

MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2024

## Legend Travel Bulletin

AMERICAS

AFRICA & THE  
MIDDLE EAST

ASIA & THE PACIFIC

EUROPE

### Travel Reminders

#### REAL ID DEADLINE EXTENDED

Travelers have until May 7, 2025 to ensure their driver's license meets REAL ID standards to board domestic flights and access certain federal facilities. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced its intent to extend the REAL ID full enforcement date by 24 months, from May 3, 2023 to May 7, 2025. Under the new regulations published to execute this change, states will now have additional time to ensure their residents have driver's licenses and identification cards that meet the security standards established by the REAL ID Act. As required by the law, following the enforcement deadline, federal agencies, including the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), will be prohibited from accepting driver's licenses and identification cards that do not meet these federal standards.

#### ETIAS REQUIREMENTS DELAYED UNTIL 2025

The European Union was scheduled to launch the European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS) by 2024, however, the ETIAS has been postponed for another year, until at least 2025. Created by the European Union, the European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS) is an entry requirement for visa-exempt nationals traveling from [60 countries](#), including the US. Beginning in mid-2025, travelers will need complete a digital application to travel to one of [30 EU countries](#) for up to 90 days within a 180-day period. Currently, US travelers do not need a visa for entry to these countries. Travelers will need to apply for a visa using the [official ETIAS website](#) or mobile application; most applications will incur a small processing fee of 7 Euros.

### NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

- JUNE 3**
- Australia: Western Australia Day
  - Colombia: Corpus Christi
  - Ireland: June Bank Holiday
  - Malaysia: The Yang di-Pertuan Agong's Birthday
  - Malaysia: Gawai Dayak Holiday observed
  - New Zealand: King's Birthday
  - Thailand: Queen Suthida's Birthday
  - United States: Jefferson Davis' Birthday
- JUNE 4**
- Estonia: Flag Day
  - Iran: Demise of Imam Khomeini
  - Tonga: Emancipation Day
- JUNE 5**
- Denmark: Father's Day
  - Denmark, Faroe Islands: Constitution Day
  - Equatorial Guinea: President's Day
  - Israel: Jerusalem Day
  - Iran: Khordad National Uprising
  - Moldova, Turkmenistan: World Environment Day
- JUNE 6**
- Australia: King's Birthday
  - South Korea: Memorial Day
  - Sweden: National day
  - Ukraine: Journalists' Day
- JUNE 7**
- The Bahamas: Randol Fawkes Labor Day
  - Isle of Man: T.T. Bank Holiday
  - Malta: Sette Giugno
  - Peru: Battle of Arica, Flag Day
  - Solomon Islands: Day off for Temotu Province Day

# Americas

## **TORNADO TOUCHDOWN IN BRISCOE COUNTY, TEXAS**

On June 3, travelers should continue to exercise caution in Briscoe County (Texas state) and follow all official directives following a tornado touchdown. According to local sources, a stationary tornado touchdown occurred six miles (9.7km) north-east of Silverton at around 20.25 local time on June 2. There are no reports of casualties thus far and the extent of the damage caused remains unclear. Travelers should expect associated disruption in the affected area and reconfirm the status of routes and transportation services before setting out.

## **WAR IN ISRAEL TO PROMPT PROTEST**

Travelers should continue to expect heightened security and travel disruption during demonstrations linked to the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas. There will be a heightened police presence at gatherings in major urban centers in Canada and the US following isolated scuffles between rival demonstrators. Enhanced security measures are in place around prominent Jewish and Muslim religious and cultural sites, US government buildings, and other sensitive locations. Pro-Israeli and pro-Palestinian activists have regularly assembled at major gathering points, transportation hubs, and government buildings. Major pro-Palestinian demonstrations have recently taken place at universities throughout the US, entailing scuffles with counter-demonstrators and police. Demonstrators regularly gather at events held by US government representatives. Related rallies have also been held elsewhere in the region, including Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, and Peru.

## **BOLIVIA**

Through June 4, travelers should monitor developments and expect disruption during planned nationwide road blockades by cargo transportation workers. Participants are protesting against fuel and foreign currency shortages. While the exact locations of the blockades are yet unknown, recent similar action has targeted roads in La Paz as well as in the departments of Beni, Oruro, Potosi and Santa Cruz. The leaders of the protest have set a deadline of 1:00 AM local time on June 3 for the government to open negotiations, though government sources suggest this is unlikely to happen. Travelers should plan journeys and reconfirm the status of routes before setting out.

## **BRAZIL**

Throughout June, travelers should continue to defer non-essential inbound travel to areas of Rio Grande do Sul impacted by severe flooding. Travelers in affected areas should continue to monitor developments and follow official directives amid persistent infrastructure damage and disruption. Low-lying areas of Porto Alegre remain flooded, and the city's Salgado Filho International Airport (POA) remains closed indefinitely. Power and water outages persist across the state, though services are gradually being restored to the affected areas. Thus far, 169 people have reportedly been killed and at least 56 others are missing due to flooding and landslides across the state.

On April 10, 2025, the government of Brazil has moved to reinstate the visa requirement for citizens of the United States, Australia, Canada, and Japan. The visa requirement will apply to all passport holders from those countries traveling to Brazil for business, tourism, or other reasons.

## **CUBA**

Until June 30, travelers should expect further demonstrations across urban centers due to nationwide power outages and avoid them due to the risk of unrest. Residents from Las Tunas held protests late on May 10 to denounce persisting power outages and food shortages. The state power provider Union Electrica has warned power outages will likely persist until at least the end of June due to the maintenance of thermo-electric plants and a fuel shortage. During related demonstrations on March 17, authorities blocked mobile and internet connections. Power-supply disruptions will likely continue, prompting further demonstrations. Any ensuing scuffles between protesters and security forces could pose incidental risks to bystanders.

## ECUADOR

Through July 22, travelers should exercise caution and follow official directives following the announcement of a State of Exception (SoE) in El Oro, Guayas, Los Rios, Manabi, Orellana, Santa Elena, and Sucumbios provinces, as well as in Camilo Ponce Enriquez canton in Azuay provinces. The measure was announced by President Daniel Noboa on May 22 and will facilitate heightened security deployments but will not include a curfew. The measure is likely to lead to an increase in anti-gang security operations in gang-held areas of urban centers and potential clashes. Travelers should exercise stringent precautions due to the continued risk of crime and defer non-essential travel to high-risk locations.

## PERU

On June 3, travelers should reconfirm flights if traveling via Lima's Jorge Chavez International Airport (LIM). Earlier on June 2, authorities halted operations at the airport until further notice after a reported runway lighting system issue. According to local media reports, at least 125 flights have been cancelled and 30 others delayed or diverted to airports in Pisco (Ica region) and Trujillo (La Libertad region). Further cancellations, delays and diversions are expected as the airport authorities work on resolving the lighting system issue. Travelers should monitor developments and expect residual delays following the resumption of normal operations.

# *Africa & the Middle East*

## **MONSOON SEASON UNTIL NOVEMBER**

Until November, travelers should expect intermittent disruption to travel and essential services in south-east Asia during the monsoon season. Flooding is common and may occur during persistent rainfall in low-lying areas near bodies of water. The passage of typhoons may also exacerbate damage and disruption during this period. Expect heavy rain, strong winds and related disruption in coastal areas. Flights at major airports may be affected by adverse weather conditions. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries and liaise with local contacts to reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

## **TRAVEL WITH CAUTION DUE TO ISRAEL-HAMAS CONFLICT**

Throughout June, travelers should exercise caution near embassies and government buildings amid protests linked to the Israel-Hamas conflict. Protesters are reportedly gathering in urban centers across the region, including in Ankara, Istanbul (both Turkey), Baghdad (Iraq), Beirut (Lebanon), Amman, Aqaba (both Jordan), Rabat (Morocco), Tunis (Tunisia), and Ramallah (West Bank). Visits to Israeli embassies and consulates should proceed for essential purposes only.

## **ISRAEL**

Throughout June, travelers should expect further anti-government protests and avoid them as a precaution. Travelers should expect a heightened police presence and traffic disruption around such demonstrations.

## **NIGERIA**

Throughout June, travelers should expect transportation disruption and avoid protests linked to an indefinite ongoing strike led by Nigeria's major labor unions, the National Labour Congress and the Trade Union Congress. The industrial action began on June 3 following failed negotiations between union and government representatives over a new national minimum wage and electricity tariff hikes. Aviation sector unions also joined the industrial action and flight disruption should be expected at airports across the country through June 6. Related protests are likely in urban centers during the strike. Such events may be forcibly dispersed by police, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

## **SAUDI ARABIA**

Between June 14 and 19, travelers should expect travel disruption in Saudi Arabia around the annual Islamic pilgrimage or 'Hajj'. The pilgrimage typically prompts an increase in demand for accommodation and transportation. It also puts significant strain on travel infrastructure across the country, including King Abdulaziz International Airport (JED), which serves both Mecca and Jeddah (both Mecca province). Expect heightened security at transportation hubs. Government entities and local businesses are expected to close or shorten their working hours during the Hajj, which coincides with the Islamic festival of Eid al-Adha. Travelers should reconfirm itineraries and allow additional times for journeys.

# *Asia & the Pacific*

## **INDIA TRAVEL INSURANCE REQUIREMENT FOR SCHENGEN VISAS**

Throughout 2024, any Indian national in need of a visa from Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland as well as the European Union Member States of Bulgaria, Cyprus, and Romania must hold a valid travel insurance policy from an approved vendor. Visa applicants are advised to note that unapproved travel medical insurances issued by Indian insurance companies are not accepted for Schengen visa procedure. However, visa applicants may seek to obtain insurance in any other country where claims against the insurance company would be recoverable in a Schengen State.

## **WAR IN ISRAEL TO PROMPT PROTEST**

Throughout June, travelers should anticipate disruption during demonstrations linked to ongoing fighting in Israel and the Palestinian Territories. Such events are likely to be well attended and accompanied by a heightened police presence. Travelers should follow official directives and leave an area at the first sign of unrest.

## **ARMENIA**

Through June 5, travelers should expect travel disruption in Yerevan during protests over a recent agreement with neighboring Azerbaijan. Under the deal, Armenia will relinquish control of several villages in Tavush province. A related march is planned for 10:00 AM local time on June 3, beginning at Arabkir Saint Cross Church and ending at the Investigative Committee of Armenia offices. Previous such gatherings have been well attended and have included blockades of major roads in and around the capital. Hundreds of demonstrators have been arrested since the start of the protests in April. Travelers should expect heightened security measures around flashpoints, such as public squares, over the coming days.

## **AUSTRALIA**

On June 3, travelers should expect disruption in Sydney (New South Wales state) during a planned protest by union workers. Participants will gather at Martin Place at 8:00 AM local time to demand stricter industrial manslaughter laws in the country. The gathering is likely to pass off peacefully. Travelers should expect heightened security and local traffic disruption near the protest.

## **CAMBODIA**

On June 3, travelers should plan journeys in Phnom Penh accounting for disruption during the state funeral procession and cremation of Tep Vong, a respected Buddhist monk. Road closures have been announced from Ounalom pagoda to Wat Phnom and at Wat Botoum. The King, Norodom Sihamoni, will preside over the funeral ceremony. Prior to the procession, a 30-minute meditation and blessing ceremony will be held outside Ounalom pagoda. At least 5,000 monks are expected to attend the meditation ceremony. Several thousand monks are expected to join the funeral procession to Wat Botoum. Travelers should expect heightened security during the funeral procession.

## INDIA

From April 19-June 6, travelers should expect disruption during the parliamentary election, which will be held in seven phases. Votes will be counted on June 4 and results released on June 6. The legislative assembly elections in Andhra Pradesh (May 13), Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim (both April 19) and Odisha (May 13, 20, and 25, and June 1) will be held simultaneously. Security will be heightened nationwide, especially around election-related and political events. Campaign-related gatherings will result in localized travel disruption. Travelers should avoid all political events as they have the potential to result in low-level scuffles, posing incidental risk to bystanders.

Through September 30, travelers should exercise enhanced caution in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, and Nagaland following the extension of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA). The AFSPA has also been implemented in four districts of Asom (Assam). Previously in force until March 31, the controversial anti-insurgency legislation grants special powers to security forces in 'disturbed areas', which are at comparatively high risk due to insurgency. The extension reflects the HIGH travel risks posed by ongoing low-level ethnic insurgencies in these locations. Protests against the legislation may take place in urban centers.

Throughout the spring and summer, travelers should expect disruption due to water shortages in and around Bengaluru, with the situation likely to worsen during the summer months. Political parties, activists, civil society groups and residents have held protests over the issue. Shortages have been reported in the peripheral neighborhoods of Mahadevapura, Varthur, Whitefield, and Yelahanka which rely mostly on borewells and water tankers. Reduced supply of piped water has led to an increase in waiting times and prices for water tankers. Business parks in these areas remain unaffected, but residential areas are facing supply problems. However, business and commercial establishments are likely to be impacted.

## JAPAN

On June 3, travelers should continue to exercise caution after a magnitude 5.9 earthquake struck at 6:31 AM local time. According to the Japanese Meteorological Agency (JMA), the tremor originated in northern Noto peninsula (Ishikawa prefecture, Chubu region) at a depth of 6.2 miles (10km). The JMA measured the seismic intensity at upper five (fourth-highest on a nine-tier scale) in Wajima and Suzu cities (both Ishikawa). Authorities have stated there is no threat of a tsunami due to the tremor. While sea level fluctuations could occur near the peninsula on June 3, related damage is not expected.

## MALDIVES

Throughout the spring and summer, travelers should expect weather-related disruption and plan journeys accordingly following heavy rainfall in recent days. Flooding and related road disruption has been reported in the Male, Addu city (Addu atoll), Foakaidhoo island (Shaviyani atoll), Fuvahmulah city (Fuvahmulah atoll), Guraidhoo island (Kaafu atoll) and Kaadehdhoo island (Gaaf Dhaal atoll). Baa, Felidhe, Haddhunmathi, and Northern Thiladhunmathi atolls have also experienced similar conditions. Several houses were reportedly damaged in these areas. Such weather may recur during the south-west monsoon (mid-May to November). Travelers should reconfirm the status of routes and transportation services before setting out and exercise enhanced caution.

## MYANMAR

Throughout 2024, sustained fighting involving the military, ethnic armed organizations (EAOs), and anti-government People's Defense Force (PDF) groups persists in conflict zones. On April 5, the Kachin Independence Army (KIA), an EAO, reportedly attacked a weapons factory in Salin township and a military base (both Magway region). Hostilities have increased since October 2023 following the launch of a military offensive by a coalition of EAOs. Travelers should expect further fighting, highlighting the need to defer all travel to conflict zones.

## PAKISTAN

Throughout May, travelers should exercise caution as the US consulate in Karachi on May 7 issued a security alert warning of the threat of a militant attack at the city's Karachi Port. Further information regarding specific times or the nature of potential attacks was not made available. The development underscores the credible risk of militancy in Pakistan, including in high-risk areas such as Karachi, and the need for enhanced precautions. Travelers should exercise vigilance and follow all directives issued by officials.

## PHILIPPINES

On June 3-4, travelers should expect travel disruption in Iloilo city and its environs (Western Visayas region) during a planned strike by transportation workers. Jeepney operators will conduct a strike against the alleged failed implementation of the Local Public Transport Route. Travelers should plan and its negative impact on jeepney drivers. Drivers and operators from Leganes, Pavia, and Oton towns (all Iloilo province, Western Visayas) are also expected to participate in the strike. Travelers should expect heightened demand for other forms of transportation during the strike and plan journeys accordingly.

Through June 20, travelers should expect disruption in Luzonover due to power outages. The National Grid Corporation of Philippines (NGCP) issued a yellow alert warning for the Luzon grid due to a forced outage. The outage will take place from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM (all times local) and 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM on June 3. Related disruption was reported on 1 June affecting areas in Luzon, including Metro Manila as well as Batangas, Cavite, Laguna, Rizal (all Calabarzon region), Bulacan and Pampanga (both Central Luzon region). Overland travel in areas affected by power cuts may be disrupted as blackouts can cause traffic lights to malfunction.

Until October 25, travelers should expect disruption in Quezon City (Metro Manila) due to the ongoing closure of the southbound lane of the EDSA-Kamuning flyover. The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) said that the lane will be closed until October 25 for maintenance work. MMDA has advised to use alternative routes such as Mother Ignacia Avenue, Panay Avenue, Scout Albano, and Scout Borromeo if heading south towards Pasig, Makati and Taguig cities (all Metro Manila), and to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (MNL).

## SRI LANKA

Through June 5, travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption due to adverse weather. The Department of Meteorology (DoM) has issued red (denoting 'action', highest on a three-tier scale) and amber (denoting 'be prepared', middle) advisories for heavy rain and landslide June 3 and 4 in multiple provinces. Heavy rainfall of up to four inches (10cm) is likely in Sabaragamuwa and Western provinces and parts of Eastern province, including Galle and Matara districts. Persistent heavy rain will likely prompt landslides and flash floods, affecting transportation and essential infrastructure.

## THAILAND

From May 31 – June 4, travelers should expect disruption in Bangkok during the Bangkok Pride Festival, and plan journeys accordingly. On June 1, participants will gather at the Nimibutr Building at the National Stadium at 2:00 PM before marching along Rama I Road towards Ratchaprasong Intersection. Associated disruption is likely to traffic and services at BTS (Sky Train), National Stadium, Siam, and Chit Lom stations. The festival will include five pride parades, Bangkok Pride Forum and Drag Bangkok festival. Related events are likely to be well attended. Police may forcibly disperse any unruly demonstrations, posing incidental risk to bystanders.

As of April 19, authorities extended an ongoing State of Emergency (SoE) in parts of southern provinces for another three months. The emergency decree allows security forces to detain suspects without charge for up to 30 days. The development highlights the persistent risk posed by the ongoing southern separatist insurgency. Travelers should continue to restrict non-essential travel to High-risk areas in the south (Narathiwat, Pattani, and Yala and southern districts of Songkhla).

## VIETNAM

Throughout the summer, travelers should expect disruption due to water shortages in and around central Vietnam. The situation is likely to worsen during the summer months (May, June, and July). Authorities announced that water shortages are likely in the Central Highlands region and Binh Thuan, Khanh Hoa, Phu yen, Quang Nam, and Quang Tri. Business parks, commercial establishments, and residential areas are likely to face water supply problems.

# Europe

## **DISRUPTION AT THE FRENCH-SPANISH BORDER**

On June 3, travelers should expect disruption along the French-Spanish border during planned blockades by farmers and plan journeys accordingly. The Farmers of the Pyrenees movement have called for a 24-hour blockade at several border points. Participants will gather from 9:00 AM local time. The mobilization will prevent the passage of heavy international transportation vehicles across the border to demand greater government and EU support for the agricultural sector. Associated traffic disruption should be expected, especially on the A9 motorway. Travelers should reconfirm the status of routes before setting out and allow additional travel time.

## **JUNE IS LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH IN EUROPE**

Throughout June, travelers should expect localized disruption during LGBTQ+ Pride events across urban centers and plan journeys accordingly. The events are likely to be well attended and accompanied by heightened security and road closures. They may coincide with counterdemonstrations by far-right groups, particularly in countries where attitudes towards LGBTQ+ people are generally more conservative. On May 17, the US State Department issued a worldwide alert to exercise increased caution due to the possibility of attacks targeting LGBTQ+ people. If planning to attend an event, travelers should remain alert to your surroundings.

## **BELGIUM**

On June 3, travelers should expect transportation disruption nationwide during a planned strike and related protests by trade unions. The TEC network has confirmed the disruption due to the industrial action, which will be held to denounce European austerity measures. The General Labour Federation of Belgium has organized associated demonstrations in several locations, most notably in Brussels, Liege and Mons (both Wallonia region). As primarily bus services will be affected, a heightened demand for other forms of transportation is to be expected. Disruption and delays at Brussels South Charleroi Airport (CRL) are also possible. Travelers should plan journeys accordingly and expect heightened security near the demonstrations.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

On June 3, travelers should expect local disruption in Prague during a scheduled demonstration and plan journeys accordingly. Participants will gather from 4:00 PM local time at Jan Palach Square before marching towards the Government Office, followed by the Ministry of Finance and then concluding at the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The event is being held to demand greater funding allocated in the 2025 budget for higher education institutions. While the demonstration should pass off peacefully, it is likely to disrupt traffic along its route and be accompanied by heightened security.

## **FRANCE**

Until September 9, travelers should monitor developments and anticipate disruption in Paris linked to a planned strike by the CGT-RATP public transportation union. The industrial action is reportedly being held over a lingering salary dispute following recent negotiations between RATP and union representatives, among other issues. It is scheduled to last until September 9, notably coinciding with the holding of the 2024 Summer Olympic and Paralympic games in Paris from July 26 and August 28, respectively. Should the union move forward with the strike, travelers should expect associated disruption to public transportation and increased demand for alternative travel options in the capital.



## GERMANY

Through June 8, travelers should expect disruption in urban centers during protests against racism and far-right extremism. The demonstrations are aimed at countering extremism around the European elections planned for June 6-9. Such gatherings are likely to garner significant attendance and cause localized disruption. Meanwhile, any demonstrations by right-wing activists and supporters are also likely to attract counter-protesters. Any ensuing scuffles involving rival participants or protesters and police would pose incidental risks to bystanders.

From June 14-July 14, travelers should expect heightened security and disruption in urban centers across Germany during the European Football Championship. The event will be held in Berlin and the cities of Cologne, Dortmund, Dusseldorf, Gelsenkirchen (all North Rhine-Westphalia state), Frankfurt (Hesse state), Hamburg (Hamburg state), Leipzig (Saxony state), Munich (Bavaria state), and Stuttgart (Baden-Wuerttemberg). Authorities have stated that they will increase security force presence in and around host cities during the tournament.

## ITALY

On June 3, travelers should expect rail disruption in Abruzzo region as part of a nationwide railway maintenance workers strike over working conditions. Significant rail disruption is not expected elsewhere in the country; however, related industrial action by railway workers in Abruzzo is likely to result in cancellations to services between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM. A related protest is expected in Rome at 11:00 AM. Participants will gather at Roma Termini Station before marching to the Ministry of Transport building. Additional protests are likely to be held nationwide at other transportation hubs.

On June 5-6, travelers should expect disruption during a nationwide strike by taxi drivers from 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM local time on both days, and plan journeys accordingly. The strike has been organized to call for the improved regulation of taxi licensing and restrictions on the implementation of ride hailing platforms. Associated protests by drivers are likely to occur during the strike, particularly in major urban centers. Drivers may protest by gathering in their cars and disrupting road traffic. Travelers should reconfirm transportation arrangements prior to setting out and allow additional time to complete journeys.

## NEW CALEDONIA

Through June 10, travelers should defer non-essential travel to New Caledonia (France) due to persistent unrest related to proposed electoral reforms. While authorities have managed to establish their presence in most trouble spots in Noumea, local sources continue to report sporadic instances of unrest, contributing to the persistent sense of insecurity. The nightly curfew has been extended until at least June 10. Our local contacts have stated that the RT1 highway between La Tontouta International Airport (NOU, South province) and Noumea remains impassable, and the airport remains closed to commercial flights until further notice.

## POLAND

On June 4, travelers should expect disruption in Warsaw during a rally organized by Prime Minister Donald Tusk, and plan journeys accordingly. Participants will gather from 6:00 PM local time at Castle Square. Tusk has called for the rally to commemorate a demonstration on June 4, 2023, when tens of thousands of people gathered to protest against inflation and alleged undemocratic elections, among other issues. Travelers should expect heightened security and disruption in the area as the event is expected to be well attended.

## 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.

## SERBIA

On June 3, travelers should exercise caution and plan journeys accounting for weather-related disruption. The Republic Hydrometeorological Institute (RHMZ) has issued a red warning (highest on a four-tier scale) for thunderstorms, including heavy rainfall and hail, for parts of eastern Serbia. An orange warning (second-highest) for similar conditions are in place for the rest of the country. Associated heavy rainfall may result in flash flooding, disrupting travel within the warning area. Travelers should reconfirm the status of routes prior to setting out and allow additional time to complete journeys.