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## UK Issues Turkey Travel Safety Update Today

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– *Categories: General News*

The UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) has released updated guidance for British travellers visiting Turkey, with particular emphasis on water safety and the risks associated with counterfeit alcohol. The notice, issued in August 2025, advises tourists to exercise caution when swimming in pools, seas, and unmonitored beaches.

British visitors are encouraged to swim only in areas where trained lifeguards are present and to supervise children closely at all times. The FCDO warns that some beaches may present hidden hazards, including strong currents, rocky terrain, or unexpectedly shallow areas, which could pose serious drowning risks. Tourists are also advised not to dive or jump into unfamiliar waters and to remain alert to potential marine dangers, including jellyfish and sea urchins.

The guidance highlights the importance of recognising beach flag systems commonly used throughout Turkey. A red flag indicates unsafe swimming conditions, while other colours signify varying levels of caution. Visitors are urged to follow instructions from lifeguards and, in areas where flags or staff are absent, to seek local advice before entering the water.

The FCDO also cautions against consuming counterfeit alcoholic beverages, which have been linked to cases of methanol poisoning in cities such as Istanbul and Ankara. Tourists are advised to purchase alcohol only from reputable, established shops or licensed venues to reduce the risk of severe illness.

In addition to safety guidance, travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of their passports or identification documents, particularly in crowded areas where random checks

may occur. Having a copy readily accessible can help streamline interactions with local authorities and prevent unnecessary delays.

For further information, the FCDO recommends consulting resources such as the Royal Life Saving Society's "Water Safety on Holiday" guide and ABTA's Swim-Safe advice. By following these precautions, British tourists can enjoy Turkey's beaches and resorts while minimising preventable risks.

This advice forms part of the UK government's ongoing efforts to ensure the safety of citizens travelling abroad. The FCDO continues to monitor regional conditions and issue updates as necessary to keep travellers informed and prepared.

British holidaymakers are encouraged to review official guidance before departure and to remain vigilant during their stay. These measures aim to protect visitors while allowing them to safely experience Turkey's popular coastal destinations.