

GUATEMALA

ABOUT GUATEMALA VACCINATIONS

The northernmost Central American country, Guatemala is bounded by Mexico, Honduras and Belize, as well as the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. It has four geographic regions: the central-western highlands, a low northern plateau section, which is mainly jungle, the volcanic Sierra Madre to the south and the tropical coastal lowlands. In the capital, the rainy season is May – Oct, its dry season Nov - May. Temperatures are generally moderate and rainfall is heaviest from June through October, averaging 132cm a year, almost entirely from May to October. During the dry season, the midday sun is hot, with chilly to cold mornings and evenings.

OVERALL RISK

Medium Risk - Preventable disease occur sporadically or at moderate levels. Consult a Travelvax clinic for your specific risk if travelling outside resorts, 5 star accommodation or for periods longer than a few days.

MALARIA RISK

Malaria is present throughout country. Anti-malarial medications recommended. Type of malaria tablets will vary according to itinerary, length of stay and needs to be discussed with a medical practitioner.

VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES

YELLOW FEVER

A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers older than 1 year of age coming from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and for travellers having transited more than 12 hours through an airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission.

No vaccination certificate is required for direct travel from Australia or New Zealand.

COVID-19

For the most up to date requirements for entry into Australia, go to [Smartraveller](#).

Please click this [COVID-19 Travel Regulations Map](#) (IATA) to view the latest Guatemala COVID travel requirements.

HEPATITIS A

Moderate risk to travellers, vaccination recommended.

HEPATITIS B

Low presence of Hepatitis B in local population, discuss whether vaccination would be recommended with a medical practitioner . Vaccination is recommended for specific high-risk travellers (sport/adventure/occupational/sexual). Consult a

medical practitioner for your specific risk.

TYPHOID

Moderate risk for most travellers. Vaccination recommended for travel to smaller cities, villages and rural areas outside usual tourist routes. Some medical conditions pre-dispose to infection; whether vaccinations would be recommended should be discussed with a medical practitioner. Consult a medical practitioner for your specific risk.

INFLUENZA

Year round risk present. Most common vaccine preventable illness in travellers. Vaccine recommended, effective for 1 year.

RABIES

Disease present. Recommendation for vaccination will depend on specific itinerary and activities planned. Generally rabies vaccination is advised for high risk individuals such as veterinarians or animal handlers, cavers. Additionally for higher risk travellers who plan: extended periods outdoors, rural travel, adventurous activities including bicycling; also expats or long-term travellers to endemic regions and children (risk of more severe or risk-prone bites and may not report contact at all).

JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS

No risk to travellers.

POLIO

No risk to travellers.

TICKBORNE ENCEPHALITIS

No risk to travellers.

MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS

Low risk to travellers.

CHOLERA

No risk to travellers.

OTHER DISEASES

TRAVELLERS DIARRHOEA

High risk. Travellers' Diarrhoea affects 20-60% of overseas travellers, food and water precautions are essential. Self-treatment medications may be recommended.

INSECT-BORNE DISEASES

Diseases such as [Dengue](#), [Chikungunya](#), [Zika](#) may be present. Seasonal risk will vary by country. Whether preventive measures will be recommended will depend on itinerary, length of stay, type of travel etc. and needs to be discussed with a medical practitioner. For those countries with disease present, risk is highest in urban and semi-urban areas, but may also occur in rural areas; [insect avoidance measures](#) are highly recommended all year round. Travelvax believes that the best defence is to understand their habits, dress properly and use an [effective insect repellent](#) in the correct manner. Consult a medical practitioner for your specific risk.

SCHISTOSOMIASIS

No risk to travellers.

STIs

Low incidence of sexually transmitted and blood-borne diseases. Safe sex and needle precautions should be followed by all travellers.

ALTITUDE

No risk to travellers.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PERSONAL SAFETY

In order to check before and during travel for any high-risk areas visit the Smartraveller website. Avoid unnecessary displays of wealth or valuables and minimise the amounts of cash carried. Keep secure records of passport/credit card/licence numbers. For more safety tips visit: www.smartraveller.gov.au.

MEDICAL CARE

Comprehensive medical facilities available only in the major population centres and/or specific private clinics. Sterile surgical products (syringes/needles/sutures) are not always available. Check for any contacts supplied by your emergency assistance organisation (nominated by your travel insurer) or with IAMAT (International Association of Medical Assistance for Travellers).

FIRST AID KITS & ACCESSORIES

Carry a basic [first aid kit](#), customised to your activities. For longer stays consider a needle and syringe pack and medication for travellers diarrhoea.

**More information on Guatemala is available during your pre-travel consultation with Travelvax.
Call 1300 360 164 for the location of the clinic nearest to you.**