Health & Safety Abroad

Presented by
Global Health, Safety, and Security
Part 1
Health and Safety Resources

- Understand the services provided by Temple University's travel assistance partner
- Understand basic limitations of Temple University's International Health Insurance Policy
• Phone +1 267 855 1884
• Email temple@healix.com (responses will come from InternationalHealthcare@healix.com)
• Policy # TEMP2302233
• App "Travel Oracle"

Available 24/7/365

https://finance.temple.edu/travel-planning/international-travel-planning/tu-global-assistance-provider
International Health and Safety Support

• General health and safety advice before departure via website, app, email, or phone
• Individualized support including:
  ◦ Confirming it's legal to travel with medication
  ◦ Scheduling appointments before you arrive
  ◦ Providing advice for specific health conditions
  ◦ Discussing safety and security concerns related to personal identity
  ◦ Pre-travel communication about your destination
• Utilizing the assistance provider prior to departing
Italy

Rome. Anticipate disruption around Piazzale Aldo Moro owing to ongoing pro-Palestinian protests on 14th May.

Italy – May 14, 2024

Rome. Anticipate disruption around Piazzale Aldo Moro owing to ongoing pro-Palestinian protests on 14th May. Anticipate disruption around Piazzale Aldo Moro in Rome owing to ongoing pro-Palestinian protests on 14th May. Students from the Sapienza University of Rome are calling for an end to the ongoing Israeli military operation in Gaza. The protest is currently blocking Piazzale Aldo Moro as it moves towards Via delle Scienze. There is likely to be significant operational disruption in the area until the protest concludes. Clashes are unlikely as the protest appears to be peaceful. Allow additional time for travel in the area of Sapienza University of Rome and temporarily bypass all large gatherings.
Security Risk Ratings

Minimal
The security environment is benign; security incidents are generally highly unlikely and/or the impact of an incident would be minimal; precautions are not required.

Low
The security environment is generally stable; security incidents are generally unlikely and/or the impact of an incident would be low. Basic precautions are advised.

Moderate
Security conditions fluctuate; precautions are advised, without such there is an even chance of a security incident occurring and/or the impact would be moderate.

High
The security environment is unstable; enhanced security precautions and some restrictions are advised, without such it is likely that a security incident would occur and/or the impact would be significant.

Extreme
The security environment is hostile and without professional security support there is an almost certain chance of a security incident occurring and/or the potential impact would be critical.
Medical Risk Ratings

Excellent
Countries are technologically advanced with excellent quality healthcare and highly developed medical regulatory systems. Patients can easily access a full range of specialities in populated areas, and adequate healthcare in isolated settlements. A wide range of prescription drugs will be available. Emergency medical evacuation would only be required in exceptional and unusual circumstances.

Good
Countries have a full range of specialities in most cities and adequate access to healthcare in smaller settlements. Quality will be broadly acceptable for most medical conditions but may fall behind Western standards. Medical regulatory systems may be poor. Most commonly used medicines may be locally manufactured. Emergency medical evacuation may be required for complex illness or injuries.

Moderate
Countries have variations in quality of care; leading hospitals provide satisfactory or excellent care, other hospitals are sub-standard. Medical care is poor in provincial areas. A wide range of prescription drugs usually available from upscale pharmacies; elsewhere supply of medicines is limited. Emergency medical evacuation is often required from rural locations to a leading regional hospital.

Poor
Countries will usually be developing nations. Medical care is typically extremely poor, even basic medical care may be difficult to find. In some major cities, private hospitals offer better care, but standards will be low. Many prescription drugs are hard to source. Patients with significant illness or injury are likely to require medical evacuation, security obstacles may make it challenging.

Very Poor
Countries will typically have small, geographically isolated populations or a lack of functioning civilisation leading to extremely limited healthcare and infrastructure or none at all. Travellers will be dependent on the medical capabilities and prescription drugs which they can bring with them. Only limited specialised care is available and medical evacuation may be logistically challenging.
Evacuation Risk Ratings

No Level
Conditions are stable to the point that the country/territory is not on 'Evacuation Watch'.

Increased Monitoring
Conditions warrant monitoring developments on a weekly basis for a potential deterioration.

Warning
Conditions warrant monitoring developments on a daily basis and a preparatory stance regarding possible evacuation.

Consider Evacuation
Conditions warrant scaling down non-essential operations and consideration of evacuation. An actionable evacuation plan should be authored.

Evacuation
Terminate operations and evacuate all staff.
Public Healthcare

The public hospital provision in Italy is good and the public hospital system provides a good standard of healthcare. There is a comprehensive public sector health service which offers broadly satisfactory standards of care for most conditions. While much of the care offered to patients will be good or excellent, in individual cases there is a possibility that some aspects will fall short of expected standards. In particular, patients may experience long waits to see medical specialists, some treatments are also subject to long waiting lists. Hospitals may be overcrowded and some hospital buildings are severely dilapidated. In Italy even quite small towns often have their own hospitals but these are rarely suitable for patients with complex or serious illnesses. Quality of medical care is also notably better in the north of the country than it is in the south. In some Italian hospitals, nursing care is quite basic as there is an expectation that many nursing tasks will be undertaken by patients’ relatives. This is especially likely in smaller rural hospitals or in poorer southern regions. Hospitals will usually be aligned entirely around the needs of local citizens; international patients may therefore encounter cultural or linguistic obstacles.

Private Healthcare

There is only a small market for private hospitals in this country, however, the standard of private hospitals is of good quality. Nevertheless private hospital care is available in large cities such as Rome and Milan. These private hospitals are aimed more towards planned treatments and are less suited to providing emergency care, especially for patients with complex or serious conditions. The hospitals offer the advantage of easy access to a wide range of medical specialists, and environments that are considerably more comfortable and reassuring than the public hospitals. Hygiene is excellent and nursing care is attentive. These hospitals also cater well to the needs of international patients so there are fewer cultural and linguistic obstacles to be faced. However, patients at these hospitals are at risk of over-investigation, over-diagnosis or over-treatment undertaken for the financial gain of the hospital and/or the treating doctor.

Emergency Ambulance Services

Emergency ambulance services in Italy are excellent. There is an easily contactable emergency ambulance service that will respond rapidly with modern well-equipped vehicles and appropriately trained emergency medical technicians (paramedics). The ambulance service will be structured in such a way as to allow ambulance crew to begin emergency medical treatment immediately, without having to wait until the patient has arrived at the receiving hospital. In particular, equipment and training will support the delivery of pre-hospital advanced trauma life support, pre-hospital advanced cardiac life support and pre-hospital management of other life-threatening medical conditions. Ambulance services will be subject to rigorous clinical governance procedures intended at ensuring continuous quality improvement.

Dental Care

Dental services at this location have been rated as excellent. Good quality dental care is easily available throughout the country. There are robust regulatory systems in place to promote continuous quality
International Health Insurance
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<tr>
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<th>American Health Insurance</th>
<th>International Health Insurance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Sick Visits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-existing Physical Conditions</td>
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<td>✗</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medication to Manage Pre-existing Conditions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flare-ups or New Issues for Pre-existing Conditions</td>
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<td>Pre-authorization for New Prescriptions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vision</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental</td>
<td>✗</td>
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Travelers can consult the Assistance Provider for:

- Managing a health condition in the host country
- Arranging appointments with doctors and specialists before departure
- Confirming if medication is legal to bring with the traveler and/or available locally
  - Alternative treatment options if medication is prohibited
- Guidance on rules or procedures for traveling with medication
- Request allergy translation cards
Travelers can consult the Assistance Provider for:

- Request a security briefing prior to travel
- Discuss security concerns, particularly around identity abroad
- Review information available on assistance provider website regarding host country

Security Preparations


Rome

Rome, located in the centre of the country, is Italy’s most populous city and capital. The city is considered a cultural, economic and political centre of the country, with its historic centre being one of the most popular tourist destinations in Europe. Transport infrastructure is highly developed, with a well-functioning metro, tram and bus network. Most travellers do not encounter any security incidents while travelling in the city. There is, however, a risk of petty crime, which is mainly in the form of pickpocketing. Petty crime hotspots include the vicinity of Termini train station, the Trevi Fountain, the Colosseum and the Spanish Steps. There is a moderately-organized crime presence in the city and a heightened risk of violent crime in Tor Bella Monaca, La Romana, San Basilio, and Corinthea. Due to the city being the capital, there is an elevated risk of civil unrest and strikes activity. Flashpoint locations include in the vicinity of government buildings, Piazza del Popolo, Piazza della Repubblica, Piazza San Giovanni and Circo Massimo. Rome’s main railway station is Roma Termini. Trains and metros are the best form of public transport to travel around Rome, as they are cheap and easy.

Advice

- Travellers are unlikely to experience any major security-related issues; however, visitors should be vigilant of their belongings when walking through petty crime hotspots.
- Snatch and grab thieves will take the opportunity to steal valuables through open windows of stopped vehicles; keep doors and windows locked with valuables out of sight. Thieves will also utilise motorcycles to grab the belongings of pedestrians.
- Strikes in the transport sector are common and can heavily disrupt travel; keep abreast of planned industrial action and plan your itineraries accordingly.
- Book taxis in advance from hotels.
- Demonstrations often occur in the due to potential delays.

Unrest

Due to sporadic, mostly peaceful demonstrations, the risk of civil unrest impacting foreign nationals is LOW. Most demonstrations are peaceful and participants usually adhere to instructions from the local authorities. Protests in Italy take place over economic grievances as well as in response to social issues, such as migration. Policies aimed at raising taxes or altering labour regulations are generally unpopular and frequently result in public demonstrations. Labour union groups from industries such as agriculture have also held demonstrations in Rome over national and EU regulations, although they typically pass without incident and pose a low risk to travellers. Protests mostly occur in major urban centres like Rome, Naples and Milan. Demonstration flashpoints include Piazza Venezia, Piazza Del Popolo and Piazza Vittorio in Rome, Piazza Municipio and Piazza Garibaldi in Naples, Arco della Pace and Piazza Fontana in Milan. In addition, activist and anti-fascist groups often protest against the government’s policies toward migrants. Counter-protests are sometimes organized in response to right-wing groups, but they tend to pass peacefully and without alteration.

Industrial strike action is common. Italian trade unions, namely the General Confederation of Italian Workers (Confederazione Italiana Sindacati Lavoratori, CISL), the Italian Confederation of Workers’ Unions (Confederazione Italiana Sindacati Lavoratori, UIL) and the Union of Italian Workers (Unione Italiana del Lavoro, UIL), usually organise large demonstrations on strike days. Protests linked to union groups are generally peaceful, however. Security incidents are unlikely, but disruption to public transport services and severe traffic on major roads have previously occurred.

Natural Disaster

The risk of natural disasters impacting foreign travellers in Italy is MODERATE due to large portions of the country lying on a seismic fault line. Much of southern Italy, including the island of Sicily, is particularly prone to earthquakes as the region lies close to the intersection of the Eurasian and African plates. Minor tremors and earthquakes are not uncommon, but major earthquakes also occur. Central and northern Italy are also prone to earthquakes due to a series of faults. A 6.2 earthquake hit the borders of Italy’s Umbria, Marche and Lazio regions on 24th August 2016, causing significant damage to infrastructure. Killing approximately 300 people and leaving many more people wounded. Tremors were felt in Rome, around 100 miles southwest of the epicenter, in Bologna to the north and Naples to the south. Italy also has several active volcanoes: Mount Etna, on the eastern tip of the island of Sicily, has been erupting intermittently since 2000.

Italy occasionally suffers from severe weather in the form of heavy rainfall and snowstorms, which have been known to cause severe flooding. Heavy rainfall has previously caused severe flooding in Italy’s northern regions, such as Emilia Romagna. There are also rare occasions of avalanches in mountainous areas.

Forested and rural areas of Italy are prone to wildfires. High temperatures significantly increase the risk of wildfires during the summer months. Serious wildfires have previously been known to force the closure of airports, including Palermo in Sicily as well as large-scale evacuation operations in affected areas. Evidence suggests countries in the Mediterranean are becoming increasingly prone to more serious wildfires, as well as more extended wildfire seasons. The Italian fire services and military are generally quick to react and bring the fires under control, although major wildfires have caused significant disruption over recent years.

Terrorism

The risk of terrorism in Italy is assessed as LOW due to the lack of recent precedent for major terrorist attacks, although authorities have increased security measures in light of the perceived elevated threat from affiliate groups of Islamic State (IS). Italy has increased anti-terror measures in light of the 11 September 2001 attacks and the apparent amensities of the group’s affiliate.
Part 3
While Abroad

- Know what steps to take if a participant starts to feel unwell mentally or physically
- Know how Healix will contact abroad vs. Main Campus
Abide by all official directives due to heavy rainfall and flash flooding across parts of Kanagawa on 8th May. Emerging reports at 07h28 (local time) indicate that heavy rainfall and flash flooding are expected in the next 24 hours. Residents are advised to evacuate from high-risk areas, including mountainous and low-lying areas from river banks or coastal areas. Abide by all official directives and monitor data on the Japan - Kanagawa Prefecture map. Incident Category: Security, Weather, Landslide, Flooding, Heavy Rains, APAC.
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Incident Category: Security, Weather, Landslide, Flooding, Heavy Rain, APAC

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Incident Category: Security, Weather, Landslide, Flooding, Heavy Rain, APAC

You have no one impacted by this incident.
He a lix Ale rt s
Stay in Touch with Global Health, Safety, and Security

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Senior Director

Dru Simmons,
Associate Director

Bailey Koch
Coordinator

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