



Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Paris (France), Multi-sector Strikes in France

Riots/Civil Unrest; Transportation Security; Other

Europe > France; Europe > France > Bordeaux; Europe > France > Lyon; Europe > France > Marseille; Europe > France > Paris; Europe > France > Rennes; Europe > France > Strasbourg; Europe > France > Toulouse

6/22/2016

The U.S. Embassy in France informs U.S. citizens that several national unions across a variety of sectors continue strikes in protest of proposed labor laws. In addition to ongoing strikes, these unions have called for nationwide general strikes on June 23 and June 28. Affected sectors include, but are not limited to, the national rail network, air traffic control, airline pilots, the Paris public transportation system, energy, and truck transport. Travelers are advised to verify the status of their flights, trains, or other public transportation services prior to their travel. Travelers are advised that these strikes could result in delays or cancellations of trains, flights, and other transportation services. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

The following strikes have been announced beginning on or after Thursday, June 23:

Multi-sector -- National strikes have been called for Thursday, June 23 and Tuesday, June 28. Affected sectors include energy, maritime, public transportation, taxis, education, public services, private sector enterprises, postal service, sanitation workers, and health.

The following strikes are ongoing:

Rail - The national unions which represents rail workers renewed their call for strikes limiting rail services along the TGV, RER and SNCF networks. The "unlimited strike" started

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on May 31 and is ongoing though with variable impact.

Paris-area Public Transportation - The union representing the Paris metro area transportation (RATP) called for an “unlimited strike,” which started on June 2, of all public transportation services, including the Paris metro, buses, and RER trains. This strike too is of variable impact.

Travelers can also track updates on Twitter through services such as Aéroports de Paris (@ParisAeroport) or your local airport or air carrier, the Prefecture de Police for your area (@PrefPolice is the one for Paris), SNCF (@SNCF), and your metro or rail line. French news sources such as BFMTV, *Le Parisien*, and France24 TV (available in English or French) are also likely to carry information about the strikes’ impact.

If you need to cancel or exchange a TGV or Intercity train ticket, visit the SNCF website here: <http://www.sncf.com/fr/echange-remboursement-tgv-intercites>

For up-to-date information on SNCF plans (or to check your specific train), consult the SNCF website here:

<http://www.sncf.com/fr/horaires-info-traffic#animation-1>

RATP – Paris local transport system – for information on metros, buses, and RER lines:

<http://www.ratp.fr/informer/trafic/trafic.php>

Transilien – for Paris region transport:

<http://www.transilien.com/info-traffic/temps-reel>

For further information about security in France:

See the State Department's travel website for the Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and *France Country Specific Information*.

Enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (**STEP**) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.

Contact the U.S. Embassy in France, located at 4, Avenue Gabriel, Paris,

+33 (1) 43 12 22 22, 9:00am – 6:00pm Monday through Friday.

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After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is +33 (1) 43 12 22 22.

Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

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