



Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Jeddah (Saudi Arabia), Reported Threats

Terrorism

Near East > Saudi Arabia > Jeddah

7/21/2016

The United States Embassy has received reports of a potential, imminent threat against U.S. citizens in areas of Jeddah frequented by Westerners, such as markets, restaurants, and shopping malls, among others. Remember to vary your routes and times in all instances when traveling in the Kingdom.

All U.S. citizens are encouraged to be aware of their surroundings, and take extra precautions when travelling throughout the country. The Department of State urges U.S. citizens to carefully consider the risks of traveling to Saudi Arabia and limit non-essential travel within the country. Please note that travelers holding pilgrimage visas issued by the Saudi government are strictly prohibited from travel outside of the cities of Mecca, Medina and Jeddah.

U.S. government personnel and their families are restricted from traveling within 50 miles of the Yemeni border, and to the cities of Jizan and Najran, without permission. U.S. government personnel are similarly prohibited from traveling to the city of Qatif in the Eastern Province and its surrounding suburbs, including Awamiyah, and to the town of Hofuf and its surrounding suburbs in the Al Hasa Governorate due to violent episodes that have occurred there in the past.

Regardless of where you are, keep your security and situational awareness levels high. Be prepared to postpone or cancel activities for personal safety concerns. Report concerns you may have to the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, the U.S. Consulate General in Jeddah, or the U.S. Consulate General in Dhahran.

Please follow these good personal security practices:

- Avoid crowds or large gatherings, and keep a low profile when traveling in public.

The contents of this (U) presentation in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the United States Department of State, or the United States Government, except as otherwise noted (e.g., travel advisories, public statements). The presentation was compiled from various open sources and (U) embassy reporting. Please note that all OSAC products are for internal U.S. private sector security purposes only. Publishing or otherwise distributing OSAC-derived information in a manner inconsistent with this policy may result in the discontinuation of OSAC support.



- Know where you are going and have a plan of what to do in the event you encounter demonstrations or violence.
- Identify safe areas (for example police stations, hospitals, Saudi Government buildings) in your area and how to get to them quickly.
- Tell co-workers or neighbors where you're going and when you intend to return.
- Always carry a cell phone and have emergency numbers pre-programmed into your phone. The emergency number for the Saudi Police, Fire, and Rescue is 999. Please keep in mind that most emergency dispatchers and personnel do not speak English.
For further information:
 - See the State Department's travel website for the Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, including the Travel Warning for Saudi Arabia, Travel Alerts, and Saudi Arabia's 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 Riyadh at (966) (11) 488-3800, the U.S. Consulate General Dhahran at (966) (13) 330-3200, or the U.S. Consulate General Jeddah at (966) (12) 667-0080.
 - 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 Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
 - Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

The contents of this (U) presentation in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the United States Department of State, or the United States Government, except as otherwise noted (e.g., travel advisories, public statements). The presentation was compiled from various open sources and (U) embassy reporting. Please note that all OSAC products are for internal U.S. private sector security purposes only. Publishing or otherwise distributing OSAC-derived information in a manner inconsistent with this policy may result in the discontinuation of OSAC support.