

2024 SUMMER OLYMPICS AND GLOBAL MOBILITY

The Summer Olympics and Paralympics will take place in France between July 26 and September 8 of this year. The anticipated impact on global mobility will be significant due to 9.7 million spectators, 31,500 volunteers, 10,500 athletes, and 6,000 journalists expected to descend on Paris and the surrounding areas. We encourage mobility practitioners to remain aware of how the congestion will cause delays in travel, immigration processes, and household goods shipments, along with shortages in housing and rental cars as outlined below:

TRAVEL

- Increased demand for air travel may result in higher airfares, crowded airports, and potential volatility due to possible changes in flight timetables.
- Local travel within France may be hindered as road traffic is expected to be extremely heavy and public transport very busy.
- Rental cars will be in high demand, which will result in inventory being lower and costs being higher than normal.
- Enhanced security protocols at transport hubs could result in delays.

SECURING TEMPORARY HOUSING

- Limited availability of serviced apartments, hotels, and holiday rentals across Paris and the surrounding area is expected leading up to and during the summer of 2024.
- High occupancy rates are expected to result in increased nightly rates and cancellation policies are likely to be less flexible and possibly even nonrefundable during this time.

IMPACT ON PERMANENT HOUSING

- The general availability of permanent housing could be impacted due to higher occupancy rates.
- Some homeowners may decide not to offer their furnished apartments for long-term rental until after the Olympics so that they can make them available for short-term rentals during the Olympics and benefit from higher rental fees during the summer.

VISA/IMMIGRATION

- Delays with visa processing and residence permit renewals in the lead-up to the Olympics are anticipated.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS SHIPMENTS

- The packing of goods and delivery of shipments is expected to be more challenging than usual.
- Customs clearance delays are possible due to increased levels of goods arriving in the country and also additional security checks.
- The rerouting of traffic could result in implications for access to certain streets and buildings, and parking may also be banned or limited to certain times.

ADVISORY

We recommend not relocating employees and their families to Paris and the surrounding areas during and leading up to the summer of 2024. In cases where a relocation is unavoidable, we recommend the following courses of action be considered:

- Book travel as far in advance as possible and stay updated on any changes to transport timetables.
- Allow extra time for security checks at transport hubs.
- Home finding trips should be taken prior to or after this period.
- Confirm temporary accommodation bookings as far in advance as possible.
- As new visa provisions may be introduced specifically for the Games, it is necessary to consult the official website of the French embassy or consulate in the country of origin in order to stay up to date on the latest requirements and regulations.
- Residence permit renewals for employees already in France should be renewed as soon as possible.