

Travel



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SEP
8:05 UTC

Israel Tactical: US Secretary of State Marco Rubio to visit Jerusalem on September 14; maintain heightened vigilance in anticipation of security measures

Current Situation:

- US Secretary of State Marco Rubio will visit Jerusalem on September 14. His stated objectives include advancing efforts to secure the release of Israeli hostages held in Gaza, addressing the security threat posed by Hamas, and facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid to civilians.
- According to reports, Rubio is expected to visit the **Western Wall** in Jerusalem's Old City with Israeli Prime Minister (PM) Benjamin Netanyahu at an unspecified time.
- Additional reports indicate that Rubio will also tour the **City of David archeological park**, located near the Silwan neighborhood of East Jerusalem.
- Anti-government activists have called for a protest against PM Netanyahu at the Western Wall on September 14 at 13:30 (local time), under the banner "tyrant alert".



Source: [Times of Israel](#)

Assessments & Forecast:

1. **FORECAST:** The high-profile visit is expected to trigger extensive security measures in Jerusalem, with the most significant impact likely to be concentrated in and around the Old City. Authorities may implement roadblocks or checkpoints, while a heavy police presence can be expected to secure the area. Temporary street closures, restrictions on pedestrian access and limited entry to holy sites in the vicinity are plausible. In particular, access to the Old City's Arab Quarter may be curtailed or temporarily suspended if security forces assess heightened security risks emanating from this area during the visit. These measures will likely result in considerable disruptions, including traffic congestion, delays and restricted mobility.
2. **FORECAST:** Security forces are unlikely to allow protesters to enter the Western Wall complex if the protest overlaps with PM Netanyahu and Secretary of State Rubio's visit due to security concerns. This will increase the risk of scuffles or clashes should protesters ignore law enforcement directives.

Recommendations:

1. Those operating or residing in Jerusalem on September 14 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance around the Old City and adhere to authorities' instructions due to the likelihood of heightened security measures amid the high-profile visit.
2. Allot for extensive disruptions in the vicinity of the Old City and East Jerusalem due to the potential for road closures and checkpoints in these areas.