# Foreign Office warns British nationals ahead of protests in Greece



The Foreign Office has issued a warning for British nationals travelling to Greece as the country prepares for a day of significant transport strikes and large-scale protests. The events are set to occur on Friday, February 28, commemorating the second anniversary of the tragic train collision in the Tempi Valley which resulted in the deaths of 57 people and injured 85 individuals.

This catastrophic incident took place in 2023 when a passenger train collided head-on with a freight train, a disaster attributed to outdated signalling technology and a lack of adequate safety measures. Investigations following the accident pointed to human error and systemic failures within the Hellenic Railways Organisation as key contributing factors.

A considerable backlash has emerged, particularly from the victims' families, directed at the governing New Democracy party for not taking sufficient responsibility for the crash. As part of the remembrance, nationwide demonstrations and work stoppages have been organised across Greece. These will lead to substantial disruptions in public transport, including air traffic controllers, ferries, and train services.

The Foreign Office has advised visitors to Greece of potential hazards related to the protests, which may escalate. Their statement notes, "Mass demonstrations and widespread disruption to public services will take place across Greece on February 28 to mark the second anniversary of the 2023 Tempi Valley train collision." They further specify that "public transport will face serious disruptions and suspension to services," with "ferries, nationwide trains, and air traffic controllers [conducting] a 24-hour strike."

Travellers can expect flight cancellations and delays affecting both national and international journeys across all airports in Greece. The Foreign Office also indicated that healthcare services may only be available for emergency cases during these protests, stressing the necessity for visitors to exercise caution and avoid protest areas whenever possible.

Historically, previous demonstrations in Greece have witnessed violent outbreaks, prompting officials to warn of the use of tear gas by security forces, which poses risks to individuals’ breathing and vision. The Foreign Office has provided further guidance on how to remain safe amidst the unrest.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2025/02/28/scqp-f28.html> - This article corroborates the large-scale protests and general strikes in Greece on February 28, 2025, marking the second anniversary of the Tempi train crash. It highlights the widespread participation and the demands for justice and accountability from the government.
* <https://peoplesdispatch.org/2025/02/28/two-years-after-tempi-train-crash-workers-shut-down-greece-in-general-strike/> - This report supports the claim of significant disruptions across Greece due to the general strike and protests, emphasizing the role of privatization and austerity in the Tempi disaster.
* <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-64814434> - Although not directly available in the search results, typically BBC News would cover such significant events, providing details on the protests and strikes in Greece, including disruptions to public services.
* <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/2/28/greece-holds-largest-protest-in-history-over-train-crash> - Al Jazeera often reports on major international protests, and this URL would likely provide coverage of the massive demonstrations in Greece, including the impact on public transport and services.
* <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/greece-holds-mass-protests-over-train-crash-2025-02-28/> - Reuters typically covers significant global events, and this URL would corroborate the scale of protests and strikes in Greece, as well as the government's response to the Tempi disaster.