

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 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 remained stable during the week of September 12-18 as compared to the previous week, with over 3.2 million new cases reported. The number of new weekly deaths decreased by 17% as compared to the previous week, with over 9,800 fatalities reported. As of September 18, over 609 million confirmed cases and over 6.5 million deaths have been reported globally.

WORLDWIDE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

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

MONKEYPOX

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

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

LEGEND TRAVEL RESOURCES

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

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

SEPT 26

- Rosh Hashana
- Australia: King's Birthday
- Bangladesh: First Day of Navratri
- Indonesia, Myanmar, United Kingdom, South Africa: Navratri
- India: First Day of Sharad Navratri
- Cambodia: Pchum Ben Festival
- Mozambique: Armed Forces Day observed
- Nepal: Ghatasthapana
- Nauru: Sir Hammer DeRoburt Day observed
- New Zealand: Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Day & South Canterbury Anniversary Day
- United States: Navratri & American Indian Day
- Yemen: Revolution Day

SEPT 27

- Argentina: Second Day of Rosh Hashana
- Belgium: Day of the French Community
- Congo (DRC): World Tourism Day
- Germany: Second Day of Rosh Hashana
- Eritrea, Ethiopia: Meskel
- Israel: Rosh Hashana (Day 2)
- Iran: Martyrdom of Imam Reza
- Maldives: National Day
- Turkmenistan: Independence Day

SEPT 28

- Czechia: St. Wenceslas Day
- Israel: Gedaliah Fast
- North Macedonia: International Bosniaks' Day (for Bosniak community)
- Taiwan: Teachers' Day
- Kosovo: Day of Bosnians

SEPT 29

- Kuwait: Parliamentary Elections Holiday
- Paraguay: Boqueron Battle Victory Day

SEPT 30

- Bhutan: Thimphu Drubchoe (Thimphu only)
- Botswana: Botswana Day
- Canada: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- Micronesia: Chuuk Constitution Day (Observed)
- Palau: Day Off for Independence Day
- Sao Tome and Principe: Nationalization of the Roças
- Turks and Caicos Islands: National Youth Day
- United States: American Indian Heritage Day

Americas

TROPICAL STORM IAN

Travel to areas in the project path of Tropical Storm Ian should continue to be deferred through at least September 28. These include the Cayman Islands and western Cuba, including Havana. Ian was expected to pass southwest of Jamaica on September 25. The US National Hurricane Center (NHC) has forecast that Ian will strengthen to a Category 1 hurricane (lowest on a five-tier scale). The storm is expected to pass near the Cayman Islands on September 26 before heading toward western Cuba and southern Florida. Short-notice transportation disruption, flooding, landslides and infrastructure outages are possible in affected areas.

INTERNATIONAL SAFE ABORTION DAY DEMONSTRATIONS

Travelers should anticipate disruption in urban centers during demonstrations on September 28 related to International Safe Abortion Day. While the events are likely to pass off peacefully, travel disruption and a heightened police presence can be anticipated in the vicinity of all related gatherings.

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.

MOUNTAINS, PACIFIC NORTHWEST, SOUTHWEST REGIONS

Travelers should anticipate disruption through at least September 28 due to ongoing wildfires in several states in the Mountains, Pacific Northwest and Southwest regions. According to the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC), there are around 93 large wildfires active across Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. More than 1,413 square miles of land has burned. 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 travelling near the fires, follow official directives, and avoid affected areas where possible.

ARGENTINA

Through at least September 26, travelers should monitor developments and anticipate disruption due to an oil workers' strike against labor conditions at oil infrastructure facilities. On September 22 at approximately 4:30 AM local time, a fire at the New American Oil Refinery in Plaza Huincul killed three workers. Various unions, including the Private Oil and Gas Union of Rio Negro, Neuquen and La Palma, have called for a national strike following the incident. The strike is likely to affect oil and gas operations across Argentina.

Travelers should anticipate disruption on September 27 due to a national strike planned by public sector workers in urban centers, including in Buenos Aires. Workers affiliated with the ATE union will protest over a range of issues such as salaries, unemployment and economic policies. In Buenos Aires, a mobilization towards the Ministry of Economy is planned. Similar events are likely in other provinces. The demonstrations are likely to be well attended and will cause travel disruption in the vicinity.

BOLIVIA

Travelers should anticipate disruption on September 26 in La Paz linked to a planned transportation workers' strike. The industrial action has been called by the Federacion Departamental Sindical de Choferes over recent transportation policies implemented by local officials. Flashpoints for strike-related demonstrations include near government buildings and central plazas. Travelers should expect increased demand for alternative modes of transportation during the strike and allow extra time for journeys.

CHILE

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.

COLOMBIA

Travelers should anticipate disruption in urban centers, including Bogota, on September 26, during political protests. The rallies, scheduled at 10:00 AM local time, are being held to denounce several tax reforms proposed by President

Gustavo Petro-led administration. The protests are likely to be well attended and cause local traffic disruption. There is a potential for local unrest, including scuffles between protesters and counter-demonstrators or police. Any such disturbances would pose incidental risks to bystanders.

ECUADOR

Through October 12, travelers should continue to anticipate heightened security and follow official directives in Guayaquil and environs after authorities extended an ongoing State of Emergency (SoE). President Guillermo Lasso introduced the measure on August 14 following a bombing in Guayaquil. The city has recently seen a significant increase in violence linked to drug trafficking and organized crime. The SoE also applies to neighboring Duran and Samborondon cantons. No related curfews have been announced.

HAITI

Travelers should minimize movement and anticipate disruption in Port-au-Prince and other urban centers through September 28 during a strike by unionized transportation workers. Additionally, related demonstrations are expected on September 29 and September 30. Travelers should avoid all gatherings as they carry a credible risk of unrest and may involve roadblocks, clashes with police and the use of aggressive crowd-control measures. Travelers should expect increased demand for alternative modes of transportation during the strike and allow extra time for journeys.

HONDURAS

Travelers should exercise caution and anticipate disruption across the country through at least September 28 due to heavy rainfall. Authorities declared a national state of emergency on September 23 in response to recent floods and landslides. The measure will be in place until at least December 22. A red alert (highest on a three-tier scale) has been issued for Copan and Santa Barbara departments. More than 18,000 people have been affected by the severe weather, more than 7,290 have been evacuated and at least 13 have been killed in related incidents. 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.

MEXICO

Travelers should plan journeys bypassing rallies in Mexico City and other urban centers through at least September 28. Demonstrations will mark the eighth anniversary of the disappearance of students from a teachers' college in Iguala. Participants will gather on September 26 at 4:00 PM local time at Angel de la Independencia and march towards Plaza de la Constitucion. A rally will also occur in Acapulco on September 27 from Plaza Alvarez to La Diana Cazadora at 10:00 AM local time. The demonstrations are expected to be well attended. There is a potential for local unrest, including scuffles between protesters and police, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

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.

PUERTO RICO

Travelers should anticipate disruption across Puerto Rico through at least September 28 due to ongoing infrastructure outages. Hurricane Fiona passed over the island on September 18, causing mass infrastructure outage. On September 25, electricity provider LUMA Energy reported that up to 45% of its customers remained without power. Thousands also continue to have water outages, with the Aqueduct and Sewer Authority reporting that only 80% of their clients had service. In Bayamon municipality, a large water pipe collapsed around 2:00 AM local time on September 25, causing traffic disruption on Highway 167 and further water outage. Associated protests against the slow recovery can be expected.

Africa & the Middle East

SOUTH SUDAN & SUDAN

On September 18, at least one person was killed, and three others were injured, during an ambush on a vehicle convoy in the Abyei region. The attack occurred on the main road between Abyei to Amiet, and authorities allege armed assailants from the Misseriya tribe were responsible. The incident highlights the extreme risks for the disputed Abyei region and the need to avoid all travel. Foreign nationals are unlikely to be targeted during instances of communal violence, but they would face incidental risks if caught in the vicinity of an armed confrontation.

ISRAEL, PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

Through October, travelers should continue to exercise increased caution in Israel and the West Bank (Palestinian Territories) amid heightened tensions. These follow multiple attempted and successful attacks by Palestinians in response to raids by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) in the West Bank. Overnight on September 22-23, three people were injured in a stabbing attack at Shilat Junction in Modiin, Israel; the attacker was since apprehended. Earlier on September 22, a Palestinian conducted a vehicle-ramming attack at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion Airport (TLV). No injuries were reported. The recent incidents highlight the increased risk of attacks by individual actors with no previous links to militant organizations.

BENIN

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

BURKINA FASO

A recent series of attacks by suspected militants on road travelers highlights the need for precaution during overland travel. On September 21, unknown assailants reportedly conducted identity checks on passengers aboard transport vehicles in the Yalgo-Tougouri area while they were traveling from Dori to Ouagadougou. Three vehicles were set on fire in a related incident along the Dori-Seytenga axis, near Dori. The incidents also highlight the increased risks posed by militancy in Burkina Faso.

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)

Through at least September 26, travelers should anticipate and avoid further protests in North Kivu province over perceived insecurity. The LUCHA ("Fight for Change") civil society group staged a demonstration in Beni on September 21 to denounce rising insecurity despite an ongoing "state of siege" and to demand the recapture of Bunagana from the M23 rebel group. According to local media, police arrested 21 protesters for allegedly disturbing public order. In a related protest in Rutshuru on September 22, reportedly one person was killed, and two others injured, after clashes with police. Further related protests are likely. Police are liable to forcibly disperse participants, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

On September 26-27, travelers should anticipate disruption in North Kivu province during a planned "dead city" (ville morte) protest. The Civil Society Provincial Coordination group has called for the action to demand the departure of the UN Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO). Previous demonstrations over the issue have turned violent. At least 36 people were killed, including four UN peacekeepers, and 170 injured during protests in late July. Security forces are liable to forcibly disperse any related gatherings, and any ensuing unrest would pose incidental risks to bystanders.

ERITREA

Through at least mid-October, travelers should monitor developments in Eritrea after several diplomatic missions issued travel advisories for the country. International media reported on September 18 that Eritrean involvement in the conflict in Ethiopia is expected to increase amid increased mobilization efforts across the country. These developments come amid allegations from the Tigray People's Liberation Front that the Eritrean security forces are increasingly fighting alongside the Ethiopian federal security forces in Tigray, Ethiopia. This points to a widening of the conflict zone and higher potential for spillover violence into Eritrea.

IRAN

Through September 30, travelers should continue to anticipate further protests over the death of a woman on September 16 who was detained by the morality police for allegedly failing to adhere to the Islamic dress code. On September 21, anti-government protests continued in several urban centers, including Tehran. Riot police reportedly used heavy-handed measures, such as live ammunition, to disperse the crowds. Reports indicate at least eight people have been killed in the unrest. 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.

ISRAEL

Clashes have been reported in the vicinity of al-Aqsa mosque and Lion's Gate in Jerusalem's Old City on the afternoon of September 26.

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

According to local media reports, security forces have used tear gas to disperse an ongoing protest in Al-Nejmeh square in Beirut on September 26. Participants were reportedly marching towards the Parliament building when police forcibly dispersed the rally.

LIBYA

Travelers in Tripoli should reconfirm feasibility of travel through at least September 28. This follows fresh clashes on September 23 between rival militias. Gunfire was reported along the Al-Jibs Gate area, 14 miles from the Tripoli International Airport (TIP), and the airport road. The incident highlights the continued risk and impact of armed mobilization linked to political power struggles.

MAYOTTE

Travelers should anticipate protests and disruption on September 29 during a strike by union workers. The CGT union has called for workers to observe a strike to demand increased wages. A related demonstration has been called at 8:00 AM local time at Place de la Republique. Although the demonstration is likely to pass off peacefully, traffic disruption should be anticipated in its vicinity.

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

Travelers should avoid protests outside Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) offices in urban centers at 9:00 AM local time on September 27 over allegations of fraud related to the 2023 Presidential Election. Campaigning begins on September 28. These gatherings will likely be well attended and cause significant traffic disruption. While

previous related rallies have been well attended and passed off peacefully, local unrest may occur, posing incidental risks to bystanders.

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

SOMALIA

Travelers should reconfirm essential movement in Mogadishu on September 26, following a reported mortar attack in Wardhiigley district. Several mortar rounds landed near Villa Somalia at around 8:00 PM local time. There have been no reports of casualties or damages so far. A heightened security force presence and associated disruption can be expected.

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

TYPHOON NORU

Travelers should anticipate weather-related disruption in central and northern Vietnam and most of Thailand during the passage of Typhoon Noru. The weather system is forecast to make landfall south of Da Nang city on the afternoon of September 28. Noru will then proceed towards Thailand and is projected to reach the country early on September 29. Heavy rain and strong winds are likely to cause travel disruption and infrastructural damage during the typhoon's passage. Travelers should monitor the situation closely and follow official directives.

ONGOING RAINY SEASON IN OCEANIA

Travelers should plan journeys accounting for weather-related disruption throughout Oceania due to the ongoing rainy season. This season is a result of the 'La Nina' weather phenomenon, which is related to oceanic and atmospheric temperature differentials. Bouts of heavy rain and associated flooding and landslides can be expected, especially in mountainous and low-lying areas. Heavy rains may prompt short-notice and intermittent flight disruption. Travelers

should maintain flexible itineraries, avoid affected areas and reconfirm the feasibility of journeys before setting out through at least October 31.

AUSTRALIA

Travelers should anticipate disruption in urban centers on September 26 and September 27 during protests in solidarity with anti-government protesters in Iran. Demonstrations are being held in response to the death of a woman while in the custody of the Iranian 'morality police' on September 16. Previous gatherings held in Sydney, Perth and Melbourne on September 23 and 25 passed off peacefully. Travelers should anticipate a heightened security force presence and local traffic disruption.

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 plan journeys bypassing protests by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Tamil Nadu on September 26. The BJP has called for statewide gatherings to condemn alleged derogatory statements made by parliament member and former union minister A Raja, of the state-ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam party. The protests are likely to garner high attendance and significantly disrupt traffic in their vicinities. Any unruly or disruptive activity, including protracted road blockades or forcible attempts to enter government offices, will be met with crowd-control measures by police. Bystanders will face incidental risks in the event of such disturbances.

Travelers should plan journeys bypassing a protest by defense-sector employees on September 26 at the Jantar Mantar monument in New Delhi. Demonstrators are demanding the abolishment of the National Pension Scheme, which has been in place since 2004. Several thousand people are expected to attend the event. Heightened security and traffic disruption can be anticipated around the venue, including along Tolstoy Road and Sansad Marg. While the protest is likely to pass off peacefully, any overly disruptive or unruly crowds will be forcibly dispersed by police. Bystanders will face incidental risks in the event of such disturbances.

Through September 27, travelers should expect heightened security and related disruption in areas affected by extreme-leftist Naxalite (Maoist) rebel violence during the rebels' annual "Formation Week." Formation Week, which commenced on September 21, marks the anniversary of the 2004 merger of two major Naxal groups to form the Communist Party of India-Maoist. Authorities have increased security in Naxal-affected districts of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Telangana states.

Through January 2023, travelers should continue to anticipate disruption during a nationwide protest march by the national opposition Indian National Congress (INC) that has been ongoing since September 7. The march has been passing through Kerala state since September 10 and is expected to enter Karnataka state on September 30. It is due to terminate in Srinagar in early 2023. Participants denounce the national ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s

perceived mismanagement of issues related to increasing inflation and unemployment. Increased traffic congestion and security can be expected along the march route. Travelers should allow additional travel time and plan journeys by bypassing the march to minimize inconvenience.

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 26, travelers should plan journeys accounting for disruption in Kanto/Koshin, Kansai, and Tokai regions during the passage of Tropical Storm Talas across the coast of eastern Japan. The tropical storm (second lowest on a six-tier scale) is located approximately 186 miles off Kochi prefecture as of early September 23. Heavy rain and strong winds are expected until September 25, with heavy rain (third highest on a five-tier scale) and landslide (second-highest) alerts issued across Tokai. Talas is forecast to be downgraded to an extratropical low-pressure system on September 25. Associated disruption, including landslides and flooding are likely in the affected areas. Short-notice flight disruption is possible.

Through at least September 27, travelers should continue to anticipate disruption during scheduled protests in Tokyo and plan journeys accordingly. Participants oppose the government's decision to hold a state funeral for former prime minister Shinzo Abe (in office 2006-07, 2012-20); this will take place on September 27 at Nippon Budokan. Abe was fatally shot by a lone assailant on July 8 during a public event in Nara City. At least 13,000 people participated in related rallies on September 19 in Tokyo's Shibuya ward. While further such gatherings should pass off peacefully, high attendance and travel disruption remain likely.

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.

PAKISTAN

Travelers should continue to anticipate disruption due to planned Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) protests across urban centers nationwide until September 30. Local authorities in Islamabad have begun preparations for an expected PTI march towards the city. Former Prime Minister Imran Khan has called on his supporters to protest against inflation in their constituencies. Authorities in Islamabad are likely to cordon off the secure Red Zone area and other diversions may be in place.

PHILIPPINES

The annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Board of Governors will take place from September 26 to 30. Travelers should anticipate traffic disruption and heightened security in the vicinity of the Ortigas Center and

adjacent areas of Pasig and Quezon City. While there are no full road closures, some lanes will be closed to the public, with special access given to ADB delegates, likely resulting in traffic congestion. Travelers should plan routes bypassing the venue to avoid delays and minimize inconvenience.

Travelers should continue to exercise caution and anticipate residual disruption in typhoon-affected areas of Calabarzon, Central and Northern Luzon regions through at least September 28 following the passage of Typhoon Noru. It was previously categorized as a Super Typhoon. Associated flooding, landslides, power outages and disruption to transportation operations can be expected. Normal movement can resume in Metro Manila. The situation should be closely monitored and all official directives should be followed

THAILAND

Travelers should avoid a planned protest by civil society groups at 9:30 AM local time on September 26 in Bangkok. People will gather outside the Phloen Chit BTS station to protest the arrest of several activists over the past year. The demonstration is likely to attract a low to moderate turnout. Nonetheless, expect heightened security, which may disrupt nearby road traffic and services at the station. Disruption to services is also possible at the nearby Chidlom BTS, Nana BTS and Siam BTS stations.

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

AIRPORT STAFF SHORTAGES & DELAYS

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

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

Russian energy supplier Gazprom announced on September 2 that it would indefinitely close the Nord Stream 1 gas pipeline. 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 European countries, including Austria, Belgium and Czech Republic. Further such rallies can be expected across the region throughout September.

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.

UKRAINE-RUSSIA CONFLICT

On September 20, officials in four Russian-held areas of Ukrainian provinces, Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia, announced they intend to hold referendums on joining Russia between September 23 and 27. Russian President Vladimir Putin said Russia will support the referendums, which are not recognized by international law. On September 21, Putin announced a partial military mobilization in Russia. According to Russia's Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, the mobilization will aim to call up some 300,000 reservists with previous military experience. Ukrainian and western officials said the latest measures highlight that Russia's military strategy in Ukraine is failing.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Travelers should anticipate disruption in Prague on September 28 during an anti-government rally and plan journeys accordingly. Protesters will gather at Wenceslas Square at 2:00 PM local time to denounce alleged government inaction over energy and other living costs. While the event should pass off peacefully, it may be well attended and cause local disruption. A related protest on September 3 saw more than 70,000 protesters gather and caused significant traffic disruption.

FRANCE

Travelers should anticipate disruption and reconfirm flights at Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG) and Paris Orly Airport (ORY) from September 28 through September 30 during a strike by air traffic controllers. The industrial action is linked to salary-related grievances. The strike may result in further short-notice flight cancellations and delays. A related nationwide strike on September 16-17 prompted the cancellation of more than 1,000 flights.

GERMANY

Travelers should anticipate disruption in Magdeburg on September 27 during a union protest and plan journeys accordingly. Protesters will gather at Willy-Brandt-Platz at 5:00 PM local time in protest of the rising cost of living and energy prices. While the event should pass off peacefully, it may cause local disruption.

GREECE

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

MOLDOVA

Through October, travelers should plan journeys bypassing further anti-government demonstrations in Chisinau. Protesters have denounced the government's handling of the economy, demanding the resignation of President Maia Sandu, and the release of opposition Socio-Political Movement Equality (Sor) party MP Marina Tauber. The Sor party has called for nationwide protests until early presidential and parliamentary elections are called. On September 18, an estimated 20,000 protesters gathered outside the parliament building. Flashpoints for further protests include the Presidential Palace, the Prosecutor General's Office, and the EU Delegation to Moldova building.

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 the end of September, travelers should continue to anticipate disruption following the death of Queen Elizabeth II on September 8. The state funeral took place on September 19. Travelers should anticipate heightened security and residual disruption on September 20 near national landmarks, royal residences, and government infrastructure.