

# Djibouti

## Medical Summary

The health risk information presented here is summarized from Shoreland Travax<sup>®</sup>, a decision-support tool used by health care providers to perform a detailed health risk analysis based on specific locations, individual travel styles, and traveler risk behaviors. Travax provides practitioners current, independently researched malaria risk and prevention recommendations in a map-based format that goes beyond the annual WHO and CDC statements included here. Not included here are current reports from Travax of disease outbreaks or environmental events that may pose elevated risks to travelers' health and safety. The Providers section of this site offers a directory of health care providers who utilize Shoreland Travax for travel health counseling. Learn more about the detailed reports and maps available from these practitioners (includes links to samples).

## General Information

Djibouti is a developing nation classified as lower middle income. Located in eastern Africa along the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea (north of Somalia), the climate is classified as predominantly dry (arid).

## Immunizations

### Yellow Fever

- Requirement: No requirement for any traveler as of July 1, 2019 per the 2019 online update of *International Travel and Health*.

### Other Vaccines

Depending on your itinerary, your personal risk factors, and the length of your visit, your health care provider may offer you vaccination against hepatitis A, hepatitis B, influenza, measles, mumps, rubella, rabies, or typhoid fever. Routine immunizations, such as those that prevent tetanus/diphtheria or "childhood" diseases, should be reviewed and updated as needed.

## Malaria

The following is current information as reported by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

### WHO—*International Travel and Health* (current online update, Country List)

(2019) Malaria risk due predominantly to *P. falciparum* exists throughout the year in the entire country.

- Recommended prevention: **C** – Risk of *P. falciparum* malaria, in combination with reported chloroquine and sulfadoxine–pyrimethamine resistance. Mosquito bite prevention plus atovaquone–proguanil or doxycycline or mefloquine chemoprophylaxis (select according to reported side effects and contraindications) <sup>a</sup>
- <sup>a</sup>Alternatively, for travel to rural areas with low risk of malaria infection, mosquito bite prevention can be combined with stand-by emergency treatment (SBET).

WHO Country List footnote: When available, the date of the most recent update or confirmation is indicated in parentheses in the country list. If no date is indicated, the most recent update or confirmation was provided before 2013.

### CDC—*Health Information for International Travel* (current online edition)

Areas with malaria: All.

- Estimated relative risk of malaria for US travelers: No data.
- Drug resistance<sup>4</sup>: Chloroquine.
- Malaria species: *P. falciparum* 90%, *P. vivax* 5%-10%.
- Recommended chemoprophylaxis: Atovaquone-proguanil, doxycycline, or mefloquine.

<sup>4</sup> Refers to *P. falciparum* malaria unless otherwise noted.

## Other Concerns

### Travelers' Diarrhea

High risk exists throughout the country, including in deluxe accommodations. Food and beverage precautions may reduce the likelihood of illness.

Travelers should carry loperamide for self-treatment of diarrhea and, if risk is moderate to high, an antibiotic to add if diarrhea is severe. Consult a knowledgeable health care provider regarding which antibiotic is appropriate for you and most effective for your destination.

### Insect- and Arthropod-Borne Diseases

Chikungunya, dengue, leishmaniasis, West Nile virus may pose a risk. Personal protective measures are important.

### Other Disease and Health Risks

Additional concerns include helminths, marine hazards, schistosomiasis, sexually transmitted infections, snakebites, tuberculosis.

## Consular Advice

*The material below includes information from the U.S. Department of State (DOS), U.K. Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), and Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), as well as from additional open-source material. Standard safety precautions that apply to all international travel can be found in the Library article Safety and Security.*

### Consular Travel Advice

Due to military conflict, Australia (DFAT) advises avoiding travel to within 10 km (6.2 mi) of the border with Eritrea and 5 km (3.1 mi) of the border with Somalia. U.K. (FCO) and Canada (GAC) have more limited warnings. U.S. (DOS) has no current warning.

### Terrorism Risk

Risk of attack by transnational terrorist groups exists throughout the country. Targets may include domestic and international organizations and businesses; public places and events, including those frequented by tourists; and transportation systems.

### Crime

Negligible risk of violent crime exists throughout the country.

Moderate risk of petty crime exists throughout the country, especially in isolated locations, including Dorale and Khor Ambado beaches.

### Civil Unrest

Protests and demonstrations occur throughout the country and have the potential to turn violent without warning. Bystanders are at risk of harm from violence or from the response by authorities.

### Unsafe Areas

Armed conflict occurs and a dangerous security environment exists in areas bordering Eritrea.

Landmines and other unexploded ordnance are present in areas bordering Ethiopia and Somalia.

Piracy (involving commercial and private, leisure vessels) occurs in coastal and international waters.

### Water Safety

Rent water sports equipment from reputable operators. Scuba dive only with personnel certified by PADI or NAUI, and use equipment only from PADI- or NAUI-certified dive operators.

### Transportation Safety

Significant risk of traffic-related injury or death exists. The road-traffic death rate is greater than 24 per 100,000 population, the highest risk category. Carefully assess the safety of transportation options before any road travel. Speed laws are poorly

enforced. Driving at night is not advised. Seek local advice before traveling on roads outside urban areas after dark.

Traffic flows on the right-hand side of the road. Travelers (including drivers and pedestrians) accustomed to traffic moving on the opposite side should be vigilant when navigating traffic.

Public buses and taxis do not meet international safety standards (due to unsafe vehicles, poor maintenance, and hazardous driving).

### Natural Disasters

Extreme heat (which can lead to heat-related illness) occurs from May through October.

Seismic and volcanic activity frequently occurs.

### Consular Information

Selected Embassies or Consulates in Djibouti

- | United States: [+253] 21-45-30-00; [dj.usembassy.gov](http://dj.usembassy.gov)
- | Canada: [+253] 21-35-59-50; [travel.gc.ca/assistance/embassies-consulates/djibouti](http://travel.gc.ca/assistance/embassies-consulates/djibouti)
- | United Kingdom: U.K. does not have an embassy or consulate in Djibouti.
- | Australia: [+253] 21-35-38-44

Djibouti's Embassies or Consulates in Selected Countries

- | In the U.S.: [www.djiboutiembassyus.org](http://www.djiboutiembassyus.org)
- | In Canada: [+1] 514-271-8207
- | In the U.K.: Djibouti does not have an embassy or consulate in the U.K.
- | In Australia: Djibouti does not have an embassy or consulate in Australia.

### Visa/HIV Testing

HIV testing is not required to obtain a tourist, work, or residence visa.

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