

Mongolia

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

Mongolia is a developing nation classified as lower middle income. Located in eastern Asia (south of Russia and north of China), the climate classifications range from humid cold (dry winter) in the north to dry (arid) in the south, with cooler temperatures in some high-altitude areas.

Immunizations

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, tick-borne encephalitis, 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 brucellosis may be needed.

Other Disease and Health Risks

Additional concerns include air pollution, Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever, plague, 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

Moderate risk of violent crime (armed robbery, sexual assault, and assault) and high risk of petty crime exist throughout the country, especially in Ulaanbaatar (particularly in State Department Store, Gandantegchinlen Monastery, markets, Central Post Office, outside of bars and nightclubs, and on public transportation), in other cities, and during festivals (including Tsaagan Sar and Naadam).

Scams involving false identity (such as criminals posing as police officers) have been reported.

Civil Unrest

Protests and demonstrations may infrequently occur and have the potential to turn violent without warning.

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

High risk of traffic-related injury or death exists. The road-traffic death rate is 12 to 24 per 100,000 population. The rate is less than 10 in most high-income countries. 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.

Avoid public transportation (including rail service and taxis), especially in Ulaanbaatar, due to safety and security concerns, including very high risk of pick-pocketing.

Many taxis are unsafe. Use taxis from official ranks or dispatched via smart phone app or radio from a reputable company and ascertain the license or identification number of the dispatched vehicle.

Natural Disasters

The rainy season is from July to September, especially in northern areas. Floods, mudslides, and landslides may occur.

Winter storms and dust storms frequently occur.

Consular Information

Selected Embassies or Consulates in Mongolia

- | United States: [+976] 7007-6001; mn.usembassy.gov
- | Canada: [+976] 11-332500; www.mongolia.gc.ca
- | United Kingdom: [+976] 11-458-133; www.gov.uk/world/organisations/british-embassy-ulaanbaatar
- | Australia: [+976] 7013-3001; mongolia.embassy.gov.au

Mongolia's Embassies or Consulates in Selected Countries

- | In the U.S.: www.mongolianembassy.us
- | In Canada: ottawa.embassy.mn
- | In the U.K.: www.embassyofmongolia.co.uk
- | In Australia: www.mongolianembassy.org.au

Visa/HIV Testing

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

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