



Foreigner's Guide on Business Travel to Ukraine

Safe transportation, Accommodation,
Insurance essentials and other
important details

December 2024



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The start of the full-scale war with Russia on **February 24, 2022**, has led to drastic life changes not for Ukrainians exclusively, but for the global community, as a whole. Multilateral relations, international aid from various countries and world organizations and the involvement of concerned foreigners have played a significant role in our struggle against the aggressor. Such global solidarity reflects a mutual understanding of the core principles that are at stake: democracy, freedom and the sovereignty of nations. This kind of unity and support underline the importance of international cooperation and the impact of taking collective measures in confronting challenges that threaten our shared values and security.

We understand that regardless of the existing danger, a considerable number of visitors still come to Ukraine, such as volunteers, public figures, activists, politicians, investors, and many others. It demonstrates the ongoing support of Ukraine by the global community. BDO in Ukraine has taken an active stance on Ukraine's restoration activities and has significantly expanded its cooperation with the international community. During our communications we often receive questions from our partners about traveling to Ukraine safely. That is why we have decided to create this guide.

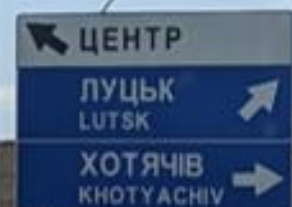
Developed by BDO in Ukraine, **"A Foreigner's Guide to Ukraine"** is a comprehensive resource for international visitors who are planning a journey to Ukraine amidst the chaos of war. This guide was crafted meticulously to provide you only with essential and actual information about traveling to Ukraine, safe accommodation during the war, obtaining insurance against military actions, as well as offering a whole array of useful resources, applications and tips to make your stay in Ukraine as safe as possible.

Ukraine is a vibrant country which consists of 24 regions, along with the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. Most of the regions, such as **Kyiv, Lviv, Vinnytsia, Volyn, Dnipropetrovsk, Zhytomyr, Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kirovohrad, Odesa, Mykolaiv, Poltava, Sumy, Rivne, Khmelnytskyi, Ternopil, Kharkiv, Cherkasy, Chernivtsi**, and **Chernihiv** are firmly under Ukrainian control.

However, it is also important to note that currently some significant parts of **Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk** and **Luhansk** regions, as well as the **Autonomous Republic of Crimea**, are not under the full control of Ukrainian government. Due to such circumstances, traveling and presence in these territories is not possible. Additionally, for safety reasons we strongly recommend against traveling to or staying in towns and cities near the front line.

Visiting the western parts of the country, such as **Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernivtsi**, and **Ternopil** regions is generally considered as safe, while **Kyiv** has the largest number of air defense systems, which cover the sky above the city from air raids and other attacks.

We put our trust in the **Armed Forces of Ukraine** and we hope for a swift return of Ukraine's sovereign territory to its legal borders. For travelers looking to explore Ukraine safely an [up-to-date interactive front-line map](#) is available to identify areas securely under Ukrainian governance.



... have you ever thought about how large Ukraine is?

The area of Ukraine compared to other countries

Ukraine and Europe

Ukraine is the largest country entirely within Europe, covering approximately **603,628 sq km**.

It is larger than **France** (551,695 sq km) and almost twice the size of **Germany** (357,578 sq km).

Ukraine's area is about **70%** of the combined area of the **United Kingdom** and **Italy**.

The area of Ukraine is almost **20** times the area of **Belgium** (30,688 sq km) or **5** times the area of **Greece** (131,957 sq km).



Ukraine and USA

Ukraine's land area is slightly smaller (about 15%) than **Texas**, which is **695,662 sq km**.

It is roughly the same size as the combined area of **New York**, **Pennsylvania**, **Ohio**, **Indiana**, and **Illinois**.

Ukraine and Australia

Ukraine is smaller than the Australian state of **Queensland** (1.853 mln sq km) but larger than **Victoria** (237,659 sq km).

Ukraine's area is approximately **8%** of the entire **Australian continent**, which is 7.692 mln sq km.



Safe transportation

Considering the current conditions that **direct air connections to Ukraine are temporarily unavailable**, we would like to reassure you that there are still several convenient and safe alternatives to get to Ukraine. From any corner of the Globe, access to the country remains open through a network of international gateways. You can select a flight to one of the airports near Ukrainian borders. Upon arrival you will find some easy traveling options, including train or bus connections, to transport you into Ukraine. Alternatively, if there is a direct connection with Ukraine you could choose a direct train or bus departing from one of the European countries, or you may consider driving to Ukraine by car as another option.

It's important to plan such journeys with a clear understanding of the current situation and to keep informed about the latest travel advisories and safety guidelines.

Rules for crossing the Ukrainian border

To cross the border with Ukraine being a resident of another country, you will need the following documents:

- ▶ A valid passport (Citizens of Turkey and Georgia can enter Ukraine on the basis of an ID card; Moldova ID-card valid for people living within 30 km (19 mi) border zone)
- ▶ An entry visa, if required (Information on the regime of entry for foreigners into Ukraine can be checked on the [MFA of Ukraine website](#))
- ▶ A residence permit, even those expired after February 24, 2022, grant the right to enter Ukraine
- ▶ A health insurance policy. Insurance in Ukraine is obligatory



Ukrainian land borders
are open to foreigners

Travel advisory for Ukraine

Travel advisory for Ukraine is at the **highest alert level (4)**, with many countries advising against all travel due to the ongoing war. The situation remains volatile, with risks from combat, shelling, and missile attacks. Travelers are urged to avoid frontline regions and areas near the borders with Russia and Belarus. While western regions have a slightly lower risk, the overall recommendation is to reconsider travel plans. Despite the risks, many continue to visit Ukraine for humanitarian, business, and personal reasons.

Below is information about some countries. Please visit the website of your country's embassy in Ukraine (or another government institution) to check the travel advisory for Ukraine.



United States of America

Instead of **Level 4 (do not travel)** for the entire country, **9 Ukrainian regions** (Volyn, Lviv, Chernivtsi, Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Rivne, Ternopil, Khmelnytsky and Zhytomyr) are now classified as **Level 3 (reconsider travel) - with lower risk**. This greatly facilitates visits to Ukraine by U.S. businesses, organizations and institutions.

This is also the de facto lift of ban on U.S. defense contractors from working in Ukraine, which opens up great opportunities for new UA - USA joint ventures in Ukraine.

Other regions of Ukraine still remain under a **Level 4** travel advisory. [Details](#)



Canada

The Canadian government also maintains a **high-level (4) travel advisory** against travel to Ukraine, citing significant risks from missile and drone strikes on civilian and government infrastructure. [Details](#)



United Kingdom

The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) advises against all but essential travel (**Level 3**) to the following regions in western Ukraine: all parts of Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, Chernivtsi, Lviv, and areas more than 50 km from the border with Belarus: Volyn, Rivne and Zhytomyr. To other parts of Ukraine, the FCDO advises against all travel - **Level 4**. [Details](#)



Germany

The German government advises against travel to Ukraine (**Level 4**). Germans are strongly urged to leave the country if it is safe to do so. [Details](#)



Belgium

Travel to the entire territory of Ukraine is not recommended (**Level 4**). If you nevertheless choose to travel, it is at your own risk and responsibility. [Details](#)



Netherlands

The travel advisory for Dutch citizens to the entire territory of Ukraine is not recommended (**Level 4**). Any travel to Ukraine is highly discouraged and entirely at your own risk. [Details](#)



Travel by train

There are several options for visiting Ukraine by train. You can get to Ukraine from one of these countries:

- ▶ Poland
- ▶ Hungary
- ▶ Austria
- ▶ Slovakia
- ▶ Moldova
- ▶ Romania
- ▶ Czech Republic



Each of these countries has established train routes that connect directly with major Ukrainian cities providing travelers with a reliable and comfortable mode of transportation.

We recommend choosing this option for traveling to Ukraine to ensure a more predictable travel time.



Poland

Train routes to Ukraine are available from three Polish cities: **Warsaw**, **Chełm**, and **Przemyśl**.

Train schedule:

Available only in [Ukrzaliznytsia App](#)

- ▶ **Warsaw-Kyiv** №068/067 **SLC**
- ▶ **Warsaw-Rava-Ruska** №768/767, 766/765 **STC**
(connection with train №868/867, № 866/865 **STC** to Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kolomyia, Chernivtsi)
- ▶ **Chełm-Kyiv-Dnipro** №120/119 **SLC**
- ▶ **Chełm-Kyiv-Kharkiv** №094/093 **SLC**
- ▶ **Chełm-Kyiv** №024/023, №020/019 **SLC**
- ▶ **Przemyśl-Kyiv** №090/089, №052/051 **SLC**
- ▶ **Przemyśl-Kyiv-Kharkiv** №074/073 **SLC**
- ▶ **Przemyśl-Dnipro-Zaporizhia** №032Д/032П **SLC**
- ▶ **Przemyśl-Kyiv-Odesa** №036Л/036Ш **SLC**
- ▶ **Przemyśl Główny-Kyiv-Pas** №706/705, №716/715 IS+ (stops in Lviv, Ternopil, Khmelnytskyi, Vinnytsia) **STC**

***STC** - Seating cars with 1st and 2nd classes

***SLC** - Sleeping cars with compartments of 2 or 4 beds

****/...** - Return route

Approx. to

Kyiv	€ 32-80 EUR	🕒 ~ 9.5-17h
Lviv	€ 20-35 EUR	🕒 ~ 2-10h
Kharkiv	€ 57-72 EUR	🕒 ~ 22.5-23h
Dnipro	€ 58-95 EUR	🕒 ~ 17.5-20h
Odesa	€ 50-65 EUR	🕒 ~ 15.5h

Tickets for all trains to Ukraine can be purchased on [Ukrzaliznytsia website](#) or via [application](#)



It's important to check all information close to your departure date to ensure you have the latest updates. Please be aware of possible delays on all routes and allow additional time for passport control in Przemyśl before departure. Plan your connecting train accordingly.

To reach **Chełm** or **Przemyśl**, you can take local trains from **Warsaw** or **Kraków**

- ▶ **Warsaw-Chełm** № IC52100/25100, IC12100/21100, TLK12100/21010
€ 10-19 EUR 🕒 ~ 3h
- ▶ **Warsaw-Przemyśl** № IC13100/31100, IC13104/31104, IC13106/31106
€ 12-25 EUR 🕒 ~ 6h
- ▶ **Kraków-Rzeszów** № IC83172/38172, TLK311/310, IC13100/31100, IC6300/3600, ... (Approx. 15 direct trains run daily)
€ 8-31 EUR 🕒 ~ 1.5-2h
- ▶ **Kraków-Przemyśl** № IC7300/3700, IC106/107, IC6302/3602, ... (Approx. 13 direct trains run daily)
€ 10-19 EUR 🕒 ~ 2.5-3h

In order to guarantee a seamless journey, we recommend planning your route straight from the airport. For example, the two most popular routes are:

1. From Warsaw Chopin Airport to the train stations:

Warsaw Chopin Airport has a train station, **Warszawa Lotnisko Chopina**, that is directly connected to the terminal. You can reach the station easily by following the signs at the airport. Alternative modes of transportation from the airport are taxis, cars or public transport, such as **the bus №175 or train S2, S3** to the **Warsaw Central** train station (from Chopin Airport - Arrivals to Dworzec Centralny).

2. From Rzeszów airport to Przemyśl train station

You can reach the train station by taxi or using public transportation such as buses or trains. In Poland, it's convenient to use a traditional taxi service (like **Uber**, **Bolt**) or the [GetTransfer](#) service.

- ▶ **Rzeszów-Przemyśl** № IC83172, IC13100, IC6300, IC106, ... (Approx. 12 direct trains run daily from 7:00 to 24:00 from Rzeszów and from 4:00 to 20:30 from Przemyśl)
€ 5-9 EUR 🕒 ~ 1h

Tickets for Polish trains can be purchased on [Polish train website](#), [PKP Intercity](#) or use [mobile app](#).

Romania

There is no direct train from Romania to Ukraine. However, you can travel to Ungheni or Chisinau (Moldova) and transfer to a direct train to Kyiv.

Train schedule:

- ▶ Bucharest-Ungheni/Chisinau №402/401
 € 30-34 EUR ⌚ ~ 9-13.5h
- ▶ Iași-Socola-Ungheni №402/401, №1062/1061
 € 3-7 EUR ⌚ ~ 1.5h

Tickets for this train from Romania can be purchased on [CFR Calatori website](#)

Iași-Socola station is conveniently located near the Iași International Airport, you can travel to Ungheni station either by bus or by train.



SLC - Sleeping cars with compartments of 4 beds

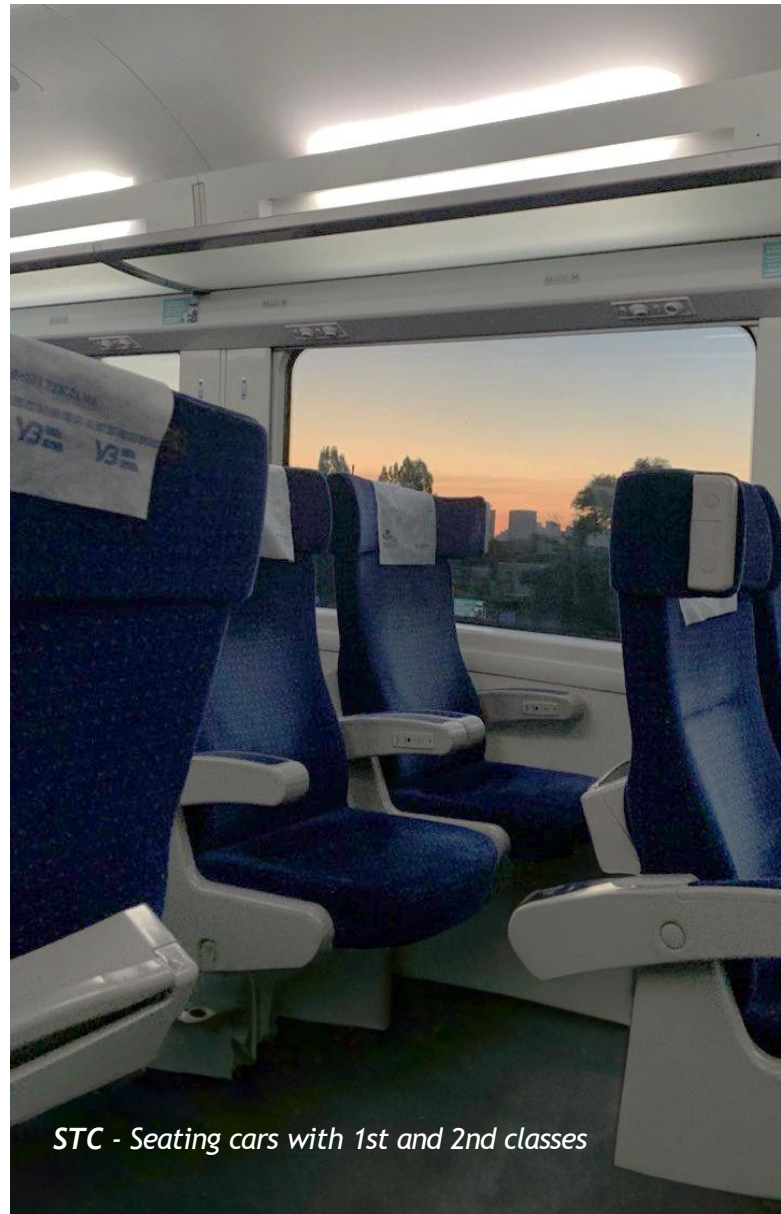
Moldova

There is a direct train available from Chisinau to Kyiv.

Train schedule:

- ▶ Chisinau-Ungeny-Kyiv №351Л/351K
 (the train operates on one route one day and returns on the opposite route the following day)
 € 52-137 EUR ⌚ ~ 18.5h
- ▶ Chisinau-Lviv № 351Л/128Л
 (the train operates on one route one day and returns on the opposite route the following day)
 € ~ 90 EUR ⌚ ~ 20.5-22h

Tickets for this train from Moldova can be purchased on [Ukrzaliznytsia website](#)



STC - Seating cars with 1st and 2nd classes

Hungary

There are options direct train from Budapest to Kyiv, Chop, Mukachevo or directly board a train to Kyiv from Hungary.

Train schedule:

- ▶ Budapest-Kyiv №10/9 *SLC*
€ 68-80 EUR ⌚ ~ 21.5h
- ▶ Budapest-Keleti-Kyiv №149/749 *SLC*
€ 50-66 EUR ⌚ ~ 20h
- ▶ Budapest-Keleti/Debrecen-Chop №143/146 *STC*
€ 12-36 EUR ⌚ ~ 3.5-7h
- ▶ Budapest-Keleti-Mukachevo № 34, 149 *STC SLC*
€ 23-26 EUR ⌚ ~ 7.5-10h
- ▶ Debrecen-Chop №143/146 *STC*
↑↓ € 12-18 EUR ⌚ ~ 3-4h
- ▶ Chop-Kyiv №367/745, 28/27, 749, 081, 059 *SLC*
€ 8-41 EUR ⌚ ~ 13-15.5h

Tickets for Hungarian trains can be purchased on [MÁV website](#), and for Ukrainian trains on [Ukrzaliznytsia website](#)

Czech Republic

You can travel by train to either Bratislava (Slovak Republic) or Kraków (Poland) from Prague.

Train schedule:

- ▶ Prague-Kraków EC113, ... (4+ trains daily)
- ▶ Prague-Bratislava EC273, ... (10+ trains daily)
€ 36-117 EUR ⌚ ~ 4-8h

Tickets for these trains can be purchased on [Czech Rails website](#)

Austria

In Austria there are train services available from both Vienna and Graz to Chop (Ukraine) or Przemyśl (Poland), as well as a direct train connection to Kyiv.

Available only in [Ukrzaliznytsia App](#)

Train schedule:

- ▶ Vienna-Budapest-Keleti-Kyiv №149/749 *SLC*
€ ~ 90 EUR ⌚ ~ 23h
- ▶ Vienna-Budapest-Keleti-Chop №143/146 *STC*
↑↓ € 45-71 EUR ⌚ ~ 10h
- ▶ Chop-Kyiv №367/745, 28/27, 749, 081, 059 *SLC*
€ 8-41 EUR ⌚ ~ 13-15.5h
- ▶ Graz-Vienna-Przemyśl EC106/107 *STC*
€ 48-78 EUR ⌚ ~ 8.5-11h

Tickets for Austrian trains can be purchased on [ÖBB website](#), and for Ukrainian trains on [Ukrzaliznytsia website](#)

Slovak Republic

Alternative routes are also available from Bratislava and Košice to Chop with convenient connection to trains heading to Kyiv and Lviv.

Train schedule:

- ▶ Bratislava-Košice-Chop №961/617
€ ~ 35 EUR ⌚ ~ 4.5-10.5h
- ▶ Košice-Chop-Mukachevo №960/961, 962/963
€ 10-11 EUR ⌚ ~ 2.5-4.5h

Tickets for Slovak trains can be purchased on [ZSSK website](#), and for Ukrainian trains on [Ukrzaliznytsia website](#)



We remind you that ticket sales for international trains operated by Ukrzaliznytsia begin as follows:

- ▶ To Warsaw, Chelm, Dorohusk, and Przemyśl: **20 days before** departure at 9:00 a.m. (EET)
- ▶ To Vienna, Košice: **20 days before** departure at 8:00 a.m. (EET)
- ▶ To Chisinau: **30 days before** departure at 8:00 a.m. (EET)

Tickets for these trains №149/750 “Vienna-Budapest-Keleti-Kyiv”; №67/68 Kyiv-Warsaw are purchased **online ONLY, using the Diia authorization.**

Tickets for all trains to Ukraine can be purchased using the [Ukrzaliznytsia website](#) or [application*](#)



[IOS](#)



[Android](#)

**On November 8t, 2023, a new update for the Ukrzaliznytsia app was released, which became integrated with the Diia app.*

Now, purchasing tickets for the popular international train No. 67/68 Kyiv - Warsaw or returning tickets bought online for international routes is possible only after verifying your account through Diia. This change was introduced to fight ticket scalping. However, foreigners or individuals who do not have the Diia app will not be able to use these new features. It is advised that foreigners (or Ukrainian citizens) without Diia, who need to buy a ticket for this train, seek assistance from acquaintances who are Ukrainian citizens with the Diia app installed, or use alternative connections.

To buy tickets on the [Ukrzaliznytsia website](#), you must Log in using your mobile number for verification. This service is available only for users in selected countries, which include 26 EU countries (excluding Malta), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Serbia, Switzerland, Ukraine, the UK, the USA and Canada.

Ticket refunds

Temporarily, refunds for unused travel /transportation tickets for international travel purchased through electronic communication channels are processed through a **claim procedure at international ticket offices in Ukraine.**

Passengers abroad may instruct an authorized person in Ukraine to submit an application and a hard copy of the boarding document in order to claim refund of payments for unused electronic travel documents before the departure of the train.

Also, starting from February 2024, passengers have the option to issue a claim for ticket refund online. To do this, you need to fill out an electronic application form and sign it using **Diia.Signature** (this option is available only to passengers who have Diia.Signature – Ukrainian citizens and foreigners who have an E-residence permit for permanent or temporary residence).



Travel by bus / by car

Currently, there are **18 open automobile checkpoints in Ukraine**, allowing you to choose the most convenient transportation option for you, whether it's by bus or by car. This network of crossing points offers both flexibility and convenience for travelers.

You can check available routes providing by **FlixBus**, **KLR Bus**, **EuroClub** by and others.

- ▶ **FlixBus** (Wi-Fi, sockets, WC, and regular stops)

Possible routes:

Warsaw - Kyiv	€ 23-78 EUR	🕒 ~ 15h
Kraków - Lviv	€ 16-79 EUR	🕒 ~ 8h
Warsaw - Odesa	€ 41-77 EUR	🕒 ~ 22h

- ▶ **KLR Bus** (Wi-Fi, sockets, WC, tea and coffee and regular stops)

Possible routes:

Paris - Kyiv	€ 135-168 EUR	🕒 ~ 49h
Prague - Kyiv	€ 48-65 EUR	🕒 ~ 26h

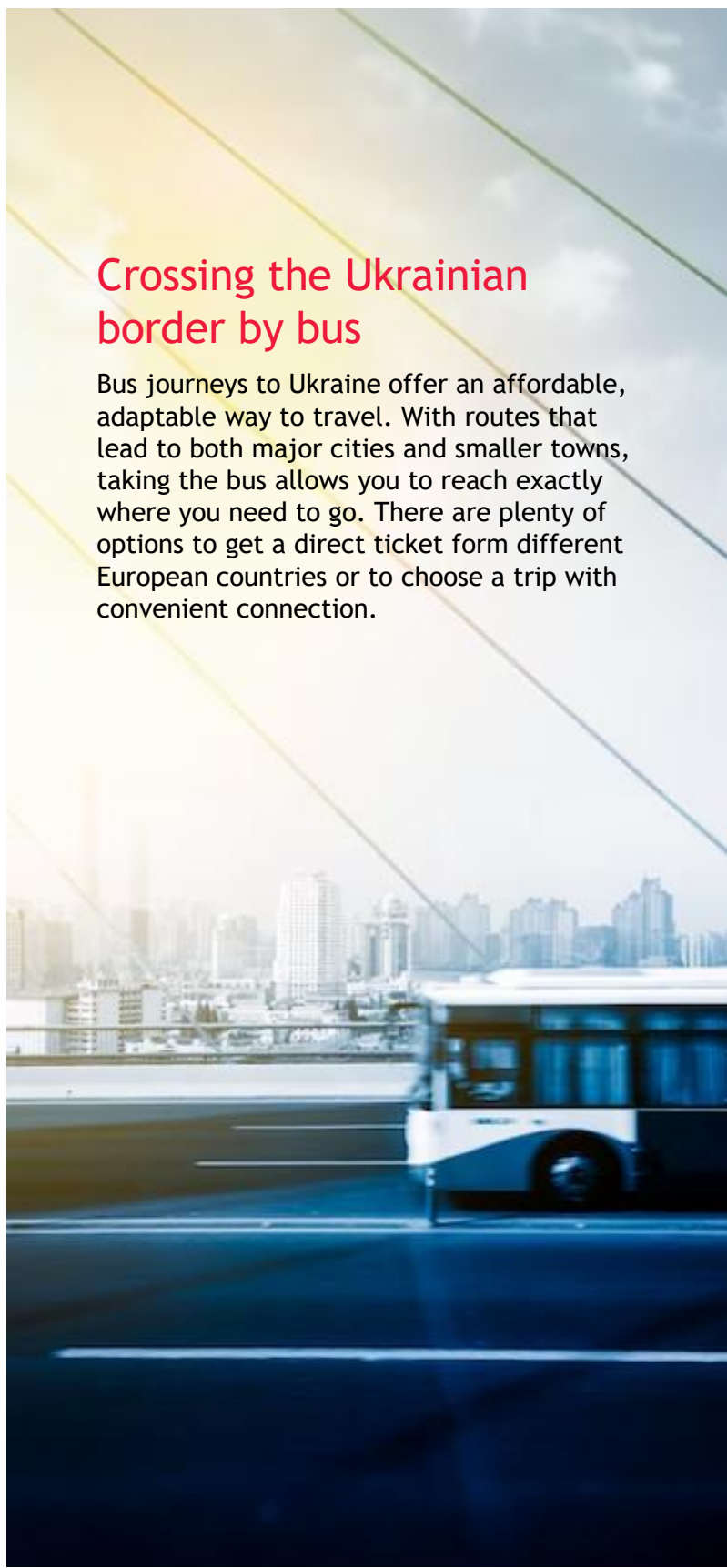
- ▶ **EuroClub** (Wi-Fi, sockets, WC, and regular stops)

Possible routes:

Berlin - Kyiv	€ 80-100 EUR	🕒 ~ 23h
Vienna - Kyiv	€ 80-90 EUR	🕒 ~ 24h
Budapest - Kyiv	€ 45-70 EUR	🕒 ~ 21h

Crossing the Ukrainian border by bus

Bus journeys to Ukraine offer an affordable, adaptable way to travel. With routes that lead to both major cities and smaller towns, taking the bus allows you to reach exactly where you need to go. There are plenty of options to get a direct ticket from different European countries or to choose a trip with convenient connection.



Connection to the nearest airports

Over the past few years, Ukraine and its neighboring countries have established **convenient routes**, allowing travelers to reach airports and travel from airports directly. Below, you can find information about some of these routes.

Air transfer Odesa-Chisinau Airport

On March 1, 2024, a special route was launched between **Odesa** and **Chisinau (Moldova)**, which takes approx. **4 hours** (including all customs procedures).

Schedule of departures:

- ▶ **08:00 Odesa** (Starosinnia Bus Station, near the railway station) - Chisinau Airport;
 - ▶ **19:00 Chisinau Airport** - Odesa (Starosinnia Bus Station, near the railway station).
- € ~ 18 EUR ⌚ ~ 4h

To use the air transfer, citizens must pre-register on the website of the [Odesa Regional Military Administration](#) and provide relevant information about themselves and the flight and attach their flight ticket.

Many bus operators also offer numerous direct connection options between Odesa and Chisinau Airport. Please, check [InfoBus](#), [FlixBus](#).

Transfers from Kyiv

- ▶ **Kyiv - Chisinau Airport (Moldova):** [FlixBus](#)
€ from 26 EUR ⌚ ~ 11h
- ▶ **Kyiv - Kosice (Slovak Republic):** [FlixBus](#)
€ from 47 EUR ⌚ ~ 18h
- ▶ **Kyiv - Warsaw Modlin Airport:** [FlixBus](#)
€ from 32 EUR ⌚ ~ 17-18h
- ▶ **Kyiv - Warsaw Chopin Airport:** [FlixBus](#)
€ from 38 EUR ⌚ ~ 17h

Transfer to Suceava (Romania)

- ▶ **Chernivtsi - Suceava Airport:** [InfoBus](#)
€ from 8 EUR ⌚ ~ 3h

Transfer to Budapest (Hungary)

- ▶ **Vinnitsia - Budapest Airport:** [FlixBus](#) (2/per week)
€ from 37 EUR ⌚ ~ 21h

Transfer to Kosice (Slovak Republic)

- ▶ **Uzhhorod - Kosice:** [InfoBus](#), [FlixBus](#)
€ from 9 EUR ⌚ ~ 4h
- ▶ **Mukachevo - Kosice:** [InfoBus](#), [FlixBus](#)
€ from 9 EUR ⌚ ~ 5h
- ▶ From the local bus and train stations the city bus №23 runs to the airport every 30-60 min.

Transfer to Airports in Poland

- ▶ **Lviv - Warsaw Modlin Airport:** [InfoBus](#), [Busfor](#)
€ from 20 EUR ⌚ ~ 10-16h
- ▶ **Lviv - Krakow-Balice Airport:** [FlixBus](#)
€ from 16 EUR ⌚ ~ 9-10h
- ▶ **Vinnitsia - Krakow-Balice Airport:** [Busfor](#)
€ from 29 EUR ⌚ ~ 15.5-19.5h
- ▶ **Lviv - Rzeszow Jasionka Airport:** [FlixBus](#)
€ from 23 EUR ⌚ ~ 6-7h
- ▶ **Lviv - Warsaw Chopin Airport:** [InfoBus](#)
€ from 18 EUR ⌚ ~ 8.5-12h
- ▶ **Lutsk - Warsaw Chopin Airport:** [InfoBus](#)
€ from 18 EUR ⌚ ~ 8-11h



Goods subject to restrictions and prohibitions

Goods Prohibited for Import into Ukraine

- ▶ Military weapons of all types and ammunition
- ▶ Narcotic and psychotropic substances
- ▶ Strong poisons, radioactive and explosive substances
- ▶ Printed materials, film negatives, photographs, cinematographic films, video recordings, computer data storage media, manuscripts, records, and other materials that propagate war, racism, racial discrimination, and genocide, or undermine Ukraine's territorial integrity, political independence and sovereignty
- ▶ Pornographic materials
- ▶ Goods imported in violation of intellectual property rights.

Goods Prohibited for Export from Ukraine

- ▶ Military weapons of all types, ammunition, and military equipment
- ▶ Narcotic and psychotropic substances
- ▶ Strong poisons, radioactive and explosive substances
- ▶ Works of art, cultural and historical valuables (paintings, sculptures, engravings, miniatures, porcelain, ceramics, precious and non-precious metals, folk art items, antiques, books, manuscripts, musical instruments, stamps, etc.)
- ▶ Canceled security
- ▶ Goods exported in violation of intellectual property rights.

Goods Prohibited for Transit Through Ukraine

- ▶ Weapons and ammunition of all types and military equipment
- ▶ Aircraft, their parts, accessories, and equipment
- ▶ Machines and tools for manufacturing weapons, ammunition, and aircraft, as well as their spare parts
- ▶ Narcotic substances
- ▶ Radioactive items and substances
- ▶ Strong poisons and explosives, and other items that may harm health or threaten the life of the population and wildlife or cause environmental destruction.

Customs authorities in Ukraine play a crucial role in regulating the movement of goods across the country's borders. They enforce restrictions and **prohibitions on certain items based on Ukrainian law and international agreements** to ensure national security, protect public health, and preserve cultural values.



Under Ukrainian law, the import of foreign cash currency into Ukraine is generally unrestricted.

Only the amount (**10,000 euros**) that can be imported without written declaration is limited.

Therefore, individuals entering Ukraine can transport cash currency and bank metals across the Ukrainian customs border without written declaration to the customs authority, up to an equivalent of 10,000 euros in value.

If the amount equals or exceeds the equivalent of 10,000 euros, written declaration is required, meaning a customs declaration must be filled out at the border. It's often misunderstood whether to declare the full amount or only the amount exceeding 10,000 euros. It should be understood that the full amount needs to be declared.

Crossing the Ukrainian border by car

There is no prohibition to enter Ukraine by car with foreign license plates. Citizens of other countries may import cars with foreign registration number into Ukraine for personal use only. There are no customs fees associated with importing such vehicles.

However, there are restrictions on the duration of use for cars with foreign license plates in Ukraine. Vehicles without Ukrainian registration can stay in the country for up to one year. If the car stays in Ukraine longer than two months, it is necessary to obtain a **temporary registration at the Ministry of Internal Affairs service center**. Upon expiry of the one-year period, a car with foreign license plates are required to leave Ukraine.



! Plan your travels with extra time in mind, as crossing borders may take longer than expected due to unforeseen delays. Be prepared with essentials like food, water, warm clothing and power banks for your devices.

You can see the situation with queues at the border at the following links:

- ▶ [State Border Guard Service of Ukraine](#)
- ▶ [Information regarding border crossing, Hungary](#)
- ▶ [Information about border crossing, Poland](#)
- ▶ [Information regarding border crossing, Slovak Republic](#)
- ▶ [Information about border crossing, Romania](#)
- ▶ [Information about border crossing, Moldova](#)

Travel inside Ukraine

For traveling inside Ukraine, you have the options of taking a **train**, a **bus**, or a **car**. There are no restrictions on travel for the most part in Ukraine. However, additional security measures may be in place in cities close to the front line. **Entry into the war zone is allowed only with special permission.**

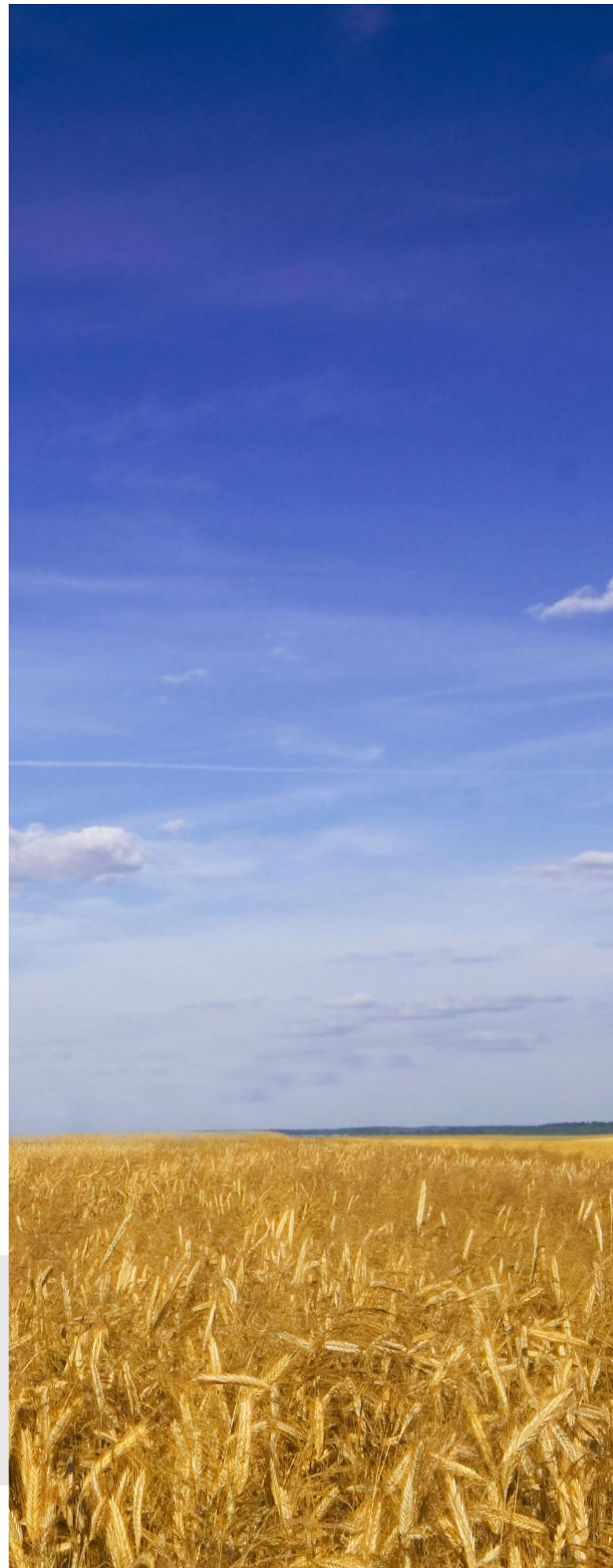
While moving inside Ukraine, upon entering and exiting cities there are checkpoint block posts. Before crossing the checkpoint, it is necessary to:

- ▶ Reduce the speed of the car;
- ▶ Prepare the documents for inspection in advance;
- ▶ Turn off the car headlights;
- ▶ Not to take photos or videos;
- ▶ Not to leave the car without permission;
- ▶ Open the trunk of the car on demand;
- ▶ After the permission to continue driving, do so without sudden acceleration;
- ▶ Keep calm and show mutual respect.

Therefore, in order to protect yourself from possible problems and misunderstandings when crossing the checkpoint you should not forget to take your ID documents with you.

There are no restrictions on moving around the city in most cities of Ukraine.

! In Ukraine, it is prohibited to **photograph** or **film missile strikes** and their consequences, the movement of **military personnel**, **weapons**, and **equipment**, and **post them on social networks**. This may be considered subject to **criminal liability**.



City transportation

Alleviate the complexities of urban transit in Ukrainian cities amidst the ongoing war. There are no restrictions on moving around for most of the cities.

However, remember that the closer you are to the front line, the stricter the rules become. Each city offers a plenty of options for public transportation, including **buses, trolleybuses, trams, city trains, metro services** and **taxis**.

Public Transport

Ukrainian public transportation systems, namely, buses, trolleybuses, trams and metro (available in **Kyiv, Kharkiv** and **Dnipro**), have adapted to wartime conditions by adjusting their operation hours and routes to ensure the safety of passengers and personnel.

Metro stations in Kyiv and Kharkiv have become symbols of safety and resilience. During air raid alerts, citizens seek shelter in these underground stations, equipped to protect people against aerial attacks. The deep construction of many of Kyiv's metro stations, some even among the deepest in the world, make them particularly suitable for this purpose. All underground metro stations **serve as shelters 24/7**. Simultaneously, the metro continues to offer essential public transportation services.

Trains operate between underground stations, ensuring the city's functionality even during times of crisis. During air raid sirens, ground-level stations are out of service. In **Kyiv**, these include **Red Line** metro stations: Dnipro, Hydropark, Livoberezhna, Darnytsia, Chernihivska, and Lisova. Additionally, on the **Green Line**, trains do not operate across the left and right banks of the Dnipro River (between the Vidubichy and Slavutich stations).

Buses and trolleybuses are available in all major cities, while some cities also provide tram services. In towns, transportation is provided mainly by buses, commonly known in Ukraine as "**Marshrutka**".

You can use **Google Maps** or the **EasyWay** platform/ app to find for the most convenient route and type of transport to reach your destination.

Taxi

A convenient kind of travel for the big cities is the taxi service. In Ukraine, companies such as **Uber, Bolt, Uklon** are widespread, offering flexible and individual transportation options. These services have adapted to wartime conditions by implementing additional safety measures for both drivers and passengers.



"Metro stations in Kyiv and Kharkiv have become symbols of safety and resilience"

From August 1, 2022, by the decision of Kyiv Defense Council, ground public transport will go on emergency stop during an air raid alert, and the passengers will have to go to the nearest shelter. Trains will not operate on ground sections of the metro and will not travel to open-type stations. Underground stations will work as shelters.

Accommodation

While staying in Ukraine, living conditions are very important for a comfortable visit. There are plenty of options available in each Ukrainian city. We recommend checking whether the venue offers a **built-in shelter** or if it's **located close** to the place you have chosen before booking.

This selection of hotels will help you to choose from the array of accommodations, which offer excellent conditions and location and are **equipped with shelters and generators for constant access to electricity and communication, ensuring your safe stay in Ukraine.**



Kyiv

In Kyiv, the lively heart of Ukraine, you will find various accommodation choices, with hotels that continue operating, ensuring the safety and comfort of their guests. Today, Kyiv is the Ukrainian city most protected from air attacks, and the business life in the capital becomes more and more active each day.

Hotels we recommend for staying:

- ▶ [The Hyatt Regency Kyiv](#)
- ▶ [InterContinental - Kyiv](#)
- ▶ [Fairmont Grand Hotel Kyiv](#)
- ▶ [Radisson Blu Hotel, Kyiv City Centre](#)
- ▶ [Radisson Blu Hotel, Kyiv Podil City Centre](#)
- ▶ [Hilton Kyiv](#)
- ▶ [Sky Loft Hotel Kyiv by Rixwell International](#)
- ▶ [Premier Hotel Rus](#)
- ▶ [Hotel Kyiv](#)
- ▶ [ibis Kyiv City Center](#)
- ▶ [Mercure Kyiv Congress](#)
- ▶ [Greguar Hotel by UHM](#)
- ▶ [Park-Hotel Golosievo](#)
- ▶ [Ramada Encore Kyiv](#)
- ▶ [Cityhotel](#)

Lviv

Lviv is the largest city in western Ukraine and its cultural center. In Lviv. Despite the challenging times, hotels in Lviv remain open, putting the safety and comfort of their guests first. If you wish to visit Ukraine for negotiations with clients or partners, preferring not to travel far from the border, Lviv will be an ideal location for you.

Hotels we recommend for staying:

- ▶ [Grand-hotel](#)
- ▶ [Atlas deluxe](#)
- ▶ [Dnister hotel](#)
- ▶ [Bank hotel](#)
- ▶ [City-inn](#)
- ▶ [George hotel](#)
- ▶ [Loft7](#)
- ▶ [Bestwestern](#)
- ▶ [Eurohotel](#)
- ▶ [Hotel-lviv](#)

Dnipro

The city of Dnipro, located in the central-eastern part of Ukraine, represents a unique blend of modernity and tradition, despite the challenges posed by the ongoing war. As a key industrial, economic and cultural hub, Dnipro continues to showcase its resilience and unwavering spirit.

Hotels we recommend for staying:

- ▶ [Axelhofhotel](#)
- ▶ [Park Hotel](#)
- ▶ [Light Hotel](#)
- ▶ [Grand Hotel Ukraine](#)



Important

All listed hotels are available for booking on [Booking.com](https://www.booking.com) !

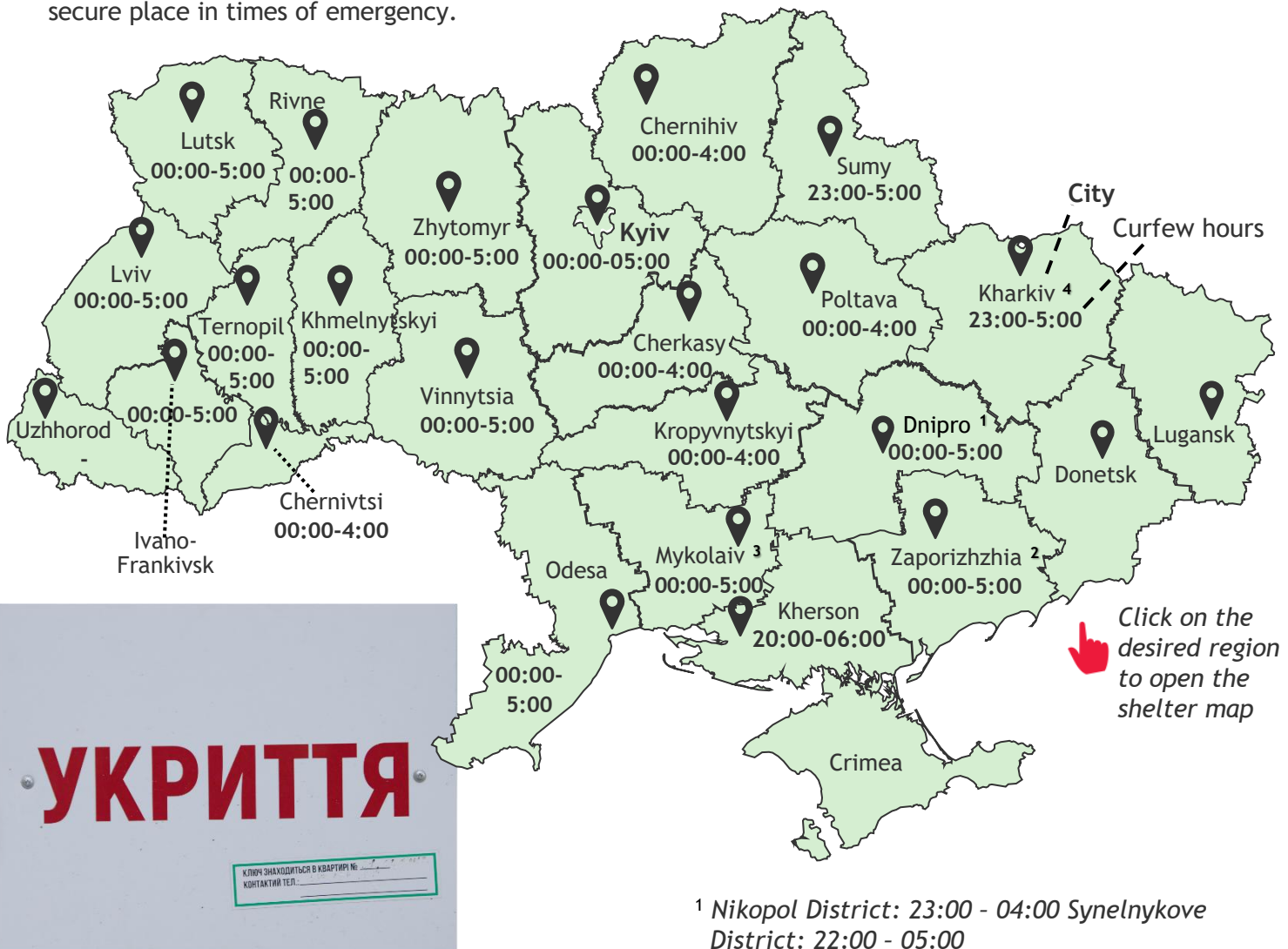
We do not recommend planning trips to Odesa, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, Kharkiv and Sumy due to close proximity to the frontline and regular air raid attacks.

It's crucial to understand that safety of a hotel or district that you stay in does not correlate with the frequency of attacks; no area is completely safe. Thus, the most critical factor when selecting a place to stay is the availability of an easy access to shelters.

Shelters & Curfew map

In situations where every second counts, knowledge about the exact location of the nearest shelter can save lives and reduce the risk of injuries. A map of **shelters** (Ukrainian: "Укриття", romanized: "Ukryttya") contains critically important information, especially for the regions with active military actions. It provides essential details about **the nearest safe locations**, allowing for a quick access and relocation to a secure place in times of emergency.

Please be warned that **a curfew is in effect under the state of martial law in Ukraine**, and the movement restriction hours are indicated on the map per each region (be aware that the curfew varies by region). Regional centers are marked on the map as well, and the curfew regulations for the cities are also applied to the entire region.



! Please note that some of shelter maps are available only in Ukrainian language

¹ Nikopol District: 23:00 - 04:00 Synelnykove District: 22:00 - 05:00
² In the regional center and territorial communities within the Zaporizhzhia district. For all other areas, except temporarily occupied territories, the curfew: 21:00 - 05:00.
³ Ochakiv District: 23:00 - 05:00
⁴ In some communities of Chuhuiv, Kharkiv, Izyum, Bohodukhiv and Kupiansk Districts: 17:00 - 09:00

Points of Invincibility

Points of Invincibility (Ukrainian: "Пункт незламності", romanized: "Punkt nezlamnosti") is a project initiated by the Ukrainian authorities in November 2022 in response to the extensive shelling of critical infrastructure by Russia.

Currently, throughout Ukraine, scheduled power outages are in effect, varying by region and street of residence in a particular city or village. Below provided links where you can view the outage schedules in the largest cities and their regions.

- ▶ Kyiv [Web 1](#) | [Web 2](#) | [Telegram](#)
- ▶ Lviv [Web](#)
- ▶ Dnipro [Web 1](#) | [Web 2](#) | [Telegram](#)
- ▶ Kharkiv [Web](#) | [Telegram](#)
- ▶ Odesa [Web](#)
- ▶ Sumy [Web](#)
- ▶ Chernihiv [Web](#)
- ▶ Vinnitsa [Web](#)
- ▶ Zhytomyr [Web](#)
- ▶ Poltava [Web](#) | [Facebook](#)
- ▶ Cherkasy [Web](#) | [Facebook](#)
- ▶ Kropyvnytskyi [Web](#)
- ▶ Zaporizhzhia [Web](#) | [Telegram](#)
- ▶ Mykolaiv [Web](#)
- ▶ Kherson [Facebook](#)
- ▶ Rivne [Web](#)
- ▶ Ternopil [Web](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Telegram](#)
- ▶ Khmelnytskyi [Web](#)
- ▶ Chernivtsi [Web](#)
- ▶ Uzhhorod [Web](#)
- ▶ Lutsk [Web](#)
- ▶ Ivano-Frankivsk [Telegram](#)

In the event of new shelling of energy facilities, emergency power outages may be implemented until the situation stabilizes. In such cases, Points of Invincibility have been established in all cities and most villages in Ukraine, which can be used by anyone if necessary. These Points provide essential services such as heat, water, electricity, and mobile communication, and they operate **24/7** during these periods **completely free of charge**.

You can view the map of Points of Invincibility by this link ↓

POINTS OF INVINCIBILITY MAP

Additionally, you can use [Telegram](#) or [Viber](#) bots, where you need to enter address or share your geolocation, and the bot will provide a list of the nearest Points (*information currently available only in Ukrainian*).

We recommend noting down the addresses of the nearest Points in advance in case you cannot use the location search in an emergency.



Try to keep your phone and other devices charged at all times, and we recommend carrying a power bank with you.

Insurance essentials

Medical insurance for foreigners **must be issued to every foreign citizen**, and this insurance policy is mandatory for entry and legal stay on the territory of Ukraine. It is highly recommended to obtain medical insurance that includes coverage for


military-related risks for the duration of your stay in Ukraine. Below you can explore a few medical insurance options from various Ukrainian companies and select the one that meets your needs the best.

Medical insurance, with war risk coverage*

Insurance Company	Coverage	Sum of Compensation	Price
<u>PZU</u>	Death, disability, injuries	Up to UAH 300 000	UAH 207 - UAH 620
<u>Oranta</u>	Urgent medical and dental care, emergency hospital care, medical evacuation, repatriation, coverage of war risks	EUR 1200	EUR 5 per month
<u>Innovative insurance capital</u>	Medical expenses and accident coverage	EUR 30,000 and UAH 100 000	EUR 2.65 per day
<u>Ridna</u>	Urgent medical and dental care, emergency hospital care, medical evacuation, repatriation, coverage of war risks	EUR 1200 - EUR 30 000	EUR 12 - EUR 20 per month
<u>Ukraineresponse</u>	24/7 Emergency medical support line & Incident response help desk, Risk register itinerary tracking, Incident alert 24/7 Medical evacuation (up to \$50,000) Emergency dental treatment (up to \$500) Emergency medical expenses & Repatriation (up to \$200,000) Repatriation of mortal remains up to \$25,000) Legal advice & referral - First hour free Security Evacuation (coverage details unspecified)	\$250,000 of Medical Response Benefits \$50,000 of Crisis Response Benefits	\$39 per person, per day \$9 per person, per day

*Clarify information about the war risk coverage programs for foreigners directly with the insurance company

You can also get familiar with other options for insurance against military actions at [Visit Ukraine](#).

We recommend checking the insurance programs available in your country before traveling to Ukraine. 

Mobile network services in Ukraine




Ukraine's mobile network infrastructure is well-developed, providing reliable services for both locals and visitors, even during times of war. Foreigners can easily access mobile communication and internet through various operators, mainly via prepaid services. Most mobile operators offer convenient **4-week packages**.

Ukraine does have widespread mobile internet coverage with **2G/3G** and **4G** services available across the country. However, **5G** services are not yet fully implemented. The Ukrainian government has started testing 5G networks in three cities, but a full rollout is expected to occur before 2030.

Mobile operators

There are three main mobile network providers in Ukraine: [Kyivstar](#), [Vodafone](#) and [Lifecell](#). All offer a wide range of plans, including prepaid options, data packages and international calling services. Calls within the same network are usually unlimited when you activate a prepaid package for the next period.

Below you can find a comparison of prepaid tariffs from these mobile operators. Some tariffs offer unlimited access to certain online platforms and messengers. The number of minutes for calls to other mobile operators varies depending on the tariff. Additionally, 4-week packages may include minutes for international calls (the amount varies by country).

	175-300 UAH (4-7 EUR) / 4 weeks 20 GB - unlimited mobile Internet
	180-330 UAH (4-7.5 EUR) / 4 weeks 20 GB - unlimited mobile Internet
	160-450 UAH (3.5-10 EUR) / 4 weeks 8 GB - unlimited mobile Internet

SIM cards can be easily purchased at various locations across Ukraine, including:

- ▶ Railway and bus stations;
- ▶ Mobile operator stores;
- ▶ Shopping malls;
- ▶ Supermarkets, shops and kiosks

Travelers also have a convenient alternative to physical SIM cards – **eSIM**, which can be purchased online or at official stores (the previously mentioned operators offer this service).

National roaming

National roaming in Ukraine allows mobile users to switch between different operators' networks if their primary network is unavailable. This service ensures continuous connectivity, especially in areas where network coverage might be disrupted. Tariffication of services in national roaming is maintained in accordance with the tariff plan of the operator whose services the subscriber uses.

In national roaming, users can use not only voice calls and SMS, but also mobile 2G/3G internet at speeds of up to 512 Kbit/s.

For **lifecell** subscribers, national roaming works automatically. For **Kyivstar** and **Vodafone** subscribers, the automatic option may not be available, so in this case you need to set it up manually by disabling the network autoselection and selecting the available network.

Delivery services in Ukraine

While being in Ukraine or planning a trip to Ukraine, you may need to use a delivery service to send items to different places worldwide. Despite the ongoing war, many delivery services, including international ones, are operating in Ukraine. Within Ukraine, some delivery operators provide next-day delivery to any location where there is a delivery office.



NovaPost is one of the largest and most popular delivery services in Ukraine. You can receive your parcels at branch, pickup point, parcel-locker or specific addresses. It has the most accessible network for customers with over **10,800** pickup points and **15,000** parcel lockers across Ukraine. They deliver to more than **200** countries worldwide.

Since 2022 NovaPost has opened branches in **16 countries**: Moldova, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Romania, Germany, Estonia, UK, Slovakia, Hungary, Italy, Spain, Austria, France and Netherlands. The average delivery time abroad is from **3 days** (depending on the country). You can calculate the cost of delivery [here](#).



Ukrposhta is Ukraine's national post service, covering 100% of the country's territory (more than **27,000** settlements, except for the temporarily occupied ones). Ukrposhta is a member of the Universal Postal Union and cooperates with 192 national postal operators. This allow you to send items to **660,000** offices in **230+** countries and territories worldwide. You can calculate the cost of your delivery [here](#).



Meest Post is an international delivery service handling parcels, money transfers, and more. Currently, there are over **4,500** Meest branches operating in Ukraine. You can send and receive items to and from Meest points in Ukraine or Nova Poshta branches worldwide. Meest Post delivers parcels from Ukraine to **70**. The maximum weight of a parcel is **30 kg**. You can calculate the cost of your delivery [here](#).



DHL is an international delivery service currently providing limited shipping services in select locations of Ukraine. Operating under elevated risk, additional charges may apply. As of 2024, DHL plans to open **41** branches in the regional centers of Ukraine. DHL serves **220** countries and territories. You can calculate the cost of your delivery [here](#).



Emergency contacts

Safety should be your top priority when traveling to Ukraine. These **important emergency contacts** will ensure that you can quickly reach the appropriate services in case of any urgent situations.

The **unified emergency hotline number 112** serves the **central, western, and eastern** macro-regions of Ukraine. A new center is set to launch in Odesa by April 2025, extending coverage to the southern regions. Notably, the 112 line accommodates individuals with hearing or speech impairments as well, ensuring accessibility for all.

Important to note: emergency numbers for specialized services 101, 102, 103, and 104 operate 24/7 nationwide regardless of the specific emergency service number.

Keep this list handy and familiarize yourself with the local emergency procedures to stay prepared and safe throughout your journey.



112 The unified emergency number

101 Police

102 Ambulance (Emergency Medical Services)

103 Fire Service

104 Emergency Gas Service

As Ukraine is in a state of war and the enemy continuously shells its territory, there is a likelihood that you may encounter missile fragments or explosive devices, objects that threaten your life.

If you discover a **suspicious object**, do not attempt to:

- ▶ Move or roll it from one place to another
- ▶ Collect and store, heat, or strike it
- ▶ Attempt to discharge or disassemble it
- ▶ Make various items from it
- ▶ Use charges to start fires or for lighting
- ▶ Bring it indoors, bury it in the ground, or throw it into wells or rivers
- ▶ Take photos of finds and publish them on the Internet

Upon discovering a suspicious object, take measures to mark, fence, and guard the discovered items at the location. Immediately report this to the **local State Emergency Service (DSNS) or the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVS)** by calling "101", "102" or "112".

Please note that exporting fragments of missiles, drones, and ammunition from Ukraine, even as souvenirs, is strictly prohibited.

We also recommend that you familiarize yourself with and have access to the contact details and location of your country's embassy in Ukraine. This can be crucial in case of emergencies or if you need assistance from your home country's representatives.

Government Services


- ▶ Ukrainian Government Hotline: **1545**
- ▶ Ministry of Foreign Affairs Emergency Assistance Center for Foreigners:
 - Phone: **+380 44 238 1657**
 - Email: **cons_or@mfa.gov.ua**

Additional Useful Contacts:

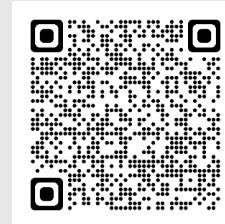
- ▶ National Police of Ukraine (Information Service): **0800 50 0202**

Useful resources

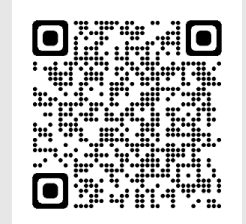
We would like to share some **useful links and apps** with you that could be very helpful while traveling to Ukraine.

Please note that some of them are available only in Ukrainian language. 

Kyiv Digital is an application for Kyiv residents and visitors that provides information about air raid alerts in the city, locates the nearest shelters, pharmacies, dead ends and petrol stations. Additionally, users may buy QR tickets for city transportation (metro, tram, bus, trolleybus), recharge their travel cards and pay for parking.

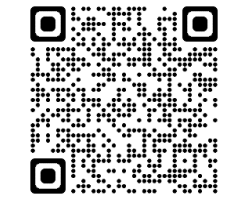
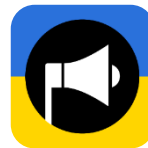


[IOS](#)



[Android](#)

Air Alarm is an application that helps users to find nearby shelters and sends push notifications about air alerts in a chosen city or region of Ukraine, as reported by the Civil Defense System. Within the app, users can track one or more selected cities or regions.



[IOS](#)



[Android](#)

Ukrzaliznytsia, the national Ukrainian railway company, has become the primary mode of transportation for traveling within Ukraine and abroad during the war. As a direct seller of train tickets, it allows to purchase tickets without any additional fees. Despite various conditions, trains maintain high punctuality with minimal delays. The service is available on the web (also, in English) and in an app format (Ukrainian only).

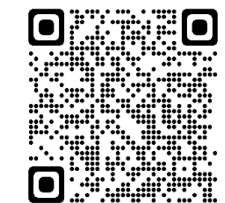


[IOS](#)



[Android](#)

PKP Intercity is the largest Polish railway company offering connections both domestically and internationally to Ukraine, Austria, Germany, and many other countries. Tickets are available for purchase on the website or through the app.



[IOS](#)



[Android](#)

*On November 8th, a new update was released and the Ukrzaliznytsia app became integrated with the Diia app. Now, purchasing tickets for the popular international train No. 67168 Kyiv - Warsaw, or returning tickets for international routes bought online, is possible **only after verifying your account through Diia**. The update was introduced to fight ticket scalping. However, foreigners or individuals without the Diia app would not be able to use these new features. Foreigners or Ukrainian citizens without Diia who need to buy a ticket for this train should seek assistance from acquaintances who are Ukrainian citizens with the Diia app installed or use alternative connections.*

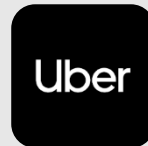
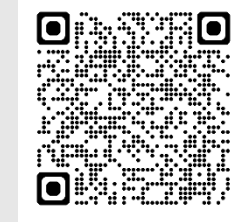
Koleo is a universal train journey planner that allows you to find the best routes and purchase tickets for trains in Poland. It is available in both Web and App formats.

[IOS](#)[Android](#)

Flixbus offers an easy and quick way to purchase bus tickets online for traveling across Europe. Onboard the buses passengers always have a guaranteed seat, assigned to them for free when booking the ticket. The buses come equipped with free Wi-Fi, extra legroom and USB outlets. Tickets are available for booking on the website or through the app.

[IOS](#)[Android](#)

Uber in Ukraine offers convenient and efficient transportation with features like UberGREEN in Kyiv, which promotes electric vehicle use. The service, accessible via a smartphone app, provides transparent pricing and real-time driver tracking.

[IOS](#)[Android](#)

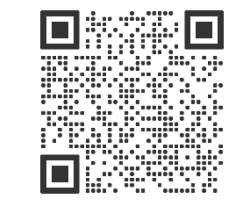
Bolt is an Estonian taxi service that offers transit, micromobility rental, food and grocery delivery and carsharing services. It is available in 39 big and small cities and all across Ukraine, except for the occupied territories.

[IOS](#)[Android](#)

Uklon is a Ukrainian taxi service that offers transit, delivery, carpooling and other transportation services. It is available in 27 cities and all across Ukraine, except for the occupied territories.

[IOS](#)[Android](#)

GetTransfer is a marketplace for booking global ride-hailing services, where you can book transfers, long-distance trips, cab rides, hourly chauffeur-driven car rentals and delivery services in any country in the world.

[IOS](#)[Android](#)

For everyone interested in investing and taking part in Ukraine's growth and restoration efforts, we present the "[Investor's Guide to Ukraine's Reconstruction](#)," created by BDO experts and featuring insights from the European Business Association in Ukraine.

This guide is an all-encompassing tool for understanding the investment climate in Ukraine, spotlighting major opportunities, the legal environment and insights related to specific industries. Its goal is to support the economic revival and sustainable growth, offering crucial information for companies and private investors alike, eager to contribute with their investments.



A practical guide
for investors interested
in business investment
opportunities in Ukraine

Investor's Guide



We hope that this guide has given you essential insights and practical tips to navigate Ukraine during these challenging times. From finding safe accommodation to choosing comfortable modes of transportation, our goal is to ensure that you are well-prepared for your visit. We also hope that this guide has clarified some aspects of traveling within the country, helping you to make well-thought decisions and to travel with confidence. Remember, staying informed and prepared is a key to a safe and enriching experience in Ukraine.

Please note that this information is in effect as of the date of this document (10/12/2024).

This guide contains general information taken from public sources. It does not serve as professional advice or service and is intended for informational purposes only. Before making any decisions or taking actions that could impact your visit to Ukraine, you should check official web portals or contact your Embassy for the most up-to-date information.

Be aware that local regulations and measures may change rapidly.

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