



CDC Travel Health Notice: Italy

Alert Level 2, Practice Enhanced Precautions

What is the current situation?

Health officials in Italy have reported an outbreak of measles.

Measles is caused by a virus that is spread through the air by breathing, coughing, or sneezing. Measles virus is highly contagious and can remain so for up to 2 hours in the air or on surfaces. [Symptoms](#) of measles are rash, high fever, cough, runny nose, and red, watery eyes. Some people may suffer severe complications from measles, including pneumonia (infection of the lungs) and encephalitis (swelling of the brain).

CDC recommends that travelers to [Italy](#) protect themselves by making sure they are vaccinated against measles with the MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine. Before departure from the United States, infants (6 through 11 months of age) should have 1 dose of MMR vaccine, and adults and children over 1 year of age should have 2 doses of MMR vaccine separated by at least 28 days.

What can travelers do to protect themselves?

Get measles vaccine or make sure you have already been vaccinated.

Avoid contact with people who are sick.

Information as of January 12, 2018

Watch Level 1, Practice Usual Precautions

Notice Level	Traveler Action	Risk to Traveler
Level 1: Watch	Reminder to follow usual precautions for this destination	Usual baseline risk or slightly above baseline risk for destination and limited impact to the traveler
Level 2: Alert	Follow enhanced precautions for this destination	Increased risk in defined settings or associated with specific risk factors; certain high-risk populations may wish to delay travel to these destinations
Level 3: Warning	Avoid all non-essential travel to this destination	High risk to travelers