

**2018 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, PyeongChang,  
Republic of Korea**  
**Advice for travellers and travelling athletes**

The XXIII Olympic Winter Games will take place from 9 to 25 February 2018 in PyeongChang, the Republic of Korea. The 2018 Winter Olympics will feature 102 events in 15 sports. The Paralympic Winter Games will take place from 9 to 18 March 2018 and will feature 6 sports.



## Before travelling

Visitors to PyeongChang and possibly to other parts of the Republic of Korea should be aware that they are at risk of infectious diseases such as:

- Foodborne and waterborne diseases, e.g. hepatitis A, typhoid fever.
- Vectorborne diseases, e.g. malaria, Japanese encephalitis.
- Bloodborne and sexually transmitted diseases, e.g. hepatitis B, HIV.
- Other diseases, e.g. rabies.

## A) Immunizations

It is recommended that you consult your health professional 4-6 weeks in advance of travel, in order to confirm primary courses and boosters are up to date according to the current national recommendations. Especially:

- A single MMR dose should be given to complete the two dose series and all non-immune adult travellers should be vaccinated with two doses of MMR vaccine. Individuals who completed the two dose series or with documented physician diagnosed measles do not need vaccination.
- Tetanus- diphtheria booster.
- Poliomyelitis booster.
- Hepatitis A vaccine.

- Hepatitis B vaccine.
- Influenza (flu) vaccine.
- Typhoid fever vaccine.
- Japanese encephalitis vaccine.
- Rabies vaccine.

## **B) Malaria**

The risk for travellers to Republic of Korea is low; limited to the months of March–December in rural areas in the northern parts of Incheon, Kangwon-do, and Kyōnggi-do Provinces, including the demilitarized zone (DMZ).

Recommended chemoprophylaxis is atovaquone-proguanil, chloroquine, doxycycline, or mefloquine.

## **C) Personal protection measures**

- [Prevent bug bites](#)
- [Injury prevention](#)
- [Food and water precautions](#)
- [Travellers' diarrhoea](#)
- [Travel to cold climates](#)
- [Prevent sexually transmitted diseases](#)
- [Keep away from animals](#)
- [Travelling with medicines](#)
- [Travel health kit](#)

## **D) Travel health insurance**

You should also consider purchasing travel health insurance while travelling. You can contact the Hellenic Embassy in the Republic of Korea at <http://www.mfa.gr/missionsabroad/republic-of-korea>.

## **E) Security and safety**

Follow security and safety guidelines:

- Respect all local laws and social customs.
- Avoid travelling at night, avoid questionable areas and don't travel without companion.
- Do not wear expensive jewelry or clothing.
- Carry a photocopy of your passport; leave the actual passport in the hotel.
- Be careful when drinking alcohol. People are more likely to hurt themselves or other people, engage in risky sex, or get arrested when they have been drinking.
- Carry the contact information for the Hellenic Embassy in the Republic of Korea with you.
- Always keep hotel doors locked, and store valuables in secure areas.

## If you feel sick during your trip

- Contact a health professional if you feel ill, especially if you have fever. Western-style medical facilities are available in most large cities in South Korea.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hand) when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid contact (kissing, hugging, sharing utensils or cups) with other people while you are sick.

## After returning from your trip

You should monitor your health; seek medical attention if you develop symptoms and inform your healthcare provider of your trip.

## Useful links

- PyeongChang2018. At : <https://www.pyeongchang2018.com/en/index>
- Pyeongchang County government. At : <http://eng.pc.go.kr/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). At : <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/watch/2018-winter-olympics-pyeongchang>
- Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO). At : <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/south-korea>
- Hellenic Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (HCDCP). At : <http://www.keelpno.gr/el-gr/ταξιδιωτικήιατρική/γενικάπροληπτικάμέτραοδηγίεςυγείας> [[Συνοπτικός Οδηγός Υγείας για Ταξιδιώτες στο Εξωτερικό](#)]