TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2025

LEGEND Travel Bulletin



AMERICAS

AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST

ASIA & THE PACIFIC

EUROPE

Travel Reminders

REAL ID IN EFFECT ACROSS U.S.

Travelers must ensure their driver's license meets REAL ID standards to board domestic flights and access certain federal facilities. 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 2026

The European Union's European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS), intended to grant entry approval for visa-exempt nationals visiting the EU for short-term stays, has had its launch <u>postponed to the end of 2026.</u>

Currently, no action is required from travelers. The European Union will announce the precise start date for ETIAS several months prior to its implementation.

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

JUN 17

- Argentina: Commemoration of General Don Martín Miguel de Güemes
- Iceland: Icelandic Republic Day
- Papua New Guinea: King's Birthday
- Somalia: Eid al-Adha Holiday
- El Salvador: Fathers' Day
- United States: Bunker Hill Day

JUN 18

- Cambodia: King's Mother's Birthday
- Seychelles: Constitution Day

JUN 19

- American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, United States, US Virgin Islands: Juneteenth Independence Day
- Austria, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Switzerland, Chile, Colombia, Germany, Dominican Republic, Spain, Grenada, Equatorial Guinea, Honduras, Croatia, Haiti, Saint Lucia, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Poland, Portugal, Seychelles, San Marino, East Timor, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom, United States, Vatican City (Holy See), Venezuel: Corpus Christi
- Turks and Caicos Islands: King's Birthday
- Trinidad and Tobago: Labour Day
- Uruguay: José Artigas' Birthday Memorial

JUN 20

- Argentina: Flag Day
- Eritrea: Martyrs' Day
- Finland, Sweden, Matariki, New Zealand: Midsummer Eve
- Trinidad and Tobago: Labour Day observed
- United States: West Virginia Day
- Chile: National Day of Indigenous Peoples



HEIGHTENED SECURITY FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AT PORTS OF ENTRY IN THE U.S.

Starting June 9, travelers intending to travel to or from the US should expect heightened scrutiny and disruption at ports of entry following the announcement of travel restrictions. The restrictions imposed by President Donald Trump's administration will come into effect on June 9. Nationals of 12 countries are now prohibited from entering the US, while an additional seven countries are required to enact policy changes or also face travel restrictions. Travelers requiring clarification of their immigration status should consult their local US diplomatic mission.

SECUIRTY OPERATION NEAR WASHINGTON HOSPITAL CENTER IN WASHINGTON DC

On June 17, travelers should avoid the area near the Washington Hospital Center in Washington (DC) amid a security operation. Police are responding to reports of a shooting at the location. Travelers should follow all official directives in the area as police conduct their investigation.

WEATHER RELATED DISRUPTION IN PARTS OF MIDWEST AND MOUNTAIN WEST REGIONS

Through June 18, travelers should exercise caution and expect weather-related disruption in parts of the Midwest and Mountain West regions. The National Weather Service (NWS) has assigned an enhanced risk level for severe thunderstorms, hail, and damaging gusts for parts of Minnesota and Nebraska states until the morning of June 17. An enhanced risk level is also in place in parts of Kansas state on June 17-18. Cities under the enhanced risk level include Minneapolis, Saint Paul, and Wichita. Tornadoes could form in the affected areas. Adverse weather conditions are liable to cause short-notice transport disruption and power outages.

HEAT ADVISORY ISSUED IN ALASKA

Through June 19, travelers should minimize heat exposure and stay well-hydrated amid heat advisory issued in Alaska. Several regions in the United States will experience high temperatures through June 19. Exposure to excessive temperatures for a sustained period can pose health risks ranging from relatively mild rashes and sunburn, to heat stroke, a medical emergency. To prevent heat-related illnesses, travelers should minimize exposure, reduce physical activity, and stay well-hydrated. Travelers should know the warning symptoms of heat-illness and what to do if they develop.

PROTESTS LINKED TO IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STATE

Through June 20, travelers should exercise caution and expect further protests linked to immigration enforcement in southern California state. Several US Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids have elicited demonstrations and related unrest involving protesters and federal agents. A nightly curfew between 8:00 PM and 6:00 AM local time is in place for parts of downtown Los Angeles. Protests are likely outside federal and police buildings and may also occur spontaneously near immigration raids in public places. Tear gas and other non-lethal munitions have been used during crowd-control efforts, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

OFFICIAL DIRECTIVES DUE TO ONGOING WILDFIRES IN CANADA

Through June 28, travelers should exercise caution and follow all official directives due to ongoing wildfires in Canada. Related states of emergency have been issued for Manitoba and Saskatchewan provinces, effective until June 27 and 28, respectively. There are 173 active wildfires in Canada, including 15 in Manitoba and 13 in Saskatchewan, as of May 30. Evacuation orders have been issued for affected areas of both provinces. Further short-notice evacuations and potential road closures are likely. Smoke from the wildfires is also reportedly expected to negatively impact air quality in several Canadian provinces and US states.

DIRECTIVES IN PARTS OF DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES FOLLOWING CURFEW

Through June 30, travelers should abide by official directives in parts of downtown Los Angeles after authorities announced a nightly curfew on June 10. The order will be in place for one sq mile of the downtown from 8:00 PM to 6:00 AM local time. This includes the area from the 5 Freeway to the 110 Freeway and from the 10 Freeway to the interchange of the 110 and 5 freeways. The curfew has been implemented amid unruly protests against recent US Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids in California. It does not apply to residents of the restricted area and credentialed media.

DECLARATION OF HEPATITIS OUTBREAK IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA

Through June 30, travelers should consider vaccination and pay attention to hygiene following health authorities' declaration of an outbreak of hepatitis A in Los Angeles County. Hepatitis A is a viral infection of the liver, spreads through the 'fecal-oral' route, via direct person-to-person contact or contaminated food and water. Symptoms can take a month to appear and include fever, fatigue, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, dark urine, and jaundice. Prevention is through vaccination, selection of safe food and water, and general hygiene measures.

EXPECT DISRUPTION IN URBAN CENTERS DURING LGBTQ PRIDE EVENTS

Through June 30, travelers should expect disruption in urban centers during LGBTQ Pride events and plan journeys accordingly. The events are being held to mark June as Pride month. They should pass off peacefully, though could be accompanied by counter-protests. As such, there is potential for scuffles between rival demonstrators or between demonstrators and the security forces.

ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION POSTPONED FOR US PASSPORT HOLDERS

The European Union's European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS), intended to grant entry approval for visa-exempt nationals visiting the EU for short-term stays, has had its launch <u>postponed to the end of 2026</u>.

Currently, no action is required from travelers. The European Union will announce the precise start date for ETIAS several months prior to its implementation.

ARGENTINA

Through June 30, travelers should expect heightened security and disruption amid nationwide protests and strikes. Currently, ongoing labor unrest, judicial rulings, and economic factors are fueling social unrest in Argentina. Multiple sectors joined demonstrations from June 9 to 13 across urban centers. Additionally, the Supreme Court's ruling against former president Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner has triggered politically motivated unrest. Authorities have responded by increasing security in major cities, particularly around government and judicial buildings. Widespread travel disruption, roadblocks, and potential flashpoints for unrest are likely to persist.

Through June 30, travelers should expect disruption in urban centers due to a roadblock campaign and demonstrations by supporters of former president Evo Morales. Since May 16, protesters have gathered to demand the resignation of President Luis Arce, with four people killed in clashes on June 12. Nationwide demonstrations and highway blockades are likely to continue following a decision by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE) not to register Morales as a presidential candidate in the upcoming August general election.

BOLIVIA

Through June 30, travelers should expect continued disruption in urban centers due to demonstrations and roadblocks by supporters of former president Evo Morales. A 'humanitarian pause' was declared on June 15 to allow for aid access. Nonetheless, sporadic blockades persist, particularly in Cochabamba department, amid tensions over the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE)'s rejection of Morale's presidential candidacy in the August general election. Fuel and food shortages are likely, and related unrest may escalate with the election's approach.

BRAZIL

Through June 19, travelers should exercise caution and expect weather-related disruption in Rio Grande do Sul state. The National Institute of Meteorology (INMET) has issued a red alert for heavy rain in central and western areas of the state, including Santa Maria city. Orange warnings for heavy rain are in place for the rest of the state. These warnings are in effect until 11:59 PM local time on June 19. Heavy rain can lead to flooding, landslides, short-notice transport disruption, and power outages. Travelers should plan necessary travel accordingly and allow additional time for journeys.

CANADA

Through June 17, travelers should expect disruption in Montreal during a planned transport strike, and plan journeys accordingly. The Montreal Transit Corporation (STM) has called for the industrial action over employee benefits and work standards. Metro and bus services will be reduced on June 9-11 and 16-17. Full service will resume on June 13-15 during the Formula One Canadian Grand Prix motor race. Travelers should expect a heightened demand for alternative forms of transport during strike days.

Through June 18, travelers should expect disruption and heightened security beginning on June 10, during the G7 Leaders' Summit. The event will be held from June 15 to 17, in Kananaskis. A controlled access zone will be imposed on the surrounding area from June 10 to 18. Air restrictions will also be imposed from 6:00 AM all times local on June 14, until 11:59 PM on June 17. Furthermore, demonstrations are expected to be held in Calgary during the event. Travelers should expect a heightened security presence nearby hotels, Calgary International Airport (YYC) and potential protest venues.

Through June 28, travelers should exercise caution and follow all official directives linked to ongoing wildfires in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan provinces. Provincewide states of emergency are in effect in Manitoba and Saskatchewan until June 27 and 28, respectively. Evacuation orders have been issued for areas across all three provinces. Travelers should expect further short-notice evacuations and potential road closures in affected locations.

Through June 30, travelers should check their vaccination status amid measles outbreaks in several provinces. An ongoing outbreak has continued to spread in Ontario province, with infections also reported in the provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and Saskatchewan. Measles is caused by a highly contagious virus that spreads from person to person via infected droplets. Outbreaks occur frequently in undervaccinated populations. Common symptoms include fever, cough, and a characteristic rash. Measles can result in serious complications, particularly when very young children, the elderly, or pregnant people are infected. Prevention is through immunization.

COLOMBIA

Through June 21, travelers should exercise caution and monitor developments in Guaviare department during a strike by the Estado Mayor Central (EMC). The strike, which will start on June 16, is meant to restrict all movements in the department and will be enforced until June 21. After the strike, an indefinite nightly curfew will be imposed by the group from 6:00 PM to 6:00 AM local time. EMC members are dissidents of the former Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrilla group. They have called for the strike in response to attacks by a rival dissident group. Clashes between the groups have intensified in recent weeks.

Through June 30, travelers should avoid mosquito bites amid yellow fever infections in multiple departments. Proof of yellow fever vaccination is required for use of public transport and entry to national parks. Yellow fever is a potentially severe viral illness that spreads via mosquito bites. The symptoms range from a mild, flu-like illness to a severe hemorrhagic fever with organ failure. It can be prevented through vaccination and by avoiding mosquito bites. Vaccination is recommended for most travelers and required for some.

MEXICO

On June 17, travelers should exercise caution and expect weather-related disruption in Mexico City. The Secretariat of Integral Risk Management and Civil Protection (SGIRPC) has issued a red alert for heavy rain overnight on June 16-17. Affected districts include Azcapotzalco, Coyoacan, and Gustavo A Madero. Short-notice power outages, flooding, landslides, and travel disruption are possible. Travelers should reconfirm the status of routes before setting out.

Through June 30, travelers should continue to expect disruption in urban centers amid demonstrations by unionized education workers. CNTE groups are expected to continue exerting pressure on the government to address various demands related to salaries, pensions, career plans and retirement age. Although the CNTE group organizing protests in Mexico City has temporarily retreated, regional chapters of the union have stated they will continue to protest in major urban areas of Chihuahua, Guanajuato, Jalisco, Michoacan, Veracruz and Yucatan states. Demonstrations in other states are also possible.

PANAMA

Through June 30, travelers should expect disruption in urban centers and avoid protests linked to a nationwide indefinite strike. The National Association of Teachers began the industrial action on April 23, to denounce social security reforms. Protesters have erected blockades along the Pan-American Highway and other major highways, and blocked roads in Panama City and other urban centers. In Panama City, protesters will march from Via Argentina metro station to Don Bosco church at 4:00 PM local time on June 6. Related demonstrations are likely to be well attended and will carry an underlying risk of unrest, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

PERU

On June 18, travelers should expect disruption during an indefinite nationwide strike and related demonstrations by unionized public transport workers. Various unions representing motorcycle taxi drivers, bus drivers, and other public transport workers have organized the industrial action to demand a meeting with President Dina Boluarte over high crime rates. An associated demonstration will be held on June 18 in Lima from 4:30 PM local time at Plaza Dos de Mayo. Additional gatherings are liable to be held in Lima and other urban centers during the strike period.

Through June 21, travelers should exercise caution and plan journeys accounting for nationwide weather-related disruption. A State of Emergency (SoE) has been extended until June 21 in 20 of the country's 24 regions. The National Meteorology and Hydrology Service (SENAMHI) has issued orange warnings for heavy rain and strong winds until June 6 for parts of Amazonas, Arequipa, Cajamarca, Cusco, Junin, La Libertad, Lima, Moquegua, Pasco, Puno, and Tacna regions. Flooding, landslides, and road closures are likely, particularly in low-lying and mountainous areas.

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for indefinite flight disruption at Francisco Carle Airport (JAU), which serves Huancayo, JaJuan, and Tarma. The Chile-based LATAM Airlines, one of two carriers serving the airport, has suspended its flights at the facility until further notice, citing runway safety issues. It is currently unclear when the problem will be resolved. Travelers should contact the airline to ascertain the status of flights and plan journeys accordingly.

TONGA

Through June 30, travelers should avoid mosquito bites amid an outbreak of dengue in the country. Dengue is a viral disease spread through mosquito bites and can cause a range of symptoms. Fever, headache, and a rash are common. Sometimes, dengue is severe and can have fatal complications. Those who are infants, pregnant, or have previously had dengue are most likely to become severely infected. The main way to prevent dengue is by avoiding mosquito bites. Dengue vaccines are approved in some countries. Travelers should discuss with their healthcare provider if such vaccines are recommended for their situation.

Africa & the Middle East

ALGERIA AND MALI BLOCK AIRSPACE, FLIGHTS FROM EACH OTHER AFTER DRONE SHOT DONW

Until further notice, travelers should monitor developments and reconfirm flights following the reciprocal closures of Algerian and Malian airspaces. On April 7, Algerian authorities announced the closure of its airspace for all flights to and from Mali. This was followed by the announcement from Malian authorities on the same day of the closure of its airspace to all flights to and from Algeria. It is currently unclear when air travel will resume between both countries.

DEFER ALL TRAVEL TO ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

Until further notice, travelers should defer all travel to Israel and the Palestinian Territories due to retaliatory attacks between Iran and Israel. Iran has carried out missile and drone strikes against Israel since June 13. During airstrikes overnight on June 14-15, at least 11 people were killed and 200 others injured. Travelers should stand fast over the coming days amid a State of Emergency (SoE) and follow all official directives. Israel's airspace is closed under NOTAM 0576/25 until at least 8:59 PM local time on June 17.

TRAVEL TO ISRAEL AND PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO REVIEW

Through June 30, travelers should monitor developments linked to Hamas-Israel hostilities in the Gaza Strip. On March 18, Israel resumed airstrikes and ground operations in Gaza following a two-month ceasefire. Aerial attacks continue towards Israel from Gaza, Lebanon, and by the Houthis from Yemen in response to these operations. Travelers should defer all travel to Gaza and areas of Israel within four miles of its borders with Lebanon, Gaza, and Syria. All travel to Israel and the Palestinian Territories should be subject to a comprehensive review.

MPOX OUTBREAK

Latest update: Outbreak ongoing, now spread to Tanzania and Zambia as of April 1. Mpox infections have been increasing since their initial identification at the end of July. Mpox is a potentially severe viral disease. People can contract the virus from close contact with a sick person or contaminated objects and surfaces. Travelers should prevent infection by following strict hygiene measures and avoiding contact with sick people. Travelers should consult their doctor for an individual recommendation on vaccination.

CHAD

Through June 30, travelers should ensure their vaccination is up to date amid an increase in diphtheria infections affecting central provinces. Diphtheria is a serious, potentially fatal, bacterial infection. The disease is highly contagious and spreads when infected people cough or sneeze droplets into the air. Early symptoms include fever, sore throat, and swollen neck glands, followed by episodes of rapid and violent coughing. Most cases occur in people who are unvaccinated or those who have not been adequately vaccinated. A booster vaccine is recommended every 10 years as an adult or if traveling to an area where diphtheria is widespread. Prevention is by vaccination.

ISRAEL

On June 17, travelers should continue to abide by official directives in Central, Southern, and Tel Aviv districts following a fresh Iranian missile attack. The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) indicated that Iran launched multiple projectiles towards Israel, resulting in a bus sustaining damage in Herzliya but no casualties being reported. Air raid sirens have since been lifted and residents cleared to leave shelters.

On June 17, travelers should continue to abide by official directives in Haifa and Northern districts following an Iranian missile attack. The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) indicated that Iran had launched projectiles towards the aforementioned districts early on June 17. Air raid sirens have since been lifted in affected locations, including in the Haifa metropolitan area and Nazareth, and authorities have cleared residents to leave shelters. No casualties or damage have been reported thus far.

KENYA

Through June 17, travelers should expect further protests in Nairobi over the death of a blogger in police custody and avoid them due to the risk of unrest. Protests have been called for June 17. Potential flashpoints for gatherings include the Central police station, City Council building, and the parliament building. Protesters could begin gathering as early as 7:30 AM local time. According to local media, demonstrations are also expected to be held nationwide on the same day. The demonstrations are related to parliament's reading of the 2025-26 Finance Bill and the death of blogger Albert Ojwang.

Through June 30, travelers should avoid mosquito bites amid increasing chikungunya infections in Mombasa county Chikungunya is a viral disease spread through mosquito bites. It can cause a severe illness, particularly in new-born babies, older adults, and people with underlying health issues such as diabetes, heart disease, or weakened immune system. There is no specific treatment. Prevention is through avoiding mosquito bites. Vaccination may be recommended for some people.

NAMIBIA

Through June 30, travelers should avoid mosquito bites and consider preventive medication amid increasing malaria infections in northern regions. Malaria is spread through mosquito bites and can be fatal unless promptly treated. Early symptoms are flu-like, such as fever, head/body aches, and general weakness. Travelers should prevent infection by avoiding mosquito bites and consider antimalarial medication. Travelers should consult their doctor for an individual recommendation. If symptoms develop, travelers should seek prompt medical attention and inform their healthcare professional that they have been to an area with a risk of malaria.

NIGERIA

Through June 18, travelers should expect travel disruption in Benue state and avoid further protests linked to recent fatal attacks. At least 200 people were killed in Daudu and Yelewata communities during armed attacks by suspected herders overnight on June 13-14. In response, protests denouncing the attacks were held in Makurdi on June 15 along the Abuja-Makurdi highway. Security forces reportedly used tear gas to disperse a protest in Makurdi's Wukurum area. These developments highlight the need to observe stringent precautions when conducting essential travel across Benue.

Through June 30, travelers should expect intermittent local internet and telecom disruption following a series of outages in recent months. Several major incidents affecting various parts of Nigeria were reported in May and June. The disruption has been linked to fiber cuts and power outages, as well as vandalism and infrastructure theft. Further disruption is likely and may impact major urban centers. Authorities have declared telecom assets as Critical National Information Infrastructure to prioritize and enhance their security.

Through June 30, travelers should ensure their vaccination is up to date amid an ongoing outbreak of diphtheria in parts of the country. Diphtheria is a serious, potentially fatal, bacterial infection. The disease is highly contagious and spreads when infected people cough or sneeze droplets into the air. Early symptoms include fever, sore throat, and swollen neck glands, followed by episodes of rapid and violent coughing. Most cases occur in people who are unvaccinated or in those who have not been adequately vaccinated. A booster vaccine is recommended every 10 years as an adult or if traveling to an area where diphtheria is widespread. Prevention is by vaccination.

Until further notice, travelers should reconfirm flights if traveling via Akure Airport (AKR) due to adverse weather conditions and related structural damage. Local news indicate multiple structural damages and equipment failures at the airport were reported due to heavy rain and thunderstorms. As a precautionary measure, the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria has announced the temporary closure of operations until further notice. Travelers should expect residual disruption following the resumption of operations.

TANZANIA

Through June 18, travelers should monitor developments following a High Court order temporarily suspending all political activities linked to the opposition CHADEMA party. This coincides with CHADEMA's chairman Tundu Lissu's trial on treason charges. On May 19, Lissu made his first in-person court appearance at the Kisutu Resident Magistrate's Court in Dar es Salaam, and his next is due on June 16. Political tensions remain high as CHADEMA is ineligible to participate in the October 28 general election. Gatherings by CHADEMA and Lissu supporters are possible in the coming days and carry a risk of local unrest, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

TOGO

Through June 30, travelers should expect and avoid protests in urban centers linked to constitutional reforms. In Lome, a major opposition demonstration will be held from 10:00 AM local time on June 6 near Akassime. Meanwhile, on the same day, social media activists have called for nationwide protests. Opposition and civil groups have jointly called for nationwide demonstrations following the May 3 implementation of a new constitution that transitions the country to a parliamentary republic and expands the powers of the prime minister. Any related demonstrations may be forcibly dispersed by the authorities.

Asia & the Pacific

EXERCISE CAUTION DUE TO ORGANIZED CYBERCRIME OPERATIONS

Travelers should remain vigilant and exercise sensible precautions due to organized cybercrime operations. Regional authorities are increasingly collaborating and intensifying security operations to counter growing transnational operations based in Southeast Asia, including in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and the Philippines. Fraudsters are known to lure victims by impersonating job agents with lucrative offers and profits, with an ulterior motive to recruit them as part of an operation or for ransom. A recent high-profile case involved a Chinese actor who was trafficked into a cybercrime compound while under the impression that he was traveling for audition.

MONSOON SEASON OVER THE COMING MONTHS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Until November, travelers should expect intermittent disruption during the ongoing summer monsoon season in China, Hong Kong, Macao, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, and Taiwan. Flooding frequently occurs after extended periods of rainfall, especially in low-lying areas and even major urban centers with poor drainage. Heavy rainfall can cause mudslides and landslides, prompting short-notice road closures and power outages. The passage of tropical storms can exacerbate disruption to travel and essential services, which will be greater in rural areas. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries and monitor updates from meteorological agencies and local contacts to reconfirm feasibility of travel.

INDIA TRAVEL INSURANCE REQUIREMENT FOR SCHENGEN VISAS

Throughout 2025, 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.

ARMENIA

On June 17 and 19, travelers should avoid planned demonstrations in Yerevan as a precaution and to minimize travel delays. The protests are being held to denounce an increase in electricity tariffs. On June 17, participants will gather at 11:00 AM local time at the Public Services Regulatory Commission building. A related protest march will start from Freedom Square on June 19. If traveling in the vicinity, travelers should anticipate heightened security measures and follow all official directives.

AUSTRALIA

Through June 17, travelers should expect heightened security and associated disruption in the vicinity of Auburn Road in Sydney following a shooting that occurred at a restaurant earlier on June 16. The incident is reportedly a gang-related attack, though investigations are still ongoing. Three people have been injured. Police cordons have been set up in the area, and parts of the Auburn Road and Kerr Parade have been closed. Retaliatory incidents are possible in the coming days, particularly in South Western Sydney.

BANGLADESH

Through June 30, travelers should exercise increased caution. At least 25 people were injured on June 10, during a clash between rival factions of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) in Hatiya upazila of Noakhali district. Authorities have increased security in the area following the incident. Similar clashes were also reported in Matlab Uttar upazila of Chandpur district (Chattogram). Both incidents reportedly occurred due to long-standing disputes over local influence. Such incidents highlight the need for the in-country workforce to exercise increased caution due to the risk of exposure to political violence. Travelers should avoid all political events and gatherings as a precaution.

CAMBODIA

From May to October, travelers should expect intermittent disruption to travel and essential services during the monsoon season. Authorities have said that the monsoon season will begin in the first week of May and continue until October. Flash floods and landslides are possible following heavy rain, particularly in locations along the Mekong river. Low-lying southern provinces such as Kampot, Kep, Koh Kong, and Preah Sihanouk are likely to be significantly affected. Flights at major airports may be disrupted during periods of adverse weather. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries and liaise with local contacts to reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

CHINA

Through June 17, travelers should follow official directives and expect residual disruption in southeastern provinces following the passage of Tropical Depression Wutip. The National Meteorological Center (NMC) confirmed Wutip weakened to a tropical depression as it moved inland. A blue warning is in place in parts of Fuijan, Guangdong, Guangxi, and Yunnan provinces until 2:00 PM local time on June 17. Further moderate-to-heavy rainfall has been forecast over Guangdong province for June 17. Rainfall and thunderstorms have been forecast for June 16 and 17 for Macao.

INDIA

On June 17, travelers should expect local disruption during nationwide pro-Palestine demonstrations by left-wing parties and plan journeys accordingly. In New Delhi, a related gathering will take place at the Jantar Mantar observatory from 11:00 AM local time. Potential venues in other major urban centers include party offices, government buildings, public parks, and key intersections. Gatherings in states where left-wing political parties have a significant presence, such as Kerala, Tripura, and West Bengal, are particularly likely to be well attended. Any unrest would pose incidental risks to bystanders. Travelers should follow all official directives if traveling nearby and allow additional time for journeys.

Through June 19, travelers should exercise caution and expect disruption across the country due to adverse weather. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued red warnings for extremely heavy rain and strong winds. These apply to Goa, parts of Karnataka, and Maharashtra states on June 16. Orange warnings for heavy rain and thunderstorms are also in place for parts of northern and southern India until June 17, parts of western India until June 18, and parts of central, eastern, and northeastern India until June 19.

Through September 30, travelers should exercise enhanced caution in Asom, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, and Nagaland states following the extension of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA). On March 27, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) revoked AFSPA in Dibrugarh district in Asom. The legislation grants special powers to security forces operating in 'disturbed areas', which are at risk due to insurgency. The extension reflects the risks posed by ongoing low-level ethnic insurgencies in these locations.

Until further notice, travelers should defer all travel to Manipur state, while workforce in Manipur should minimize non-essential movement. Authorities have imposed a curfew in Bishnupur, Imphal East, Imphal West, Kakching and Thoubal districts. This follows protests and widespread violence linked to the abduction and killing of six members of the local Meitei community. Curfew relaxations are being announced daily, depending on the security situation, to help locals access essential goods and services. On December 9, 2024, mobile internet and data services were restored in Bishnupur, Churachandpur, Imphal East, Imphal West, Jiribam, Kakching, Kangpokpi, Pherzawl and Thoubal districts.

MYANMAR

Throughout 2025, sustained fighting involving the military, ethnic armed organizations (EAOs) and anti-government People's Defence Force (PDF) groups persists in conflict zones. Hostilities have increased since June 25 when a coalition of EAOs renewed a military offensive. On August 25, an alliance of resistance forces took control of Thabeikky in town (Mandalay region). On August 31, one person was killed and at least four others injured during bombings carried out by military jets. A bombing also took place in a monastery in Maungdaw township (Maungdaw district) on September 1. Earlier, on July 25, the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) claimed to have captured the military's north-eastern regional command headquarters in Lashio (Shan state). Meanwhile, some residents of Pyinoolwin (Mandalay region) have fled, anticipating an escalation in the conflict. Travelers should expect further fighting through the end of the year, highlighting the need to defer all travel to conflict zones.

NEPAL

Through June 19, travelers should minimize heat exposure and stay well hydrated amid increased heat conditions in most parts of the country. Prolonged exposure to excessive temperatures can pose health risks ranging from relatively mild rashes and sunburn to heat stroke, which is a medical emergency. To prevent heat-related illnesses, travelers should minimize exposure, reduce physical activity, and stay well hydrated. Travelers should know the warning symptoms of heat-linked illnesses and what to do if they develop.

PAKISTAN

From June to September, travelers should expect weather-related disruption during the monsoon season. Disruption to travel, including air travel, and to essential services such as electricity and water supplies, may occur at short notice. Heavy rainfall since May 24 has caused widespread disruption in Punjab province, with more rain forecast for central and northern Pakistan in the coming days. Monsoon-related severe weather is likely to exacerbate ongoing disruption and associated recovery efforts. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries and liaise with their dedicated professional security or transport provider on the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Through June 30, travelers should carry proof of vaccination amid an outbreak in the country after poliovirus was detected in environmental samples in Lae and Port Moresby city. Polio is a contagious viral illness that can cause paralysis and, in some cases, can prove fatal. It is spread through contaminated food or water, or directly from an infected person. Travelers should prevent infection by ensuring their polio vaccination is up to date, including a booster, and selecting safe food and water.

PHILIPPINES

Through November 30, travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption due to restricted access to the San Juanico Bridge, which connects Leyte and Samar islands (both Eastern Visayas region), amid maintenance work. Authorities have restricted access to vehicles weighting under 2.95 tons; however, they have said that they aim to restore the capacity for vehicles up to 33 tons to utilize the bridge by December 2025. President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has declared a state of calamity in Eastern Visayas through at least June 2026 to expedite repairs. Disruption to business operations and traffic congestion have been reported in affected areas. Travelers should seek alternative modes of transport where necessary and allow extra time for journeys.

SINGAPORE

Through June 29, travelers should allow additional time for journeys through the Tuas and Woodlands border checkpoints with Malaysia during forthcoming long weekends. The Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) has advised motorists to expect heavy traffic until June 29 and an additional surge between June 6 and 9. This is respectively due to school holidays and the Islamic holiday of Hari Raya Haji. During the Buddha day festival period in May, more than 3 million people crossed both checkpoints. There was a wait of up to three hours for motorists seeking to clear immigration during peak periods. Travelers should ensure they have valid passports and entry permits to prevent delays.

SOUTH KOREA

Starting September 1, 2024, the Republic of Korea (ROK) government has mandated that travelers who have visited, stayed, or transited through certain regions, including certain U.S. States (Colorado, Michigan, and Texas), must submit a Q-CODE or health declaration form upon entering South Korea. Please review the complete list at the U.S. Embassy & Consulate in the Republic of Korea official website of locations that require a Q-CODE or health declaration form when entering Korea.

SRI LANKA

Through June 30, travelers should avoid mosquito bites amid increasing dengue cases in the country. Dengue is a viral disease spread through mosquito bites. It can cause a range of symptoms. Fever, headache, and a rash are common. Sometimes, dengue is severe and can have fatal complications. Those who are infants, pregnant, or have had dengue before are most likely to get a severe infection. The main way to prevent dengue is by avoiding mosquito bites. Dengue vaccines are approved in some countries. Travelers should discuss with their healthcare provider if such vaccines are recommended for their situation.

TAIWAN

Through June 30, travelers should pay attention to hygiene amid an increase in hepatitis A infections since the beginning of the year. Hepatitis A is a viral infection of the liver which spreads through the 'fecal-oral' route via direct person-to-person contact or through consuming contaminated food and water. Symptoms can take a month to appear and include fever, fatigue, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, dark urine, and jaundice. Travelers should prevent infection through vaccination, by selecting safe food and water, and practicing general hygiene measures.

VIETNAM

Through June 30, travelers should pay strict attention to hygiene amid a significant rise in hand, foot, and mouth disease. Hand, foot, and mouth disease (HFMD) is a very contagious viral illness. Symptoms include a fever, ulceration in the mouth, and a rash on the palms and soles that may blister. The illness spreads from person-to-person and occasionally it can be severe. Travelers should prevent infection by paying strict attention to hygiene.

Europe

LOCAL DISRUPTION DURING LGBTQ PRIDE EVENTS IN URBAN CENTERS

Through June 30, travelers should expect local disruption during LGBTQ Pride events in urban centers and plan journeys accordingly. Such events are likely to be well attended and accompanied by a heightened police presence and traffic disruption. Localized scuffles between participants and counter-demonstrators are possible, particularly in countries where attitudes towards LGBTQ people are more conservative. Any such disturbances pose incidental risks to bystanders. Attacks targeting the LGBTQ community are possible. If planning to attend an event, travelers should remain alert to their surroundings.

ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION POSTPONED FOR US PASSPORT HOLDERS

The European Union's European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS), intended to grant entry approval for visa-exempt nationals visiting the EU for short-term stays, has had its launch <u>postponed to the end of 2026.</u>

Currently, no action is required from travelers. The European Union will announce the precise start date for ETIAS several months prior to its implementation.

AUSTRIA

On June 16, travelers should expect disruption in Vienna during a visit by Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky and a related demonstration. During the leader's visit, access to Ballhausplatz will be restricted. Meanwhile, protesters will gather from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM local time in Maria-Theresien Square to denounce Austria's support for Ukraine in its conflict with Russia. Travelers should expect a heightened security presence near the demonstration.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Through June 30, travelers should pay attention to hygiene amid an increase in hepatitis A infections in the country. Hepatitis A is a viral infection of the liver which spreads through the 'fecal-oral' route via direct person-to-person contact or through consuming contaminated food and water. Symptoms can take a month to appear and include fever, fatigue, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, dark urine, and jaundice. Travelers should prevent infection through vaccination, by selecting safe food and water, and practicing general hygiene measures.

FINLAND

On June 17 and 19, travelers should expect disruption and reconfirm flights with national carrier Finnair at the capital's Helsinki Airport (HEL) due to planned strikes. The Finnish Aviation Union has announced that Finnair ground staff will stage walkouts over unresolved labor disputes. The strike is expected to cause significant disruption, with widespread cancellations and delays potentially impacting more than 600 flights. This follows a related industrial action on May 30 that prompted the cancellation of more than 100 flights, as well as similar strikes held on June 2 and 4.

FRANCE

Through June 22, travelers should expect heightened security measures and related disruption in Paris near the Le Bourget Exhibition Center during the Paris Air Show. More than 300,000 visitors are expected to attend the event. Pro-Palestine protesters will gather on June 21 at 1:00 PM local time at Bobigny's Bourse du Travail to call for the exclusion of Israeli organizations from the event. Travelers should expect local disruption and additional protest activities denouncing the event. Travelers should follow all official directives.

Through June 30, travelers working in the cryptocurrency industry should take security precautions due to a heightened risk of kidnapping. Three people linked to a prominent cryptocurrency businessman were victims of an attempted armed kidnapping on May 13 in the 11th arrondissement of Paris. This follows a spate of kidnappings in recent months that targeted people working within the cryptocurrency sector. According to local reports, authorities will initiate new procedures and programs, including physical and technical measures, to mitigate associated risks.

GREECE

On June 17, travelers should expect travel disruption during a 24-hour strike by unionized rail workers. The Panhellenic Association of Traction Personnel (PEPE) has organized the industrial action amid disputes over working conditions and alleged underinvestment in the rail sector. Travelers should expect nationwide cancellations and delays affecting high-speed, long-distance, medium-distance, and commuter services on the Hellenic Train network. In Athens, a related demonstration will be held outside the city court complex. This will coincide with a court trial linked to the dismissal of PEPE's president. Travelers should reconfirm itineraries and allow extra time for journeys.

ITALY

On June 17, travelers should exercise caution and expect weather-related disruption in northern regions. The Meteorological Service has warned of heavy rain and thunderstorms in Emilia Romagna and Veneto regions. Associated yellow warnings are in place for the affected locations. According to local media, recent heavy rainfall has already caused flooding and landslides in parts of Emilia-Romagna. Around ten flights to Bologna Guglielmo Marconi Airport (BLQ) were reportedly diverted on June 16 due to adverse weather conditions.

Through June 17, travelers should expect disruption during a rail strike across the Lombardy region. The ORSA rail union has called on the strike from 3:00 AM on June 16 until 2:00 AM local time on June 17. Nevertheless, a minimum service is expected to run between 6:00 AM and 9:00 AM and from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Regional and suburban rail services, as well as cross-border services with Switzerland, are likely to be disrupted. The strike will also impact travel to Milan Malpensa Airport (MXP) on the Malpensa Express, though bus services are expected to run as replacement.

Throughout 2025, travelers should expect heightened security in Rome. Ongoing Catholic celebrations linked to the 2025 Jubilee Year will be held until January 6, 2026. Authorities expect more than 30 million travelers to participate in the celebrations and have deployed around 700 police units to ensure public safety. Security checkpoints have been established along key routes to the Vatican City, including on Via Ottaviano and Via della Conciliazione. Travelers should plan journeys accounting for increased security measures and associated disruption around sensitive sites, such as tourist destinations and transport hubs, and allow additional times for journeys.

NETHERLANDS

Through June 30, travelers should expect disruption during planned strikes by unionized workers of national rail operator Nederlandse Spoorwegen (NS) over demands for increased wages. The first of these will take place on June 6 in central provinces, including Utrecht. NS has warned of nationwide train disruption on the day, with limited services to and from Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport (AMS); however, international trains should not be affected. Further strikes are scheduled for June 10 in western provinces, June 12 in northwestern and eastern provinces, and June 16 in northern and southern provinces. The FNV trade union confederation, representing the workers, has threatened additional nationwide strikes if its demands are not met.

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

Through June 30, travelers should expect further student-led anti-government demonstrations in urban centers and avoid them as a precaution. A fresh gathering is due to be held on June 9 in Belgrade. Participants will assemble from 11:52 AM local time outside the Government of Serbia building. Frequent countrywide protests have taken place following the November 2024 railway station disaster in Novi Sad in Vojovodina province, which killed 15 people. Associated gatherings outside government buildings and blockades of main roads are liable to occur at short notice.

SPAIN

On June 17, travelers should expect disruption in Alcala de Henares in Madrid autonomous community during a partial strike and related demonstrations by unionized workers. Civil society groups are organizing the events to denounce government budget cuts to public services and demand increased staffing levels. Protesters will gather in the Plaza de Cervantes between 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM local time and 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM. Work stoppages, which will be held during the aforementioned times, will likely disrupt transport services.