



## Association for Safe International Road Travel

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### 4,000 Students

ASIRT resources are available to an average of 4,000 students and faculty each year through the ASIRT Education Abroad Membership Program.

### 150 RTRs

ASIRT's Road Travel Reports are internationally recognized. Our research highlights road culture, pedestrian safety and other important information. ASIRT researchers can customize reports based on schools' specific needs.

### RTR Highlights

Local travel by bus, taxi, rental car, motorcycle, bicycle, rail, water, air

Pedestrian, passenger and cycle safety tips

Urban, rural, night and seasonal travel conditions

Distances between destinations

Local driver behaviors

General road conditions/Frequent road crash sites

Crime and security/  
Police enforcement

Disaster preparedness/typical natural disasters area is prone to

National road safety statistics

Quality and availability of emergency medical care

Important contact information

Public holidays

[View](#) a sample RTR

For more information contact:

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### ASIRT Informs College and University Travelers:

ASIRT provides road safety information to students, program administrators, faculty leaders and risk managers. The ASIRT Education Abroad Program offers members:

**Road Travel Reports (RTRs)** – Comprehensive reports that describe general road conditions; frequent road crash sites; national road safety statistics; driver behaviors; driving regulations; urban, rural, night and seasonal travel conditions; pedestrian, passenger and cycle safety tips; quality and availability of emergency medical care, emergency procedures and important contact information.

#### ***A Global Road Safety Toolbox for the Study Abroad***

**Community** – Comprised of checklists and role-play scenarios for education abroad professionals. These tools help plan safe itineraries and prepare students to make informed travel choices while traveling abroad.

**Language Cards** – “Speak Up For Safety” cards contain important road safety phrases travelers can use to feel safe in a variety of travel situations. Cards are available in Spanish, French, Chinese and Russian.

#### **Training Seminars for Study Abroad Administrators** –

Workshops include strategies and best practices that incorporate road safety training into program and itinerary planning, and student orientations. Workshops are tailored to the specific needs of the participants. ASIRT Education Abroad Members are also invited to Congressional Briefings on Capitol Hill and other forums.

**Updates** – ASIRT provides summaries of the work accomplished around the world during the year through newsletters, Facebook, and YouTube. The website, [www.asirt.org](http://www.asirt.org), features news about advocacy and legislative activities related to safe travel, international road safety efforts and links to related articles.

**Student Internships and Blogs** – ASIRT staff supervises students working with the Congressional Caucus on Global Road Safety, the State Department, embassies, the transportation industry and media. Interns research and draft legislative correspondence, press releases and magazine article proposals. They also organize and plan events, as well as manage databases. Writers have the opportunity to share their travel and safety experience on the blog posted on the ASIRT website.

### ASIRT Advocates around the World:

ASIRT collaborates with the U.S. State Department, the Congressional Caucus on Global Road Safety, embassies and NGOs to inform travelers about safe road travel choices. ASIRT was named one of six partners in the Bloomberg Philanthropies Global Road Safety Program, where it is responsible for engaging and building the capacity of NGOs in Kenya and Turkey to raise awareness of road safety issues and advocate for stronger legislation.

# URMIA *Insights*

## Vaccinating Against Road Risks

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By Julie F. Rosenbaum Skolnick, Association for Safe International Road Travel (ASIRT)

Your students may be already on the road or still just packing for their life changing study abroad experience. Make sure they carry in their knapsack some safety tips to help them intelligently navigate the world's roads. Traveling abroad without information on road safety is akin to traveling without the proper vaccinations for your destination.

Over 200,000 students study abroad annually, benefiting from this unique and often life altering experience. However, road crashes are the leading cause of death and injury for healthy Americans traveling abroad, and young people ages 15-24 are at greatest risk. They represent the largest number of pedestrians and users of public transportation and are more prone to taking risks.



We remember with sadness the recent tragedy when three Boston University students died in a road crash in New Zealand. Accidents happen, but in some cases detailed information can save lives and prevent disasters. The Association for Safe International Road Travel (ASIRT) was founded after its president's son died in a bus crash in Turkey two weeks before his medical school graduation. It was a typical case of "if he only knew then what we know now" his life might have been saved.

ASIRT publishes in-depth Road Travel Reports about the world's roads for over 150 countries. Information such as road culture, pedestrian safety tips, emergency information, signage, and helpful phrases in local languages are some of the detailed information you will find in an ASIRT Road Travel Report.

For instance, students traveling to **China** will learn that:

- Most road crash injuries in China involve pedestrians or cyclists.
- Drivers in China often run red lights if police are not present.
- Drivers in China may ignore pedestrian crossings and/or use their horn instead of their brakes.
- Crashes involving overloaded buses account for many road fatalities.
- Bus stops in larger cities may be in the middle of the road and riders should take care boarding or disembarking.

Students traveling to **Italy** are well prepared if they know that:

- Traffic lights in central Rome turn to amber flashing lights after midnight. Take care when crossing major intersections.
- Metro systems are available only in Rome, Milan, Naples, and Genoa. Rail systems are lacking in southern Italy except in Naples, Bari, and some minor cities.
- Rome is not pedestrian friendly. Traffic is heavy. Pedestrians are numerous. Sidewalks are narrow or may be lacking.
- Motorcycles, motor scooters, and mopeds are common. Their drivers often consider themselves exempt from driving regulations. Drivers may pass irresponsibly or drive on sidewalks to pass slower traffic.

Read the full article at [www.asirt.org](http://www.asirt.org) in the "Updates" section on the home page.

Contact Gayle Nadler at 240-249-0095 or [gnadler@asirt.org](mailto:gnadler@asirt.org) to learn more about creating or enhancing your school's road safety program.