

# Yemen

## 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

Yemen is a developing nation classified as low income. Located in the Middle East (west of Oman and south of Saudi Arabia), the climate is classified as dry (arid), 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 cholera, 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)

(prior to 2018) Malaria risk due predominantly to *P. falciparum* exists throughout the year, but mainly from September through February, in the entire country below 2000 m. There is no risk in Sana'a city. Malaria risk on Socotra Island is very limited.

- Recommended prevention in risk areas: **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).

- Recommended prevention on Socotra Island: **A** – Very limited risk of malaria transmission. Mosquito bite prevention only.

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 areas < 2,000 m (6,561 ft). None in Sana'a.

- Estimated relative risk of malaria for US travelers: Low.
- Drug resistance<sup>4</sup>: Chloroquine.
- Malaria species: *P. falciparum* 95%, *P. malariae*, *P. vivax*, and *P. ovale* 5% combined.
- 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, onchocerciasis, Rift Valley fever may pose a risk. Personal protective measures are important.

### **Other Disease and Health Risks**

Additional concerns include helminths, marine hazards, schistosomiasis, 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 terrorism, political instability, and other ongoing security concerns, U.S. (DOS), U.K. (FCO), Canada (GAC), and Australia (DFAT) advise avoiding all travel to this country.

### **Terrorism Risk**

High risk of attack by domestic and/or transnational terrorist groups exists throughout the country, including Sana'a and other cities. Targets may include domestic and international organizations and businesses; public places and events, including those frequented by tourists; and transportation systems.

High risk of kidnapping and targeted assassinations by terrorist groups exist throughout the country, including Sana'a and other cities. Since 2010, hundreds of foreigners have been kidnapped. Targets specifically include foreigners (especially Westerners), journalists, nongovernmental organization workers, missionaries, and aid workers.

### **Crime**

High risk of violent crime (carjacking) exists throughout the country.

### **Civil Unrest**

Protests and demonstrations frequently 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. Disruption to transportation, free movement, or the ability to carry out daily activities may occur.

### **Unsafe Areas**

Armed conflict (including airstrikes) occurs, a dangerous security environment exists, ethnic tensions are present, and military presence exists throughout the country.

Landmines and other unexploded ordnance are present in southern regions and in the northern highlands.

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

### **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. Travelers should seek local advice before traveling on roads outside urban areas after dark. Driving at night is not advised.

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.

## Natural Disasters

The monsoon season is from June through September. Floods, mudslides, and landslides may occur.

Dust storms occur.

Seismic and volcanic activity occurs.

## Consular Information

Selected Embassies or Consulates in Yemen

Foreign governments cannot provide any form of assisted departure to foreign nationals in Yemen.

- | United States: Operations are currently suspended; [+967] 1-755-2000; ye.usembassy.gov
- | Canada: Canada does not have an embassy or consulate in Yemen.
- | United Kingdom: Operations are currently suspended; www.gov.uk/world/organisations/british-embassy-sana-a
- | Australia: Australia does not have an embassy or consulate in Yemen.

Yemen's Embassies or Consulates in Selected Countries

- | In the U.S.: www.yemenembassy.org
- | In Canada: www.yemenembassy.ca
- | In the U.K.: [+44] 020-7584-6607
- | In Australia: Yemen does not have an embassy or consulate in Australia.

## Visa/HIV Testing

HIV testing is required to obtain a work or residence visa. Travelers, including short-stay travelers, may be detained or deported after arrival if found to be positive for HIV or hepatitis.

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