

# **SENEGAL**

# **ABOUT SENEGAL VACCINATIONS**

Senegal is bounded on the west by the Atlantic Ocean, on the north by Mauritania, on the east by Mali, and on the south by Guinea-Bissau and Guinea. It is mostly flat or rolling plains with savannah-type vegetation. In the southeast are plateaus reaching heights of 500meters, and the southwest consists mostly of marshy swamps interspersed with tropical rain forests. Senegal has two well-defined seasons. The cool, dry winter season (November-June) and the hot, humid summer (July-October), are due to alternative northeast (winter) and southwest (summer) winds. During winter, Dakar days are usually sunny with temperatures between 17-27°C. During summer, the average is 30-35°C with high humidity. Dakar receives 61cm of rainfall a year, mostly between June and October. From December to February, minimum temperature ranges are greater along the coast, and precipitation increases farther south, exceeding 50cm a year in parts of the Casamance. Sudden thunderstorms with heavy downpours are frequent in periods of seasonal change.

# **OVERALL RISK**

High Risk - Preventable disease is much more common than in Australia. Consult a Travelvax clinic for your specific risk.

# **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

Disease present. A vaccination certificate is required for travellers aged 9 months or over arriving from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and for travellers who have transited through the airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission.

Vaccination is recommended for protection against the disease and a vaccination certificate may be required for subsequent destinations.

Travellers arriving in Australia within 6 days of leaving this country require a vaccination certificate.

### COVID-19

For the most up to date requirements for entry into Australia, go to <u>Smartraveller</u>.

Please click this COVID-19 Travel Regulations Map (IATA) to view the latest Senegal COVID travel requirements.

# **HEPATITIS A**

Risk of Hepatitis A infection is high for all travellers, vaccination recommended.

#### **HEPATITIS B**

High presence of Hepatitis B in local population. Vaccination would be recommended. 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**

Sporadic outbreaks of the disease occur. Most travellers are at low risk. Consult a medical practitioner for your specific risk. Vaccination is recommended for all travellers who have a non-functioning spleen.

### **CHOLERA**

No risk to travellers.

# **OTHER DISEASES**

#### TRAVFILERS DIARRHOFA

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 <u>Dengue</u>, <u>Chikungunya</u>, <u>Zika</u> 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; <u>insect avoidance measures</u> are highly recommended all year round. Travelvax believes that the best defence is to understand their habits, dress properly and use an <u>effective insect repellent</u> in the correct manner. Consult a medical practitioner for your specific risk.

### **SCHISTOSOMIASIS**

Swimming or bathing in freshwater is the main cause of infection. Avoid freshwater contact if you are unsure of origin.

#### 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

Always carry an <u>advanced first aid kit</u>, including needles and syringes (shortages of sterile equipment are common). A prescription kit (containing treatments for travellers' diarrhoea) is essential. A <u>mosquito net</u> and <u>insect repellent</u> (containing DEET, Citriodiol or Picaridin) are highly recommended, even if anti-malarials are taken.

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