











## Morocco - Moderate



**Morocco Country Map**

-  POLITICAL
-  ARMED CONFLICT
-  TERRORISM
-  CRIME
-  CIVIL UNREST
-  MARITIME AND PIRACY
-  HEALTH
-  ENVIRONMENTAL
-  TRANSPORTATION

Last Published: 05 December 2025

## COUNTRY OVERVIEW

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Morocco is a popular tourist destination, and most visits occur without incident. However, travel to the country presents a moderate risk due to the persistent threat of terrorism, civil unrest, petty crime and gender-based incidents. Criminals

commonly target areas frequented by tourists and there have been several reports of the use of knives against tourists in armed robbery incidents.

There is a moderate risk of terrorist attacks due to the presence of Islamist extremist groups such as the Islamic State and the al-Qaeda-affiliated Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group (GICM). The Moroccan state regularly identifies and disrupts Islamist extremist cells in the country. For instance, in March 2017, arrests were made in five cities. These arrests thwarted a plan to attack locations frequented by tourists with explosives and firearms. Since then, security forces have regularly announced arrests of known terrorists and disruption to their networks and plans. Despite these successes, a threat persists from lone actor attackers targeting Western nationals.

Female travellers are at heightened risk when travelling in Morocco. Reports are widespread of men engaging in whistling, hissing, staring, yelling and occasionally inappropriate physical contact. Although a law banning any form of sexual harassment has been passed, harassment against women remains prevalent in both urban and rural areas. Many Western women in Morocco report persistent harassment of varying degrees in public places in Morocco, including streets, parks, stores, cafés, and restaurants. UN studies have regularly found that over half of Moroccan men have sexually harassed a female, whilst other studies show that around 12 per cent of Moroccan females are assaulted every year in public spaces.

## **CULTURAL INFORMATION**

### **Cultural Tips**

- Arabic is the official language in Morocco. Regional dialects of Tamazight (Berber) are spoken in the Rif, the Atlas and the Souss. French is also widely understood throughout Morocco, and is often regarded as the language of business, government and diplomacy. English and Spanish-speakers are not uncommon, especially in tourist areas.
- Islam is the state religion in Morocco. The culture is more conservative in rural areas than in urban ones. Travellers should respect local religious customs.
- Dress standards in Morocco are less conservative than in many other Muslim countries. All clothing should fall to at least knee-length. Modest

Western attire is the norm in urban areas.

- It is offensive to point the bottom of one's foot at a person, even unintentionally.
- Homosexuality is illegal in Morocco. LGBTQ+ travellers may face discrimination of harassment.
- Alcohol is legal for foreign nationals. Alcohol is sold in some major supermarkets, specialty stores and/or locations frequented by foreigners. Most major hotels will have bars for their foreign clientele. Alcohol is sold until approximately 19:00 local time, although this requirement is not always upheld by vendors. Drinking in public is generally frowned upon, and alcohol is prohibited in some more conservative areas. In general, foreigners should be inconspicuous with their purchase and use of alcohol while in Morocco.
- Pass and receive items with the right hand or both hands, not with the left hand alone, especially if older people are present.
- Turning down invitations, especially to food, is considered rude. Travellers should at least eat a small amount of what is offered.

<b>KEY FACTS</b>	
<b>CAPITAL</b>	Rabat
<b>CAPITAL CITY PHONE CODE</b>	37
<b>COUNTRY PHONE CODE</b>	212
<b>CURRENCY</b>	Moroccan Dirham
<b>ELECTRICITY</b>	127 V, 220 V, 50 Hz
<b>GMT</b>	+1
<b>LANGUAGES</b>	Arabic
<b>LEADERSHIP</b>	King Mohammed VI; Head of Government: Prime Minister Aziz

## KEY FACTS

	Akhannouch
<b>OFFICE WORK WEEK</b>	Monday-Friday
<b>OFFICIAL COUNTRY NAME</b>	Kingdom of Morocco
<b>PLUG STYLES</b>	Types C, E
<b>RELIGION</b>	Muslim 99% (official; virtually all Sunni; 0.1% Shia), other 1%
<b>TIME ZONE OFFSET</b>	UTC + 1
<b>TYPE OF GOVERNMENT</b>	Constitutional Monarchy

## RISK SUMMARY

### Political - Low

Morocco is seen as a hybrid political regime. The constitution grants the king extensive powers, such as the ability to dissolve parliament, suspend the constitution and rule by decree. Alongside this, the Moroccan parliament consists of two chambers, the Assembly of Representatives of Morocco and the Assembly of Councillors.

The last elections took place in September 2021 and saw the pro-business and liberal party known as the National Rally of Independents win 102 out of 365 seats. This allowed it to form a governing coalition with the Authenticity and Modernity Party and the Istiqlal Party. After taking office in October 2021, the government announced that it would focus on employment creation measures and extending social programmes. The lack of social security and employment are

both key triggers for the country's political instability and civil unrest. The next elections in Morocco are expected by September 2026.

Morocco's most destabilising geopolitical factor in recent years has been the disputed territory of Western Sahara. This area is viewed by Morocco as an integral part of its territory, whilst the Polisario Front is seeking independence for Western Sahara. The dispute over Western Sahara has led to tensions in relations with several key regional states such as Algeria (who fund the Polisario Front), and Mauritania, which also claims Western Sahara. There are no official diplomatic relations between Algeria and Morocco after they were suspended in 2021. Spain and Morocco, meanwhile, reset diplomatic relations in March 2022 after Spain changed its position on the status of Western Sahara, stating that it would henceforth back Morocco's plans for resolving the situation.

Algeria broke diplomatic relations with Morocco in 2021 for various reasons. These include the normalisation of relations between Morocco and Israel and the revelation that Rabat had used Pegasus software to target and spy on at least 6,000 Algerian devices, including those of high-ranking political and military figures.

Historically, Moroccan governments have followed a pattern of making quick concessions in the face of significant protests to try and stabilise events. This means that the country's political system is generally stable, whilst civil unrest is common.

### **Armed Conflict - Moderate**

Morocco has claimed sovereignty over the Western Sahara territory since 1978 and controls most of the region. It has been involved in a protracted low-intensity conflict with the Western Saharan Polisario Front for almost fifty years. A ceasefire ending hostilities was officially signed in 1991. The conflict has also sparked incidents of sporadic civil unrest, such as during the Independence Intifada in 2005 when demonstrations and riots took place in the Moroccan-held portions of Western Sahara.

The ceasefire ended in 2020 when the Polisario Front announced they were at war with Morocco after a new Moroccan operation against rebels was launched.

Since then, Moroccan forces and the Polisario Front have had increasingly frequent low-intensity skirmishes. These have at times led to civilian casualties.

There are thousands of unexploded mines in Western Sahara. In general, travel to Western Sahara without substantial risk mitigation measures is highly inadvisable. Nonetheless, incidents related to armed conflict in Western Sahara are highly unlikely to directly affect most travellers to Morocco.

Morocco has experienced periodic flare-ups in tensions with its northern neighbour, Spain, over the past decades. The primary triggers of such incidents have largely stemmed from border disputes over the Spanish exclaves of Ceuta and Melilla on Morocco's northern coast, as well as maritime disagreements involving the Canary Islands and Spain's historical ties to Western Sahara, formerly Spanish Morocco. While these tensions have generally diminished in recent decades, with both nations frequently collaborating on joint operations against migrant crossings, recent surges in immigration through the Spanish exclaves could strain relations. However, the likelihood of open hostilities remains very low.

## **Terrorism - Moderate**

The country's security services are well funded and in the last two decades, the country has developed a comprehensive and successful counter-terrorism strategy. For instance, in early 2025, Moroccan security forces launched a series of raids against Islamic State (IS) cells that were reportedly plotting attacks. Nonetheless, as indicated by the presence of such plots, a moderate threat of terrorism persists.

Both domestic violent extremist organisations (VEOs), such as the al-Qaeda-affiliated Moroccan Islamic Combatant Group (GICM), and transnational VEOs, such as the Islamic State – Sahel Province (ISSP), are known to operate in Morocco. Supporters of these groups likely pose the greatest terrorism threat in the country. It is estimated that at least 1,600 Moroccan nationals travelled to Syria and Iraq to fight in jihadist groups, and a number of these are believed to have subsequently returned to Morocco. Groups like IS also regularly call for lone-actor attacks against Western targets across the world.

The growth of ISSP in the Sahel junta states of Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso has likely increased the threat of terrorism in Morocco. Particularly since 2024,

Moroccan security forces have reported numerous cases of Morocco-based IS-supporting cells receiving material, guidance, and expertise from ISSP, and have carried out arrests of individuals from Europe, North America, and other third countries travelling to Moroccan cities en route to join ISSP and other Sahel groups.

Areas most at risk of terrorist attack are those frequented by foreign travellers, such as restaurants, hotels, tourist attractions and coastal beach resorts. Cities more likely to be targeted are Marrakesh, Casablanca, Fes and Chefchaouen. Past major terrorist incidents have occurred in both Marrakesh and Casablanca. The country's largest terror attack to date remains the 2003 Casablanca bombings. These were perpetrated by a group called Salafia Jihadia and killed 45 people.

Terrorism is also a risk in more remote areas. In 2018, for example, two foreign nationals were killed whilst hiking in the Atlas Mountains. The four perpetrators had pledged allegiance to IS a week prior.

There is a heightened threat of kidnapping across Morocco; foreigners are targeted because of their perceived level of wealth as well as political leverage. It is not uncommon for aid workers to be targeted, as well as tourists and journalists. Maintain situational awareness at all times and consider additional precautionary security measures to reduce the risk of being targeted, especially if travelling in rural areas.

## **Crime - Moderate**

The most likely criminal threat to impact travellers in Morocco is petty crime, such as pickpocketing, theft, and bag-snatching. Most crime affecting foreign nationals in Morocco occurs in Marrakesh, Casablanca, Tangiers, Fez and Rabat. Firearms are not widely available in Morocco, so criminals often carry bladed weapons such as knives and occasionally swords. Robberies have, on occasion, escalated to violence. If confronted by a robber, it is advised to prioritise physical safety by swiftly and calmly cooperating with their demands.

Criminals primarily operate in high-traffic and overcrowded areas such as tourist sites, markets, medinas, and festivals in large cities. Avoid walking alone at night and in quiet areas. It is advised to avoid any overt displays of wealth, such as

wearing expensive wrist watches. Criminals are more likely to target people who appear unfamiliar with their surroundings, are dressed in obviously foreign clothing, or otherwise draw attention to themselves.

Female travellers are at heightened risk when travelling in Morocco. Moroccan men will often engage in whistling, hissing, staring, yelling and occasionally inappropriate physical contact. Many Western women in Morocco report persistent harassment of varying degrees in public places in Morocco, including streets, parks, stores, cafés, and restaurants. While attacks remain uncommon, they can happen. Groups of individuals have attempted to lure women into cars in smaller cities and rural areas, but this can also occur in urban areas late at night. UN studies have found that over half of Moroccan men have sexually harassed a female, whilst other studies show that around 12 per cent of Moroccan women are assaulted every year in public spaces.

Laws were enacted in 2018 criminalising sexual harassment and strengthening the punishment for gender-based violence and sexual assault in both public and private settings. Despite this, harassment of women is still prevalent in both urban and rural parts of Morocco. In October 2022, for example, a mass wave of sexual assaults was reported to have taken place at a music festival in Casablanca.

Organised crime is highly prevalent, with Morocco being a global producer and exporter of cannabis. Moroccan cannabis is smuggled into Europe via sea and air routes. Travellers are unlikely to be directly impacted by organised crime, although bystanders may be collaterally affected by conflict between criminal groups.

### **Civil Unrest - Moderate**

There is a moderate risk of civil unrest in Morocco, particularly in Casablanca and Rabat. Demonstrations occur frequently and typically focus on internal political, economic, or social issues. In recent years, only a small number of protests in major Moroccan cities have resulted in violence. However, the 2025 "Gen Z" protests were notably widespread and at times marked by violent clashes. Depending on the drivers of protests and whether the protestors have sought necessary permission, demonstrations can lead to clashes and disruptions. Security

forces have been known to use heavy-handed tactics, including the use of water cannons and tear gas.

The country saw a wave of protests in 2011 and 2012, as part of the pan-regional Arab Spring. This unrest was centred around popular demands for political reform, the ending of police brutality and censorship, and economic advancement. In response to these protests and to the demands, King Mohammed VI announced a series of constitutional reforms. In the decade since these major protests, Morocco has seen many protests take place; however, none have reached this scale.

Under Moroccan law, all protests and demonstrations must obtain a government permit. Despite this, unauthorised protests can and do occur. Due to their unauthorised nature, these protests often have a greater potential for violence than sanctioned protests. Alongside protests and demonstrations, the country often sees strikes organised by unions and different industrial sectors. These strikes may be in response to government policy, national issues, or simply as part of wage bargaining. Most notable protests in Morocco take place in the country's cities. Casablanca is the country's most populous city, with around 3.4 million residents, and so it frequently sees larger protests. Rabat, whilst home to a smaller population of around 540,000, is a focal point for civil unrest as it is the nation's capital.

A wave of "Gen Z" protests that began in September 2025 led to widespread protests across Moroccan urban centres, with multiple violent clashes taking place between demonstrators and riot police. As with many major protest movements in Morocco, the government ultimately responded with promised reforms. Nonetheless, many of the triggers remain extant, and there is a realistic possibility of large-scale protests driven by the "Gen Z" movement reemerging in Morocco.

Morocco, like many other countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, had substantial pro-Palestine protests following the escalation in the Israel-Palestine conflict in 2023. Significant developments in the region are likely to spark further protests in Morocco, with such protests being more likely to target US and Western-associated targets due to perceived support for Israel.

## Maritime and Piracy - Low

Morocco's navy has, in recent years, received funding for a modernisation programme. The navy is tasked with securing and protecting the 1,800 miles of the Moroccan coastline. This coastline includes strategic points around the Straits of Gibraltar and along the busy Mediterranean Sea. Due to the location of Morocco's coastline, the navy cooperates closely with the navies of European states such as Spain.

People smugglers operate off the coast of Morocco in the Mediterranean Sea. The country sits at the end of two major people smuggling routes between Africa and Europe. There is firstly the Atlantic route which heads from North Africa to the Canary Islands, and there is secondly the Western Mediterranean route which links the Moroccan coast to the Spanish mainland. In recent years there has been a surge in the number of migrants using the Atlantic route, which is one of the most dangerous illicit migration routes between North Africa and Europe.

One common route for migrant crossings involves attempting illegal entry into the Spanish exclave of Ceuta on Morocco's northern coastline. In September 2024, for example, joint operations by Moroccan and Spanish police led to the mass detention of migrants attempting to swim from Morocco to Ceuta and prompted the closure of the Tarajal border crossing. Mariners transiting near Ceuta are advised to remain vigilant due to this ongoing risk.

## **Health - Moderate**

Medical facilities in major urban areas are typically of good quality. However, foreigners are required to have sufficient insurance in order to receive treatment. Casablanca, Marrakesh and Rabat have good, private medical facilities for non-emergencies. Facilities in rural areas are generally much more limited, and due to the challenging terrain in some regions, particularly in the Atlas Mountains, evacuation in the event of an emergency may prove difficult.

While no vaccinations are typically mandatory, some vaccinations are recommended. Updating diphtheria-tetanus-polio vaccination (DTP) and rubella-mumps-measles vaccination (MMR) is recommended; tuberculosis vaccination is also desirable. Depending on local travel conditions, vaccinations against typhoid fever, meningitis and viral hepatitis A and B may be recommended. Insect-borne diseases (including leishmaniasis and typhus) are common in Morocco.

Dogs, cats, bats and other mammals are known to carry rabies. Under no circumstances should you approach or attempt to pet any animal.

Henna tattoos are popular among locals and tourists. However, some henna tattoos contain the chemical para-phenylenediamine (PPD), which can cause a painful allergic reaction.

## **Environmental - Moderate**

Morocco is vulnerable to a variety of natural hazards such as droughts, earthquakes, extreme heat, floods and wildfires.

Wildfires are common, particularly during the summer months. For example, during the summer of 2022, Morocco was affected by large-scale wildfires in the north. These wildfires broke out after the country saw several heatwaves with temperatures regularly topping 45 degrees Celsius.

The rainy season is from November to March, during which there is an elevated risk of landslides and flooding. The impact of floods in Morocco can be exacerbated by poor drainage systems.

While high-magnitude earthquakes are uncommon in Morocco, they can occur and have previously caused considerable numbers of casualties, such as in 2004 and 2023. The 2023 earthquake was magnitude 6.8 and struck 70 kilometres southwest of Marrakesh, killing at least 2,900 people. While the intensity of the shaking in Marrakesh was less pronounced than in the Atlas Mountains, the historic architecture of Marrakesh's old city (The Medina) led to numerous buildings collapsing.

## **Transportation - Moderate**

The main transportation risks in Morocco are those posed by road moves outside of the major cities, due to the desert climate, irregular standards of infrastructure, and the increased threat of militant groups and banditry. Travel in the north of the country is considered far safer than travel in the southern Sahara region as militant groups are known to be active throughout large areas of rural southern Morocco.

Morocco has a relatively high rate of road traffic accidents. Locals frequently disobey traffic laws, especially in rural areas. Driving at night is considerably more dangerous due to a lack of comprehensive road lighting. While main highways are generally in good condition, potholes and other damage are common. Roads in more rural areas are often heavily potholed or unpaved.

Although an established road network does connect the capital with all major towns and cities throughout the country, it is recommended to conduct road moves outside of the major cities with four-wheel-drive vehicles (4WD). Ensure that you have more than an adequate supply of fuel and limit movement to daylight hours. Travel with a translator who is familiar with the local area. Criminal and militant groups in North Africa are known to kidnap travellers throughout the region, the risk is elevated in rural desert areas.

Police checkpoints are common on main roads. These security points can greatly increase the time spent conducting road movements in the country. To reduce the risk of detention, travellers should comply with all instructions given and ensure that all documentation is in order and at hand when arriving at a security point.

Travellers should avoid using taxis or public transportation due to elevated risks of crime and sexual assault.

<b>EMERGENCY DETAILS</b>	
<b>IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY CONTACT SOLACE GLOBAL 24/7 OPERATIONS CENTRE AT +44 (0)1202 795 801. LOCAL EMERGENCY SERVICES CAN BE REACHED BY: 190 FOR POLICE, OR 150 FOR AN AMBULANCE OF FIRE SERVICE.</b>	
<b>POLICE NUMBER</b>	190
<b>AMBULANCE NUMBER</b>	150
<b>FIRE NUMBER</b>	150

## EMERGENCY DETAILS

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The Gendarmerie (military police) can be contacted at: 177.

## TRAVEL

### TRAVEL ADVICE

Moroccan street names can be in Arabic, French, Berber or Spanish. Due to this disparity, Moroccan street names have been increasingly changed to Arabic in recent years. Therefore, if asking for directions, the answer given may differ from a map.

Morocco is a predominantly Islamic country. The majority of shops will be closed on Fridays, and public sermons are common. Travellers should check the Islamic calendar before planning travel to be aware of religious holidays. During Ramadan, for example, it is illegal for individuals known to be Muslim to violate the fast in public.

Longstanding churches and synagogues exist in many major cities, and religious and/or ethnic violence is highly uncommon. Attempting to convert Muslims, however, is illegal, and authorities have previously deported evangelical Christian preachers.

LGBTQ+ individuals regularly face discrimination and harassment. While there is a perceived higher level of tolerance than in many other Islamic countries, particularly in larger urban centres, homosexuality remains illegal. Public displays of affection, regardless of sexuality, will likely attract unwanted attention.

## SIGNIFICANT DATES

**MARCH 20, 2026**

- **March Equinox:** Morocco - Seasonal
- **Eid al-Fitr:** Morocco - National

**MARCH 21, 2026**

- **Eid al-Fitr holiday:** Morocco - National

**MARCH 22, 2026**

- **Daylight Saving Time starts:** Morocco - Clock change

**MAY 01, 2026**

- **Labour Day/May Day:** Morocco - National

**MAY 27, 2026**

- **Eid al-Adha:** Morocco - National

**MAY 28, 2026**

- **Eid al-Adha holiday:** Morocco - National

**JUNE 17, 2026**

- **Hijra New Year:** Morocco - National

## SIGNIFICANT DATES

**JUNE 21, 2026**

- **June Solstice:** Morocco - Seasonal

**JULY 30, 2026**

- **Feast of the Throne:** Morocco - National

**AUGUST 14, 2026**

- **Anniversary of the Recovery Oued Ed-Dahab:** Morocco - National

**AUGUST 20, 2026**

- **Anniversary of the Revolution of the King and the People:** Morocco - National

**AUGUST 21, 2026**

- **Youth Day:** Morocco - National

**AUGUST 26, 2026**

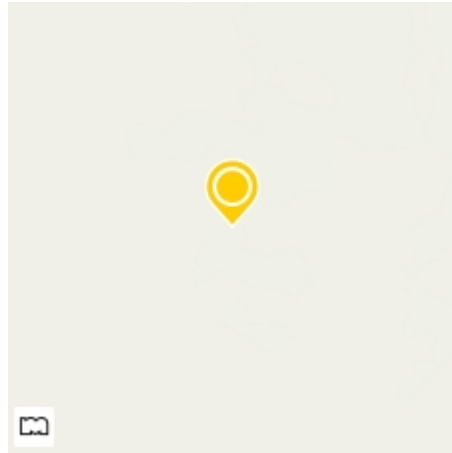
- **The Prophet Muhammad's Birthday:** Morocco - National

**SEPTEMBER 23, 2026**

- **September Equinox:** Morocco - Seasonal

## RECENT ALERTS

### ORANGE RAIN ALERT ISSUED IN NORTHERN MOROCCO DUE TO STORM MARTA



**Category:** Environmental - **Risk:** Moderate

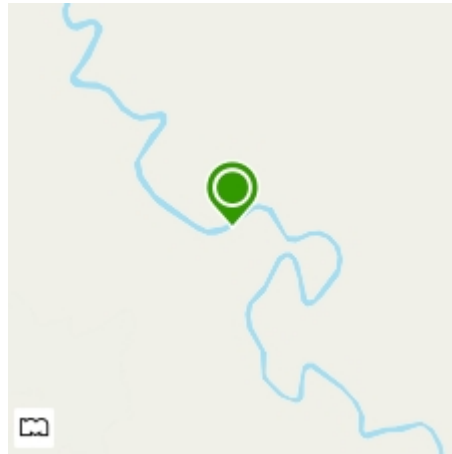


09-Feb-2026 15:52

Local media sources report that an orange rain alert has been issued for northern Morocco till 1200 local time, 10 February, due to Storm Marta. Ground sources report that the alert was issued around 1100 local time, 09 February. Videos and images circulating on social media show streets flooded and heavy rainfall in northern Morocco. At this time, the extent of damage is unclear as the full impact of the storm is unknown. Further information remains limited.

### STORM MARTA IS EXPECTED TO MAKE LANDFALL IN NORTHERN MOROCCO ON 08 FEBRUARY

## RECENT ALERTS



**Category:** Environmental - **Risk:** Low



08-Feb-2026 04:42

The Moroccan General Directorate of Meteorology has reported that heavy rainfall and strong winds from Storm Marta are expected to affect northern Morocco.

The areas affected include Loukkos, Tangier and the Rif, along with the Atlas highlands. The effects of which are expected on 09 February and this comes as

Storm Leonardo has significantly affected the region with flooding, leading to around 150,000 evacuations. We will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates when necessary.

**UPDATE: HEAVY RAINFALL REPORTED IN LARGE PARTS OF MOROCCO DUE TO STORM LEONARDO UNTIL 06 FEBRUARY**

## RECENT ALERTS



**Category:** Environmental - **Risk:** High

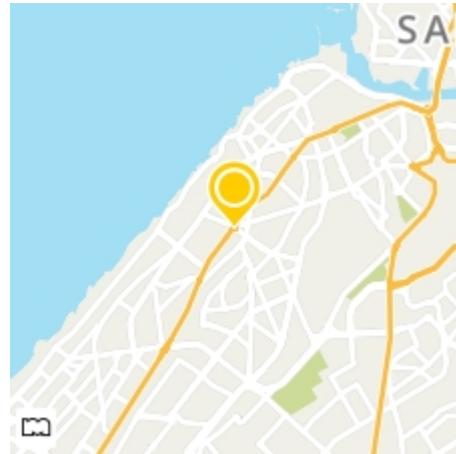


05-Feb-2026 15:09

The Moroccan General Directorate of Meteorology has reported that strong thunderstorms and heavy rainfall are expected in large regions of Morocco until at least 2300 on 06 February. Ksar El Kebir and the surrounding areas are still heavily affected and the Moroccan Ministry of Interior has reported that there have been at least 140,000 evacuees in areas that have been hard hit by the extensive flooding and heavy rainfall. It is unclear when Storm Leonardo will subside; however, it is significantly affecting Spain and Portugal currently.

**WEATHER ALERT FOR HEAVY RAINFALL ACROSS  
NORTHERN AND CENTRAL MOROCCO**

## RECENT ALERTS



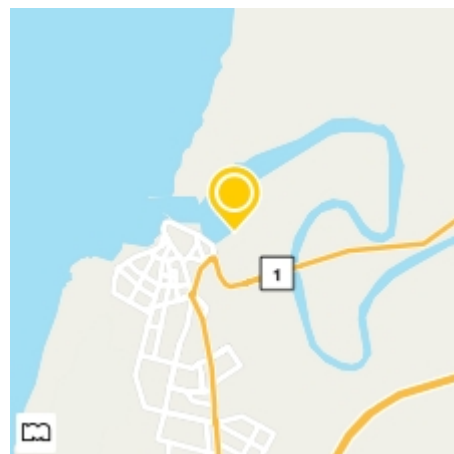
**Category:** Environmental - **Risk:** Moderate



05-Feb-2026 13:40

Moroccan meteorological authorities have issued an orange weather alert for heavy rainfall, possible hail and strong wind gusts across northern and central Morocco for 05-06 February. Heavy thunder alongside rainfall ranging between 60 and 90 millimetres is expected. This comes amid ongoing flooding across several regions of Morocco already.

## EVACUATIONS ORDERED IN LARACHE SEAPORT FOLLOWING FLOOD RISK



## RECENT ALERTS

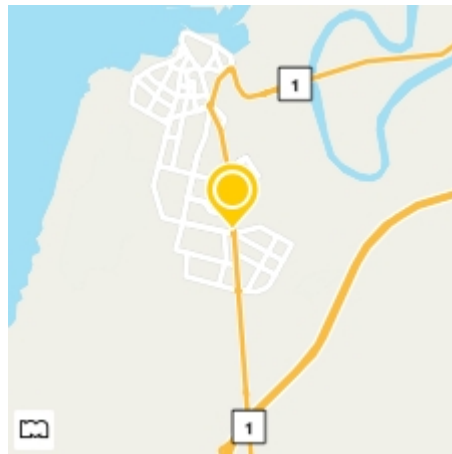
**Category:** Caution - **Risk:** Moderate



04-Feb-2026 19:34

According to local media, the residential areas close to the seaport in the city of Larache have been evacuated as a precautionary measure to mitigate the potential impact of flooding. Further details remain limited at this time.

## FLOODING IN NOTHERN MOROCCO



**Category:** Environmental - **Risk:** Moderate

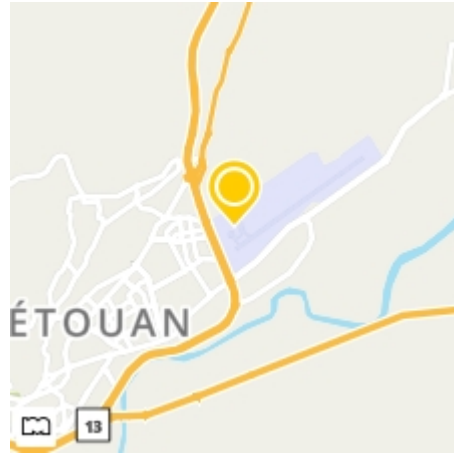


04-Feb-2026 15:41

Local media reports severe flooding in the north of Morocco. The Interior Ministry says 108,423 people have been evacuated from Larache, Sidi Kacem, Sidi Slimane and Kenitra. The floods are a result of weeks of heavy rainfall experienced across the north of the country. Information regarding damages caused by the flooding remains limited at this time.

## RECENT ALERTS

### TETOUAN AIRPORT CLOSED DUE TO FLOODING



**Category:** Travel Information - **Risk:** Moderate

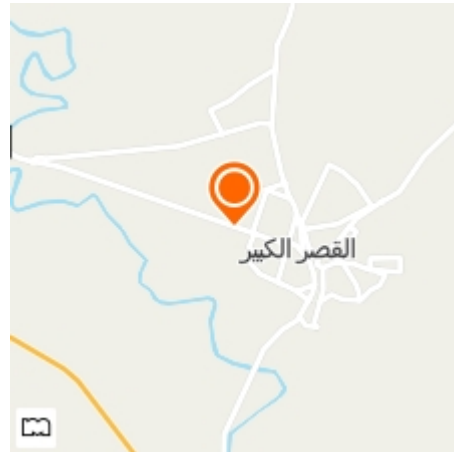


29-Jan-2026 14:21

The Ministry of Transport and Logistics has announced the closure of Sania Ramel Airport as of 29 January. This comes after heavy rainfall experienced by the region, which has led to floods and the subsequent closure of the airspace. This measure has been taken to preserve the safety and security of air navigation. The time the airport is due to reopen is currently unclear but operations will resume as soon as the works from damage caused by the flooding is completed.

### FLOODING IN KSAR EL-KEBIR

## RECENT ALERTS



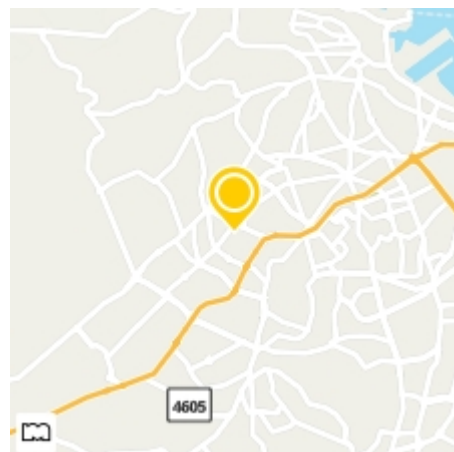
**Category:** Environmental - **Risk:** High



29-Jan-2026 13:24

Local media reports flooding across Ksar el-Kebir in Morocco following heavy rainfall. Footage circulating online shows water reaching waist level in some areas as well as partially submerged vehicles, including cars with their wheels fully submerged. There have been no reports of casualties at this time.

## HEAVY RAINFALL AND STRONG WINDS IMPACTING NORTHERN MOROCCO ON 27 AND 28 JANUARY



**Category:** Environmental - **Risk:** Moderate

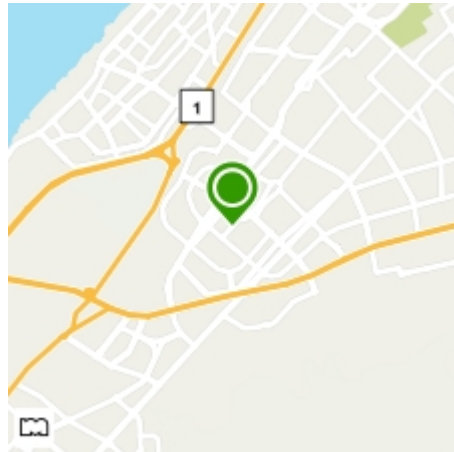
## RECENT ALERTS



27-Jan-2026 10:31

The Moroccan General Directorate of Meteorology (DGM) has reported that heavy rainfall and strong winds are expected in Morocco on 27 and 28 January due to the arrival of Storm Joseph. Heavy rainfall of 40 to 80 millimetres in the provinces of Taounate, Chefchaouen, Ouezzane and Tetouan is expected, with an orange alert issued. Waves of 6 to 7 metres are expected on the Atlantic coast between Tangier and Agadir and 4 to 5 metres in the Strait of Gibraltar which has resulted in the suspension of ferry services. The conditions are expected to improve on 30 January with the storms passing.

## PLANNED PROTEST IN RABAT ON 25 DECEMBER



**Category:** Civil Unrest - **Risk:** Low



25-Dec-2025 07:50

According to local media sources, the GenZ212 Movement have called for a protest in Rabat later today to show support for employees of a textile manufacturing company who are facing labour disputes over alleged unpaid salaries. Participants will gather outside the Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs

## RECENT ALERTS

from 11:00 local time. The turnout and duration of the demonstration are not immediately clear. We will continue to monitor the situation and update accordingly.

# FCDO SUMMARY

Last updated: 02/04/2026 16:05:59

## Warnings and insurance

### Severe weather warnings

Direction Générale de la Météorologie is issuing red-level alerts for several areas across Morocco due to exceptionally heavy rainfall, storm activity and significant flood risk. The situation is changing daily. Monitor the [Direction Générale de la Météorologie](#) website for weather updates.

### Before you travel

No travel can be guaranteed safe. Read all the advice in this guide. You may also find it helpful to:

- see [general advice for women travellers](#)
- read our [guide on disability and travel abroad](#)
- see [general advice for LGBT+ travellers](#)
- read about [safety for solo and independent travel](#)
- see [advice on volunteering and adventure travel abroad](#)

### Travel insurance

If you choose to travel, research your destinations and [get appropriate travel insurance](#). Insurance should cover your itinerary, planned activities and expenses in an emergency.

### About FCDO travel advice

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) provides advice about risks of travel to help you make informed decisions. Find out [more about FCDO travel advice](#).

### Get travel advice updates

Sign up to [get email notifications](#) when this travel advice is updated.

Follow FCDO:

- [travel advice on X](#)
- [travel advice on Facebook](#)
- [Travel Aware on Instagram](#)

## Entry requirements

This information is for people travelling on a full [‘British citizen’ passport](#) from the UK. It is based on the UK government’s understanding of Morocco’s current rules for the most common types of travel.

The authorities in Morocco set and enforce entry rules. If you’re not sure how these requirements apply to you, contact the [Moroccan Consulate General in the UK](#).

## Passport validity requirements

To enter Morocco, your passport must have an ‘expiry date’ at least 3 months after the date you arrive.

Make sure [your passport is not damaged](#). The Moroccan authorities have denied entry to some travellers with damaged passports. Check with your travel provider that your passport and other travel documents meet requirements. [Renew your passport](#) if you need to.

You will be denied entry if you do not have a valid travel document or try to use a passport that has been reported lost or stolen.

## Dual nationals

When returning to the UK, British citizens must carry a valid [British passport](#) or [certificate of entitlement](#). See [Dual citizenship](#).

## Visa requirements

You can visit Morocco without a visa for up to 90 days for tourism.

To stay longer than 90 days, you must request an extension at a Moroccan police station.

If you're going to Morocco for reasons other than tourism, check visa requirements with the [Moroccan Consulate General in the UK](#).

Make sure you get your passport stamped.

Make sure the border official stamps your passport. Some travellers have had difficulties leaving Morocco because their passport has no entry stamp.

## Arriving by private boat

If you arrive by private boat, you must enter at a [recognised port of entry](#). It is illegal to enter through other ports.

## Vaccine requirements

To enter Morocco, you must have a certificate to prove you've had a polio vaccine if you're coming from a polio-affected country.

For full details about medical entry requirements and recommended vaccinations, see [TravelHealthPro's Morocco guide](#).

## Customs rules

There are strict rules about [goods you can take into or out of Morocco](#) (in French). You must declare anything that may be prohibited or subject to tax or duty.

## Taking money into or out of Morocco

You can take up to 2,000 Moroccan dirham into or out of Morocco. The dirham is 'non-convertible' – it cannot be easily exchanged for other currencies .

You must declare foreign currency worth 100,000 Moroccan dirham or more (about 10,000 US dollars) when you enter or leave the country. There is no limit on the amount of foreign cash you can carry.

## Safety and security

## Terrorism

There is a high threat of terrorist attack globally affecting UK interests and British nationals, including from groups and individuals who view the UK and British nationals as targets. Stay aware of your surroundings at all times.

UK Counter Terrorism Policing has information and advice on [staying safe abroad](#) and what to do in the event of a terrorist attack. Find out [how to reduce your risk from terrorism while abroad](#).

## **Terrorism in Morocco**

Terrorists are likely to try to carry out attacks in Morocco.

Terrorism attacks could be indiscriminate, including in places visited by foreign nationals, such as:

- transport hubs
- locations popular with tourists and foreigners
- government buildings
- crowded places
- businesses with western interests

There is an increased threat linked to the number of Moroccans sympathetic or belonging to Daesh (formerly ISIL) and other extremist groups. Authorities regularly disrupt terrorist cells.

In some places, including hotels and tourists sites, there may be protective security measures, including security guards.

## **Political situation**

Protests and demonstrations could occur across the country, particularly in large cities, often without warning. These events are typically monitored closely by law enforcement. While authorised protests are generally peaceful, unauthorised ones have sometimes led to clashes between protesters and police. Such gatherings can cause travel disruption in the affected areas. Avoid political gatherings and demonstrations and follow local news and directions from security officials.

## **Crime**

### **Protecting yourself and your belongings**

There can be occasional violent crime in Morocco. Criminals have used knives against tourists in street attacks, thefts and burglaries in major cities and along beaches. To reduce your risk:

- avoid quiet areas, particularly after dark
- do not carry large amounts of money or valuables

Petty crime is common in tourist areas, especially in historical districts (medina quarters) and on beaches. Crimes include:

- pickpocketing
- bag-snatching
- drive-by motorcycle theft of visible jewellery and handbags

Be cautious when asking for directions and using ATMs – aggressive begging is common.

## **Scams**

Credit card fraud and scams are common. Beware of scammers substituting inferior goods for the ones you bought. Remain alert to potential confidence tricks.

## **Bogus tourist guides**

It is common for people posing as official tourist guides to harass tourists.

If you use a guide in a historical district (medina quarter), make sure they have an official badge and permission from the local authority.

## **Marriage fraud**

Be cautious if you travel to Morocco for a relationship or to find someone you met on the internet. Incidents of marriage fraud and attempted extortion have affected British nationals. Make sure you keep your return ticket, passport and personal belongings safe.

## **Methanol poisoning**

There have been deaths and cases of serious illness caused by alcoholic drinks containing methanol in Morocco.

Even small amounts of methanol can kill. It is not possible to identify methanol in alcoholic drinks by taste or smell. See [Travel Aware Drink Spiking and methanol poisoning](#) for information about how to reduce the risks.

Seek urgent medical attention if you or someone you are travelling with show the [signs of methanol poisoning](#) after drinking.

## **Laws and cultural differences**

Morocco's laws and customs are very different to those in the UK and reflect the fact that Morocco is an Islamic country. Always respect local traditions, customs, laws and religions. Make sure your actions do not offend, especially during the holy month of Ramadan or if you plan to visit religious areas.

### **Sexual relations outside of marriage**

Sexual activity between unmarried people and adultery are illegal for Moroccan nationals – this includes sharing a hotel room, particularly with foreign nationals.

The law regarding unmarried people sharing a hotel room does not generally apply to visiting foreign nationals, particularly in popular tourist areas.

### **Showing affection in public**

Avoid showing affection in public, particularly in tourist areas and near religious sites.

### **Ramadan**

Ramadan is a holy month for Muslims. The dates vary by year and country, check when Ramadan is in Morocco before you go. During this time, do not:

- eat, drink, smoke or chew gum in public in the daytime, including in your car
- play loud music or dance
- swear in public

Get more advice when you arrive from your tour guide, hotel or business contacts.

You should also:

- check opening hours of shops and restaurants

- be aware that if hotels and restaurants are providing food or drink in fasting hours, they may separate you from Islamic guests, for example with screens
- follow local dress codes – clothing that doesn't meet local dress codes may cause more offence at this time
- be aware that driving may be erratic, particularly when people are trying to get home at dusk

## **Illegal drugs**

Illegal drugs, including cannabis, carry severe penalties. You should expect a long jail sentence and heavy fines for possessing, using or smuggling illegal drugs, including when transiting through the airport.

Airports in Morocco have excellent technology and security for detecting illegal items. This is also used to scan the baggage of transiting passengers.

## **LGBT+ travellers**

Same-sex sexual relations are illegal in Morocco. Avoid showing affection in public – complaints can lead to prosecution. See more [advice for LGBT+ travellers](#).

## **Women travellers**

Women may receive unwanted attention in Morocco, especially when travelling alone. Consider wearing loose-fitting clothing which cover the arms, legs and chest. See [advice for woman travellers abroad](#).

## **Alcohol laws**

Licensed hotels and bars in tourist areas serve alcohol. Drinking alcohol in the street and anywhere other than a licensed restaurant or bar is illegal and can lead to arrest.

## **Illegal drugs and prison sentences**

Possessing, using or trafficking illegal drugs is a serious offence and can result in a lengthy prison sentence and a heavy fine.

## **Sending passports by post**

It is illegal to send passports by post in Morocco. The authorities will confiscate British passports sent to or through Morocco by post or courier.

## **Laws against religious conversion**

It is illegal to attempt to convert any Muslim to another faith and to distribute evangelical literature (such as Arabic-language bibles). Attempting to convert a Muslim to another faith is punishable by small fines up to 3 years' imprisonment.

Criticism of Islam on public platforms, in print or online media, or in public speeches is punishable by heavy fines and up to 2 years' imprisonment.

## **Using cameras**

It is illegal to take photographs near sensitive political or military sites.

## **Pornography**

It is illegal to possess pornographic material. This includes printed material, cassettes and videocassettes and any type of material contrary to morality and public order.

## **Flying drones**

You must get permission from the [Directorate General for Civil Aviation](#) (in French) to fly a drone. If you do not, you risk fines and confiscation of your equipment.

## **Transport risks**

### **Road travel**

If you are planning to drive in Morocco, see [information on driving abroad](#).

You'll need to have both the [1968 version of the international driving permit \(IDP\)](#) and your UK driving licence with you in the car. You cannot buy an IDP outside the UK, so get one before you travel. Morocco no longer accepts the 1949 version of the IDP.

If you stay longer than one year, you need a [Moroccan driving licence](#).

You must get a [green card from your insurer](#) and carry it with you to prove you have the minimum insurance cover in Morocco.

Hire car companies often have stricter requirements for their customers, such as a year of driving experience and a higher minimum age.

Drink-driving is a serious offence in Morocco. If you are tested and found to have any alcohol in your system, you will get a fine and possible imprisonment.

## **Driving conditions**

Poor lighting can make it dangerous to drive at night. When weather conditions are poor, secondary routes and mountain roads can be especially hazardous. Be cautious of overloaded lorries and trucks overtaking when there is no hard shoulder

## **Road accidents**

If you're involved in a road accident, complete a form ('constat amiable'), to be signed by both parties. Blank forms are available from insurance company booths in Tangier Port and tobacconists in all cities.

If you're involved in a fatal road accident, and the Moroccan authorities think you're responsible, they may detain you before a trial hearing.

## **Vehicle documentation**

The authorities will record your registration number when you drive into Morocco. If you're not in the same vehicle when you try to leave the country, they will detain you and refuse to let you exit.

You'll need to show evidence of motor insurance when entering and exiting Morocco. Always carry your insurance, licence and registration documents with you.

## **Taxis**

Many taxis booked through phone apps may be unregulated and unlicensed. Drivers may not be registered with the authorities and their vehicles may not be insured to carry passengers. The police may tell you to get out of an unlicensed taxi if they stop it. You should:

- think carefully before using unregulated or unlicensed taxis
- avoid sharing taxis with strangers – if your driver tries to pick up other passengers, insist they do not do this

Drivers of 'petits' or 'grands taxis' sometimes speed and do not follow other driving rules, particularly in big cities.

## **Outdoor activities and adventure travel**

### **Hiking in the Atlas Mountains**

If you're planning to hike in the Atlas Mountains:

- research trails and how much experience you'll need
- pack essentials such as water, sunscreen and appropriate clothing
- hire a professional guide
- get comprehensive travel insurance and make sure it covers your planned activities

## **Extreme weather and natural disasters**

Find out what you can do to prepare for and respond to [extreme weather and natural hazards](#).

### **Earthquakes**

Earthquakes are a risk in Morocco. The last major earthquake, in 2023, killed almost 3,000 people. There are occasional minor earthquakes. Familiarise yourself with earthquake safety procedures and any instructions in hotel rooms.

The US Federal Emergency Management Agency website has advice about [what to do before, during and after an earthquake](#).

### **Flooding**

Heavy rain can cause flash flooding in some areas, particularly in the mountains or near rivers during winter months. Walking and driving can be dangerous in flooded areas. If you're near a flood, monitor local media and follow instructions from local authorities.

## Regional risks

This section has safety advice for regions of Morocco. It only covers regions where the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) has specific advice.

You should also read [FCDO's overall travel advice](#) and [safety and security advice](#).

## Western Sahara

Western Sahara is a disputed territory. If you're in Western Sahara and need emergency help from the UK government, contact the British Embassy in Rabat, Morocco, who provide consular assistance for Western Sahara. See [Western Sahara travel advice](#).

## Morocco-Algeria border

The authorities have closed land and sea borders between Morocco and Algeria. They patrol and closely monitor them. Do not attempt to cross the border – it is illegal to cross without authorisation.

If you are in a boat or jet ski, make sure you:

- know where the border is
- stay within Moroccan waters
- have enough fuel to return to shore

People entering Algerian waters illegally are likely to be intercepted and investigated.

## Health

Before you travel check that:

- your destination can provide the healthcare you may need
- you have appropriate travel insurance for local treatment or unexpected medical evacuation

This is particularly important if you have a health condition or are pregnant.

## Emergency medical number

Dial 150 and ask for an ambulance.

Contact your insurance or medical assistance company quickly if you're referred to a medical facility for treatment.

## Vaccine recommendations and health risks

At least 8 weeks before your trip:

- check the latest [vaccine recommendations for Morocco](#)
- see where to get vaccines and whether you have to pay on the [NHS travel vaccinations page](#)

See [what health risks you'll face in Morocco](#).

Altitude sickness is a risk in parts of Morocco. Read more about [altitude sickness on TravelHealthPro](#).

## Henna tattoos

Henna tattoos can cause a painful allergic reaction including swelling and an itchy rash in some people.

## Medication

If you have a UK prescription and need medication in Morocco, contact the nearest pharmacy. If they do not have your medication, they will ask you to get another prescription from a Moroccan doctor for an alternative medication.

Pharmacies are open 24 hours in every city and district.

The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or bought in the UK can be different in other countries.

Read [best practice when travelling with medicines on TravelHealthPro](#).

## Healthcare in Morocco

Public health facilities in Morocco struggle to provide adequate medical care. Private clinics are available. Make sure you have adequate travel health insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment abroad and repatriation.

ECDC has a [list of medical providers in Morocco](#) where some staff will speak English.

## Travel and mental health

Read [ECDC guidance on travel and mental health](#). There is also [guidance on TravelHealthPro](#).

### Getting help

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) cannot provide tailored advice for individual trips. Read this travel advice and carry out your own research before deciding whether to travel.

## Emergency services in Morocco

Ambulance: 150

Fire: 150

Police: 190

Gendarmerie (military police): 177

## Contact your travel provider and insurer

Contact your travel provider and your insurer if you are involved in a serious incident or emergency abroad. They will tell you if they can help and what you need to do.

### Refunds and changes to travel

For refunds or changes to travel, contact your travel provider. You may also be able to make a claim through insurance. However, insurers usually require you to talk to your travel provider first.

Find out more about [changing or cancelling travel plans](#), including:

- where to get advice if you are in a dispute with a provider
- how to access previous versions of travel advice to support a claim

## Support from **FCDO**

**FCDO** provides guidance on how to help yourself stay safe and what to do if you need help or support abroad, including:

- finding English-speaking [lawyers](#), [funeral directors](#) and [translators and interpreters](#) in Morocco
- dealing with a [death in Morocco](#)
- being [arrested in Morocco](#)
- getting help [if you're a victim of crime](#)
- what to do if [you're in hospital](#)
- [if you are affected by a crisis](#), such as a terrorist attack

## Contacting **FCDO**

### Help abroad

See [how to get help from the UK government abroad](#) including in an emergency.

### Help in the UK

You can call **FCDO** in London if you need urgent help because something has happened to a friend or relative abroad.

Telephone: 020 7008 5000 (24 hours)

[Find out about call charges](#)

## Get travel advice updates

Sign up to [get email notifications](#) when this travel advice is updated.

Follow **FCDO**:

- [travel advice on X](#)
- [travel advice on Facebook](#)

## Risk information for British companies

The Overseas Business Risk service offers [information and advice for British companies operating in Morocco](#) on how to manage political, economic, and business security-related risks.

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## PACK SMART

Only pack items you can replace, leave valuables at home. You will be less likely to attract criminals and if threatened, you won't be tempted to put up a fight to save your belongings.



Carry a duplicate wallet with small denomination notes and old cards that you could relinquish if threatened by robbers. Only pack items you can replace, leave valuables at home. You will be less likely to attract criminals and if threatened, you won't be tempted to put up a fight to save your belongings.



Always check the destination restrictions regarding medications when planning your trip.

**STAY SAFE:** Hotels



Request a hotel room between the third & seventh floor. Ground floor rooms should always be avoided as they are easily accessible from the outside. Higher levels mean in the event of a fire there are many stairs to navigate and in some countries firefighters may not have ladders capable of reaching higher than the seventh floor.



Check your room phone works in case you need to call reception for help.



Know where your fire exits are. Count the number of doors to the fire exit from your room so you can feel your way in the event of a fire and a smoke-filled corridor.



To prevent unauthorised entry into your hotel room, make sure the windows and doors lock. Bolt the deadbolt and use the door wedges you've brought with you from home to wedge the main door closed.

### **TRAVEL SAFE: Out & About**



When you are out and about, be aware of your surroundings - don't display obvious wealth, such as expensive jewellery, watches and mobile phones.



Use ATMs inside banks and shopping centres, where there is greater security and CCTV. Safety in numbers. If you are travelling with colleagues, stay together for meals and trips out. If you are alone, avoid quiet areas and trust your instincts.

**Road traffic accidents are still the greatest threat to travel safety.**



- Use licensed taxis.
- Always wear a seat belt.
- Keep doors locked & windows up.
- Avoid night-time driving.
- If the driver is using a phone or driving dangerously, insist they slow down/stop using their phone.

Check in regularly. Use the 'Check In' button on the Solace Secure app so your location can be monitored and you can view all intelligence alerts within your vicinity.

### **SAFE TRAVEL: Health Tips**

See a medical travel specialist at least 4 weeks before travel.

Ask about recommended vaccines for specific destinations.

First aid kit with regular & special medication for trip - carry in hand luggage.

Evacuation & travel insurance to cover health emergencies while abroad.



Take an extra month of prescribed medication for pre-existing conditions.

Risk of malaria - take precautions to prevent mosquito bites and take malaria pills as advised.



Avoid drinking alcohol and becoming dehydrated.

Verify & consume safe water and food. Have a supply of medicine for self-treatment of diarrhoea.



Excessive sun exposure should be minimised by the use of sunscreen - sun can be more intense over water, snow and at altitude.

Leave animals alone. Animal bites or scratches can transmit rabies.

## **THINK SAFE:** Know Your Destination

Understand the culture of your destination. Dress and behave so as not to cause offence or draw attention.



Know if the tap water is suitable to drink if not; only accept water from a sealed bottle.

Avoid ice in your drinks & salad washed in tap water.

Research where you are travelling to. Make a note of the local emergency services number. Know the current security and medical threats and advice. See the FCO website for general information ([gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](http://gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice)).

## **DOCUMENT SAFE:** Know Your Destination

Take photos/scans of your essential documents and email them to yourself. You can then access them remotely if your belongings are stolen:

- Passport
- Driver's Licence
- Travel Insurance Document
- Visa
- Medical Certificates

For 24/7 travel risk advice and emergency assistance contact Solace Global Risk operations: + 44 (0)1202 795 801

The Solace Secure desktop and app provide up-to-the-minute alerts, providing latest information on your travel location even when you are there.

CONTACT SOLACE GLOBAL RESPONSE TEAM

This report has been prepared for you by Solace Global Risk Ltd.

If you need urgent help, advice or assistance at any time please contact the 24/7 Response and Assistance Team.

If you have a question about this travel advice or any other location please email [SGR@solaceglobal.com](mailto:SGR@solaceglobal.com) for further safety and security information.

For support using your Solace Secure platform or app please contact [support@solaceglobal.com](mailto:support@solaceglobal.com).

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