona's passage on September 18, which left thousands of homes and businesses without electricity. The demonstration is likely to attract a substantial turnout.

VENEZUELA

Travel to areas affected by severe flooding and landslides should be deferred through at least October 16. The worst impacted areas are parts of Aragua, Carabobo and Zulia states. Significant flooding and power outages have been reported in Cabimas, Libertador, Maracay and Valencia. Significant operational disruption is likely to persist due to the widespread nature of the flooding and the government's limited response capabilities.

Africa & the Middle East

ISRAEL, PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

Travelers should continue to exercise increased caution in Israel and the West Bank throughout October. Israel Defense Forces (IDF) have announced the limited closure of West Bank border crossings ahead of the Jewish Sukkot and Shmini Atzeret holidays on October 10, 16 and October 17. The developments follow multiple attempted and successful attacks by Palestinians and IDF raids in the West Bank. Heightened tensions have also led to targeted attacks on Arab Israelis and Palestinians in Israel and the West Bank.

ISRAEL, LEBANON

Israel and Lebanon announced they had reached an agreement over disputed gas-rich maritime areas in the Mediterranean Sea on October 12. The US-brokered proposed deal comes after several months of tensions between the two countries. Travelers should monitor the situation around the proposed deal through at least October 16. Although conflict is unlikely given the proposed deal over border dispute, the delineation of maritime borders remains contentious and will drive domestic opposition in both countries.

ANGOLA

Travelers should anticipate disruption to flights operated by national carrier TAAG Angola Airlines until at least October 16 and reconfirm schedules. Striking pilots are calling for better salary and benefits, while the airline claims such demands cannot be met. The walkout has affected domestic flights and services to several regional destinations, including Cape Town, Johannesburg, Maputo and Windhoek.

BENIN

Additional cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) have been confirmed. Polio is a contagious viral illness that can cause paralysis and death. It is spread through contaminated food or water, or directly from an infected person. Travelers are advised to prevent infection by ensuring polio vaccination is up to date, including a booster, and by selecting safe food and water.

BURKINA FASO

Travelers should avoid ongoing pro-government demonstrations in Ouagadougou and Bobo-Dioulasso through October 15. Participants have gathered at Place de la Nation in Ouagadougou and Place Tiefo Amoro in Bobo-Dioulasso in support of Interim President Captain Ibrahim Traore. Rallies will also be staged on October 14 and 15 in Ouagadougou outside of Salle de Conference, where national consultations will take place following the September 30 coup that ousted interim President Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba. Although the gatherings are expected to pass off peacefully, they should be avoided as a precaution.

CONGO (DRC)

Travelers in Lubumbashi should avoid a rally on October 14 organized by the youth faction of the Together for the Republic party. Participants will gather at 8:00 AM local time at Place de la Poste in support of Moise Katumbi, leader of the party. Reports indicate that there is a growing rift between Katumbi and those within the ruling Sacred Union coalition that his party is a part of. Police may use forcible measures to disperse the gathering, posing incidental risk to bystanders.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Travelers should monitor developments linked to the upcoming November 20 Presidential Elections. The polls were originally scheduled for April 2023 but will now coincide with Legislative and Local Elections, which will be held on the same day. Authorities cited budgetary constraints as the reason behind the move. President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo will seek re-election after being nominated by the ruling Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea (PDGE). While related gatherings are likely to be small in scale, they should be avoided as a precaution.

ERITREA

Through at least mid-October, travelers should monitor developments in Eritrea after several diplomatic missions issued travel advisories for the country. International media reported on September 18 that Eritrean involvement in the conflict in Ethiopia is expected to increase amid increased mobilization efforts across the country. These developments come amid allegations from the Tigray People's Liberation Front that the Eritrean security forces are

increasingly fighting alongside the Ethiopian federal security forces in Tigray, Ethiopia. This points to a widening of the conflict zone and higher potential for spillover violence into Eritrea.

ETHIOPIA

Travelers should continue to monitor developments and defer all travel to Tigray state and areas of Amhara and Afar states bordering Tigray through at least October 16. Fighting between federal government forces and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) is ongoing in several towns in these areas. Fighting continues to include both air and ground bombardments, and there continue to be reports of unconfirmed numbers of civilian casualties. The federal government and the TPLF recently declared their willingness to hold peace talks led by the African Union (AU); however, there has been little related progress and hostilities persist.

IRAQ

Travelers should continue to monitor developments throughout October linked to the protracted government-formation process. On October 4, reports emerged of supporters of influential Shia Muslim cleric Muqtada al-Sadr planning to renew protests in Baghdad, and the southern governorates. The exact times and locations are yet to be announced. Well-attended protests took place in Baghdad and southern governorates on September 28 and October 1 linked to public discontent with current political crisis. Developments associated with the government-formation process remain contentious and can trigger unrest. Travelers should avoid all gatherings due to the credible risk of unrest.

Through October, travelers should monitor developments in Basra and anticipate further fighting between rival militias. Early on October 4, several missiles were launched towards the Presidential Palace Compound, followed by armed clashes between rival militias. Security forces responded and were able to regain control of the area. The developments highlight the persistent risk of armed clashes within the city. Travelers should ensure that professional security support is utilized when undertaking business-critical travel to Basra.

Travelers should monitor developments in Basra throughout October and anticipate further fighting between rival Popular Mobilization Units (PMUs). Several missiles early on October 4 were launched towards the Presidential Palace Compound, followed by armed clashes between rival militias. Security forces responded and were able to regain control of the area. The developments highlight the persistent risk of armed clashes within the city.

LIBYA

Travelers in Tripoli and its surroundings should remain updated of the latest developments and determine the feasibility of travel through at least October 16. This follows fresh clashes on October 13 between rival militias in the Ghout al-Shaal and Hai Alandalus areas. Heavy weaponry was reportedly used in the clashes. Some reports indicate that at least two people were injured. The incident highlights the continued risk from and impact of armed mobilization linked to political power struggles.

MOROCCO

Travelers should anticipate disruption and reconfirm flights until October 23 during ongoing nationwide strike by air traffic controllers. The strike started at 3:01 PM local time on October 8 and is being held over salary-related grievances. The industrial action will not affect Royal Palace, state, military, medical, rescue, or humanitarian flights.

NIGERIA

According to local media reports, police have clashed with protesters near police Headquarters in Ilorin on October 14. They have used tear gas and ammunition to disperse the gathering. There are unconfirmed reports of casualties and some protesters being arrested. Participants were protesting against the detention of journalists linked to a defamation lawsuit.

Through October, travelers should plan journeys accounting for flood-related disruption throughout Nigeria. According to authorities, the flooding has been exacerbated by heavy rainfall causing water to overflow from local rivers. Additionally, the release of excess water from dams, including the Lagdo Dam in Cameroon, has contributed to the flooding. At least 20 people have been killed in the past week. Throughout 2022, more than 500,000 people have been affected in 27 states, and an over 300 people have been killed due to flood-related incidents. Further rainfall is forecast, which is liable to worsen flooding conditions in affected areas.

SENEGAL

Travelers should plan journeys bypassing a protest by primary sector unions in Dakar on October 14. Protesters will gather at Place de l'Obelisque at 4:00 PM local time to demand bonuses for agriculture, forestry and fisheries workers. The demonstration will follow a 48-hour general strike launched by the unions on October 11. A large turnout is expected, which would cause travel disruption in the vicinity of the protest. Bystanders would face incidental risks in the event of clashes between participants and police.

SUDAN

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.

Through October, travelers should monitor developments linked to ongoing negotiations over the roadmap for transitional rule. The activist Forces of Freedom and Change (FFC) group is organizing civil disobedience campaigns and a general strike, amid persistent disagreements. More than a hundred people have been injured during anti-military protests in Khartoum and Omdurman in September. Protests have also taken place in al-Qadarif, al-Jazirah, Northern, River Nile, and South Darfur states. Travelers should avoid pro- and anti-military demonstrations due to the credible risk of unrest and potential for security forces to use harsh dispersal measures.

TUNISIA

Tunisia's Independent High Authority for Elections (ISIE) announced the start of campaigning for the December 17 Legislative Election on September 26. This comes after widely followed calls for a boycott of the elections by established political parties, who may organize gatherings opposing them. Protests related to shortages of key goods and economic issues are also likely throughout October. A related demonstration by the Free Destourian Party will take place in Tunis on October 15. All gatherings should be avoided as a precaution.

UGANDA

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for intermittent disruption during the ongoing rainy season, which is expected to last until December. The Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) has forecast moderate to-heavy rainfall through December, particularly affecting Eastern, Northern and Western regions. Periods of torrential rainfall may cause local flash flooding and mudslides in low-lying areas. Districts near bodies of water, such as Lake Victoria, are also vulnerable to flooding amid such weather conditions.

YEMEN

Travelers should closely monitor developments following the collapse of the ceasefire between the Yemeni government and the Houthi rebel group. The UN's proposition to extend it was unsuccessful as warring sides could not reach an agreement before the October 2 deadline. The termination of the ceasefire is likely to reverse the easing of the blockade and cause resumption of air and ground offensives countrywide throughout October. These developments also heighten the risk of renewal of cross-border airstrikes towards Saudi Arabia following a lull in such incidents during the ceasefire.

Asia & the Pacific

KAMANDAG JOINT NAVAL EXERCISE

Travelers should monitor developments related to Kamandag, a joint naval exercise between the Philippines and the US, until October 14. The exercise started on October 3 and involves the participation of more than 3,000 military personnel. It is being conducted at multiple locations around northern Luzon Island and Palawan province, near the South China Sea. Additionally, Japan and South Korea are present as observers. The developments come amid

heightened cross-strait tensions following a visit by former US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to Taiwan in late September.

NORTH KOREAN MISSILE TEST

North Korea reportedly fired a ballistic missile early on October 14 toward the southern Sea of Japan, according to South Korean authorities. North Korea has conducted several tests in recent days, following heightened tensions in the region. Travelers should continue to monitor developments for a potential escalation in tensions, as such events are likely to result in more hardline rhetoric from South Korea and its Western allies.

ONGOING RAINY SEASON IN OCEANIA

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for weather-related disruption throughout Oceania due to the ongoing rainy season. This season is a result of the 'La Nina' weather phenomenon, which is related to oceanic and atmospheric temperature differentials. Bouts of heavy rain and associated flooding and landslides can be expected, especially in mountainous and low-lying areas. Heavy rains may prompt short-notice and intermittent flight disruption. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries, avoid affected areas and reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out through at least October 31.

AFGHANISTAN

An outbreak of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) has been reported in multiple districts, including suspected cases of cholera. Cholera has been documented in the past in Afghanistan. AWD or cholera is spread via contaminated food and water. Symptoms include vomiting and profuse, watery diarrhea which can lead to severe dehydration. Travelers should ensure food and water for consumption are safe and consider vaccination if likely to encounter unsanitary conditions.

AUSTRALIA

Travelers should continue to plan journeys accounting for weather-related disruption through at least October 14 in New South Wales (NSW) and Victoria. A weather system is expected to induce further heavy rain beginning October 12. Several rivers, dams and catchments are at capacity, and multiple flood watches and warnings are in place. Several areas in NSW near rivers have also been issued evacuation orders, with emergency services assisting 146 flood rescues since October 8. Parts of several roads, including Windsor Road in Windsor (NSW), have also been closed due to flooding. Travelers should reconfirm the feasibility of overland journeys before setting out and exercise enhanced caution.

The Extinction Rebellion environmental activist group plans to stage protests from October 17 to October 19 in Adelaide to denounce the use of fossil fuels. The events will take place daily at 7:00 AM local time outside the Adelaide Convention Center, coinciding with the SPE Asia Pacific Oil & Gas Conference and Exhibition. While the demonstrations should pass off peacefully, participants are likely to engage in acts of civil disobedience aimed at disrupting the conference. These may include road blockades around the venue as well as other tactics to prevent attendees from entering. Travelers should anticipate associated disruption in the vicinity of the protests and plan journeys accordingly.

Travelers should anticipate disruption during the Extinction Rebellion (XR) activist movement's 'Spring Rebellion' in Melbourne through October 22, and plan journeys accordingly. Participants will demand government action on climate change, among other issues. Events are planned in Carlton Gardens, and most should pass off peacefully; however, the rallies are likely to cause notable disruption, especially in the Central Business District (CBD). Clashes are likely between protesters and police, especially as the latter may disperse unruly demonstrations.

BANGLADESH

Travelers should anticipate disruption across Bangladesh through December 10 as the main opposition party, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), will be holding several public rallies. The protest campaign started on October 8 in Chattogram and will end on December 10 with a rally in Dhaka. The rallies are being held over the recent price hike of fuel and daily essentials. Any associated gatherings are likely to be well-attended. Precedent suggests that unrest, potentially involving clashes between protesters and police and/or the ruling Awami League party's activists, are possible.

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 anticipate heightened security and associated disruption in Beijing during the Communist Party of China's (CPC) National Congress scheduled to begin October 16. This congress will be the CPC's 20th five-yearly meeting and a key event in the political calendar. Around 2,300 delegates from across the country will gather at the Great Hall of the People on Tiananmen Square. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries to account for additional security checks and potential traffic delays.

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

On October 14, normal travel can resume through the Indira Gandhi International Airport (DEL) in New Delhi. Authorities responded to an email about a bomb threat on a flight that arrived from Moscow at around 3:20 AM local time on October 14. Security at the airport was increased and the flight was deboarded and checked; however, the threat was found to be a hoax.

Travelers should anticipate disruption in Manipur on October 15 from 5:00 AM to 5:00 PM local time during a statewide bandh (shutdown strike) called by several separatist groups. The Co-ordinating Committee (CorCom) and the Socialist Revolutionary Party (SOREPA) Kangleipak have called the strike to mark the anniversary of the state's merger with India in 1949. Disruption to transportation and commercial activities can be expected in urban centers, especially Imphal. Strike-related protests are also possible. Any disturbances during such demonstrations would result in the forcible dispersal of crowds, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

Travelers should anticipate disruption during planned protests on October 15 in district headquarters of Tamil Nadu state by the state-ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam party. Protests will start at 9:00 AM local time over a proposal to make Hindi the medium of instruction in central government-run educational institutes. In Chennai, potential protest locations include the Valluvar Kottam monument, Raj Bhavan and near central government offices. All protests will likely be well attended and cause significant traffic disruption. Police may forcibly disperse any unruly gatherings, posing incidental risk to bystanders.

Travelers should exercise caution through at least October 16 in Kolkata following communal clashes in the Ekbalpur area on October 8-9. Authorities have extended prohibitory orders in the area until October 16, banning the assembly of four or more people. The state opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has alleged that the violence targeted residences and businesses of the Hindu community. Multiple BJP leaders were intercepted and detained by authorities on October 10 while on their way to the affected area. Police may forcibly disperse unruly protests, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

Travelers should avoid a planned protest by the Janta Sena party on October 14 outside the District Collectorate in Udaipur. The protest is being held over alleged anti-farmers policies of the state government. The demonstration will be well attended, with the organizers expecting up to 10,000 participants, and may cause travel disruption along Collectorate Road and University Road. Any unruly behavior, such as attempts to breach security cordons or protracted road blockades, will be met with forcible dispersal measures by police. Any unrest may expose bystanders to incidental risks.

Travelers should anticipate disruption in Shillong on October 17 if a protest march by contractual energy workers proceeds. Participants will march from the Meghalaya Energy Corporation (MeECL) office to the Meghalaya State Secretariat if their demands are not met. The protesters are calling for overdue salary payments and regularization of their employment status.

Through January 2023, travelers should continue to anticipate disruption during a nationwide protest march by the national opposition Indian National Congress (INC) that has been ongoing since September 7. The march has been passing through Kerala state since September 10 and is expected to enter Karnataka state on September 30. It is due to terminate in Srinagar in early 2023. Participants denounce the national ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s perceived mismanagement of issues related to increasing inflation and unemployment. Increased traffic congestion and security can be expected along the march route. Travelers should allow additional travel time and plan journeys bypassing the march to minimize inconvenience.

INDONESIA

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for weather-related disruption across Indonesia due to the ongoing monsoon season. The Meteorology, Climatology, and Geophysical Agency (BMKG) has forecast moderate to heavy rainfall until October 15 across several provinces, including Aceh, Bali, Banten, Bangka Belitung Islands, Lampung, parts of Java, Sulawesi, Kalimantan and Sumatra Islands, and Jakarta. Bouts of heavy rain and associated flooding can be expected, especially in the coastal and low-lying areas, given the potential for high waves until October 14. Heavy rain may prompt short-notice and intermittent flight disruption. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries, avoid affected areas and reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

JAPAN

Travelers should monitor developments and abide by official directives following intermittent eruptions at Mount Sakurajima, with the latest reported on October 12. A warning Level 3 (second highest on a five-tier scale) has been issued, restricting entry within 1.2 miles of the volcano. No flight disruption has been reported at Kirishima's Kagoshima Airport (KOJ). Falling rocks and poor visibility due to ash and smoke may disrupt road transportation. The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) has issued ash advisories and forecast further eruptions throughout October.

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.

NEPAL

Travelers should continue to plan journeys through at least October 14 accounting for disruption due to landslides caused by heavy rainfall across Bagmati, Gandaki, Karnali and Lumbini provinces. Travelers should reconfirm the status of roads before setting out and use alternative routes where possible.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Travelers should anticipate and avoid gatherings through at least October 16 in Port Moresby against the eviction of people living in a settlement in the Morata area. Security forces are expected to enforce the evictions on October 10. Protests can be expected to take place in Morata, around the Unagi Oval, Government House, Morauta House and

the National Parliament building. Local traffic disruption is likely in the vicinity of such gatherings. There is also a potential for clashes between protesters and police. Any unrest would pose incidental risk to bystanders and may prompt an advisory to minimize non-essential movement.

PHILIPPINES

Travelers should plan journeys in parts of Luzon Island accounting for ongoing disruption due to heavy rainfall and flooding. The passage of a low pressure area, formerly tropical depression Maymay, has caused extensive flooding in 14 towns and 110 districts of Cagayan province as on October 14. Another weather system, Tropical Depression Neneng is expected to strengthen into a tropical storm on October 15, exacerbating the disruption. It will bring heavy rainfall and severe winds in northern and northeastern Luzon. Associated flooding, landslides, and disruption of transportation and essential services can be expected in the affected areas through at least October 16.

Travelers should monitor developments and abide by official directives linked to increased volcanic activity at Mount Bulusan and Mount Mayon throughout October. An Alert Level 1 (lowest on a six-tier scale, indicating 'low-level unrest') for Mount Bulusan was issued on October 13. Mount Mayon remains at Alert Level 2 (second lowest, indicating 'increasing unrest') since October 7. Authorities have advised people to refrain from entering the designated Permanent Danger Zones (PDZ) due to the risk of sudden eruptions, rockfall and landslides. The Civil Aviation Authority has issued a notice restricting flight operations near both summits.

SOUTH KOREA

Travelers should anticipate disruption in urban centers nationwide on October 15 due to planned protests by women's rights activists affiliated with 115 civil society organizations. The protests are being held to denounce the government's proposed plan to abolish the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family. Gatherings, including those in Seoul and Busan city, are likely to be well-attended. While most gatherings are likely to pass off peacefully, isolated incidents of clashes between participants and security forces remain possible. Authorities are likely to enhance security measures in the vicinity of any gatherings with additional security deployments and ad-hoc road closures.

Travelers should anticipate disruption to subway services in Seoul through at least October 17 during planned protests by the Solidarity Against Disability Discrimination group. Participants are demanding a budget to ensure rights of the disabled and better policies for them. Authorities have warned of potential delays and disruption on Line 4 amid ongoing protests until October 14. A demonstration is also planned at 7:30 AM local time on October 17 from Gwanghwamun to Yeouido and National Assembly stations. Further protests are possible until a budget to support the disabled is announced.

THAILAND

Travelers should continue to anticipate intermittent disruption and maintain flexible itineraries during the ongoing southwest monsoon season, which usually lasts until October. The Thai Meteorological Department (TMD) has forecast heavy to very heavy rainfall in the southern part of Thailand over the coming days. Flooding and associated landslides can be expected countrywide during this period, intermittently disrupting transport and essential services, including electricity. Adverse weather conditions can affect routes to and operations at Bangkok's Don Mueang International Airport (DMK) and Suvarnabhumi International Airport (BKK). The central and southern provinces remain particularly vulnerable to flash floods and associated disruption.

VIETNAM

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption through at least October 16 during the passage of a tropical storm impacting several central coastal provinces. It is expected bring heavy rainfall to provinces including Binh Dinh, Da Nang, Khanh Hoa, Phue Yen, Thua Thien Hue, Quang Binh, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and Quang Tri. The tropical storm is expected to be downgraded to a tropical depression and make landfall between Da Nang and Quang Ngai between October 15-16. Associated flooding, landslides and the disruption of transportation and essential services can be expected in the affected areas.

Travelers should anticipate disruption due to the temporary closure of approximately 20% of fuel stations across Ho Chi Minh City and its environs through at least October 14 amid fuel shortages. Long queues at fuel stations have been reported in several districts of Ho Chi Minh City, including Binh Chanh, Binh Tan and Thu Duc City. Local media reported that security force personnel have been deployed to stations and informal barricades erected to manage

crowds. The shortages are being linked to rising fuel prices, supply chain issues and transport disruption following the passage of Typhoon Noru.

Europe

AIRPORT STAFF SHORTAGES & DELAYS

Through at least mid-October, travelers should continue to anticipate disruption and delays across European airports. As many countries have dropped their COVID-19-related entry restrictions, facilities have struggled with a consistent influx of passengers and staff shortages over the summer. This has resulted in flight cancellations and delays, exacerbated by staff strikes, along with long queues for check-in procedures and security.

SECURITY FORCE CLASHES ALONG KYRGYZSTAN-TAJIKISTAN BORDER

Renewed clashes in the shared border areas of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan underscore persistently high tensions and the need for enhanced precautions. On September 18, Kyrgyz officials said at least 59 people were killed, and more than 100 were injured, in clashes and cross-border attacks that occurred from September 14 to 18. Tajikistan has announced that at least 35 of its citizens were killed, and 139 others injured during the recent clashes. Additionally, local reports indicate several thousand civilians have been evacuated from affected areas, while officials from both sides engaged in talks.

CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS ALONG ARMENIA-AZERBAIJAN BORDER

Reports of ceasefire violations in shared border regions and Nagorno-Karabakh will continue throughout October. These continue despite recent negotiations between Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev. On September 28, both sides accused the other of firing on military positions in shared border areas. Similar violations were reported on September 20, 21 and 23. Armenian authorities claimed that three soldiers were killed in the most recent attacks. An estimated 155 people have been killed since the initial large-scale clashes on September 12. These incidents underscore the need to avoid all travel to the shared border areas and Nagorno-Karabakh.

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

Travelers should continue to monitor developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina following the October 2 General Election. The Parliamentary and Presidential elections saw tensions over a change in electoral laws and allegations of electoral fraud in Republika Srpska. Related protests on October 6 and 9 in Banja Luka attracted several thousand participants, who demanded a recount. On October 9, the central election authorities ordered a recount of ballots from around 1,000 polling stations. Further protests are likely through at least October 14. Travelers should avoid all protests as a precaution.

FRANCE

Travelers should anticipate disruption through at least October 14 in France due to ongoing fuel shortages which were triggered by refinery strikes. The industrial action has been ongoing since September 27 and was organized by the CGT union. Participants are demanding increased wages due to rising inflation. Long queues have been reported outside petrol stations. As of October 10, around 30% of petrol stations were reportedly experiencing supply issues. The shortages are likely to persist over the coming days as the CGT renewed the strike mandate on October 10.

Travelers should plan journeys bypassing a demonstration on October 14 in Paris. Participants will gather at Chateau Rouge metro station at 6:00 PM local time to demand the release of Georges Abdallah, a Lebanese pro-Palestinian politician currently imprisoned in France. While the protest is expected to pass off peacefully, local scuffles between demonstrators and security forces cannot be ruled out. Any such disturbances would pose incidental risks to bystanders. Heightened security and traffic disruption can be expected in the vicinity of the protest.

Travelers should plan journeys bypassing a demonstration on October 15 in Paris due to the risk of local unrest. Supporters of the 'Yellow Vests' (Gilet Jaunes) movement will gather at 12:00 PM local time at Chateau d'Eau metro station before marching to Ourcq metro station at 2:00 PM local time. The demonstration is linked the rising cost of living and the ongoing energy crisis, among other issues. Police may forcibly disperse participants and any related

disturbances would pose incidental risks to bystanders. Traffic disruption can be expected along the route of the march.

Travelers should anticipate disruption in Paris on October 16 during a protest by civil society groups at Place de la Nation. Participants will gather at 2:00 PM local time to demonstrate against the rising cost of living and climate change, among other issues. The demonstration is likely to be well attended, with several political groups announcing their intent to participate. There will be traffic disruption in the vicinity. There is a risk of local unrest if the protesters turn unruly, with police liable to forcibly disperse them. This will pose incidental risk to bystanders.

GERMANY

Travelers should plan journeys in Leipzig accounting for disruption during a planned demonstration on October 15. Participants will gather at 3:00 PM local time at Augustusplatz to denounce rising energy prices and inflation. The protest is expected to be well attended. Related, well-attended protests have been taking place on Mondays. On October 10, verbal altercations occurred between protesters and counter-protesters. Any potential disturbances would also pose incidental risks to bystanders. Heightened security and traffic disruption can be expected in the vicinity of the protest.

Travelers should anticipate disruption on October 16 during climate protests in Berlin outside the Ministry of Finance. Participants will gather at 1:00 PM local time to denounce financial colonialism. Further related protests are likely over the coming days in the lead-up to the UN's Conference of the Parties to be held in Egypt on November 6-18. While the protests should pass off peacefully, they will cause traffic disruption in the vicinity. Police may disperse protesters if they observe acts of civil disobedience. Any unrest will pose incidental risk to bystanders.

Travelers should anticipate disruption in urban centers around protests against rising energy costs and inflation throughout October. Regular protests have been staged on Mondays. Related demonstrations were held on September 26 in Halle, Leipzig, Stuttgart and Wismar. While related events should pass off peacefully, traffic disruption in the vicinity of the protests is likely.

GREECE

Through at least mid-October, travelers should anticipate disruption in urban centers during protests against rising energy costs and inflation. Regular protests have been scheduled every Monday, including a demonstration that took place on September 19 in Dusseldorf. Related gatherings in Leipzig on September 5 and 12 were well-attended. While any such events should pass off peacefully, traffic disruption in the vicinity of the protests is likely.

KOSOVO

Travelers should continue to monitor developments and anticipate heightened tensions linked to a controversial mandate that came into effect on September 1. Authorities have ordered all vehicles with license plates issued in Serbia to obtain Kosovo-registered license plates, giving owners until October 31 to make the change. On September 20, the car of a Kosovo Serb police officer was reportedly set on fire after he changed his Serbian license plate to a Kosovo one. Additionally, although no unrest has been reported since September 1, tensions remain high and it cannot be ruled out. Travelers in the region should anticipate a heightened security force presence.

MOLDOVA

Travelers should continue to plan journeys bypassing weekly anti-government demonstrations in Chisinau throughout October. Protesters are demanding the resignation of President Maia Sandu amid rising energy costs and inflation. The opposition SOR party has called for nationwide gatherings every Sunday until early Presidential and Parliamentary elections are called. On September 25, around 5,000 demonstrators gathered outside the Parliament building, with some establishing an encampment in the area.

NETHERLANDS

Travelers should plan journeys in The Hague on October 15 bypassing an environmental protest by the activist group Extinction Rebellion (XR) against oil and gas subsidies. Participants will gather at 12:00 PM local time to block the A12 Road between the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate and the temporary House of Representatives. While the protest should remain peaceful, police may forcibly remove the blockade. Any unrest will pose incidental risk to bystanders.

RUSSIA

The US Department of State advises US citizens to defer travel to Russia due to the invasion of Ukraine by Russian military forces, the potential for harassment against US citizens by Russian government security officials, the singling out of US citizens in Russia by Russian government security officials including for detention, the arbitrary enforcement of local law, limited flights into and out of Russia, the Embassy's limited ability to assist US citizens in Russia, COVID-19-related restrictions, and terrorism. US citizens residing or traveling in Russia should depart immediately and exercise increased caution due to wrongful detentions. US credit and debit cards no longer work in Russia, and options to electronically transfer funds from the United States are extremely limited as a result of sanctions imposed on Russian banks. There are reports of cash shortages within Russia.

UNITED KINGDOM

Travelers should anticipate disruption in London on October 14 and 16 due to environmental protests by the Extinction Rebellion (XR) activist group. On October 14, participants plan to gather at 12:00 PM local time at Trafalgar Square and subsequently march towards 10 Downing Street and picket outside until 6:00 PM local time. On October 16, protesters will gather at Hyde Park at 10:30 AM local time and march to Parliament Square at 12:00 PM local time. Protests are likely to remain peaceful; however, scuffles are possible as police seek to clear roads, while demonstrators may observe acts of civil disobedience.