



Yellow Fever Fact Sheet

April 2026

If you are travelling to Africa, the Caribbean, Central or South America, you should be aware of the risk of yellow fever virus transmission and take the necessary precautions to protect yourself from infection.

What is yellow fever?

[Yellow fever](#) is a serious disease spread by infected mosquitoes. It can cause serious illness and even death. It's called 'yellow fever' because in serious cases, it can make a person's skin turn yellow. This is known as 'jaundice'. Yellow fever cannot be spread through contact between people.

Is there yellow fever in Australia?

No. Yellow fever does not occur in Australia. Most of Australia does not have mosquitoes that can spread yellow fever. But the main mosquito that can spread it is present in parts of Queensland. There is a small risk of local spread if an ill traveller returns to Australia.

How can I protect myself against yellow fever?

By getting vaccinated

There is a safe and effective yellow fever vaccine that protects most people for life with just one dose. With a few exceptions, vaccination is recommended for all travellers to countries or areas with high risk of yellow fever transmission (see [page 4](#)).

More information about who should get the yellow fever vaccine is available in the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) and the [National Guidelines for Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres and Providers](#).

By avoiding mosquitoes

The mosquitoes that spread yellow fever mostly bite during the day.

You can protect yourself from mosquitoes by:

- Using mosquito repellent with diethyltoluamide (DEET) or picaridin
- Wearing long-sleeved, loose-fitting, light-coloured clothes and enclosed shoes when outdoors. Mosquitoes can bite through tight clothing
- Avoiding perfume or cologne, as these can attract mosquitoes
- Using insect screens on doors and windows to keep mosquitoes out
- Using a mosquito net at night if mosquitoes might be present
- Avoiding areas of high mosquito activity, if you can

More information about how to prevent mosquito bites is available on the [Australian Centre for Disease Control's website](#).

Why do some countries require yellow fever vaccination?

Some countries require vaccination to protect individual travellers and local communities from the health risks of importing or spreading yellow fever.

The International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis is an official document developed by the World Health Organization (WHO). It provides internationally recognised proof that a person has received a vaccination, most commonly a vaccination for yellow fever.

Which countries require yellow fever vaccination?

The WHO keeps a list of [countries with yellow fever entry requirements](#). Requirements can be very different, so it's recommended that travellers [contact the embassy or consulate](#) of each country they intend to visit or transit in.

Travellers are also encouraged to check [smartraveller](#) for the latest information on health risks at their destination.

Does Australia require yellow fever vaccination?

Australia **does not** refuse entry if a traveller hasn't had, or can't prove they've had, a yellow fever vaccination.

The Australian Government recommends that travellers from yellow fever risk countries or areas be vaccinated against yellow fever. Australia's list of yellow fever risk countries and areas is provided on [page 4](#).

When arriving in Australia, travellers must declare if they've visited a yellow fever risk country or area in the last six days. If the answer is yes, they may be asked to provide an International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis.

Will I be let into Australia if I'm not vaccinated?

Australia **does not** refuse entry if a traveller hasn't had, or can't prove they've had, a yellow fever vaccination.

Travellers who can't provide an International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis will be referred to a Biosecurity Officer from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

The Biosecurity Officer will issue an action card for travellers to follow. The action card states that if the traveller develops [yellow fever symptoms](#) within six days of entering Australia, they should see a doctor and tell the doctor where they travelled.

Where can I get a yellow fever vaccination?

In Australia, only Approved Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres can provide the yellow fever vaccine. Each state and territory has a list of vaccination centres operating in their jurisdiction, these are available on [page 5](#).

My vaccination certificate has an expiry date, is this valid?

Yes. Following changes to the *International Health Regulations 2005* in 2016, all yellow fever vaccination certificates with a 'valid until' date are valid for the life of the person vaccinated, even if the 'valid until' date has passed.

I need proof of vaccination for travel, but I can't receive the vaccine for medical reasons. What should I do?

A traveller with medical circumstances that increase their risk of a serious vaccine reaction may be eligible for a medical exemption. Your doctor can provide advice about exemptions.

More information about medical exemptions is available in the [National Guidelines for Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres and Providers](#).

What should I do if I've lost my vaccination certificate?

An accredited practitioner may issue a replacement certificate if they are satisfied you have previously received the vaccination, and they have all relevant information to complete the replacement certificate. This includes the date of vaccination and the vaccine batch number.

Your vaccine information may be found on the [Australian Immunisation Register](#), or the vaccination centre where you received your vaccination.

Can I use My Health Record instead of a vaccination certificate?

No. A screenshot, scan or copy of [My Health Record](#) or the [Australian Immunisation Register](#) will not be accepted as proof of vaccination when an International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis is requested.

What should I do if I don't have a record of my vaccination, or the place where I received my vaccine no longer exists?

If your vaccination details cannot be found, a replacement certificate cannot be issued. You may wish to seek advice from your doctor about re-vaccination.

Where can I go for more information?

Your travel doctor or General Practitioner is best placed to provide personalised advice about vaccine eligibility.

State and territory health authorities are responsible for Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres and accredited practitioners, and are best placed to provide advice on the approval system.

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing can provide advice on Australia's yellow fever entry requirements at the international border.

Contact details for all jurisdictions are available on [page 5](#).

Additional Resources:

- [Yellow fever | Australian Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [Preventing mosquito bites | Australian Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [National Guidelines for Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres and Providers](#)
- [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#)
- [Yellow fever | healthdirect](#)
- [smartraveller](#)
- [Biosecurity \(Entry Requirements\) Determination 2025](#)
- [International Health Regulations, 2005, WHO, Annex 6, 7](#)
- [World Health Organization. Yellow fever](#)

Australia's list of yellow fever risk countries and areas

Australia's list of yellow fever risk countries and areas is guided by the [WHO list of yellow fever endemic countries](#) and also considers recent international surveillance data.

Africa

- Angola
- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Congo, Democratic Republic of the
- Congo, Republic of the
- Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)
- Equatorial Guinea
- Ethiopia
- Gabon
- The Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Kenya
- Liberia
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Togo
- Uganda

South America & Central America

- Argentina – Misiones and Corrientes Provinces
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Colombia
- Ecuador – excluding Galapagos Islands
- French Guiana
- Guyana
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Venezuela

Contact details for state and territory health departments

Australian Government - Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

- [Department of Health, Disability and Ageing](#)
- [National Guidelines for Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres and Providers](#)
- Phone: (02) 6289 8638 during business hours (AEST).

Australian Capital Territory - Department of Health

- [ACT Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres](#)
- [Health and Community Services Directorate](#)
- Phone: (02) 5124 9800

New South Wales - Department of Health

- [NSW Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres](#)
- [Public Health Units](#)
- Phone: 1300 066 055

Northern Territory - Department of Health

- [NT Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres](#)
- [Centre for Disease Control](#)
- Phone: (08) 8922 8044

Queensland - Queensland Health

- [QLD Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres](#)
- [Public Health Units](#)
- Phone: (07) 3328 9724

South Australia - Department of Health

- [SA Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres](#)
- [Communicable Disease Control Branch](#)
- Phone: 1300 232 272

Tasmania - Department of Health

- [TAS Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres](#)
- [Communicable Disease Prevention Unit](#)
- Phone: 1800 671 738

Victoria - Department of Health

- [VIC Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres](#)
- [Immunisation Program](#)
- Email: immunisation@health.vic.gov.au

Western Australia - Department of Health

- [WA Yellow Fever Vaccination Centres](#)
- [Public Health Units](#)
- Phone: 9222 2131