



IOC Restricted Regions List (Updated 5/15/25)

If travel includes any area listed below, you must request approval from the International Oversight Committee (IOC) prior to making any travel arrangements.

Restricted Region Criteria - any country or region that meets any one of the following criteria is designated a Restricted Region. **U.S territories ARE NOT Restricted Regions**

US Department of State (USDOS)	Travel Advisory (TA) (any region with numerical or written advisory regardless of country’s overall rating)	Level 4 – Do not travel
		Level 3 – Reconsider travel
Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)	Travel Health Notice (THN)	Level 4 – Avoid all travel
		Level 3 – Reconsider nonessential travel
On Call International (On Call) (Portal Group ID: 100143CPPD21)	Country Risk Rating	Level 5 - Critical
		Level 4 - High
UTEP International Oversight Committee or the Chancellor of the University of Texas System	Any country or region of country within emerging threats or risk that is deemed concerning to the safety and well-being of employees and students	

DISCLAIMER: The information on this list is subject to change frequently. It is the responsibility of the traveler to monitor the status of their travel destination and request approval accordingly.

ADVISORY: If a country or area does not require IOC approval, it does not mean there are no risks involved. It is a best practice to assess your health, security, and financial risks before departure, including being up to date on your vaccinations prior to travel outside the U.S.

Important Updates/Changes since March 27, 2025

Ghana	Added to the list for certain regions. Now at USDOS Level 3 Travel Advisory (Reconsider Travel) for the following areas, due to crime and violence against women and LGBTQI travelers: The Upper East Region, North East Region, Upper West Region, and the western portion of the Savannah Region (all areas west of the N12 highway) that shares a border with Burkina Faso and Côte d’Ivoire.
Afghanistan	Entire country
Algeria	Overland travel to the Sahara Desert, and rural areas within 50 km/31 miles of the border with Tunisia and within 250 km/155 miles of the borders with Libya, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger
Armenia	Do not travel to the border region with Azerbaijan.
Azerbaijan	Entire country

Bangladesh	Entire country Note: The following areas have a USDOS Level 4: Do Not Travel advisory - The Khagrachari, Rangamati, and Bandarban Hill Tracts districts, collectively known as the Chittagong Hill Tracts
Belarus	Entire country. Chancellor of UT System directive.
Belize	Belize City
Benin	<p>Areas of Benin bordering Burkina Faso, Niger, and the Nigerian states of Kebbi, Niger, and Kwara (crime, kidnapping, terrorism)</p> <p>City of Kandi and all areas north and east extending to Benin's borders with Burkina Faso, Niger, and Nigeria (crime, kidnapping, terrorism)</p> <p>City of Tanguieta and all areas north and west extending to Benin's borders with Burkina Faso and Togo (crime, kidnapping, terrorism)</p> <p>The Pendjari and W. National Parks (crime, kidnapping, terrorism)</p> <p>The Pendjari, Atacora, and Djona Hunting Zones (crime, kidnapping, terrorism)</p> <p>Route Nationale Inter-Etats 7 (RNIE 7) between Banikora and Segbana (crime, kidnapping, terrorism)</p> <p>Route Nationale 10 (RN 10) between Nikki and Segbana (crime, kidnapping, terrorism)</p>
Bolivia	Chapare region
Brazil	<p>150 km/100 miles of the international land borders with Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana, and Paraguay. Travel to the Foz do Iguacu National Park and Pantanal National Park is permitted</p> <p>Informal housing developments commonly known as favelas, vilas, comunidades and/or conglomerados, at any time of day, even on a guided tour</p> <p>Brasílias' administrative regions commonly known as satellite cities of Ceilandia, Santa Maria, Sao Sebastiao, and Paronao during non-daylight hours due to crime.</p>
Burkina Faso	Entire country
Burma (Myanmar)	Entire country
Burundi	Entire country
Cameroon	Entire country
Central African Republic	Entire country
Chad	Entire country
China	Governor Executive Order - Entire country including Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) and Macau SAR
Colombia	Entire country - Do not travel to Arauca, Cauca (excluding Popayán), and Norte de Santander departments due to crime and terrorism; the Colombia-Venezuela border region due to crime, kidnapping, and the risk of detention when crossing into Venezuela from Colombia
Côte d'Ivoire	Entire country - Do not travel to the Northern border region due to terrorism
Cyprus	Entire country. Do not attempt to enter the United Nations buffer zone at any place other than the designated crossing point.

	Enter and exit the Republic of Cyprus ONLY at Larnaca and Paphos airports and at the seaports of Limassol, Larnaca, and Paphos. The Republic of Cyprus does not consider entry at Ercan Airport in the north to be a “legal” entrance into Cyprus
Cuba	Entire Country – Governor’s Executive Order (sanctioned country)
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Entire country
Djibouti	Entire Country
Ecuador	Entire Country - Do not travel to Guayaquil, south of Portete de Tarquí Avenue, due to crime; the cities of Huaquillas and Arenillas in the province of El Oro due to crime; the cities of Quevedo, Quinsaloma, and Pueblo Viejo in the province of Los Rios due to crime; the canton of Duran in the province of Guayas due to crime; Esmeraldas City and all areas north of Esmeraldas City in Esmeraldas province due to crime
Egypt	Entire country
El Salvador	Entire country
Eritrea	Entire Country
Ethiopia	Entire country
Gaza	Travel Suspended. Chancellor of UT System directive.
Georgia	Russian-occupied regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia regions
Ghana	The Upper East Region, North East Region, Upper West Region, and the western portion of the Savannah Region (all areas west of the N12 highway) that shares a border with Burkina Faso and Côte d’Ivoire
Guatemala	Entire country
Guinea	Entire country
Guinea-Bissau	Entire country
Guyana	Entire country
Haiti	Entire country
Honduras	Entire country
Hong Kong	See China
India	Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir (except the eastern Ladakh region and its capital, Leh) Within 10 km of the India-Pakistan border States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Manipur From eastern Maharashtra and northern Telangana through western West Bengal, particularly in rural parts of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand and on the borders of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, and Odisha
Indonesia	Provinces of Central Papua (Papua Tengah) and Highland Papua (Papua Pegunungan)
Iran	Entire country. Governor’s Executive Order.
Iraq	Entire country. Governor’s Executive Order.
Israel	Travel Suspended. Including the West Bank and Gaza. Chancellor of UT System directive. Elevated approval by President required.
Jamaica	Entire country

Jordan	Entire country. Chancellor of UT System directive. Elevated approval by President required.
Kenya	Do not travel to Kenya-Somalia border counties (Mandera, Wajir, Garissa) and some coastal areas (Tana River County, Lamu County, areas of Kilifi County north of Malindi) due to terrorism and kidnapping; areas of Turkana County (road from Kainuk to Lodwar) due to crime Reconsider travel to Nairobi neighborhoods of Eastleigh and Kibera due to crime and kidnapping; certain areas of Laikipia County (Nyahururu, Laikipia West, and Laikipia North Sub-counties) due to criminal incursions and security operations
Kosovo	North Mitrovica, Leposavic, Zubin Potok, and Zvecan
Kuwait	Entire country
Kyrgyzstan	Entire country
Laos	Xaisomboun Province
Lebanon	Entire country. Chancellor of UT System directive. Elevated approval by President required.
Libya	Entire country
Macau	See China
Madagascar	Areas in and around the city of Tsaratanana in the Betsiboka Region, the unnamed road connecting the city of Tsiroanomandidy in the Bongolava Region with the coastal city of Maintirano in the Melaky Region, and the city of Betroka in the Anosy Region
Mali	Entire country
Mauritania	Entire country
Mexico	Colima, Michoacán, Sinaloa, Tamaulipas, and Zacatecas and Guerrero Baja California, Chihuahua, Guanajuato, Jalisco, Sonora, Durango and Morelos <i>Note: Mexico City is currently NOT a Restricted Region</i>
Moldova	Entire country. Chancellor of UT System directive. Elevated approval by President required.
Mozambique	Entire country
Myanmar (Burma)	Entire country
New Caledonia	Entire Country
Nicaragua	Entire country
Niger	Entire country
Nigeria	Entire country
North Korea	Travel suspended. Chancellor of UT System directive. Governor's Executive Order.
Oman	Yemen border area
Pakistan	Entire country
Palestine	Entire area (Gaza, West Bank). Chancellor of UT System directive. Elevated approval by President required.
Panama	Parts of the Mosquito Gulf – within 10 miles of the coastline, from Boca de Rio, Chiriqui to Coclé del Norte.

	Parts of the Darién Region - All areas south of Jaqué to Manene to Yaviza to Lajas Blancas Cities to the Colombian border; the cities of Lajas Blancas and El Salto
Papua New Guinea	Entire country
Peru	Colombian-Peruvian border area in the Loreto Region (crime, drug trafficking) Valley of Apurímac, Ene, and Mantaro Rivers (VRAEM), including areas within the Departments of Ayacucho, Cusco, Huancavelica, and Junín
Philippines	Entire country. Sulu Archipelago, including the southern Sulu Sea and Marawi City in Mindanao (USDOS Level 4) and Mindanao (USDOS Level 3)
Republic of the Congo	Entire Country
Russia	Entire country. Travel suspended. Chancellor of UT System directive.
Rwanda	Rwanda-Burundi border and Rwanda-Democratic Republic of the Congo border
Saudi Arabia	Entire country
Somalia	Entire country
South Sudan	Entire country
Sudan	Entire country
Syria	Entire country. Chancellor of UT System directive. Elevated approval by President required.
Tajikistan	Entire country
Tanzania	Mtwara region in southern Tanzania
Thailand	Southern provinces of Pattani, Narathiwat, Yala, and Songkhla
Togo	Northern border region adjacent to Burkina Faso
Trinidad and Tobago	Entire Country
Tunisia	Entire country
Turkey	Sirnak Province, Hakkari Provinces, and any area within 10 km/6 miles of Syrian border
Uganda	Entire country
Ukraine	Entire country. Chancellor of UT System directive. Elevated approval by President required.
Vanuatu	Entire Country.
Venezuela	Entire country. Chancellor of UT System directive. Governor's Executive Order.
West Bank	Entire area. Chancellor of UT System directive. Elevated approval by President required.
Yemen	Entire country. Chancellor of UT System directive. Elevated approval by President required.