



*Mission of the United States of America
Saudi Arabia*

MESSAGE FOR U.S. CITIZENS: TRAVEL ADVISORY FOR SAUDI ARABIA

On Wednesday, January 10, 2018, the Department of State made changes to its consular safety and security information program. Travel Advisories replaced Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts. Every country now has a Travel Advisory, which provides one of four standard levels of advice. The Travel Advisory gives an explanation for the level and includes clear actions U.S. citizens should take.

The Travel Advisory for Saudi Arabia went live on January 10, 2018 and is available online at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/SaudiArabia.html> For your reference, it is also copied below.

To stay in touch with Mission Saudi Arabia, follow us on our ACS Twitter account @ksa_acs

**Travel Advisory
January 10, 2018**

SAUDI ARABIA - Level 2: Exercise Increased Caution

Exercise increased caution in Saudi Arabia due to terrorism and the threat of missile attacks on civilian targets.

Do not travel to:

- Within 50 miles of the border with Yemen due to terrorism and armed conflict.

Terrorist groups continue plotting possible attacks in Saudi Arabia. Terrorists may attack with little or no warning, targeting tourist locations, transportation hubs, markets/shopping malls, and local government facilities. Terrorists have targeted both Saudi and Western government interests, mosques and other religious sites (both Sunni and Shia), and places frequented by U.S. citizens and other Westerners.

Rebel groups operating in Yemen continue to fire long-range missiles into Saudi Arabia that are capable of reaching the vicinities of Riyadh and Jeddah.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens in the following locations as U.S. government personnel and their families are restricted from travel to:

- Within 50 miles of the Saudi-Yemen border, including the cities of Jizan and Najran;
- Qatif in the Eastern province and its suburbs, including Awamiyah; and
- Hofuf and its suburbs in the al Hasa governorate.

Read the Safety and Security section on the [country information page](#).

If you decide to travel to Saudi Arabia:

- 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 [Crime and Safety Reports](#) for Saudi Arabia.
- U.S. citizens who travel abroad should always have a contingency plan for emergency situations. Review the [Traveler's Checklist](#).

Yemen Border

Violence in Yemen has spilled over into Saudi Arabia on a number of occasions. Rebel forces in Yemen fire artillery at Saudi border towns and launch cross-border attacks against Saudi military personnel. Civilians who are near the border with Yemen are at risk.

The U.S. government has limited ability to provide emergency services to U.S. citizens within 50 miles of the Saudi-Yemen border as U.S. government personnel and their families are restricted from travel to this area.

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

For further information:

- See the [State Department's travel website](#) for the [Worldwide Caution](#), [Travel Warnings](#), [Travel Alerts](#), and [Saudi Arabia Country Specific Information](#).
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the [U.S. Embassy in Saudi Arabia](#) at +966 11 488 3800, the [U.S. Consulate General Dhahran](#) at +966 13 330 3200, and the [U.S. Consulate General Jeddah](#) at +966 12 667-0080.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)