

# TOP 10 SAFEST COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA



Each year, Latin America and the Caribbean welcome countless tourists, vacationers, yet also professionals visiting for work. Still, personal security often weighs heavily on those planning trips. The Global Peace Index stands out when judging risk, offering yearly insights into national stability. This assessment comes from the Institute for Economics and Peace, which evaluates 163 nations plus regions by their peace conditions and rates of conflict. According to the Global Peace Index 2026, here are the top 10 safest countries in Latin America, listed with their global ranking in parentheses. Brought to you by Tourism Review.

## 10/ Dominican Republic (Global rank: 89)

Though safety levels differ across the region, the Dominican Republic tends to be more secure than nearby nations. Staying away from dimly lit or empty places helps reduce risk. Public transit should only be used when clearly marked and official. When withdrawing money, remain alert - especially at outdoor machines. Carrying small amounts of cash limits potential loss. Valuables are best kept out of sight.

## 9/ Guatemala (Global rank: 88)

Though Guatemala ranks among the region's top ten, violence like attacks, thefts, and quick abductions remains common. Updated safety details for particular areas can be found through DISETUR or INGUAT. Those moving in groups might look into arranging protective transport. Safety briefings often help when planning routes across uncertain zones.

## 8/ Panama (Global rank: 81)

Most travelers find Panama secure, yet moments call for increased alertness - especially within Panama City, where even historic districts like Casco Antiguo hold hidden risks. Areas drawing visitors, including Colon, San Blas, and Bocas del Toro, sometimes see opportunistic incidents. After sunset, curb the urge to flag yellow cabs along sidewalks; alternatives prove wiser. Nightlife zones demand attention when engaging unfamiliar faces inside clubs or nearby venues. Unexpected situations arise more often than expected in crowded evening settings.

## 7/ Trinidad and Tobago (Global Rank: 79)

This Caribbean island nation often contends with hurricanes, typhoons, yet also earthquakes. Though it appears relatively secure compared to others in Latin America, crime rates stay elevated. Visitors may benefit from monitoring police alerts alongside news updates, instead relying solely on assumptions - especially after dark in isolated spots or designated danger areas.

## 6/ Argentina (Global rank: 72)

Even so, Argentina ranks lower now - down twenty spots - despite remaining one of the region's

more secure nations. Attacks on city streets and break-ins at residences are rising sharply. Visitors often become victims, especially near landmarks, transit hubs, and lodging zones. Caution pays off when moving through busy travel centers. Still, staying alert makes a difference.

## **5/ Jamaica (Global rank: 70)**

Most visitors stay in places like Negril, Montego Bay, Runaway Bay, Trelawny, Ocho Rios, and Port Antonio - these spots tend to be secure. Still, violent incidents happen more often compared to countries across North America or Europe. When stepping outside resorts or familiar paths, staying alert matters. Natural hazards such as hurricanes, quakes, and large sea waves can strike without warning.

## **4/ Paraguay (Global rank: 64)**

Five spots higher in the GPI now ranks Paraguay, where safety conditions meet basic expectations. Crime targeting visitors happens infrequently here. Flashy accessories like jewelry or high-end gadgets should stay out of sight while moving around. Attention must stay sharp, especially near motorcyclists who might grab belongings suddenly. These quick thefts by riders on bikes occur without warning.

## **3/ Costa Rica (Global rank: 62)**

Among Central American countries, Costa Rica draws many travelers because of lush landscapes. When heading there, people need to stay alert - especially women - for possible violent incidents, along with pickpocketing or bag snatching. Because it sits in a warm zone near the equator, conditions shift often; tremors or eruptions might happen without much warning. Rain pours down heavily at times between May and late autumn, so checking updates on weather patterns helps avoid surprises.

## **2/ Chile (Global rank: 52)**

Chile holds a position within the upper half of international standings. Eight spots higher now stands Chile on the world scale. Even so, crimes like muggings, stealing, breaking into empty buildings, killings, alongside abductions still happen. Cars get taken more often, while trick calls and fake banking moves climb too. Staying alert in cities remains a sensible move.

## **1/ Uruguay (Global rank: 43)**

Safety-wise, Uruguay leads and the safest countries in Latin America. While overall conditions remain stable, minor offenses do occur. Pickpocketing, home invasions, and armed attacks appear in Montevideo's business zones. Flashy jewelry increases risk for quick thefts on footpaths. Because sudden grabs happen, wearing exposed pendants invites trouble. Security levels stay high - yet caution matters in crowded spots. Even quiet neighborhoods see occasional break-ins after dark. Threats exist mostly in city centers, not rural regions. Tourists find peace outside urban cores more easily. Still, staying alert cuts down chances of becoming a target.

Date: 2026-06-29

Article link: <https://www.tourism-review.com/the-safest-countries-in-latin-america-news15531>