

Middle East Tour

Purpose : Tour (Educational / Choir / Class Trip / etc.)

When: Jun 24 - Jul 21, 2019

Summary

Not Specified

Projects

Not Specified

Lodging & Food

Not Specified

Health Notes

Not Specified

Where	When	Type	Purpose	Cost	People Needed	Participants	Target Age	Skills
Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Israel, Jordan	Jun 24 - Jul 21, 2019	Education/Tour	Tour (Educational / Choir / Class Trip / etc.)	\$0.00	1 - 10	Total: 48 (Denominational Employees: 3, Other: 45)	Target Age: Any	Skills: Any

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Website Not Specified

Registration Closed

Signup here



Approval Status Approved Jun 24, 2019

Recorded Status Recorded Jun 24, 2019

Visiting	N/A
World Divisions	Israel Field,Middle East and North Africa Union Mission,Middle East and North Africa Union Mission,Middle East and North Africa Union Mission,Middle East and North Africa Union Mission
Host Contact	Carl Cosaert

Travel Advisory

Egypt

3 Reconsider travel

Reissued with obsolete COVID-19 page links removed.

Reconsider travel to Egypt due to **terrorism**. Exercise increased caution in Egypt due to **the Embassy's limited ability to assist dual national U.S.-Egyptian citizens who are arrested or detained.**

Do not travel to:

- The Sinai Peninsula (with the exception of travel to Sharm El-Sheikh by air) due to **terrorism**.
- The Western Desert due to **terrorism**.
- Egyptian border areas due to **military zones**.

Country Summary: Terrorist groups continue plotting attacks in Egypt. Terrorists may attack with little or no warning, and have targeted diplomatic facilities, tourist locations, transportation hubs, markets/shopping malls, western businesses, restaurants, resorts, and local government facilities. Terrorists have conducted attacks in urban areas, including in Cairo, despite the heavy security presence. Terrorists have targeted religious sites, to include mosques, churches, monasteries, and buses traveling to these locations.

Due to risks to civil aviation operating within or in the vicinity of Egypt, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has issued a Notice to Air Missions (NOTAM) and/or a Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR). For more information U.S. citizens should consult the [Federal Aviation Administration's Prohibitions, Restrictions and Notices](#).

Local law prohibits protesting or demonstrating without a permit. Being near anti-government protests can draw scrutiny from Egyptian police and security forces. U.S. citizens have been detained for participating in protests and for posting content on social media perceived as critical of Egypt or its allies.

The U.S. Embassy may have a limited ability to provide consular services to dual U.S.-Egyptian citizens. Egyptian law considers dual citizens to be Egyptian citizens.

Read the [country information page](#) for additional information on travel to Egypt.

If you decide to travel to Egypt:

- Stay alert in locations frequented by Westerners.
- Avoid demonstrations and crowds.
- Obtain comprehensive medical insurance that includes medical evacuation.
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive Alerts and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Follow the Department of State on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Review the [Country Security Report](#) for Egypt.
- Visit the CDC page for the latest [Travel Health Information](#) related to your travel.
- Prepare a contingency plan for emergency situations. Review the [Traveler's Checklist](#).

Sinai Peninsula – Level 4: Do Not Travel

The Sinai Peninsula remains a particularly dangerous area, with frequent attacks on security forces and civilians.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens anywhere in the Sinai Peninsula as U.S. government employees are not authorized to travel to these areas (with the exception of the beach resort of Sharm El-Sheikh; travel to Sharm El-Sheikh is only permitted by air). Visit our website for [Travel to High-Risk Areas](#).

United Arab Emirates

2

Exercise increased caution

Reissued with obsolete COVID-19 page links removed.

Exercise increased caution in the United Arab Emirates due to the threat of missile or drone attacks and terrorism.

Country Summary: The possibility of attacks affecting U.S. citizens and interests in the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula remains an ongoing, serious concern. Militant groups operating in Yemen have stated an intent to attack neighboring countries, including the UAE, using missiles and drones. Missile and drone attacks in early 2022 targeted populated areas and civilian infrastructure.

Due to risks to civil aviation operating within the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman region, including the United Arab Emirates, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has issued an advisory Notice to Air Missions (NOTAM). For more information U.S. citizens should consult the [Federal Aviation Administration's Prohibitions, Restrictions and Notices](#).

While residents and visitors generally find a safe and secure environment in the UAE, the country continues to face the threat of terrorism. Terrorists may attack with little or no warning, targeting tourist locations, transportation hubs, markets, shopping malls, and local government facilities.

Read the [country information page](#) for additional information on travel to the United Arab Emirates.

If you decide to travel to the United Arab Emirates:

- Monitor local media for breaking events and be prepared to adjust your plans.
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive Alerts and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Follow the Department of State on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Review the [Country Security Report](#) for the United Arab Emirates.
- Visit the CDC page for the latest [Travel Health Information](#) related to your travel.
- Prepare a contingency plan for emergency situations. Review the [Traveler's Checklist](#).

Turkey

2 Exercise increased caution

Reissued with obsolete COVID-19 page links removed.

Exercise increased caution when traveling to Turkey due to terrorism and arbitrary detentions. Some areas have increased risk. Read the entire Travel Advisory.

Do Not Travel To:

- Sirnak province, Hakkari province, and any area within six miles (10 kilometers) of the Syrian border due to terrorism.

Country Summary: Terrorist groups continue plotting possible attacks in Turkey. Terrorists may attack with little or no warning, targeting tourist locations, transportation hubs, markets/shopping malls, local government facilities, hotels, clubs, restaurants, places of worship, parks, major sporting and cultural events, educational institutions, airports, and other public areas.

Security forces have detained tens of thousands of individuals, including U.S. citizens, for alleged affiliations with terrorist organizations based on scant or secret evidence and grounds that appear to be politically motivated. U.S. citizens have also been subject to travel bans that prevent them from departing Turkey. Participation in demonstrations not explicitly approved by the Government of Turkey, as well as criticism of the government (including on social media), can result in arrest.

Read the [country information page](#) for additional information on travel to Turkey.

If you decide to travel to Turkey:

- Stay alert in locations frequented by tourists.
- Avoid demonstrations and crowds.
- Stay at hotels with identifiable security measures.
- Monitor local media and be prepared to adjust your plans quickly.
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive travel alerts and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Follow the Department of State on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Review the [Country Security Report](#) for Turkey.
- Visit the CDC page for the latest [Travel Health Information](#) related to your travel.
- Prepare a contingency plan for emergency situations. Review the [Traveler's Checklist](#).

Sirnak Province, Hakkari Province, and Any Area within six miles (ten kilometers) of the Syrian Border – Level 4: Do Not Travel

Do not travel to Sirnak province, Hakkari province, or any area within six miles (10 kilometers) of the Turkey/Syria border due to the continued threat of attacks by terrorist groups, armed conflict, and civil unrest. Terrorist attacks, including suicide bombings, ambushes, car bomb detonations, and improvised explosive devices, as well as shootings, and illegal roadblocks leading to violence have occurred in these areas. U.S. government employees are subject to travel restrictions in the entire provinces of Sirnak and Hakkari, and any areas within 10 km of the Syrian border.

Visit our website for [Travel to High-Risk Areas](#).

Israel

1 Exercise normal precautions

Jordan

2 Exercise increased caution

Reissued with obsolete COVID-19 page links removed.

Exercise increased caution in Jordan due to **terrorism**. Some areas have increased risk.

Do not travel to:

- Within 3.5 km of the Jordanian border with Syria and east of the town of Ruwayshid in the direction of the border with Iraq due to **terrorism and armed conflict**.
- Designated Syrian refugee camps in Jordan due to **Government of Jordan restrictions on entry into these camps**.
- Zarqa, Rusayfah, and the Baqa'a neighborhood of Ayn Basha due to **terrorism and crime**.

Reconsider travel to:

- Ma'an City and some areas of Ma'an Governorate due to **terrorism and crime**.

Country Summary: Terrorist groups continue to plot possible attacks in Jordan. Terrorists may attack with little or no warning, targeting tourist locations, transportation hubs, markets/shopping malls, and local government facilities.

Read the [country information page](#) for additional information on travel to Jordan.

If you decide to travel to Jordan:

- Monitor local media for breaking events and adjust your plans based on new information.
- Avoid demonstrations and protests.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Stay alert in locations frequented by Westerners.
- Obtain comprehensive medical insurance that includes medical evacuation.
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive Alerts and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Follow the Department of State on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Review the [Country Security Report](#) for Jordan.

- Visit the CDC page for the latest [Travel Health Information](#) related to your travel.
- Prepare a contingency plan for emergency situations. Review the [Traveler's Checklist](#).

The Border with Syria and Iraq – Level 4: Do Not Travel

Do not travel to Jordan's border with Syria and Iraq given the continued threat of cross-border violence, including the risk of terrorist attacks.

All U.S. government personnel must adhere to U.S. Embassy travel restrictions for all official travel within 3.5 km of the Jordan-Syria border, and all travel must occur during day light hours only. U.S. government personnel must adhere to U.S. Embassy travel restrictions for official travel east of the town of Ruwayshid towards the Iraq border, and all travel must occur during daylight hours only.

Personal travel by U.S. government employees to these border areas is not authorized.

Visit our website for [Travel to High-Risk Areas](#).

Refugee Camps – Level 4: Do Not Travel

Do not travel to Syrian refugee camps in Jordan due to Government of Jordan restrictions on entry into these camps.

All U.S. government personnel on official travel to the four designated Syrian refugee camps listed below (formerly all refugee camps in Jordan) must adhere to U.S. Embassy travel restrictions.

- Azraq Syrian Refugee Camp, Azraq, Zarqa
- Za'atari Syrian Refugee Camp, Al Zatoryah, Mafraq
- King Abdullah Park Syrian Refugee Camp, Ramtha, Irbid
- Emirati Jordanian Syrian Refugee Camp (Murijep al Fhoud), Al Jadedah, Zarqa

Personal travel by U.S. government personnel to these refugee camps is not authorized.

Visit our website for [Travel to High-Risk Areas](#).

Zarqa, Rusayfah, and the Baqa'a Neighborhood of Ayn Basha – Level 4: Do Not Travel

Do not travel to Zarqa, Rusayfah and the Baqa'a neighborhood of Ayn Basha due to terrorism and crime.

All U.S. government personnel on official travel to Zarqa, Rusayfah and the Baqa'a neighborhood of Ayn Basha must adhere to U.S. Embassy travel restrictions, and all travel must occur during daylight hours only. U.S. government personnel may transit through these cities on major highways during daylight hours only.

Personal travel by U.S. government personnel to these cities is not authorized.

Visit our website for [Travel to High-Risk Areas](#).

Ma'an City and some areas of Ma'an Governorate – Level 3: Reconsider Travel

Reconsider travel to Ma'an city, all areas of Ma'an Governorate east of Highway 15 ("The Desert Highway") and all areas of Ma'an Governorate within 2 kilometers to the west of Highway 15 due to terrorism and crime.

All U.S. government personnel on official travel to these areas must adhere to U.S. Embassy travel restrictions. U.S. government personnel on official travel may transit through this area on major highways outside of daylight hours.

Personal travel by U.S. government personnel to these areas is permitted during daylight hours only, with the

exception of direct transit through these areas, which may also occur during hours of darkness.

Visit our website for [Travel to High-Risk Areas](#).