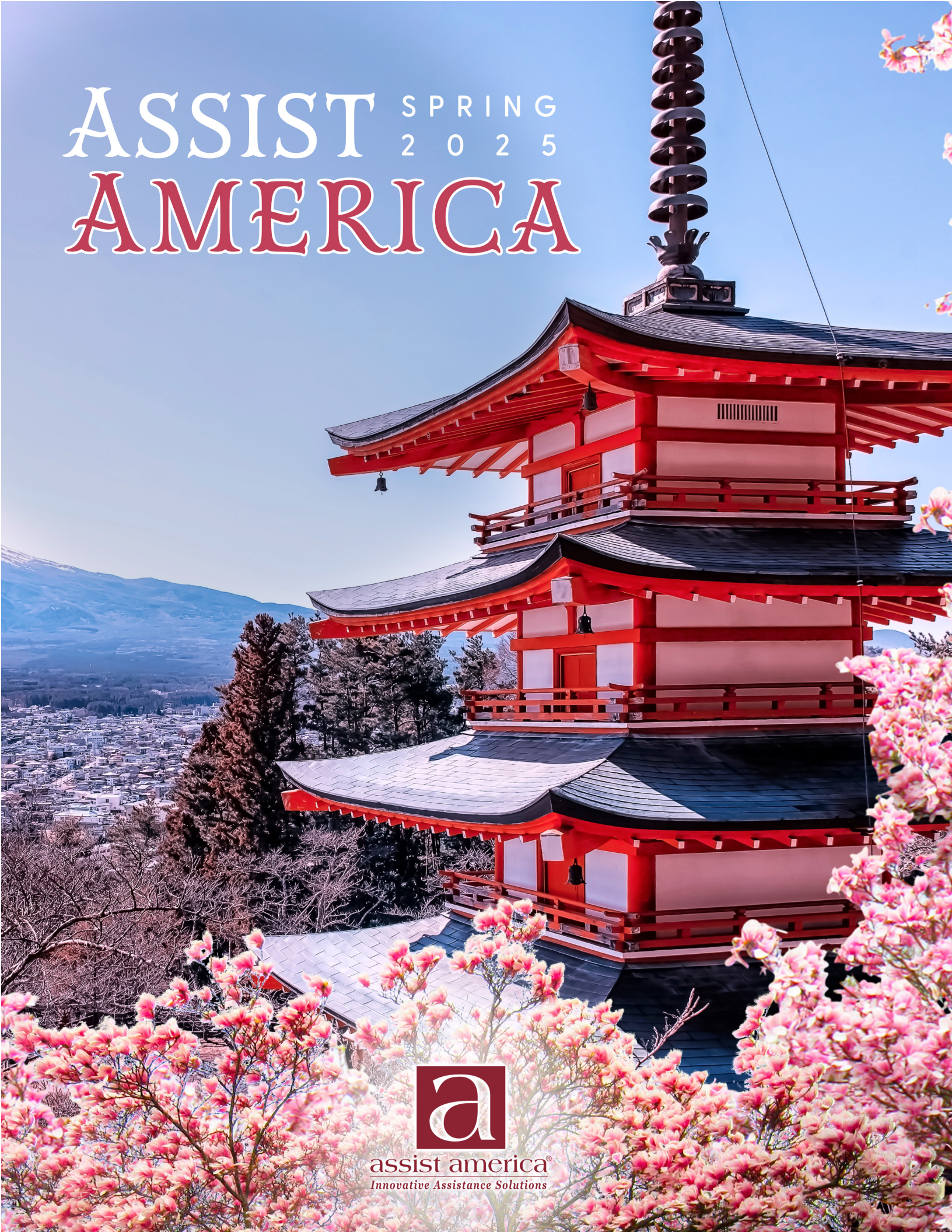


# ASSIST SPRING 2025 AMERICA



assist america®  
Innovative Assistance Solutions





# 2025 SPRING

MARKETING KIT



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# ABOUT US



**assist america**<sup>®</sup>  
*Innovative Assistance Solutions*

Assist America was formed to address the specific needs of the global insurance industry. Our members enjoy peace of mind, freedom from dealing with complex decisions and financial considerations during difficult times, and security in knowing that initiating Assist America services will put our network of resources into action to respond to travel

emergencies. If appropriate medical care is not available locally, then we will transport the member to the nearest facility that is capable of treating them.

Assist America operates emergency operation centers 24/7 from locations that are strategically located to provide services on a global scale.

Boost your travel experience with travel assistance services available at your fingertips.

With improved features and functionality, vacation confidently with the Assist America Travel App in your back pocket.





# THE REALITY OF REAL ID



**Don't let your travel plans take a nosedive - Be prepared with Real ID**

Real ID has long been a looming reality for many travelers within the United States. While discussion of the program became more widespread in the public sphere in 2020, this act has cycled through congressional and state legislation for nearly 20 years. While enforcement of the act has been repeatedly delayed by widespread opposition and logistical concerns, as of May 7th, 2025, more stringent identification requirements will be necessary to fly within the United States. The question on the minds of many travelers remains: how will this affect me?

### Understanding Real ID

The Real ID Act was introduced in 2005 to answer the need for increased security in the aftermath of 9/11. Though it has evolved several times throughout the years, and multiple rounds of amendments, the core intent of the act endures – establishing stricter standards for identification.

This doesn't only extend to travel, but the application of this law will most significantly affect U.S. citizens traveling between states. Real ID is set to be implemented in phases between May 7th of 2025 to May 5th of 2027 and will be required for air travel within the country, in place of other federally recognized identification.

### What is Required?

Using Real ID for travel can be bypassed by using a valid passport or other federal forms of ID. However, this option is inaccessible and cost-prohibitive for many

Americans. According to the U.S. Department of State, only 48% of the U.S. population owns a valid passport. For those without a passport, obtaining a Real ID is the most practical solution.

The process of obtaining Real ID can be done through the MVC and requires multiple forms of documentation to prove things like identity and residency. This compounds upon the existing requirements for driver's licenses, as determined by each state.

Some states have been issuing Real ID-compliant driver's licenses for several years; these IDs can be identified by a star marker on the corner of the card. Before scheduling a trip to the MVC, check to see if you already hold a compliant ID to avoid unnecessary hassle.



### Conclusion

As daunting as the process of obtaining Real ID may seem, allowing ample time to schedule an appointment and organize necessary documents is arguably the hardest part. If you're getting ready for a domestic trip across the states and don't want to go through the hassle of applying for a passport, Real ID is the best way to avoid disruptions to your plans. With the May 7th deadline around the corner, stay ahead of any summer plans by getting an appointment on the books as soon as possible.



**Types of documentation needed to certify for Real ID will need to satisfy requirements for proof of identity, date of birth, Social Security number, lawful status, and primary residence**

**If you don't have a Real ID-compliant driver's license, you can still use other forms of identification to board domestic flights, such as a U.S. passport or passport card, DHS Trusted Traveler cards, U.S. Department of Defense ID, a permanent resident card, or an Enhanced Driver's License**







# Medical Emergency

— In The Mediterranean —



Jonathan\* was on vacation in the Mediterranean with his wife, where she suffered an accident while boarding a boat. Upon her hospitalization, Jonathan contacted Assist America to help get his wife back home once she was discharged. During her hospital stay, the Operations Team remained in close contact with her medical team and her husband, relaying necessary updates during the course of her treatment.

Once Assist America's consulting physicians and the hospital medical team advised that Jonathan's wife was medically cleared to fly upon discharge, the Operations Team immediately began the process of arranging a return flight for her, with Jonathan serving as a non-medical escort. Wheelchair assistance and ground transport were organized by Assist America upon her arrival, allowing the couple to return home safely.

*\*Names and situations substituted for privacy.*



"We reached our home safely, and we had a good flight without any problems", Jonathon told his case manager in a follow-up.





# SOLO TRAVEL SAFETY



Traveling alone offers incredible freedom, though extra preparation and planning can help you navigate with greater confidence and safety, especially if you are exploring a new location for the first time.

### Organizing Your Trip

Gather as much information as possible about your destination. If you are embarking on a trip to multiple countries, recognize that visa requirements can vary significantly from one location to another. Consult reliable sources, such as country-specific travel pages and latest alerts on government websites and reputable platforms. Get to know the local culture, customs, and laws, and consider picking up a few basic phrases in the native language. Being informed of your destination's social norms and legal environment will

equip you with the practical tools and knowledge for seeking help if needed.

Share a copy of your travel itinerary with family or friends and arrange for regular check-ins with them throughout your trip. Make sure you have information on your accommodation, the local embassy, and any trusted local contacts readily accessible.

Get to know the layout of any places you plan to visit. Study a map of the area and identify the locations of important landmarks such as the airport, your hotel, meeting points, and your country's embassy. Learn

which neighborhoods to avoid and plan the safest routes between points of interest. Knowing how to navigate your destination not only increases your confidence but also minimizes the risk of ending up in potentially dangerous areas.

### Travel Tips

Stay connected and reachable throughout your trip. Always keep your cell phone charged and easily accessible. Carry your identification and any pertinent medical information at all times. Maintain digital and physical copies of these essential documents, as well as important contact details, including those of your embassy, local emergency services, hotel, and any trusted contacts. Make sure to stick to your pre-planned itinerary. Avoid venturing into unfamiliar districts or dark areas at night, and remain alert to potential thieves and pickpockets.

At your accommodation, always lock your door and any connecting doors to your room. Use the chain or spy hole when receiving visitors, and be cautious about opening your door, especially late at night, until you have confirmed the visitor's identity.



If you are meeting someone new, choose to meet in the lobby or a public area rather than inviting them directly into your room. Such measures will help to ensure your safety and protect your personal space.

Take extra precautions when traveling around the city, whether by taxi, ride-share, or public transport. Avoid sitting in the front seat of a taxi or ride-share service, and stay away from unlicensed taxis. In some cultures, public behaviors like smoking or drinking may be frowned upon or even restricted, particularly during religious festivals or in countries with strict social norms. Adhere to local practices and avoid participating in large public gatherings, protests, or rallies that could escalate into volatile situations.

Be mindful of what you post on social media. Avoid sharing real-time updates or detailed information about your location and plans. You might even consider using a

separate device for travel-related communications that does not contain sensitive personal data. This approach can help protect your privacy and minimizes the risk of drawing unwanted attention.

Trust your instincts throughout your travels. If you enter a hotel, restaurant, or any establishment and sense hostility or discomfort, leave immediately. Keep a respectful distance from individuals who might misinterpret friendly conversation or physical gestures, and walk with confidence, as your demeanor can significantly influence how others perceive and interact with you.

Remember that local police and security services may not always be reliable in every country, so it is important to have the contact information for your local embassy or diplomatic mission readily available. In any serious situation, your embassy can provide critical guidance and assistance.

**DOWNLOAD  
THE ASSIST  
AMERICA  
TRAVEL APP!**





THE BEST

Cruise Destinations  
OF 2025

The best cruise destinations of 2025 offer a mix of stunning landscapes, cultural experiences, and unique adventures. Whether you're seeking tropical paradises, historic cities, or remote wilderness, here are some of the top cruise destinations to consider.



Cruising the Caribbean is the ultimate escape for sun-seekers and adventure lovers alike, offering crystal-clear waters, pristine beaches, and vibrant island cultures.



Alaska offers a breathtaking adventure through towering glaciers, rugged wilderness, and abundant wildlife, making it the perfect destination for travelers looking to unwind in nature.



Setting sail in the Mediterranean lets you explore a stunning blend of ancient history, vibrant cultures, and picturesque coastlines, all while savoring world-class cuisine and soaking up the sun.



The Baltics offer a captivating journey through charming historic cities, stunning architecture, and rich cultural heritage, all while enjoying the serene beauty of the Baltic Sea.



Cruising around New Zealand lets you experience breathtaking fjords, lush landscapes, and Maori culture, all while enjoying the country's renowned hospitality and adventure-filled shores.





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