Update: Russia Attacks Ukraine: March 1, 2022

Ukrainians face long journeys to borders as fighting escalates

- As a massive Russian convoy rumbles toward the Ukrainian capital Kyiv, the United Nations said more than 660,000 refugees had fled to neighbouring countries.
- New arrivals continued to pour across central European border crossings fleeing the war.
- Across central Europe, authorities set up makeshift reception centres in tents where people could get medical aid and process asylum papers, while thousands of volunteers have driven to the borders with donations of food, blankets and clothes.
- Most of the refugees escaping the war have crossed into the European Union from borders in eastern Poland, Slovakia and Hungary and in northern and northeastern Romania.
- Poland, whose Ukrainian community of around 1 million is the region’s largest, has welcomed a big chunk of the arrivals. Polish officials estimate around 400,000 people have so far entered from Ukraine.
- At the Medyka crossing, Poland’s busiest along its roughly 500-kilometre (310 miles) border with Ukraine, people huddled around a bonfire in freezing temperatures as they waited for buses to take them to reception centres.
- Some refugees were met by family members already working in the European Union who waited at the many border crossings, while local residents and officials across the region offered apartments and set up reception centres for temporary lodging.
- Days of waiting to cross into the European Union also began to take its toll, with some new arrivals describing fuel shortages and lines moving only a kilometre a day.
- Hungarian police reported that more than 60,000 people have arrived in the country since the Russian invasion while nearly 90,000 have entered Romania.
- In Budapest, a newly-arrived Ukrainian man in his 60s met by volunteer workers worried about his sons who stayed behind in Kyiv and wondered whether he would ever return to his home.


Airbnb Offers Free Housing to Ukrainian Refugees

Airbnb has said it will offer free, temporary housing for up to 100,000 refugees from Ukraine, joining a swathe of companies offering support and donations following the Russian invasion.

The home rentals platform’s nonprofit set up to provide housing relief during international crises, https://www.airbnb.org/, will partner with resettlement agencies to house Ukrainian refugees across the world.

The cost of the stays will be covered by Airbnb, donors to its refugee fund and hosts offering discounted or free accommodation.

“We know that hosts on Airbnb and guests around the world will be eager to stand up and assist this massive effort and in the coming days, Airbnb plans to share details on how hosts on Airbnb and the broader community can support this initiative,” it said.

Russia’s invasion of Ukraine has forced nearly 400,000 people to flee their homes in Ukraine, according to the UN refugee agency. More than 4.5 million more could follow if the fighting spreads, Ukrainian authorities have said.

Source: https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2022/feb/28/airbnb-to-offer-free-housing-to-100000-ukrainian-refugees

To Get Help

UKRAINE

Ukrainian Red Cross Society

- Website: https://www.icrc.org/en/where-we-work/europe-central-asia/ukraine

Contact us anytime for confidential assistance.
GuidanceResources

- website: https://www.redcross.org/

Power Outage

Ukraine Energy
- Address: 01135, Ukraine, Kiev, 97-Z Zhilyanskaya Str.
- Phone: +38 044 224 81 33
- Website: https://uanergy.com/

Road Conditions
For travel information and roadway conditions, including road and bridge closures, toll suspensions and major evacuation routes.
- Website: https://ukraine-kiev-tour.com/driving-roads-conditions.html
- Website: https://www.viamichelin.com/web/Traffic/Traffic_info-Ukraine

Other Resources

United Nations in Ukraine
- Website: https://ukraine.un.org/en
- Phone: +380 44 253 9363

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Ukraine
- Phone: +380 44 253 3412

Romania Embassy
- Website: http://kiev.mae.ro/
- Phone: +38 044 500 99 32 ; +38 044 500 99 34 ; +38 044 500 99 35

Polish Consulate
- Website: https://www.gov.pl/web/ukraina-uk/
- Phone: +380 44 284 0033

Ways you can help the people of Ukraine right now

The Ukrainian Red Cross, which does loads of humanitarian stuff, from aiding refugees to training doctors. Donate here.

Doctors Without Borders, whose base in Ukraine provides treatments for a range of regional diseases and medical problems. More info here.


Map of Kyiv's bomb shelters updated

Additional Note: This article was first written in April of 2020. The link below redirects to a google map of shelters that many articles now mention for those on the ground in Ukraine to use if searching out shelter.

Kyiv city state administration (KCSA) has refreshed the map of bomb shelters in the city itself and its vicinities. These are
supposed to host civilian population in case of an emergency of man-made, natural and military origin. This is mentioned on the website of KCSA.

"The Fund includes shelters for civilian protection, the underground space, basements in living houses, underground parking lots and other buildings that can be temporarily used as shelters for people", reads the message.

The map of bomb shelters can be viewed via the link.


How to Get Help and Resources in Country

Government Contact Center

Government Hotline
+38 (044) 284-19-15
Government hotline for calls from abroad (payment at the rates of the relevant operator)
(044) 284-19-64
"Hotline" for candidates for the positions of specialists of the new civil service
1648
"Hot line" for entrepreneurs
0 800 504 425
"Education Hotline" for residents of the temporarily occupied territories (payment according to the tariffs of the respective communication operator)
1548
"Hotline" of the State Customs Service of Ukraine
1539
Hotline for consulting people with disabilities

Source: https://ukc.gov.ua/

Centre for Strategic Communication
Pets in Ukraine: Dogs in War Zones and How to Evacuate Them

Since World Dog Finder is dedicated to dogs, we’d like to tell Ukrainian dog owners that you have fantastic neighbors. Hungary, Romania, Poland, and even Germany opened their borders to all those that seek shelter from the war. Historically, people were forced to leave their pets behind, and most of them became collateral victims of war. The good news is that these countries have stated you can freely take your pets with you. Here is a short announcement regarding border controls and pets.

The information we have for now is; - INFORMATION FROM 25.2.2022

1. Poland
The vaccination proof and animal documents were necessary when crossing the border. However, since the situation in Ukraine changed, the Polish government will assist refugees and their animals. Do not worry about bringing proof of vaccination. They said pets can be vaccinated when they cross the border. Polish animal shelters will offer help to owners and their pets. Here is the emergency contact;
Natalia - 518 667 614

2. Germany
To all those seeking refuge in Germany, the Munich International Airport will provide assistance. When you arrive, contact the authorities, and they will do all they can to get you and your pet across. They are working closely with the Munich animal shelter to provide temporary accommodation.
Unfortunately, we don’t have emergency contacts.

3. Romania
The Romanian government said they would welcome all refugees and their pets. They are working with the animal protection association Casa Lui Patrocle to provide help and support to families and their animals. Ukrainians entering Romania via the Sireten can get in touch with the shelter located in Suceava, about 40 km away from the Ukrainian border.
Shelter’s Facebook page - Casa Lui Patrocle

Contact us anytime for confidential assistance.
4. Hungary
The Hungarian government announced they have effectively opened the borders to Ukrainian refugees and their pets. They said even unvaccinated and undocumented pets can safely cross the border.
For those whose pets are left behind:
If you were forced to leave your dog behind, there is an organization still in Ukraine that will try to help as many pets as they can. Vet.crew will stay behind and assist animals left in Odessa, Ukraine.
Here are two Facebook groups with information and help for Ukrainian citizens
Ajutor ucraineni în Moldova
Kejterski Patrol - pomoc psom z Ukrainy