

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

LEGEND Travel Bulletin

AMERICAS

AFRICA & THE
MIDDLE EAST

ASIA & THE PACIFIC

EUROPE

Worldwide

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) COVID-19 UPDATE

Globally, the number of new weekly cases decreased by 28% during the week of September 5 to 11, as compared to the previous week, with over 3.1 million new cases reported. The number of new weekly deaths decreased by 22%, as compared to the previous week, with over 11,000 fatalities reported. As of September 11, 605 million confirmed cases and 6.4 million deaths have been reported globally.

WORLDWIDE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

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

MONKEYPOX

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

QUEEN ELIZABETH II FUNERAL

Travelers should anticipate disruption over the coming weeks following the death of Queen Elizabeth II on September 8. According to official statements, a national mourning period will last until the funeral on September 19. Public mourning gatherings are likely to be peaceful but well attended. Memorials are likely to take place near government buildings and public squares. Some business hours may vary. Travelers should reconfirm the status of routes before heading out.

LEGEND TRAVEL RESOURCES

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

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

- SEPT 19
 - Switzerland: Federal Fast Monday
 - Chile: Army Day
 - Costa Rica, Saint Kitts and Nevis: Independence Day
 - Guernsey, Jersey: Queen Elizabeth II's Funeral Day
 - Italy: The Feast of Saint Januarius (Naples)
 - Japan: Respect for the Aged Day
 - Cayman Islands: Queen Elizabeth's Funeral Day
 - Sri Lanka: National Day of Mourning
 - Nepal: Constitution Day
 - United Kingdom: State Funeral of Queen Elizabeth II
- SEPT 20
 - Germany: German World Children's Day
- SEPT 21
 - Armenia, Belize, Malta: Independence Day
 - Bangladesh: Akhari Chahar Somba
 - Ghana: Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Day
 - Portugal: St. Matthew's Day
 - Saudi Arabia: Saudi National Day Holiday
- SEPT 22
 - Australia: National Day of Mourning for The Queen
 - Bulgaria, Mali: Independence Day
 - Switzerland: Mauritius Day
 - Estonia: Resistance Day
 - Saudi Arabia: Day off for Saudi National Day
- SEPT 23
 - Australia: Friday before the AFL Grand Final
 - Bhutan: Blessed Rainy Day
 - Spain: Day of Saint Tecla
 - Japan: Autumn Equinox
 - Sri Lanka: Public Sector Holiday
 - Marshall Islands: Manit Day
 - Saudi Arabia: Saudi National Day
 - Slovenia: Slovenian Sports Day
 - United States: Native American Day
 - United States: Michigan Indian Day
- SEPT 24
 - Austria: Saint Rupert's Day
 - Dominican Republic: Our Lady of Las Mercedes
 - Spain: Virgin of Mercy
 - Guinea-Bissau: Independence Day (National Day)
 - Cambodia: Constitutional Day
 - Cambodia: Pchum Ben Festival
 - New Caledonia: New Caledonia Day
 - Peru: Armed Forces Day
 - Togo: Anniversary of the Failed Attack on Lomé
 - Trinidad and Tobago: Republic Day
 - South Africa: Heritage Day

Americas

HURRICANE FIONA

Through at least September 22, travelers should continue to anticipate disruption in the Caribbean region during the passage of Hurricane Fiona. The weather system, which has strengthened into a Category 1 hurricane, is forecast to affect Puerto Rico (US) and the Dominican Republic in the coming hours. It will continue to strengthen while moving towards Turks and Caicos Islands and the Bahamas in the next 48 hours. The US National Hurricane Center (NHC) has issued storm warnings and watches for several locations. Heavy rain and strong winds can be expected in areas within the storm's projected path. Further short-notice transport disruption, as well as flooding and landslides, are possible.

UNITED STATES

CDC ENDS NEGATIVE TEST REQUIREMENT TO ENTER US

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

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

US citizens who are fully vaccinated with an FDA-authorized vaccine or a vaccine authorized for emergency use by the World Health Organization can travel safely within the United States and may travel internationally with close attention paid to the conditions at their destination before traveling. Fully vaccinated travelers are less likely to get and spread COVID-19; however, even fully vaccinated can potentially get and/or spread some COVID-19 variants. There are several safe and effective vaccines that prevent people from getting seriously ill or dying from COVID-19. The Food & Drug Administration has evaluated that the following vaccines against COVID-19 have met the necessary criteria for safety and efficacy in the United States: Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson. The World Health Organization advises people to take whatever vaccine is made available to you first, even if you have already had COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccines are safe for most people 18 years and older, including those with pre-existing conditions of any kind, including auto-immune disorders. These conditions include hypertension, diabetes, asthma, pulmonary, liver and kidney disease, as well as chronic infections that are stable and controlled.

MASK MANDATE ON CERTAIN AIRLINES LIFTED

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

CDC SHORTENS QUARANTINE PERIOD

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

UPDATED INFORMATION ON DOMESTIC TRAVEL FOR FULLY VACCINATED TRAVELERS

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

staying 6 feet from others, avoiding crowds, and washing hands often or using hand sanitizer. This guidance applies to travel within the United States and its territories.

MONKEYPOX

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

SEVERE WEATHER IN SOUTHEAST, MIDWEST, NEW ENGLAND

Travelers should anticipate disruption linked to adverse weather in the coming days in several states of Southeast, Midwest, and New England regions. The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued an alert for severe thunderstorms and excessive rainfall over parts of the middle Mississippi Valley, the western Ohio Valley, and northern New England until September 20. Severe weather conditions may result in local flash flooding. Travelers should exercise caution and reconfirm the status of routes before setting out.

ARGENTINA

On September 19 and 20, travelers should anticipate disruption in Buenos Aires during a protest by tobacco workers. Workers from seven provinces will gather at several locations across the city including the Supreme Court, Federal Administration of Public Revenue, National Congress, and the Ministry of Agriculture. While the protest should pass off peacefully, it will likely see a large turnout and disrupt traffic around protest venues.

BOLIVIA

Through at least September 22, travelers should continue to anticipate disruption and avoid demonstrations in La Paz. An estimated 15,000 protesters arrived in La Paz on 7 September amid a conflict between the Adecococa Union, which represents coca growers, and the government over the future of an illegal market in the Villa El Carmen area. They have been staging spontaneous protests across the city, with some resulting in unrest. Adecococa President Freddy Machicado was arrested on September 14 and sentenced to six months in prison. Adecococa has called for a march from 8:00 AM local time on September 19 from the Villa Fatima Market towards downtown La Paz to demand his release. A counter-protest has also been announced.

BRAZIL

On September 21, travelers should anticipate disruption in urban centers during a national strike by nurses. The action has been organized by different nurses' unions in defense of the minimum wage for nursing professionals. Participating nurses will hold demonstrations in urban centers nationwide. These are likely to be well attended and cause local traffic disruption.

CHILE

Travelers should anticipate heightened security and associated disruption during an annual military parade on September 19 in Santiago. Nearly 8,000 members of the armed forces and law enforcement agencies are expected to participate in the event, which will commence at 10:00 AM local time at O'Higgins Park. During the parade in 2021, clashes broke out between police and protesters, and at least 50 people were detained. There is a credible risk of unrest during related gatherings which would pose incidental risks to bystanders.

Through at least September 28, travelers should continue to expect heightened security in Araucania and Biobio regions following the extension of the state of emergency (SoE). On September 13, the Senate passed the seventh extension of the SoE, which will last until at least September 28. The SoE allows troops to guard roads and highways, as well as expand the scope for civilian protection. This follows continued violence linked to a protracted conflict between authorities and the indigenous Mapuche community, which occasionally also targets workers and facilities in forestry and agriculture sectors. Further security incidents are likely in the coming weeks. Travelers should follow all official directives, including any movement restrictions.

ECUADOR

On September 21, travelers should anticipate disruption in urban centers due to demonstrations across the country, and plan journeys accordingly. The events have been organized by various social groups to demand the government

pay the debt with the Ecuadorian Institute of Social Security (IESS). In Quito, participants will gather at the IESS building at 4:00 PM local time and march to Plaza Santo Domingo. In Machala, protesters will convene at Parque Ismael Perez Pazmino at 3:30 PM and march to the province government building. The events should pass off peacefully, but traffic disruption in their vicinity is likely.

EL SALVADOR

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

MEXICO

On September 19, travelers should anticipate disruption and heightened security measures in Mexico City during an earthquake drill at 12:19 PM local time. More than 3,200 police officers have been deployed across the city to help run the drill. Sirens will sound at the start of the exercise and some buildings may run evacuation drills. Authorities have asked that people not use their mobile phones during the exercise.

PARAGUAY

Through at least September 22, travelers should continue to exercise caution and anticipate further disruption accounting for disruption related to ongoing protests by truck drivers over rising fuel prices. Following a hiatus in protest activity on September 17-18, demonstrations are expected to resume on September 19, according to a representative of truck drivers, amid ongoing negotiations with the Ministry of Interior to resolve issues. Further road blockades and disruption on main routes are likely countrywide.

PERU

Travelers should reconfirm flights and maintain flexible itineraries amid the temporary closure of Inca Manco Capac International Airport (JUL) in Juliaca starting September 19. The airport is scheduled to undergo runway maintenance until October 5.

Africa & the Middle East

CAMEROON

On September 16, five Catholic priests, one nun, and two churchgoers were kidnapped in Nchang village near Mamfe. While there was no claim of responsibility, Anglophone separatist militant groups are active in Southwest and Northwest regions. Essential travel to these regions should be undertaken with heightened caution, as well as robust security and logistical arrangements.

CHAD

Throughout September, travelers should anticipate and avoid further protests in Ndjamena related to an ongoing national dialogue. Security forces have forcibly dispersed previous protests and authorities banned a demonstration on September 10. Political tensions will remain high during the dialogue process, which is expected to last until at least September 30. All demonstrations should be avoided due to the potential for incidental risk to bystanders.

CONGO (DRC)

A case of Ebola has been confirmed in Beni in the northeast of the country; over 170 contacts have been identified so far and are under close monitoring. Ebola is spread by contact with the blood or other bodily fluids (including vomit and diarrhea) of infected or dead people. Healthcare workers, household members, and people participating in traditional funeral practices (touching the body) are at high risk. Travelers should prevent infection by paying strict attention to hygiene and avoiding contact with blood and body fluids; do not participate in traditional funerals or go to health facilities where Ebola patients are being treated.

IRAN

Through at least September 22, travelers should anticipate further protests over the death of a woman on September 16 while in custody of morality police. She was arrested for allegedly failing to adhere to the country's Islamic dress code. On September 16 and 17, anti-government protests were held in Tehran, Saqqez, and Sanandaj. Riot police reportedly fired tear gas and live ammunition to disperse the crowds. Media reports claim that internet access was disrupted in areas affected by demonstrations. Further protests should be avoided due to the credible risk of unrest.

KENYA

Local reports indicate an increase in criminals drugging beverages in public places, particularly in nightclubs, with the intent of robbing victims of their belongings. The trend has primarily been reported in major urban centers, especially Nairobi, and seems to primarily target men, though women have also been victims. In some cases, criminals have managed to extract large sums of money from bank accounts of victims after stealing their mobile phones and bank cards. Travelers should exercise caution, especially when consuming food and beverages in public after dark and ensure all activities are conducted in groups or in the company of local contacts throughout September.

LEBANON

On September 19, travelers should expect disruption during a planned protest from 10:00 AM local time outside the Palais De Justice in Beirut. This is being held in support of two people arrested for their alleged connection with recent bank robberies.

Travelers should anticipate and avoid further protests throughout September over socio-economic grievances. On September 12, protesters rallied in Beirut and Tripoli to denounce the Central Bank's decision to remove all government subsidies on fuel. Bouts of local unrest were reported in Beirut and protesters barricaded roads in the vicinity of Bechara al-Khoury, Corniche al-Mazraa and Qasqas with waste bins. Frequent and prolonged power outages and increasing costs of living and fuel prices will exacerbate pre-existing hardships, which will in turn fuel further social unrest in the coming weeks.

MALAWI

On September 19, travelers should anticipate disruption during a nationwide strike called by the Professional Truck Drivers Union of Malawi over salary-related grievances. The industrial action is liable to exacerbate an ongoing fuel shortage in the country and may also impact travel along key inter-city routes. Related protests are possible and should be avoided as a precaution. Travelers should reconfirm the status of routes and ensure access to adequate fuel supplies before setting out.

On September 21, travelers should avoid anti-government demonstrations in Lilongwe as a precaution and to minimize travel delays. An alert issued by the US Embassy in Lilongwe stated that the Human Rights Ambassadors and the Concerned Citizens Timely Voice groups are planning to organize gatherings at 9:00 AM local time to denounce socio-economic issues, including rising cost of living and shortages of fuel. While the precise times and locations of protests have not been announced, likely flashpoints include government buildings and public squares. Security forces are liable to use tough measures to disperse protests, posing incidental risk to bystanders.

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

NIGER

Throughout September, travelers should plan journeys in the southern regions accounting for disruption due to ongoing flooding. Heavy rain and flooding have caused significant disruption in several regions, including Maradi, Zinder, Tillaberi and Tahoua. Ongoing severe weather since June has led to the deaths of at least 75 people and impacted more than 108,000 others. More than 12,700 buildings have reportedly been damaged in the flooding. Niamey remains unaffected, though main roads that pass through the city, such as the RN1, are at a risk of being disrupted by surface runoff. Travelers should reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out.

NIGERIA

On September 19, significant disruption to traffic is being reported on Airport Road in Lagos as students are protesting an ongoing strike by Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) workers. Travelers should allow additional time for completion of journeys.

Travelers should continue to avoid all protests related to nationwide strikes by education workers due to the risk of unrest. The ASUU academics' union has extended its ongoing work stoppage indefinitely and other unions may observe related walkouts. The industrial action is linked to various issues, including salary-related grievances. Meanwhile, student protests against the strikes have involved roadblocks and scuffles with police, including in Abuja and Akure. Further demonstrations for and against the walkouts are likely throughout September.

SOUTH AFRICA

On September 20, travelers should anticipate local travel disruption around the Union Buildings in Pretoria during a planned strike by unionized employees of South Africa Police Service and several law enforcement agencies. Congress of South African Trade Unions-affiliated members of Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) plan to march to Union Buildings to protest the government's decision to renege on wage increment agreements. Popcru has also announced that they will stage nationwide lunch-hour pickets at correctional centers, police stations, and traffic institutions. The demonstrations will likely pass off peacefully.

SUDAN

Throughout September, travelers should monitor developments linked to ongoing negotiations over the roadmap for transitional rule. The activist Forces of Freedom and Change (FFC) is planning further civil disobedience campaigns and a general strike, amid persistent disagreements over a transitional government. At least 74 protesters were injured during anti-military protests in Khartoum and neighboring Omdurman on September 13. Travelers should avoid further pro- and anti-military demonstrations due to the credible risk of unrest and potential for security forces to use harsh dispersal measures and standfast in a secure location on days when major gatherings are planned.

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

UGANDA

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

Asia & the Pacific

BANGLADESH

Through September 27, travelers should anticipate disruption and avoid planned rallies in Dhaka by the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP). The BNP has announced the protest campaign to denounce the perceived mismanagement of the economy by the ruling Awami League (AL) party. Authorities are likely to maintain a heightened security presence around related gatherings. Any clashes between police and the protesters or between rival political activists would pose incidental risks to bystanders.

CAMBODIA

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

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

CHINA

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

INDIA

Travelers should anticipate disruption during nationwide protests from September 15 to September 25 by the Samyuktha Kisan Morcha (SKM) farmer umbrella organization. The SKM will stage block-level protests across the country to denounce perceived anti-farmer federal government policies and to demand legal backing for the Minimum Support Price, among other things. The protests are likely to be well attended, especially in states with a large farming population, particularly Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh states. Local disruption on motorways and around key government buildings can be expected during the demonstrations.

INDONESIA

Travelers should anticipate and avoid further nationwide protests throughout September over labor issues and living costs. Related gatherings have occurred at government buildings in major urban centers. Common protest venues in Jakarta include the State Palace, the People's Representative Council, Arjun Wijaya Horse Statue, and the National Library. While most protests have passed off peacefully, clashes between participants and security forces have been reported in recent days. Traveler should anticipate a heightened security presence and related traffic disruption in affected areas.

JAPAN

Through at least September 21, travelers should continue to minimize non-essential movement during the passage of Severe Tropical Storm Nanmadol (third-lowest on a six-tier scale) and follow all official directives. The weather system is moving northeastward and is currently over Shimane prefecture. Nanmadol's passage killed at least one person and injured 60 others. Several airlines, including Japan Airlines and Air Nippon Airways, have cancelled more than 1,000 flights nationwide on September 19-20. Evacuation orders have been issued for affected areas in southwestern Japan.

KYRGYZSTAN

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

LAOS

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

MALAYSIA

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

NEW ZEALAND

Police have arrested a youth allegedly in possession of a gun following a security operation in the vicinity of Cambridge High School in Cambridge. The lock down of nearby schools have been lifted.

PAKISTAN

Travelers should defer non-essential travel due to potential delays in accessing healthcare in some parts of the country. An increase in infectious outbreaks including diarrheal diseases, CCHF, hepatitis A, malaria, typhoid, and skin infections as well as injuries including snake bites have been recorded following unprecedented heavy rains and floods in Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, and Sindh provinces. Food, water, and medication shortages are occurring. Many medical facilities have been damaged, and access to healthcare is limited. A State of Emergency has been declared in the affected areas. Travelers should remain alert and follow the advice of the local authorities.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Through at least September 22, travelers should exercise caution due to ongoing tribal violence in Goroka, of Eastern Highlands province. Early on September 19, clashes broke out between ethnic groups in Nagamiufa Village, with spears and guns reportedly used. Several houses were set alight, while some businesses and services, including Goroka General Hospital, have closed. The unrest was allegedly sparked by the killing of a man following a dispute near Nagamiufa Village on September 17.

SOUTH KOREA

Through September 21, travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption in southeastern provinces during the passage of Severe Tropical Storm Nanmadol. The former typhoon is moving northeast over Japan, bringing heavy rain and strong winds. Korean Meteorological Administration (KMA) issued weather warnings for Ulsan, Busan, South Gyeongsang, South Jeolla provinces, and Jeju Island. At least one person was injured, and 700 people evacuated in the affected areas. Twelve flight cancellations were reported at Jeju International Airport (CJU). Several ferry and train services remain disrupted countrywide. Power outages were reported in Busan and Ulsan. Further short-notice transport disruption is possible along the storm's trajectory.

SYRIA

International media reported that alleged Israeli airstrikes targeted Damascus International Airport (DAM) and other unspecified locations south of at around 12:45 AM local time on September 17. The attack resulted in five soldiers killed and some material damage. According to state media, the Syrian air-defense system had intercepted most missiles. The incident underscores the persistent threat of airstrikes in Syria and the need to minimize time spent around potential targets.

TAIWAN (CHINA)

Through at least September 22, travelers should continue to exercise caution in Taiwan following a magnitude 6.9 earthquake on September 18. The earthquake occurred 53 miles both southeast of Lugu township and east of Yujing district. At least one person has died, and more than 150 have been injured. Across Taiwan, rail and essential services have been disrupted and infrastructure damage has been reported.

THAILAND

On September 19, travelers should avoid demonstrations from 3:00 PM local time in Bangkok. Protesters will gather outside the UN Building to advocate for the freedom to dress. Separately, an anti-government protest will take place outside Nang Loeng police station. These are in addition to the ongoing protests outside Government House. The date also marks the anniversary of the 2006 military takeover of former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra's (in office 2001-06) government. Further protests are likely. Police are liable to use strong crowd-control measures to disperse unruly demonstrators, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

Travelers should avoid an ongoing protest until September 19 outside Government House in Bangkok. Farmers' groups are demonstrating for the government to provide more financial support. The protest began on September 15 and has caused road closures for parts of Phitsanulok, Ratchadamnoen, Nakhon Patom and Nakhon Sawan Roads. Police may use strong crowd-control measures to disperse unruly demonstrators. Such action can pose incidental risks to bystanders.

Three security force personnel and one civilian were injured on September 12 in a roadside bombing in Si Sakhon district. The incident took place after the Emergency Decree in the region was extended until December 19. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack. The incident highlights the persistent risks posed by the southern insurgency despite recent peace talks between authorities and the militant National Revolutionary Front (BRN). Travelers should expect further rebel activity and continue to avoid non-essential travel to insurgency-affected areas.

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

SEVERE WEATHER

Through at least September 21, travelers should plan journeys accounting for further weather-related disruption. Officials in several parts of the region have issued warnings for adverse weather conditions including thunderstorms, heavy rain, and strong winds. Orange warnings (middle on a three-tiered scale) are in effect for portions of Germany and Romania. In Italy, at least ten people died as a result of flash flooding in towns around Ancona on September 15. On September 18, four flights in Spain were diverted from Gran Canaria Airport (LPA) due to heavy rain and flooding in and around Telde town. Further damage, as well as short-notice transport disruption and flooding, are possible in affected locations.

AIRPORT DELAYS

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

CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS ALONG ARMENIA-AZERBAIJAN BORDER

Armenia and Azerbaijan reportedly agreed to a ceasefire on September 14 following two days of clashes and artillery strikes in their shared border areas. The Ministry of Defense of Armenia stated that after 8:00 PM local time, fighting had practically ceased. Armenia said that at least 105 of their soldiers were killed, while Azerbaijan confirmed 50 of their soldiers were killed. These incidents underscore the need to avoid all travel to the shared border areas and Nagorno-Karabakh through at least September 18.

LGBTQ+ PRIDE EVENTS

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

RALLIES AGAINST TEMPORARY SHUTDOWN OF NORD STREAM 1 GAS PIPELINE

On September 2, Russian energy supplier Gazprom announced that they would indefinitely close the Nord Stream 1 gas pipeline. While Gazprom officials initially announced a temporary shutdown from August 31 to September 3, they stated that the pipeline would remain closed following the discovery of a mechanical issue. The announcement came shortly after G7 officials agreed to implement a price cap on Russian oil. Meanwhile, protests against rising energy costs and inflation have been staged in several countries across Europe, including Czech Republic, France and Germany. Further such rallies can be expected in the coming weeks.

SECURITY FORCE CLASHES ALONG KYRGYZSTAN-TAJIKISTAN BORDER

Renewed clashes in the shared border areas of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan underscore persistently high tensions and the need for enhanced precautions. On September 18, Kyrgyz officials said at least 59 people were killed, and more than 100 were injured, in clashes and cross-border attacks that occurred from September 14 to 18. Tajikistan has announced that at least 35 of its citizens were killed, and 139 others injured during the recent clashes. Additionally,

local reports indicate several thousand civilians have been evacuated from affected areas, while officials from both sides engaged in talks.

BELGIUM

On September 21, travelers should anticipate disruption in Brussels on September 21 during a demonstration by several labor unions. Participants will gather at Place de la Monnaie at 10:00 AM local time to demonstrate against rising energy prices and to demand the modification of a wage law to permit salary negotiations. The event will likely be well attended and cause traffic disruption in its vicinity.

FRANCE

On September 22, travelers should anticipate protests and disruption during a nationwide strike by healthcare workers. The CGT union has called for workers to observe a strike to demand increased wages and better working conditions. A related demonstration has been called in Paris on the day from 12:45 PM local time in front of Place de l'Hotel de Ville. Although the demonstration is likely to pass off peacefully, traffic disruption should be anticipated in its vicinity.

GERMANY

Travelers should anticipate disruption in urban centers during protests against rising energy costs and inflation throughout September. Regular protests have also been scheduled every Monday, including a demonstration on September 19 at Corneliusplatz in Dusseldorf at 6:00 PM local time. Related gatherings in Leipzig on September 5 and 12 were well-attended. While any such events should pass off peacefully, traffic disruption in the vicinity of the protests is likely.

Through September 20, the Extinction Rebellion (XR) movement has organized demonstrations in Berlin to demand government action against climate change. While related events should pass off largely peacefully, they are likely to cause notable disruption. Travelers should reconfirm the status of routes before setting out and allow additional time for journeys.

GREECE

Through at least September 21, travelers should avoid student demonstrations in urban centers due to the risk of local unrest. Students have staged protests against the deployment of police officers to main university campuses since September 14. Related rallies have resulted in clashes between demonstrators and police, who have used tear gas to disperse crowds. Flashpoints for further protests include Syntagma Square in Athens, the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and other university campuses. Police may forcibly disperse crowds, and any related unrest would pose incidental risks to bystanders.

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.

UKRAINE

On September 19, Ukrainian officials reported an increase in Russian artillery strikes across the east and south of the country in recent days following Ukraine's widespread territorial gains. Officials also confirmed Ukrainian forces had repelled Russian attacks in Kharkiv and Kherson provinces. Ukrainian troops have reportedly reached the eastern banks of the Oskil River in Kharkiv, a strategically important staging ground for potential counterattacks on Russian positions in Luhansk province. The Ukrainian counteroffensive will continue in the coming days. A corresponding increase in Russian aerial strikes in Kharkiv, Kherson, Mykolaiv, and Zaporizhzhia provinces is expected though other areas may also be affected.

UNITED KINGDOM

Through at least September 21, travelers should continue to anticipate protests in the vicinity of Belgrave Road in Leicester. On September 17, scuffles erupted between two religious groups. Local reports indicate that participants were throwing objects, including bottles. Another gathering took place at the same location on September 18,

although no violence was reported. The incidents come after a cricket match between India and Pakistan sparked tensions on August 28. Police have announced they will maintain a presence in the area in the coming days.

Through at least October 7, travelers should continue to anticipate disruption following the death of Queen Elizabeth II on September 8. Gatherings can be expected across the country. Although likely to be peaceful, they will draw large numbers and potentially cause disruption in the vicinity. Flight cancellations and delays at London Heathrow Airport (LHR) are expected on September 19. Heightened security and significant disruption should be anticipated near national landmarks, royal residences, and governmental infrastructure.