

# Sint Maarten

## 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 US 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

Sint Maarten, a constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, is an industrialized nation in the top 25% of the world's economies. The island of Saint Martin is shared by 2 independent states: Sint Maarten (an overseas collectivity of France) and Saint Martin (see Destinations). Located in the Caribbean Sea (east of Puerto Rico), the climate is classified as humid equatorial (no dry season).

## Vaccinations

**Routine vaccinations** are essential due to a persistent rise of vaccine-preventable diseases (especially markedly high rates of diphtheria, pertussis, and measles) globally. Prior to travel, travelers should be up-to-date with the age-appropriate routine vaccinations recommended by their home country, which may include: COVID-19; *H. influenzae* type B (Hib); hepatitis A; hepatitis B; herpes zoster; human papillomavirus; influenza; measles, mumps, rubella; meningococcal; pneumococcal; polio; rotavirus; tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap preferred; consider an early pertussis booster for high-risk travelers); varicella.

## Yellow Fever

Although yellow fever does not occur in Sint Maarten, an official yellow fever vaccination certificate may be required depending on your itinerary.

- **Requirement:** A certificate proving yellow fever vaccination is required for travelers aged  $\geq 9$  months coming from countries with risk of YF transmission. This does not apply to airport transit stops (no exit through immigration checkpoint) in risk countries.

## 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 chikungunya, dengue, rabies, or typhoid fever.

## Malaria

The following is current information as reported by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the US 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

Minimal risk (comparable to that in other industrialized countries) exists throughout the country. Community sanitation and food safety measures are generally good, and health concerns related to food and beverage consumption are minimal. Risk for viral gastroenteritis (e.g., norovirus) may be elevated based on season, traveler itinerary, and/or level of community transmission.

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, seafood poisoning may be needed.

## Insect- and Arthropod-Borne Diseases

Zika may pose a risk. Personal protective measures are important.

## Other Disease and Health Risks

Additional concerns include leptospirosis, marine hazards, sexually transmitted infections.

## Safety and Security

### Key Safety Risks

- Petty crime
- Heightened crime risk for women
- Theft of vehicles
- Scams
- Natural disasters

## Emergency Contacts

The police emergency number is 911.

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