

Kiribati

Medical Summary

The health risk information presented here is summarized from Shoreland Travax[®], 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

Kiribati is a developing nation classified as lower middle income. Located in the Pacific Ocean about halfway between Hawaii and Australia, the climate is classified as humid equatorial (no dry season).

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)

No statement given.

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

Areas with malaria: None.

Drug resistance: Not applicable.

Other Concerns

Travelers' Diarrhea

Moderate 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.

Other Food-Borne Illnesses

Precautions to prevent seafood poisoning may be needed.

Insect- and Arthropod-Borne Diseases

Chikungunya, dengue may pose a risk. Personal protective measures are important.

Other Disease and Health Risks

Additional concerns include helminths, marine hazards, 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.

Terrorism Risk

No intrinsic risk of attack by terrorist groups exists, but unforeseen attacks are possible.

Crime

Negligible risk of violent crime and low risk of petty crime exist throughout the country.

Unsafe Areas

Travelers should not swim in the lagoon in south Tarawa as it is highly polluted. There are very strong rip tides along coast and reef areas and several drownings occur each year. Travelers should use caution when swimming in the sea around Kiribati.

Water Safety

Hazardous water conditions (including currents, tides, and undertows) may occur. Heed posted warnings and avoid beaches that are not patrolled. Do not swim alone or after dark, and do not walk on any beach after dark.

Transportation Safety

Low risk of traffic-related injury or death exists. The road-traffic death rate is less than 7 per 100,000 population, the lowest risk category. Speed laws are poorly enforced.

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

Natural Disasters

The rainy season is from November through April, coinciding with the cyclone season. Floods, mudslides, and landslides may occur.

Seismic activity occurs.

Consular Information

Selected Embassies or Consulates in Kiribati

- | United States: The U.S. does not have an embassy or consulate in Kiribati.
- | Canada: Canada does not have an embassy or consulate in Kiribati.
- | United Kingdom: U.K. does not have an embassy or consulate in Kiribati.
- | Australia: [+686] 21-184; www.kiribati.embassy.gov.au

Kiribati's Embassies or Consulates in Selected Countries

- | In the U.S.: Kiribati does not have an embassy or consulate in the U.S.
- | In Canada: Kiribati does not have an embassy or consulate in Canada.
- | In the U.K.: [+44] 01873-840-375
- | In Australia: [+61] 0418-225-196

Visa/HIV Testing

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

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