Press release: Brits urged to read travel advice ahead of Bank Holiday trips

British people planning to use the upcoming Bank Holidays to go abroad are being urged to plan for their trips by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO).

The FCO is using an improved design on its travel advice <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u> channels to remind people to prepare themselves before they leave the UK.

The FCO travel social media accounts display key updates to the FCO's travel advice. They are being updated with new graphics that include FCO and Travel Aware branding, and are colour-coded by region.

Travel Aware is the FCO's ongoing flagship consular prevention campaign. It provides advice to British people on how to stay safe when travelling overseas, information on local laws and customs, visa and passport requirements, and country-specific guidance on health.

Travel Aware is supported by a network of over 400 partners from across the travel industry.

The FCO provides travel advice for 225 countries and territories across the world. The FCO's travel advice pages were visited 45 million times last year, with the most popular pages being Turkey, USA and Egypt.

An FCO spokesperson said:

British people make around 50 million trips abroad every single year. Most of these are trouble-free, but staff at our Embassies across the world help tens of thousands of people every year who find themselves in difficulty.

Reading our travel advice before you go away can save you time and stress, meaning you can focus on enjoying your holiday. We hope this update to oFCOtravel will encourage even more people to read our advice before they go abroad.

Notes to editors:

- The FCO has been providing travel advice since 1990.
- Its purpose is to provide trustworthy, objective information and advice to help British nationals make their own informed decisions about foreign travel and plan for a safe and trouble-free trip.
- Our 225 travel advice country pages include information and advice on a range of topics, including safety and security, the threat from

terrorism, entry requirements, local laws and customs, health and natural disasters.

- We also have a range of other publications to help British nationals prepare effectively for foreign travel. Our foreign travel checklist sets out a list of things people can do before and during their trip to prepare for a safe and trouble-free trip.
- We also publish travel tips for specific traveller or trip types, including women travellers, LGBT travellers, gap year travellers, travellers with mental health needs, disabled people, people travelling during Ramadan, people visiting family and abroad, and people attending festivals abroad

Further information