



Spain - Low



Spain Country Map



POLITICAL



ARMED CONFLICT



TERRORISM



CRIME



CIVIL UNREST



MARITIME AND PIRACY



HEALTH



ENVIRONMENTAL



TRANSPORTATION

Last Published: 16 September 2025

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Spain is a low-risk destination with few notable threats that are likely to significantly affect visits to the country. Spain has a stable political structure, a well-

developed transport infrastructure and good health facilities.

Petty crime presents the greatest threat for travellers, particularly in major cities and tourist hotspots; however, in common with most of Western Europe, violent crime rates are low.

The risk of terrorism is low but Islamist groups are likely to attempt to launch attacks in Spain and have done so successfully on several occasions. Terrorist attacks in Spain are likely to be perpetrated by self-radicalised individuals using low-tech methods, such as bladed weapons and vehicles, to inflict mass casualties. Such attacks can be indiscriminate and can occur with little to no warning.

Protests relating to Catalan independence have previously occurred in Barcelona and other Catalan cities. Although such protests are largely peaceful, some have escalated into violence in the past.

CULTURAL INFORMATION

Cultural Tips

- There are four principle languages in Spain. Castilian Spanish is the main language of business and government. Other official languages include Catalan in Catalonia, Gallego in Galicia, and Euskera (Basque) in the Basque country.
- Smoking is banned in public buildings, restaurants, bars, casinos, airports and outdoor areas near hospitals, schools and children's playgrounds. Smokers caught breaking the ban are subject to a monetary fine.
- In restaurants the law requires menu prices to include the service charge. Tipping is a matter of personal choice, and most people leave some small change if they're satisfied (5% is usually plenty).
- Although many Spaniards speak some English, they appreciate visitors who make an effort to speak Spanish.
- Conversational space is closer in Spain than in some other countries. In addition, a Spanish conversationalist may rest a hand lightly on a listener's forearm.
- In business settings, men and women greet each other with handshakes. Dress codes are not rigid. However, most businessmen wear suits and ties during business hours.

- When entering religious sites (whether for prayer or sightseeing), keep knees and shoulders covered.
- Homosexuality and same-sex marriage are legal in Spain.

KEY FACTS	
CAPITAL	Madrid
CAPITAL CITY PHONE CODE	91
COUNTRY PHONE CODE	34
CURRENCY	Euro
ELECTRICITY	230 V, 50 Hz
GMT	+1
LANGUAGES	Spanish, Catalan, Gallego, Euskera.
LEADERSHIP	Head of State: King Felipe VI; Head of Government: Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez
OFFICE WORK WEEK	Monday-Friday
OFFICIAL COUNTRY NAME	Kingdom of Spain
PLUG STYLES	Types C, F

KEY FACTS	
RELIGION	Roman Catholic 58.2%, Atheist 16.2%, Agnostic 10.8%, Other 2.7%, Non-believer 10.5%, Unspecified 1.7%
TIME ZONE OFFSET	UTC +1
TYPE OF GOVERNMENT	Parliamentary Monarchy

RISK SUMMARY

Political - Low

Spain is a constitutional monarchy where the monarch is the head of state and the Prime Minister is the head of government. The bicameral legislature, the Cortes Generales, is divided into the Senate and the Congress of Deputies. Traditionally, Spanish politics were dominated by two main parties, the Spanish Workers' Socialist Party (PSOE) and the right-wing People's Party (PP); however, the 2019 elections effectively ended the country's two-party system. The new multi-party system now includes the Ciudadanos (Citizens), Podemos (We Can), and Vox parties.

In July 2023, a snap general election was held. This resulted in 137 seats for the conservative People's Party (PP) and 121 seats for the left-wing Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE). Consequently, a political gridlock was created, meaning that no party held an outright majority to form a government. After obtaining the support of the left-wing Sumar alliance, as well as a series of pro-independence and regionalist political parties, the Congress of Deputies re-elected Pedro Sánchez as Prime Minister on 16 November 2023. He was formally appointed to a third term the following day.

Spain's Catalonia region has experienced significant unrest since September 2017. During its independence referendum, 90% of the vote was in support of independence for Catalonia; however, the voter turnout was only 42%. This vote was opposed by the Spanish government in Madrid and was deemed illegal.

On 14 October 2019, nine prominent Catalan separatists were convicted of sedition, disobedience or misuse of public funds.. Following the verdicts, protests erupted, which resulted in violent clashes with security forces and hundreds of arrests. In March 2024, Spain's Parliament approved a controversial amnesty bill aimed at forgiving crimes committed by Catalan separatists during the 2017 independence referendum.

Armed Conflict - Low

Spain is a member of both NATO and the EU and shares its borders with other members of these organisations; as a result, the likelihood of armed conflict within Spain is negligible. Gibraltar has joined the Schengen Area, which allows for free movement with the Spanish mainland.

Spain, along with partner European nations, ended an 11-year military involvement in Mali. Spain is involved in training missions in Iraq and Mozambique. Involvement in these wars may make Spain a possible target for retaliatory attacks from Islamist extremists.

Terrorism - Low

The terror threat in Spain is low and the risk of attacks is on par with much of Western Europe. That said, there is a heightened global threat of terrorism by individuals or groups motivated by conflicts in Syria and Iraq. Moreover, terrorist groups, such as the Islamic State (IS), have threatened to continue planning attacks against European nations, including Spain. Attacks are likely to be perpetrated by self-radicalised individuals using low-tech methods, such as knives and vehicles, to inflict mass casualties. Such attacks can be indiscriminate and can occur with little to no warning. Therefore, travellers are advised to maintain a high degree of situational awareness at all times.

Basque separatists have previously posed a major threat within the country however, since the dissolution of prominent domestic terror group Euskadi Ta Askatasuna (ETA), campaigns for independence are now generally peaceful.

In 2024, Spain remains at level 4 of its five-tiered anti-terror alert system, indicating a high risk of terrorist attacks. Spain has seen an increase in antisemitic incidents linked to the Israel-Hamas conflict, with heightened security measures around Jewish sites.

Crime - Low

Violent crime is low in Spain; however, petty theft is very common, and tourists can be targeted at popular tourist hot spots as well as transport hubs, such as airports or railway stations. Visitors should take sensible precautions to avoid exposing valuable belongings such as passports, jewellery, or excessive quantities of cash. Petty theft remains a significant issue, particularly in tourist areas like Barcelona and Madrid.

Sexual assaults and physical attacks are rare, though they do occur. There have been reports of date-rape drugs being used in bars and nightclubs in major cities. Travellers are advised to buy their own drinks and keep sight of them at all times.

Prime tourist locations along the South Coast experience above-average rates of alcohol-related violent and sexual crimes. Typically, such crimes are a result of altercations between visitors. Basic precautions, such as travelling with a friend or colleague and only using licensed taxis, will help to mitigate the majority of risks. Sexual assaults can occur in clubs and bars.

Criminals are known to target foreign-registered cars and hire vehicles, particularly those towing caravans, travelling along motorways. Criminals have been known to forcefully make vehicles pull over before robbing the occupants. If you need to pull over while driving in Spain, it is advisable to do so in a well-lit public area.

Global criminal cartels have been known to reside in the Costa Del Sol region of southern Spain, leading to several recent high-profile arrests by Spanish police and international law enforcement partners.

Civil Unrest - Moderate

Protests are frequent in Spain. They are generally non-violent; however, property damage and vandalism are not uncommon. Travellers should be aware that protests are likely to trigger localised disruptions to travel. Protests usually occur in main squares, in front of government buildings or in topic-relevant locations.

Some sporting events, particularly football matches, may also result in unrest on the streets of larger cities following major games, with alcohol as a contributing factor. General strikes can cause disruptions to public transportation, a temporary

shutdown in public services, and large street protests.

Influential labour groups such as the Workers' Commissions (CCOO) and the General Confederation of Labor (CGT) can mobilise large numbers of demonstrators to the streets, particularly in Barcelona, and are also capable of staging disruptive strikes in the transport sector. The Association for the Victims of Terrorism (AVT) can also mobilise large numbers of protesters, notably in Madrid.

Catalan independence-related issues are likely to prompt disruptive protests mainly in Barcelona and other Catalan cities, as well as localised demonstrations around Catalonia, and sporadically in central Madrid. Protests intensified in October and November 2019 following the imprisonment of nine prominent Catalan leaders on 14 October. In November 2023, tens of thousands of people protested across Spain against Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez's plans to grant amnesty to Catalan separatists in exchange for support for another term in office.

From October 2023 to May 2024, Spain experienced a series of protests against the at-the-time proposed amnesty for Catalan separatists. These protests, often backed by right-leaning political parties and civil society groups, led to clashes with police and significant disruptions in major cities.

Environmental disasters can be a driver of unrest. In November 2024, thousands protested in Valencia over the government's handling of catastrophic floods, resulting in clashes with riot police.

Spain is a major epicentre of anti-tourism protests, especially in popular destinations such as Madrid and Barcelona, where demonstrators have taken actions such as spraying tourists with water and chanting at popular attractions.

Maritime and Piracy - Low

There is no threat of piracy along the Spanish coastline. Vessels transiting through Spanish waters must adhere to the established traffic separation schemes (TSS) to ensure safe navigation. These schemes are designed to minimise the risk of collisions and congestion. Details of these should be checked on official channels pre-navigation. While Spain maintains sovereignty over most of its territorial waters, there are ongoing sovereignty disputes, particularly concerning the waters surrounding the British overseas territory of Gibraltar. The Gibraltar

Strait, which separates the European continent and Morocco, is one of the world's busiest shipping routes and is crucial for international maritime trade. Spain's ports, including those in Barcelona, Valencia, and Bilbao, are well-developed, modern, and offer high-quality facilities for international trade and cruise ships. However, maritime risks exist around Spain's islands, including the Canary Islands and the Balearics, where local weather conditions, strong currents, and the proximity to shipping lanes can pose challenges to navigation.

Spain's north African enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla, as well as the short sea crossing to Europe, have acted as a pull factor for migration from northern and sub-Saharan Africa. Ceuta in particular suffers regular attempts to breach its border by large crowds of migrants, although these are often captured and returned by cooperating Moroccan and Spanish police. There is also an issue with migrants attempting to stow away on lorries and ferries departing Morocco to Spain, although this issue has not escalated to the extent seen in the eastern Mediterranean.

A British vessel recently fired flares at a Spanish coast guard vessel which was harassing shipping and operating erratically within UK/Gibraltarian waters. The situation was resolved with no further issues.

Health - Low

Health facilities in Spain are generally well-equipped and staff are very well-trained. If visiting Spain for adventure tourism, it is advisable to ensure you have adequate health insurance in case of an emergency. Vaccines that are routine in most western nations are recommended such as measles, mumps, rubella and tetanus. Over exposure to heat and sun pose a threat especially in the summer months and there have been cases of mosquito-borne diseases such as West Nile virus. Tap water is generally safe to drink although in some rural areas bottled water may be preferable. Most medical staff will have a decent proficiency in English however this becomes less likely in rural areas. EU or EEA citizens have access to public healthcare via a European Health Insurance Card. Non-EU visitors should have comprehensive travel insurance that is appropriate to the activities they are undertaking.

Environmental - Moderate

Flooding does occur across parts of the country following periods of heavy or protracted rainfall. On 29 October 2024, torrential rain caused extreme flooding in Valencia, Albacete, and Málaga. The disaster led to 232 deaths, with three further people missing. The flood caused approximately eleven billion euros in damage. The destruction and casualties were exacerbated by poor planning, preparation, and disaster response. The flooding triggered significant anger among the Spanish population due to a lack of warning and support. The government and civil agencies have undertaken steps to improve future disaster responses.

Spain has recently experienced multiple summers with record-high temperatures, leading to more frequent and severe weather events. The country has experienced significant wildfires in recent years. The Summer 2025 fire season was the worst in decades for the European Union (EU). Spain itself has seen more than 400,000 hectares burnt in 2025. This is six times the Spanish average for the same time period between 2006 and 2024. The 2025 wildfires triggered widespread evacuations and led to multiple deaths. The heatwave, which intensified the fires, was also linked to excess deaths.

Travellers should take care when swimming in the sea. Some beaches, especially around the Spanish Islands, may have strong undercurrents. Most of them have a flag system. Before swimming, travellers should make sure they understand the system and follow any warnings.

Volcanic activity is known to occur in the Canary Islands. During September and October 2021, eruptions from the volcano on the Island of La Palma resulted in some 8,000 people being evacuated. 1,483 acres of land were destroyed by the lava flow. Flights at La Palma airport were also significantly disrupted due to ash emissions.

Transportation - Low

Road conditions in Spain differ. The rural areas outside of city centres may have poorly maintained and narrow roads, it is not uncommon for livestock to be found on the thoroughfare. Traffic is fast-paced in cities such as Madrid and Barcelona,

and motorbikes frequently manoeuvre between tight spaces and lanes. Traffic during July and August is often heavy due to the tourist season, this also applies to Easter and Christmas holidays. The road network is good, and major cities are served by highways or four-lane roads. Most motorways have an electronic system of payment known as the Sanef Toll Tag, which allows you to travel on French, Spanish and Portugal motorways without stopping for tolls.

Temporary restrictions may apply to car use in Madrid on days when air pollution levels are high. When in force, only cars with a number plate ending in an even number are allowed to circulate on even dates, and cars with number plates ending in an odd number on odd dates. Restrictions apply within the city boundaries (within the M30 inner ring road) between 06:30 and 21:00.

Rail and bus services have been assessed as adequate and cost-efficient. Railway stations are generally close to city centres. Baggage security checks, similar to those at airports are present across all Spanish AVE rail lines. All regional capitals are connected via rail. Multiple connections via ferries and fast ships are available daily. Connections to Alicante only operate twice a week except in summer when it runs daily.

Public transport can often be affected by strikes, so it is best to monitor local media for news. In November 2024, a dispute over pay led to intermittent bus strikes over the festive period.

EMERGENCY DETAILS

**SOLACE GLOBAL:- +44 (0)1202 795801. GENERAL EMERGENCIES:- 112.
U.S EMBASSY MADRID:- + 34 91 587 2200, BRITISH EMBASSY MADRID:-
+34 91 714 6300.**

**U.S CONSULATE BARCELONA:- +34 93 280 2227 , BRITISH CONSULATE
BARCELONA:- +34 93 366 6200.**

**U.S CONSULATE MALAGA:- +34 95 247 4891, BRITISH CONSULATE
MALAGA:- + 34 952 35 23 00.**

EMERGENCY DETAILS	
U.S CONSULATE LAS PALMAS:- +34 92 822 5863, BRITISH CONSULATE LAS PALMAS:- +34 928 26 25 08.	
U.S CONSULATE PALMA DE MALLORCA:- +34 97 140 3707, BIRITSH CONSULATE PALMA DE MALLORCA:- +34 93 366 6200.	
POLICE NUMBER	112
AMBULANCE NUMBER	112
FIRE NUMBER	112
EMERGENCY DETAILS	

TRAVEL

TRAVEL ADVICE

Road conditions in Spain differ. The rural areas outside of city centres may have poorly maintained and narrow roads. Rural areas can be dangerous due to live-stock on the roads, caution should be applied, especially after dark. Traffic is fast-paced in cities such as Madrid and Barcelona, with motorbikes frequently manoeuvring between tight spaces and lanes. Traffic during July and August is often heavy due to the tourist season; this also applies to the Easter and Christmas holidays.

Travellers using vehicles should adhere to local driving laws and customs and ensure they take all appropriate security measures.

Public transport is widely available and of a good standard. However, recent strikes and severe weather conditions have caused disruptions in some areas. It is advisable to check the latest updates before travelling. Taxis can be expensive,

and some unlicensed taxis will attempt to transfer from airports. Travellers should pre-book taxis or use remote hailing apps such as Bolt or Uber.

Travellers should be prepared for the possibility of delays when crossing borders between Spain and Gibraltar.

General Advice for Travel Safety

- Consider avoiding cheaper accommodation: Ensure your room door and windows can be safely locked, and that the hotel has a 24hr reception.
- Avoid walking alone and in isolated areas during night hours. Minimise travel after dark as risks are not entirely mitigated even when in a small group, including those involving men.
- Be aware when in restaurants and bars and always keep an eye on your drink; never accept food or drink from strangers.
- Avoid getting overly intoxicated.
- Always maintain a formal tone with strangers or recent acquaintances, following the aforementioned precaution around your beverages. It is always advised not to go to bars and clubs alone.
- If confronted with an uncomfortable or threatening situation, attempt to leave; otherwise, try to attract attention to yourself and call for help.
- Do not hesitate to go to the police if feeling uneasy or threatened. Even a phone call is often enough to prevent harassment.
- If you become the victim of assault or suspect you have, you should seek professional medical advice and support immediately, as well as inform the police.

In Spain, the **specific risk to higher vulnerability travellers is LOW**. However, following common sense precautions and maintaining good situational awareness is important to minimise threats.

SIGNIFICANT DATES

DECEMBER 21, 2025

SIGNIFICANT DATES

- **December Solstice:** Spain - Seasonal

DECEMBER 24, 2025

- **Christmas Eve:** Spain - Observance

DECEMBER 25, 2025

- **Christmas Day:** Spain - National

DECEMBER 26, 2025

- **St Stephen's Day:** Spain - Balearic Islands, Catalonia - Local holiday

DECEMBER 28, 2025

- **Feast of the Holy Family:** Spain - Observance

DECEMBER 31, 2025

- **New Year's Eve:** Spain - Observance

JANUARY 01, 2026

- **New Year's Day:** Spain - National

JANUARY 02, 2026

SIGNIFICANT DATES

- **Reconquest Day:** Spain - Granada - Local holiday

JANUARY 06, 2026

- **Epiphany:** Spain - National

JANUARY 29, 2026

- **St. Valero's Feast:** Spain - Zaragoza - Local holiday

FEBRUARY 14, 2026

- **Valentine's Day:** Spain - Observance

FEBRUARY 18, 2026

- **Ash Wednesday:** Spain - Observance

FEBRUARY 28, 2026

- **Day of Andalucía:** Spain - Andalusia - Local holiday

MARCH 01, 2026

- **Day of the Balearic Islands:** Spain - Balearic Islands - Local holiday

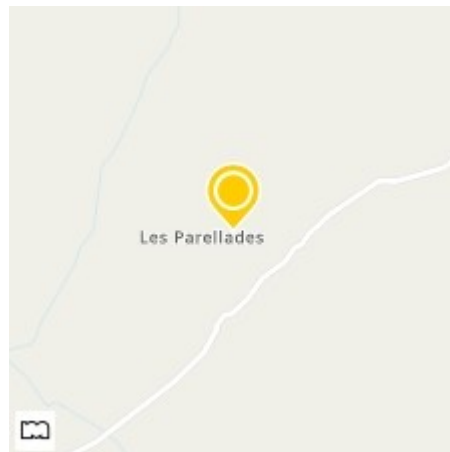
MARCH 05, 2026

SIGNIFICANT DATES

- **Fifth of March:** Spain - Zaragoza - Local holiday

RECENT ALERTS

RED WEATHER WARNING IN COASTAL AREAS OF TARRAGONA PROVINCE DUE TO STORM EMILIA



Category: Environmental - **Risk:** Moderate



15-Dec-2025 13:33

Local media sources report that a red weather warning has been issued in coastal areas of Tarragona Province, Tortosa, Mora d'Ebre and Falset. Ground sources report that there is a high risk of flooding and overflowing rivers. At this time it is unclear whether there are any casualties in this area. Further information remains limited.

RECENT ALERTS

PLANNED PROTESTS IN SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA ON 16 AND 17 DECEMBER



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



15-Dec-2025 06:12

According to local media sources, teachers in Santiago de Compostela are planning two days of strike action and demonstrations on 16 and 17 December as part of an ongoing labour dispute with the regional government over public education conditions. On 16 December, participants will gather from 10:00 local time at the CEIP Monte dos Postes and IES Pontepedriña, before marching to Alameda Park. On 17 December, the march will begin at 11:30 from Pazo do Hórreo to San Caetano. Further information is limited at this time.

RED WEATHER WARNING IN EFFECT FOR PARTS OF ANDALUSIA AND VALENCIA REGIONS





Category: Environmental - **Risk:** Moderate



14-Dec-2025 14:43

Local media sources report that a red weather warning has been issued for parts of Andalusia and Valencia regions on 14 December. This specifically affects the Northern and Southern Coasts of Valencia, the Almoanza Valley and the Los Velez region. This weather alert has been put into effect due to heavy rain, with Valencia forecast to have at least 180 millimetres. Ground sources have reported that there is a significant risk of flooding in these affected areas.

We will continue to monitor the situation and will update accordingly.

PLANNED PROTEST IN SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA ON 14 DECEMBER



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

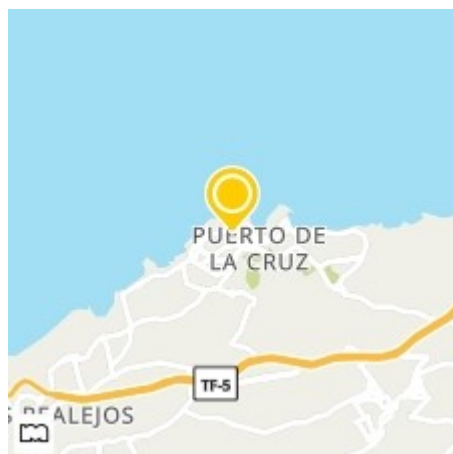
RECENT ALERTS



14-Dec-2025 05:34

According to local media sources, a protest will take place in Santiago de Compostela on the afternoon of 14 December against the planned construction of a cellulose and textile-fibre factory in Lugo's Palas de Rei. Participants will gather from 12:00 local time at Parque de la Alameda, before marching towards Praza do Obradoiro. The turnout for the event is not immediately clear; however, a previous related demonstration convened thousands of protestors. We will continue to monitor the situation and update accordingly.

FLOODING IN CENTRAL PUERTO DE LA CRUZ AMID STORM EMILIA



Category: Environmental - **Risk:** Moderate



14-Dec-2025 01:20

Local media reports flooding in Plaza del Charco, Puerto de la Cruz, following a period of heavy rain in northern Tenerife by Storm Emilia. Videos circulating on social media show the square show cars driving through a build-up of shin-deep

RECENT ALERTS

water in the area. The Spanish State Meteorological Agency (AMEAT) has issued a special weather warning for most of the Canary Islands, warning of heavy rain, snowstorms, strong winds and high waves, particularly in coastal areas of the archipelago. We will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary.

RED WEATHER WARNING FOR HEAVY RAIN ISSUED FOR ALMERIA AND COASTAL VALENCIA



Category: Environmental - **Risk:** Moderate



14-Dec-2025 01:16

The Spanish State Meteorological Agency (AEMET) has issued a red weather warning for coastal areas of Valencia, as well as Almería, due to very heavy rainfall forecast throughout 14 December. For Valencia, a severe rainfall risk is in effect for both the northern and southern coastal areas from 12:00 to 23:59 on 14 December, with the possibility of extension into the early morning hours of 15 December. Accumulated rainfall of up to 180 mm is forecast, with the heaviest impact expected to affect the southern half of the zone. Total rainfall may exceed 250 mm. In Almería, the Valle del Almanzora and Los Vélez areas also remain under an extraordinary rainfall warning from 06:00 to 23:59 on 14

RECENT ALERTS

December. We will continue to monitor the situation and update accordingly.

INDEFINITE STRIKE PLANNED BY RAILWAY WORKERS TO COMMENCE ON 15 DECEMBER IN MADRID



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



12-Dec-2025 09:29

According to local media sources, workers from the BTREN railway maintenance company have planned to strike indefinitely from 00:00 local time on 15 December. The strike follows stalled collective bargaining over salaries and other working conditions, and is expected to significantly affect high-speed services and commuter trains (Cercanías). The extent of possible disruptions is not immediately clear, and further information is limited.

COASTAL WAVE WARNING IN EFFECT FOR NORTH-WESTERN COASTS OF PORTUGAL AND SPAIN

RECENT ALERTS



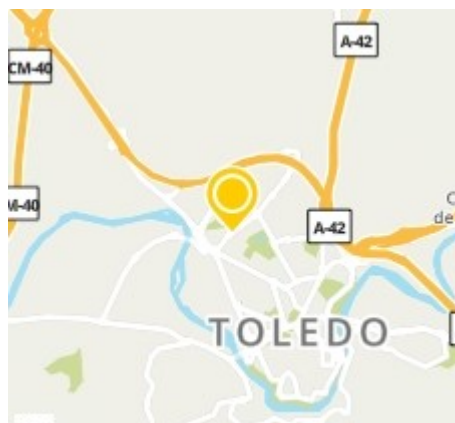
Category: Environmental - **Risk:** Moderate



02-Dec-2025 19:42

Portugal and Spain's meteorological agencies have issued orange wave warnings for the northwestern coasts of both countries. The alert covers areas from Lisbon in Portugal up to Bilbao in northern Spain. Forecasters warn of waves reaching 5 to 6 meters, with maximum heights of up to 11 meters. The warnings are expected to remain in effect until the evening of 3 December.

HEIGHTENED EMERGENCY SERVICES PRESENCE FOLLOWING FIRE AT AN APARTMENT BLOCK ON AVENIDA DE PORTUGAL IN TOLEDO





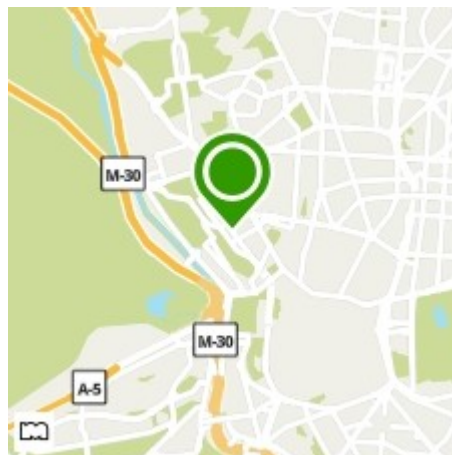
Category: Caution - **Risk:** Moderate



02-Dec-2025 11:20

Local media have reported that an explosion and large fire have been reported at an apartment block on Avenida de Portugal near the Beunavista ring road in Toledo. The incident occurred at around 0900 local time, and at around 1100 the fire is said to have been extinguished. A heightened fire and emergency services presence is still expected at the scene pending an investigation, with at least three injuries reported.

ANTI-GOVERNMENT PROTESTS TO TAKE PLACE IN MADRID ON 30 NOVEMBER



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



27-Nov-2025 23:49

According to local media, protests are planned in Madrid on 30 November to

RECENT ALERTS

voice opposition to alleged government corruption. Participants will gather outside the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) headquarters on Calle de Ferraz from 13:00 local time. Separately, the People's Party (PP) has also called for a demonstration at the Templo de Debod, starting at noon. The turnout for both events is not immediately known, and further information remains limited.

FCDO SUMMARY

Last updated: 12/10/2025 13:41:32

Warnings and insurance

Before you travel

If you are planning to travel to Spain through France, check the [travel advice for France](#) before you start your journey.

If you are planning to travel to Spain through Gibraltar, check the [travel advice for Gibraltar](#) before you start your journey.

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

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- [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 the current rules for the most common types of travel.

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

Passport validity requirements

Spain follows [Schengen area rules](#). Your passport must:

- have a ‘date of issue’ less than 10 years before the date you arrive – if you renewed your passport before 1 October 2018, it may have a date of issue that is more than 10 years ago
- have an ‘expiry date’ at least 3 months after the day you plan to leave the Schengen area (the expiry date does not need to be within 10 years of the date of issue)

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 [travel without a visa to the Schengen area](#), which includes Spain, for up to 90 days in any 180-day period. This applies if you travel:

- as a tourist
- to visit family or friends
- to attend business meetings, cultural or sports events
- for short-term studies or training

The requirements for [working in Spain](#) are different.

If you're travelling to other Schengen countries as well, make sure your whole visit is within the 90-day visa-free limit. Visits to Schengen countries in the 180 days before you travel count towards your 90 days. If you overstay the 90-day visa-free limit, you may be banned from entering Schengen countries for up to 3 years.

If you are visiting Spain and need to extend your visa-free stay for exceptional reasons, such as a medical emergency, you must [apply to the immigration authorities](#) ('Extranjería').

Until the Entry-Exit System (EES) is fully rolled out, make sure you get your passport stamped on entry and exit (read 'New Schengen entry requirements').

If you're a visitor, border guards will look at your entry and exit stamps to check you have not overstayed the 90-day visa-free limit for the Schengen area.

If your passport is missing a stamp, show evidence of when and where you entered or left the Schengen area (for example, boarding passes or tickets) and ask the border guards to add the date and location in your passport.

British nationals living in Spain do not need their passports to be stamped. Actively show your proof of residence, such as the foreigner's identity card ('la tarjeta de identidad de extranjero' or 'TIE'), when presenting your passport at Spanish border control.

At Spanish border control, you may need to show:

- a return or onward ticket
- proof of your travel insurance
- you have enough money for your stay - the amount varies depending on

your accommodation

- a hotel booking confirmation or proof of address if you're staying at your own property
- an invitation or proof of address if staying with a third party, friends or family, such as a 'carta de invitation' completed by your hosts

Using the e-gates

Use the desks staffed by border officers. If you're aged 18 or over, and airport staff instruct you to, you may be able to use e-gates when they are working.

If you use an e-gate, make sure you get your passport stamped.

Staying longer than 90 days in a 180-day period

To stay longer, you must [meet the Spanish government's entry requirements](#). If you're in Spain with a residence permit or long-stay visa, this does not count towards your 90-day visa-free limit.

Read more about [entry processes if you live in Spain](#).

If you cannot return to the UK before your visa-free limit expires, [contact the Spanish government's national information service](#). Dial 060 from a Spanish phoneline (in Spanish, with English speaking operators available).

New Schengen entry requirements

From 12 October 2025, the European Union's (EU) new Entry/Exit System (EES) will begin roll out.

This means that when you travel into the Schengen area for short stays, you may need to register your biometric details, such as fingerprints and a photo. You do not need to take any action before you arrive at the border, and there is no cost for EES registration.

On your first visit into a Schengen country from 12 October onwards, you may be asked to register your details at a special booth before proceeding to the immigration desk. Follow directions from your travel operator or the staff at your port of entry. You may also need to provide either your fingerprint or photo when you leave the Schengen area. Children aged 11 or younger will not have their

fingerprints scanned but can be required to have their photo taken.

EES may take each passenger a few extra minutes to complete so be prepared to wait longer than usual at the border.

EES will not be rolled out to all ports of entry at once, the numbers of passengers being registered at each port of entry will vary, and some destinations may take up to 6 months to fully roll out the new process.

Until EES is fully rolled out your passport will continue to be stamped, even if you've already been registered for EES. Once EES is fully rolled out, it will replace the current system of manually stamping passports when visitors arrive in the Schengen area for short stays and you will input biometric details every time you enter or exit.

If you enter the Schengen area through the Port of Dover, Eurotunnel at Folkestone or Eurostar at St Pancras International and you are asked to register for EES, the information will be taken at the border before you leave the UK.

Read more [information on the EU Entry/Exit System and to understand which countries are in the Schengen area](#).

Travelling between Spain and Gibraltar

Spanish border checks can cause delays when crossing between Spain and Gibraltar. If you are travelling to Spain through Gibraltar, [check the travel advice for entry requirements for Gibraltar](#).

There is no charge to enter or leave Gibraltar. Do not hand over money to anybody claiming there is a charge.

Unaccompanied minors

Spanish law considers anyone aged 17 and under to be a minor. If an unaccompanied minor comes to the attention of the Spanish authorities (particularly in connection with criminal incidents or when in hospital), they will be considered vulnerable and may be taken to a minor's centre until a parent or guardian is found.

Vaccine requirements

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

Customs rules

There are strict rules about what [goods can be taken into and out of Spain \(PDF\)](#). You must declare anything that may be prohibited or subject to tax or duty.

Taking food into Spain

You cannot take [meat, milk or products containing them into EU countries](#). There are some exceptions such as powdered baby milk, baby food and special foods or pet feed required for medical reasons.

Taking money into Spain

Declare cash or travellers cheques if the value is 10,000 euros or more. You will get a certified declaration to show you brought it in with you. If you do not, your money could be seized when you leave.

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 Spain

Terrorists are likely to try and carry out attacks in Spain.

Attacks could be indiscriminate, including in places visited by foreign nationals. Stay aware of your surroundings, keep up to date with local media reports and

follow the advice of local authorities.

In January 2023, one person was killed and others injured in a machete attack at 2 churches in Cadiz

Political situation

Demonstrations, political gatherings or marches can take place with little or no warning, particularly in cities. Follow the advice of police and local authorities.

While most demonstrations are peaceful, there is a risk of unrest or violence. If you're near areas where demonstrations are taking place, be aware of what is happening around you and move away if there are signs of disorder.

Lost or stolen passports

If your passport is lost or stolen, you must [renew your passport](#) or [apply for an emergency travel document](#). You cannot use a police report to leave Spain.

Crime

Protecting your belongings

Be alert to the risk of street crime. Thieves use distraction techniques and often work in teams. Take care of your passports, money and personal belongings, particularly when collecting or checking in luggage at the airport, and while arranging car hire.

Do not carry all your valuables in one place. Keep a copy of the photo page of your passport somewhere safe.

Make sure your accommodation has adequate security. Keep all doors and windows locked. If you're concerned about the security of your accommodation, speak to your travel operator or the property owner.

The Spanish Police and Civil Guard have a mobile app which offers a number of services, including simple and discreet communication with police forces if you experience or witness a crime – more information can be found on the [ALERT COPS webpage](#).

Vehicle crime

'Highway pirates' target foreign-registered and hire cars, especially those towing caravans. They may flag you down, claiming there is something wrong with your car or that you have damaged theirs. If you decide to stop to check the condition of a vehicle, stop in a public area with lights, such as a service station. Be wary of anyone offering help.

When driving, be wary of approaches from people posing as plainclothes police in unmarked cars. In all traffic-related matters, police officers will usually be in uniform.

Unmarked police vehicles have a flashing electronic sign on the rear window saying 'Policía' or 'Guardia Civil'. Genuine police will only ask you to show vehicle documents – not to hand over your bag or wallet.

Attacks and sexual assault

Attacks, including sexual assaults, are rare but do occur. In an emergency call 112.

Avoid splitting up from your friends, do not leave drinks unattended and do not go off with people you do not know. Save the location of your accommodation on your maps app, so it's easy to find. [See TravelAware 'Stick with your mates'](#) for tips and advice.

See advice on [getting help if you are a victim of crime abroad](#).

[British Consulates in Spain](#) (+34 917 146 300 or +44 207 008 5000) can provide local information and support.

Drink spiking and alcohol

Be alert to the possible use of 'date rape' and other drugs including GHB and liquid ecstasy.

Buy your own drinks and always keep them in sight to avoid them being spiked. Alcohol and drugs can reduce your vigilance, making you less in control. If you drink, know your limit. Drinks served in bars in Spain are often stronger than those in the UK.

Scams

Thieves posing as police officers may ask to see your wallet, claiming they need to see it for identification. Genuine police officers will ask to see ID but will not ask for wallets or purses. All police officers, including those in plain clothes, carry official ID.

Timeshares and holiday clubs

Be cautious if you are planning to buy or sell a timeshare. There are companies who offer false incentives.

Read [timeshare fraud advice from Action Fraud](#).

Laws and cultural differences

Personal ID

You must provide photo ID if asked by a police officer. This includes the Guardia Civil and national, regional and local police forces. The police have the right to hold you at a police station until they have confirmed your identity.

Ignoring direct requests of a police officer can be considered as 'disobedience', which is a criminal offence.

Hotels, tourist accommodation and car rental companies have a legal duty to register passport and other details of tourists who check in or collect a vehicle.

When checking in to your accommodation, wait until hotel staff have registered your passport details, or taken a copy of your passport. Do not leave your passport at reception to collect later.

You may need to show ID when buying goods with credit or debit cards. Some shops will accept your driving licence or a copy of your passport, but some may ask for your passport.

Alcohol laws and bans

It's illegal to drink alcohol in the street in some areas of Spain. You can get an on-the-spot fine. There are strict controls on drinking and sexual activity in public places, including on beaches.

Alcohol laws in the Balearic Islands

Local laws limit the sale and availability of alcohol in areas of some resorts on the Balearic Islands, including:

- Magaluf (Calvià), Mallorca
- Playa de Palma, Mallorca
- San Antonio (San Antoni de Portmany), Ibiza

This bans:

- happy hours
- open bars (such as 'all you can drink in one hour' offers)
- the sale of alcohol from vending machines
- self-service alcohol dispensers
- organising pub crawls and party boat trips
- 'off-licence' sales between 9:30pm and 8am

Hotels and other establishments will evict you if you behave dangerously on balconies. You could also get a fine.

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 airports. Possession of even a small quantity of drugs can lead to arrest and detention.

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

Illegal commercial parties in villas and private homes

There have been a number of serious accidents involving people attending illegal commercially promoted parties in villas and private homes on the islands of Ibiza and Mallorca.

Licensed clubs and bars have to meet safety and security standards, including emergency exits and capacity limits, and have trained, licensed security staff.

Illegal commercial parties may not meet these standards. Take care of your

belongings, make sure you know where emergency exits are and do not take unnecessary risks.

You may get a fine for attending illegal commercially promoted parties.

Dress code

In some parts of Spain it's illegal to be in the street wearing only a bikini or swimming shorts. Being bare-chested is also illegal in some areas in Spain. You could be fined if you're caught wearing swimwear on the seafront promenade or adjacent streets.

For security reasons, some public authorities in Spain do not allow the burka or niqab to be worn in their buildings. If you visit town council buildings wearing a burka or niqab, you may be asked to remove it while inside.

Changing money

Always use official money exchange offices or banks because unofficial money changers may give you counterfeit money. Possession or use of counterfeit money is considered a serious crime in Spain and may lead to prosecution.

LGBT+

Spain is a generally tolerant and progressive place for LGBT+ travellers. There are active LGBT+ communities and social venues, particularly in big cities. Same-sex marriage is legal. Transgender people can register under their preferred sex in public documents such as birth certificates, identity cards and passports without undergoing prior gender reassignment surgery.

Read more [advice for LGBT+ travellers](#).

Outdoor activities and adventure tourism

Falls from height

There have been a number of serious accidents, some fatal, involving British nationals falling from height, including from balconies.

Do not take unnecessary risks around balconies or other high places, particularly if you're under the influence of drink or drugs. If you are staying in a room with a

balcony, follow the safety advice at the hotel or apartment, and watch out for friends who may be at risk.

In some regions you may be fined or evicted from your hotel if you are found to be behaving irresponsibly around balconies. Your travel insurance may not cover you for incidents that take place on a balcony or if you were under the influence of drink or drugs when the incident happened.

Festivals, concerts and processions

Many large events and public processions are held in Spain each year. Follow the advice of police and local authorities when attending events.

Take care of your valuables if attending a festival or large concert. See the [festival travel checklist](#) for more advice.

Swimming and beaches

Every year, people drown in the sea and in swimming pools in Spain. Always supervise children, even if they can swim or there is a lifeguard present.

Take care when swimming in the sea. Some beaches, especially around Spanish islands, may have strong undercurrents.

Hidden rocks or shallow depths can cause serious injury or death. Do not dive into unknown water and do not swim at beaches where a river runs into the sea.

Many beaches have a flag system. Make sure you understand the system and follow any warnings (a red flag means you must not enter the water). Take extra care and get local knowledge if there are no lifeguards, flags or signs.

If you are walking along unmonitored beaches, be aware that waves can come in further than expected and have strong undertows.

See further tips on [ABTA's swim safe pages](#) and [Water Safety on Holiday](#) from the Royal Life Saving Society.

Follow local advice if jellyfish are present.

Hill walking, skiing and mountain activities

Temperatures in some parts of Spain can change very quickly. Take extra care

when planning a hike or walk. Check local weather reports for warnings of extreme heat or cold temperatures.

Altitude sickness may be a risk in some of the higher mountain ranges in Spain, particularly in the regions of Granada, Huesca and Tenerife. See [Health](#).

For advice on safety and weather conditions for skiing or other outdoor activities you can:

- call the Spanish National Tourist Office in London on 020 7317 2028
- see the [European Avalanche Warning Services](#)

If an accident happens while mountaineering, canoeing, potholing or climbing, or if you become lost in the mountains and need mountain rescue, call:

- 112 for the emergency services
- 062 for the Civil Guard

The Catalonia region has started billing climbers, skiers and other adventurers whose negligent behaviour causes them to need rescue.

Transport risks

Check with your airline, tour operator or transport company whether there is any planned strike action which might disrupt your journey.

Road travel

You can use a UK photocard driving licence to drive in Spain. If you still have a paper driving licence, you may need to [update it to a photocard licence](#).

Provisional licences are not valid for driving in Spain.

To drive a car or a motorcycle over 125cc in Spain you must be 18 years of age or above, and at least 16 years old to ride a motorcycle up to 125cc. You must carry a valid driving licence and ID.

If you are using UK insurance, always carry your certificate with you in case you are stopped. Check that your UK insurance will cover you to drive in Spain, and for how long. This certificate is generally only valid for a stay of less than 3 months.

Check the [requirements for driving if you live in Spain](#).

Driving a British car abroad

You may need a [UK sticker to drive your car outside the UK](#).

Driving regulations

If you are planning to drive in Spain, see [information on driving abroad](#) and check the [rules of the road in the RAC's Spain guide](#). The guide lists driving regulations and other legal requirements you need to be aware of.

Spain has strict drink-driving laws. Police regularly carry out roadside checks for alcohol and drugs. Penalties include fines, loss of licence and a prison sentence.

The police can give you on-the-spot fines for a variety of driving offences including speeding. If you accept the fine and pay within 20 days, it will be reduced by 50%. More information on how to pay is available on the [Spanish driving agency](#) website.

Seatbelts are compulsory for all passengers in the front and back seats. Children under 1.35m in height must use an approved child safety seat secured on the back seat. Children are only permitted to travel in the front seat of the car if the rear seats are already occupied by other children or if the vehicle does not have rear seats.

Car hire agencies can provide child seats, so let them know you need one when you reserve the car. Incorrect installation of a child seat or not wearing a seatbelt can be considered a serious offence and met with fines.

It is illegal to use a mobile phone when driving, even if you have pulled over to the side of the road. You must be completely away from the road. Using an earpiece is also illegal. Only completely hands-free units are allowed.

Low emission zones

Some inner-city areas in Spain have introduced permanent low emission zones ('Zonas de bajas emisiones' – ZBE) where Spanish vehicles must meet specific exhaust emission standards and display an air pollution sticker. The stickers are not issued to vehicles with foreign registration plates, but some cities require you

to register your vehicle in advance – for example, Barcelona.

The Spanish government's general information helpline 060 (if calling in Spain) or +34 902 887 060 (if calling from UK) may be able to provide further information.

Taxis

Only use official registered or licensed taxis, or reputable transport companies you recognise. Licensing regulations differ across Spain and in certain cities pre-booking is required.

Passengers caught using unlicensed taxi services are liable for fines of up to 600 euros. Make sure you book your taxi or airport transfer through a licensed firm.

Extreme weather and natural disasters

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

Extreme weather warnings

Extreme weather can affect many areas of Spain, particularly over the summer months. Follow the [Spanish Meteorological Office \(AEMET\)](#) and [European Meteorological Services](#) for severe weather warnings.

The NHS has information on [how to cope in hot weather](#).

Check with your travel provider and follow the advice of local authorities.

Wildfires

Wildfires happen often in Spain, including on the islands, during the summer months.

Be aware of your environment when visiting or driving through woodland areas. For information on wildfire risk visit the [Spanish Meteorological Office \(AEMET\)](#).

Causing a wildfire is a criminal offence in Spain, even if unintentional. Make sure cigarette ends are properly extinguished, do not light barbecues and do not leave empty bottles behind. You can be heavily fined for not following the rules against lighting outdoor barbecues in forest areas. Make sure you know the rules if

considering a barbeque.

For information on what to do in the event of a wildfire, visit [Civil Protection](#) (website in Spanish). Immediately report any fire you see to the emergency services on 112. In the case of wildfires, the situation can change quickly, so you should stay up to date with official advice.

Flooding

Flash flooding can cause travel disruption and damage to property and infrastructure. [Check weather warnings from Spain's meteorological office \(AEMET\)](#) before travel and follow the advice of the local authorities.

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 112 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 Spain](#)
- 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 Spain](#), including:

- dengue
- biting insects and ticks

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

Medication

The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or bought in the UK can be different in other countries. There are details in the [guide to getting healthcare in Spain](#).

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

Healthcare in Spain

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

Health insurance cards

To get medically necessary state healthcare in Spain, you need a Global Health Insurance Card ([GHIC](#)) or a European Health Insurance Card ([EHIC](#)).

The NHS's [getting healthcare abroad webpage](#) has details about:

- how to apply for a [GHIC](#)
- how to get temporary cover if you lose your card or it does not arrive in time
- who qualifies for a new [EHIC](#) instead of a [GHIC](#)
- what treatment counts as medically necessary

A [GHIC](#) or [EHIC](#) is not an alternative to travel insurance. You may have costs your [GHIC](#) or [EHIC](#) does not cover, including:

- changes to travel and accommodation bookings
- additional standard costs for treatment
- medical repatriation to the UK
- treatment that is ruled non-urgent

There is more [guidance on healthcare if you're visiting Spain](#). There is also

[guidance on healthcare if you're living in Spain.](#)

Hospital treatment

If you need hospital treatment in Spain, you're more likely to receive appropriate care in public healthcare facilities. However, in some tourist areas there may not be any public healthcare facilities nearby. Your insurance or medical assistance company will be able to provide further details.

Some hotels may call private doctors or ambulances to take patients to private hospitals. The [GHIC](#) or [EHIC](#) will not be accepted there.

Use of face masks

Due to an increase in respiratory infections such as flu and COVID-19, you may have to wear a face mask at doctors' surgeries, hospitals and pharmacies. Rules on face masks may vary by region. Follow the advice of the local authorities and make sure you are aware of the measures in place.

Travel and mental health

Read [FCDO 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 Spain

Telephone: 112 (ambulance, fire, police)

Reporting crime

To report a crime, including stolen property and lost or stolen passports, you can file a police report ('denuncia') at the nearest station of the:

- National Police ('Policia Nacional')
- regional police ('Ertzaintza' in the Basque Country, 'Mossos d'Esquadra' in Catalonia and 'Policia Foral' in Navarre)
- Civil Guard ('Guardia Civil')

Some Spanish cities also offer a [Foreign Tourist Assistance Service](#) ('Servicio de Atención al Turista Extranjero' or 'SATE') where you can report crimes in English.

While in Spain, you can [file a police report online](#) for minor offences such as stolen bags or thefts from your car. If you've had belongings stolen, you may need to get a police report for insurance purposes.

If you want to report a violent crime or sexual assault, you must go in person to the nearest police station.

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 has guidance on staying safe and what to do if you need help or support abroad, including:

- finding English-speaking [lawyers](#), [funeral directors](#) and [translators and interpreters](#) in Spain
- dealing with a [death in Spain](#)

- being [arrested in Spain](#)
- 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 Spain](#) on how to manage political, economic, and business security-related risks.

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](https://www.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 for further safety and security information.

For support using your Solace Secure platform or app please contact support@solaceglobal.com.

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