

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2022

LEGEND Travel Bulletin

AMERICAS

AFRICA & THE
MIDDLE EAST

ASIA & THE PACIFIC

EUROPE

Worldwide

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) COVID-19 UPDATE

After an increasing global trend over the past five weeks, the number of weekly cases during the week of July 11 to 17 remained stable, with just under 6.3 million new cases. The number of new weekly deaths was similar to the figure reported during the previous week, with 11,000 fatalities reported.

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

Cases of monkeypox have been confirmed in multiple countries. 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.

LEGEND TRAVEL RESOURCES

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

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

- AUG 17**
- Bolivia: Flag Day
 - Gabon: Independence Day
 - Indonesia: Indonesian Independence Day
 - Slovenia: Slovenians in Prekmurje Incorporated into the Mother Nation Day
- AUG 18**
- Bangladesh, Myanmar: Janmashtami
 - India, United Kingdom: Janmashtami (Smarta)
- AUG 19**
- Afghanistan: Independence Day (National Day)
 - Canada: Gold Cup Parade
 - Spain: Feast of Saint Maginus
 - Indonesia, India, Mauritius, Pakistan, United Kingdom, South Africa: Janmashtami
 - Sri Lanka: Public Sector Holiday
 - Nepal: Shree Krishna Janamashtami
 - Nauru: Day of the Tribes
 - United States: Hawaii Statehood Day
- AUG 20**
- Estonia: Independence Restoration Day
 - Hungary: Hungary National Day
 - Morocco: Anniversary of the Revolution of the King and the People
 - Nigeria: Isese Day
 - Portugal: Our Lady of Sorrows
- AUG 21**
- Micronesia: Gospel Day (Kosrae)
 - Morocco: Youth Day
 - Philippines: Ninoy Aquino Day
 - Pakistan: Birthday of Lord Zoroaster (Khordad Sal)
- AUG 22**
- Micronesia: Gospel Day (Kosrae) Observed
 - Portugal: Our Lady of Graces
- AUG 23**
- Estonia: Day of Remembrance for Victims of Communism and Nazism
 - Croatia: European Day of Remembrance of Victims of Totalitarian and Authoritarian Regimes
- AUG 24**
- Costa Rica: National Parks Day
 - Liberia: Flag Day
 - Malaysia: Birthday of the Governor of Malacca
 - Ukraine: Independence Day (Suspended)

UNITED STATES

CDC ENDS NEGATIVE TEST REQUIREMENT TO ENTER US

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

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

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

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

MASK MANDATE ON CERTAIN AIRLINES LIFTED

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

CDC SHORTENS QUARANTINE PERIOD

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

UPDATED INFORMATION ON DOMESTIC TRAVEL FOR FULLY VACCINATED TRAVELERS

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

KENTUCKY

Travelers should exercise caution and anticipate disruption through at least August 12 amid heavy rainfall in eastern Kentucky. The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a flash flood watch for most eastern counties of Kentucky until the evening of August 10. Heavy rainfall in late July caused severe flooding in much of the state. At least 37 people were killed due to flooding and significant property damage, as well as landslides, fallen trees and road closures,

were also reported across the region. Further flooding will likely exacerbate the situation and hamper ongoing recovery efforts.

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.

OHIO

On August 12, normal movement can resume in the vicinity of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) field office in Cincinnati, OH following a security operation. An armed individual reportedly attempted to breach the building earlier on August 11 before exchanging fire with police and then fleeing by vehicle northbound on Interstate 71. Authorities have confirmed that the suspect is dead following a standoff with police. I-71 in both directions between state routes 73 and 68 has since reopened, as has State Route 73 between Mitchell Road and State Route 380.

WILDFIRES

Travelers should continue to anticipate disruption through at least August 21 amid ongoing wildfires in several states. Wildfires have been reported in Alaska, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas and Washington. Evacuation orders have been issued in some of the affected areas. Fatalities and injuries, as well as structural damage, have been reported as a result of the wildfires. Travelers should exercise caution if traveling near the fires and follow official directives.

ARGENTINA

Travelers should anticipate disruption in Buenos Aires on August 17 during a planned march over issues related to salary stability and labor rights. Members of the CTA labor union and other social organizations will gather at the intersection of avenues San Juan and 9 de Julio at 12:00 PM local time. While the exact route of the march has not been announced, participants are expected to subsequently march either to Plaza de Mayo or National Congress Building. The event will likely be well attended and cause traffic disruption in its vicinity.

Travelers should anticipate local disruption on August 18 in Buenos Aires during a demonstration and plan journeys accordingly. Participants will gather at Plaza de Mayo at 6:00 PM local time to denounce the government's record and policies. The event is likely to be well attended and disrupt road travel in its vicinity.

BELIZE

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

BOLIVIA

Travelers should anticipate and avoid further protests by unionized coca farmers in La Paz through at least August 12 due to the risk of unrest. Farmers are demanding the closure of a parallel coca market in the Villa El Carmen neighborhood. Protests have been ongoing since August 1 and have resulted in multiple clashes with police, who have used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse demonstrators. Protest leaders have stated they will continue demonstrating until the market is shut down, with gatherings resuming on August 8. Any related disturbances would pose incidental risks to bystanders.

BRAZIL

Travelers should exercise caution and plan journeys accounting for weather-related disruption through at least August 12 in Mato Grosso do Sul, Parana, Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina states. The National Institute of Meteorology (INMET) has issued orange warnings (the second-highest level on a three-tier scale, meaning 'danger') until 12:00 PM local time on August 9. A tropical cyclone is forecast to pass across these states with winds of up to 54 miles per hour until August 12. Heavy rain and hail can be expected in the affected areas, possibly prompting flooding and landslides. Travelers should reconfirm the status of routes before setting out.

CHILE

Travelers should expect heightened security in Araucania region and Arauco and Biobio provinces during an ongoing state of emergency (SoE). The SoE, which has been extended again until at least August 31, allows troops to guard roads and highways. This follows a continuing violence linked to a protracted conflict between authorities and the indigenous Mapuche community. Further security incidents are likely. Travelers should follow all official directives, including any movement restrictions.

COLOMBIA

Travelers should anticipate disruption in Ibague on August 18 due to the potential for unrest on Via Aeropuerto Perales. On August 11, around 500 people gathered there to participate in illicit activities and motorcycle and car racing. They blocked the road, which connects to Perales National Airport (IBE), leaving hundreds of motorists stuck in traffic. Security forces deployed to the area and dispersed the crowds. This event takes place almost every Thursday, and there is potential for unrest on August 18 if participants return and police intervene to clear the road. Travelers should anticipate a heightened security presence in the vicinity of Via Aeropuerto Perales and follow all official directives.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for weather-related disruption through August 18. The National Office of Meteorology (ONAMET) has issued alerts for potential flooding due to forecast heavy rain and thunderstorms across most of north, central, and east Dominican Republic, including Santo Domingo. Travelers should reconfirm the status of routes before setting out and exercise enhanced caution.

ECUADOR

Travelers should continue to monitor developments and abide by official directives through at least August 17 amid increased activity at the Sangay volcano. The volcano erupted on August 12, emitting ash plumes reaching 25,000 feet above sea level. The Geophysical Institute of the National Polytechnic School (IGEPN) has predicted that ash will continue to move westward towards Azuay, Canar, Chimborazo and Guayas provinces. Operations at Guayaquil's Jose Joaquin de Olmedo International Airport (GYE) were suspended earlier on August 13 but have since resumed. Further short-notice disruption is possible at this and other airports in affected areas in the coming days. Travelers should exercise caution and reconfirm itineraries before setting out.

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

EL SALVADOR

Travelers should exercise caution and anticipate disruption across the country over through at least August 19 due to heavy rainfall. An orange alert (second highest on a four-tier scale) is in effect in San Salvador municipality and a yellow alert (third highest) in the rest of the country. On August 16, a landslide on Los Chorros Highway near San Salvador blocked the city's access to the west of the country. Flash flooding, flooding of water bodies, landslides and falling debris are likely in the affected areas. Travelers should monitor local media and reconfirm the status of routes before setting out.

Travelers should continue to expect heightened security and follow official directives in El Salvador after authorities extended the ongoing state of emergency (SoE) until August 24. The measure was initially declared on March 27, following an increase in gang-related violence in the previous days. The National Civil Police have arrested more than 34,500 suspected gang members thus far. The SoE restricts gatherings and allows for arrests without a warrant and the monitoring of communications. Any security operations and resulting clashes may pose incidental risk to bystanders.

GUATEMALA

On August 16, normal movement can resume along the Pan-American Highway (CA-1) in Solola department following a protest and blockade on August 15. Local residents protesting over a land-related dispute between Nahuala and Santa Catarina Ixtahuacan towns, started the blockade at 6:35 AM local time. The road disruption continued for nearly

12 hours. Further short-notice protests and related blockades are likely through August 19 and should be avoided. Additional security personnel have been deployed to the area. Any violence will pose incidental risks to bystanders.

HAITI

Former Haitian Senator Yvon g and his nephew were killed on August 6 in Port-au-Prince's g-Ville suburb. Armed members of the 'g Makak' gang reportedly intercepted Buissereth's vehicle in the Laboule 12 area and set fire to it with both victims still inside. Authorities have not announced any arrests in connection with the apparent assassination, the motive behind which remains unclear. The incident highlights the travel risks in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area due to violent crime and the need to defer all travel to Haiti through at least August 14.

MEXICO

Security forces arrested 167 members of the Pueblos Unidos group outside the municipality of Uruapan on August 13. The self-defense group, considered a criminal organization by authorities, formed a convoy and blocked the Patzcuaro-Uruapan Highway and was subsequently confronted by the National Guard. The mass arrest sparked blockades by community members in Uruapan to demand the release of the detainees. Several members of the National Guard were kidnapped and held hostage as part of the same plea for release. Travelers in the area should anticipate possible retaliatory violence and disruptive blockades through August 19.

PARAGUAY

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption in central and southern parts of the country through at least August 17 due to adverse weather conditions. The Paraguay National Meteorological Center has forecast rain and hail, along with wind speeds of up to 62 miles per hour, until August 17. Travelers should exercise caution and reconfirm the status of routes before setting out.

PERU

Travelers should anticipate disruption during an anti-government protest in Lima at 3:00 PM local time on August 13 at Paseo de los Heroes Navales. Participants are calling for the removal of President Pedro Castillo from office. Although the gathering is expected to pass off peacefully, it is likely to be well attended and accompanied by a heightened police presence.

VENEZUELA

Travelers should anticipate disruption during pro-government demonstrations on August 12 in Maturin. A march is scheduled to start at 9:00 AM local time from Plaza Piar. The events have been organized by workers in multiple sectors in support of President Nicolas Maduro's administration. While the demonstrations should pass off peacefully, they are likely to disrupt traffic along their routes.

Africa & the Middle East

SHORT-NOTICE ATTACKS & OPERATIONS FOLLOWING SHOOTING IN JERUSALEM

Through at least August 19, travelers should continue to exercise caution following a shooting overnight on August 13-14 in Jerusalem. The attack, which has since been labeled as a terror event, comes amid heightened tensions between Palestinians and Israelis. Following the incident, there is the potential for further attacks as well as for short-notice operations by Israel Defense Forces. Heightened security should be anticipated in Israel and the Palestinian Territories.

ANGOLA

Travelers should plan journeys bypassing a protest march in Luanda on August 17 due to the risk of local unrest. Participants will proceed from the Santa Ana Cemetery to the National Electoral Commission headquarters in the Coqueiros area. Civil society groups are demanding the postponement of the August 24 General Election, citing alleged irregularities. Travelers should anticipate an increased security force presence along the march route. The organizers have indicated they will proceed even if the event does not receive official authorization. As such, there is potential for local disturbances.

Travelers should monitor developments and avoid gatherings linked to the country's General Elections scheduled for August 24, due to the risk of unrest and local disruption. The ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and rival National Union for the Total Independence of Angola will begin to hold rallies beginning July 9. Most gatherings are likely to pass off peacefully; however, security forces may disperse protest activity. Travelers should anticipate heightened security force presence around rallies, political party offices and government installations during the electoral period.

BURKINA FASO

Travelers should avoid a demonstration in Ouagadougou on August 12 as a precaution and to minimize delays. Participants will gather outside the French Embassy at 2:00 PM local time to demand the French ambassador's departure and the termination of military and economic agreements with France. Organizers have stated they will continue to protest every Friday until the ambassador leaves the country. The demonstration is expected to be well attended. Security forces may use tough measures to disperse the gathering, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

CHAD

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for flood-related disruption across the country through August 19. Flooding caused by heavy rainfall since late July have affected the Ndjamena as well as Sila and Ouaddai regions. More than 3,400 households have been impacted and at least 22 people have been killed in flood-related incidents. Infrastructural damage has also been reported. Further rainfall, which may exacerbate the situation, is forecast in the coming days. Travelers should reconfirm the status of proposed routes and allow additional time for journeys.

Travelers should avoid a demonstration in Ndjamena on August 19 and anticipate associated disruption. The 'Wakit Tama' civil society coalition has called upon its supporters to gather at 6:00 AM local time at the SONASUT Roundabout. The demonstration has been called to denounce the signing of a peace agreement by Chadian parties in Doha and to protest against the national dialogue starting on August 20. Previous gatherings have resulted in travel disruption and clashes with security forces, who have used tear gas and live ammunition to disperse protesters. Travelers should exercise caution due to the risk of unrest.

CONGO (DRC)

Travelers should continue to exercise caution through at least August 17 in Butembo amid ongoing unrest. At least five police officers were killed, and several injured during clashes with protesters on August 12 near the Kangothe checkpoint on the N2 Highway. Following the authority's decision to ban all demonstrations, there is a heightened risk of unrest if protests do take place. These follow an attack on August 9-10 by Allied Democratic Forces militants at Kakwangura Prison that resulted in more than 800 prisoners escaping.

EGYPT

Travelers should anticipate further protests on al-Warraq Island, north of Cairo, through at least August 19 and avoid them as a precaution. Local residents opposed to the planned demolition of residences for development projects are resisting attempts by authorities to carry out preliminary work. Police have used tear gas to break up demonstrations, while several arrests have been made. Further protests are also liable to be forcibly dispersed, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

ESWATINI

Travelers should anticipate and avoid further protests by the Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) in Mbabane through at least August 19 due to risk of unrest. On August 15, members of the SNAT gathered outside the Ministry of Education and Training building to protest against the alleged victimization of the union's President by authorities. Security forces reportedly used tear gas to disperse the protesters. Further such gatherings are likely to be well attended. Security forces may forcibly disperse crowds with measures such as tear gas and rubber bullets, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

ETHIOPIA

Travelers should anticipate disruption and a heightened security forces presence on the A2 Motorway between Addis Ababa and Debre Birhan through at least August 17. This comes amid efforts by authorities and security forces to prevent members belonging to armed opposition groups from entering Addis Ababa. People carrying Amhara state IDs or traveling in vehicles with Amhara license plates are reportedly being denied entry into Addis Ababa and facing

increased scrutiny. Road transportation services from Debre Birhan to Addis Ababa have been suspended. On August 10, a related protest occurred in Debre Birhan. Travelers should avoid any further related gatherings as a precaution.

GHANA

Travelers should anticipate disruption amid a planned protest in Tamale on August 20 by a coalition of civil society and youth groups over rising taxes and fuel prices. Participants will gather at Jubilee Park at 7:00 AM local time. The event is likely to be well attended, causing local traffic disruption. Gatherings like these carry an underlying potential for unrest, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

GUINEA

Travelers should anticipate disruption and avoid planned 'dead city' protests on August 17 in Labe by the opposition National Front for the Defense of the Constitution (FNDC) coalition. A heightened security presence has been reported across the city and demonstrations are currently banned in the country. Gatherings are therefore liable to be forcibly dispersed, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

Travelers should minimize non-essential movement during rallies on August 17 called by the opposition National Front for the Defense of the Constitution (FNDC) coalition. Although the transitional government announced the dissolution of the FNDC on August 8, the group has said it will continue to demonstrate. In Conakry, participants will gather at 9:00 AM local time at the Tannerie Roundabout and march to the People's Palace via Conakry Gbessia International Airport (CKY), Bonfi, Madina, Donka and the Grand Mosque of Conakry. Fatal unrest was reported during earlier rallies on July 28 and 29. There is a high risk of unrest at gatherings, as all demonstrations are currently banned.

IRAQ

Travelers in Baghdad as well as Basra and Nineveh governorates should reconfirm the status of routes due to planned protests on August 12. Supporters of prominent Shia Muslim cleric Muqtada al-Sadr and his Sadrist Movement will gather at 5:00 PM local time at the 14th of July Suspension Bridge near the International Zone in Baghdad. The movement has also called for simultaneous protests in urban centers in Basra and Nineveh. The events follow calls by al-Sadr for the dissolution of Parliament by the end of the week. Additional related demonstrations can be expected through at least August 14. Any ensuing unrest will pose incidental risks to bystanders.

KENYA

William Ruto was announced as the President-elect by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) on August 15. Opposing candidate Raila Odinga the following day publicly rejected the results of the Presidential Election, alleging electoral irregularities. Four out of the seven IEBC commissioners also refused to endorse the election results. This followed allegations by Odinga's Azimio la Umoja coalition on August 15 of vote rigging. Political tensions will be elevated through at least August 21, accompanied by a risk of local protests and unrest.

MADAGASCAR

At least 32 people were killed on July 29 during an attack by an armed gang of cattle rustlers ('dahalos') in Ambolotarakely. Around 12 assailants attacked the village and burned several houses in the early hours. They stole cattle before escaping. A major military operation to find the perpetrators is underway. The incident underscores the persistent threat posed by armed gangs in remote rural areas.

MALAWI

Travelers should monitor developments and avoid planned countrywide demonstrations by activist groups on August 18 due to the risk of unrest. The protests are being organized over rising prices of basic goods and to demand that President Lazarus Chakwera remove Presidential immunity. Details about the exact timings and locations of rallies have not been announced. Activists plan to deliver petitions to state houses in urban centers, including Kamuzu Palace in Lilongwe, Sanjika Palace in Blantyre and Mzuzu State Lodge in Mzuzu. Security forces may use tough measures to disperse protests, posing incidental risk to bystanders.

MALI

Travelers should anticipate further protests through at least August 17 over the presence of France-led Operation Barkhane troops. A gathering on August 14 in Gao demanded the departure of the transnational troops by August 17. The protesters claimed that foreign forces have failed to curb militant threats. This followed an attack by extremists on a military base in Tessit on August 7, which killed 21 people. While no specific details have been announced,

demonstrators have vowed to stage more protests should the deadline not be met. These may be forcibly dispersed by police.

MOROCCO

Travelers should anticipate flight disruption during a planned strike by air traffic controllers at several airports in Morocco from August 3 until August 18. The industrial action is scheduled to start at 2:00 PM local time on August 3. During the strike, the number of flight arrivals and departures will be restricted at airports, including Agadir-Al-Masira (AGA), Casablanca Airport (CMN) and Marrakesh Menara Airport (RAK).

Travelers should exercise caution and follow all official directives through at least August 19 due to an ongoing wildfire in Cabo Negro. The fire reportedly broke out in the evening on August 15 in a forest near M'diq and spread south. An evacuation order has been issued for Cabo Negro, affecting several hundred buildings. Roads leading out of the town are reportedly heavily congested. Travelers should expect short-notice road closures, diversions and evacuation orders in the affected areas.

NIGER

Travelers should anticipate disruption due to planned nationwide protests on August 17 at 9:00 AM local time. M62, a new movement formed by 15 civil society organizations, has called for supporters to denounce rising living costs and demand the withdrawal of the French-led Operation Barkhane. Although no specific locations have been announced, protests will likely occur in Niamey and across urban centers throughout the country. Security forces may use forcible measures to disperse the gatherings, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

NIGERIA

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for flood-related disruption in Jigawa state through at least August 17 due to ongoing heavy rainfall. Reportedly, at least 50 people have been killed, and thousands have been displaced. Infrastructural damage has also been reported. Flood-related disruption has been ongoing in Jigawa since August 1, when heavy rainfall and flooding caused significant infrastructural damage and resulted in seven people killed. Further rainfall, which may exacerbate the situation, is forecast in the coming days. Travelers should reconfirm the status of proposed routes and allow additional time for journeys.

Travelers should anticipate disruption on August 17 linked to an indefinite strike by members of the UNEE electrical workers' union. The walkout may disrupt power supply and any outages may take longer than usual to address. A related gathering on August 16 took place outside the headquarters of the Transmission Company of Nigeria in Abuja. Further demonstrations are possible in the coming days and may result in local travel disruption. The walkout is linked to a dispute over pay and working conditions.

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

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

SIERRA LEONE

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for flood-related disruption in Freetown through at least August 19. Flooding caused by heavy rainfall since August 15 has resulted in property damage and road inundation, including along Wilkinson Road, a main route that runs through central Freetown. Further rainfall is forecast for the coming days and may exacerbate flooding conditions. Travelers should reconfirm the status of routes before setting out and exercise enhanced caution while undertaking road travel.

Violent anti-government protests erupted on August 10, prompting authorities to implement a nationwide nightly curfew. At least six police officers and 21 civilians were killed during clashes between protesters and security forces in Freetown and several other cities. While authorities on August 13 lifted the curfew and local sources indicate the

situation across the country has stabilized, further small-scale protests remain possible throughout August. Travelers should expect a heightened security force presence and abide by official directives.

SOMALIA

Travelers should anticipate and avoid further protests by opposition parties in the self-proclaimed independent state of Somaliland due to the risk of unrest. At least seven people were killed, while 100 others were injured during protests on August 11. The opposition parties are demanding that the Presidential Elections be held on schedule. Authorities have called for heightened security through at least August 14. Related protests in Hargeisa in June saw security forces use live ammunition and tear gas to disperse the crowd.

SOUTH AFRICA

Travelers should anticipate disruption in Pretoria during a planned march on August 12 over socio-economic issues. Members of the Congress of South African Trade Unions will gather at the intersection of Madiba and Kgosi Mampuru streets at 9:00 AM local time and march towards the Union building. The rally is expected to pass off peacefully and may cause traffic disruption in the vicinity.

Travelers should anticipate and avoid further demonstrations against illegal miners (zama zamas) in West Rand district through at least August 14. Spontaneous and disruptive protests have occurred in Bekkersdal, Toekomsrus and Zenzele against illegal miners. Residents have clashed with security forces and attacked suspected illegal miners, who are often undocumented immigrants. Protesters are also demanding that the abandoned mines be closed. Travelers should anticipate a heightened security presence in the district.

SUDAN

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption due to ongoing flooding along the road connecting Khartoum and Port Sudan. According to local media, the road has been inundated in the al-Hodi area in Atbara and in Khor Arab, near Haiya. Traffic has come to a standstill in the affected areas. Associated disruption is likely to persist through at least August 12.

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

Travelers should anticipate intermittent weather-related disruption during the ongoing rainy season, which typically lasts until October. At least 50 people have been killed, and 25 injured since the start of the season due to heavy flooding. The areas most impacted include the states of North and South Kordofan, River Nile and South Darfur. An estimated 0.8 square miles of farmland has been damaged, along with hundreds of water source locations and buildings. Authorities have warned of worsening conditions and food, shelter and medical shortages in some affected areas.

TANZANIA

An outbreak of cholera has been reported in the Nkasi district of the Rukwa region. Cholera spreads via contaminated food and water. Symptoms include vomiting and profuse, watery diarrhea which can lead to severe dehydration. Travelers staying in quality accommodations with access to safe food and water are at low risk. Nevertheless, travelers should ensure food and water for consumption are safe and consider vaccination if likely to encounter unsanitary conditions.

Asia & the Pacific

MUHARRAM

Travelers should anticipate heightened security and associated disruption in Bangladesh and India during the Islamic holy month of Muharram through August 28. Shia Muslim processions can be expected, particularly around Ashura on August 9 and on Fridays. There is a potential for violence targeting Shia gatherings during this period, especially around imambargahs. Travelers should respect local religious and cultural sensitivities and minimize time spent around potential targets for militant attacks.

CROSS-STRAIT TENSIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND TAIWAN

Travelers should continue to monitor developments closely through at least August 12 to stay abreast of any further disruption amid persistent cross-strait tensions. China announced new military exercises in areas surrounding Taiwan Island on August 8. This follows a large-scale military exercise around the island on August 4-7, which prompted cancellations of international flights to Taipei's Taoyuan International Airport (TPE) on August 5 and 6. Details about the new military exercise remain unclear, and though flight operations have normalized, further disruption to flights are possible in the coming days.

NORTH KOREAN MISSILE TEST

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

AFGHANISTAN

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

AUSTRALIA

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption to rail travel in New South Wales (NSW) state in the coming weeks during a strike by the Rail, Tram and Bus Union (RTBU) to demand safer working conditions and equipment. Union-affiliated rail workers will temporarily cease services on several lines on August 15, 17, 23, 25 and 31. This will likely result in travel delays due to a lack of available alternative options. Travelers should plan journeys in advance and allow additional time through August 31.

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

BANGLADESH

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

CAMBODIA

Through November, travelers should plan journeys accounting for intermittent disruption to travel and essential services during the ongoing monsoon season. Flooding and landslides are possible following periods of heavy rainfall,

especially in mountainous and low-lying areas, as well as Phnom Penh. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries during this period and liaise with local contacts to reconfirm the feasibility of road journeys.

CHINA

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

FRENCH POLYNESIA

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption until at least August 18 amid ongoing adverse weather, including in Papeete. An orange alert (second highest on a four-tier scale) for heavy rains is in effect for the Leeward and parts of the Windward Islands. A yellow alert (second lowest) has also been issued for the Austral Islands and Mopelia. Flooding has been reported on Tahiti Island, while power outages have occurred in Apu Bay. Roads have been inundated in several areas. Short-notice disruption is possible at Faa'a International (PPT) and Moorea (MOZ) airports.

INDIA

Travelers should plan journeys bypassing a protest by student groups at 10:00 AM local time on August 17 at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi. Participants will demand the re-examination of university entrance tests, among other issues. The demonstration is likely to be well attended due to wide student support. Local disruption and a heightened security presence can be expected along the nearby Tolstoy Road and Sansad Marg. While the protest is expected to pass off peacefully, authorities may forcibly disperse unruly gatherings, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

Travelers should anticipate disruption due to protests by the North East Students' Organization across the capitals of northeastern states on August 17. The protests will be held at NESO headquarters in each state capital: Agartala, Aizawl, Guwahati, Imphal, Itanagar, Kohima and Shillong. Potential flashpoints also include key government buildings. Participants may block key routes, including national highways, causing traffic disruption. The protests are being held over multiple issues, including the cancellation of the Citizenship Amendment Act. Demonstrations are likely to remain peaceful, albeit well attended.

Travelers should anticipate disruption during demonstrations by the Indian National Congress (INC) party between August 17 and August 28. The protests are being held over several issues, including inflation and an alleged increase in unemployment in India. Rallies will be held in all assembly constituencies across the country on August 17-23. Additionally, the party is expected to hold a large-scale rally on August 28 at the Ramleela maidan in New Delhi. Local traffic disruption is likely along key routes and intersections during this period. Authorities are expected to maintain a heightened security posture in New Delhi and other major urban centers.

Travelers should avoid nationwide protests by the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM), an umbrella group of farmers' organizations, and anticipate associated disruption throughout August. Participants are protesting several issues, including the alleged delays by the central government in fulfilling promises related to agriculture policies. The group has announced a demonstration at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on August 22. Related protests will also take place other states. Authorities are likely to increase surveillance and heighten security across urban centers and major railway stations ahead of these events.

INDONESIA

Travelers should expect heightened security and local traffic disruption leading up to Independence Day on August 17. Ceremonies in Jakarta will be held on the day at the Istana Merdeka, with thousands in attendance. Related events are planned over the coming week. No demonstrations have been announced, though short-notice protests over economic issues and the ratification of a Papuan special autonomy law are possible. No specific terror threats have been identified, but in recent years security forces have uncovered several extremist attacks.

Travelers should anticipate and avoid further protests in urban centers through August over the ratification of a controversial Papuan special autonomy law. The pro-Papuan Petisi Rakyat Papua (PRP) group has announced plans to organize nationwide demonstrations on July 29. These will be held near government buildings in Jayapura, Kaimana

and Timika. Related rallies on July 14 in Jayapura were forcibly dispersed by police, reportedly injuring several people. Further gatherings are likely to prompt a similarly harsh police response, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

JAPAN

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for residual storm-related disruption in the Hokkaido, Hokuriku, Kanto/Koshin, Tohoku and Tokai regions until at least August 19. Former Tropical Storm Meari, which weakened to a low-pressure system, has moved northeast away from the mainland. The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) has warned about the possibility of lightning strikes and tornadoes. All evacuation orders in Hokkaido have been lifted as of August 17. Restoration works in the affected areas are ongoing. Further heavy rainfall and associated disruption can be expected until at least October due to the ongoing typhoon season.

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

KYRGYZSTAN

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

LAOS

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

MALAYSIA

Travelers should plan journeys in Kuala Lumpur bypassing a demonstration on August 14. Protesters will gather at 2:00 PM local time in front of the Sogo shopping complex on Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman to demand the government start an inquiry into a controversial naval ship project and to call for the resignation of the defense minister. Travelers should anticipate a heightened security force presence at the event and local disruption due to roadblocks. Although the gathering is expected to be peaceful, any scuffles between demonstrators and security forces would pose incidental risks to bystanders.

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

MYANMAR

Travelers should anticipate disruption to overland travel and essential services in Yangon region due to ongoing flooding. Traffic disruption has been reported along major roads and in urban centers. The flooding was caused by heavy rainfall overnight on August 16-17. The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology has forecast further heavy rainfall until at least August 18; however, domestic airports in the region are operating normally. Travelers should maintain flexible itineraries and reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

At least 12 explosive-related incidents were reported in Yangon on July 30-31. The incidents followed an announcement by authorities of the execution of four prominent anti-military activists on July 25. Heightened tension and further violence are likely to persist throughout August, with local media reporting that more executions have been planned. More than 74 other anti-military activists remain on death rows. Violence is more likely around key dates, including the first anniversary of the National Unity Government's declaration of 'war' on September 7.

NEW CALEDONIA

Travelers should plan journeys until at least August 18 accounting for heavy rainfall and related disruption across the territory. Meteo-France New Caledonia has issued a yellow alert (second lowest on a four-tier scale) for heavy rain and thunderstorms. As of August 17, disruption due to flooding has been reported in Canala, Kouaoua, Ouegoa and Ponerihouen communes. Roads have been affected, along with RAI intercity bus services across Grand Terre Island. Short-notice delays may occur at Noumea's La Tontouta International (NOU) and Noumea Magenta (GEA) airports.

NEW ZEALAND

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for weather-related disruption in the northern and western regions until at least August 21. Authorities have declared a state of emergency in South Island's Nelson city, Tasman district and West Coast region due to ongoing flooding. The MetService has issued red warnings (highest on a three-tier scale) for heavy rainfall in Buller, Westland districts and Nelson. Ferry services in Auckland have been suspended until further notice. Power outages and short-notice transportation disruption, including at airports, are possible in the affected areas.

PAKISTAN

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption to overland travel in Pakistan until at least August 18. The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has forecast severe weather conditions across the country. The heaviest rainfall is expected in Balochistan and Sindh provinces from August 16 to 18. There is a heightened risk of flash flooding in major urban centers, including Islamabad, Gwadar, Hyderabad, Karachi, Lahore, Rawalpindi and Peshawar. Landslides can also be expected in mountainous areas.

Travelers should plan journeys avoiding a planned political rally in Karachi on August 19 by the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party. Participants will gather at Jinnah Ground at 7:00 PM local time. Party leader and former Prime Minister Imran Khan has called on supporters to demand early elections. The event is likely to be well attended and cause local disruption.

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

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Travelers should continue to minimize non-essential movement and exercise heightened vigilance following the recent General Election. Travelers should avoid political gatherings and sensitive locations, such as political offices and government buildings, as a precaution. Prime Minister James Marape's Pangu Party and other coalition parties have formed a government with the new parliament set to reconvene on August 30. While most voting has concluded, vote-counting is ongoing in the National Capital District. The situation remains fluid and further post-election disturbances are likely.

SRI LANKA

Travelers should anticipate disruption in Kilinochchi on August 12 during a planned protest and plan journeys accordingly. Supporters of the North-East Coordinating Committee, which represents members of the Sri Lankan Tamil community, at 9:00 AM local time will gather near the Kandaswamy temple. Participants will demand justice for Tamils who disappeared during the Sri Lankan Civil War. The demonstration is linked to an ongoing protest campaign which will reportedly conclude in October. Activist groups are also demanding the implementation of a constitutional amendment that seeks to guarantee devolution of powers to the provinces.

All travel to Sri Lanka should be deferred due to potential for further unrest and operational disruption linked to the ongoing economic crisis. The deployment of armed forces across the country linked to the ongoing nationwide state of emergency (SoE) remains in place until further notice. On August 10, authorities revoked the visa of a foreign national. Reports indicate that the revocation is linked to the individual's social media documentation of protests in the recent months. Demonstrations linked to issues such as fuel shortages and power outages will persist in the coming weeks.

THAILAND

Travelers should continue to anticipate weather-related disruption through at least August 18 following the passage of former tropical depression Mulan. The weather system triggered heavy rainfall between August 11 and 13 across northern and northeastern regions. Significant flooding was reported during this period in at least 11 provinces, affecting over 5,400 households and killing one person in Chiang Rai province. Flooding has since subsided and recovery efforts are ongoing; however, authorities have cautioned that further flooding remains possible throughout the country until at least August 18, especially in low-lying and riverine areas. Flooding may result in landslides and short-notice transportation disruption.

On August 2, a roadside bombing targeted security force personnel during a patrol in Mai Kaen district, injuring two officers. No group has claimed responsibility for the incident, which notably occurred amid peace talks between the Thai authorities and the separatist National Revolutionary Front (BRN) group on August 1-2. While previous negotiations in April yielded progress, the recent attack highlights the persistent risks posed by insurgent groups in the region. Further insurgent activity can be expected throughout August.

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

VIETNAM

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

Europe

LGBTQ+ PRIDE EVENTS

Travelers should anticipate disruption during LGBTQ+ Pride events across urban centers in Europe through August and plan journeys accordingly. These events are likely to be well attended and accompanied by heightened security and road closures. Counterdemonstrations by far-right groups may coincide with such events, particularly in countries where attitudes toward the LGBTQ+ community are more conservative. Meanwhile, targeted attacks against members of the LGBTQ+ community are possible. If planning to attend an event, remain alert to your surroundings.

CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS ALONG ARMENIA-AZERBAIJAN BORDER

Despite recent negotiations between Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev, reports of ceasefire violations in shared border regions and Nagorno-Karabakh will continue. On August 13, Azerbaijani authorities accused Armenian forces of firing at Azerbaijani military positions in Gadabay, Kalbajar and Tovuz regions, as well as Lachin. Subsequently, Armenian authorities denied the allegation. The incident underscores the persistently high tensions and the need to avoid all travel to Armenia-Azerbaijan border regions and Nagorno-Karabakh.

HEAVY RAIN & FLOODING IN FRANCE & UK

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption linked to forecast heavy rain and flooding until August 17 in France and parts of the UK. France is under a nationwide yellow alert (second-lowest on a four-tier scale) for thunderstorms until 4:00 PM local time on August 17. This excepts the southern Aude, Aveyron, Gard, Hérault, Tarn,

Bouches-du-Rhone, Var and Vaucluse departments, which are under orange alert (second-highest). Meanwhile, a 'yellow' warning for thunderstorms and flooding (lowest on a three-tier scale) is in effect until August 17 across Wales and southern England. Rain and mudslides on August 16 disrupted road and rail travel.

ARMENIA

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

BELGIUM

Travelers should plan journeys in Brussels bypassing a demonstration by Guinean nationals in diaspora and members of the Guinean opposition coalition, the Front for the Defense of the Constitution (FNDC) on August 14. Participants will gather at the Porte de Namur at 2:00 PM local time and march towards Place du Luxembourg to denounce the repression of protesters during a July 28 demonstration and arrests of some FNDC leaders in Guinean capital Conakry. Traffic disruption can be expected in the vicinity of the gathering.

FRANCE

Travelers should anticipate disruption and follow all official directives through at least August 17 amid an ongoing wildfire in Trelaze in Maine-et-Loire department. The fire has reportedly burned more than 0.6 square miles as of August 14. Authorities have ordered evacuations for residents in the Magellan and Rue Aristide-Briand areas as a precaution. An evacuation shelter has been established at Center Jean Gueguen. Short-notice road closures are possible in the affected area.

RUSSIA

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

SPAIN

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption in Alicante through at least August 19 due to an ongoing wildfire in La Vall d'Ebo. The blaze has so far spread over more than 36 square miles and more than 1,500 people have been evacuated from surrounding towns. Traffic along the CV-712 Highway, which connects the municipalities of La Vall d'Ebo and Pego, has been disrupted. Further road closures, traffic diversions and short-notice evacuation orders are likely in the affected areas. Travelers should exercise caution near the fire and follow official directives.

UNITED KINGDOM

Travelers should reconfirm rail schedules from August 18 to August 20 to planned strikes by unionized workers over wage-related disputes. Services across London's Underground, Overground and Elizabeth line will be disrupted on August 19. On August 18 and 20, strikes will affect all National Rail intra- and inter-city rail services nationwide. Authorities have urged people to avoid travel on the strike days due to significant disruption to all lines. Strike-related protests may occur in urban centers and may cause local disruption.